



## BE RESPONSIBLE: ADITI

Aditi says women in the film industry need to take up responsibility if they want to see a real change

GLITTERATI P10



## CHINA SEEKS COOPERATION

China said it is ready to break new ground in Sino-India ties and follow through the consensus reached between Modi and Xi

INTERNATIONAL P11



## REAL ENTER FINAL

Real Madrid see off Bayern Munich to enter the Champions League final for the third successive season

SPORTS P15

## SHORT TAKES

### Sunita Lakra to lead Indian eves team

**Bhubaneswar:** Experienced defender and Odisha hockey star Sunita Lakra will lead the 18-member Indian women's squad at the Asian Champions Trophy hockey tournament to be held in Donghae in South Korea from May 13. Sunita was handed the captain's armband in the absence of Rani, who has been rested for the tournament, while goalkeeper Savita will shoulder the responsibility of vice-captain, Hockey India said in a statement Wednesday. Besides Sunita, four other Odisha players have been included in the Indian squad. They are Deep Grace Ekka, Namita Toppo, Lilima Minz and Anupa Barla. The team will begin their campaign against Japan, May 13. P16



## Minor girl commits suicide after her video goes viral

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Nabarangpur, May 2:** Yet another act of making intimate moments viral on social media allegedly claimed the life of a minor girl at Mundiguda village of Jharigaon block in Nabarangpur Wednesday morning.

The girl committed suicide after a video of intimate moments featuring her and a youth went viral.

The deceased girl's father lodged a complaint with Jharigaon police. The police seized the body and sent it for post-mortem and launched a probe.

Police SDPO Hemant Kumar Padhi, SI Subash Behera along with a police team reached the village and launched the probe. Meanwhile, police detained three youths and took them for interrogation while the main accused, identified as Jagannath Gouda, was on the run.

Sources said Jagannath from the same village was in a relationship with the victim. He lured her to physical intimacy and recorded the act in his mobile phone. Later, he shared the videos



with his friends and the clips soon became viral on social media. The video was seen circulating in social media, bringing much shame to the family members.

Since then the girl was depressed and reportedly under extreme stress.

On the pretext of collecting firewood, she took her younger sister along and went to a forest. Later, she sent away her sister back home but stayed at the forest alone.

The family members grew apprehensive after she did not return home till evening. They searched for her and later found her hang-

### 6-yr-old girl raped

**Bangiriposi:** An elderly person was arrested for allegedly raping a minor girl at Shagunashola under this block in Mayurbhanj district. Police produced the accused Sunaram Singh (60) in court. According to reports, Sunaram lured the six-year-old girl on the promise of giving her biscuits Tuesday evening. He bought her a pack of biscuit and carried the girl on his bi-cycle to the bank of Budhabalanga where he committed the crime. On the other hand, her family members searched for the girl and came to know that she was raped. They caught the accused and handed over Sunaram to the police.

Following the complaint, Bangiriposi IIC Minati Biswal started an investigation and detained the accused.

ing from a tree in a nearby forest. The family is from an extremely poor background and even failed to perform the last rites. They demanded immediate arrest of the main accused and necessary compensation.

### CHHOTA RAJAN, 8 OTHERS GET LIFE IMPRISONMENT

#### J DEY KILLING



Chhota Rajan

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**Mumbai, May 2:** Nearly seven years after senior journalist J Dey was shot dead here, a special court Wednesday awarded life imprisonment to all the nine convicted, including gangster Chhota Rajan.

MCOCA court judge Sameer Adkar, however, acquitted former journalist Jigna Vora, who was charged with instigating Rajan to carry out the killing in 2011. The judge also acquitted Paulson Joseph, who was accused of handling the financial operations concerned with the conspiracy.

The court imposed a fine of ₹26 lakh on each of the convicts. This is the first major conviction for Rajan since he was deported to India following his arrest at Bali airport in Indonesia in 2015.

### JUSTICE JOSEPH'S ELEVATION

## SC COLLEGIUM DEFERS DECISION

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**New Delhi, May 2:** The Supreme Court Collegium Wednesday deferred a decision on the issue of re-considering its recommendation to elevate Uttarakhand Chief Justice K M Joseph as the judge of the apex court, after it was sent back by the government last week.

The five member Collegium comprising Chief Justice Dipak Misra and Justices J Chelameswar, Ranjan Gogoi, Madan B Lokur and Kurian Joseph met after the top court's working hours, but no decision was taken.

Besides Justice Joseph, the agenda of the Collegium was to deliberate on the names of some judges from Calcutta, Rajasthan and Telangana & Andhra Pradesh High Courts for elevation as apex court judges. "To reconsider the case of Mr Justice K.M. Joseph, Chief Justice, Uttarakhand High Court (Parent High Court: Kerala), pursuant to letters dated April 26 and 30, 2018 received from Ministry of Law & Justice, Government of India and also to consider the names of Judges from Calcutta,



### Rejection not linked with ruling: Prasad

**New Delhi:** The government Wednesday rejected suggestions that it turned down the elevation of Uttarakhand High Court Chief Justice K M Joseph to the Supreme Court as he had once overturned the imposition of President's Rule in the state. Law minister Ravi Shankar Prasad also said that it has the right to seek reconsideration of proposals sent by the Supreme Court collegium as the power flows from three apex court judgements.

Rajasthan, and Telangana & Andhra Pradesh High Courts for elevation as Judges of the Supreme Court, in view of the concept of fair representation. Deferred," the resolution said.

### BJD campaign to save Mahanadi

**New Delhi:** The ruling BJD will launch a massive fortnight long public awareness campaign to save Mahanadi and to protect the interest of people in 15 districts depending upon the river for their livelihood. State party vice-president Prasanna Acharya and other senior leaders of the party told newsmen here that the 'Save Mahanadi Campaign' would commence simultaneously from from Lakhanpur in Jharsuguda district and Ambapana in Baragarh district where the river entered into the state on May 16 next.

### School bus attacked by stone pelters, student hurt

**Srinagar:** A class 2 student suffered a head injury when the school bus carrying him was attacked by stone pelters in militant-infested Shopian district of South Kashmir this morning, triggering angry reactions from the Chief Minister and political leaders. Police said the bus of a private school was attacked by stone pelters in Zavoora area, injuring the student identified as Rehan Gorsai. The injured child was referred to SMHS Hospital where doctors attending on him stated his condition to be stable. The bus was carrying close to 35 students.

### RED FORT MISSION



Members of Divya Chetna Samiti collect donations during a protest to save Red Fort in New Delhi Wednesday. PTI PHOTO

## Compile main issues: SC to riparian states

POST NEWS NETWORK

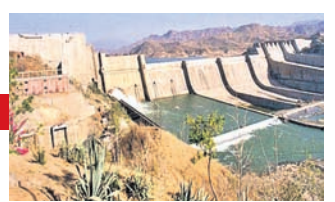
**Bhubaneswar, May 2:** The Supreme Court Wednesday held its 26th hearing related to the Polavaram project dispute and asked the riparian states to compile their main issues in the case. The arguments Wednesday went on for around one hour before a two judge bench of the apex court comprising Justice Madan Lokur and Justice Deepak Gupta.

The Odisha government, which was represented by senior lawyer Gopal Subramaniam, told the apex

### POLAVARAM ROW

court that the backwater capacity of the national project has been increased in the past few years and fresh approvals should be taken on account of this change.

The government also argued that there had been no study done on the ramifications of the project



on the backwater which can threaten Odisha, Chattisgarh and Jharkhand. It also alleged that the Godavari Tribunal Award had been flouted in the project while al-

leging that the Centre did not take steps according to the Tribunal Award.

Pinki Anand who appeared for the Centre, said that everything has been done as per the Award. The bench said, "Learned counsel for the parties has agreed that they will frame proposed issues for consideration by this Court. For this limited purpose, list the matter on 11th May, 2018 on which date issues will be framed."

### MARKET WATCH

INDEX		VARIATION
SENSEX	35176.42	↑ 16.06
NIFTY	10718.05	↓ 21.30
DOLLAR	66.66	↑ ₹0.01
EURO	79.82	↑ ₹0.70
GOLD	₹30,954	↑ ₹25
SILVER	₹38,985	↑ ₹714

### WEATHER

	BHUB	CTK
TEMP MAX	34.6°C	34.2°C
TEMP MIN	24.5°C	23.0°C
Humidity	76%	79%
Rainfall	Nil	Nil
Forecast	Partially cloudy sky	



A total of 5,152 cases of fraud, up from over 5,000 cases in 2016-17, were reported in banks from April, 2017, to March 1, 2018, the Reserve Bank said

In 2016-17, banks had reported 5,076 cases of fraud involving ₹23,933 crore

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**New Delhi, May 2:** Over 23,000 cases of fraud involving a whopping ₹1 lakh crore have been reported in the past five years in various banks, according to the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

A total of 5,152 cases of fraud, up from over 5,000 cases in 2016-17, were reported in banks from April, 2017, to March 1, 2018, it said in reply to an RTI query filed by a PTI correspondent.

The highest ever amount of ₹28,459 crore is said to have been involved in these cases of fraud reported from April, 2017, to March 1, 2018, the central bank said.

In 2016-17, banks had reported 5,076 cases of fraud involving ₹23,933 crore. From 2013 to March 1, 2018, as

many as 23,866 cases of fraud, of ₹1 lakh or above in each case, were reported. A total of ₹1,00,718 crore was involved in all the cases put together, according to the RTI reply.

Giving the break-up, the RBI said 4,693 such cases (involving ₹18,698 crore) and 4,639 cases (involving ₹19,455 crore) were reported in 2015-16 and 2014-15 respectively.

In 2013-14, banks reported 4,306 cases of fraud, involving ₹10,170 crore, the central bank said.

"The reported fraud cases are processed and action is taken according to the facts and circumstances of individual cases," the RBI said.

The data assumes significance as central investigating agencies such as the CBI and the ED are looking into various big-ticket fraud cases in banks involving industrialists and others.

Among the prominent ones is the over ₹13,000-crore fraud in the Punjab National Bank (PNB) allegedly committed by diamondaire Nirav Modi and his uncle Mehul Choksi, the promoter of Gitanjali Gems.

The CBI had recently also booked top officials of two public sector banks, a former CMD of the IDBI Bank, former Aircel promoter C Sivasankaran, his son and companies controlled by him in connection with a ₹600-crore loan fraud in the IDBI.

The CBI has named 15 bank officials who worked at senior levels at the IDBI in 2010 and 2014 when loans were sanctioned to the companies controlled by Sivasankaran in its FIR registered on a complaint from the Central Vigilance Commission.

## QUICK READS

### Apple focussing on India to tap huge opportunities, says CEO

**New York:** Apple is bullish on India and plans to launch all its initiatives, including retail, in the country where it has an "extremely low" overall market share, the tech giant's CEO Tim Cook has said. India, the third largest smartphone market in the world, has huge opportunities for Apple, Cook said. "We have extremely low share in that market overall," Cook said during Apple's second quarter 2018 earnings call Tuesday when the tech giant posted quarterly revenue of USD 61.1 billion, an increase of 16 per cent from the year-ago quarter. "We're thrilled to report our best March quarter ever, with strong revenue growth in iPhone, Services and Wearables," said Cook. International sales accounted for 65 per cent of the quarter's revenue for the Cupertino, California-based company.



### Protests outside metro station over 'moral policing' incident

**Kolkata:** A rally was organised outside Tollygunge Metro station Wednesday to protest against an alleged moral policing incident inside a train compartment. According to media reports, a man hugging his female friend raised eyebrows in a metro coach Monday evening. A few people objected to the alleged intimacy, following which an argument ensued between the two sides. The mob then allegedly heckled the couple, pushed them out of the train and beat them up, the reports said. Youths gathered in large numbers outside Tollygunge Metro station this morning with placards and posters bearing slogans - "Hok alingan (let's hug)".



### 211K Indian students in US varsities, says latest report

**Washington:** India is the second largest source country of foreign students in the US, with over 2 lakh Indians currently studying in various American universities, a latest official report has said. China tops the list with 377,070 students, the Student and Exchange Visitor Programme (SEVIS) of the US Immigration and Customs Enforcement's Homeland Security Investigations said. The report said 49 per cent of the F and M student population in the United States hailed from either China or India (211,703 students), and interest continues to grow. There are two different types of non-immigrant student visas in the US: the F-1 and M-1 visas.





## FASHION WORKSHOP

Students Yashmin Parbin, Saswat Patra and Shewtalina Barik win laurels at Skilled in Odisha Fashion Technology event held in Bhubaneswar recently.

## NARADA SAMMAN

Narada Samman for 2018 being conferred on Tapan Kumar Mishra was given by Viswa Sambad Kendra at Soochana Bhawan in Bhubaneswar, Wednesday.



## FORTUNE FORECAST



**ARIES**  
Ganesha advises you to look before you leap. One hasty decision may undo a lot of hard work accomplished over a long period of time. After a tense morning, you may simply want an evening with kids, helping them grow the Dahlias.



**TAURUS**  
Love is on the cards, says Ganesha. Your senses are likely to remain highly active today. Stay alert and avoid drifting into your own world at the cost of work. It is best for you to keep your eyes and ears open to avoid any misunderstanding with your near and dear ones, suggests Ganesha.



**GEMINI**  
You will be filled with concern and sensitivity towards others, and will bestow your blessings upon many. However, being too emotional is not advisable. Your emotions could get in the way of your progress at the work-front. You need to listen to your head over your heart when it comes to professional matters, says Ganesha.



**CANCER**  
Ganesha says that it will be a day of challenge. You will be tempted to plunge into a new venture. But there is no need for haste or anxiety in this regard. Pending work will be completed. Business deals and transactions will end on happy note. Translocation due to business or domestic reasons is possible.



**LEO**  
You will give importance to your work and your style of functioning to get a promotion in the office. You will also increase the amount of work you put in. While the fruits of your labour may not be immediately available to you, in a very short time you can expect to make more gains than you expected to. Nothing worthy of note is likely to occur in your personal relationships today, says Ganesha.



**VIRGO**  
You are renowned for your leadership qualities and today they will be much appreciated for the way you manage your team. You will get a long-due promotion, and will come in for some extra cash. Ganesha says you received all this by wisely balancing work and home, so be careful not to slip up on this front.



**LIBRA**  
Expect some annoyance from the 'man in the chair', or people in charge who may be looking towards throwing a wrench in your way. But know that it is just a blip on the radar. Your fortune is too powerful for anyone to affect it negatively. Stick to your task and dig into your imagination to find a way around the blips. Your ability to think out-of-the-box will perplex your perpetrator, chuckles Ganesha.



**SCORPIO**  
Socially, you enjoy being in limelight as all the eyes are focused on you. However, beware of evil eyes that may not have good intentions towards you. You are a good soul and never hurt anyone. But, at times, it's important to know your foe's weakness to be on the safer side.



**SAGITTARIUS**  
Brace yourselves: the day has a lot of uncertainties today. First being financial. You may have to shell out money for unexpected expenses. But, this may also teach you to be economically independent. Always look at the brighter side, says Ganesha.



**CAPRICORN**  
Dusting the wisest with your extraordinary power of convincing may have been your forte, but you may have to prove yourself all over again, for Ganesha says you will be tested today. This apart, you are likely to find answers to questions lingering in your subconscious mind for long.



**AQUARIUS**  
You are an excellent team player and your performance reaches a new high when you are a part of a group. Be an active member of your group, express your opinions, share your knowledge and see how your team becomes the winning team, says Ganesha.



**PISCES**  
You will be treading new ground at work. Exciting as that sounds, it merely means you will have to do a lot of travelling today. You will also find yourself swamped with drafting new business proposals, holding meetings, or otherwise networking over the phone. On the brighter side, your travels are unlikely to involve the cramps of flying economy class, says Ganesha.



## ART EXPO IN CITY

# Paintings speak for themselves here

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Bhubaneswar:** Buddha Art Gallery here has been attracting a large number of art enthusiasts for the past five days for showcasing a collection of rare paintings and artefacts.

The exhibition, organised by Odisha Lalit Kala Akademi, which kicked off April 28 will conclude May 4.

The gallery was thronged by a host of art lovers to get a glimpse of the finest of workmanship from artists across the country. Gallery officials claimed that at least 500 connoisseurs of art paid visit to the venue every day. The art works and paintings showcased traditional art of Odisha and also spread awareness on various socially relevant issues.

Painter Uma Shankar Acharya, 58, from Ganjam tried to depict the distinction between nature and its destruction for development. The picture shows how a developing world is trying to work in sync with nature which is getting affected by chemical



smoke produced from industries. Speaking to **Orissa POST**, Uma said, "We always try to collaborate with nature for development. However, the nature is being affected and burnt due to chemicals fumes from industries. Therefore, nature will get destroyed if we continue the way we do for development in the upcoming days."

The artist also depicted a woman who is crying for help. Talking about the character, Acharya said, "The woman is between 40 and 45 and is worried about the future of her children. She believes the world will come to an end if pollution continues in the name of development."

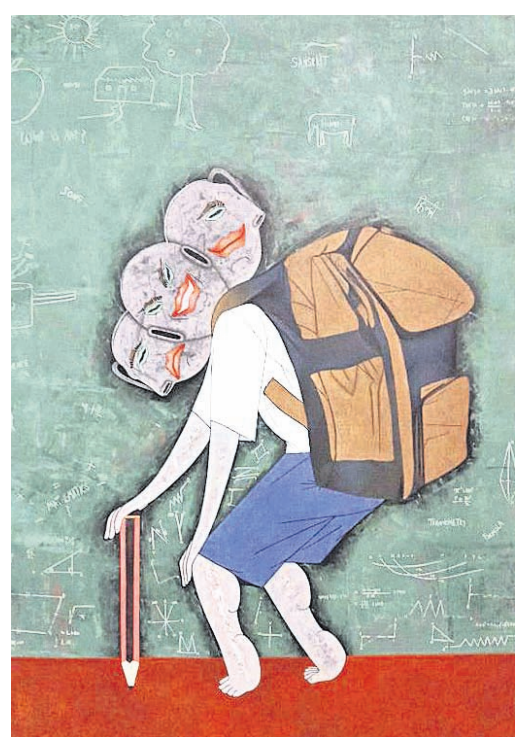
The world has been witnessing a 'selfie mania' for which printmaking artist Dillip Majhi from Ganjam, portrays Selfie Spot on his canvas. His character is taking a selfie at the backdrop of a collapsed building. "While taking selfies, people forget the ground reality. They take selfies wherever they see something strange



and never bother to know about the importance or history of the subject," adds Dillip, an art student from a Delhi college.

