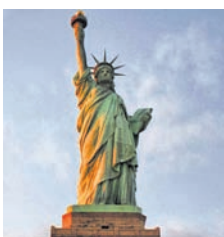




OZ CALL

Actor Sayani Gupta has been invited to be a guest host of Australian game show 'Have You Been Paying Attention?'

LEISURE P2



CITIZENSHIP FOR 'DREAMERS'

President Donald Trump is working on an executive order to establish a merit-based immigration system in the US

INTERNATIONAL P10



REAL CLOSE TO TITLE

Karim Benzema helps Real Madrid move one step closer to title as the La Liga leaders beat Alaves 2-0

SPORTS P12

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BHUBANESWAR | SUNDAY, JULY 12 | 2020

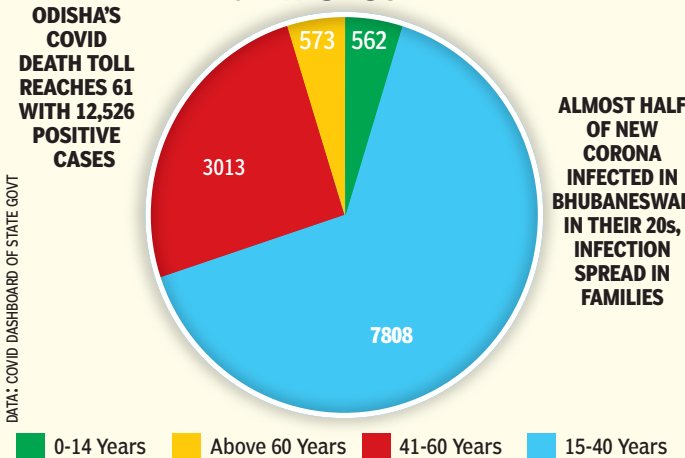
12 PAGES | ₹4.00

COVID IN STATE: 5 deaths, 570 fresh cases

GENDER-WISE SUMMARY



AGE-WISE SUMMARY



DATA: COVID DASHBOARD OF STATE GOVT

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, July 11: Odisha has reported five more deaths related to Covid-19 and 570 positive cases in the last 24 hours, informed the Health Department Saturday.

While the total positive cases reached 12,526 and the death toll touched 61-mark in the state. The deaths were reported from Ganjam, Puri, Bhubaneswar and Cuttack.

A 70-year-old male of Puri district who was also suffering from diabetes and hypertension, a 46-year-old male of Cuttack district who was also suffering from diabetes, hypertension and hypothyroidism succumbed to the infection.

A 56-year-old female of Bhubaneswar, who was also suffering from diabetes, died due to the virus.

Besides, two from Ganjam district – a 55-year-old male and a 72-year-old male, who was also suffering from diabetes – died due to the coronavirus, said the Department. Out of the fresh cases, while 381 were reported from quarantine centres, 186 are local contacts. Ganjam recorded highest 218 positive cases. The active cases now stand at 4,475 and recoveries at 7,972 in the state.

NAVEEN SPEAKS TO TWO MLAS UNDERGOING COVID TREATMENT

BHUBANESWAR: Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik Saturday spoke to two legislators who are undergoing treatment after being diagnosed with Covid-19 and enquired about their health.

The Chief Minister spoke to BJP MLA from Nilagiri, Sukanta Kumar Nayak and ruling BJD lawmaker from Salipur, Prasant Behera over the phone and wished them a speedy recovery, officials said.

Patnaik also spoke to several Covid warriors undergoing treatment in various Covid care centres and enquired about their health condition. The Chief Minister appreciated the noble contributions being made by frontline Covid warriors and assured them all support in their good work, the officials said.

Patnaik also spoke to a number of other Covid-19 patients who are undergoing treatment in various Covid hospitals in the state and enquired

about their condition and the facilities available in the medical facilities.

The CM, who has been speaking to Covid warriors and patients, had recently asked senior officers to be in regular contact with the frontline Covid warriors as well as patients and collect feedback as part of 'Mo Sarkar' programme, they said.

Amid surge in Covid-19 cases in the state, Patnaik recently asked the authorities concerned to include corona management within the purview of the 'Mo Sarkar' programme in order to get feedback from the patients as well as the frontline workers.

The CM has asked the Covid observers and senior officers to interact with the patients and frontline workers engaged in different Covid Hospitals and Temporary Medical Camps (TMCs) as feedback from the stakeholders will help the government to further improve Covid care in the state.



Mahanadi tribunal frames issues on Odisha's petition

POST NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi, July 11: The Mahanadi Water Dispute Tribunal Saturday framed 40 issues for argument on a petition filed by Odisha challenging the construction and operation of barrages on Mahanadi river by Chhattisgarh.

A three-judge bench of the tribunal headed by Chairperson AM Khanwilkar and comprising Justices Ravi Ranjan and Indermeet Kaur posted the matter for hearing August 8.

The tribunal finalised around 40 issues for argument in the water dispute matter while hearing the case via video-conferencing mode. Odisha has submitted 26 draft issues, Chhattisgarh has 13 issues while Maharashtra submitted three and Jharkhand has submitted one issue for arguments. The state of Odisha also submitted additional documents in favour of their claims in the case, which have been taken on record by the tribunal.

Earlier, the tribunal had asked both the states to fi-



The tribunal postpones next hearing to August 8

Odisha has submitted 26 draft issues, Chhattisgarh has 13 issues while Maharashtra submitted three and Jharkhand has submitted one issue for arguments

nalise draft issues in the original suit filed by Odisha against the state of Chhattisgarh over excess use of Mahanadi water.

Significantly, the Mahanadi tribunal was constituted in 2018 to resolve Mahanadi water dispute among Odisha, Chhattisgarh and other riparian states. However, after almost two years, the tribunal is yet to pass any significant order in the case.

IRREGULAR by MANJUL



Refrain from asking people to celebrate Population Day or we'll soon surpass China's population!

TECHIE TURNS TO PISCICULTURE

Jagatsinghpur: Before the lockdown, he was known as a software engineer. Now he is a fish farmer. Swapnesh Mohanty, aged 32, a resident of Anandpur village under Taradapada panchayat in Jagatsinghpur block worked as a software engineer with a Bangalore-based company. The countrywide coronavirus-induced lockdown, however, changed the course of his life. Swapnesh's quest for tech-based farming finally ended with Biofloc fish farming.

P5

WEATHER		
	BHUB	CTK
MAX	33.4°C	33.6°C
MIN	27.5°C	25.6°C
Humidity	95%	81%
Rainfall	Trace	Nil
Forecast: Generally cloudy sky		

AGENCIES

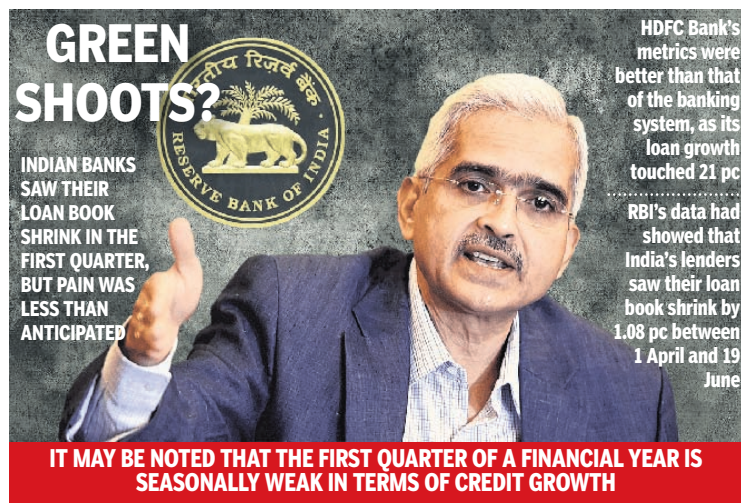
New Delhi, July 11: The medium-term outlook for the Indian economy remains uncertain, Reserve Bank of India Governor Shaktikanta Das said Saturday. "Supply chains and demand are yet to be restored fully while the trajectory of the coronavirus spread and the length of its impact remain unknown."

According to most estimates, the Indian economy will register a record contraction of over 4.5 per cent in the current fiscal year that started April 1 due to the pandemic.

Starting late March, the country was placed under one of the strictest lockdowns in the world for over two months. Since early June, the government has started easing restrictions to help some revival in the economy even though the number of infections in the country continues to rise.

"The Indian economy has started showing signs of getting back to normalcy in response to the staggered easing of restrictions," Das said in an address to an online forum.

"It is, however, still uncertain when supply chains will be restored fully.



How long will it take for demand conditions to normalise and what kind of durable effects will the pandemic leave behind on our potential growth?" he said. A recapitalisation plan for Indian banks is necessary as the economic impact of the pandemic may result in higher bad loans and erosion of capital for banks, the RBI governor added. The central bank has cut policy rates

by 115 basis points in response to the pandemic, resulting in a total policy rate reduction of 250 basis points since February 2019, along with providing liquidity of 9.57 trillion rupees (\$127.28 billion).

It has also eased some bad loan provisioning norms and allowed loan moratoriums for retail customers.

Das said that the central bank has to carefully unwind the unusual monetary

and regulatory measures taken to cushion the economic shocks in the post pandemic world, as the financial sector should return to normal functioning without relying on the regulatory relaxations as the new norm.

India recorded 27,114 coronavirus cases in the last 24 hours, taking the total to 820,915 including 22,123 dead.

The RBI governor also said that inflation will continue to moderate going forward and investment activity will revive.

A recapitalisation plan for public sector and private banks has, therefore, become necessary, he added.

For the five years - between 2015-16 and 2019-20 - the government had infused a total of ₹3.08 lakh crore in public sector banks.

However, the government refrained from committing any capital in the Budget 2020-21 for the PSBs, hoping that the lenders will raise funds from the market depending on the requirement.

Many private and public sector banks such as State Bank of India, PNB, HDFC Bank, ICICI Bank, and Canara Bank are looking to raise capital through various means this fiscal.

For 4 days no fuel price hike, but crude rises to \$43/barrel

AGENCIES

New Delhi, July 11: Auto fuel prices have again gone for a longer pause with oil marketing companies keeping the pump prices of petrol and diesel unchanged for the fourth consecutive day Saturday. But with crude rising to over \$43 a barrel Saturday, there could be some hike in pump prices next week.

In the National Capital, petrol is still priced at ₹80.43 a litre while diesel prices remain a tad higher at ₹80.78 a litre.

After keeping priced unchanged for previous seven days the oil companies increased the price of diesel by 25 paise a litre in Delhi Tuesday (July 7) while keeping petrol prices unchanged.

Since then, pump prices of the two petroleum products have remained static in line with global movement of crude prices re-



mainting stable at \$42 a barrel.

Before Tuesday, auto fuel prices remained unchanged for the seven consecutive days.

Prices of the transportation fuel have had a pause after rising to record levels in 23 days of the past month after the oil marketing companies resumed the daily price revision system from June 7 that kept the petrol and diesel prices rising incessantly till June 29.

During the daily hike till June 29, diesel prices in Delhi recorded a new feat by overtaking petrol prices, making the common man feel the heat.

Nonchalant MP govt delaying Sundari's relocation



This (relocation) was bound to fail as the government had totally ignored the voices of wildlife experts from the state who were against the project

BISWAJIT MOHANTY | WILDLIFE EXPERT, ODISHA



There are some logistic problems... There are also problems like re-wilding her after her return as she is being kept in an enclosure in Odisha

SENIOR OFFICIAL | FOREST AND ENVIRONMENT DEPT, MP

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, July 11: The state government's plan to relocate tigress Sundari to Madhya Pradesh may hit a roadblock as the Madhya Pradesh government is yet to take a final call on the same.

The Odisha government last month decided to send the tigress Sundari back to Madhya Pradesh within one month after the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) had ordered the Odisha government to send the tigress back to MP from where she was brought.

Sources in the Forest and Environment department of Madhya Pradesh told this reporter that no final decision has been taken yet to take back the tigress.



"There are some logistic problems and we are working out on this. No final decision has been taken yet to bring the tigress back. There are problems like re-wilding her after return as she is being

kept in an enclosure in Odisha," a senior official from the department said requesting anonymity.

The MP government had also raised its objections on the relocation of the tigress back to the state

to the NTCA after the first phase of India's inter-state tiger relocation project botched up. The NTCA in New Delhi however is optimistic about the back shifting.

"The MP government had raised its concerns and the matter is almost sorted out. The tigress will go from Odisha to MP as planned as the main purpose of the project was not fulfilled," Surender Mehra, Deputy Inspector General (DIG), NTCA said.

The state government on the other hand has planned to shift back the tigress from Satkosia to MP. The Madhya Pradesh government however said if the formalities were done, the best preferred location for Sundari would be Kanha National Park.

On the other hand, wildlife experts from Odisha are fumed over the failure of the project. Biswajit Mohanty, a wildlife expert from the state, said, "This was bound to fail as the government had totally ignored the voices of wildlife experts from the state who were against the project. They also failed to stop poaching in Satkosia which is still rampant."

It may be mentioned here that one tiger Mahavir and one tigress Sundari were shifted from Madhya Pradesh to Satkosia under India's maiden inter-state tiger relocation plan. However, it went in rough weathers after one tiger died and one was kept in enclosure after she attacked and killed some local villagers in Satkosia.



MY DEFAULT IS COMEDY: RUDD

Ant-Man star Paul Rudd says he has always enjoyed humour to tell a very dramatic story. The audience loved Paul as the witty and humorous Scott Lang aka Ant-Man.

REBEL'S SECRET TO WEIGHT LOSS

Actress Rebel Wilson has been inspiring many with her weight loss journey over the past six months. Now she has revealed how she got 'just in the dirt' to get in shape.



FORTUNE FORECAST

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ARIES
You may be alone, but not necessarily lonely. You may want to listen to your inner voice, and express your true self creatively. Spend the evening with a loved one who can hear the music in your silence too, suggests Ganesha.

TAURUS
Today, you may experience the juxtaposition of pleasure and pain. Household tasks may weigh you down around afternoon. Later in the day, you will be able to achieve whatever you desire solely on account of your determination and mental strength. Pleasure awaits in the warmth and company of your soul mate, says Ganesha.

GEMINI
If you are into retail business, planetary positions indicate today is a day for bumper sales. You will set records in making profits. After work, you may want to take your beloved out shopping. Though it may burn a hole in your pocket, the returns you get once you reach home will be worth every penny!

CANCER
Today, you may focus your entire attention on your relationships - your ties with your parents, spouse, children, siblings and even neighbours. However, all that effort and energy may not get its due, and you may get a cold response from one or more of your relatives.

LEO
The discomfort similar to the fish-out-of-water syndrome will be a thing of the past, as today you will be quite flexible and would want to remain on the move, says Ganesha.

VIRGO
Razor-sharp and aesthetic to the last cell in your body, entertain and enthrall people with your guile, especially at a social do, says Ganesha. But conserve that zest and save the time to pay due attention to matters of supreme importance, warns Ganesha.

LIBRA
Your instincts are at their peak today. Generally, this means a lot of good, but for you, it may also mean having to put up with the trouble of small things bothering you in a big way. So, it becomes highly important for you to remain balanced and focused.

SCORPIO
Ganesha predicts today will be a day full of focus and a clear thought process. The clarity of thought you have been acquired over a period of time, says Ganesha, and that could make all the difference. A crisp application of thoughts to ideas and actions will bring much appreciation from bosses and peers.

SAGITTARIUS
Your friend base is slated to multiply today. At work, additional responsibilities will be thrust upon you, and you will also be given charge of new resources. Ganesha predicts you taking up the challenge and emerging triumphant in all spheres today.

CAPRICORN
It's going to be a day of pleasant surprises. You will try your level best to help people around you, and will find it exceedingly frustrating when the results won't be as expected, says Ganesha. In fact, this may even dampen your spirit and shake your self-confidence. But try and transform your weaknesses into strengths - it will help you develop a more positive approach to life.

AQUARIUS
You may huff and puff, but today is not the day when you'll finish what you started. Don't lose heart, the future is promising. Take a break, says Ganesha, you've worked enough. The results are on the way.

PISCES
Major expenses are coming your way, but the good news is a lot of them can be avoided simply by drawing a line between your needs and your wants. Exercising a little restraint now will go a long way in boosting your savings later on, says Ganesha.

First-ever Odia set for a Hollywood career

ACTING IS BEHAVING TRUTHFULLY UNDER IMAGINARY CIRCUMSTANCES, BELIEVES LOS ANGELES-BASED YOUNG ACTOR AKSHAYA PATTANAYAK, WHOSE ROOTS ARE IN ODISHA

At a time when Odia actors make headlines even after bagging 'blink-and-you-miss-it' roles in Hindi or South Indian films, here is a youth from Odisha who is opening up new horizons and looks at exploring opportunities in foreign shores.

Exceptionally trained in the art and craft of acting, Akshaya Pattanayak is the first-ever actor from Odisha to break into Hollywood.

"Acting is behaving truthfully under imaginary circumstances," says the Los Angeles-based actor who also believes in this performative truth fervently.

Akshaya graduated last year with a Master of Fine Arts degree from the School of Dramatic Arts, University of Southern California (USC). He was the first person from India, not to mention Odisha, to achieve this feat. USC's School of Dramatic Arts is ranked among the top ten best drama schools, according to the industry journal *Hollywood Reporter*. During the rigorous three-year programme, he performed plays by William Shakespeare (lead role in *Macbeth*), works of Russian playwright Maxim Gorky and contemporary writers of the likes of Rachel Bonds and others.



Since graduating, Akshaya has been active in theatre and production work, while auditioning for roles his managers and artistic representatives send him out for.

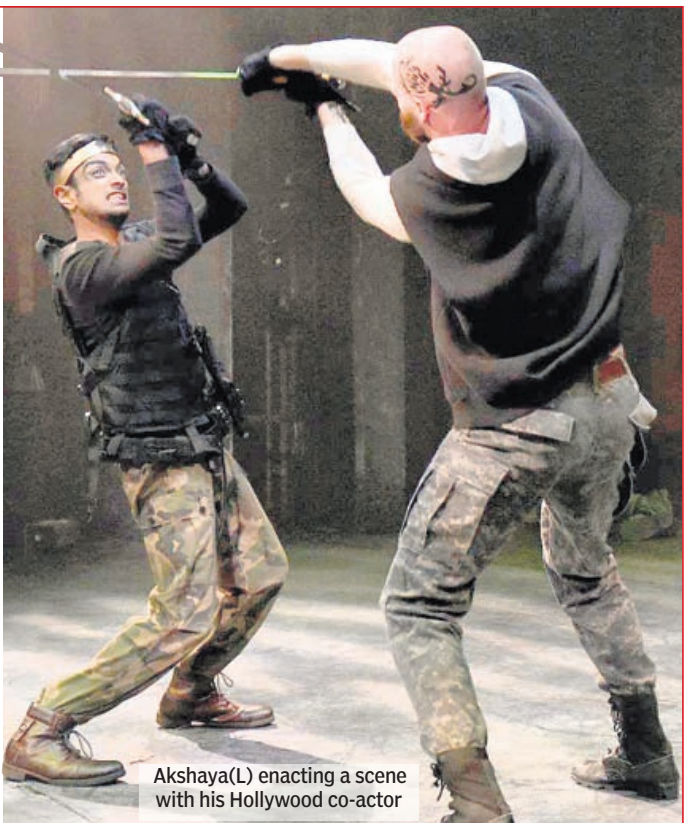
Most recently, he secured a spot in a Nike commercial that will be seen globally in digital as well as print spaces. Diverging from that, Akshaya played multiple characters in *Bad Hamlet* based on William Shakespeare's first folio of the play that later came to be known as *Hamlet*. The production used live Instagram feed simultaneously with the play to augment the text's references to contemporary society.

Akshaya has been part of a hip hop album *Milk Crate Monologues* that is available on Spotify. The monologues dwell on issues of identity, history, colonialism and race and explore the artistic expression of their complex interplay. The life of a working actor is varied - he is deeply immersed in the creative milieu of writers, performers and production folk. He often reads the works of upcoming playwrights with fellow actors, sometimes in front of an audience, and now even on Zoom.

During his years in Bhubaneswar, Delhi and Bangalore, Akshaya was exposed to the arts and traditions of different regions of the country prior to flying to Los Angeles for his studies. Perhaps his introduction to performance was through the stylised and ritualised ceremonies and jatras associated with *Danda Nata*, a religious folk dance of Ganjam, which he used to watch in his ancestral village of Tigiria in Cuttack district. His formal schooling began in a village school, where he started the day with chanting prayers, hands folded and eyes tightly shut. From Odisha, he journeyed to Delhi and accumulated more theatre performance experiences in varied genres and languages.

Asked about the advantage of the USC programme, the actor says, "It makes you learn most about yourself, before other characters. No other character is deeper and more defined than you. This is a key aspect of personal branding; understanding what is most unique about you." He goes on to add, "Even as USC is one of the top varsities in the US, it doesn't help the students look at how to use social media to position them."

Given his Indian background, the young actor is often asked to play stereotypical roles, like doctors or Arab characters by the Hollywood producers which is not up to his liking, Akshaya, who is visible on his Instagram handle @Imagineaks, signs off.