Meanwhile, Nrusingha Charan Ojha, an artist from Bhubaneswar, related his painting to the heavy pressure a student undergoes during his school life. Ojha has named his art as

**Unbearable.** "A student is under great pressure due to his heavy syllabus and parental expectations. I tried to depict three dimensions of the subject in which the little character smiles artificially but in reality he is crying from within," said Nrusingha. Paintings and sculptures created by about 138 artists were on display which drew accolades from the art lovers and visitors.



# Lifetime Achievement Award for Kar

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Bhubaneswar, May 2:** Veteran Singer Prafulla Kar was given away the Gandharba Kala Samman by Gandharba Kala Parishad at Rabindra Mandap here Tuesday.

Law, Health and Family Welfare Minister Pratap Jena and former minister Debi Prasad Mishra attended the function as guests to mark the 44th dance and music festival of the Parishad.

Jena in his speech asserted that language strengthens national identity while literature, music, dance and art add glory to the people. Art, dance and music are appreciated in a civilized society.

Mishra in his address said culture and tradition of a society must be preserved by its people



for art and culture is the cream of the civilisation which must be given its due appreciation.

Singer Prafulla Kar was felicitated with Gandharba Lifetime Achievement Award-2018 for his

service to Odia music on the occasion. Other artists representing literature, dance and music were presented Gandharba Kala Samman-2018. They are: Padma Shri Aruna Mohanty (dance), sculptor Tutu Patnaik (art) and singer Mihir Kumar Sahoo (music).

This apart, a classical dance performance by the artistes entertained the spectators on the occasion.

The most electrifying performance was presented by Geetanjali Behera and her troupe who performed the iconic song Rangabati for the audience, after which Aruna Mohanty's Abhinaya entertained the audience. Another master performance by Ramesh and Dimple of Gunjan Dance Academy ensued.

# Mukhagni: Play on funeral rites



POST NEWS NETWORK

**Bhubaneswar, May 2:** Odia drama Mukhagni was staged by Theatre Marathon group of Cuttack at Bhanja Kala Mandap here Tuesday as part of Natyadhara Festival.

Organised by Sangeet Natak Academy under the Department of Culture and Odisha Natyasangha, the play revolves round protagonist Gouranga Babu, an influential man of his village. His wife Sunita, son Jeevan and daughter Annie form the chief plot surrounding Gouranga.

After his daughter's marriage with Sagar, Gouranga solemnises the marriage of his son who leaves for America with his wife.

He works in the US for several years. One day Jeevan get a phone call about his father's illness and then he takes a flight to Odisha. Back in his village, he remembers his father had told him to light his pyre (Mukhagni) in his native village. However, the twist in the story is Gouranga has been

bed-ridden and his son waits for his death so that he can perform his father's last rites.

A month passes when Jeevan's company in US directs him to resume duty immediately. His family in America also calls him to come back.

Finally, he decides to go back to the US. The next morning when he goes to take leave from his father, he discovers that both his parents are dead.

Jeevan finds a poison bottle lying nearby and a note written by Gouranga advising him to complete the last rites before he goes abroad.

Jeevan breaks down and cries inconsolably. The drama showcases the highest sacrifice by parents for their children, though in a negative way.

Satabdita Kalakar staged 'Maacha Kandanara Swara', directed by Dheera Mallick, on the first day of the drama festival (May 1). It was based on the life of Bhyuan Tribes of Keonjhar district.

## JUSTICE SOUGHT



New Odisha Abhijan activists take a peace rally in Bhubaneswar demanding strong action against culprits in Salepur child rape incident.

OP PHOTO

# Summer workshop for kids

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Bhubaneswar:** A nine-day workshop for students was launched at DAV Public School, Pokhariput with the sole objective of involving the children in edutainment activities during summer vacation, Wednesday.

The participants will learn robotics, dance, music, painting, patachitra, sports and yoga. Around 220 students have taken part in this workshop. Principal Sujata said 15 experienced trainers are guiding the participants.

Science teacher Prasant Kumar Das will teach robotics, PS Rao, Biswa Mohan Mohanty and Sasmita Rout will involve kids in IT and its application. Santosh Kumar will train them in music and Bijay Panda and Rasmiranjana s.

Foundation day The school also celebrated its 27th Foundation Day Tuesday on the school premises. The day started with Hawan and prayers in which principal, staff and students took part actively. The chief guest of



A performance held to mark the foundation day of DAV-Pokhariput School

this occasion was former chief secretary Subas Pani. Chairman DAV Schools Madan Mohan Panda and Regional Director, Odisha Zone - I KC Satapathy graced the occasion. Odissi, modern dance, performances by tiny tots made the event alive and colorful.

On the occasion, teachers with

25 years of dedicated service to this institution were felicitated.

Principal Sujata advised the students to serve the motherland through education.

Panda called upon students to face challenges in life to fulfill their dreams.

The school also organised a blood donation camp on the occasion.

# Pageant for married women by May-end

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Bhubaneswar:** An interesting piece of news for beauty-conscious married women, who think they are stuck in life after marriage. Here is an opportunity for such persons to grab the Mrs Odisha 2018 crown through a beauty contest scheduled to be held in city by May-end.

Speaking to **Orissa POST**, Kumudini, the core member of the organising committee, said, "This is a one-day event and we are likely to conduct it either May 26 or May 27. It is a great platform for women interested in fashion or glamour. The registration for the contest will begin soon."

Speaking about various rounds, she said, "We will hold four rounds - introduction, talent show, designer wear and final round. The participants will walk the ramp with ca-



sual dress and will be asked to do experiments with Indian or western outfits. Elimination round will start from second round." It was informed that the participants will be groomed for three days before the contest begins. They will be groomed on how to carry themselves with aplomb, walk on the ramp and interact with people.

The top 15 contestants will be selected for the grand finale. "The winners will be awarded with cash prizes along with a crown and citation," said Kumudini.

# FIITJEE's new centre in city by mid-May

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Bhubaneswar, May 2:** Forum for Indian Institute of Technology and Joint Entrance Examination (FIITJEE) is all set to launch a coaching centre at Infocity here by mid-May. The centre will be the third in Odisha after Cuttack and Bhubaneswar, said Ranajoy Bardhan, unit head of FIITJEE-Bhubaneswar.

"The intake for the first batch will begin May onwards," he said, and claimed that 10,101 FIITJEE students have cracked the JEE Mains and are eligible for advanced examinations.

About 347 students from Cuttack and Bhubaneswar have qualified in the 2018 JEE Mains and are geared up to take on advanced exams, likely to be held May 20, he added. He said 315 students from classroom programmes and 32 from non-classroom programmes have qualified at the JEE Mains. Thirty-six students of classroom programmes have secured over 200 marks in the state and two of them figured among top 100 ranks and seven among top 500 ranks in the examination held recently. About 102 students cleared JEE advanced exams in 2017, he added.

# downtown



## HOPES DASHED

Farmers try to salvage rabi crops from an agricultural field inundated with rainwater near Pipli in Puri district, Wednesday

## EVICION DRIVE

Officials of the district administration remove encroachments at Sri Jagannath stadium near Talabania in Puri, Wednesday



## Recruitment of cops: HC notice to DGP, home secretary

POST NEWS NETWORK

Cuttack, May 2: There is no end to the controversies pertaining to 2006 constable recruitment as a contempt of court case has been filed in the Orissa High Court for the third time.

Acting on the petition, a division bench of Justices Sanju Panda and Krushnam Mohapatra has issued show-cause notices to the Home Department secretary and the Director General of Police (DGP).

Sources said the HC had directed the state government to regularise services of the socially and educationally backward class (SEBC) employees from 2006 who were appointed in excess of quota reserved for them. However, the state government regularised the appointments in 2016 instead of 2006 in violation of the HC order.

Notably, the state government in 2006 had issued a notification for recruitment of 5,200 constables.

However, the state government made 773 ad hoc appointments in excess of quota.

The appointment process was entangled in legal controversies over reservations for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe candidates. It was alleged that the SC&ST reservation law was blatantly violated during the appointment process. The case pertaining to the recruitment process also landed in the State Administrative Tribunal (SAT) and the Supreme Court.

In June 2017, the HC ruled that the services of those who were earlier appointed as ad hoc and would be reappointed against the existing vacancies would be regularised from 2006. However, the state government had regularised their appointment since 2016.

Some petitioners had filed the contempt of court alleging non-compliance of HC order.

## FRESH FRUIT



A vendor sprinkles water on lychees to keep them fresh at Dolamundai Square in Cuttack, Wednesday. OP PHOTO

## Man detained for abusing girl

Kanas: A 45-year-old man was detained Wednesday on charges of outraging the modesty of a 15-year-old girl of Ranipada in Trilochanpur panchayat here late Tuesday. Kanas police said they have detained Ramesh Bhoi of the same village on the charges. "On the basis of a complaint lodged by the victim's father, we have registered a case (58/18) and sent the victim as well as the accused for medical examination," police said. According to the complaint, some local youths spotted the accused and the minor girl at a deserted location on the outskirts of the village late Tuesday night and, alerted the victim's father who rushed to the spot and rescued her.

# BJD'S BATTLE FOR MAHANADI BEGINS MAY 16

THE 1,585-KM-LONG CAMPAIGN WILL COVER 45 ASSEMBLY CONSTITUENCIES IN 15 DISTRICTS

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, May 2: In a bid to create awareness among people about Mahanadi water dispute issue, the ruling Biju Janata Dal (BJD) has decided to launch 'Mahanadi Suraksha Abhiyaan' in 45 assembly constituencies in 15 districts.

BJD vice-presidents Prasanna Acharya and Debi Prasad Mishra along with two other senior leaders of the party—Sanjay Das Burma and Atanu Sabyasachi Nayak told newsmen about the decision here Wednesday.

Acharya said they are going to kick-off the campaign May 16 simultaneously from Lakhapur in Jharsuguda district and Ambapana in Baragarh district,

"Farmers, fishermen, students, youths, women and public in general are expected to participate in large numbers in this programme," Das Burma said. During its 15-day long campaign, the party will hold public meetings, street corner meetings, street play and cultural functions in villages and urban areas.

"Booklets and leaflets will be distributed and audio-visual shows will also be held," the BJD leader added.

According to sources, BJD is planning to make Mahanadi water dispute as one of the major issues for the upcoming general election and this programme will be a part of it.

Commenting on the BJD programme, state Bharatiya Janata Party



BJD leaders addressing the media over Mahanadi water dispute, Wednesday.

the points where the river enters into the state. The campaign will cover over 1,585 km along the river banks in 15 districts affected by Mahanadi and culminate at Paradip.

Chief Minister and BJD President Naveen Patnaik will launch the programme in both the places and attend the concluding event in Paradip.

"The programme has been planned to apprise the people of Odisha about Chattisgarh's arbitrary construction over Mahanadi", he said.

(BJP) general secretary Prithviraj Harichandan said the ruling party doesn't want to resolve the issue and they are just trying to gain political mileage from it. "Before launching such programme, the BJD government should clarify how many barges they have planned to construct in the lower part of Hirakud dam. They have failed to utilise 53 per cent of the Mahanadi water which as a result flushes into the sea," the BJP leader said.

## ₹814 cr spent on workers' benefit: CM

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, May 2: Odisha government has spent Rs 814 crore for the benefits of construction workers, Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik said at an event to mark the International Labour Day Tuesday.

"Welfare of the labourers has always been our top priority and through our flagship programme Nirman Shramika Kalyan Yojana we have ensured social security for them," he added.

Under the scheme, 17 different types of welfare benefits have been given to 11.52 lakh beneficiaries under Building and Other



Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik speaks at the state-level observance of International Labour Day at Soochana Bhawan in Bhubaneswar.

Construction Workers (BOC) Welfare Board.

Patnaik said the government upholds the dignity of labour and salutes the working class who are creating new

Odisha with their blood, toil and sweat.

The Chief Minister also launched several initiatives for the benefits of the labour force, including Shramika

Sarathi, Shuna Shramika and Online Benefit Module for BOC Workers. Seasonal migration from western and southern Odisha is taken very seriously and the intervention by various developmental departments is continuing to mitigate the distress migration, he added.

The Chief Minister said a pilot project is going on in Bolangir and Nuapada districts in collaboration with the Tata Trust and convergence with other line departments.

About 9,000 children of migrant workers in such districts were retained in seasonal hostels to ensure their education as their parents migrated, he added.

## 5.90L caught sans tickets in 2017-18, says ECoR

POST NEWS NETWORK


Bhubaneswar, May 2: The East Coast Railway (ECoR) claims to have accelerated its ticket-checking drive and awareness programme to curb ticketless travel and unauthorised entry in station premises across its network.

In April 2018, the ECoR had detected cases of nearly 53,000 passengers travelling without ticket — which was 19.23 per cent more than the detections in the corresponding period of last financial year. It realised an amount of Rs 2.33 crore which was 23.10 per cent more than the figure for April 2017.

In the last fiscal, ECoR had fined 5.90 lakh passengers travelling without ticket, and the amount thus collected was of Rs 25.78 crore — which is 15.6 per cent more in the number of cases and 16.5 per cent more in realisation of fine than of the 2016-17 fiscal. In the 2016-17 financial year, the regional railway network had registered 5.10 lakh cases of travel without ticket and realised a fine of Rs 22 crore.

During the awareness and ticket checking drives, the pas-

**RAILWAY DATA FILE**



- The ECoR had fined 5.90 lakh passengers travelling without ticket and collected ₹25.78 crore in the last fiscal
- In the 2016-17 financial year, the regional railway network had registered 5.10 lakh cases of travel without ticket and realised a fine of ₹22 crore

sengers have been counselled and educated to buy bona fide tickets from ticket counters to make their journey hassle-free. Commuters have also been advised to buy Monthly Season Tickets (MST) to avoid tiresome queues at booking counters. The MST is also much cheaper (about one-third) than the regular journey fare of a month.

Passengers have been encouraged to use ATVM (automatic ticket vending machine) Smart Card, which is one of the most-convenient ways to buy tickets. Passengers have

also been advised to carry minimum luggage during train journey, so that their travel will be more comfortable.

Ticket-checking staff including commercial supervisors, chief ticket inspectors (CTI), train ticket examiners (TTE) alongside the Railway Protection Force (RPF) staff are involved in the drive and awareness programme headed by commercial officers both from ECoR headquarters and the three divisional headquarters at Khurda Road, Sambalpur and Waltair (Visakhapatnam).

## GOVT RESHUFFLES 10 IAS OFFICERS

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, May 2: In a reshuffle among senior IAS officers, the state government has transferred 10 officers including an additional chief secretary rank officer.

Additional chief secretary of Higher Education department GVV Sarma has been posted as member Board of Revenue while rural development secretary Bishnupada Sethi has been posted as higher education secretary, sources in CMO said. Sethi will also continue as Special Relief Commissioner (SRC) and MD of Odisha State Disaster Management Authority.

Tourism secretary Mona Sharma has been posted as the new secretary of Rural Development department while sports secretary Vishal Kumar Dev has been given the additional charge of Tourism department and chairman of Odisha Hydro Power Corporation (OHPC), the source said. Handlooms, Textiles & Handicrafts additional secretary Purushottam Sahoo has been appointed as the new additional secretary of Health & Family Welfare (H&FW) de-

partment. The present H&FW additional secretary GG Debta has been transferred as Inspector General of Registration (IGR), Odisha with additional charge of secretary, Board of Revenue.

Water Resources joint secretary V Jaya Kumar will hold same position in planning and convergence dept. Dharmagarh sub-collector Yeddula Vijay has been appointed as the Home department under secretary. Besides, Civil Supplies Corporation MD Niranjan Nayak has been shifted as the new MD of Odisha Lift Irrigation Corporation (OLIC) whereas Odisha State Warehouse Corporation (OSWC) MD Saroj Samal is the new MD of Civil Supplies Corporation. Samal will discharge additional charge of MD, State Warehouse Corporation.



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**WASSUP TODAY**

**BHUBANESWAR**  
 ■ Sixth day of 37th state-level art exhibition by Lalit kala Akademi, Buddha Art Gallery, Niladri Vihar, 11am  
 ■ Third outreach radio workshop, Buddha temple auditorium, Unit-3, 4pm  
 ■ First death anniversary of poet Kulamani Nathasharma, Mangala Mandap, OUAT, Unit-8, 6pm

**CUTTACK**  
 ■ Concluding day of summer football camp by Ravenshaw morning club, Ravenshaw University playground, 6am  
 ■ Camp to spread awareness on Odia language, Bichitrana Kallian Ashram, 5pm

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

# SMS LIGHTNING ALERT SYSTEM SOON

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Bhubaneswar, May 2:** In a new push to ensure precautionary measures against lightning deaths, the Odisha State Disaster Management Authority (OSDMA) would use SMS services to alert people about the natural disaster.

"Every year, over 400 lightning deaths occur in the state. We are taking steps to reduce this number which is now on the ascendancy. We are focusing on how to issue early-hour warnings about lightning strikes," said state chief secretary Aditya Prasad Padhi.

He said, "As per research, possibility of lightning increases by 20-25 per cent with every two per cent increase in atmospheric temperature. As the climate is

## PREVENTIVE STEPS



- Every year, over 400 lightning deaths occur in the state
- As per research, possibility of lightning increases by 20-25 per cent with every two per cent increase in atmospheric temperature
- Pulse Rad technology would be used to alert people and sensors would be fixed at various locations to receive signals from the Rad

changing, lightning incident will be more in future."

In 2017-18 fiscal, 456 persons were killed in lightning strikes. This was 15 per cent more than the figure the previous year. "We can't limit the lightning inci-

dents, but we are committed to saving lives by issuing advance warnings," the special relief commissioner's (SRC) office said.

"We have called in an international organisation by name Earth Network to do the SMS

services and alert the people. They have worked in more than 90 nations. We're trying our level best to minimise the loss caused by lightning in Odisha," SRC Bishnupada Sethi stated.

The Pulse Rad technology

would be used to alert people. Sensors would be fixed in various locations to receive signals from the Rad. Predictions would be disseminated through SMS, Mobile Apps, radio and TV. The system would also be helpful in prediction of hail winds, hailstorms, dangerous thunderstorms, flood and drought.

Earth Network official Kumar Margasahayam said, "Basically what we do is we have ground sensors that collect data. We are working in ways as to detect lightning. We are now using this technology in West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka. We're able to send early warning for any sort of severe weather including lightning, through mobile apps or SMS services or other media sources like TV channel and FM radio."

## Three held for extortion bid

**Bhubaneswar:** Three persons were arrested Tuesday on charges of an extortion bid on a private firm employee. Laxmisagar police said they have arrested Santosh Rout (21) of Laxmisagar, Ashok Das (42) of Fishery Lane and Santu Behera (25) of Buddha Nagar on charges of threatening and demanding Rs 1 lakh from Kushal Pal Singh, who works as project manager of an Ahmedabad-based private company. The company was awarded the work order for sewage chamber construction in Chintamaniswar area here. The trio had demanded Rs 1 lakh from Singh April 29. When Singh denied, they threatened to eliminate him and made away with vibrator equipment from the construction site, Laxmisagar inspector in-charge Dayanidhi Nayak said. "On the basis of Singh's complaint, we have registered a case (109/18) and arrested the trio," Nayak said, adding the stolen equipment, a motorcycle and two cell phones have been recovered from them.

## CITY SHOWS

<b>AVENGERS: INFINITY WAR (HINDI - 3D)</b> BHUBANESWAR INOX 09:00 AM 03:20 PM 09:40 AM	<b>BAAGHI 2 - HINDI</b> BHUBANESWAR INOX 09:05 AM Avengers: Infinity War - English
<b>MAHARAJA HALL</b> 08:30 AM 11:20 AM 02:10 PM	<b>BHUBANESWAR INOX</b> 05:15 PM 11:25 PM Avengers: Infinity War (Hindi) - Hindi
<b>KESHARI</b> 12:00 PM 03:00 PM 06:00 PM 09:00 PM	<b>BHUBANESWAR INOX</b> 08:20 PM AVENGERS: INFINITY WAR (HINDI - 3D)
<b>AVENGERS: INFINITY WAR (ENGLISH - 2D)</b> BHUBANESWAR INOX 05:15 PM 11:25 PM	<b>CUTTACK SANGAM PLEX</b> INOX 09:00 AM 12:00 PM 03:00 PM 06:00 PM 09:00 PM
<b>DAAS DEV (HINDI)</b> BHUBANESWAR INOX 02:25 PM	<b>CUTTACK GRAND CINEMA HALL</b> INOX 09:15 AM 03:05 PM 09:20 PM

## FEE HIKE OPPOSED



Ravenshaw University students stage a sit-in near the varsity vice chancellors' office Wednesday demanding revocation of the hiked course fees. OP PHOTO

# State seeks Rapid Action Force for Rath Yatra

AGENCIES

**Bhubaneswar, May 2:** The state government will request the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) to provide at least two companies of Rapid Action Force (RAF) for the annual Rath Yatra in Puri which will commence July 14 this year.

"MHA will be requested to spare two companies of RAF for deployment in the Rath Yatra," Odisha Director General of Police R P Sharma said after a preliminary preparatory meeting.

Sharma said three companies, each comprising 800 to 1,000 personnel, of Odisha Swift Action Force (OSAF) will be deployed on the Grand Road in Puri in front of the Shri Jagannath Temple during the festival for effective crowd management.

It was decided at the meeting to have an inter-security agency coordination meeting shortly involving NSG to chalk out the plan and programme



DGP RP Sharma addresses the preparatory meeting. OP PHOTO

for the festival, Sharma said.

In view of the security threat during the festival, Odisha Police will install more CCTVs at the Grand Road and other strategic locations of Puri during the festival period for better surveillance on the crowd movement.

Special emphasis will be given for the safety and security of women during the festival, the official said adding that adequate number of police per-

# HC moved for law to ban kangaroo courts

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Cuttack, May 2:** A public interest litigation (PIL) was filed in the Odisha High Court against various atrocities committed against individuals and families in kangaroo courts and lack of any strong law to curb it.

In different villages in the state, individuals, families or communities are ostracised and financially penalised in kangaroo courts. Besides, mental and physical tortures are meted out to people in the kangaroo courts.

However, there is no strong law to curb the rising activities, alleged the petitioner and Rationalist Society secretary Debendra Sutar.

The petitioner made the



chief secretary, home, law and parliamentary affairs secretaries parties to the petition.

The petitioner stated that kangaroo court is organised to decide on disputes regarding inter-caste marriages, supporting a particular candidate, persons affected by leprosy and AIDS, protesting any unlawful activities in villages, having a feast in Dalit houses and

## The petitioner said that the kangaroo courts make mockery of the judiciary system

other issues. The kangaroo courts boycott or ostracise families as punishment.

The boycotted families are barred from using the tube wells, temples, cremation ground, market and school and college.

People 'convicted' in such a court lead lives fraught with despair. They are forced to pay huge penalty to get rid of the social boycott. In the absence of any strict law in

the state in this regard, no punitive action is being taken if any complaints are made in such cases, the petitioner said.

The petitioner further stated that the kangaroo courts make mockery of the judiciary system. If the system is not abolished, the society will plunge into the darkness of lawlessness and disorder.

The petitioner said Maharashtra is the first state in the country to enforce a law prohibiting the social boycott of individual, families or any community by informal village councils of kangaroo court. The petitioner urged the High Court to implement such law in the State of Odisha.

**2nd DEATH ANNIVERSARY**

**Late Choudhury Prabir Kumar Das**  
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**Khordha District Chemists Parivar**

# Vedanta gets ST panel support

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Bhubaneswar, May 2:** The members of the ST Commission visited the peripheral villages of Vedanta Ltd Jharsuguda Wednesday and interacted with the villagers and the ST community in particular during their two-day visit to Jharsuguda and Sambalpur.

The commission visited Katikela, Burkhamunda, Banjari and Kurebaga villages to interact with the residents and capture their aspirations, expectation and issues specific to the ST community. Despite a few voices of discontent the villagers at large acknowledged the CSR work done by the company but they also demanded better drink-

ing water facility, health services and more employability of local youth. In the evening the commission also met the senior representatives of Vedanta led by its CEO Abhijit Pati to review the situation on ground in presence of the DM and other seniors of district administration. The commission advised Vedanta to expedite rehabilitation process of Katikela and also to provide better facilities of drinking water and health in addition to the existing programs. Pati assured cooperation in this regard. Earlier the commission also met the representatives of the Vedanta supported all women Subhalaxmi Cooperative and appreciated their efforts specifically directed for the ST women.

# Realtor held for 22.55L fraud

**Bhubaneswar:** Economic Offences Wing sleuths here Wednesday arrested a 40-year-old man on charges of duping a man of ₹22.55 lakh on the pretext of selling land. EOW sleuths said they have arrested Rehematun Nisha, managing director of Wellmade Builders Private Limited and a resident of Sanakunjhal in Jajpur district, in connection with ₹22.55 lakh. The complainant Mohammed Nawaz Hassan had paid the money to Nisha and his employees to purchase a plot at Adarsha Nagar in Barang and a shop-room at Raghunathpur area here in 2013. However, the firm neither delivered the land nor returned the money. Later, Nisha was unreachable.

# CB moved over man's death

**Cuttack:** A woman from Bhawanipatna area of Kalahandi Wednesday lodged a complaint with the state Crime Branch here alleging that some people had killed her husband by poisoning him. Sahida Begum claimed that the persons involved in the death of her husband have occupied their house. Sahida informed the CB that she and her three children have been taking shelter at a burial ground at Bhawanipatna for last several years. A stray dog had bitten Sahida's husband in 1999. However, some people had poisoned her husband on the pretext of administering anti-rabies injections to him.

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**Tardy drainage work**  
**Bhubaneswar:** Residents of Sabarsahi and Netaji Vihar near Rasulgarh square here are having a harrowing time for some days while travelling on a stretch which leads to Sishu Mandir due to the ongoing drain re-construction work. According to sources, both sides of the road were dug up and the debris was dumped on the road; blocking the passage partially. At once the stretches can be used only by one motorcyclist or cyclist. The situation worsens when excavators and drillers are used leaving no possibility to commute on it. People are forced to take another route which is at least 2 kms more to reach their residences. Prasant Satpathy, a resident, in the area, said, "We are facing a lot of inconvenience due to the drainage work. It needs to be completed expeditiously."

**CLASSIFIED BOOKING STATION** Acharya Vihar-Dayal Agency-9437135727, A.P. Tours and Travel, Maitri Vihar, C.S. Pur- 9861301598, Aurobindo Market-Sai Audio & Electronics-9438304668, Airport Road-Sai Baba Variety Store-9090071530, Anish Infotech- Tankapani Road-9861341488, Bapuji Nagar- Dreamland Studio- 9777517314, Baramunda Rental Colony-Maa Ramchandi Communication-9658821469, Baramunda Housing Board Colony-Pappu Variety Store-9040500106, Cuttack Road-Alishan Snacks-8984236754, District Center (Chandrasekharpur)-Sai Google Mart-9776056507, Forest Park-DTDC Couriers & Services (HB Services)-7381024156, IRC Village-Bapi Xerox-9090090404, Gift Hut(Antriksh Gifts & Decors Pvt. Ltd.)-9954781084, Pruthvi Medicine-9853314816, Janpath-Krupajal Book Store-7978646669, Jaydev Vihar-AK Enterprises-978116618, Subam Sai Books Store-8895550649, Swain Graphics- 9337121249, Jagannath Mobile Point- Janpath Road, Ram Mandir- 9938475415, Kanan Vihar-Auro Electronics-8260697560, Khandagiri- Swosti Mobile Centre- 7992914045, World Solution- 9938317559, KIIT Road-Jugd Jn-9338545031, Laxmi Sagar-Aditya Mobile-9438191836, Lewis Road-Spider Web-7809186415, Metro Satellite City-Arogya Mitra Medicine Store-9853621640, Madhusudan Nagar-Mohapatra Communication-9124446664, Maa Santoshi travels- Gajapati Nagar- 9777675867, Nayapalli- The Cake Room- 7873660137, Near Mayfair Lagoon-Cookieman-9439491273, Nigamananda-Omm Sai Travels-9668284823, Nr Cosmopolis Main Gate-Shreeram Medical Store- 8763711714, Net Square-Niladri Vihar (C.S. Pur)- 7205634821, Priyadarshini Market-Astro Point-9938134346, R.N. General Store-Nilakantha Nagar-9438642501, Sahid Nagar- Maa Communication- 9437353424, Sahini General Store- Near Patia Railway Station, Mahavir Vihar- 9937586626, Satya Nagar-Baishnavi Mixture & Sweets-7894821764, Santampur- Download Point-7504557743, Sailashree Vihar-Harsha Book Store-8093449515, Saheed Nagar-Jagannath Graphics-7978652670, Photo World-7978468191, Sainath Photo Studio-8984436129, Shanti & Co-9937071063, Siripur-Omm Maa Sarala Communication-9777682449, Sushree fashion- Jajmara-9938714347, Shree Vision- Sailashree Vihar-9861476678, Unit-3-LIC of India Premium Point-9337787080, Unit-7- LIC Premium Point- 9338227422, VSS Nagar-Friends Cake & Bake-8658200930, Jeet Infoworld-7205195782, XIMB Square-LD Books-9658061373.

## Couple tries to sell babies at SCB

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Cuttack, May 2:** A couple from Banta area of Bhadrak district Tuesday tried to sell their two newborn daughters at Sriram Chandra Bhanja Medical College and Hospital here.

However, timely intervention by the officials District Legal Services Authority, Child Line and police foiled the bid.

Sources said a woman from Banta area of Bhadrak was admitted to SCBMC April 29 with labour pain. She gave birth to three girls that day. The couple immediately tried to search for some issueless couples to sell two of their newborns.

According to sources, at least nine people reached the hospital and showed their interest to take the two babies by providing ₹40,000 each. Even, a few of them visited a local court to collect stamp papers to fulfill the paper works for the baby sale.

**At least nine people reached the hospital and showed their interest to take the two babies by providing ₹40,000 each**

However, district Legal Services Authority advocate Bipin Choudhury somehow came to know about the baby sale bid and informed it to Child Line officials and Mangalabagh police.

Soon, officials of Child Line and police reached the hospital and counselled the couple.

It is learnt that the couple expressed their inability to raise the three babies. "The financial status of the couple is not so good. They have also two more daughters at home. We have advised them to hand over the two babies to interested parties as per the rules and regulations of the child adoption act," said an official of the Child Line. Meanwhile, sources claimed that a few employees of a private nursing home in the city had played the role of middlemen in the baby sale bid.

## Deer rescued from Astarang block office

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Kakatpur, May 2:** Forest Department officials Wednesday rescued a male deer from the premises of Astarang block office. Sources said the deer strayed into human settlements at Astarang from the nearby coastal forests in the afternoon. It entered the block office premises after a pack of stray dogs chased it.

On being informed, a Forest department team led by forest guard Swarneswar Jal rescued the deer with the help of locals. The deer was later released in the coastal forests after medical examination, said Astarang forest ranger Subhas Pradhan.

Locals, meanwhile, claimed that shortage of food and water in the coastal forests has been forcing deer and other animals to stray into human settlements. Environmentalist Shobhakar Behera suggested that the Forest department should dig a few pits immediately to make water available to wild animals.

## No electricity for years; locals stage road blockade

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Daringbadi/Brahmanigaon, May 2:** Amid claims by the Centre that it has electrified all the villages in the country, the inhabitants of Hatimunda panchayat under Brahmanigaon police limits in Kandhamal district held a road blockade Tuesday to press their demand for electricity supply to their homes and streets.

Being deprived of electricity for years, angry villagers cut down trees and dumped them on the main road and staged a road blockade. Hundreds of locals of four wards under the panchayat felled huge trees on the main road and staged a demonstration.

The protest comes a day after Prime Minister Narendra Modi declared India fully electrified.

Citing their plight that even after 71 years of Independence, women and children of the area braved



Locals of Hatimunda blocking the road with an uprooted tree.

**The protest comes a day after Prime Minister Narendra Modi declared India fully electrified**

bad weather to stage protests on the road. Vehicular traffic to Berhampur, Mohana, Adaba and Paniganda was stopped. Tension ran high as no police or administration official reached the spot to pacify the crowd of protesters.

The locals said they were saddened by the government

apathy. On several occasions, they had submitted a memorandum to the district administration, the Chief Minister, the Governor to press for fulfillment of their demand for electricity supply to villages. However, their pleas were left unheard.

While the Centre makes tall claims that all villages were electrified by April 29, the villagers here live in darkness.

Lanterns and oil lamps are their only source of light. "Our agitation will continue until all the villages in the panchayat are supplied with electricity," the agitators said.

## Lovebirds end lives in Jagatsinghpur

**Jagatsinghpur:** A young couple ended their lives by hanging themselves from a neem tree. The matter came to the fore after locals spotted the hanging bodies of the 20 years old youth and the 19 years old girl Tuesday morning. The incident was reported from Padampur panchayat under Erasama police limits in Jagatsinghpur district. It was suspected that they were in a relationship and their families stood in the way of their plan for marriage. The two had gone missing from their homes since Monday evening. Later, their bodies were found hanging from a neem tree near the village. On being informed, the police sent the bodies for post-mortem and started an investigation. Prima facie, no foul play is suspected.

## WORK OF ART



A carpenter servitor carving an image of Nrusingha, an incarnation of Lord Vishnu, during chariot construction at Rathakhala in Puri.

OP PHOTO

## HIRE A CYCLE TO KEEP AIR POLLUTION AT BAY

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Bhubaneswar, May 2:** In a bid to bring back the cycling culture to the Capital city, the Bhubaneswar Development Authority (BDA) is all set to introduce eco-friendly Public Bicycle Sharing System (PBSS) in the city.

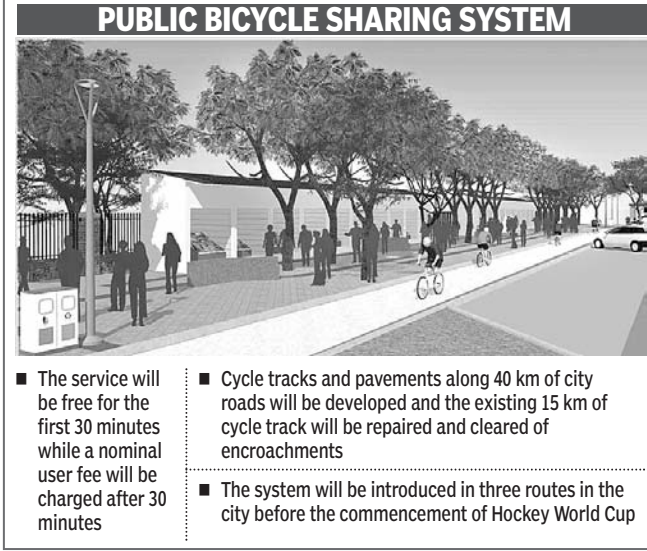
The system will be introduced in three routes of the city before the commencement of Hockey World Cup, scheduled to be held here in November this year.

This decision was taken at high-level meeting held under the chairmanship of Chief Secretary Aditya Prasad Padhi at Secretariat here Wednesday where BDA vice-chairman Krishan Kumar along with other senior government officials was present.

While one route will start from Governor House and touch Kalinga Stadium, Jaydev Vihar, Kalinga Hospital Square, Patia and KIIT Square, the second route will be from airport to Kalinga Hospital Square via Acharya Vihar. The last route is on Jampath Road (Unit 1 market to Vani Vihar).

For this, cycle tracks and pavements along 40 km of city roads will be developed and the existing 15 km of cycle track will be repaired and cleared of encroachments.

"We are starting a bicycle-sharing programme in the city to promote non-motorised transport and



- The service will be free for the first 30 minutes while a nominal user fee will be charged after 30 minutes
- Cycle tracks and pavements along 40 km of city roads will be developed and the existing 15 km of cycle track will be repaired and cleared of encroachments
- The system will be introduced in three routes in the city before the commencement of Hockey World Cup

curb air pollution. The bicycles available for rent will be equipped with modern technological amenities like GPS navigation and would operate through mobile app. The project has been partnered by 'Mobike' which is an internationally renowned organisation that promotes cycling and non-motorised transports," Kumar told reporters, after the meeting.

The cost of each cycle is around ₹45,000-50,000. Mobike would be making all the investments in the venture, he said, adding, "The service will be free for the first 30

minutes while a nominal user fee will be charged after 30 minutes."

As per the decision, about 2,000-2,500 cycles will be kept at various cycling dock stations and cycle stands across the city. They will be available on rent. Riders can rent a cycle from one place and after their ride can drop the cycle at cycle stand located at their terminating destinations, sources said.

Notably, the BDA is also planning to expand the total length of the cycling tracks in the city to 120 km in the next five years.

## Include 'Ahimsa' in Preamble: CM

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Bhubaneswar, May 2:** Attending the first preparatory meeting for celebration of 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik Wednesday suggested including 'Ahimsa' in the Preamble of India's Constitution.

The meeting was held under the chairmanship of President Ram Nath Kovind at Rashtrapati Bhawan in New Delhi.

Stating that progress requires peace CM said, "Progress requires the defeat of those who divide society on the basis of class, caste or religion."