Akshaya(L) enacting a scene with his Hollywood co-actor

FACT FILE

Akshaya Pattanayak has appeared in as many as 14 theatrical shows performing under directors of the likes of Zach Davidson, Rob Adler, Natsuko Ohama, David Warshofsky and many others	His has also acted in films like <i>Ambrosia</i> , <i>Waiting for Godot</i> , <i>Birth of a killer</i> and <i>Walking Home</i>	He did commercials for Maruti Suzuki and Max Healthcare as a voiceover artist, while he played a cricketer in Nike's ad project	Apart from obtaining a bachelor's degree from University of Southern California, Akshaya attended an acting workshop in New York Film Academy and studied Applied Theatre in Shiv Nadar University
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Sayani joins Aussie show as guest host

Mumbai: Actress Sayani Gupta has been invited to be a guest host of Australian game show *Have You Been Paying Attention?*

During her episode, presenter of the show Tom Gleisner pointed out that her series *Four More Shots Please!* is being compared to the acclaimed show, *Sex In The City*.

Asked if showing sex was allowed on Indian TV, Sayani said: "The show is about women with agency and representation of urban women who have control over their lives. It's actually a deeply feminist show and one of the firsts in India. There is a comparison to *Sex in the City*, which is actually a huge compliment."

After she was done answering, a panellist on the show, Sam Pang, made a hilarious remark as he said: "Sorry Sayani, I should just warn you that this is the longest a woman has ever spoken to Tom (host of the show), so he's just going to keep asking questions."

Last seen in the British series *The Good Karma Hospital* and the digital film *Axone*, Sayani now awaits the streaming of *Inside Edge Season 3*.

IAN S



Ali bats for gender equality

Mumbai: Actor Ali Fazal is all for gender equality, and wants the issue of domestic violence to be de-stigmatised.

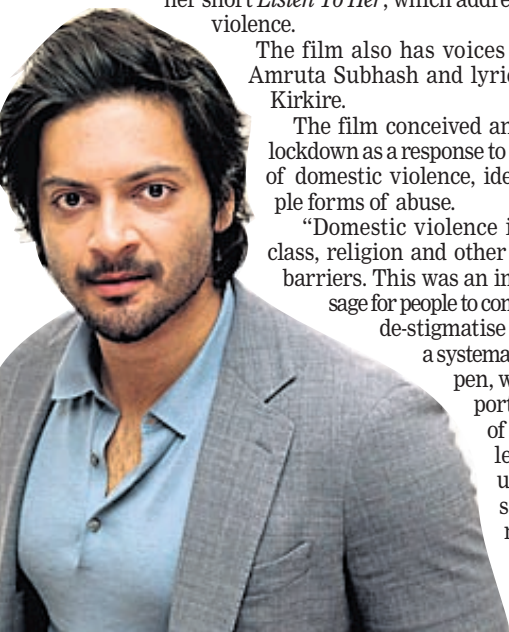
He had earlier joined hands with actor-filmmaker Nandita Das for her short *Listen To Her*, which addresses domestic violence.

The film also has voices from actress Amruta Subhash and lyricist Swanand Kirkire.

The film conceived and shot in the lockdown as a response to growing cases of domestic violence, identifies multiple forms of abuse.

"Domestic violence is agnostic to class, religion and other such societal barriers. This was an important message for people to come forward and de-stigmatise the issue. For a systematic shift to happen, we need to support the survivors of domestic violence to speak up and create a safe environment for them," said Ali.

IAN S



Tabu, Ishaan share kiss in A Suitable Boy teaser

Mumbai: Ishaan Khatter is seen sharing a kiss with Tabu in the teaser of *A Suitable Boy* that the budding star has posted on social media.

The Mira Nair show, adapted from Vikram Seth's much-feted novel of the same name, casts Ishaan as Maan Kapoor, the rebellious son of politician Mahesh Kapoor (played by Ram Kapoor). Maan develops an attraction for the beautiful courtesan Saeeda Bai (essayed by Tabu).

"A first sneak peek into the world of #ASuitableBoy @bbc: Love will push you beyond your boundaries. Based on the best-selling novel, *A Suitable Boy* starts 26th July on BBC One and @BBCiPlayer," Ishaan captioned the video.

Expressing his excitement about the project, Ishaan said: "A Suitable Boy has been an enriching experience and I'm ever so excited for people to see it. Maan is one of the most interesting characters I've read and portraying him on screen has been a delight." IAN S

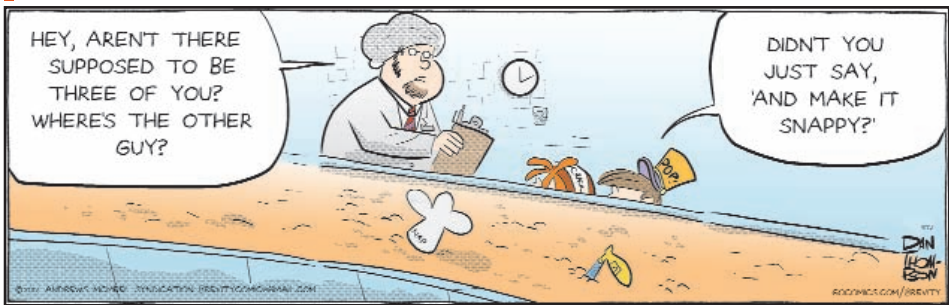
PEANUTS



CALVIN AND HOBBS

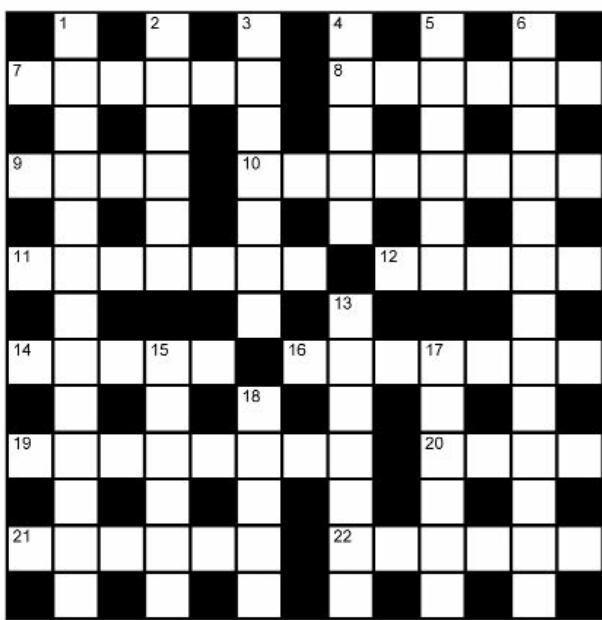


BREVITY



FUN post

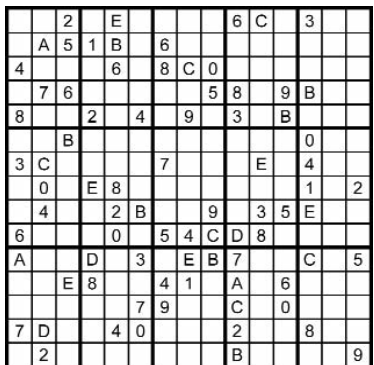
CROSSWORD



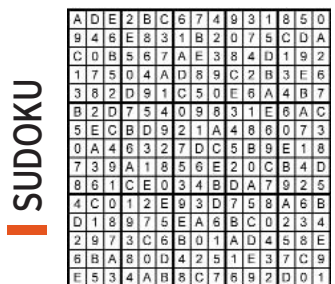
Across	19 Earth tremors	3 Mexican dish
7 Ravel classic	20 Poverty-stricken	4 Brown ermine
8 Airport area	21 Wiggle room	5 Angioplasty target
9 Hair care item	22 Engraves	6 Coups, usually later
10 Sham		15 Nudges
11 Buddies		17 Appearance
12 Greek monster with nine heads	Down	18 Japanese city
14 Largish combo choices (6,7)	1 Decorator's	
16 Sneaky aircraft?	2 Little rock	

SUDOKU

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



SOLUTIONS



CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMORROW

68% City patients have travel history or links with +ve

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, July 11: The Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC) Saturday said that close to 68 per cent of the COVID-19 cases detected in the city in July had links to travel or some existing patient.

Addressing the media Saturday, BMC Commissioner Prem Chandra Choudhury Saturday cited recent data on the sources of infections. He said that most of the infected people in the city were those who had travel history or who came in contact with COVID-19 positive persons. "From July 1-July 10 Bhubaneswar witnessed 310 fresh COVID-19 cases. Out of these, 212 (68 per cent) cases had travel histories or they came in contact with COVID-19 patients. Sixty-one new cases were linked to hospitals, while 37 others were local



cases," he said.

He said that the civic body was taking special and keeping a close watch on areas wherever the source of infection is not known.

"In regions where we don't get traces of the infection we do active surveillance of the region. We are doing 100 per cent testing of all direct contacts and testing of symptomatic persons from the area that

BATTLING THE PANDEMIC

- The Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation is taking special care and keeping a close watch on areas wherever the source of infection is not known. It undertakes active surveillance of the regions where it doesn't get traces of the infection
- Declaration of containment zones helped the civic body city in reducing new infections in the city
- The civic body has activated teams in slum areas and active surveillance is on while shifting symptomatic persons to government quarantine centres to prevent the disease from spreading

come under secondary contacts," he said. He further said that declaration of containment zones helped the city in reducing new infections. "In many areas were declared as containment zone soon after a number of cases were reported from there and we kept close watch on those areas. It helped us in preventing new infections," Choudhury said. "In slum areas of Subhasnagar

near Dumduma we identified six cases and all these patients have recovered now. We took 54 households under containment and tested 182 persons. All of them tested negative to the virus. These areas have now been withdrawn from containment," the official said.

He also cited the example of Lakshibazaar slum where nine cases were reported." After de-

claring it as a containment zone, all households were tested and found negative. We have activated teams in slum areas and active surveillance is on. We are shifting symptomatic persons to government quarantine centres to prevent the disease from spreading," he said.

Senior IAS officer Anu Garg said that close to 1,000 tests are done in Bhubaneswar every day. "Every day we are doing 1,000 testing and contact tracing is in full swing. Community leaders are working in tandem with the government. We have added a new module to Sachetak application. I request people not to take the precautions lightly," she said. The BMC said that now many health workers and patients coming from hotspot districts for treatment are testing positive for the disease, but Choudhury assured that their team could help in fighting the disease better.

Covid-19: Capital city reports 38 new cases

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, July 11: Bhubaneswar reported 38 fresh COVID-19 cases Saturday, taking the state capital's tally to 640.

The city also reported one COVID-19 death Saturday and with this the city's toll has gone up to eight.

Out of the 38 new cases, 26 were from quarantine centres, while the remaining 12 have contracted the virus locally, informed Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC) in a tweet.

The civic body also said that six patients have recovered and have been discharged. So far 314 patients have recovered from COVID-19 in the city.

All the new patients have been shifted to COVID-19 hospitals in the city. Meanwhile,



the process of contact tracing is underway. Their primary contacts patients and people residing in nearby houses have been asked to undergo quarantine. The areas are also being sanitised, BMC said.

With the addition of the new patients, the number of active cases in this city has gone up to 317.

Abducted businessman rescued in Sambalpur

POST NEWS NETWORK

Sambalpur, July 11: A 63-year-old businessman from Nuapada area under Ainthapali police limits of Sambalpur district who was abducted Friday afternoon was rescued safely by the police late Friday night. Naresh Agarwal was rescued from an undisclosed area after the cops conducted a raid there acting on a tipoff. That said, the abductors managed to give the police a slip. A detailed investigation is underway and efforts are on to nab the miscreants, it was learnt.

Agarwal had bought a piece of land near Sason village two years ago. He is getting a warehouse constructed there. The land is said to be a disputed one.

Agarwal visited the construc-

tion site in his car (OD-15-K-6789) Friday morning. At about noon, the labourers were taking rest after lunch while Agarwal's driver was standing a few yards away from him.

Some miscreants reached the spot in a car out of nowhere. One of them deflated one of the front wheels of Agarwal's car. Hearing the sound, Agarwal and two female labourers came running to the car to see what had happened. The miscreants frightened the labourers by pointing a firearm at them and forced Agarwal to sit in their car at gunpoint. They then sped towards Jharsuguda.

Agarwal's driver informed the family members following which Agarwal's son Deepak had lodged an FIR with Sason police.

Jharkhand jumbos play havoc in Karanjia

POST NEWS NETWORK

Karanjia, July 11: A herd of elephants from Jharkhand wreaked havoc in several villages under Sukruli block of Mayurbhanj district for the last several days. The wild animals strayed into the village and its neighbourhood and destroyed acres of paddy and vegetable cultivation.

Residents panicked after the jumbo herd ventured into the village's farmland foraging food, and damaged crops across acres and some thatched houses.

The villagers alleged that despite monitoring the movement of the elephants, the forest department personnel are unable to contain the mayhem by the animals, due to which they have to suffer huge loss of crops and properties. Though the forest officials have made efforts to drive the herd into Jharkhand, the attempt bears no results.

Clothes worth lakhs gutted in Bhadrak

POST NEWS NETWORK

Chandbali, July 11: In a fire mishap, sarees and clothes worth lakhs of rupees were gutted inside a saree shop at Moto market under Chandbali block in Bhadrak district Saturday morning.

Locals and some shop owners first spotted smoke coming out of Bhagyalaxmi Fashion Saree Shop Saturday morning. Without wasting any time, they dialed 101 and informed the shop owner.

After a while, two fire engines from Chandabli reached the spot. The fire personnel with the help of local people broke open the shop's shutter and brought the fire under control. But by the time the flames were doused, sarees and other clothes were already reduced to ashes. Clothes worth lakhs of rupees were gutted in the mishap, the shop owner said.

While the exact reason for the fire outbreak is yet to be ascertained, short circuit is being blamed for the incident.

Admin cracks down on mineral mafia

POST NEWS NETWORK

Dhenkanal, July 11: After local mineral mafia, active under Odapada block in Dhenkanal district, were known to have formed a WhatsApp group along with some unscrupulous staff of this tehsil, the district administration accelerated raids on illegal minor mineral quarries.

According to sources, the mafia get information about oncoming raids ahead of time through a WhatsApp group, causing headache for Dhenkanal district administration.

In the changed circumstances, the administration has decided to conduct surprise raids on illegal sand as well as black stone quarries, without any prior planning. In this connection, a raid was carried out on a stone quarry at Bautiragada under Odapada tehsil



limits Friday. According to reports, officials had used a private vehicle for the purpose in order to escape the eyes of minor mineral mafia. Four tippers engaged in transporting black stone (OR09 K2463, OR19 K1357, OR19 L1357 and OR06 J6817), including an excavator were seized.

Additional tehsildars Sagarika Sahoo and Anupama Murmu, revenue inspectors Chinmaya Das, Soumyaranjan Parida, Utsav Dehuri and Dinesh Routray participated in the surprise raid. The seized vehicles were handed over to Gudiakateni police beat house, Odapada tehsil sources

MINOR MINERALS

The administration has decided to conduct surprise raids on illegal sand as well as black stone quarries, without any prior planning

Officials had used a private vehicle for the raid in order to escape the eyes of mineral mafia and seized four tippers engaged in transporting black stone (OR09 K2463, OR19 K1357, OR19 L1357 and OR06 J6817), including an excavator

The district administration had prepared a blueprint a few days back to conduct raids and had also issued a show-cause to six tehsildars, for their alleged laxity and failure in curbing smuggling of minor minerals

Doubts over commissioning of Paradip-Haridaspur railway line

POST NEWS NETWORK

Jajpur, July 11: Even though Railways officials exude confidence on dedicating the 82-kilometre-long Paradip-Haridaspur corridor to the nation soon, ground reality suggests that the promise is unlikely to be fulfilled anytime soon.

The railways stretch that will connect coastal districts of the state, including Jajpur, Kendrapara and Jagatsinghpur, continues to face hurdles when it comes to infrastructure.

According to sources, the ambitious project falters as a railway bridge is yet to be made functional on the Mahanadi and the railway track work laying work remains suspended at several places.

"A nexus between officials of Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL) and contractors has resulted in an unusual delay in the completion of the project," resented a social activist of Barchana area, Udayanath Sahu.

It may be mentioned here that then Union Railways Minister Nitish Kumar had laid the foundation of Paradip-Haridaspur railway line project April 4, 1999. It was then targeted to be completed by 2004. Initially, the estimated cost of the project was Rs 1,500 crore, which later escalated to Rs 2,200 crore. RVNL officials in-charge of the project had earlier committed that remaining work from Bajapur up to Paradip will be completed by March 2020. The project continues to miss deadlines.



RATNA SINGHASAN MISSING STONES

ASI submits old photos to SJTA for scrutiny

POST NEWS NETWORK

Puri, July 11: The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) Friday submitted some old photographs of the Ratna Singhasan to Shree Jagannath Temple Administration (SJTA) for scrutiny. The need for the photographs arose following the allegations that some precious stones were missing from the Ratna Singhasan.

As ASI is in charge of the maintenance of the Jagannath Temple in Puri, it was asked by the SJTA to provide some old photographs for the purpose. The SJTA has been conducting an investigation on lotus-carved stones missing from Ratna Singhasan of the Lords in Puri. The submitted photographs also included some old photos of Garbha Gruha. After an allegation was made by a local servitor named Ipsit Pratihari few days back, SJTA has taken the matter seriously.

Accordingly, the ASI handed over



A team comprising of three servitors of the temple managing committee, the temple administrator and ASI officials had inspected the location last Wednesday. The three servitors entered the Garbha Gruha and verified the Ratna Singhasan

all photos taken in between 2014 and 2020. Changes in the structures, if any, would be scrutinised and wrongdoers will be punished, the SJTA sources informed.

Notably, a team comprising of three servitors of the temple managing committee, the temple ad-

ministrator and ASI officials had inspected the said location last Wednesday. The three servitors entered the Garbha Gruha and verified Ratna Singhasan. As regards to ascertain if any repair was carried out by ASI in the past days, old photographs were requested.

MYSTERY DEEPENS

- The SJTA has been conducting an investigation on lotus-carved stones missing from Ratna Singhasan of the Lords in Puri following an allegation by a local servitor named Ipsit Pratihari few days back
- The servitor has alleged that the missing stone had one-and-a-half lotus petals carved on it. The stone earlier was located in front of Lord Jagannath and Sudarshan before it went missing

Notably, the missing stone as alleged by Pratihari had one-and-a-half lotus petals carved on it. The stone earlier was located in front of Lord Jagannath and Sudarshan before it went missing. Following the allegation SJTA started an investigation into the matter.

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Clouds over Chandikhole crude oil project

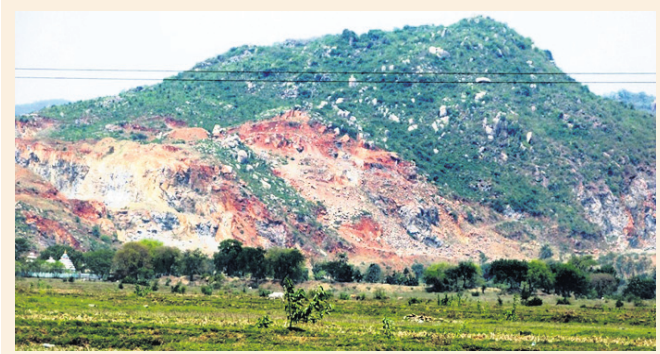
POST NEWS NETWORK

Jajpur, July 11: The Chandikhol crude oil reserve project, which was proposed at Chandikhol area (on the foothills of Dankari hill) under Dharmasala tehsil limits of Jajpur district, is yet to see any headway despite a Cabinet approval in June 2018.

Over 20 black stone quarries which were earlier operational within a 10 km radius of the site earmarked for the ambitious project were shut, following approval by the Central government.

It was learnt that the district administration has, meanwhile, accorded permission for a new quarry at Dankari hill and over 20 illegal stone crusher units are operational in the area. This has raised doubts as to whether the project will be completed or not.

Earlier, a central team comprising the joint secretary of Union petroleum ministry and three others had visited Dankari hill in May 2018 following which the then Chief Secretary had ordered a



The fourth-largest project of its type in the country, the Chandikhol project was expected to be built at a cost of ₹3,800 crore with a storage capacity of four million metric tonne of fuel.

The district administration has accorded permission for a new quarry at Dankari hill and over 20 illegal stone crusher units are operational in the area. This has raised doubts as to whether the project will be completed or not.

A central team comprising the joint secretary of Union petroleum ministry and three others had visited Dankari hill in May 2018 following which the then Chief Secretary had ordered a permanent closure of the quarries in March 2018.

permanent closure of the quarries in March 2018. However, the local tehsildar had pointed out that the state government would

lose about ₹1,413.86 crore if the quarries are shut. Despite this, the leaseholders were issued notice to close all the

quarries in conformity with the order of then Chief Secretary in April 2018. The Centre had requested the state government to provide 400 acres for the purpose.

A social activist had moved the National Green Tribunal (NGT) as a stone quarry at Kalapathar was not shut. The NGT had asked the state government to submit an inquiry report in this connection. In the meanwhile, a leaseholder has obtained a stay order from the apex court against the NGT ruling. The stay order continues to remain in force.