"I believe the greatest tribute India could pay to Gandhiji on his 150th anniversary is to include the uniquely Indian ideal of 'Ahimsa' or 'Non-violence' in the Preamble of our nation's Constitution," he stated.

He said further that the most important aspect of Gandhi's doctrine of non-violence is that poverty and social injustice are the greatest violence.

"As Gandhiji said, as long as poverty exists freedom is only a wooden loaf. To remove poverty is the greatest task faced by any government. This cannot be achieved without non-violence," he pointed out.

## LOCALS OVERPOWER UNDERTRIAL DURING HIS ESCAPE ATTEMPT

Jajpur road sub-jail superintendent's claim raises eyebrows

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Jajpur Road, May 2:** An undertrial, who escaped from Jajpur Road sub-jail at Ragadi under Korei police limits in Jajpur district, was back behind the bars after locals mustered courage and overpowered him while he was fleeing Tuesday.

The accused was identified as a Shakil Ahmed (32), son Mukesh Uddin of Bagbeda in Bangladesh. He was arrested by government railway police (GRP) for lack of a VISA September 18, 2016.

The residents caught him hiding in a shop at Ragadi Square and overpowered him before informing police and the jail officials. Later, the jail officials reached the spot and arrested him before bringing him back to the jail.

When questioned, Ahmed said the jail officials beat him up and tonsured him during his stay in

the jail. Traders Khetrabasi Das and Gopal Chandra Rout said the undertrial was caught by the locals while hiding in the shop.

Ahmed after his arrest was lodged in the Ragadi sub-jail, jail superintendent Gobind Chandra Soor said.

Various theories began to surface on his escape and his subsequent arrest as he is alleged to have escaped through the main door of the jail.

The jail superintendent, however, rejected the claims stating that he was nabbed by warder Rajkishore Pradhan while he was trying to climb the toilet pipes in the jail to escape.

The jail superintendent's remarks have raised eyebrows as observers demanded a probe into his escape to trace the truth.

They claimed that CCTV footages in the jail should be scanned to trace the jail officials responsible for his escape.

## Sweeper steals newborn from hospital premises

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Angul, May 2:** Panick prevailed as a hospital sweeper stole a newborn baby from near the quarters of a doctor on the district hospital premises here Tuesday. A search was on while the sweeper and the baby remained untraced.

According to sources, Prabhāsini Behera, wife of Dilip Behera of Bada Hinsara, under Jorpada police limits in this district, was admitted to the DHH after she started having labour pain. The gynaecologist was not available in the hospital and hence Prabhāsini went and met him at his quarters. No sooner did she leave the doctor's quarters, her labour pain increased. She lay down and delivered a baby under a tree next to the doctor's residence.

A sweeper cleaning the area at that time spotted Prabhāsini and stood by Prabhāsini was so weak after the delivery that she fell unconscious.

Taking advantage of her un-

consciousness, the sweeper took the baby and fled the scene. Prabhāsini regained her consciousness a while later, only to find her newborn child missing. She then tried to search for the sweeper, but in vain. Her husband was not present when she went to meet the doctor.

Later, she and her husband lodged a complaint with local police. Based on this, the police registered a case and started a probe.

**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, RWS & S DIVISION, BARGARH**  
Email :- eorwss\_bgh@nic.in, Ph (0)-06646 233220, FAX :- 06646 234626  
No 1214/ Dt. 26.04.2018 /  
1st CORRIGENDUM TO BID ID NO 02 OF 2018-19 & TENDER CALL NOTICE NO. 1065 DT. 18.04.2018

No.115-O:- Remaining unaltered of all other terms and conditions, the following changes are hereby made to Bid Identification 02 of 2018-19 of the Executive Engineer, RWS&S Division, Bargarh by virtue of this corrigendum.

As per Original DTCN	As per Corrigendum
Date and time of availability of document in the portal 27.4.18 to 14.05.18	Date and time of availability of document in the portal 7.5.18 to 24.05.18
Last date / time of receipt of bids in the portal -14.05.2018 up to 5.00 PM	Last date / time of receipt of bids in the portal -24.05.2018 up to 5.00 PM
Date and time of opening of Tender - 15.05.18 at 11.00AM	Date and time of opening of Tender - 25.05.18 at 11.00AM

25157/11/0004/1819 Executive Engineer, RWSS

**GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER MINOR IRRIGATION DIVISION, KHARIAR e- Procurement Notice**

No.150-A: Bid Identification No.- 01/EE MIDKHR/2018-19 e-mail ID : eemidivision\_khariar@rediffmail.com No.-1244 Dt. 28.04.2018

1 Name of the work	: Construction of Civil Works
2 No of Works	: 20( Twenty) Nos.
3 Estimated cost	: Approximately from Rs. 7.65 lakhs to Rs. 28.70 lakhs.
Cost of Tender paper	: Varies from Rs. 4000/- to Rs.6000/- (Non-Refundable) (Online).
4 Class of Contractor	: 'D', 'C', & 'B'
5 Period of completion	: Varies from 60(Sixty)days to 120 (One hundred Twenty)days.
6 Date and Time of availability of Bid Documents in the portal	: From 04.05.2018 (10.00 AM) to 10.05.2018 (5.00 PM)
7 Last date / time of receipt of bids in the portal	: 10.05.2018 (5.00 PM).
8 Date of opening of Bid documents	: On dt. 14.05.2018 at 09.00 A.M in the Office of the Executive Engineer, M.I. Division, Khariar.
9 Date of lottery (if required)	: On dt 18.05.2018 at 09.00 AM.
10 The detail tender call notice can also be seen in the e-procurement portal	: http://tendersodisha.gov.in.
11 Digital Signature Certificate of Bidder	: The bidders must possess Compatible Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)
12 Name & Address of the Officer Inviting Tender	: Executive Engineer, M.I.Division, Khariar, A/PO: Khariar Dist Nuapada PIN-766107, Ph. No. - 06671-224284, Email ID: eemidivision_khariar@rediffmail.com.

Further details can be seen from the e-Procurement market place. http://tendersodisha.gov.in

Sd./- Executive Engineer M.I. Division, Khariar.

32090/11/0001/1819

**Government of Odisha "e" Procurement Notice for Building Works Bid Identification No. 2 / 2018-19**

No. 103-O:-

- Name of the Work :- 3 Nos. of Building Work (As per col.2 of Annexure available in the Portal)
- Estimated Cost :- for Rs.10.23 Lakh to 22.72
- Period of Completion :- As per annexure
- Date & Time of availability of Bid document in the Portal :- From Dt.8.5.2018 at 10.00AM to dt.18.5.2018 upto 4.00 PM
- Last Date & Time for receipt of Bids in the Portal :- From Dt. 18.5.2018 upto 4.00PM
- Date & Time of Opening of Tender :- Dt. 19.5.2018 at 11.00AM
- Name and Address of O.I.T :- Executive Engineer, R.W Division, Bhadrak

Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal "https://tendersorissa.gov.in"

Sd./- Er. Manas Ranjan Mohanty Executive Engineer, R.W. Division, Bhadrak

25060/11/0001/1819

**GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER P.H. DIVISION-I, BHUBANESWAR**

Office:- 0674-2390322 / Fax:- 0674-2390322 / E-mail:eephbbsr@gmail.com

No.45-C:- NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING THROUGH e-Procurement

**INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB) NO. EEPH1BBSR-04/ 2018-19 DTD.30.04.2018.**

01 Name of the work	: 02 (Two) Nos works.
02 Estimate cost	: Rs.18.24 Lakhs to Rs.29.22 Lakhs
03 Period of completion	: 45 (Forty Five) Days
04 Class of contractor	: D & C Class
05 Date & Time of availability of bid document in the portal	: From 11.00 AM of Dt.04.05.18 to 5.00 PM of 19.05.2018.
06 Last date / time of receipt of bids in the portal	: 5.00 PM of 19.05.2018.
07 Last date & time of seeking clarification	: 5.00 PM of 10.05.2018.
08 Date & Time of opening of bids	: At 12.30 PM of 21.05.2018.
09 Name and Address of the Officer Inviting Bid	: Executive Engineer, (PH) P.H. Division-I, Bhubaneswar.

Further details can be seen from the e-Procurement portal "https://www.tendersorissa.gov.in".

EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, P.H. DIVISION-I, BHUBANESWAR

13021/11/0005/1819

**EAST COAST RAILWAY**

E-Tender Notice No. SNTPBBS 31BSOT06, Date : 25.04.2018

**NAME OF WORK: ALL WORKS FOR PROVISION OF INTERMEDIATE BLOCK SIGNALLING BETWEEN TITLAGARH - KESINGA, LANJIGARH ROAD-AMBODALA, DOIKALLUMUNGUDA SECTION IN SAMBALPUR DIVISION OF EAST COAST RAILWAY.**

Approx cost of the work: ₹2,43,57,896/-  
EMD : ₹2,71,790/-, Cost of tender Document : ₹10,000/-, Completion period of the work : 06 (Six) Months.

Date and time of opening / closing of tender : At 12:00 hrs of 04.06.2018.

No manual offers sent by Post/Courier/ Fax or in person shall be accepted against such e-Tenders even if these are submitted on firm's manual head and received in time. All such manual offers shall be considered invalid and shall be rejected summarily without any consideration.

Note : The prospective tenderers are advised to revisit the website seven days before the date of closing of tender to note any changes / corrigenda issued for this tender.

Complete information including e-tender documents of the above e-tender is available in website http://www.reps.gov.in

Dy. Chief Signal & Telecom Engineer/P-1 PR-10/CB/18-19 Bhubaneswar

**EAST COAST RAILWAY**

**OHE MODIFICATION WORK AND PROVISION OF AUXILIARY TRANSFORMERS**

1. Tender No. 02-KUR-TRD-OT-2018-19 Dated : 24.04.2018

**Name of the Work: EXECUTION OF OHE MODIFICATION WORK IN CONNECTION WITH "INCREASE IN CLEAR STANDARD LENGTH (CSL) OF LOOP LINES AT HINDOL ROAD, SADASIVPUR, JORANDA ROAD, RAJATHGARH, BY REE, DHANAMANDAL, BAITARANI ROAD & KENDUAPADA STATIONS (08 STATIONS) IN TALCHER - BHADRAK SECTION OF KHURDA ROAD DIVISION" (EXCEPT OF DHANAMANDAL, RAJATHGARH & HINDOL ROAD STATIONS).**

Approximate value : ₹51,83,243.60, EMD : ₹1,03,670/-, Cost of tender document : ₹5,900/-.

2. Tender No. 03-KUR-TRD-OT-2018-19 Dated : 24.04.2018

**Name of the Work: EXECUTION OF OHE MODIFICATION WORK AND PROVISION OF AUXILIARY TRANSFORMERS (ATS) IN CONNECTION WITH "INTERLOCKING OF 10 NOS MANNED MID SECTION LEVEL CROSSING GATES IN KHURDA ROAD DIVISION.**

Approximate value: ₹8,81,929.77, EMD : ₹17,640/-, Cost of tender document: ₹2,360/-

Date and time of submission of bids (For all tenders): Up to 13:30 hrs of Dt.06.06.2018, Date and time of opening of tenders (For all tenders): At 15:30 hrs of Dt. 06.06.2018.

Complete details & tender document will be available at www.reps.gov.in

Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer (TRD) PR-58/J/18-19 Khurda Road



## FARMING WORKSHOP

A block-level workshop on farmers' welfare is in progress at Simulia in Balasore district.

## AWARENESS RALLY

College students take out an awareness rally on road safety in Angul.



## SHORT TAKES

### Murder: MLA among 6 deposes before court

**Bhadrak:** Dhamnagar MLA Mukhtikant Mandal and five others, allegedly involved in murder of Niranjana Jena, appeared in the additional district sessions judge court Wednesday. The other accused were Nepal Barik, Basant Nayak, Raghunath Jena, Kailash Nayak and Jaykrushna Rout. Reliable sources said Mandal while deposing before the court pleaded his innocence. It may be noted that Niranjana Jena, alias Chhunchia, a resident of Sugo under Basudevpur block, was murdered in 2002. Chhunchia's uncle Dushasan Jena had filed a complaint with police and accused the six of being involved in the murder.

### Ceiling collapse: Minor dies, 3 of kin critical

**Shergadh:** A minor boy was killed while three of his family members including his brother and parents were injured after a portion of their house ceiling collapsed on them while they were asleep Tuesday night. The incident was reported from Punad village under Shergadh block in Ganjam district. The deceased was identified as Priyanshu (5) and the injured were his father Simanchal Nayak, mother Banita Nayak and elder brother Himanshu. Locals admitted them to MKCG Medical College and Hospital at Berhampur. Sources said Simanchal and his family lived in the 22-year-old house. The house had developed cracks on the walls and on the verge of collapse due to the heavy rainfall. After dinner, as usual the family members went to bed. Meanwhile, the house ceiling collapsed on them all. Priyanshu was crushed to death under the concrete ceiling while others had a close shave. The body was seized and sent for post-mortem.

### Engineer's body found from water tank

**Bargarh:** Police Wednesday recovered the body of an engineer from a water tank on the premises of Gobindpur-based Nabadanya Food Productions rice mill here in Bargarh district. He was identified as V Ajay of Madurai in Tamil Nadu. He had arrived at Bargarh a few days back to work in the rice mill. No exact reason of the youth's death was known yet. Sadar police seized the body and sent it for post-mortem. According to police, Ajay was missing from Tuesday. Co-workers searched for him, but in vain. Later, his slippers were found near the water tank after which locals found the body floating in the tank and alerted the police. A case of unnatural death was registered in this connection.

### 1 dies, another critical due to asphyxiation

**Nayagarh:** In an unfortunate turn of events, a man died of asphyxiation while his nephew was hospitalised Wednesday morning. The incident occurred while the two were cleaning the septic tank. They deceased was identified as Baikuntha Behera of Pathara village under Odagaon police limits in Nayagarh district while the injured was identified as Paban Behera, nephew of the deceased. According to sources, a local of the village had engaged the two to clean a septic tank of his house. No sooner did the two open the septic tank, Baikuntha died on the spot due to suffocation while Paban's health deteriorated and he became unconscious. Locals rushed them to the district headquarters hospital where Baikuntha was declared dead upon arrival. Paban was in critical condition. Police sent the body for post-mortem and a case was registered.

### Young widow raped; rape survivor kills self

**Nayagarh:** A young widow was raped at Mangarajpur village under Ranpur police limits Tuesday night. The accused, from the same area, has been arrested. According to a report, the accused forced his entry to the house of the victim in the absence of her family members and outraged her modesty. In a separate case, a five-month pregnant rape survivor committed suicide at Radanathpur village under Nuagaon police limits in the district, Monday. Police said public stigma might have forced the rape-survivor to take the extreme step. Sexual assault cases against minor girls and women are on the rise in the district despite stringent measures by the police. Chief minister Naveen Patnaik informed the assembly Monday that 4,749 minor girls were raped and 385 gang-raped in Odisha between 2014 and 2017 as per records from police registries. He also said the police arrested 4,462 persons in connection with the 4,749 minor girl rape cases.

# TORCHING OF PS: 12 HELD IN CRACKDOWN

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Sambalpur, May 2:** Police arrested 12 people in a Sunday midnight crackdown in connection with the torching of Ainthapali police station February 8. It may be recalled, an unruly mob, in an impulsive reaction to an alleged custodial death, had set the police station on fire. More than 100 people were alleged to have been involved in the incident.

Two cases were registered at Ainthapali Police station in this connection February 10, two days after it was restored. Over 100 people have been named as accused in both the cases and charged with offences under various sections of criminal acts, as per DPO sources.

One of the cases registered is "torching of the police station" (Case No 45/2018 with crimes u/s 147, 148, 294, 341, 332, 333, 187, 307, 452, 436, 427, 395, 507, 342, 225, 149 IPC besides 3 PDPP Act and 7 Criminal Law Amendment Act). The other one is regarding road block at Bhalupali before torching police station (Case No 46/2018

crimes u/s 147, 294, 507, 341, 186, 149 IPC and 8 NH Act 1956). The arrested 12 were identified as (1) Rabindra Sahu, 36; (2) Uttam Sahu, 28; (3) Haladhar Sahu, 28; (4) Nandi Sahu, 27; (5) Krishna alias Harischandra, 27; (6) Saroj Bahadur Thapa, 25; (7) Mohan Oram, 30; (8) Trinath Behera, 28 (9) Narayan Oram, 22; (10) Bashistha Mukherjee, 40; (11) Surendra alias Biren Naik, 40; and (12) Birat Naik, 21. They were forwarded to judicial custody.

In a secret operation, the police teams crackdown on these persons at several places like Anuguliapada, Telipada, Karamtoli, Nuapada in front of Ambiranagar, Khejriapada and Pragativihar. All these localities are in the surrounding areas of the spot, where the incident took place and they come under Ainthapali Police station jurisdiction.

The DGP acted promptly on the incident and suspended the duty constable, an assistant sub-inspector of police and the then inspector in-charge of the police station with immediate effect that very day.

### Man makes it to Guinness Book of Records

**Keonjhar:** Sujit Patnaik, a senior deltiologist of Keonjhar district, has found his way to the Guinness Book of Records and the Wonder Book of Records. His name was included in these two global record books for his collection of Meghdoot postcards. Sujit's name has already been registered in the Limca Book of Records and the India Book of Records. His latest feat has added another feather on his cap encouraging him to pursue his passion. His collection has 620 kinds of postcards in 14 different languages.



### Wanted criminal arrested in wee hours

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Sambalpur, May 2:** Police arrested Ajit Mahanad (38) from Brajarajpur in Jharsuguda district in the wee hours of Wednesday. He was wanted in connection with four cases registered against him at Burla police station in Sambalpur district. He had escaped from police custody April 28 after his arrest from his home at Panitankipada in Burla.

Briefing about it, a DPO communication said he was arrested from his residence for bootlegging Saturday but managed to escape from Burla police station that night. A police constable was suspended on dereliction in duty in that case. Since then Burla police were trying to trace him out. Suddenly he was located at Brajarajpur. A special team comprising sub-inspector Bhramarbar Patel, ASI Sanatan Pradhan and lady constable Sangita Panda, apprehended him at Christianpada, Brajarajpur in the wee hours of Wednesday and taken to Burla police station.

The four cases against him are, case no 156/28.4.2018 u/s 224 IPC, case no 107/25.6.2007, u/s 341, 323, 294, 506 and 34 IPC, (3) 58/22.3.2004, u/s 341, 354 and 34 IPC and (4) 170/2002, u/s 394 IPC. All these cases were registered at Burla police station

### 3 youths beaten up for harassing girls

**Angul:** Three youths were thrashed by locals for passing lewd comments at a group of college girls here Tuesday. The incident occurred near an ATM counter at Chhendipada area. Locals said the three youths on a bike passed lewd comments at the girls, also numbering three, while they were withdrawing cash from the ATM. The security man at the ATM counter asked the youths to behave, but they continued making obscene gestures at the girls. Some locals who noticed the incident overpowered the three.