On being contacted, Chandikhol sub-collector Narayan Chandra Dhal said, “We will execute whatever decision will be taken by the government. There is nothing to be done at the administrative level now.”

It may be mentioned here that the fourth-largest project of its type in the country, the Chandikhol project was expected to be built at a cost of ₹3,800 crore with a storage capacity of four million metric tonne of fuel. At least, 500 local people would have found employment in the project.

Koraput admin explores coffee farming for migrants



POST NEWS NETWORK

Koraput, July 11: At Covid times, influx of migrant workers continued in Koraput district. Creating job opportunities for a large number of migrant workers has posed a challenge to the administration. It has now chalked out plans to go in for coffee plantations to provide work scope for the migrants, a report said.

Geo-climatic conditions of the Koraput district are conducive for coffee farming, black pepper and several shadow-giving trees.

District Collector Madhusudan Mishra has visited different areas under Dasamantapur and Laxmipur blocks and explored the opportunity, project director of Koraput District Rural Development Agency Bhabani Shankar Kalo informed.

The Collector had purposefully visited a nursery at Nuaguda village which grows coffee saplings in large numbers, including 50 hectares of black pepper farmland at Bindhaguda village under Laxmipur block in Koraput district identified for the purpose.

It has been decided to start coffee plantations on 555 hectares, black pepper plantations on seven hectares and shadow giving trees on 69 hectares in this district, the official sources said.

Registered beneficiaries having job cards under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) will be paid wages accordingly, the Collector asserted.

On the other hand, the Tribal Development Cooperative Corporation of Odisha Ltd (TDC-COL) is also promoting coffee cultivation in Koraput.

This effort of the administration will expectedly push the Koraput Coffee, a unique blend, consisting of 100 per cent Arabica coffee.

As opposed to the Robusta variety of the beverage which is acidic, 'Arabica Coffee', growing in the shade of trees, has a host of salutary benefits, inducing people to switch to the latter. The coffee raised in Koraput is also of export quality. Now, more farmers in this district are drawn towards coffee cultivation.

This Science student has a green tumb

POST NEWS NETWORK

Keonjhar, July 11: Among vendors selling vegetables in the markets of Keonjhar town, one is Mansingh Soren of Ghashipura block.

What makes Mansingh stands out from the rest is that he is a science student. To pursue his higher education he is staying at his aunt's house at Rajbandh under Sadar block. He is doing his Plus II science from Dharani Dhar College.

“Besides reading, I always wanted to earn so that the financial pressure on my parents is eased to some extent. I shared my wish with my cousin brother and we started growing vegetables,” says Mansingh.

Mansingh says he had prepared the field and ploughed it himself by driving the power tiller. Despite water problem, they have grown vegetables like tomatoes, yardlong beans, radish, Malabar spinach



He always wanted to earn to ease financial pressure on his parents and started growing vegetables in farmlands

and different types of greens. He personally takes care of the plants. “If we care for them, they will care for us,” he believes.

Every morning they collect vegetables from their garden; Mansingh puts them in bags and carries them

to Keonjar town.

According to Mansingh, the tribal people in the villages on the outskirts of Keonjhar town grow huge quantity of vegetables. As there is no cold storage facility, these farmers are forced into selling their produce to traders from other areas including Cuttack and Bhubaneswar at throw away prices to avoid damage and resultant loss.

“If we have irrigation and cold storage facilities in our district headquarters, it will help make a difference in lifting financial condition of the farmers,” observes Sunaram Marandi, a farmer of Rajabandh village.

Back in Ghashipura, there are his parents, two brothers and a sister. His father is a farmer and of the two brothers, one is pursuing his study in Bhubaneswar and the other one is a national level football player. Mansingh himself is good at football.

Techie turns fish farmer in Jagatsinghpur

POST NEWS NETWORK

Jagatsinghpur, July 11: Before the lockdown, he was known as a software engineer. Now he is a fish farmer.

Swapnesh Mohanty, aged 32, a resident of Anandpur village under Taradapada panchayat in Jagatsinghpur block worked as a software engineer with a Bangalore-based company. The countrywide coronavirus-induced lockdown, however, changed the course of his life.

“The company where I worked was closed down after lockdown and I was left with no option but return home. Seeing my time going unproductive, I wished to do something which can suitably be done during lockdown. I started searching for options on the internet. Particularly, I was searching for some farming options with modern technology,” Mohanty says.



Swapnesh's quest for tech-based farming finally ended with Biofloc fish farming. “I got two polythene wells measuring 1.3 metre high with a diameter of four metres constructed in our backyard April 28. In the first lot, I had bought 2,000 Rupchanda fingerlings from Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture (CIFA) at Kausalyaganga, Bhubaneswar,” he adds.

Swapnesh says the fingerlings

weighing four to five gram each have grown to 80 to 100 gram. He has been taking care of the fish himself.

“Starting from feeding them to maintaining water level and treating the water with medicines, I am doing everything. I hope, over next three to four months, they will grow to the size of 500 to 600 grams,” he observes.

Initially, my family was against my decision. But now they have

LADY LECTURER MAKES HAY IN CHOCOLATE BIZ

POST NEWS NETWORK

Nabarangpur, July 11: A woman lecturer at a private college in this district has become an example for others to emulate by becoming an entrepreneur in running a small scale chocolate unit from her house since October 2019.

She was identified as Sangita Sahu, a woman lecturer in Papdahandi block headquarters of Nabarangpur district. Apart from her job, Sahu has been earning ₹10,000 per month by making chocolates on the basis of the demands placed by the traders.

She is helped by her husband



and mother-in-law in this work. She said women staying in their houses should do something to in-

crease their income which will help them to make some extra income and in becoming self-reliant.

Apart from her job, Sangita earns ₹10,000 every month by making chocolates depending on the sizes of orders

It all started after Sangita, under the Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana, first got a chance from the district administration along with 23 other women to gain training in food processing in the district and later underwent training at Central Food Technological Research Institute (CFTRI) in Hyderabad, October,

2019. There she received training in making fruit juice, pickles, cakes and chocolates.

After returning from her training, she with the help of her family members ventured into the chocolate business and her brand “Golus Chakkii” available in different flavours gradually started gaining the market share. This apart, she also receives orders for birthdays and various functions while traders visit her house to buy chocolates from her.

Sahu claims her chocolate is chemical-free and sells at a price of ₹5 per piece in attractive packing of 50gm and 100gm. It takes three

hours to prepare two kilograms of chocolate and only seven minutes if it is done through a machine, she said. One can earn around ₹10,000 per month through this business, she said.

Sahu aims to provide training to other women by establishing a chocolate manufacturing unit in the area. She, however, hopes that the administration should come forward and provide them financial assistance which could help her in advancing her business. Currently, she is facing a slump in business due to the lockdown but that has not shaken her faith in the business she has carved out of her own labour.

CURBS ON VIOLATION



With lockdown in force, a policeman confronts bikers for moving on Mudipada-Farm Road in Sambalpur. OP PHOTO

Malkangiri denies access from 13 dists

POST NEWS NETWORK

Malkangiri, July 11: As Covid infections are surging in Malkangiri, the district administration has made 14-day institutional or paid quarantine mandatory for people coming to the district from 13 hotspot districts of the state.

The administration had denied entry of people from Ganjam, Cuttack, Khurda, Bhadrak, Jajpur, Puri, Dhenkanal, Sundergarh, Nayagarh, Kendrapara, Gajapati, Balasore and Jagatsinghpur.

If the people in quarantine de-



velop symptoms requiring medical attention, he/she may be shifted to COVID care centre or COVID hospital. Pregnant and lactating mothers, children below the age of 10 years, persons with co-morbidities, persons above 65 years of age

can be allowed to undergo 14 days of home quarantine.

Returnees such government officials, professionals, businessmen or any other person travelling to Malkangiri on work and intending to exit the district by road within 72 hrs or those officials, professionals, businessmen or any other person who have travelled from Malkangiri on work and are returning to this District within 72 hrs of departure from Malkangiri shall be exempted from mandatory quarantine upon arrival at the district.

Biju Yuva Vahini cadre dies of Covid

Digapahandi: Ganjam district reported two COVID-19 deaths Saturday. One of deceased was a member of the local Biju Yuva Vahini. He was identified as M Sibram of Sanadanda Sahi of Digapahandi town. He had been suffering from fever for last few days and was on medication. As his temperature continued to be high despite treatment, his swab was collected Thursday and the report came out to be positive Friday. He was immediately shifted to Sitalapali COVID-19 hospital. However, he breathed his last Saturday morning while undergoing treatment. According to family members, he was diabetic and on medication as per the doctor's prescription. Notably, Odisha Saturday reported 570 new COVID-19 cases and Ganjam alone accounted for 218 cases.

Angul admin bans entry of visitors from Ganjam, Jajpur

ANGUL: Entry to Angul district has been restricted for people who are returning from Jajpur and Ganjam districts. Collector Manoj Kumar Mohanty said this move is to check the spread of COVID-19 cases in the district.

The number of COVID-19 cases is on the rise in Angul. As many as 144 positive cases have been reported from the district. In a bid to put a break on this, the Collector issued a modified notification, restricting entry of people from pandemic-hit

Ganjam and Jajpur districts.

If anyone is found to have returned from Ganjam and Jajpur districts, they will have to go through a mandatory 14-day institutional quarantine. Criminal cases will be lodged against them who flout this order.

The Collector has intimated Angul SP all sub-collectors, tehsildars, BDOs and all line department officers about the new order. Since several cases come out in Ganjam and Jajpur, the ban is imposed only on these two districts, it was learnt.

Rush at temple consecration, 11 held

POLSARA: In violation of Covid-19 norms, over 500 villagers including women and children attended a temple consecration ceremony without wearing masks or adhering to social distancing norms at Maradarajpur village under this block in Ganjam district, a report said.

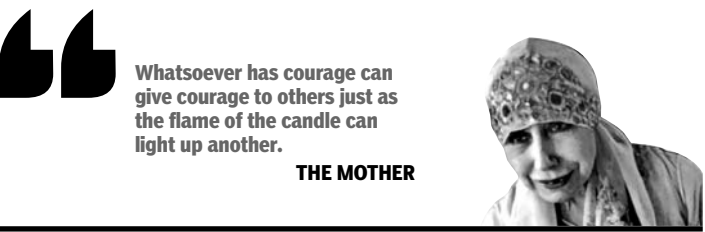
The function was organised for the consecration of a Hanuman temple in the village in Ja Dengapadar panchayat. The function assisted and supervised by public representatives was attended by the residents in violation of government norms for a

week starting from July 2 till the closing ceremony July 8.

Akula Swain, a local, opposed the ritual at the pandemic times but was allegedly attacked by the naib sarpanch Krushna Chandra Jena. Polsara police registered a case and arrested 11 persons including Jena, IIC Jeetendra Kumar Mallick said. Panchayatiraj Minister Pratap Jena suspended the naib sarpanch.

The locals attended the ritual without masks while the virus hasinfected a large number of people in the last four days and many succumbed to the Covid.

EAST COAST RAILWAY	
OHE MODIFICATION	
Tender No. 12-KUR-TRD-OT-2020-21, Date: 03.07.2020	
Name of Work: OHE MODIFICATION IN CONNECTION WITH " PROVISION OF BALLAST SIDING AT RADHA KISHOREPUR STATION".	
Approximate Value: ₹29,48,093.49, EMD: ₹59,000/-, Cost of Tender Document: ₹3,540/-	
Tender Closing date & time: Upto 1300 hrs of 27.07.2020.	
Complete information including e-Tender documents of the above e-Tenders is available in website http://www.ireps.gov.in	
Manual offers are not allowed against this tender, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored.	
Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer (TRD)/ PR-146/L20-21	Khurda Road



Rule of law

The United Nations defines the rule of law as a “principle of governance in which all persons, institutions and entities, public and private, including the State itself, are accountable to laws that are publicly promulgated, equally enforced and independently adjudicated, and which are consistent with international human rights norms and standards.” India is a rule of law State and Article 21 of our Constitution says “no person shall be deprived of his life or personal liberty except according to procedure established by law.” The government is bound by law to follow this. To break this rule is to break the law and commit a crime.

In his dissent against the Supreme Court sanctioning of Indira Gandhi’s power grab, Justice HR Khanna said: “without such sanctity of life and liberty, the distinction between a lawless society and one governed by laws would cease to have any meaning.”

In that case, the attorney general of India Niren De is said to have made the claim that during the Emergency, even the right to life under Article 21 was at the mercy of the State. To this Justice Khanna asked: “Supposing some policeman for reasons of enmity, not of State, kills someone, would there not be a remedy?” De said: “Consistent with my position, My Lord, not so long as the Emergency lasts. It shocks my conscience, it may shock yours, but there is no remedy.”

Decades later, Justice Khanna’s view was upheld by a nine-judge bench which said: “No civilized state can contemplate an encroachment upon life and personal liberty without the authority of law. Neither life nor liberty are bounties conferred by the state nor does the Constitution create these rights. The right to life has existed even before the advent of the Constitution. In recognising the right, the Constitution does not become the sole repository of the right.”

What is happening in India today is not rule of law. We are a lawless nation and I do not say this in anger or in frustration. I am saying it as an objective statement of what is going on around us. A man who used his influence to get away with the worst crimes surrenders and is shot in custody before he can reveal his secrets. He is not tried as the Constitution requires him to be but executed without process.

This is not the basis on which I am saying we are a lawless State. This is not the first encounter in India or even in Uttar Pradesh. Since Yogi Adityanath took charge of UP there have been 119 such executions and there have been thousands elsewhere as there will continue to be. A father and his son can be tortured and murdered by the police for keeping their shop open. This happens in India. It also happens in other lawless states, and that is a fact. Those who have power will use it against those they can in lawless states.

In lawless states like India, even government does not know the law. The Narendra Modi government passed a law banning sale of cows and buffaloes for slaughter at animal markets. Modi loves cows but did not know that he had no authority to do this. This is because the subject is on the State list of the Constitution and not the Central list. The Union government of India did not know this before it wrote the law.

When the Supreme Court pointed this out, the law was withdrawn. This is what happens in lawless states. Governments don’t even know the law so how are they supposed to follow it? State governments don’t know either and sometimes even the Supreme Court doesn’t know. Odisha passed a law banning conversions in 1967 which is in clear violation of Article 25. The right to propagation with the specific meaning of conversion is guaranteed in Article 25 as the Constituent Assembly debates show.

The Orissa High Court struck down the law but the Supreme Court, using faulty, illogical, unsound and barely literate reasoning, overruled the high court judgment. What has resulted is that 10 states have now legislated anti-conversion laws (deceitfully titled ‘Freedom of Religion Laws’) and UP is poised to be the 11th.

Adityanath will be surprised to be told that what he has instructed his police to do is a crime for which, constitutionally, he should be punished. He will believe, like Modi believed with his cow law, that he is doing the right thing because it is Bharatiya sanskriti.

Such things happen in a lawless state. Courts are dysfunctional, judges illiterate of law, lower courts overrule the Supreme Court on matters like sedition, legislatures don’t meet, elected representatives don’t follow the law, and the police can murder someone in their custody. It happens. This is India.

WISDOM CORNER

- “Don’t let schooling interfere with your education.” MARK TWAIN
- “Great minds discuss ideas; average minds discuss events; small minds discuss people.” ELEANOR ROOSEVELT
- “The world is moved along, not only by the mighty shoves of its heroes, but also by the aggregate of tiny pushes of each honest worker.” HELEN KELLER

WORDSWORTH

Subnivean

Classical scholars will spot the wintry associations of this word; it derives from Latin nix for snow, which becomes niv- in compounds such as niv- lis, snowy or snow-covered. Etymologists point out that the English snow and the Latin nix both ultimately derive from the same ancient Indo-European root. But then humans in Europe have long had plenty of experience of the white stuff. About four centuries ago, English scholars borrowed niv- lis to make the adjective nival to add to our snowy (though French got there first, at least a century earlier). We also have the more recent technical term nivation, not – as you might guess – meaning snowfall but the erosion of ground around and beneath a snow bank that is seasonally melting. Subnivean is another member of the group, nearly two centuries old. This refers to something that happens underneath snow such as the activities of animals that survive winter beneath it. Very recently that word has been joined by the linked noun subnivium for the area between soil surface and snowpack.

LOL

Entering Heaven

A man arrives at the gates of heaven. St. Peter asks, "Religion?" The man says, "Methodist." St. Peter looks down his list, and says, "Go to room 24, but be very quiet as you pass room 8." Another man arrives at the gates of heaven. "Religion?" "Baptist." "Go to room 18, but be very quiet as



you pass room 8." A third man arrives at

the gates. "Religion?" "Jewish." "Go to room 11, but be very quiet as you pass room 8." The man says, "I can understand there being different rooms for different religions, but why must I be quiet when I pass room 8?" St. Peter tells him, "Well the Jehovah's Witnesses are in room 8, and they think they're the only ones here."

Dr. S.N. Misra & Sanjaya Kumar Ghadai

THE WHO HAS OBSERVED THAT ONE OF THE BIGGEST BOTTLENECKS IN INDIA'S SOCIAL SECTOR PROGRAMMES IS A LACK OF HORIZONTAL COORDINATION BETWEEN DIFFERENT MINISTRIES RUNNING THEM, WITH THE BUREAUCRACY TAKING A VERTICAL APPROACH



Aakar Patel

Adityanath will be surprised to be told that what he has instructed his police to do is a crime for which, constitutionally, he should be punished

FOCUS WELFARE

NUTRITION AMID PANDEMIC



India already has the dubious distinction of moving up in the global hunger index from 102 to 117. It is time technological platforms and community partnerships as envisaged in the Poshan Abhiyaan are put in place

of 18-20gms. As per the NFHS-4 Survey (2015), close to 21 per cent of India’s population suffers from wasting and around 25.5 million children are wasted. India, in fact, leads globally in terms of wasting where only 20 countries have a wasting percentage of more than 10 per cent. The SNP has achieved a reduction of 9.6 per cent in stunting, 6.7 per cent in under-nutrition and 10.8 per cent in anaemia during 2006-2016. However, the most disturbing trend has been an increase in wasting from 19.8 per cent in 2005 to 21 per cent in 2015. The government introduced Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana in 2017 which seeks to make milestone based cash transfer to pregnant and nursing mothers who are above 19 years of age for the first child. However, studies by economists Jean Dreze and Keetika Khara bring out that most expecting mothers are unable to avail of full benefit of the scheme due to its procedural complexity and apathetic attitude of implementing agencies.

The Poshan Abhiyaan in collaboration with the World Bank is a new programme launched in December, 2017 as a National Nutrition Mission with the prime objective of reducing the rate of stunting and wasting by 2 per cent per year as against 1 per cent earlier and most importantly reduce

anaemia amongst adolescent girls by 3 per cent as against only 0.8 per cent per year; and low birth weight by 3 per cent as against 0.8 per cent presently. Severe anaemia and health deficiency amongst adolescent girls was also highlighted by Unicef-sponsored survey in RSOC (2013), as a major concern in India. The Poshan Abhiyaan plans to mobilise the community and usher in behavioural change as an important component for the mission.

Covid-19 has exposed the underbelly of the Central and state governments’ under-preparedness in handling the problem of migrant workers, who were on the streets. While a slew of interventions have been announced to stem the problem of ration supply for migrants, there is very little discussion as to how SNP and Poshan Abhiyaan will be implemented.

In Odisha, around 41.4 per cent women in the age group of 15-49 are reported to be below BMI and 36 per cent of babies under 6 months are underweight. They are higher than the all-India average. The wasting percentage is also higher than the all-India average (23.7 per cent). Prof. Partha Sarathi Dasgupta, the famous economist in his book ‘An Enquiry into Well-being & Destitution’ (1993) brings out how protein intake is most important for brain development in the first

three years of life, during which the brain achieves 90 per cent of its full size. All studies show, protein and iron deficiency amongst children of poor and expecting mothers and adolescent girls in India is a major challenge. Poor intake of micronutrients and vitamins is rampant. Given such humongous challenges, SNP is a critical cog in the wheel of India’s healthcare. It is reported that some effort is being made to provide take-home ration to children. However, the critical component of providing hot cooked meal to children and expecting mothers has taken a serious beating. While migrants are being provided with cooked meal at different centres, no such arrangements are being made for undernourished children and mothers.

Since the impact of Covid is likely to continue at least till the end of this year, the central and state governments must come up with a credible action plan for providing supplementary nutrition in an organised manner. India already has the dubious distinction of moving up in the global hunger index from 102 to 117. It is time technological platforms and community partnerships as envisaged in the Poshan Abhiyaan are put in place. The WHO has observed that one of the biggest bottlenecks in India’s social sector programmes is a lack of horizontal coordination between different ministries running them, with the bureaucracy taking a vertical approach. It’s time the government associates responsible NGOs to get closely involved in running SNP, and use technology effectively to improve communication and skill development amongst Anganwadi workers and ASHAs. India’s expectation to reap demographic dividend would otherwise be a recipe for disaster in post-Covid period. Poor children and mothers with fragile health do not need our charity, but proper nutritional care and empathy, which are constitutionally guaranteed to them.