## DRAMA FESTIVAL



A drama related to transgender issues is in progress at the 9th drama festival of Charlie Chaplin Cultural Club in Dhenkanal.

OP PHOTO

# Water project lying defunct for years

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Rayagada, May 2:** With the summer here and intense heat waves hovering around 41 degree Celsius, residents of Rajbikrampur village under Gulumunda panchayat are a worried lot. A drinking water project is lying defunct for past three years, reports said.

Like every year, acute water crisis is feared by villagers as the mercury is on the rise.

To provide water to more than 1,000 residents of Rajbikrampur, Dhepaguda, Majhiguda and Gulguda areas under Gulumunda panchayat, the district water and sanitation department began working on the 60-litre overhead tanker costing ₹60 lakh three years back. Villagers were expected to be pro-



Provided piped water from a river during the work on the project. Even as the department had targeted completion of the work

within six months, the project remains defunct for three years. As a result, adequate drinking water supply has become a huge problem for the villagers. Left with no option, the villagers depend on a tube well for drinking water purposes. Moreover, women have to trek 2km to and fro to fetch water from a pond.

Consumption of untreated pond water resulted in spread of many diseases in the villages.

When contacted, block rural water and sanitation department SDO Pratap Behera said contractors engaged in the construction work had left the work half-way. "It might take another month to supply electricity and finish related works before the water supply finally commences," he added.

# Villagers reconstruct road with own efforts

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Keonjhar, May 2:** The villagers of Kusumundia under tribal-dominated Harichandanpur block in Keonjhar have done what the government failed to do. They have set an example for other villages by laying a 2-km road to their village with their own efforts.

The villagers took the noble initiative after the administration failed to pay heed to their repeated demand for reconstruction of their village road.

The residents of the tribal village in Sunapetha panchayat said the Kusumundia-Kantal road has been in bad shape for last 10 years. They had to face a lot of commuting problems due to miserable condition of the road.

"Crores of rupees are spent on

## ADMIN APATHY



development of the Maoist-hit areas, but this village was left underdeveloped. The road was unsafe to walk on," the villagers lamented. They also said that they had drawn the attention of the people's representatives at the panchayat level and those at the block

level. Assurances were given every time, but nothing was done while the government keeps pumping in crores of rupees for developing roads in other rural pockets, they villagers pointed out.

The villagers sought to know why the administration sits pretty while villagers, students of schools and colleges, officials of the panchayat and block walk on the bad road, which was once motorable.

"We villagers got united and repaired the 2km road without the help of the administration," said villagers like Bimba Patra, Gurucharan Patra, Litu Patra, Ram Kuldi, Gobardhan patra, Nanda patra, Benu Mahapatra, Chema Kuldia.

They also demanded that the administration take immediate steps for reconstruction of the road.

## WATER FOR THIRSTY



Amid blazing temperatures, local volunteers pour water into bowl for birds and animals on Budharaja Road in Sambalpur.

OP PHOTO

## LOVE AND REVENGE

### Youth sends obscene videos of woman to husband

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Jeypore, May 2:** In a bizarre incident, a youth allegedly sent as many as 36 obscene videos of a newly-married girl to her husband ten days after the marriage. The husband lodged a complaint with Jeypore police in Koraput district.

As per first information, the youth was in love with the girl. He had clicked pictures and made videos of their intimate moments. However, the girl later got married to another person. In an act of revenge, the accused collected the Whatsapp number of the man and sent him all of the intimate videos.

The incident had put the girl and her family members into shame who picketed the local police station and demanded immediate arrest of the accused.

The incident took place a day after Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik admitted that there has been a rise in major crimes such as rape, dowry torture, riots, loot and theft in the state.

### Youth garlanded with shoes, assaulted over theft



POST NEWS NETWORK

**Purushottampur, May 2:** Residents of Ranjal village under Purushottampur police limits in Ganjam district beat up a youth and made him parade throughout the village after garlanding him with shoes over suspicion of thefts Wednesday.

He was tied to a tree and beaten up by the public. He was identified as Hrusikesh Panda of Purushottampur Hanuman market.

According to sources, Panda had strayed into the house of a villager to commit a loot Tuesday night. Locals overpowered Panda and held him captive throughout the night. He was made to wear shoes and paraded in the village street. Later, he was tied to a tree and beaten up the locals. Police reached the village and rescued him. He was then admitted to Purushottampur government hospital. No police complaint was registered in this connection.

SHORT TAKES

**Most wanted Maoist surrenders**  
**Sundargarh:** Most wanted Maoist Mukesh Hembram (25) surrendered before the Rourkela police and CRPF's 19th battalion Wednesday, Rourkela SP Umashankar Das said at a press meet. Mukesh of Jagannathpur village under Tikayatpali police limits in Sundargarh district was lured into the Maoist fold by rebel leaders Anmol alias Samaraji and Kunu Dehuri alias Bijay on the promise of free food, education and monetary help. Of late, Mukesh became disillusioned with the Maoist ideology and decided to join the mainstream. The government will help Mukesh lead a new life, the SP said.

**Youth hurt in explosion**  
**Koraput:** A youth was critically injured in an explosion carried out by suspected Maoists here Wednesday. The victim was rushed to the Ramgiri hospital from where he was subsequently shifted to the Boipariguda community health centre (CHC). Police said a gang of Maoists blocked the road by cutting down trees at Kalajhola under Boipariguda block and kept a bag that contained explosives. They also put up a poster asking the youths to join the Red camp. The bag exploded when the youth, unaware of the poster and the threat, touched the bag. He was seriously wounded.

**HARASSED FOR LOAN REPAYMENT, WOMAN ATTEMPTS SUICIDE**  
**Dhenkanal, May 2:** A woman of Dangapal under Kankadahada block in this district tried to commit suicide by jumping into a well after she was hounded by employees of a micro finance firm and a women's self-help group (SHG) for payback of loan Tuesday.

Mamata Nayak was rescued from the well by some locals. She is learnt to have taken the extreme step after she was abused and humiliated at a meeting by the officials of SKS Micro Finance and members of the SHG in the village for loan repayment. While taking the loan, Mamata was asked to pay weekly installments every Tuesday to the SHG. However, due to lack of money she failed to pay the installment this Tuesday. The SHG members went to her house and forcibly took her to a meeting. Mamata cited her husband's illness for the delay in payback, but the SHG members and micro finance officials were in no mood to listen to her desperate pleas and forced her to make payment. She had earlier taken loans of ₹ 24,000 and later ₹ 20,000 from the micro finance firm and cleared them in time. However, the SHG members and micro finance officials did not take note of her credibility and abused and humiliated her in front of all. She came back home from the meeting and tried to commit suicide.

**Lady pharmacist in Vigilance net**  
**Keonjhar, May 2:** Vigilance sleuths Wednesday arrested Lina Priyadarshani, a senior pharmacist of OMC dispensary at Suakati under Bansapal block in Keonjhar district, while taking a bribe of ₹ 10,000 from a business officer of a pharmaceutical company. She allegedly sought this financial gratification for arranging bulk purchase of medicines of the company for the dispensary. Acting on a complaint lodged by the business officer Rajesh Kumar Behera, Vigilance officials laid a trap. They caught the pharmacist red-handed when Behera handed her a bunch of chemical-laced notes. In no time, Vigilance sleuths seized the notes. Simultaneous raids were carried out at her residence and other places after registering a case against her. Now, various quarters allege huge irregularities in purchase of medicines by way of showing favouritism to certain pharmaceutical companies. Such activities are allegedly going on in several other hospitals of the district while some doctors are not prescribing medicines stocked under the state government-sponsored Niramaya Yojana, they alleged.

FARMERS' WOES



Farmers of Khuntapali stage a demonstration outside Bargarh collectorate Tuesday, demanding compensation for crop loss in a thunderstorm that lashed the area April 30.

Major fire sweeps through cotton mill in Bolangir village

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Belpada, May 2:** Properties worth ₹ 7 crores were reduced to ashes in a massive fire at a cotton factory in Kapani village under Belpada police limits in Bolangir district late Monday night. Four units of fire tenders from Belpada and Patnagarh were pressed into service. The firemen struggled for hours to douse the flames spread over seven units of the mill of Radharaman Cotton Pvt Ltd owned by Adarsh Agarwall of Kantabanji. However, flames were still seen leaping out of the mill by 4 pm Tuesday. The exact reason behind the mishap was yet to be ascertained though it is suspected that electric short circuit might be the cause. Preliminary estimate in-



A view of the cotton mill in the wake of the inferno.

dicated the loss to be over ₹ 7 crore while no casualty was reported. Packing materials, about 5,500 quintals of raw cotton, 12,000 quintals of cotton seeds and other equipment stocked inside the mill

were destroyed in the blaze. The employees of the mill returned home after finishing their work in the evening while the manager Sushil Verma checked all the units at 12.30 am before leaving for home. Later, Verma was informed about the fire in the mill and he alerted the fire personnel at Belpada and Patnagarh. The fire spread rapidly and engulfed the entire mill in a matter of minutes. The loss of properties is estimated to be over ₹ 7 crores, the owner claimed. On being informed, Belpada IIC Lokanath Sahu rushed to the spot and took stock of the situation. The mishap pushed the workers into distress as they fear becoming jobless in the absence of any work in the mill.

Man fatally hits wife over domestic feud

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Chandahandi, May 2:** In a shocking incident, a woman was hit to death with a cricket bat by her tipsy husband in a village under this block in Nabarangpur district Tuesday evening. The accused was identified as Paduram Bhoi (35), husband of Anjana Nayak (30). Police registered a case of murder and produced Bhoi in a court. He was remanded to judicial custody after the court rejected his bail plea, IIC Taranisen Nayak said. The couple worked as peons at Jadav Majhi Girls' High School. Bhoi used to drink heavily and often assaulted his wife over petty issues. There occurred a fight Tuesday evening. In a bad temper, Bhoi took hold of a bat used by his children at play and hit Anjana hard. Family members rushed her to the Chandahandi CHC where doctors declared her brought dead.

DEVELOPMENT OF RAISUAN AIRSTRIP GETS SHORT SHRIFT

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Raisuan, May 2:** Even as the Central government has initiated a major step to set up small airports in different parts of the country, sadly revival of an old airstrip at Raisuan in mineral-rich Keonjhar district has been neglected. Air connectivity and development of an already existing airport hold much more importance for the district whose economy hinges on mining, industrial and transport sectors. Air service is going to start in Jharsuguda soon while development works at airports at Rourkela, Jeypore and Kalahandi will be completed. Various quarters have decried the alleged negligence of the Centre to the Raisuan airstrip, which is 7 km away from the district headquarters town. A proposal was mooted January 21, 2016, to develop the Raisuna airstrip under the Udaan scheme. A survey was conducted too. The works department had put forth the proposal to acquire 22 acres of land around the airstrip to develop it. A delegation from the Airports Authority of India (AAI) had visited the site to explore on the proposal of de-



veloping it as a lost-cost airport. In 2011-12, a boundary wall had been raised at a cost of ₹ 1 crore around the airstrip while a 920-ft long and 30-metre wide runway was blacktopped. Many prominent leaders of India like former Prime Minister India Gandhi, former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, former Chief Ministers Biju Patnaik and Janaki Ballabh Patnaik had landed on and taken off from the airstrip. From May, 2010 till date, over 200 flights from the airstrip were recorded. For each landing and takeoff, the users have to pay ₹ 5,000 to the PWD department. Locals alleged though the government has chances of getting more revenue from the airstrip, no step is being taken to develop it into a full-fledged low-cost airport. Various outfits and locals expressed their anguish over the negligence to the airstrip while the district contributes in crores towards revenue to the state exchequer.

2 farmers die over 'crop loss'

**Bargarh/Bheden:** Upset over crop damage, two farmers reportedly died in Bargarh district. It was alleged that one farmer committed suicide by drinking insecticide while another died of cardiac arrest. The deceased were identified as Hrudananda Dila (32) of Unani under Ambabhona police limits and Wanka Apparao (62) of Andhrapada. Hrudananda had raised paddy in five acres of land and groundnuts in some patches after borrowing ₹ 40,000 from private lenders. But the entire crop got damaged due to shortage of water. His brother Gourang alleged that Hrudananda took the extreme step in the wee hours of Tuesday. He was admitted to a hospital where he died. Police registered a case of unnatural death. Apparao had grown paddy in four acres of land. The paddy was damaged by hailstorm. His family alleged on seeing the crop damage, he complained of chest pain. He was immediately rushed to a private hospital at Papanga where he was declared brought dead.

CRIME BRANCH TAKES PUNJILAL AGAIN ON FIVE-DAY REMAND



A file photo of Punjilal

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Bolangir, May 2:** Punjilal Meher, the prime accused in the sensational Patnagarh gift bomb tragedy that

claimed two lives, was reproduced in the sub-divisional judicial magistrate's court there and remanded again for five days' custody Wednesday. The Crime Branch had sought an eight-day remand. The Crime Branch hopes to elicit more information on how Meher executed the crime single-handedly as he had claimed. His earlier remand of six days ended Tuesday. During interrogation, Meher stated that he sent the parcel bomb to the victims' house in the guise of a marriage gift to take revenge on his college colleague Sanjukta Sahu, who had superseded him in the principal's post through 'unacceptable' means. Sanjukta is the mother of Soumya Sekhar, who along with his grandmother was killed in the blast. Meanwhile, an anonymous letter written to Bolangir SP by Punjilal to mislead the investigation was sent to Gandhi Nagar in Gujarat for laboratory test. A two-member team of the Crime Branch left for Gandhi Nagar with the letter Wednesday evening.

Minor rape bid survivor made to stand for 4 hours in court

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Jagatsinghpur, May 2:** Police drew flak from locals for their insensitivity as they made a minor rape attempt survivor stand for four hours at a stretch to record her statement in a court. This was in connection with a gang-rape attempt on a 14-year-old girl from a village under Tirtol police limits in this district. Two of the accused Rashmiranjan Dash (22) of Tanrar village under Raghunathpur police limits and Chandramani Behera (21) of Kolta village under Tirtol police limits were remanded to judicial custody in Ali Pingal sub-jail after the court rejected their bail pleas Monday. The third accused, a minor, was produced before principal magistrate Pradeep Pradhan of the Juvenile Justice Board. The magistrate remanded him to a shelter home for juveniles. Locals said the insensitivity of the cops was a matter of serious concern and demanded the intervention of the Odisha Human Rights Commission as

well as the women and children panels in the state. "This is a heinous act. This is a crime as worse as rape, and the cops deserve punishment," the locals and social activists demanded. They said they would petition the Chief Minister and the state home department on this matter. The three accused had allegedly waylaid the survivor while she was cycling to her tuition centre. She was taken to a nearby jungle. Their attempt to rape her was foiled as a local shopkeeper happened to be around. Confronted, the accused fled the spot, leaving the girl behind. Later, the survivor's family lodged a complaint with the police and an investigation started.

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Life is life—whether in a cat, or dog or man. There is no difference there between a cat or a man. The idea of difference is a human conception for man's own advantage.”

SRI AUROBINDO



## Wonders of nature

While frog populations are disappearing, we discover new species just in time to see what magical creatures we are losing. Nothing makes me more excited than when I learn of the strange and wondrous creatures on this planet.

What can you do if pellets from a shotgun stick in your chest, or you have a radio transmitter stuck in your side? They would have to be removed through surgery. But if you were a frog, your body would deal with it. They have the remarkable ability to pee out foreign objects, with their bladders engulfing the intrusions to help get rid of such junk. No other animal has ever used their bladder to eliminate foreign objects embedded in their bodies.

Scientists implanted temperature-sensitive radio transmitters in Australian tree frogs to learn about their temperature-regulating abilities. Unexpectedly, after 25 to 193 days, when the investigators recaptured the amphibians to recover the transmitters, many of the devices were no longer in the body. They had somehow migrated to the bladder. To confirm these bizarre results, the researchers implanted small beads into the body cavities of five Australian green tree frogs and five cane toads. The beads made it to the bladders and were expelled within 19 days on average.

Frogs have soft bodies, and they leap about. Sticks, thorns and other foreign objects can enter their thin skins. Frog bladders can hold vast quantities of urine, sometimes even more than the body mass of the frog. Their bladders have evolved to help frogs take out the garbage.

Horned frogs of South America can eat prey much larger than their own bodies, thanks to the strength of their tongues. When frogs catapult their tongues to catch a creature, the organ's adhesive forces exceed the weight of the animals' prey, and even the frog's own body weight. Lizards, snakes, rodents, spiders, insects and other frogs are lifted off the ground and pulled into the mouth of the frog. The pulling force ranges from three to six times the frogs' body weight and the operation takes less than 40 milliseconds. A frog's tongue can snap back into its mouth within 15/100ths of a second.

Thailand's Mulu flying frog, who uses its webbed feet to glide from tree to tree, feeds on birds. The frog has a bright green skin at night which changes colour to become brown during the day. Its eyes change colour as well.

Seeing birds on the backs of water buffaloes is common, but the ones in the wetlands of Turkey carry tiny frogs on their backs. The buffalo-riding amphibians — marsh frogs — forage on the buffaloes' shaggy bodies and heads for flies.

Tadpoles can regenerate their tails as late as 18 hours after amputation, even after a scar-like lesion has formed. This ability is lost as they turn into frogs.

The red-eyed tree frog shakes his rear violently when he sees another male. The shaking, which starts with the hind end and becomes a whole-body affair, sends vibrations along the frog's plant perch until it reaches the opponent on the branch. The other male responds in kind. Both frogs shake at a frequency of 12 hertz or 12 times a second. The victor who gets the girl is the one who shakes longer.

How does an Australian Green Tree frog get water in the desert when there is none? With an innate understanding of science. Frogs move from cool dry night air to warm burrows 'fogging up' like a pair of glasses. The droplets condense on their skin. They do this again and again. Their skin absorbs the water and they survive the dry weather.

The male grey tree frog sounds an advertisement call to females, providing females with information about his gender, species, age, health (phone number?) and telling other males to stay away. A female will approach a male whose call she likes. When the male clambers on her back she carries him to a water body to lay her eggs, which the male fertilizes as they are being laid. Throughout this process they are accompanied by a sly, small, silent, satellite male who tries to get between the pair with the hope of dislodging the chosen male — and sometimes succeeds.