Prof. S.N. Misra teaches Economics & Sanjaya Kumar Ghadai, is a Ph.D. research scholar

SPECTRUM ENERGY

How women can power green transition

Irene Giner-Reichl

AS COUNTRIES EVERYWHERE EMBARK ON “BUILDING BACK BETTER” AFTER COVID-19, ENERGY TRANSITION STRATEGIES SHOULD BE A KEY ELEMENT IN ANY STIMULUS PACKAGE. AND THEY WILL BE FAR MORE LIKELY TO SUCCEED IF WOMEN PLAY A CENTRAL ROLE

The world needs to shift from the current fossil-fuel-based energy system to carbon neutrality. Most obviously, this will require countries to roll out renewable energy and integrate it into the electricity grid, boost energy efficiency, upgrade infrastructure, and refine the governance of electricity and energy markets. Less apparent, success will require that women are able to contribute to the transition on an equal footing with men.

Energy transitions will differ depending on countries’ development priorities, the proportion of the population with access to power grids, the current energy mix, and projected demand. Some transitions may involve simply retrofitting old, unsustainable assets in order to reduce carbon dioxide emissions, while others may be part of a multifaceted development strategy for societal transformation, including gender equality and inclusion. But all countries should commit to creating jobs and leaving no one behind.

Although the available data vary considerably, women probably represent – at most – one-third of the global sustainable energy workforce. And their share typically is much lower in the so-called STEM

professions (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) and in executive positions. Unsurprisingly, awareness of gender dynamics in the workplace also tends to be low. Moreover, policies that could help redress the current imbalance in the sector – such as flex-time, parental leave, return-to-work schemes, bias-free recruitment and promotion, and gender-balanced boards and panels – are scarce.

These barriers to the full participation of women are, first and foremost, an infringement of human rights, in particular women’s right to full and equal participation in the life of their communities. Governments therefore have a duty to eliminate discrimination against women and establish frameworks to help empower them and enable their advancement. In addition, under-representation of women deprives energy transitions of diverse talent, and thus impedes transformational change required to achieve global climate targets and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Conversely, equal participation of women in the workforce is demonstrably good for business, the economy, social development, and the environment.

These findings are not new. In its 2012 World Development Report,

for example, World Bank emphasised that gender equality not only is a core development objective in its own right, but also enhances an economy’s productivity and improves future generations’ prospects. During the 2009 global economic downturn, a survey by McKinsey & Company concluded women leaders represent “a competitive edge in and after the crisis.” Likewise, having a higher percentage of women in decision-making positions increases innovation and profitability, decreases risk, and enhances sustainability practices.

Green-energy transitions provide opportunities to tackle systemic gender discrimination and enable societies to reap the benefits of a more diverse workforce. That is partly because sustainable energy is a new and fast-growing field: the number of people employed worldwide in the sector is expected to increase from an estimated 11 million today to over 42 million in 2050.

The good news is that governments, firms, and universities around the world are implementing a variety of strategies to make green transition more diverse and inclusive. For example, Rwanda’s 2003 constitution sets a mandatory minimum female quota of 30 per cent for all decision-making bodies,

including those related to sustainable development and energy. The mandatory quota sent a powerful signal to society and was more than doubly filled in both the 2013 and 2018 parliamentary elections, in which women won more than 60 per cent of seats.

In the business world, Turkish firm Polat Energy recently took out a \$44 million “gender loan” to finance the construction of Turkey’s largest wind farm. The loan terms will improve if the company demonstrates further progress toward gender equality relative to an initial baseline. Elsewhere in the energy sector, Wind Denmark has gone beyond the country’s already generous parental leave policy for both women and men, while ScottishPower is championing a “return to work” program.

Energy transitions are essential to limit global warming. Achieving them is in everyone’s interest. As countries everywhere embark on “building back better” after COVID-19, energy transition strategies should be a key element in any stimulus package. And they will be far more likely to succeed if women play a central role.

Irene Giner-Reichl is Austrian ambassador to Brazil and Suriname @PROJECT SYNDICATE

Living with virus

Sir, Covid-19 has sharply altered the lives of billions of people around the world. The pandemic has caused a massive shakeup in our daily lives starting from the battle in the frontline to adhering to social distancing and making hand wash compulsory in our daily lives. This is unprecedented in the history of mankind as in the past we have faced diseases like plague, small pox, and polio but none of the diseases have impacted our lives to this extent. Covid-19 has touched every aspect of our lives and has changed the way we all live. No one for sure could say when the disease will be contained as the researchers assisted by the governments all over the world are yet to find out a vaccine for the same. In this case, we have no option but to stay indoors and maintain social distancing and hygiene to protect ourselves and others from the dreaded virus. The World Health Organisation has warned us that the virus is here to stay and following social distancing and hygiene norms are the only safeguards to protect our lives and our near and dear ones till a cure is available for the disease. Priyabrata Parija, CUTTACK

Poor outlook

Sir, I am shocked to know that the ‘so called directors’ working in the Hindi film industry are having such poor knowledge about the states of our country. They do not have sufficient outlook. Ram Gopal Verma, who has been drawing flak for his ill-advised and insensitive comment about Odisha on Twitter, needs to be cautious before making any such comments. I want to say on the above context that there is acute nepotism in the Hindi film industry. This has been proved by the recent incident of talented actor Sushant Singh Rajput’s suicide. The whole country is demanding for an investigation by CBI into the suicide. Naresh Mandal, BHADRAK

Comedian par excellence

Sir, It is sad that the Hindi film industry has lost another great actor. Jagdeep who enthralled movie buffs during the sixties, seventies and eighties is no more. Some of his roles, especially the one in ‘Sholay’ – Soorma Bhopali – remain etched in the hearts of film lovers. Jagdeep began his film career as a child artiste in ‘Do Bigha Zamin’, ‘Munna’ and ‘Aar Paar’. He later played lead roles in films like ‘Bhabhi’, ‘Bindya’ and ‘Barkha’. His comic timing, unique dialogue delivery and facial expressions make him a comedian par excellence. M Pradyu, EMAIL

Letters

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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Differences brew in NDA, Oppn camps in Bihar

WHILE THE EQUATION BETWEEN BJP AND LJP REMAINS FINE, NITISH KUMAR'S PARTY IS ANGRY OVER CHIRAG PASWAN'S REPEATED SNIPES AT THE CM AND HINTS THAT THE SAFFRON PARTY SHOULD LOOK BEYOND HIM IN THE STATE

IN THE RJD-LED OPPOSITION, SOME PARTIES HAVE SHOWN RELUCTANCE TO PROJECT TEJASHWI YADAV AS THE COALITION'S CHIEF MINISTERIAL CANDIDATE AND SOUGHT A DISCUSSION AMONG ALLIES

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, July 11: Increasingly bitter relations between the JD(U) and the LJP in the ruling National Democratic Alliance and differences in the Opposition camp have thrown up possibilities of a political realignment in Bihar ahead of the assembly polls in the state.

It remains uncertain if the state's fractured politics will see new alliances, but all is far from well in the two rival camps, prompting some parties to explore their options, sources have said.

The Lok Janshakti Party (LJP) is peeved with Chief Minister Nitish Kumar-led Janata Dal (United) as it believes that its due strength in the state is not being acknowledged by the ally in seat-sharing talks among the NDA partners.

While the equation between the BJP and the LJP remains fine, Kumar's party is angry over Chirag Paswan's repeated snipes at the chief minister and hints that the saffron party should look beyond him in the state.

"The LJP is overestimating its strength in Bihar, and Chirag Paswan has become more and more ambitious. It was never an ally of the JD(U). It has aligned with the BJP on and off, and the saffron party will deal with its demands, not us," a senior JD(U) leader said.

Union minister Ram Vilas Paswan's party, now being led by his son Chirag, had fought on 42 of the



state assembly's 243 seats in 2015 and wants a share on similar lines in the upcoming polls, a position rejected by the JD(U).

The JD(U) was in the rival camp of the RJD and the Congress in 2015. JD(U) sources have pointed out that the LJP won only two seats in 2015, and its best show was in 2005 when the party won 29 seats while fighting on its own in the Bihar polls. The hung verdict had led to another assembly election in a few months in which Kumar led the NDA to victory in the state for the first time, defeating Lalu Prasad's RJD.

The LJP's tally was reduced to 10 seats. The LJP on its part has noted that even the JD(U) won only two

It remains uncertain if the state's fractured politics will see new alliances, but all is far from well in the two rival camps, prompting some parties to explore their options

Lok Sabha seats in 2014 but was given 17 of the total 40 seats to contest in 2019 general election after rejoining the NDA following a four-

year split.

Though the BJP has been working to keep its alliance partners on board, its top leaders have repeatedly put their faith in Kumar's leadership and named him as the NDA's chief ministerial candidate.

This, political sources believe, limits the BJP's ability to placate the LJP. The Paswans have been so far all praise for the BJP, and the Union minister had Friday lauded Prime Minister Narendra Modi's "pro-poor" policies.

All that the LJP wants is an "honourable deal" from its NDA allies in the Bihar polls, a party leader said.

A senior BJP leader, however, played down the LJP's aggressive stand, describing it as a "usual pos-

turing" parties in an alliance to maximize their share of seats.

He noted that seat-sharing talks among the NDA partners in 2015, when it included parties of Jitan Ram Manjhi and Upendra Kushwaha besides the LJP, also involved a lot of muscle-flexing by the BJP's allies.

"All parties want to contest on maximum number of seats so that they can be in a strong position after the elections," he said.

Bihar Congress leader Akhilesh Prasad Singh had recently set off speculation with his claim that he had talked to the LJP leadership about the evolving political situation, and Pappu Yadav, a former MP with his own party, has been speaking approvingly of Chirag Paswan as a potential chief minister.

In the RJD-led opposition, some parties have shown reluctance to project Tejashwi Yadav as the coalition's chief ministerial candidate and sought a discussion among allies.

Former chief minister and Hindustani Awam Morcha (Secular) leader Jitan Ram Manjhi, who has been taking potshots at the RJD leadership, has gone closer to the JD(U), sources said.

Two other members of the Opposition camp, Rashtriya Lok Samata Party chief Upendra Kushwaha and Vikassheel Insaan Party's Mukesh Sahani, have also expressed reservation over the leadership issue, signalling trouble in the camp.

‘It’s time to fight the virus, not elections’

AGENCIES

Patna, July 11: Lok Janshakti Party (LJP) chief Chirag Paswan has supported Rashtriya Janata Dal's (RJD) Tejashwi Yadav over the issue of holding Assembly elections during the time coronavirus pandemic.

Chirag, who has differences with Janata Dal (United), has supported Tejashwi by saying that the Bihar Assembly elections should not be conducted in the time of a pandemic.

Tejashwi had been demanding that elections not be held during the coronavirus period.

Election strategist Prashant Kishor took a swipe at Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar Saturday, saying this is a time to fight the coronavirus, not elections, and that he should not endanger people's lives in a "hurry" to hold the assembly polls. "The coronavirus situation in Bihar is worsening like it is in many other states of the country. But a big part of government machinery and resources are busy making preparation for the assembly elections."

"Nitish Kumar ji, this isn't a time to fight elections, but the coronavirus. Don't endanger people's lives in this hurry to hold the polls," he tweeted.

Prashant Kishor, once a confidant of JD(U) chief Nitish Kumar, before he turned a critic and was expelled from the party, joins leaders like LJP chief Chirag Paswan and RJD's Tejashwi Yadav in suggesting that the Bihar assembly polls should be deferred due to the pandemic.

Polls in Bihar are due in October-



NO POLLS IN PANDEMIC

Election strategist Prashant Kishor took a swipe at Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, saying this is a time to fight the coronavirus, not elections, and that he should not endanger people's lives in a 'hurry' to hold the assembly polls.

Chirag Paswan, who has differences with JD(U), has supported Tejashwi Yadav by saying that the Bihar Assembly elections should not be conducted in the time of a pandemic

November but the Election Commission has so far not made any official announcement about its schedule.

The BJP and the JD(U) have been holding organisational meetings and reportedly said that they are ready for the elections.

BJP bid to corner Kejri in his own game -- free electricity

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, July 11: Arvind Kejriwal may have come to power riding on his popular free electricity scheme in Delhi up to 200 units, but it is the electricity bills now that the BJP is using against him.

BJP's Delhi unit Chief Adesh Gupta has written to Kejriwal seeking time to discuss "grievances of entrepreneurs, traders, school-hospitals, religious places and fellow citizens, who are troubled by the huge electricity bills due to fixed and other charges." The BJP leader has written that he has received complaints from many quarters about fixed charges, average billing on electricity bills that are inflated.

"Delhi's businesses and markets are shut since March. But due to fixed charge and steep commercial rates and taxes, they are getting charged steeply. For those who were forced to stay at home due to the lockdown have also received high electricity bills. Due to higher bills, they are not being able to avail their subsidies," Gupta has complained in his letter.

He also cited example of Madhya Pradesh and Haryana - both BJP ruled states, which have extended benefits to people for their electricity bills during the lockdown.

Gupta said that it will oppose the



But now, the BJP sensing rising unhappiness among the business community in particular over steep electricity bills during the lockdown even when their units were shut, the party is using the same issue against the Delhi CM that brought him into power

Electricity and water were twin big promises of the AAP that defeated the BJP and the Congress in the national capital, in the last assembly elections

policies of a government that came to power on the promise of "Pani maaf aur bijli half" (No water taxes and half electricity bills) promise.

In run up to the Delhi polls, this January Kejriwal tweeted a testimonial saying, "This morning a man from a village in UP came to meet me. He said, 'We get electricity bills in our village but no electricity. Delhi gets electricity for 24 hours but not bills'."

Electricity and water were twin big promises of the AAP that defeated the BJP and the Congress in the national capital, this assembly election. But now, the BJP sensing rising unhappiness among the business community in particular over steep electricity bills during the lockdown even when their units were shut down, the party is using the same issue against the Delhi CM that brought him into power.

No home-isolated Delhi patient died in July

This can be attributed to CM's decision to distribute oximeters to all patients under home isolation

AGENCIES

New Delhi, July 11: Not a single coronavirus patient under home isolation in the city has died in July and there has been a "sharp decline" in daily fatality figures in the past two weeks, a Delhi government study on COVID-19 deaths has said.

The city's Health department presented these findings to Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal Friday, days after he directed them to study all COVID-19 deaths in the last fortnight to understand what steps could be taken to further reduce the number of fatalities.

"During the June 24 to July 8 fortnight, a total of 691 deaths took place in Delhi, which is an average of 46 deaths per day during this period," the government said in a statement.

According to the study, the number of daily deaths in past few days has come down. From a high of 101 daily deaths in mid-June, daily deaths have come down to around 46 deaths during the last fortnight, registering a significant improvement, it said.

Delhi's overall death rate has come down to 3.02 per cent from 3.64 per cent in June. However, daily average has come down to roughly 2.5 per cent with average daily number of deaths being less than 50,



the study said.

"Out of the total 691 deaths that took place in the last fortnight, only seven deaths happened in home isolation (between 24 June to 30 June). Not a single coronavirus patient has died under home isolation in July," the statement said.

This can be attributed to the chief minister's decision to distribute oximeters to all patients under home isolation, it said, adding that the use of these oximeters alerts the

patients of any dropping oxygen levels which is an early sign of deteriorating health.

The chief minister held a review meeting Friday to discuss measures which needs to be taken to further reduce mortality.

In view of the deaths at the hospitals (and not in home isolation), it was felt that systems in each hospital needs to be examined in detail, the statement said.

The chief minister has asked for

the ratio of deaths to total number of patients discharged from each hospital. Hospitals with low ratio would mean better management, it said.

Good practices in the hospitals would be studied and implemented at those facilities where more deaths are taking place. The chief minister will continue to monitor all serious cases on a daily basis, it added.

Of the 691 deaths in the last fortnight, 505 patients were in serious condition when admitted to the hospitals and 291 were already in hospital when they tested positive for COVID-19.

The study also found delay in hospital admission in case of 28 patients. According to a central government's committee, 45 per cent of COVID-19 deaths in India occur during the first 48 hours. In Delhi, this has come down to only 15 per cent, the statement said. A number of steps have been taken by the Delhi government to lower COVID-19 deaths which have contributed to the reduction in number of fatalities, it said.

The interventions at six crucial points - enhanced testing, home isolation of asymptomatic and mild symptom patients, faster ambulance service, quick hospital admission, easy hospital bed availability and enhanced ICU capacity - have started showing results, it added.

Road, roundabout named after Sushant in Purnea

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Purnea, July 11: A road and a roundabout here have been renamed in memory of late actor Sushant Singh Rajput, a resident of Bihar.

The people of Purnea, Sushant's home district, had been demanding the renaming of a road and chowk in memory of the actor. The municipal corporation has now changed the name of Ford Company Chowk to Sushant Singh Rajput Chowk. Savita Devi, the mayor of Purnea, inaugurated the newly renamed road and chowk, pictures of which have gone viral on social media. Devi said that Sushant was a great artist and to name the road after him is a tribute to him. The mayor said that the road that goes from Madhubani to Mata Chowk will now be known as Sushant Singh Rajput Road. Not only this, the name of the roundabout of the famous car company has also been changed to Sushant Singh Rajput Chowk.

People of the state, including



some organisations, are demanding a CBI probe into the actor's death. Sushant had allegedly committed suicide June 14 at his flat in Mumbai's Bandra.

‘Kattas’ to Berettas, who is running guns into Delhi?

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, July 11: "Illegal weapons seized" might be a headline you see in Delhi newspapers too often, indicating firearms are freely making their way into the national capital. These come not only from the NCR but also from as far away as the illicit manufacturing hub of Bihar's Munger and the repercussions can be seen on the city's streets with the activities of trigger-happy criminals.

Though Delhi Police's Special Cell and Crime Branch have time and again busted gunrunning rackets and arrested manufacturers and suppliers, the question remains if enough is being done to curb the flow of illegal fire-arms.

As per figures, a total of 1,047 cases under Arms Act were registered in Delhi till June 15 as compared to 1,074 cases in the same period in the previous year. The data is worrying because it only shows a marginal decline this year despite the countrywide lockdown since March 24 and limited relaxations thereafter, which should have

made the influx of illegal weapons more difficult for criminals.

Saturday, a murder convict who was out on parole was apprehended by the Crime Branch and a Taurus Beretta of Brazilian make recovered from him. The source of the weapon is being investigated but the fact that how easily a criminal out on parole could lay hands on such a sophisticated weapon is alarming for law enforcement agencies.

In the recent riots in northeast Delhi, police had registered several cases under the Arms Act. Later, in a suspected gang war between two rival groups in Jafraabad in May, two men were brutally shot dead. In another case in the same month, in one of the deadliest shootouts which was caught on camera, members of a gang gunned down two of their rivals in broad daylight. One of the shooters was subsequently gunned down by police.

With Munger under constant vigil of security agencies for its infamous illegal gun manufacturing factories, there is evidence that

WORRYING TREND

- As per figures, a total of 1,047 cases under Arms Act were registered in Delhi till June 15 as compared to 1,074 cases in the same period in the previous year.
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With Munger under constant vigil of security agencies for its infamous illegal gun manufacturing factories, there is evidence that crafty workers are shifting base to avoid detection

What is worrying the security agencies is the fact that they are moving closer to the capital

crafty workers are shifting base to avoid detection. What is worrying the security agencies is the fact that they are moving closer to the capital.

In 2018, the busting of an illegal weapons factory at Uttar Pradesh's Meerut by Special Cell supports the theory. Many of the arrested workers were from Munger and had

moved to the NCR in search of easy money and lower risk. In January 2020, another illegal weapon-making factory was busted in Meerut and 60 pistols seized.

In June this year, Delhi Police's Special Cell and Aligarh police busted an illegal arms factory running from Baba colony in Aligarh, and arrested six people.

After this operation, Delhi Police spokesman MS Randhawa had said: "Setting an excellent example of interstate police cooperation, the co-ordinated and timely efforts of Special Cell of the Delhi Police and Aligarh police led to the unearthing of a factory used for manufacturing illegal firearms, which was a source of incessant supply of illegal arms to the criminals of Delhi and other states."

The price of a sophisticated pistol varies from Rs 4,500 to Rs 15,000 depending upon the quality of the product. To curtail the weapon flow, there is a need to strengthen information networks, break the supply chain and act strictly against the source of the gun running rackets.

of the day quote

The government has not taken any decision on imposing lockdown on Saturdays, amid spike in COVID-19 cases

C. N. ASHWATHNARAYAN | KARNATAKA DEPUTY CM

I have requested for the repatriation of stranded fishermen from Iran to Tamil Nadu

K PALANISWAMI | TN CM

Got my antigen and RT-PCR tests done for COVID-19. My antigen test results were negative

ASADUDDIN OWAISSI | AIMIM PRESIDENT

SHORT TAKES

Boy ends life

Ambikapur: A 19-year-old boy allegedly committed suicide Saturday at a quarantine centre in Chhattisgarh's Surguja district where he was lodged after returning from Raipur, police said. Pradip Kerketta was found hanging from the ceiling in a room at a quarantine centre at his village Kerju under Sitapur police station limits in the afternoon, an official said. Kerketta, a borewell drilling machine worker, had returned from Raipur to Kerju on July 2 and was kept at the quarantine facility for 14 days as a precautionary measure, the official said.