Males of the Indian dancing frogs, found in the Western Ghats, tap their hind feet and stretch one foot outward and shake it, both at prospective mates and rival males during the mating season. Their tadpoles live underground in sand in total darkness until they emerge as froglets. A layer of skin covers the tadpoles' eyes, to protect them from abrasions. They have no teeth, though their jaws are sheathed with a serrated, gate-like structure that acts as a filter, keeping out large sand grains. They have ribs, which is extremely rare in tadpoles, which help them swim in sand. They feed by vacuuming up bits of decaying organic matter, which they digest with the help of another unusual adaptation: tiny spherical bags in their guts hold calcium carbonate or limestone to scrunch the sediment.

While all frogs produce a wide range of sounds, the Brazilian torrent frog, has the largest vocabulary. It combines sounds and gestures, like squealing, head bobbing and alternate-arm waving. The conversation goes on all year (except October) intensifying during the breeding season. Males walk peculiarly, jump, wag their toes, stretch their legs, lift their arms, wave, shake their hands, jerk their bodies, inflate their vocal sacs alternately. Courtship includes this: "Male frogs pushed off from the ground with their arms, to elevate the front parts of their bodies. They bobbed and wove their heads from side to side in snakelike figure-eight patterns. While sitting, they picked their feet up and showed their toes. Some of these displays were for courtship, some were warnings to rival males and some were used for both. None had ever been observed in frogs before. The vocal playlist included peeps, squeals and a special courtship call made up of five notes. Males and females even shared special tactile signals, something else that was previously unknown in frog courtship. Males peeped courtship calls in response to a female's touch." Sounds just like human first love!

The emerald eyed Taiwanese frog survives by eating its mother's goeey unfertilized eggs. The Mount Iberia frog from Cuba currently holds the Guinness World Record for the smallest frog at 10 millimetres long. But to make up for its size it is coated in poison. These dwarfs, downsized deliberately to prey on mites, are overlooked as meals by larger frogs. The mites possess alkaloids. By consuming them, the frogs reallocate their poisons for their own use. Gardner's frogs, from the Seychelles islands, lack a middle ear and eardrum to hear sounds but use their mouth cavities to pick up on noise and make their own.

All frogs are known for their jumping skills. The Australian Rocket frog can leap over 50 times its own body length, 6.5 feet. The African frog is the best. It can jump 14 feet in a single bound.

The Bornean flat-headed frog is the world's only lungless frog. It breathes through its skin. Some South American frogs are so toxic that one drop of their skin secretions can kill a human. Poison frogs usually have bright colours to warn predators that their skin is toxic.

Amazon horned frogs are ambush predators and aggressively territorial. Some Amazon villagers wear high leather boots to repel frog attacks. Many frogs use their eyeballs to swallow. Once they have prey in their mouth, to help force it down their throat, they actually pull their eyeballs down to put more pressure on the food. The African Clawed Frog has three claws on each hind foot, which it uses to tear food. Then it uses its hands to shove food in its mouth and push down its throat. The common Surinam toad is one of the world's most bizarre amphibians. The animal's flattened shape makes it look like a pancake, and it spends its whole life in water. When the male and female mate, the female releases her eggs and the male catches and fertilizes them. The eggs embed in the spongy tissue of the female's back, which grows over them.

The tiny fingernail size "mutable rain frog" of Ecuador's Andes Mountains skips the tadpole stage and develops into a frog directly within its egg. It has a spiny skin texture which it can transform into smooth in minutes! Researchers also don't yet know how the frog morphs its skin from smooth to spiny, and then back again.

To join the animal welfare movement contact [gandhim@nic.in](mailto:gandhim@nic.in), [www.peopleforanimalsindia.org](http://www.peopleforanimalsindia.org)

# NO ROOM FOR ARROGANCE

FOCUS POLITICS

The Lt. Governor of Puducherry Kiran Bedi has been rightly slammed for her diktat that distribution of free rice to the poor in Puducherry will be conditional upon villages being certified free of open defecation and free of "strewn garbage and plastic". The wild order, announced on her Twitter handle and spelt out in a letter to the Chief Minister V Narayanasamy, must be preserved and studied for its irresponsibility, arrogance, and the sense of entitlement of a person who has essentially been given a post-retirement sinecure after being served a stinging defeat at the hustings by the people of Delhi. The letter stands out as an instrument of colonial control issued by a person who is clearly in service of masters other than the people of Puducherry while drawing her salary and perks from the public exchequer.

That the order stands suspended after a wave of angry responses from all sections of society should come as no solace. Under immense pressure, the Lt. Governor has beaten a hasty retreat but the words used to make the retreat help reconfirm a mindset of command and control that must be called out and condemned for the way it tramples the very idea of democratic systems and processes. As reported, the Lt. Governor has said she is "withholding" her earlier communications, and "I am happy to give them more time" and "certain responsibilities have to be learnt. I did not say that I will deny them food. I used the word conditional."

"Them" are the ignorant subjects, it would seem, to whom "I", the master, has allowed some extra time to behave if they want rations!

There is little merit in arguing that this was not the intention of the Lt. Governor. The attitude shines through and has indeed been a pattern during her time in the Puducherry Raj Niwas; it is the subtext of an approach that has been criticised by the elected Congress government of the Union Territory. The Chief Minister, who is the true custodian of the mandate of the people, has pointed out that "she cannot issue any formal



The Lt. Governor's order that distribution of free rice to the poor in Puducherry will be conditional upon villages being certified free of open defecation and free of "strewn garbage and plastic" stands out as an instrument of colonial control issued by a person who is clearly in service of masters other than the people of Puducherry while drawing her salary and perks from the public exchequer

order and implement it without consulting us... In the past too, she has returned several files on the free rice scheme by raising flimsy queries."

The controversy and the fact that Bedi is a BJP pick for a post of Lt. Governor in the south of the country carries the additional burden of being framed into a North-South battle at just the time the nation can ill-afford this; southern States have already come together to oppose the terms of reference of the 15th Finance Commission, which they argue will penalise them for managing their population better than the States in the north of India. One of the points of criticism against Bedi was that the northern cities, including Delhi, are equally unclean if not dirtier, and asks the simple question: would the governments there even think of stopping free PDS or making it conditional?

All of this noise raises tensions in Puducherry, strains the relations between the elected govern-

ment and the Lt. Governor and brings the Centre as well a bad name. In her apparent zeal to please the BJP and somehow achieve targets of central schemes like Swaachh Bharat, the Lt. Governor may have actually done a disservice to the BJP. Roughshod ways rarely work well in India's democracy; the electoral loss in New Delhi at a time the BJP was otherwise riding high was also attributed in part to the individual methods and style of Bedi.

Bedi's overreach is part of a larger disease of arrogance coupled with ignorance among the ruling elite of the ways in which governance and development plays out in the complex socio-economic-political canvas of India. And because copious energy is being spent from the very top in New Delhi on keeping the pot boiling, raising the temperature and fueling a divide, the gravitas and engagement required to understand what is at stake is lacking. The past has to be stamped out, it seems, and in the process an aggressive, pseudo-

machismo outlook is encouraged, rewarded and therefore delivered by more and more in the establishment. There is little incentive or energy left to learn and lead responsibly.

The problem was always there. Sections of the middle class never really understood the nuances of complex issues like poverty, caste conflict or why our development indices have been so poor even as the nation crowed about economic growth. The problem is worse with the ruling elite who have lately assumed control of important governance structures. Consider that it was none other than Prime Minister Narendra Modi who attributed stunted growth and malnutrition in Gujarat to the middle class being beauty and figure conscious rather than health conscious. He did it again when he compared Kerala to Somalia and invited the wrath of a state that is in many ways a model for public health care systems. Yogi Adityanath did the same when he said hospitals in Uttar Pradesh were better run than those in Kerala.

These are not accidental slip-ups. They show a mind determined to pick out those seen as rivals and to beat them down. They give fillip lower down the line to the likes of Bedi and a host of others who are therefore encouraged to think that this will draw attention and bring rewards. It skews all policymaking and drives it in undesirable directions. In that sense, the tweets, the statements and exchanges from Puducherry point to a slide that is deeper.

A good way to break from this pattern will be for senior policy leaders and government functionaries from the very top call out the order of Bedi, to restrain her and to assure the elected government in Puducherry that violations of this kind do not have the Centre's support.

Our democratic nation must be ruled by a leader who won an election five years ago, not a bureaucrat who passed an exam 40 years ago.

The writer is a journalist and a faculty member at SPJIMR The Billion Press



Jagdish Rattanani

KIRAN BEDI'S WILD ORDER REEKS OF IRRESPONSIBILITY, IGNORANCE AND BAD SENSE



Maneka Gandhi

Frogs are magical creatures but, unfortunately, they are fast disappearing

SPECTRUM DENUCLEARISATION

## Weapons of male destruction



Beatrice Fihn

NUCLEAR ARMS ARE A MADMAN'S GUN HELD PERMANENTLY TO OUR TEMPLE

As an advocate for the abolition of nuclear weapons, I don't have the luxury of mincing words. There are an estimated 15,000 nuclear warheads scattered around the world, and eliminating them means speaking truth — and often hard truths — to power. In that spirit, let me be unequivocal: today's leaders are too emotionally unstable to be trusted with the world's nuclear stockpile.

As I told the Nobel committee last year when accepting the Nobel Peace Prize on behalf of my organisation, the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons, nuclear arms are a "madman's gun held permanently to our temple." And it is mad men with their fingers on the trigger.

For reasons that I cannot fathom, nuclear weapons have been co-opted as symbols of male power. In recent months, North Korean dictator Kim Jong-un and US President Donald Trump have publicly bragged about the "size" of their buttons and the robustness of their arsenals. Not to be outdone, Russia's Vladimir Putin used his annual address to his country's parliament to assert that Russia actually has the most potent nuclear

With particularly fragile egos currently leading the world's biggest (US and Russia) and most unpredictable (North Korea) nuclear-armed states, the doomsday scenario is simply too plausible for comfort

weapons of all. He supported his braggadocio with fanciful animations imagining just how "invincible" his missiles might be.

It would be less concerning if the rhetorical warfare were contained to social media. But all three leaders are prone to making hasty decisions that affect real people. Trump reportedly launched a devastating trade war because he was "unglued" and convinced during a meeting with steel executives that tariffs were a good idea. What if Trump had just attended a meeting with hawks eager to launch a preemptive nuclear attack on North Korea, or goad Iran into conflict? Now that John Bolton is Trump's national security adviser, neither scenario is as fanciful as it was just a few weeks ago.

I am not trying to wage a gender war; nuclear weapons are dan-

gerous regardless of who controls them. Nor am I suggesting that all men with power are unstable. History does include some prudent and visionary male heads of state. But the fact remains that eight of the world's nine nuclear-armed countries are currently led by men (Britain is the sole exception). And, judging by the conduct of three of these leaders, the planet's nuclear weapons are in terrifyingly impulsive hands.

I am tempted to absolve these leaders of their reckless rhetoric by blaming it on biology. Maybe it is simply in their genes to behave as brutes, lashing out recklessly when wounded or threatened. It's hard to go against one's nature. But to forgive Kim, Trump, and Putin on these grounds would be sexist, and this is not a gender issue. Rather, the issue is the existence of the weapons

themselves. Throughout history, far more thoughtful leaders have brought the world to the brink of nuclear war, and many were fortunate to pull it back. I am not so certain that such caution would or could be exercised today.

Nuclear weapons cannot be left to the whims and fancies of dictators, authoritarians, and democratically elected presidents — gender notwithstanding. Conflict between nuclear states would unleash destruction so incomprehensible that, according to the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, a humanitarian response would be impossible. Given the risks, then, how do we proceed? There is only one answer: doing away with the weapons altogether.

With particularly fragile egos currently leading the world's biggest (US and Russia) and most unpredictable (North Korea) nuclear-armed states, the doomsday scenario is simply too plausible for comfort.

The writer is executive director of International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons Copyright: Project Syndicate

## 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](mailto:edit@orissapost.com)

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## Media bears brunt

Sir, Journalists are being attacked across India without meaningful provocation while performing their duties and serving the public with sincerity. This is highly condemnable and the guilty should be booked. It is also unfortunate that there has not been any major protest against targeting journalists. These are not stray incidents but regular occurrences in various parts of the country. In some instances journalists have been murdered for their honest services in keeping the public aware of social prejudices and political and administrative corruption. But the other question is why journalists are silent on this issue. Many ordinary citizens believe that a section of the media has been sold out and are serving as an extended arm of different interest groups and not public interest. Of course the crime of a handful should not be imposed on a vast majority of dedicated and sincere journalists working to serve the nation. However, it is also true that the special trust and empathy between media and ordinary citizens has been breached by some journalists and media houses. It is high time we found out a democratic way of protesting against such atrocities.

K Ravi, BHUBANESWAR

## Dodgy drug prices

Sir, A survey of the prices of medicines sold at five chemist shops around the Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research in Chandigarh has revealed that the price range of one particular medicine is between Rs 255 and Rs 1,550. A box of generic capsules as substitute of Absolute-3G having 10 strips with 10 capsules each bears a printed maximum retail price of Rs 1,500 per box available at the wholesale drug market at Bhagirath Palace in Delhi for just Rs 425. Even wholesalers at the same market happily sell the box at 50 per cent of the MRP. Customers are happy to get a handsome 50 per cent discount, unaware of the fact that the wholesaler makes a huge profit of more than 75 per cent. Same is the situation with almost all generic medicines which are usually purchased in bulk quantities for free supply to government hospitals. Branded medicines usually have 20-25 per cent profit margin. The National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority should ensure that manufacturers of generic medicines drastically reduce MRPs so that these may also have MRP printed at maximum 20 per cent above the ex-factory price. Gimmick packaging aimed at selling more medicines or to befoul customers must be regulated by allowing sale of medicines in units of 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 50, 100, and likewise units. There is no sense in allowing strips of 8 or 15.

Madhu Agrawal, EMAIL





The Congress would probe the present dispensation's 'misdeeds' after coming back to power in Rajasthan. There is a huge resentment among people and they will give an apt reply at the right time  
ASHOK GEHLOT | FORMER RAJASTHAN CM

PRE-SCHOOLERS TO BE ASSESSED ON BEHAVIOUR

Children going to play schools will be assessed on their behaviour, sharing and caring habits, and holding crayons and pencils properly, among other parameters, according to new draft guidelines framed by the National Council of Educational Research and Training



of the day quote

The HRD ministry will not allow Dyal Singh (Evening) College to be renamed Dyal Singh Vande Mataram College and will take action against its management committee  
PRAKASH JAVDEKAR | HRD MINISTER

The Congress suffers from poor memory... and the UPA had given five monuments to private bodies. It was a great experiment, but it had some issues. We have repackaged the initiative and making sure it works  
K J ALPHONS | TOURISM MINISTER

Our leader (TMC chief) Mamata Banerjee had earlier tweeted and said that the government must put a stop to its decision of allowing private companies to adopt the Red Fort. The TMC wants immediate scrapping of the decision  
DEREK O'BRIEN | TMC LEADER

14 Indian cities most polluted in the world: WHO report

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, May 2: Delhi and Varanasi are among the 14 Indian cities that figured in a list of 20 most polluted cities in the world in terms of PM2.5 levels in 2016, data released by the WHO showed Wednesday. The WHO data also said that nine out of 10 people in the world breathe air containing high levels of pollutants. Other Indian cities that registered very high levels of PM2.5 pollutants were Kanpur, Faridabad, Gaya, Patna, Agra, Muzaffarpur, Srinagar, Gurgaon, Jaipur, Patiala and Jodhpur followed by Ali Subah Al-Salem in Kuwait and a few cities in China and Mongolia. In terms of PM10 levels, 13 cities in India figured among the 20 most-polluted cities of the world in 2016. The World Health Organisation has called upon member-countries in its Southeast Asia Region to aggressively address the double burden of household and ambient (outdoor) air pollution, saying the region, which comprises India, accounts for 34 pc or 2.4 million of the seven million premature deaths caused by household and ambient air pollution together globally every year.

Of the 3.8 million deaths caused by household air pollution globally, the region accounts for 1.5 million or 40 per cent deaths and of the 4.2 million global deaths due to ambient air pollution, 1.3 million or 30 per cent are reported from the region, it said. The PM2.5 includes pollutants like sulfate, nitrate and black carbon, which pose the greatest risk to human health. WHO's global urban air pollution database measured the levels of fine particulate matter (PM10 and PM2.5)



from more than 4,300 cities in 108 countries, according to which ambient air pollution alone caused some 4.2 million deaths in 2016, while household air pollution from cooking with polluting fuels and technologies caused an estimated 3.8 million deaths in the same period. Since 2016, over 1,000 additional cities have been added to WHO's database, which shows more countries are measuring and taking action to reduce air pollution than ever before.

SC TAKES NOTE OF 'BRAZEN ACT'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, May 2: The Supreme Court Wednesday pulled up the authorities for their failure to ensure safety of government officials after a woman officer was shot dead allegedly by a hotel owner in Kasauli town of Himachal Pradesh when she had gone to supervise the demolition of unauthorised constructions, dubbing it a "brazen act". "We might stop passing any orders if you are going to kill people," a bench of Justices Madan B Lokur and Deepak Gupta said after the matter was mentioned before it. It also asked the state government why the police could not stop the alleged assailant from fleeing the spot after shooting the officer.



Assistant Town and Country Planner Shail Bala Sharma had Tuesday gone to supervise the demolition of unauthorised construction at Kasauli's Narayani Guest House where its owner Vijay Singh allegedly shot at her. She later succumbed to injuries. Dubbing the incident as "extremely serious", the top court pulled up the authorities for their failure to ensure safety of officials and said it was quite clear that there was "absolutely no regard" for the rule of law as the public servants had gone there to do their work as per the directions passed by the apex court. "It is quite clear that some of the appellants (hotels, guest houses) are acting with complete impunity and have absolutely no regard for the rule of law or the orders of this court," the bench said. "Insofar as Vijay Singh, owner of Narayani Guest House is concerned, he has committed a brazen act of defiance of the order of this court amounting to a challenge and has allegedly killed one officer in broad daylight who went to implement the orders of this court," the court said. "This is something extremely serious and we are of the view that suo motu notice of contempt of court must be issued in this matter and we do so accordingly," it said.