Two arrested

Thane: Two persons were arrested in Mira Road township of Maharashtra's Thane district for allegedly selling medicines used in COVID-19 treatment at high prices, police said Saturday. Acting on a tip-off, the district rural police Friday nabbed Sonu Darshi (25) and Rodrigues Raul (31) from Saibaba Nagar locality for allegedly selling vials of remdesivir injections at exorbitant prices, an official said.

Dacoit nabbed

Palanpur: A dacoit wanted in a 38-year-old bank robbery and murder case in Banaskantha district of Gujarat was arrested from neighbouring Rajasthan Saturday, police said. A team of the local crime branch from Palanpur nabbed Deepshing Rajput (68) from a village in Barmer district of Rajasthan near the Indo-Pak border, Banaskantha superintendent of police Tarun Kumar Duggal said.

Four held

Seoni (MP): Police have recovered leopard claws, skin and bones from Seoni district of Madhya Pradesh and arrested four poachers in this connection, an official said Saturday. The accused were arrested when they were trying to strike a deal to sell leopard's claws, hide and bones, Seoni Superintendent of Police (SP) Kumar Prateek said.

Naxals kill man

Gadchiroli: Naxals killed a 28-year-old man in Gadchiroli district in Maharashtra after falsely accusing him of being a police informer, an official said Saturday. The killing took place Friday and the body of Munshi Tado, a resident of Bhamragad, was found near his native village on Saturday, he added. "He was taken away from the fields on Friday evening and killed. Naxals left pamphlets near Tado's body claiming he was a police informer," he said.



Why is the PM so scared of disclosing the names of those who donated money to him for PMCare? Everyone knows Chinese companies Huawei, Xiaomi, TikTok and OnePlus gave money. Why doesn't he share the details?

RAHUL GANDHI | CONGRESS LEADER

WAR AGAINST VIRUS

The Meghalaya government has asked the BSF to ensure their personnel coming to the state from other parts of the country undergo 14-day institutional quarantine mandatorily before they resume duty



BJP DESTABILISING RAJ GOVT: GEHLOT

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Jaipur, July 11: Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot Saturday accused the opposition BJP of trying to topple his government by offering his legislators large sums of money and said his administration is not just stable but will complete its five-year term.

Gehlot alleged at a press conference that Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah were unable to "tolerate" him or his government and were therefore planning a conspiracy.

Rejecting Gehlot's allegations, BJP state president Satish Poonia said the political situation in the state was the result of infighting in the Congress and the chief minister was just trying to shift the blame. "BJP leaders are playing the game at the behest of Central leaders. MLAs were offered money... Rs 10 crore in advance and Rs 15 crore after the government is toppled," the



Gehlot alleged at a press conference that Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah were unable to "tolerate" him or his government and were therefore planning a conspiracy

Rejecting Gehlot's allegations, BJP state president Satish Poonia said the political situation in the state was the result of infighting in the Congress and the Chief Minister was just trying to shift the blame

chief minister claimed, a charge denied by the BJP.

He added that BJP leaders were murdering democracy and wanted to do politics like in a goat market, "bakra-mandi", where goats and bought and sold. Stepping up the attack against the BJP, the chief minister also named Leader of Opposition Gulab Chand Kataria, Deputy Leader of Opposition Rajendra Rathore and BJP state president Poonia and claimed they

were carrying out the agenda of the party's central leadership.

"The chief minister did not talk logically in his press conference. It is their own infighting but he wants to blame BJP. He is a veteran leader of Congress and his pain is justified because in the Congress has shrunk in the country," Poonia said in response. "He talked about a 'bakra-mandi'. How can he talk like this.... If he so confident, why did he have to con-

fine MLAs to a resort for several days ahead of the Rajya Sabha elections?" he added.

However, Gehlot exuded confidence that his government will ride any crisis and said his government had begun preparations for winning the next assembly elections. "The government in Rajasthan is stable, will remain stable and will last five years," the senior Congress leader said.

"The government is delivering governance, presenting budgets in that direction," he said. Gehlot was asked whether the alleged efforts to weaken his party were happening because of two groups in the Congress - one led by him and the other by his deputy Sachin Pilot.

"There may be five-seven leaders here who could be the claimant for chief minister's post. They may also have capabilities but when a chief minister is appointed, such talks get over and peace prevails," he said in response.

MP PORTFOLIO ALLOCATION TODAY

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhopal, July 11: Nine days after they were inducted into the Madhya Pradesh cabinet, 28 ministers will finally get portfolios July 12.

The delay in assigning ministries had triggered speculations about an internecine conflict in the ruling BJP over accommodating loyalists of Jyotiraditya Scindia, whose exit from the Congress along with 22 MLAs led to collapse of Kamal Nath-led government in March this year, in the cabinet.

"I will do it tomorrow (Sunday)," Chouhan said in Gwalior when asked about the delay in allocating portfolios. After expanding his cabinet for the second time on July 2, Chouhan met top brass of the BJP in New Delhi apparently to discuss the portfolio allocation, which has become a political tightrope in the presence of as- sertive Scindia.

The 28 ministers comprise at least a dozen loyalists of Scindia.

FIGHTING CORONA



A firefighter sprays disinfectant on a street in front of UP Vidhan Sabha, during the lockdown imposed by the state government for three consecutive days due to surge in COVID-19 cases in Lucknow, Saturday

PTI PHOTO

Infiltration bid foiled, 2 killed

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Srinagar, July 11: Two militants were Saturday killed as an infiltration bid along the Line of Control (LoC) in Naugam sector of Jammu and Kashmir was foiled, even as the army said about 300 ultras were waiting at launch pads in Pakistan occupied Kashmir (PoK) to crossover to this side.

"Appropriate response by troops on ground was taken to eliminate two terrorists who were trying to infiltrate in the area by cutting the anti-infiltration fence," General Officer Commanding (GoC) of the army's Baramulla-based 19 infantry division, Major General Virender Vats, told reporters.

"The heavily-armed terrorists who were dressed in combat fatigues had taken the route through Pakistani posts in the area opposite, which clearly indicates Pakistan's complicity in abetment to foment trouble in India," he said. The officer said timely action of the forces en-



sured the killing of the two militants and in addition to arms, ammunition, food and medicines, the forces recovered Rs 1.5 lakh in Indian and Pakistani currency from the slain ultras. Maj Gen Vats said Saturday's infiltration bid follows similar attempts made by Pakistan in Rajouri and Kupwara sectors in the recent past and needs to be seen in the backdrop of various inputs about increased presence of militants on the launch pads across the LoC, "fully facilitated and supported by Pakistani army".

"Indian army remains fully committed in its resolve to maintain the sanctity of the Line of Control and

any trans-LoC movement will get similar or appropriate response.

The dagger division on its part or for that matter Indian army is ready along the LoC," he said.

The officer said the number of militants at launchpads across the LoC could be anywhere between 200 and 300."The launchpads are fully occupied and if we have to hazard a guess, it could be anything between 250-300 terrorists presently occupying the launch pads (on) opposite (side)," he said.

He said ever since the Centre's August 5, 2019 decision of revoking the special status of Jammu and Kashmir, Pakistan is trying hard to push more and more militants into the Valley in an attempt to instigate the people, but the neighbouring country has failed to do so for a long time now.

"Pakistan has been failing in its attempt to instigate the people of Kashmir. The people have by and large rejected the narrative of Pakistan," he said.

China withdraws troops from Pangong Tso area

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, July 11: Chinese military further thinned down its presence in the ridgeline of Finger Four and removed some boats from Pangong Lake in eastern Ladakh ahead of another round of Lt General-level talks between India and China aimed at finalising modalities for complete disengagement along the Line of Actual Control (LAC), people familiar with the development said Saturday.

The escalation in tension in eastern Ladakh was triggered by a violent clash between the two armies in Pangong Tso on May 5 in which a sizeable number of personnel from both sides were injured.

Following the incident, both sides were locked in an eyeball-to-eyeball confrontation in three other locations in the region. At the military talks, the two sides are ex-

pected to specifically focus on completing withdrawal of troops from Pangong Tso and Depsang besides laying out a detailed roadmap for disengagement of large numbers of troops from the rear bases by the two sides in a time-bound manner. Both sides had significantly ramped up troops and weaponry including tanks and artillery guns in eastern Ladakh.

The formal process of disengagement of troops began on Monday morning after a nearly two-hour telephonic conversation between National Security Advisor Ajit Doval and Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi Sunday.

The Chinese military has already completed moving back its troops from the face-off sites in Galwan Valley, Gogra and Hot Springs in line with the first phase of the disengagement process from the friction points on the LAC in eastern Ladakh, sources said.

TABLIGHI JAMAAT

75 foreign nationals granted bail

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, July 11: A Delhi court Saturday granted bail to 75 foreign nationals from Thailand and Nepal, who were charge-sheeted for attending a Tablighi Jamaat congregation here allegedly in violation of visa norms, indulging in missionary activities illegally and violating government guidelines issued in the wake of the COVID-19 outbreak.

Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Gurmohina Kaur granted the relief to the foreigners on furnishing a personal bond of Rs 10,000 each. Till date, 445 foreign nationals from 33 countries, have been granted bail by the court. The police had in June filed 59 charge sheets, including supplementaries, against 956 foreigners.

COVID CONTROLLABLE, DHARAVI AN EXAMPLE: WHO

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Mumbai, July 11: In a major boost to the BrihanMumbai Municipal Corporation and Maharashtra government's morale, the World Health Organisation (WHO) has lauded their success over the Covid-19 outbreak in Dharavi - Asia's largest slum.

WHO Director-General Tedros A. Ghebreyesus, at a press conference late on Friday, referred to the achievements made in the Dharavi among other similar examples globally.

"Even in Dharavi, a densely packed area in Mumbai, a strong focus on community engagement and the basics of testing, tracing, isolating and treating all those that are sick is key to breaking the chains of transmission, and suppressing the virus," Ghebreyesus said.

In this context, he pointed out that there are many many examples



from around the world that have shown that even if the Covid-19 outbreak is very intense, it can still be brought back under control, as in Vietnam, Cambodia, Thailand, New Zealand, Italy, Spain and South Korea.

Responding quickly, the BMC said: "Thank You, WHO for acknowledging #MissionDharavi where it partnered with citizens to 'Chase the Virus' from one of the most populous blocks of the city". "With your guidelines and

Mumbai's community efforts, we will beat Covid-19 one block at a time by Tracing, Tracking, Testing and Treating," the BMC's return tweet said.

Ghebreyesus also stressed the need for community participation and collective solidarity - akin to Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray's appeal two days ago for forming Corona Vigilance Committees right down to the village levels, and asking NGOs to adopt Mumbai slums with public partnership to beat the Coronavirus.

Reacting to the WHO DG's comments, Health Minister Rajesh Tope admitted that "we have worked very hard from day one along with the people of Dharavi" and even in Malegaon, Nashik, and now the results are showing in both places.

"It was an aggressive fight, surveillance of the population, early detection of symptoms, isolation in government quarantine centres in a

huge way, all precautions like fogging the area regularly, disinfecting public toilets repeatedly daily, starting fever clinics, providing portable chest x-ray machines, temperature guns, etc, even in Malegaon," Tope said.

He said that in both places, "we have managed to flatten the curve, we don't expect it to worsen any further, but we also can't take chances so will continue to remain vigilant".

Education Minister and MLA from Dharavi Varsha Gaikwad said she was "proud of all Dharavians.. as today they have set an example for the world.

"WHO has recognized and praised our efforts against this war (vis-A-vis) Corona... Let's keep up the good work and we will fight in the strongest way," a thrilled Gaikwad tweeted.

The WHO head also cautioned that from countries where there is

exponential growth to places that are loosening restrictions, are "now starting to see cases rise".

For this, Ghebreyesus assured that WHO will continue to work with partners to ensure that the poorest and most marginalized are prioritized.

"That means restarting routine immunization and ensuring that medical supplies reach health workers across the world. Only aggressive action combined with national unity and global solidarity can turn the Covid-19 pandemic around," Ghebreyesus asserted.

After the success in Dharavi -- the model is being replicated in north Mumbai where there has been a huge spike in recent weeks with a public-private-partnership. However, both Maharashtra and Mumbai have a long way to go yet as the state has 9,893 deaths and 238,461 cases while Mumbai stands at 5,205 fatalities and 90,461 cases till date.



UP gov't has turned the adversity arising out of the pandemic into opportunity through planning and strategy
YOGI ADITYANATH | UP CM

HIDDEN DOWNSIDES OF THE PANDEMIC

The effects of the coronavirus pandemic threaten to reverse the limited progress made on gender equality and women's sexual and reproductive health, an NGO said. The Population Foundation of India (PFI) has recommended timely measures to ensure women and girls remain central to COVID-19 response planning and recovery efforts



of the day quote

The Congress leadership must take up the challenge of building the party organisation brick by brick. This is where we need the dynamism of Rahul ji and Priyanka ji. I am sure both of them have the guts and courage to take on Modi-Shah twins



DIGVIJAYA SINGH | VETERAN CONGRESS LEADER

I want to ask the government with a heavy heart: How many more deaths does the government need to show sensitivity towards Covid patients to provide proper, safe and secure food and other facilities



DIGAMBAR KAMAT | FORMER CHIEF MINISTER OF GOA

The lockdown was initially imposed to create awareness and educate people about coronavirus. That phase has passed now



PRAMOD SAWANT | GOA CHIEF MINISTER

SHORT TAKES

Major fire engulfs shopping plaza

Mumbai: A major fire broke out in the basement of the Independent Shopping Centre outside Borivali West Railway station, early Saturday morning, officials said. The blaze was first noticed around 3 a.m. in the basement which is a big hub of mobile phones and accessories. Later it quickly spread to the ground and two upper floors affecting several other shops including garments, footwear and jewellery shops. At least 14 fire-tenders rushed to fight the blaze, the cause of which is not known as the shopping plaza is closed due to the ongoing lockdown. There are no casualties reported so far and more details are awaited.

ED raids travel firms

New Delhi: The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has seized-3.5 crore belonging to directors of several tour and travel companies, during raids conducted at eight different locations in Delhi and Ghaziabad, the agency said Saturday. The federal agency carried out these searches Thursday under Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999 (FEMA). Besides residences and offices of directors of several tour and travel companies, the ED also conducted searches at the houses and offices of their chartered accountants.

Four killed in road mishap

Rae Bareilly: Four persons were killed and two others injured when a car hit two motorcycles and a man here, police said Saturday. The accident took place at a crossing near Degree College Friday night, Station House Officer of Kotwali police station Atul Kumar Singh said.

'Ganpati idols to be only 2 or 4 feet tall'

Mumbai: The Maharashtra government Saturday issued guidelines restricting the height of Ganesh idols, and containing other stringent regulations, for the 11-day Ganeshotsav festival starting from August 22. While the height of all Ganesh idols in public celebrations across the state shall be restricted to four feet, those in homes will be limited to only two feet this year in view of the Covid-19 pandemic.

6 insurgents killed in Arunachal encounter

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Itanagar/New Delhi, July 11: Six NSCN (IM) rebels were killed in a gunfight with security forces in a jungle in Longding district of Arunachal Pradesh early Saturday morning, military and police officials said.

One soldier of Assam Rifles was injured in the operation and his condition is stated to be stable, they said. The encounter took place in the jungle between Nginu and Ngissa villages of Longding, officials in Arunachal Pradesh said.

Earlier, military sources in Delhi said the gunfight took place in general area Khonsa, a popular hill station in Tirap district. Longding was originally part of Tirap but it was carved out as a separate district a few years ago. The encounter began around 4:30 AM and lasted for nearly two hours, the officials said, adding six weapons along with "war like stores" were recovered from the area.

The anti-militancy operation was conducted by a joint team of Assam Rifles and Longding police after receiving specific intelligence inputs about presence of the militants in the area, Arunachal Pradesh Police spokesman Navdeep S Brar said.

"Around 4:30 AM, the first contact of the militants was made by a team of 6 Assam Rifles in jungles between Nginu and Ngissa. Six insurgents were killed in the gun-

fight," Brar said. The National Socialist Council of Nagalim (Isak-Muivah) or NSCN (IM) is a proscribed militant outfit fighting for a separate homeland for Naga people for last several decades. It has been holding talks with the Centre for resolution of the vexed six-decade Naga issue.

The state police spokesman said the militants fired 400 rounds on the security forces. He said four AK assault rifles, two MQ-81 rifles, nine magazines, three explosives, one hand grenade, two IEDs (improvised explosive device) were recovered from the site of the encounter.

Brar said the security forces received inputs about the presence of the six-member team of NSCN (IM) rebels led by self-styled 'captain' Somnyam Tangkhul. He claimed the group was planning to abduct the president and secretary of the Longding market.

Brar said the militants killed in the gunfight were in the age group of 25 to 40 years.

Military sources in Arunachal Pradesh claimed the team was sent by Rockwang alias Absolom Thankgul, a leader of the rebel group who was involved in the assassination of MLA Tiring Aboh on May 21 last year near Khonsa. A case has been registered at Longding police station under Arms and Explosive Act, the Arunachal Pradesh Police spokesman added.

MORE THAN 250 ROUNDS WERE FIRED BY THE MILITANTS AND 500 ROUNDS OF LIVE AMMUNITION HAVE BEEN RECOVERED FROM THEIR POSSESSION, POLICE SAID



Officials seized six weapons including four AK47 rifles and two MQ81 assault rifles, two grenades and an IED inside a tiffin box

India's 2018 Tiger Census sets a new Guinness World Record

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, July 11: The fourth cycle of the All India Tiger Estimation 2018, results of which were declared to the nation on Global Tiger Day last year by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has now entered the Guinness World Record for being the world's largest camera trap wildlife survey.

Terming the achievement a great moment, Union Environment Minister Prakash Javadekar said that it is a shining example of "Atmanirbhar Bharat". Further, the Environment Minister said that under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, India has fulfilled its resolve to double the tiger numbers four years before the target. The country now has an estimated 2,967 tigers as per the latest census.

With this number, India is home to nearly 75 per cent of the global tiger population and has already fulfilled its resolve of doubling tiger numbers, made at St



Petersburg in 2010, much before the target year of 2022.

The citation at the Guinness World Record website reads: "The fourth iteration of the survey - conducted in 2018-19 - was the most comprehensive to date, in terms of both resource and data amassed. Camera traps were placed in 26,838 locations across 141 different sites and surveyed an effective area of 121,337 square kilometres."

It adds, "In total, the camera traps captured 34,858,623 photographs of wildlife, 76,651 of which were tigers and 51,777 were leopards; the remainder were other native fauna. From these photographs, 2,461 individual tigers

were identified using stripe-pattern-recognition software."

The 2018 "Status of Tigers in India" assessment also conducted extensive foot surveys that covered 522,996 km of trails and sampled 317,958 habitat plots for vegetation and prey dung.

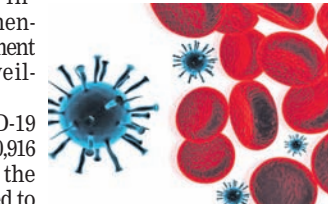
It is estimated that the total area of forest studied was 381,200 square kilometre and cumulatively the collection and review of data equated to some 620,795 labour-days. The All India Tiger Estimation done quadrennially is steered by the National Tiger Conservation Authority with technical backstopping from the Wildlife Institute of India and implemented by State Forest Departments and partners.

The latest results of 2018 had shown that India now has an estimated 2,967 tigers out of which 2,461 individual tigers have been photo captured, a whopping 83 percent of the tiger population, highlighting the comprehensive nature of the survey.



The Central government had, in collaboration with NIMHANS, launched a national helpline (080-46110007) March 30 to provide psychosocial support counselling

Even at the start of the pandemic, the World Health Organisation (WHO) had warned of a massive increase in mental health conditions in the coming months, wrought by anxiety and isolation



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, July 11: The number of COVID-19 patients who have recovered in the country crossed the five-lakh mark Saturday, the Union Health ministry said and attributed it to a number of measures taken by the Centre and the state governments, including implementation of containment zones and surveillance activities.

India's COVID-19 tally surged to 8,20,916 Saturday while the death toll climbed to 22,123 with 519 people succumbing to the disease in 24 hours, according to the health ministry's data updated at 8 am. A series of proactive, preemptive and coordinated measures have been taken by the Centre and the state governments for containment and prevention of COVID-19, it said.

Coupled with effective implementation of containment zones, surveillance activities, timely diagnosis and effective clinical man-

agement of COVID-19 cases, the cumulative total number of recovered cases among COVID-19 patients has crossed the 5-lakh mark on Saturday, the ministry said.

A total of 5,15,385 COVID-19 patients have recovered so far with 19,870 patients having been cured and discharged in the last 24 hours

still 8 am. Recent policy changes like allowing all registered medical practitioners to recommend testing for COVID and introduction of rapid antigen

point of care testing along with RT-PCR has substantially bolstered the COVID-19 tests in the country, the ministry said. According to the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), a cumulative total of 1,13,07,002 swab samples have been tested for COVID-19 up to July 10, of which 2,82,511 were tested Friday. There are 1,180 labs under the ICMR's diagnostic network which are functional in the country.

BUNDLES OF HOPE



Farmers plant paddy saplings on a field, in Nagaon district, Saturday

PTI PHOTO

PM Modi lauds Delhi govt's efforts in containing nCoV

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, July 11: Prime Minister Narendra Modi Saturday appreciated the efforts of the Centre, state and the local authorities in containing the COVID-19 situation in Delhi, and directed that a similar approach be replicated in checking the pandemic in the entire NCR area.

"Priority is close monitoring and guiding the containment works in regions where the infection rate is high," the Prime Minister wrote on Twitter after holding a review meeting to take stock of the COVID-19 situation in various parts of the country and the preparedness of various states. According to a statement issued by the Prime Minister's Office, Modi also directed that real-time national level monitoring and guidance should be provided to all affected states and places with high test positivity rates. The Prime Minister reiterated the need to observe personal hygiene and social discipline in public places. Modi said awareness about the pandemic should be disseminated widely and a continuous emphasis on pre-



venting the spread of the infection should be laid.

He said there is no room for any complacency in this regard, according to the statement. "The Prime Minister appreciated the concerted efforts of the Centre, state and local authorities in containing the pandemic situation in Delhi," the statement said.

The Union Home Minister Amit Shah had stepped in last month to handle the coronavirus situation in the national capital amid rising

cases and criticism in different quarters of the Delhi government's handling of the COVID-19 situation, with complaints of non-availability of beds in hospitals for patients and difficulty in getting the tests done in laboratories.

During Saturday's meet, the "successful example" of surveillance and home-based care through 'Dhanvantri Rath' in Ahmedabad was highlighted and it was directed that it may be emulated in other places, the statement said.

ED to register PMLA case against Dubey's family, associates

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi/Lucknow, July 11: The Enforcement Directorate (ED) is set to file a money laundering case and probe alleged illegal transactions and tainted assets created by slain gangster Vikas Dubey, his family members and associates, officials said Saturday.

They said the agency's zonal office in Lucknow has written to the Kanpur police in this context July 6 seeking details of all FIRs and chargesheets filed against him and persons linked to him, and the latest update in all these cases.

A senior Kanpur police official, who did not want to be named, confirmed that Kanpur Range Inspector General (IG) Mohit Agarwal has received the ED's letter. The officials said the ED will soon file a complaint under the Prevention of Money Laundering



Act (PMLA) to probe criminal proceeds of crime that were allegedly generated by Dubey, his associates and family members, and if this money was subsequently used for creation of illegal movable and immovable properties.

It is alleged that Dubey, through his criminal activities, amassed wealth in his and his family's name, they said.

Over two dozen named and 'benami' assets linked to Dubey and his family in Uttar Pradesh and some adjoining areas, bank deposits and fixed deposit receipts are under the scanner of the central probe agency, they added.

Some police FIRs have been shared while some more information is being obtained by the agency, the officials said.

Meanwhile, the Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS) of Maharashtra Police arrested two men including an absconding aide of slain gangster Vikas Dubey in neighbouring Thane Saturday, an official said.

Over 60K counselled through govt's teletherapy helpline

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, July 11: In the last three months, more than 60,000 people have been counselled by therapists through the teletherapy helpline set up by the National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro-Sciences (NIMHANS) on the mental issues related to the COVID-19 pandemic and lockdown.

The Central government had, in collaboration with NIMHANS, launched a national helpline (080-46110007) March 30 to provide psychosocial support counselling. It is available in several vernacular languages.

NIMHANS Director B.N. Gangadhar said that the lockdown and fear of contracting the deadly disease has increased anxiety and depression among people.

"We have received three lakh distress calls till now, out of which 60,000 people were given mental health related counselling. Since it is a toll-free number, people sometimes disconnect the call or ask unrelated questions," Gangadhar told IANS.

"Two other national institutes are also connected with us. It is a wide pan-India network," he added. According to a survey conducted

by the Indian Psychiatry Society, the number of reported cases of mental illness in India increased by 20 per cent within a week of the start of the lockdown.

"There is no doubt that the pandemic has caused distress. COVID has affected families, finances, and work output. There are multiple reasons why people are feeling stressed at this time," said the NIMHANS Director.

Speaking to IANS, Dr Sunil Mittal, senior psychiatrist and Director of World Federation of Mental Health, said that disease related anxiety has increased by

at least three to four times.

"We have seen an increase in anxiety related cases. Some people are extremely frightened and have reported depressive symptoms. It is also due to financial uncertainty, job insecurity, being caged at home among other reasons," he said.

Dr Shamsi Akbar, Research Officer in the Department of Geriatric Mental Health at Lucknow's King George's Medical University, emphasised on the importance of recognising the seriousness of mental health and its coping strategies.



Too many universities and school systems are about radical left indoctrination, not education. Therefore, I am telling the Treasury Department to re-examine their tax-exempt status and/or funding

DONALD TRUMP | US PRESIDENT

ICONIC ISTANBUL MUSEUM TURNED INTO MOSQUE

The world-famous Hagia Sophia museum in Istanbul - originally founded as a cathedral - has been turned back into a mosque



of the day quote

Because I think it's very important that people should try to lead their lives more normally. I want to see more people feeling confident to use the shops, use the restaurants, and get back into work - but only if we all follow the guidance



The United States has already declared withdrawal from the World Health Organization; it is in no position to make unwarranted comments on China's cooperation with the WHO



The EU member states will be given more power on how the recovery fund would be distributed, giving member states' capitals more power over the spending plans of their neighbours



SHORT TAKES

Global COVID-19 cases top 12.4mn

Washington: The overall number of global COVID-19 cases has surged to over 12.4 million, while the deaths have increased to more than 559,000, according to the Johns Hopkins University. As of Saturday morning, the total number of cases stood at 12,461,962, while the fatalities rose to 559,481, the University's Center for Systems Science and Engineering (CSSE) revealed in its latest update. The US accounted for the world's highest number of infections and fatalities at 3,182,385 and 134,073, respectively, according to the CSSE.

S'pore ruling PAP wins polls

Singapore: Singapore Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong's ruling People's Action Party (PAP) has returned to power, winning 83 of the 93 seats contested in Friday's General Election, even as the Opposition registered minor gains. Lee, 68, was re-elected from his Group Representation Constituency (GRC) of Ang Mo Kio. The prime minister led his party's GRC team of Gan Thiam Poh, Darryl David, Ng Ling Ling and Nadia Ahmad Samdin. Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister Heng Swee Keat was also re-elected.

Five killed in S African church

Johannesburg: Five people were killed and hostages were being held at a church west of Johannesburg, South African police said Saturday. Police said in a statement on Twitter that they were alerted to a "hostage situation and shooting" in the early hours of the morning at the International Pentecost Holiness Church in Zuurbekom. Thirty arrests were made and more than 25 firearms seized, police said, adding hostage negotiators were still at the scene.

Rocket attack on Baghdad foiled

Baghdad: Iraqi security forces announced that it foiled a Katyusha rocket attack targeting the heavily fortified Green Zone in Baghdad. The troops found the rocket in al-Qanat Street in eastern Baghdad and dismantled it, Xinhua news agency quoted the Iraqi Joint Operations Command as saying in a statement on Friday without giving further details about the incident. No group has so far claimed responsibility.

Virologist who fled HK accuses China of nCoV cover-up

AGENCIES

Hong Kong, July 11: At a time when COVID-19 has infected over 12 million people across the globe, a scientist from Hong Kong has revealed that China knew about the deadly virus well before it claimed it did, in an extraordinary claim about cover-ups at the highest levels of government.

In an exclusive interview to Fox News Friday, Li-Meng Yan, who has specialised in virology and immunology at the Hong Kong School of Public Health, said that China likely had an obligation to tell the world, given their status as a World Health Organisation reference laboratory specialising in influenza viruses and pandemics, especially as the virus began spreading in the

early days of 2020.

She added that her supervisors, renowned as some of the top experts in the field, also ignored research she was doing at the onset of the pandemic that she believes could have saved lives.

Yan, who says she was one of the first scientists in the world to study COVID-19, was allegedly asked by her supervisor at the University/WHO reference lab, Dr Leo Poon, last year to look into the odd cluster of SARS-like cases coming out of mainland China at the end of December 2019.

"The Chinese government refused to let overseas experts, including ones in Hong Kong to do research in China," she said.

Yan said very soon she and her colleagues across China discussed



"The Chinese government refused to let overseas experts, including ones in Hong Kong to do research in China"

the peculiar virus but she soon noted a sharp shift in tone. Doctors and researchers who had been openly discussing the virus suddenly clammed up. Those from the city of Wuhan - which later would become the hub of the outbreak -

went silent and others were warned not to ask for details.

The doctors said, ominously, "We cannot talk about it, but we need to wear masks," Yan said. The numbers of human-to-human transmission cases then began to grow

COMMUNICATION



A staff member looks at a robot at the venue for the World Artificial Intelligence Conference (WAIC) in Shanghai, China

REUTERS PHOTO

Oli downplays intra-party rift as NCP postpones meeting

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Kathmandu, July 11: Under mounting pressure to resign, Nepal's beleaguered Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli has downplayed the intra-party rift and said such disputes are "regular phenomena" that can be resolved through dialogue, as a crucial meeting of the ruling party was postponed by a week to give more time to the warring factions to reach a power-sharing deal.

Prime Minister Oli also vowed to protect Nepal's sovereignty and territorial integrity, amidst a border row with India.

In a previously unannounced address to the nation on Friday night, hours after the crucial Standing Committee meeting of the Nepal Communist Party (NCP) was postponed for the fourth time, Oli said that it is the duty of a political party and its leaders to resolve the internal matters and disputes.

The meeting of the NCP's 45-



Oli tried to downplay the intra-party rift and growing demand for his resignation.

"It is natural for the people to wonder why parties are indulging in dispute while the country is beset by pandemic and natural disasters," said Oli. "Such disputes are regular phenomena that can be resolved through discussion and dialogue," he added.

"I will assure all that I will make every effort to consolidate national unity, protect democratic republic and uplift national pride."

Amidst a border row with India, the 68-year-old Prime Minister said, "I will also commit myself to protect national sovereignty and territorial integrity."

India's relations with Nepal came under strain after Defence Minister Rajnath Singh inaugurated an 80-km-long strategically crucial road connecting the Lipulekh pass with Dharchula in Uttarakhand May 8.

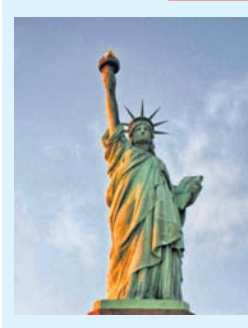
But in his prime-time address,

TRUMP REFERS TO CITIZENSHIP FOR 'DREAMERS'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Washington, July 11: President Donald Trump is working on an executive order to establish a merit-based immigration system in the US, the White House has said.

The White House statement came soon after Trump, in an interview with Spanish-language Telemundo News channel, said he is working on an executive order on immigration that will include a "road to citizenship" for recipients of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) programme.



The US President is working on an executive order on immigration that will include a "road to citizenship" for recipients of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) programme

The DACA programme provides for work permits and other protections for people brought to the US as children by undocumented parents

The DACA programme affects an estimated 700,000 young people, many of whom are Indian or South Asian descent

The DACA programme provides for work permits and other protections for people brought to the US as children by undocumented parents. It affects an estimated 700,000 young people, many of whom are Indian or South Asian descent.

Responding to a question during the interview, Trump said his action on the DACA is going to be part of a much bigger Bill on immigration.

"It's going to be a very big bill, a very good Bill, and a merit-based Bill and it will include DACA, and I think people are going to be very happy," said the President. "One of the aspects of the bill is going to be DACA. We're going to have a road to citizenship," Trump said.

President Trump had tried to cancel the Obama-era programme, but the Supreme Court last month said it could stay in place.

Trump, who is seeking re-election in November, has long sought to overhaul the US immigration

permanent merit-based reforms. This does not include amnesty," the White House said.

"This does not include amnesty. Unfortunately, Democrats have continually refused these offers as they are opposed to anything other than totally open borders," said the White House in a statement.

During the interview, Trump alleged the Opposition Democrats broke the deal with him on the DACA.

"I had a deal with the Democrats and they broke the deal. The DACA could have been taken care of two years ago, but the Democrats broke the deal. All of a sudden they just broke it for no reason. Actually, they had a court case that slightly went their way and they said, 'Oh, let's not talk about the deal anymore,'" he said.

Trump said the recent Supreme Court ruling gave the president tremendous powers when they said that he could take in, in this case, 700,000 or so people.

Foreign students weigh studying in person vs losing visas

STUDENTS FROM INDIA, CHINA, BRAZIL AND OTHERS SAY THEY ARE SCRAMBLING TO DEVISE PLANS AFTER THE AUTHORITIES NOTIFIED COLLEGES THAT INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS MUST LEAVE THE US OR TRANSFER TO ANOTHER COLLEGE

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Phoenix, July 11: International students worried about a new immigration policy that could potentially cost them their visas say they feel stuck between being unnecessarily exposed during the coronavirus pandemic and being able to finish their studies in America.

Students from countries as diverse as India, China and Brazil told this news agency they are scrambling to devise plans after federal immigration authorities notified colleges this week that international students must leave the US or transfer to another college if their schools operate entirely online this fall.

Harvard University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology filed a lawsuit this week to block the decision, and now California and Washington state

are seeking injunctions against enforcing the new visa policy.

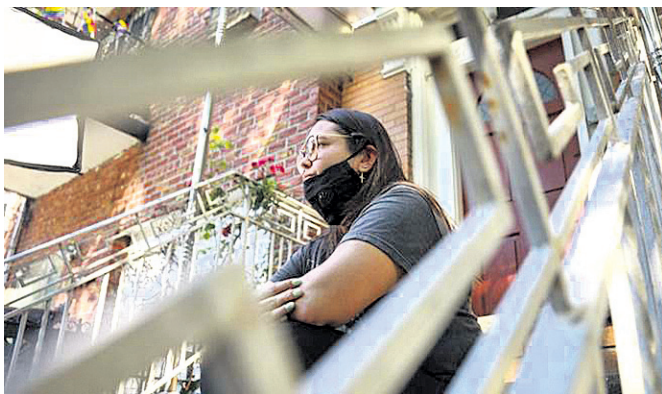
"Shame on the Trump Administration for risking not only the education opportunities for students who earned the chance to go to college, but now their health and well-being as well," California Attorney General Xavier Becerra said.

Some said they may return home, or move to nearby Canada.

"I'm generating research, I'm doing work in a great economy," said Batuhan Mekikier, a Ph.D. student from Turkey studying computer science at Montana State University in Bozeman. He's in the third year of a five-year programme.

"If I go to Turkey, I would not have that," he said. "I would like to be somewhere where my talent is appreciated."

Mathias, a Seattle-based student who spoke on condition his last



name not be used for fear of losing his immigration status, said he is set to sell his car, break his lease, and get his cat Louis permission to fly back to his home in Paris in the next two weeks.

"Everyone's very worried," he said. "We have our whole lives here."

Many American universities

have come to depend on the revenue from more than 1 million international students, who typically pay higher tuition. President Donald Trump has insisted they return to in-person instruction as soon as possible, alleging that schools are being kept closed to harm the economy and make him look bad.

The guidance was released the same day Harvard announced it would keep all undergraduate classes online this fall. Harvard said the new Trump directive would prevent many of its 5,000 international students from remaining in the US.

The University of Southern California sent a letter to students and faculty, saying it is "deeply troubled" and that the "the policy could negatively impact countless international students."

The US Chamber of Commerce said the directive could inflict "significant harm" on colleges, students, the business community and the economy.

A US State Department press release said the policy "provides greater flexibility for non-immigrant students to continue their education in the United States, while also allowing for proper social distancing on open

and operating campuses."

A day after Harvard sued; the university notified the court that immigration authorities appear to be already enforcing the policy. A lawyer for Harvard urged the judge to suspend the rule, saying that a first-year student from Belarus was turned away from his flight at a Minsk airport. There is another hearing Friday.

Jasdeep Mandia, a doctoral candidate from India studying economics at Arizona State University, said he has breathing problems that could worsen if he gets sick from COVID-19.

Mandia, 35, originally planned to conduct all his fall studies online. He says the Trump directive puts the shaky standing of international students on display.

"It has never been a level playing field," he said. "But this makes it more apparent."

COVID: US judge halts 1st federal execution in 17 yrs

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Washington, July 11: A federal judge in Indiana has halted the first federal execution planned in 17 years, citing concerns over the coronavirus by the victims' family.

Daniel Lee, 47, had been scheduled to die by lethal injection Monday, Lee, of Yukon, Oklahoma, was convicted in Arkansas of the 1996 killings of gun dealer William Mueller, his wife, Nancy, and her 8-year-old daughter, Sarah Powell.

But Chief District Judge Jane Magnus-Stinson on Friday ruled that the execution would be put on hold because the family of the victims wanted to attend but were afraid of travelling during the coronavirus pandemic, which has killed more than 130,000 people and is ravaging prisons nationwide.

Attorney General William Barr has said part of the reason to resume executions was to carry out the sentences imposed by the court and to deliver a sense of justice to the victim's families, relatives of those killed by Lee did not want that.

They have pleaded for years that Lee instead should receive the same life sentence as the ringleader in the deadly scheme. The relatives had urged the Trump administration for months not to move forward with the death sentence.

Floods, landslides kill 23 in Nepal

REUTERS

Kathmandu, July 11: Heavy rains triggered flash floods and landslides that killed at least 23 people and displaced thousands in western Nepal, officials said Saturday.

Nine people were killed and more than 30 were missing in Myagdi district, 200 km northwest of the capital Kathmandu, where several houses were destroyed on Friday, district administrator Gyan Nath Dhakal said. "The toll is expected to increase as rescuers had just reached the remote site to look for victims," Dhakal said, adding that 50 people had been plucked to safety using helicopters.

of the day quote

We will not surrender under any circumstances (US sanctions). We have to increase our (oil) capacity so that when necessary with full strength we can enter the market and revive our market share



BIJAN ZANGANEH | OIL MINISTER, IRAN

The startup ecosystem has seen massive growth not only in terms of no. of startups but also unicorns emerging and VC funding being pumped in. We're confident that by 2030, there will be tenfold growth in startups, no. of billion dollar firms that are getting built, as well as VC funding



RAJAN ANANDAN | MD (INDIA), SEQUOIA CAPITAL

We used to talk about the lower corporate tax rates in certain countries. Last year we brought it down from 30% to a historic 15%. Now it is up to Indian industry and corporates. I think the first investment should start at home that will bring more confidence into the foreign firms to invest in India



ANURAG SINGH THAKUR | MOS FOR FINANCE

SHORT TAKES

Biocon gets DCGI nod

New Delhi: Biotechnology major Biocon Saturday said it has received approval from the Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI) for use of its biologic drug Itolizumab for the treatment of moderate to severe COVID-19 patients. The company has received the DCGI approval to market Itolizumab injection 25mg/5mL solution for emergency use in India for the treatment of cytokine release syndrome in moderate to severe acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS) patients due to COVID-19, Biocon said in a BSE filing.

Signature Global to invest ₹225 cr

New Delhi: Realty firm Signature Global will invest ₹225 crore over the next four years to develop a new affordable housing project in Gurugram, Haryana. The project, comprising 852 units, will be developed under the Haryana government's affordable housing policy. Signature Global said in a statement that the project cost is estimated at ₹225 crore. The selling prices of the units range from ₹14.46 lakh to ₹25.80 lakh.

CREDAI seeks TN CM's help

Coimbatore: The Coimbatore chapter of the Confederation of Real Estate Developers Associations of India (CREDAI) Saturday requested Tamil Nadu Chief Minister K Palaniswami to look into the association's demands. In a representation listing the 14-point charter of demands, CREDAI President Sunder Vittel sought specified time of clearance of building projects since the current approval process takes a minimum of six months to one year.

Flipkart, K'taka govt sign MoU

Bangalore: Homegrown e-commerce marketplace Flipkart has signed a MoU with Karnataka MSME and Mines department to promote the states arts, crafts and handloom sectors by bringing them on to e-commerce and providing market access. The partnership under the Flipkart Samarth programme will enable local artisans, weavers and craftsmen of Karnataka to showcase their hallmark products to a pan-India customer base, the company said.



The Centre and the RBI should intervene and ensure that well capitalised banks lend towards the small and medium NBFCs which largely cater to MSMEs and small businesses

MAHESH THAKKAR | DG, FINANCE INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

'PROMOTE SOLAR ENERGY IN BUILDING PROJECTS'

Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu has called upon the architects to adopt green architecture and promote solar energy in upcoming building projects. "Renewable energy sources should be promoted in the upcoming building projects," Naidu said while virtually addressing the inaugural ceremony of the national convention of the Indian Institute of Architects



Investment in healthcare should be govt's priority

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, July 11: The government can turn COVID-19 crisis into an opportunity by investing in healthcare, and it should also pursue making all the cities slum-free by 2023, according to economists.