UP minister's dinner at Dalit home triggers row

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Aligarh (UP), May 2: A minister in the Uttar Pradesh government has triggered a controversy after he reportedly brought with him his own food and water at a dinner hosted at a Dalit household here. Suresh Rana, the minister in the Yogi Adityanath cabinet, however, rejected the allegation Wednesday, saying, "The food was prepared in the village, by the villagers themselves." The BJP leader's clarification came against the backdrop of reports that he and his aides had gone to the house of the Dalit family to dine with them on Monday night, but ordered food, mineral water and cutlery from outside as

the family was not aware of the minister's visit. Pictures of the well laid out dining table with an assortment of dishes and cutlery went viral on the social media. Asked to comment on the house owner's claim that he was unaware of the dinner he was supposed to host and that he was woken up from his sleep at around 11 PM to entertain the guests, Rana said, "This is a piece of information you are giving me. The entire family was sitting with me during the dinner. I saw a news clip that claimed that food was brought from outside or some hotel. The food was prepared in that village itself by the villagers." When reporters confronted him by claiming that the food was

served by a caterer and it did not look like it was cooked at a poor Dalit house, the minister said, "I am reiterating that the food was prepared at the house of a Dalit. The village head is a Dalit, the programme was organised by them and there was a community feast. An issue is being made out of this as some people have problems with Prime Minister Narendra Modi

and Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath." Claiming that those who did politics from their "plush drawing rooms, five-star hotels and AC rooms" had problems with the BJP reaching the "gaon, gareeb and Dalits (the villages, the poor and the Dalits)", Rana said, "I will invite them to spend a night in Lohargarh village and only then will they realise." Last year, soon after the BJP took charge in Uttar Pradesh, Chief Minister Adityanath's visit to a soldier's house had triggered a controversy after it was reported that an air-conditioner was installed and a carpet, a saffron sofa and saffron towels were sent to the house before his arrival.

SHORT TAKES

SC slaps fine for ignoring widows

New Delhi: The Supreme Court Wednesday slapped fines on eight state governments and pulled them up for "not bothering" about the welfare of widows and destitute women by not heeding to the Centre's proposal for setting up expert committee to deal with the problem. The top court imposed cost of Rs 50,000 each on Andhra Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Karnataka and Orissa and directed them to deposit it within four weeks with the Supreme Court Legal Services Committee for utilisation in issues related to juvenile justice.

Upset with alcoholic father, man ends life

Chennai: Upset over his father's drinking habit, a young man committed suicide Wednesday by hanging himself in Tirunelveli district of Tamil Nadu, police said. In his suicide note, M. Dinesh, 18, said that he was upset over his father Madasamy's alcoholism and pleaded with him to quit drinking but to no avail, putting the family in financial distress. Dinesh said his father should not participate in his funeral. The young man also wrote that one has now to see whether liquor shops are shut down in Tamil Nadu or not after his suicide.

Senior JD(U) leader quits

Patna: Former Bihar Assembly speaker Uday Narayan Chaudhary Wednesday announced his resignation from the primary membership of the JD(U), citing "demoralisation of cadre" and patronage to "dhankuber" (those with deep pockets) as the major reasons. The JD(U), however, maintained that the "coming or going of anybody did not affect the party". Chaudhary, 65, has been critical of the party ever since Chief Minister and JD(U) president Nitish Kumar returned to the BJP-led NDA fold. The veteran leader alleged that his decision to quit the party followed "a spurt in atrocities against Dalits."

Cop's deputation to CBI cancelled

Patna: An IPS officer in Bihar has been caught on camera firing gunshots in the air from his pistol at his farewell party, following which an order for his central deputation with the CBI has been withdrawn, officials said. The matter came to light Wednesday morning when news channels played a video footage from the function late Tuesday night.

PNB scam: CBI to soon file chargesheet

New Delhi: The CBI is all set to file a charge sheet against 19 people arrested in the over Rs 13,000 crore Punjab National Bank scam case, which allegedly involves billionaire jewellers Nirav Modi and Mehul Choksi, officials said Wednesday. The agency has to file the chargesheet within 90 days of the arrest, they said, adding that the Central Bureau of Investigation is likely to meet the deadline.

Cop recruits undergo test together

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhind (MP), May 2: A video has surfaced showing men and women constable recruits of the Madhya Pradesh Police undergoing medical fitness tests together in the district hospital room here. As the clip gathered eyeballs on social media sites, district authorities suspended a doctor and a clerk, and ordered a probe into the incident which took place Tuesday. "We have learnt orthopedic surgeon Dr R K Agrawal, surgeon Vinod Bajpai, ophthalmologist Dr R S Kushwaha, ENT specialist Dr N Rajoria and gynaecologist Dr Ranu Sharma examined 21 men and 18 women recruits together in the same room ahead of their formal induction in the police yesterday," district hospital superintendent Dr Ajit Mishra said.

As the clip gathered eyeballs on social media sites, district authorities suspended a doctor and a clerk, and ordered a probe into the incident. Dr Agrawal and a hospital clerk, Devendra Sharma, were suspended for alleged dereliction of duty. Mishra said Sharma was suspended because he had sent the recruits together to the room instead of calling them in one after the other. He said an inquiry has been ordered into the incident and show-cause notices have been issued to the five doctors. Senior doctor B C

Jain will conduct the inquiry. The video footage shows men in their undergarments being examined in the presence of the women. Mishra said some more constable recruits - men and women - were medically examined separately today in the district hospital. A controversy erupted last week in the state's Dhar district when photos appeared in the media, showing aspirants for the post of police constables with caste categories inked on their bare chests. The photographs carried in various newspapers showed aspirants with the terms "SC" (Scheduled Caste), "ST" (Scheduled Tribe) and "G" (General) marked with sketch pens on their chests as they queued up for their medical examination. Dhar Superintendent of Police Virendra Singh has ordered an inquiry into the incident.

Press freedom down, 3 journos killed in 2018

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, May 2: Press freedom in India has deteriorated in 2018 and three journalists have been killed in the first four months, media watchdog The Hoot said, stating that "journalists continue to be vulnerable". The number of killings documented by the Hoot report for the first four months was the same as in the whole of 2017. "They were killed in connection with their reporting, judging by what initial investigations show," it said. India ranks 138th among 180 countries on this year's World Press Freedom Index, published by Reporters Without Borders. India's rank was 136th in 2017 and 133rd in 2016. The number of documented attacks on journalists and media workers across the country during the period was 13. It includes three in West Bengal. In 2017, documented attacks stood at 46. Apart from these, there were defamation cases that came to trial. A sedition case was filed against a journalist. There was also a clear push by both the State, Centre and the judiciary - through regulatory policy as well as judicial orders - to curb free speech, The Hoot said.



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TOGADIA'S FUTURE WAS RIPE FOR THE AXE

GANDHINAGAR: Simple assumptions seduce while complex questions confound. And so you have all manner of media pundits, simply writing off saffronista surgeon, Dr Pravin Togadia, until recently the international president of VHP who quit the organization after his nominee was trounced. Togadia who had been the informal chief of the VHP since 2003, announced he was quitting the outfit after the VHP elected former Himachal Pradesh Governor, Sadashiv Kokje as its working president April 14, the first ever election of the VHP in fifty two years held at Gurugram. One time close friends, it is no secret that Togadia's relations with Modi had soured during his chief ministerial days and the vitriolic Hindutva/Ram Mandir crusader was in his cross-hairs marked

out for 'political' extermination. With Modi acquiring lord and master domination over his party and its federal government after the last general elections, and Togadia raising politically inconvenient issues like the law for the establishment of the Ram Mandir at Ayodhya, rehabilitation of the Kashmiri pundits in the valley and the raw deal to farmers, his future was ripe for the axe. The BJP wanted Togadia out and when the feisty surgeon resisted, all manner of old cases began getting a new lease of life. This was the standard operating procedure in the Gujarat model for all political opponents of the then Chief Minister. Even Sangh Parivar set ups were split down the middle with one section owing allegiance to the rulers in Gandhinagar getting all manner of state patronage while those who opposed found them-

selves in the doghouse. Earlier this year, there were media reports of efforts by the Modi camp to change the dynamics in the mother organization, the RSS in favour of their leader. They wanted Dattatraya Hosabole, considered a Modi supporter as the sarkaryavah to replace Suresh Bhaiyyaji Joshi but to no avail. Joshi was given a third extension by the RSS pratinidhi sabha in March this year. It is in this backdrop that one must weigh in Togadia's resignation from the VHP. While the

Modi-Shah combine may have carried the day in the ejection of Togadia and the RSS may have acquiesced in it for the moment as it did in the case of Sanjay Joshi but there is a lot more to follow. Modi had boycotted the BJP national executive and refused to campaign in the 2012 elections if Joshi, a respected RSS leader was not ousted from the party. Joshi subsequently quit the BJP. Contrary to what is being made out, Togadia who has given his entire life to the Sangh Parivar still figures in the 'b' plan of the RSS for the 2019 general elections. The RSS think tank is aware of the fate that befell the Atal Bihari Vajpayee government when it went to the people for a repeat term in 2004 on the back of its India shining blitzkrieg and came a cropper. It is also aware of the fact that the daz-

ze of the Modi shine is wearing out and given this, a repeat performance of 2014 is ruled out in 2019. One of these conditionalities is the scenario when the BJP strength is considerably whittled down and it has to either fall back on the NDA constituents or even outside support. There is a section within the mother set up which believes that in such a case the present prime minister with his autocratic and naturally arrogant demeanour will not be the right choice to lead a stitched together coalition. Togadia may have been taken out of the VHP as a concession to Modi but he still remains very much a part of the larger Sangh Parivar. Togadia is expected to grow shriller in his campaign against Modi in the days to come for the rolling stone is expected to gather more than some moss.

Violence at AMU over Jinnah portrait

Aligarh/Lucknow, May 2: Violence broke out at the Aligarh Muslim University campus Wednesday as the row over Muhammad Ali Jinnah's portrait on the campus triggered a right-wing protest and sparring between two BJP leaders. At least six people were injured when the police lobbed tear-gas shells to disperse AMU students, demanding the arrest of protesters who had earlier barged into the campus shouting slogans. Hospital sources said about 20 students were treated with injuries, though a university official gave the lower number. A function to grant life membership of the student union to former vice president Hamid Ansari, scheduled for this evening, was called off and he returned to Delhi. The AMU students alleged that the protesters were from Hindu Yuva Vahini, and were allowed to leave a police station even after being initially detained. Earlier Wednesday, a BJP MP demanded the expulsion of Uttar Pradesh Labour Minister Swami Prasad Maurya from the party for praising Jinnah, which the minister denied he ever did. Media reports had said that the minister called Jinnah a "mahapurush" (a great personality) from the time of undivided India. Maurya reportedly praised him when asked to comment on the row sparked by another BJP MP Satish Gautam, who had objected to Jinnah's portrait being displayed at AMU. The minister said Wednesday that he had not made any statement even as Harnath Singh Yadav, a Rajya Sabha member from his own party, targeted him.



Gujarat newsletter  
RK MISRA



“  
**Sonakshi Sinha** | Oh mah gawd!!! My favorite director @VikramMotwane is ready with his next film!!!! Can. Not. Wait!!!!



“  
**Parineeti Chopra** | Scenic cruise from @Hamiltonisland to take in the stunning sunset Whitsunday style @Queensland



“  
**Neil Nitin Mukesh** | Looking Amazing brother. All the best.. Looking forward to seeing this one. All the best team



## STORIES TOP

### JAKE TO STAR IN THE AMERICAN

**Los Angeles:** Actor Jake Gyllenhaal is set to produce and star as Leonard Bernstein in "The American". Cary Joji Fukunaga will direct and produce the film. Bron Studios will produce and back the film, which begins principal photography in the fall, reports variety.com. The screenplay, from Michael Mitnick, is based on the biography "Leonard Bernstein" by Humphrey Burton. "The American" follows Leonard Bernstein from conducting the New York Philharmonic at the age of 25 through to the meteoric rise to fame.

### SLAVERY SOUNDS LIKE A 'CHOICE' TO KANYE

**Los Angeles:** Rapper Kanye West says the slavery culture for many centuries may have been a "choice". After his comment created a stir, he took to Twitter to explain his point, saying he meant that people "were mentally enslaved". In an interview with TMZ, the rapper, who has been tweeting out support for US president Donald Trump in recent weeks, was talking about the President, free thinking and labels before he moved onto slavery. "When you hear about slavery for 400 years. For 400 years? That sounds like a choice. You was there for 400 years and it's all of you all. "It is like we were mentally in prison," he said.

### JOHNNY DEPP SUED BY FORMER BODYGUARDS

**Los Angeles:** Hollywood star Johnny Depp's two former bodyguards are taking him to court for unpaid wages and for forcing them to work in dangerous conditions. Eugene Arreola, a retired police detective, and Miguel Sanchez first started protecting Depp, 54, in 2013 when they were employed by a security corporation, according to a complaint they filed here on Tuesday, reports people.com. They have claimed the dangerous conditions included exposure to "illegal substances" and loaded weapons and that they were made to work as de facto babysitters for Depp's minor child and were also "forced to protect (Depp) from himself".

### SHANNEN DOHERTY TO UNDERGO SURGERY

**Los Angeles:** One year after announcing that her breast cancer is in remission, actress-producer Shannen Doherty is going in for surgery. The actress, 47, did not share the exact nature of the procedure but told fans on social media Tuesday that as per her doctor's recommendation, she use autologous blood banking, which means storing your own blood, ahead of the surgery, reports people.com. "My doctor had me bank some blood for my upcoming surgery," Doherty wrote on Instagram along with a photo of her and her phlebotomist.

### THERON FED UP OF HER WEIGHT GAIN STORY

**London:** Actress Charlize Theron believes too much focus has been put on her body transformation for the film "Tully". In an interview with Time Out London magazine, she says gaining weight was not a big deal for her, reports dailymail.co.uk. "Women gain that amount, if not more, every time they get pregnant. So it's not that big of a deal," Theron said. The Academy Award-winning actress put on weight to play a pregnant and tired mother of three in "Tully", which has received rave reviews.



## Salman closer to Karisma

**Mumbai:** Actress Karisma Kapoor says that superstar Salman Khan, with whom she shares "a very long-standing relationship", is closer to her than her younger sister Kareena Kapoor Khan.

Salman is closer to me than Kareena. We have shared a very long-standing relationship. For Salman, Kareena is like a little sister and he still considers her to be a child," Karisma said. Karisma and Salman were among the 1990s' favourite on-screen couples, thanks to their films like "Andaz Apna Apna", "Biwi No.1", "Jeet" and "Judwaa".

And now, the audience likes to watch Salman and Kareena together on the big screen. They have given hits like "Bajrangi Bhaijaan" and "Bodyguard". Karisma also had a part in "Bodyguard". "I was the voice of Chaya in the movie, 'Bodyguard'. It was my voice who used to trouble Salman's character in the movie," she said. Asked what kind of movies she would like to do, the "Coolie No. 1" star said: "After starring in all the 'No.1' movies, I would like to be a part of Mummy No.1, if anyone makes it. "This movie will describe every mother's role and I will be happy to play a part in it. For now I share a great bond with my son and daughter. I would like to tell everyone that my daughter and I even share the same clothes now," she said. IANS

## Zoe feels she will suffer from 'FOMO'

**Los Angeles:** Actress Zoe Saldana feels she will suffer from "FOMO" - fear of missing out - once she leaves the Marvel universe. The 39-year-old actress stars as Gamora in the film franchise. A sequel to the latest "Avengers: Infinity War" is yet to come out. In an interview, Saldana was asked whether she is sad to be saying goodbye to Marvel, reported femalefirst.co.uk. She said: "Yes and no. It was sad, of course, because I think that we all suffer from FOMO. There is a fear always of missing out, but I'm so happy that I got to play a part in the Marvel universe, and I also got to play a character that - it has been brought to my attention - is seen as a great role model for young women. And

also for young boys. "I live for that, that's why I do what I do. So I guess I'm going to cry all the way to 'Avatar', you know?" Saldana will also be seen reprising the role of Neytiri in the upcoming "Avatar" movies. She relishes the experience of being reunited with James Cameron, who directed the original "Avatar" movie in 2009. IANS



## ADITI OPENS UP

**Mumbai:** Actress Aditi Rao Hydari says women in the film industry need to take up responsibility if they want to see a real change. "Men have a responsibility towards women and that's essential and the need of the hour.. But so do we, women have an equal responsibility too if we really want change," Aditi tweeted. Aditi's post came in response to producer Tanuj Garg's tweet. "The honourable #Metoo campaign by the lovely Rose McGowan is getting misused by some women for personal benefit. Belated, mischievous and un-

proven defamatory rants masquerading as woman empowerment have spoilt it for the genuine victims of harassment. #MeeshaShafi #AliZafar #Pakistan." McGowan had also started the #MeToo hash tag to raise awareness about sexual harassment. It soon became a movement with people from all quarters coming forward to share their experience of sexual assault. There is a growing list of people coming out in the open to talk about sexual advances by big names like Harvey Weinstein, Kevin Spacey, James Toback, Ben Affleck, Brett Ratner and Dustin Hoffman.

Pakistani actress-model-singer Meesha Shafi also accused actor Ali Zafar of sexual harassment, a claim he has denied. IANS



## CINE BITS

### Anand a great guy: Harshvardhan Kapoor

**Mumbai:** Actor Harshvardhan Kapoor is "really happy" that his sister Sonam Kapoor is getting married to Delhi-based businessman Anand Ahuja, whom he has described as a "great guy". Sonam is set to wed Anand on May 8 here. Harshvardhan, who was present at the trailer launch of his upcoming film "Bhavesh Joshi Superhero" here on Wednesday, was asked about how the preparations are going on for the wedding. He said: "I am really happy that she is getting married. Anand is a great guy."

### Anjali Patil won't be in India for Kaala release

**New Delhi:** Actress Anjali Patil says she is busy working on her own film's script and won't be in India when her forthcoming movie "Kaala" releases in June. The movie was originally scheduled to release April 27, but the film's producer Dhanush later announced that the superstar's film will hit the screens June 7. "I am working on my own script. It never really affected me (change in release date of her film) even before because I always went on with what I always wanted to do," Anjali said.

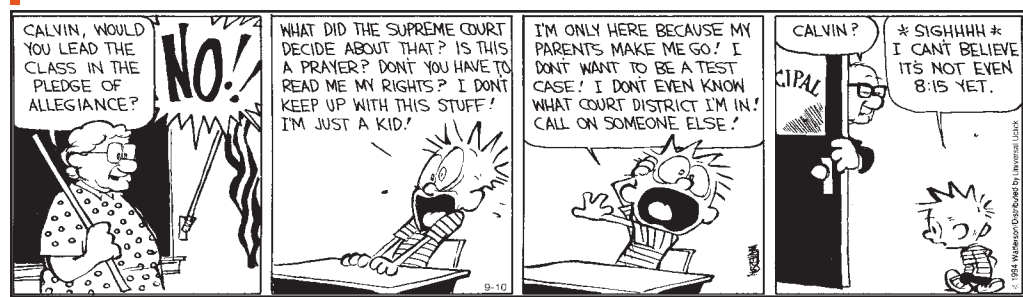
### Jaideep Ahlawat felt nervous before Gulzar

**Mumbai:** Actor Jaideep Ahlawat, who will soon be seen in the Alia Bhatt and Vicky Kaushal-starrer "Raazi," says he felt nervous but fortunate to perform in front of the iconic writer Gulzar, who visited the film's set on the first day of its shoot. Gulzar has penned songs for "Raazi." Jaideep said: "That was the first day of the shoot and when I came out on the set, I met Vishal Bhardwaj. We all (actors) felt very blessed. I met him and then went to my position to set my mood before the camera roll. "Suddenly I realised that there was a silence on the set. I just looked around and saw the dynamic personality (Gulzar) dressed in white standing before us. I cannot express in words how exactly I was feeling. I was in awe."