At the seventh economic conclave - organised by State Bank of India (SBI) Saturday, there was an unanimity among the economists on laying greater thrust on decentralisation in policy-making in the future, as a one size fits all approach may not work always.

India at present has the third highest number of COVID-19 cases after the US and Brazil, and has already lost over 22,000 people.

"It's very concerning that a lot of this discussion of the Aatmanirbhar (Bharat) package or other packages are not talking at all about what investments are taking place in the health sector. How much are we spending on testing, basic information campaigns.

"This is a health induced crisis,

It's very concerning that a lot of discussion of the Aatmanirbhar package is not talking at all about what investments are taking place in the health sector. How much are we spending on testing, basic information campaigns?

ROHINI PANDE | ECONOMIST, YALE UNIVERSITY



you got to respond to that in order to respond to the economy," Rohini Pande, who is associated with Yale University, said.

India has historically under-invested in health and the increase is not very much right now as well, she said, stressing that we need to recog-

nise that for economic recovery, humanitarian and health crisis are all interlinked.

"To change this crisis to an opportunity, let us invest in the health sector," SBI's chief economist SK

SBI'S 7TH ECONOMIC CONCLAVE

Shosh said, suggesting a plan to build a 500-bed hospital in 250 districts at a cost of ₹60,000 crore over the next two years.

Pande said frontline health workers are not paid, and we can immediately start paying them and expand their base, which will lead to better case spotting and also contact tracing.

Arjun Jayadev with Azim Premji University said concerns on the health infrastructure affect the broader economy as well and pointed out that the animal spirits can only be rekindled once the fear of health shock goes away.

"Many migrant labourers may not want to return to the cities not just because they are not getting a good conducive environment to live, but they are bothered about their health condition as well," he said.

The Indian economy runs on two gears: one which have access to expensive private healthcare and the others who don't, Jayadev said.

Skill India launches AI-based ASEEM digital platform



Dr Mahendra Nath Pandey at the e-launch of ASEEM portal

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, July 11: In an endeavour to improve the information flow and bridge the demand-supply gap in the skilled workforce market, the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) has launched 'Aatmanirbhar Skilled Employee Employer Mapping (ASEEM)' portal to help skilled people find sustainable livelihood opportunities.

Union Minister of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship Mahendra Nath Pandey launched the portal during a webinar.

The Artificial Intelligence-based platform will provide employers a platform to assess the availability of skilled workforce and formulate their hiring plans. ASEEM refers to all the data, trends and analytics which describe the workforce market and map demand of skilled workforce to supply. It will provide real-time granular information by

identifying relevant skill requirements and employment prospects.

Pandey said, "The ASEEM portal has been envisioned to give a huge impetus to our persistent efforts to bridge the demand-supply gap for skilled workforce across sectors, bringing limitless and infinite opportunities for the nation's youth."

"The initiative aims at accelerating India's journey towards recovery by mapping skilled workforce and connecting them with relevant livelihood opportunities in their local communities especially in the post COVID era", he added.

"We can monitor any sort of duplication of data and further re-engineer the vocational training landscape in the country ensuring a skilling, up-skilling and re-skilling in a more organised set up," concluded the Skill Development minister.

NEA concerned over fate of NINL, staff

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, July 11: Neelachal Executive Association (NEA) expressed its concern over the fate of Neelachal Ispat Nigam Limited (NINL) as closing down of the plant has resulted in huge revenue loss.

General Secretary of NEA Ajit Kumar Pradhan said, "Closing down of the plant has caused huge revenue loss which is over ₹2,400 crore p.a. apart from incapability to contribute towards central/state exchequer to the tune of more than



₹400 crore p.a. in the form of taxes & duties."

"Future of about 5,000 employee mainly of local population including nearly 1000 displaced and land

looser mostly Adivasi and weaker section of society is in darkness, Pradhan added.

A large scale protest was held for non-payment and disbursement of salary by NINL employees June 1, 2020. In response, the state administration intervened and managed the situation by controlling NINL employees & workers and also arranged a meeting for the current crisis of NINL on June 9, 2020.

"In this meeting it was advised to MMTC to release at least one month salary out of the four months pending, but all these meetings,

discussions and persuasions are in vain. MMTC replied through a letter showing inability to release any fund towards salary," he said.

NINL Employee Fraternity urges both Central Govt. & State Govt. to resume the plant operation by merging with SAIL/RINL/NMDC. NINL has 2,500 acre undisputed land sufficient for expansion up to 10 MTPA, captive mine 110 million ton estimated reserve, state of art production units. Merger of NINL with SAIL/RINL will be big boost towards capacity expansion of PSU steel units.

BIZ BUZZ

Apple deploys new Nokia data centre

Helsinki: Apple is deploying a new line of Nokia data centre switching products at its Denmark facility to improve its efficiency, the Finnish equipment maker has said. According to Nokia, it has redefined data centre fabrics with the launch of a new and modern Network Operating System (NOS) and a declarative, intent-based automation and operations toolkit. This will allow Cloud and data centre builders to scale and adapt operations in the face of exponential traffic growth and constant change brought on from technology shifts like 5G and Industry 4.0. The new Nokia Service Router Linux (SR Linux) NOS and Nokia Fabric Service Platform (FSP) were co-developed with leading global companies, including Apple.



NTPC Kaniha holds 300th ORT meeting

Bhubaneswar: NTPC Talcher Kaniha conducted its annual Operational Review Team (ORT) Meeting to check whether the social distancing norms are being followed at their workplace or not. Sudip Nag, CGM, NTPC Talcher Kaniha, spoke about the importance of ORT meeting in providing a holistic review of station performance and system compliance. He also mentioned the operational highlights of the station, overcoming the many hurdles faced last year, including the feat of generating 100% daily PLF on several occasions in the current Financial Year. An e-book of the souvenir created for the occasion was released by RED ER-II and its hard copy titled, 'Pragati - a journey towards excellence' was released by the CGM. NS Rao, GM (O&M), P Sivaramakrishna, GM (Operation), KK Das, GM (FM), Navin Bagai, GM (SSC-C&M), Rajiv Khanna, GM (Maintenance) along with other senior officials and department heads were also present.



ECLGS: Banks sanction ₹1.20L cr loans to MSMEs



INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, July 11: The government is going all out to ensure that liquidity concerns of the MSME sector are addressed on priority under its Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme (ECLGS).

As of July 9, 2020 public sector and private banks have sanctioned loans worth over ₹1.20 lakh crore under the 100 per cent Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme, of which close to ₹62,000 crore has already been disbursed.

There has been a big jump in sanctions in the last couple of weeks and just in last five days up to July 9 sanctions have increased by close to ₹5,500 crore while disbursement has increased by about ₹6,000 crore.

In a tweet, office of finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman said: "As of 9 July 2020, the total amount sanctioned under the 100 per cent Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme by #PSBs and private banks stands at ₹1,20,099.37 crore, of which ₹61,987.90 crore has already been disbursed."

WhatsApp may lose its beauty as FB CEO integrates apps

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, July 11: WhatsApp has so far been a great experience for billions of users globally where there are no ads in-between chats, no distractions like promoted posts and in-app pop ups, but an integration with the rest of Facebook family of apps may mar the beauty of this end-to-end-encrypted mobile messaging platform.

The world of social media is soon going to change as Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg inches closer to fulfill his dream of integrating all his services into one cross-platform movement of personal data among Facebook, Messenger, Instagram and WhatsApp.

Facebook acquired WhatsApp in 2014 for over \$19 billion.

Both WhatsApp co-founders -- Brian Acton and Jan Koum -- have quit a couple of years back over al-

WORKING TOWARDS CHANGE



leged difference of opinion with Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg over data privacy, encryption and issues line monetizing the platform, which they always wanted to remain free from distractions and

work like a pure, independent chat experience.

In an interview with Forbes, Acton explained that a disagreement on monetising WhatsApp was the reason he quit Facebook and gave

up \$850 million on the table.

Acton alleged that Zuckerberg was in a rush to make money from the messaging service and undermine elements of its encryption technology.

"Targetted advertising is what makes me unhappy," Acton said.

Both Acton and Koum never wanted WhatsApp to become a platform full of ads, tweak its encryption standards or merge it with other apps.

Now, few such hints are seen in an early-stage experiment in integrating Facebook Messenger with WhatsApp via a cross-chat feature.

WABetaInfo, a fan website that closely tracks WhatsApp Beta developer versions, has found a database in Facebook Messenger that will allow Messenger to understand whether WhatsApp contacts are blocked.

"It will contain details on the state of a chat and whether push notifications are active or not".

Facebook is apparently collecting the code for a local database. It can find out if a WhatsApp contact is

blocked, find a phone number, find whether or not a chat is archived.

Similarly, Instagram is also working on integrating Messenger.

Zuckerberg has revealed his plans to integrate its chat services to let billions of users message one another across platforms.

Calling it a long-term project, Zuckerberg had said the cross-app functionality will happen in 2020 or beyond.

More than the commercial benefits of the chat integration between the apps, he said he was concerned about data encryption.

"The first reason that I'm excited about this is moving more to end-to-end encryption by default in more of our products. People really like this in WhatsApp. I think it's the direction that we should be going in with more things in the future," Zuckerberg told analysts during a conference call.

India look for momentum

Manpreet feels back-to-back Pro League matches will help team gain much-needed momentum for Tokyo Olympics



Manpreet Singh in action in a FIH Pro League match against Belgium at Kalinga Stadium in Bhubaneswar

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, July 11: Indian men's hockey team skipper Manpreet Singh is delighted with the revised schedule for FIH Pro League, saying back-to-back matches next year will help them gain the 'right kind of momentum' ahead of the Tokyo Olympics.

The Indian team will resume its Pro League campaign in April with an away tie against Argentina, according to a revised fixtures an-

nounced by the International Hockey Federation Thursday.

"I feel after the four-week gap between our matches against Argentina and Great Britain, we will play back-to-back matches almost every week-end right until the end of May and that's the kind of momentum we are looking for ahead of the Olympic Games," Manpreet said.

"We will test our body and mind during this time to see how we can cope up with the pressure of playing back-to-back high-intensity

Our travel this year for any tournament will purely depend on the government guidelines, so under these circumstances, we need to be sensitive towards what's happening around us and channel our focus on preparation. We will use this time to revisit our goals and areas that we need to improve

MANPREET SINGH

games and manage the load. This will be an ideal test for us before the Olympics," he said.

To start with, India will play Argentina April 10 and 11. India will then face Great Britain away from home May 8 and 9 before travelling to Spain to play matches May 12 and 13. The team will take on Germany in away matches May 18 and 19 before finally playing a home tie May 29 and 30 against New Zealand.

Chief coach Graham Reid too said tough competition against top nations will help his team prepare well for the Olympics.

"It's very encouraging to have international competition restarting and the Hockey Pro League will give us that tough top level competition in the lead-up to the Olympic Games next year," he said.

"We are also working at the moment to ensure that we have enough competition throughout the latter part of 2020 and the early part of 2021. "We have the Asian Champions Trophy still planned for November 2020 and a trip to Malaysia to play the Netherlands and a 4 Nations Tournament in New Zealand in February 2021 which are all in the planning stage at the moment as part of our ACTC."

F1 Styrian GP: Rain delays final practice

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Spielberg, July 11: Driving rain delayed the start of the final practice session for Formula One's (F1) Styrian Grand Prix and threatened qualifying later Saturday.

With the Red Bull Ring track drenched amid the incessant down-pour, cars were unable to start third practice at the scheduled 12 pm

local time. Qualifying was scheduled for 3 pm (1300 GMT). In case of a washout Saturday, qualifying could be moved to Sunday morning with the race set to start at 3:10 pm.

The rain fell so heavily that fire-fighters had to remove excess water from the roof of one empty hospitality building. The race is being held without fans because of the pandemic.

If third practice and qualifying

are unable to be held Sunday morning, the starting grid would be taken from the positions in Friday's second practice.

That would put Red Bull's Max Verstappen on pole position ahead of Valtteri Bottas, with his Mercedes teammate Lewis Hamilton only sixth. Bottas won last Sunday's season-opening Austrian GP, with Hamilton placing fourth.

Jinx's instinct wants him to be prepared

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, July 11: India batsman Ajinkya Rahane is trusting his instincts to make an ODI comeback, a format he last played in February 2018. The 32-year-old said he is mentally preparing himself to play all three formats.

"I am ready to bat at any position in ODI cricket, whether opening or No.4 or whatever, I am ready. My instinct answers yes, I want to make a comeback in ODI cricket," Rahane told former India wicket-keeper Deep Dasgupta on an ESPNcricinfo chat show.

"But when the opportunity will come, we don't know. Mentally I am preparing to play all the formats. It is all about being positive yourself and about your abilities."

To make an ODI comeback will be tougher than ever considering the stiff competition. He will be comfortable batting at four

but fellow Mumbaikar Shreyas Iyer has secured that spot for now. The team also has a settled opening pair in Rohit Sharma and Shikhar Dhawan.

"I have enjoyed opening the innings, but I don't mind batting at No.4 if I am asked to. I have enjoyed both roles," he said when asked which position he would prefer in ODI cricket.

"It is very hard to suddenly open the innings and adjust to it after you have been batting at No.4 for a while, which I had done. It is hard to say which position I prefer. I can do well in both," said Rahane who has played 90 ODIs.

Rahane has also played in 65 Tests, the last being in February earlier this year during the New Zealand tour. He has also not been a part of the Indian T20 team for nearly four years.

Asked about his approach in T20 cricket, he said, "I don't try and



CRICKETER INTENDS TO ODI COMEBACK

copy anyone in T20 cricket. My cricketing shots are inside out, behind the bowler, and other shots I have developed.

"I think if you are sure of your shots, you should back them. If I am playing 18 overs, I aim to see how I can get my strike rate to 150-160."

Rahane said it's important to break down innings in T20 cricket. "For example, if I'm batting after sixth over, I have to plan accordingly." He said he got advice from the great Rahul Dravid that it does not matter whether a shot looks good or not as long as the runs are coming.

"Sometimes the shots you play in T20s don't look good. But Rahul bhai told me not to bother about what the shots look like, whether it's bad or looks bad from outside. He said it does not matter. He said in T20 cricket, one needs to watch the ball and hit it," he added.

England come back strongly

AGENCIES

Southampton, July 11: After a sluggish first innings and conceding 114-run first innings lead, England replied strongly as they reached 168/3 at tea on the penultimate day of the first Test against West Indies here, Saturday.

Openers Rory Burns (42) and Dominic Sibley (50, 164b, 4x4) issued a fine fightback in the first session at Ageas Bowl. The duo put on a 72-run opening partnership as England cut down West Indies' first innings lead to just 35 runs till Lunch.

Post lunch, Zak Crawley (38 batting) and Joe Denly (29) played watchful cricket adding 38 runs for the third wicket. At tea, Crawley was accompanied by stand-in skipper Ben Stokes. Roston Chase (2/45) and Shannon Gabriel (1/34) picked up the wickets.

Starting from overnight score of 15/0, the openers displayed steady



Dom Sibley (L) and Joe Denly run between the wicket during their stand, Saturday

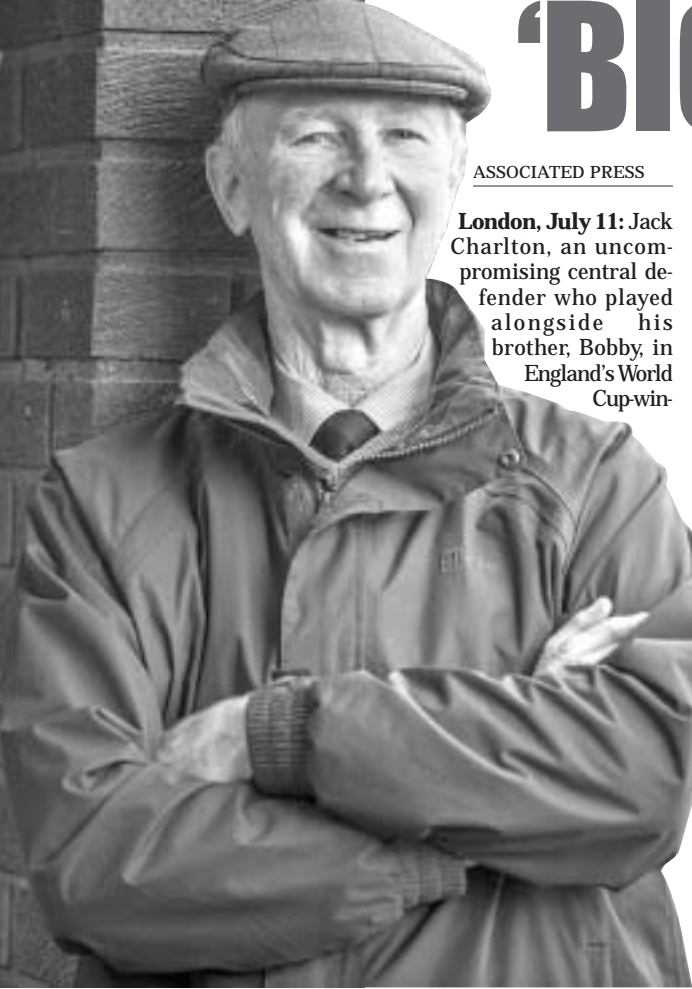
batsmanship to keep the visitors' bowlers at bay.

Burns and Sibley showed extreme patience as the duo faced a combined total of 217 deliveries for their 72-run stand. Credit should also be given to Jason Holder and Co as none of the bowlers gave away easy runs and kept England's run-rate under two throughout.

After Burns' departure, Sibley

joined forces with Denly and the duo ensured England went into the lunch break with nine wickets in hand. The match remains evenly poised and the third session will be crucial for both the teams.

Brief scores: England 204 and 168/3 (Dom Sibley 50, Rory Burns 42, Zak Crawley 38 batting; Chase 2/45; West Indies 318 (Shane Dowrich 61; Stokes 4/49). Match to continue.



ASSOCIATED PRESS

London, July 11: Jack Charlton, an uncompromising central defender who played alongside his brother, Bobby, in England's World Cup-win-

ning side in 1966 before enjoying coaching success with Ireland, has died. He was 85.

Nicknamed 'Big Jack', and celebrated for his earthy 'beer and cigarettes' image, Charlton was 'Footballer of the Year' in England in 1967. He spent all his club career at Leeds 1952-73, tying its all-time record of 773 appearances. He won every domestic honor, including the league title in 1969.

Charlton died at home Friday in his native Northumberland in northeast England, surrounded by his family.

"As well as a friend to many, he was a much-adored husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather," the family said in a statement.

"We cannot express how proud we are of the extraordinary life he led and the pleasure he brought to so many people in different countries and from all walks of life.

"He was a thoroughly honest, kind, funny and genuine man who always had time for people. His loss will leave a huge hole in all our lives but we are thankful for a lifetime of happy memories." The England team Twitter account said

"we are devastated."

His biggest achievement came with the national team that beat Germany 4-2 after extra time in the 1966 World Cup final at Wembley Stadium.

Bobby, his younger brother, played in midfield. Jack celebrated the victory by partying in a random person's house in north London, ending up sleeping on the floor. That was typical of the man who kept the common touch despite his fame and remained an affable character, fond of life's simple pleasures.

"I got a lift back the following morning and my mother was playing hell as I hadn't been to bed all night," Charlton recalled.

"I said, 'Mother, we've just won the World Cup!'" Charlton made 35 appearances for England between 1965-70, also playing in the 1968 European Championship and the 1970 World Cup. A very different player to Bobby, who was once all-time top scorer for both England and Manchester United, Jack was in the shadow of his brother during his playing career.

It was obvious from an early age that Bobby "was going to play for England and would be a great player,"



Jack recalled in a 1997 BBC interview "He was strong, left and right-footed, good balance, good skills. He had everything, our kid. I was over 6 foot (1.8 meters). Leggy. A giraffe, as I finished up being called."

Of all the England World Cup winners to go into management,

ENGLAND'S 1966 FIFA WORLD CUP-WINNING DEFENDER JACK CHARLTON PASSES AWAY AT 85

Jack Charlton was easily the most successful. He had brief but impressive spells at northeast clubs Middlesbrough, Sheffield Wednesday and Newcastle before being hired by Ireland in 1986 as its first foreign coach.

Adopting a direct, physical and attack-minded style, Charlton got the best out of Ireland's hard-working players and guided them to three major tournaments, including the 1990 World Cup where the Irish reached the quarterfinals. Ireland also played at Euro 1988 and the 1994 World Cup under Charlton.

"You get the ball forward, you compete, you close people down, you create excitement, you win balls when you shouldn't win balls, commit yourself to the game," Charlton said of Ireland's style.

"A lot of the pundits didn't like it but the teams we played against hated it. They'd never experienced anything like what we were dictating to them ... We were a match for anybody in the world."

Charlton said his best memory as Ireland coach was beating Brazil 1-0 in a friendly at Lansdowne Road in 1987. He resigned in 1995 after losing in a Euro 1996 playoff to the

Netherlands.

"He changed everything about Irish football because there was a stage where we hadn't qualified for tournaments," former Ireland and Liverpool midfielder midfielder Ray Houghton told talkSport radio Saturday.

"Jack came in and changed that mentality, got us through two World Cups and one European Championships. His legacy within Ireland is absolutely huge."

He was awarded honorary Irish citizenship a year later. A life-size statue of him was erected at Cork Airport, depicting him wearing fishing gear and holding a salmon — recalling Charlton's favorite pastime of fishing.

"I am as much Irish as I am English," said Charlton, who was given the freedom of Dublin.

Born May 8, 1935, in a gritty area of northern England, Charlton worked down the mines as a teenager before going for a trial at Leeds. He grew up in a footballing family, cousin to Newcastle great Jackie Milburn while his uncles Jack, George, Jimmy and Stan all played professionally. "It left me no choice but to be a footballer," Charlton said.

JULY 12 - JULY 18, 2020

SUNDAY POST

HERE . NOW



Real life Superheroes

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COVER STORY



An accomplished critic and bilingual poet Durga Prasad Panda, known for anthologies such as *Nian Bhitare Hata* and *Rati Autike Gadha Hele*, loves to spend the Sundays cleaning his personal library.

Daughter Dearest

Every father-daughter shares an enviable bond that no one can match up to. Therefore, I never miss out on opportunities to spend quality time with my daughter Anwesha on Sundays. Apart from merriment, I help her in studies. Her presence makes my Sundays special.



With daughter

Literature for life

Literature has been a part and parcel of my life. You can say, I eat, drink and breathe it. Sundays sans literature sound boring for me. So, I make it a point to meet my fellow poets and discuss books. The discussion is now going on over telephone due to corona scare.

Bibliomaniac

I love to spend most of my leisure hours in company of books. Reading books is a never-ending passion for me. Currently I am reading Nassim Nicholas Taleb's *The Black Swan* and *After Darks* by Japanese author Haruki Murakami.

Solo librarian

I have a personal library. Keeping it organised and decluttered is challenging which is why I clean it on Sundays. Being an office goer, I don't get much time to clean my library on other days except Sundays. For me, books seem to create an emotional connection, making them hard to part with.

RASHMI REKHA DAS, OP

LESSER KNOWN FACTS

Sir, I found the article Lord's Extinct Services interesting because it focused on discontinued services of Lord Jagannath. I was taken aback to know that king Anangabhimha Dev III, the 13th Century ruler had introduced 120-category of services and also engaged servitors for each category. Thanks to external invasion by the Moghul rulers on the Jagannath temple, the subsequent Gajapati kings could not continue all the rituals. That apart, the servitor families having no sons as successors to carry out the tradition stopped performing the rituals. Since there is no system of recruiting new people from outside the sevayat community, some services are no more in existence. I came to know about all these facts after reading the article. Needless to say, devotees of Lord Jagannath would be grateful if the temple administration resumes the discontinued services and recruits new servitors for the purpose.

SANATAN MAHARANA, BERHAMPUR

ACTOR PAR EXCELLENCE

Sir, I am one of the biggest fans of Odisha-born actor Subhankar Das. Though he is a brilliant actor, he is yet to get attention he deserves. He has appeared in television shows like *Crime Petrol*, *Savdhan India* apart from films. Frankly speaking, people shower their love on star kids many of whom don't even know the basics of acting. Be it Hindi film industry or Odia film industry, actors like Subhankar Das never get the due recognition. Despite belonging to a non-descript village of Jajpur district in Odisha, Subhankar has carved his niche in Hindi television and film industry without the blessing of a Godfather. I would like to request the cine goers to boycott movies of the star children and appreciate real talents like Subhankar.

ABHISARIKA MOHANTY, CUTTACK

LETTERS



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

Real life Superheroes

RASHMI REKHA DAS, OP

Healthcare providers who come in direct contact with the corona patients have to wear long-lasting adult diapers and avoid drinking water as they don't have the luxury to shed the expensive single-use PPE gear every time they use washrooms, says a doctor working in a Covid facility

It was the wedding anniversary of Dr Harishchandra Choudhury, who has been in Covid duty at a private hospital in Bhubaneswar. Expectedly, he couldn't be with his wife Ranu Padhi, a film and TV actress and their kid daughter. But the doting wife somehow managed to reach the hospital with her daughter to steal a few minutes. The family got united after several days maintaining proper distance. "My daughter cried inconsolably to meet her dad and that made me come here," said Ranu. By the time Ranu left the hospital premises, tear rolled down their cheeks.

Ranu was lucky that she lives in a city where husband works, but not others. Many doctors and health workers are staying in isolation, miles away from their near and dear ones. This apart, they have to take a lot of untold physical pain. The health-care providers who come in direct contact with the corona patients have to wear long-lasting adult diapers and avoid drinking water as they don't have the luxury to shed the expensive single-use PPE gear every time they use washrooms, says a doctor working in a Covid facility.

With the situation turning tough for the health professionals and one hospital after another getting shut after medical staff diagnosed corona positive, some doctors and their family tells **Sunday POST** about their resolve to take on the pandemic.

Chinmay Sahoo, who works in Hitech Medical College, Rourkela, is in quarantine after treating the patients for 14 days. The doctor hasn't been to his home town Nayagarh, where his parents live, for the last five months. Sharing his feelings, Chinmay says, "Though I am a homesick person,

my priority at the moment is to take care of my patients. This apart, the state is reporting cases of doctors, nurses, and other health service providers being infected by the virus. Therefore, I can't afford to put the life of my elderly parents and some kids at home at risk."

Sahoo continues: "Staying alone is painful. But

being a doctor treating patients during such health crisis is my first choice. I feel fortunate to be a frontline warrior in the war. I know my parents are worried about my safety, but they also realise my responsibilities towards the patients and the country. So, they never ask me to come back home. On the other hand, the hospitals are being rapidly



Nistha (L) with her family



Nistha



Chinmay with his parents



Chinmay

populated by Covid +ve patients making the health workers susceptible to infections. Therefore, making a home visit is unthinkable for now. Following the covid duty, my swab was sent for examination and it came negative. Now I am staying in a hotel in isolation."

Chinmay's father Udayanath Sahoo, a teacher, says, "It's quite natural to be worried when your son is exposed to a deadly virus. But I feel proud of him than getting scared because he is serving the nation even as we are not sure when we would see him next. We also know that he is under stress like many other doctors. I constantly make phone calls to him so that he feels relaxed and remains free of stress."

Nistha Rutam Dash, who is posted at Raipur AIIMS, says, "Doctors save lives and I am no exception. I belong to Community Medicine department and am involved in treatment of Covid patients. I joined AIIMS-Raipur in February end and haven't seen my parents since then. I used to visit them regularly when I was doing my bachelors at VSS Medical College and Hospital. Now, I am not sure when I am going to meet them," she says.

"I was not prepared to do Covid duty when I saw my name in the list. But I was not scared at all. I even consoled my parents not to worry. The fear of contracting the virus does play on our mind but we have to live with that and ward off negative thoughts. Apart from physical exercises, I do everything to boost my immunity and ask others to do so."

Aishwarya Joshi, a doctor, says she was more than happy when asked to join the Covid ward because she knew that her role would be no lesser than a soldier who patrols border

Her father Yanja Prakash, says, “When she informed us that her name was out in the list of doctors’ name to treat Covid patients, we got scared. But she never made us feel worried about her because she knows how to deal with the situation. She often calls us to ensure whether we do exercises or eat nutrient-rich food.”

Nistha’s mother Sushreeta Dash, says, “I am proud of my both daughters because the two are health professionals and doing their duty wholeheartedly. My elder daughter is in Australia and the other one is in Raipur. We are concerned but not in fear thinking about their wellbeing. They are doing a noble job and nothing wrong is going to happen to them.”

Atish Mohapatra, another doctor posted at AIIMS, Raipur, says, “I am



Aishwarya



Aishwarya and her parents

hitched in January and spent some days with her husband who stays in Bangalore before resuming her duty in Bhubaneswar. Since then, she has not visited either her husband or her parents but she has no regret. Aishwarya, on Covid duty at Sum Hospital, says, “When I asked to join the Covid ward, I was more than happy because I knew my role will be no lesser than a soldier who patrols the border. Like them, I too cannot retreat from battle field. But I take all precautions to battle the invisible enemy.”

Aishwarya’s mother Chhaya Joshi says, “If parents don’t stand by their children, it will be difficult for them to give their best. Needless to say, my daughter always gets my backing. But I am missing her badly because it’s been more than five months since I saw her last. Hope, things will be back to normal soon. I am really proud of my daughter for serving the nation at a difficult hours.



Atish with his mother



Atish

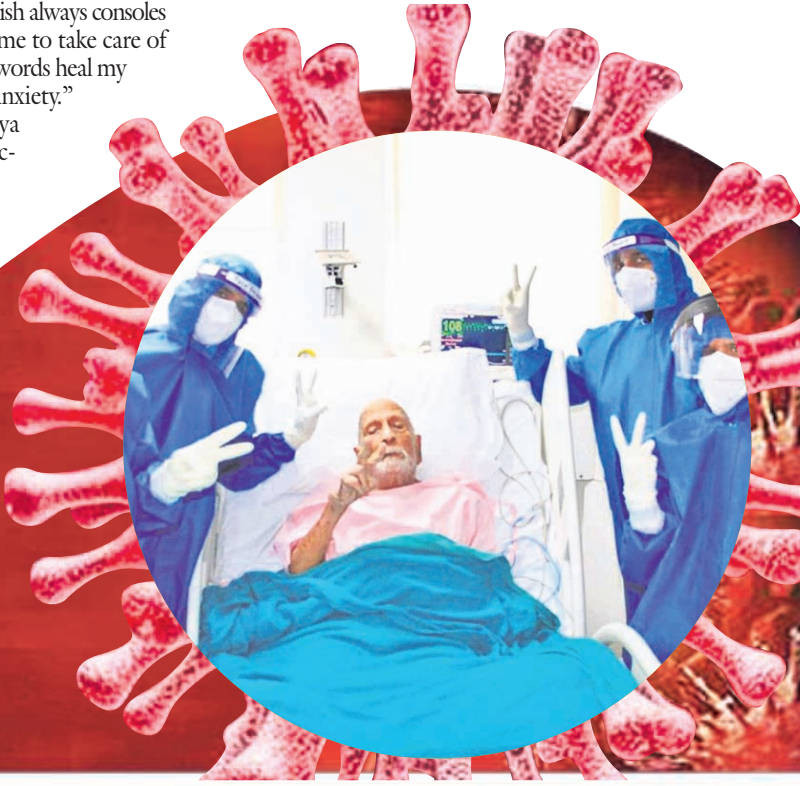
more worried about my parents because they are sexagenarian and their chance of contracting the disease is more. But I can’t afford to go home since I can’t guarantee whether I am a corona carrier. I last visited home in January and don’t know when I would get the next opportunity. My heart asks me to go home and see my mother, but the mind thinks otherwise. As I belong to microbiology department, I am not in direct contact with the corona patients. But you never know when you will become a victim.”

Atish’s mother Kalpana Mohapatra, says, “Off late, hospitals have witnessed a surge in the number of people having corona symptoms. So, risk is always there that some of the hospital staff get infected. And it worries me even more when I read about doctors getting infected despite taking all precautions. Nearly a hundred doctors have succumbed to coronavirus with many testing positive. But Atish always consoles me and asks me to take care of myself. His words heal my stress and anxiety.”

Aishwarya Joshi, a doctor, got



Dr Harishchandra Choudhury interacting with his family maintaining proper distance on a hospital premises



Preventing skin damage caused by face masks



make them at home using old cotton shirt, dupatta or dress material which have outlived their utility due to new trend of fashion and style.

Washing is important

Wash the cloth masks regularly with a fragrance-free non-foaming gentle cleanser with luke warm water to remove the dirt and sweat accumulated during the day. A dirty, sweaty mask will contribute to maskne. Don't touch the front of the mask when you remove it, and wash your hands after handling it.

Avoid makeup

You can avoid make up in areas under the mask till pandemic threat is over. Eye makeup is fine if it gives you an emotional boost. Working women often find their skin pores clogged due to the pressure of the masks. It can lead to different skin conditions. Give your oil and sweat pores a break. Always clean your face before putting on a mask and after you take it off to remove oil and dead skin cells.

Avoiding rashes:

- Mix a little rose water with sandalwood paste and apply on the rashy areas. Wash off with plain water after 15 minutes.
- For rashes that itch, add one tablespoon vinegar to a mug of water and pour it on the affected body area.
 - Take a handful of neem leaves and simmer on very low fire in four cups of water for an hour. Leave overnight. Next morning,

strain and use the water to wash areas with rash.

Overcoming acne

- After cleansing, apply an astringent lotion.
- Green Tea has an astringent effect and helps to reduce oiliness. Soak green tea leaves or a tea bag in hot water for half an hour. Cool and strain. Apply the liquid on the skin.
- Application of sandalwood paste on the acne eruptions also helps.
- Mix together one teaspoon cinnamon (dalchini) powder, half teaspoon methi seed powder, lemon juice and a few drops of honey. It should be a sticky paste. Apply it only on areas covered by face mask and leave on for a couple of hours, or even overnight.
- Add 2 drops of Tea Tree Oil to two tablespoons of water or rose water. Apply this on eruptive conditions.

Beating Rosacea

- Avoid heavy make-up and other cosmetics. Use a mild cleanser and wipe the skin with rose water, using cotton wool.
- Apply aloe vera gel on the area daily and rinse off with plain water after 15 minutes.
- Green Tea also helps. Make a cup of green tea and keep it in the fridge for 30 minutes. Dip cotton wool pads in it and apply on the face
- Add 2 to 3 drops of Tea Tree Oil to 2 tablespoons coconut oil and apply on the affected areas. Wipe off with moist cotton wool after 15 minutes.

Battling dryness:

- Cleanse the face twice a day with a cleansing cream or gel, containing aloe vera, which helps to check moisture loss and also rehydrates the skin.
- Protect the skin from moisture loss during the day. Apply a sunscreen, before going out in the sun. Most sunscreens have built-in moisturizers.
- Keep the skin well moisturised. Moisturisers are available in cream and liquid form. For extreme dryness, use a cream. A liquid moisturizer should also be used under



spoon of cold milk add 2 drops of any vegetable oil (olive, or til or sunflower oil). Dip cotton wool in it and wipe the skin. Make this for 2 or 3 days, but keep it in the refrigerator.

- Mix half a teaspoon honey, one teaspoon rose water and one teaspoon dried milk powder. Mix into a paste and apply on the face. Remove after 20 minutes with water.
- Applying honey or aloe vera gel on the face also helps to moisturise the skin and improve moisture retention.

Despite all these precautions, there is a need to pay special attention to your diet. Drink six to eight glasses of water daily. Add the juice of a lemon to a glass of warm water and have it first thing in the morning. Include fresh fruits, raw salads, sprouts, whole grains, curd and soyabean in your daily diet. Always stay safe and stay healthy by maintaining social distancing.



SHAHNAZ HUSAIN



Randeep excited to explore world cinema

After the success of *Extraction*, actor Randeep Hooda is excited about the opening up of new horizons in international cinema for him.

"Extraction was a huge success worldwide with a phenomenal reach. I really enjoyed working on it and got to learn so many new things from the fabulous cast and crew. As every artist wants to reach out to as many people as possible, I'm very grateful and excited for these new horizons in international cinema opening up," said Randeep.

Earlier this year, Randeep shared his excitement about being the first Indian male actor doing a Hollywood action film. He said it feels great to be able to break stereotypical references of Indian characters in the West.

Randeep entered Hollywood as Saju in Netflix's *Extraction*, starring Chris Hemsworth and David Harbour. Randeep has stepped out of his comfort zone to make an action-packed entry in the West. IANS



Vaani on working with Akshay

Mumbai: Vaani Kapoor pairs with Akshay Kumar for the first time in the upcoming film *Bell Bottom*, and she says the casting is a 'great opportunity' for her.

"I have great respect for Akshay sir, (and) have always looked forward to working with him. This, for me, is a great opportunity to be associated with a movie like this," said Vaani.

A huge fan of Akshay's work, Vaani added that her all-time favourite Akshay Kumar comedy film is *Phir Hera Pheri*.

Vaani says she is excited to resume shooting and being on the sets. "I just can't wait to be back on the sets again and start shooting. Having said that we obviously will have to take a lot more safety measures but things will have to eventually return to normalcy. I feel more than being fearful, one will just have to be cautious and take all preventive measures," she said.

IANS



Radhika's love for desi food

Actress Radhika Madan has confessed her love for golgappas in a new post on social media.

Radhika took to Instagram, where she posted two pictures. The first image is a beautiful black and white one, but it is the second snapshot that catches your

attention.

In the image, Radhika professes her love for golgappas.

"Eyes locked. Heart raced. Mind stopped. #kuchkuchhotahai #tumnahisamjhoge," she captioned the image.

Actress Sanya Malhotra commented on Radhika's pictures. She wrote: 'Behn' along with a laughing emoji.

Radhika was last seen in *Angrezi Medium*, the last release before the lockdown, and also the final film of the late Irrfan Khan. The comedy revolves around the relationship between a single father, played by Irrfan, and his daughter, essayed by Radhika.

IANS



KAREENA now waits for 2021

Actress Kareena Kapoor Khan is done with this year and is waiting for 2021.

In a new Instagram picture Kareena sits on a sofa, looking away from the camera. In the image, she is dressed in a black top, jeans and white jacket. She completes her look with a neat bun and no make-up.

"Waiting for 2021..." Kareena captioned the image, which currently has 401K likes.

On the work front, Kareena, who was last seen on screen in *Angrezi Medium* starring Irrfan Khan, will next be seen in the Aamir Khan-starrer in *Laal Singh Chaddha*, which is an official Hindi remake of the Hollywood film *Forrest Gump*.

Kareena has also been roped in to be a part of Karan Johar's multistarrer *Takht*, which also stars Ranveer Singh, Anil Kapoor, Alia Bhatt, Vicky Kaushal, Bhumi Pednekar and Janhvi Kapoor. IANS



Weekend Special

INGREDIENTS

- Cauliflower florets - 3 cups
- Paneer cut in 1" cubes- 300 gm
- Colour bell pepper cut in cubes - 2 nos
- Spring onion chopped - 3-4 nos
- Cloves of garlic sliced - 4-5 nos
- Ginger cut into gimlets - 1" pc
- Green chilli finely chopped - 1 no
- Cut one onion in big cubes and then separate the layers
- Oil for cooking

FOR SAUCE

- Corn starch - 4 tbsp
- Soy sauce - 4 tbsp
- Tomato ketchup - 4 tbsp
- Sriracha sauce - 2 tbsp
- White vinegar - 1 tsp
- Water - 1 cup
- Salt to taste
- Pinch of black pepper

FOR BATTER

- Corn flour - 1 cup
- Rice flour or all-purpose flour - 1 cup
- Salt to taste
- Pinch of black pepper powder
- Water



GOBI PANEER MANCHURIAN

PROCEDURE

In a bowl, mix all the sauce ingredients with one cup water. To prepare a batter, mix all batter ingredients in a wide bowl. Add water to make the better consistency not too thick or not too runny. Batter should stick to veggies when dipped inside. If required, adjust batter consistency by adding flour or water. Dip few florets at a time in the batter and then deep fry until golden. Same with paneer, and finish frying all paneer cubes and cauliflower florets. Keep on side. Heat 2 tbsp oil in a big pan, add ginger, garlic and green chili. Cook for one minute or so then add onion, peppers and spring onion. Keep few chopped spring onion on side for garnishing. Cook on a medium heat stirring few times for 4-5 minutes or until veggies start to soften slightly. Then add sauce and stir continuous. If mixture starts to get too thick then add some water. When sauce is slightly cooked (2 - 3 mins) and slurry, add fried gobi and paneer. Mix well and cook on low heat for 4-5 mins stirring frequently. All the sauce will stick to veggies and manchurian. Serve this dry manchurian immediately.

PANEER BHURJI

PROCEDURE

To make paneer bhurji, heat the oil on a tava (griddle) and add the cumin seeds. When the seeds crackle, add the onions and sauté on a high flame for one to two minutes. Add the tomatoes, two tbsp of water, mix well and cook on a slow flame for two to three minutes, while stirring continuously. Add the pav bhaji masala, turmeric powder, chilli powder, green chillies and one tbsp of water, mix well and cook on a medium flame for one to two minutes, while stirring continuously. Add the paneer, salt and coriander and one tbsp of water, mix well and cook on a medium flame for one to two minutes, while stirring occasionally. Serve the paneer bhurji hot.

INGREDIENTS

- Mashed paneer - 1 cup
- Oil - 2 tbsp
- Cumin seeds - 1 tsp
- Finely chopped onions - ½ cup
- Finely chopped tomatoes - ½ cup
- Pav bhaji masala - ½ tsp
- Turmeric powder - ¼ tsp
- Chilli powder - ½ tsp
- Finely chopped green chillies - 1 tsp
- Finely chopped coriander (dhania) - 1 tbsp
- Salt to taste





Smrutirekha

PHOTO: KUMAR SHARAT