### PEANUTS



### CALVIN AND HOBBS

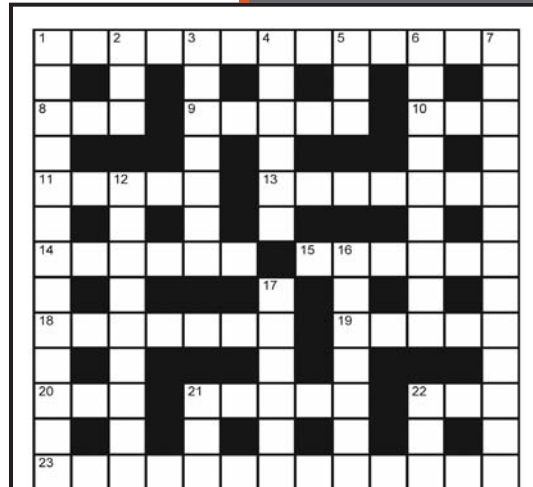


### BREVITY



## FUN POST

### CROSSWORD



- Across**
- 1 Popular dog breed (6,7)
  - 8 Purchase
  - 9 True health
  - 10 Flyspeck
  - 11 African antelope
  - 13 Light lager
  - 14 Enigma
  - 15 Kitty-cat, for one
  - 18 Worship
  - 19 Coronet
  - 20 Genesis name
  - 21 Riyadh resident
  - 22 Corn site
  - 23 Technology type (5,2,3,3)
  - 5 Literary olio
  - 6 Java locale
  - 7 Author's negotiator (8,5)
  - 12 Pegasus's neighbor
  - 16 Two-toed flightless bird
  - 17 Cold shoulder
  - 21 Take to court
  - 22 Sri Lanka export
- Down**
- 1 Pleasure boats (5,8)
  - 2 Have a brawl
  - 3 Examine
  - 4 Lean

### SUDOKU

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

C			3	E	B	8		9
A	0			3		4	D	C
		4		6	5		2	0
	8	2	E			C	6	
			C	1	A	7	E	
	9	B		7	D		C	1
	1	5					E	A
			9		4	8		A
						0	1	E
	6		5		2	A		B
			0	4		B	7	1
				8		A	C	2
				9	8		5	7
D			B	7			3	D
			1	A	5			0

### SOLUTIONS

**CROSSWORD**

ALGA FINANCES  
DUBNXHO  
OBSCURE IDEAL  
RTRPOEE  
AVOID TIMBRE  
BE  
LADNABOB OVA  
E  
PSYCHE KAYAK  
MTIXEEDB  
TCING TORNAED  
LNARYRNR  
DAYBREJAK KINEE

**SUDOKU**

8370C88462A159D  
8DB295E71408AC3  
15A83720C9086EA  
C20164A9D9E388B7  
946DAE3587C8120  
00197348A2C3586  
37A8D2163097249  
47E65AD2381980C  
26CB109E835407A  
8894230C7D8AE18  
5BDA02C1488E735  
AE37895D2140C6B  
7C2581630A9D48E  
6143E0889C750A2  
095C467AE8329D1

# international



US Forces Korea is a matter of the South Korea-US alliance. It has nothing to do with signing a peace treaty  
MOON JAE-IN | SOUTH KOREAN PRESIDENT

## ZUCKERBERG UNVEILS PLANS FOR FB DATING SERVICE

Zuckerberg unveiled dating service plans as he addressed Facebook's annual F8 developers conference in San Jose, California -- emphasizing that the focus would be on helping people find long-term partners



## of the day quote

I call upon the international community to condemn the grave anti-Semitism of Abu Mazen (Abbas), which should have long since passed from this world  
BENJAMIN NETANYAHU | ISRAELI PRIME MINISTER



Our competition is with those forces that are not visible on the ground, but everybody knows about them in the country. If someone votes for Imran, Zardari or independent candidates he will actually be voting for those forces (military establishment)  
NAWAZ SHARIF | FORMER PRIME MINISTER OF PAKISTAN



Military modernisation remains a priority in Russia, but the military budget has been restricted by economic problems that the country has experienced since 2014  
SIEMON WEZEMAN | SENIOR SIPRI RESEARCHER



# XI-MODI SUMMIT BROKE 'NEW GROUND': CHINA

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Beijing, May 2: The Wuhan summit between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Xi Jinping broke "new ground" as they identified the guiding principles for bilateral ties, drew up a blueprint for cooperation and mapped out concrete measures to implement the consensus reached, the Chinese Foreign Ministry said today.

Modi met Xi last week in an unprecedented two-day 'heart-to-heart' summit in the central Chinese city of Wuhan to "solidify" the India-China relationship after the Doklam standoff last year. Troops of India and China were locked in the 73-day standoff in Doklam after the Indian side stopped the construction of a road by the Chinese Army in the disputed area.

During their summit, the two leaders held a candid exchange of views in a relaxing and friendly atmosphere on topics



related to international relations, China-India relations and cooperation in various areas and reached important consensus, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Hua Chunying said in her first comments on the summit held April 27 and 28. The two leaders "identified the important principles guiding the development of China-India relations and chartering the course and drew up a blueprint for the comprehensive cooperation between the two sides," Hua said. "The two leaders have also mapped out concrete measures to implement such kind of consensus," she said.

The meeting was oriented towards the future and enhance the friendship and mutual trust, creating a new model for exchanges between the two leaders, she said. "It opened up new ground for India-China relations," she added.

"China is willing to work with India to follow through on the important consensus reached between the two leaders, and takes this meeting as an opportunity to break new ground in the mutually beneficial cooperation between China and India," she said. Asked about reports that the two sides have agreed to establish hotline facilities between their militaries, Hua said the exchanges between the two leaders in Wuhan included how China and India can handle their differences. The two leaders have reached some important consensus and charted the course to properly manage and handle such kind of differences, she said, without elaborating.

# 86 killed in northeast Nigeria suicide blasts

AGENCIES

Kano, Nigeria, May 2: Gravediggers Wednesday said they buried 86 people from a double suicide bombing in northeast Nigeria, nearly three times more than the official toll.

Two blasts ripped through a mosque and market Tuesday in the town of Mubi, Adamawa state, in an attack that bore all the hallmarks of Boko Haram jihadists. One worker at Mubi's only cemetery said they were "shocked" to hear about the lower toll. "We worked up to 9:00 pm burying bodies. By the time we closed, we had 76 graves. We buried 76 people Tuesday," he said, asking to remain anonymous. "Wednesday, as at 3:00 pm (local time), 10 more bodies were brought in and buried. These people died overnight from injuries, obviously."

The attack came a day after US President Donald Trump promised his visiting Nigerian counterpart, Muhammadu Buhari, greater support in fighting the Islamist extremists. Buhari and the

## 14 Killed in Tripoli

Tripoli: Islamic State suicide bombers attacked Libya's election commission in the capital Wednesday, killing at least 14 people in the worst such attack in years that aimed to disrupt a nation-wide vote planned for later this year. The two bombers infiltrated the building in central Tripoli and fired on people inside, then detonated their explosives when their ammunition ran out, IS said in a statement circulated by its affiliated Amaq news agency. The Health Ministry earlier said the attack also set fire to the building, which could be seen in online videos showing thick black smoke billowing upward and security forces engaging in a gun battle.

military have long maintained the Islamic State group affiliate is a spent force and on the verge of defeat but repeated attacks and raid in the northeast suggest otherwise.

# INDIA ABROAD Woman flew on hubby's passport

London: An Indian-origin businesswoman managed to travel from UK's Manchester city to New Delhi via Dubai on her husband's passport before the serious security lapse was picked up in India, prompting the Emirates Airline to launch an investigation into the incident. Geeta Modha, who runs Alankar boutique in Rusholme area of Manchester, left for the airport with husband Dilip's passport by mistake for a business trip April 23. The 55-year-old was able to check-in and board the flight and was waved through a stopover at Dubai on to New Delhi before the error was picked up, according to 'Manchester Evening News'. As a holder of Overseas Indian Citizenship (OCI), Geeta was expected to produce her passport at Delhi immigration and was denied entry to India at that point. "It's scary and worrying that people aren't checking properly," she told the newspaper.

# Professionals challenge UK govt over visas

London: Scores of Indian doctors, teachers, entrepreneurs and other professionals are challenging the UK government in court over being denied the right to live and work in Britain. The professionals, brought together under the banner of the 'Highly Skilled Migrants' group, were back opposite Parliament Square in London today to protest against "unjustified" refusals by the UK Home Office of their applications for indefinite leave to remain (ILR) in Britain. Since their last protest in February, many of the professionals refused ILR have appealed against the Home Office decision in the First Tier Tribunal and Upper Tribunal - the courts which hear immigration appeals. "Given the Windrush scandal involving innocent migrants being denied their citizenship rights and the new Home Secretary (Sajid Javid) assuring the public that the Home Office will be fair in its immigration decisions, these cases take on an added significance," said Aditi Bhardwaj, one of the convenors of the group.

# IT company fined for H1-B visa violations

Washington: An Indian-American owned IT company in California was Wednesday asked to pay \$173,044 in wages to 12 of its foreign employees, most of them from India, who were paid salaries well below the levels required under the H-1B programme. Investigations carried out by the US Department of Labour's Wage and Hour Division revealed that some of the H-1B employees that information technology provider Cloudwick Technologies Inc. brought from India with promised salaries of up to \$8,300 per month instead received as little as \$800 net per month. Based out of Newark in California - in the famed Silicon Valley - Indian-American Mani Chhabra is the founder and CEO of the Cloudwick Technologies, as per the company's website. It describes itself as leading provider of bimodal digital business services and solutions to the Global 1000.

## SHORT TAKES

### Pompeo takes oath as Secretary of State

Washington: Former CIA director Mike Pompeo was Wednesday sworn-in as the US Secretary of State and immediately vowed to look into the "flawed" Iran nuclear deal criticised by President Donald Trump. Pompeo, 54, was administered the oath of office by Vice President Mike Pence. He replaces Rex Tillerson, who was fired by President Trump in March. He is the 70th Secretary of State. Trump drove down to the State Department for the formal swearing in ceremony of Pompeo. This was his first trip to the State Department.

### Basque group ETA disbands after 50 yrs

Madrid: Basque separatist group ETA Wednesday formally announced its decision to put an end to its activities and a "complete dissolution of all its structures" in a letter sent to various Basque institutions and civil society groups. In a written statement by the ETA, accessed by Efe news, the group said it was "terminating its historical cycle and its function, thereby ending its existence".

### Asif challenges his disqualification in SC

Islamabad: Pakistan's ousted foreign minister Khawaja Asif Wednesday challenged in the Supreme Court his disqualification as a member of the parliament by a high court. A three-member bench of Islamabad High Court last week disqualified Asif as a lawmaker under Article 62(1)(f) of the Constitution for concealing details of his UAE work permit while contesting polls in 2013. Article 62, which sets the precondition for a member of parliament to be "sadiq and ameen" (honest and righteous), is the same provision under which former prime minister Nawaz Sharif was disqualified July 28, 2017, in the Panama Papers case.

### Earthquake rattles southern Iran

Tehran: A magnitude 5.2 earthquake struck a remote, mountainous region in southern Iran Wednesday, injuring at least 31 people and disrupting power and communication lines, state media reported. It says the tremor rocked the town of Sisakht, some 700 kilometres south of Tehran, causing people to rush out into the streets. The town has a population of 10,000.

### May Day riots: 109 remain in custody

Paris, France: French police said 109 people were in custody Wednesday after violent May Day protests in Paris, correcting an earlier figure of 209 given by Interior Minister Gerard Collomb. Hooded youths had torched a McDonald's restaurant and several vehicles after joining the traditional May 1 union-led demonstration for workers' rights. Collomb, who gave the wrong figure in a television interview, promised to boost policing at future protests after facing accusations that the government had been caught unaware by 1,200 trouble-makers.

# India criticises use of 'hidden veto'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

United Nations, May 2: India has criticised the use of "hidden veto" in the subsidiary organs of the UN Security Council such as the Sanctions Committees, apparently hitting out at China for repeatedly blocking its bid to list Pakistan-based JeM chief Masood Azhar as a global terrorist.

A veto-wielding permanent member of the UN Security Council. China has repeatedly blocked India's move at the UN to designate Azhar a global terrorist under the Al-Qaeda Sanctions Committee of the top organ. India's Permanent Representative to the UN Ambassador Syed Akbaruddin, addressing an informal meeting of the Plenary on the Intergovernmental negotiations on the question of equitable representation on and increase in the membership of the Security Council, said he welcomes the chairs' suggestion to explore how the veto impacts work and effectiveness of an enlarged Council. In a sharp retort, Akbaruddin said the use of hidden vetoes in places "where it was never meant to be exercised", is instead im-



perfecting the work and effectiveness of the Council. "In this context, we would like to highlight a little explored practice of the 'hidden' veto exercised in the subsidiary organs of the Council. Let me try and explain what this hidden veto is," Akbaruddin said here yesterday. He added that there are more than a dozen subsidiary organs of the Council, each pronouncing numerous decisions annually. Citing the example of the Sanctions Committees, Akbaruddin said each of them, the veto is exercised with "none of us even being informed about it." He pointed out that those permanent Council members who cast the 'hidden' veto are not required to provide a public explanation for their actions.

# EU unveils bigger post-Brexit budget

BRUSSELS: The EU Wednesday unveiled plans for a bigger 1.279-trillion euro budget for the seven years after Brexit, featuring a controversial move to cut funding for countries that fail to respect the rule of law.

European Commission chief Jean-Claude Juncker said the proposals were "reasonable and responsible" but the idea of spending more money faces opposition from several countries. Poland and Hungary, which have both been severely criticised by Brussels over democratic freedoms, are meanwhile up in arms over the proposal to "suspend, reduce or restrict access" to errant states. "We are proposing a new mechanism that will allow for the protection of the budget linked to risks arising from deficiencies in the rule of law," Juncker told the European Parliament. The departure of Britain, a net contributor, in 2019 leaves the bloc with what Juncker says is 15 billion euro gap in its accounts, but the EU also wants more money for ambitious projects to unify the remaining 27 member states. EU Budget Commissioner Guenther Oettinger said member states would pay 1.114 per cent of their annual gross domestic product under the plans, up from one per cent in the current 2014-2020 multi-year budget worth 1.0 trillion euros. One of the key proposed cuts is five per cent from the Common Agricultural Policy, the largest single area of EU spending and one dear to major farm producer France.

## JOVIAL MOOD



Leicester Morrismen throw their hats during May Day celebrations at Bradgate Park in Newtown Linford REUTERS

# Protesters bring cities to standstill

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Yerevan, May 2: Armenia was brought to a standstill Wednesday as thousands of protesters blocked key roads and government buildings in several cities, after Parliament refused to elect their protest leader Nikol Pashinyan as the new Prime Minister.

Pashinyan's supporters heeded his call for a nationwide day of action, blocking roads leading to Yerevan's main airport. Tourists had to abandon vehicles and carry their luggage. Metro stations in the capital were closed as part of the campaign of disobedience, CNN reported.

Protesters also blocked roads to government buildings, including the Ministry of Defence, demonstrators Marina Gasparyan said. Pashinyan, 42, lost a parliamentary vote Tuesday to become interim Prime Minister. The vote followed the resignation last week of former Prime Minister Serzh Sargsyan, who was forced to step down amid

## ARMENIA CRISIS



weeks of mass demonstrations, led by Pashinyan's movement. Sargsyan had been in power since the last 10 years.

Protests broke out in other cities also. Entrances to several ministry buildings were blockaded and rail services were also disrupted. Trains were not running between Yerevan and the second city, Gyumri, and checkpoints near the Georgian border were affected, the BBC reported. According to re-

ports, there were ongoing "acts of civil disobedience in Armenia's towns and villages, including Yerevan, Gyumri and Vanadzor.

In Vanadzor city, a large crowd of protesters blockaded the mayor's office and other civic buildings. Three thousand workers from a local sewing factory walked out and cut off some of Vanadzor's biggest roads. Pashinyan told the BBC on Wednesday that the protesters were fighting for their own rights and dignity. "I want to be clear, it isn't a fight for Nikol Pashinyan becoming Prime Minister, it's a fight for human rights, for democracy, for rule of law."

On Wednesday, he posted a message on social media urging protesters to halt disruption at the airport, while other opposition politicians appealed to people not to impede emergency services. Police tried to move protesters off the roads. Parliament is expected to try again to elect a prime minister May 8.

## NEWS SNIPPETS

### Modi twice as popular on Facebook as Prez Trump: Study

Geneva: Prime Minister Narendra Modi is far ahead of other world leaders, including US President Donald Trump, when it comes to popularity on Facebook, according to a study which said 43.2 million people follow the Indian premier on the social media platform. Trump, who rules the other social media platform Twitter, is in second place with 23.1 million followers, according to the study "World Leaders on Facebook" released Wednesday by Burson Cohn & Wolfe. The study analyses the activity of 650 Facebook pages of heads of state and government and foreign ministers from January 1, 2017 using aggregate data from Facebook's Crowdtangle tool, it said in a statement. Over the past 14 months, the Facebook page of Trump had by far the most interactions of any world leader on Facebook, with a total of 204.9 million interactions (defined as the total number of comments, likes and shares), almost twice as many as Modi with 113.6 million interactions, the study said.



### Smugglers abandon tiger cub in bag

Brownsville: Smugglers left behind a live tiger cub in a duffel bag when they fled back to Mexico after attempting to cross the Rio Grande into Texas. US Customs and Border Protection officials on Tuesday said the male tiger, believed to be three or four months old, has been placed at the Gladys Porter Zoo in Brownsville. Border Patrol agents patrolling Monday along the river near Brownsville saw three people trying to enter the US illegally. An agency statement says the trio abandoned a bag and returned to Mexico. Officers discovered the cub stuffed in the bag. Agent Robert Rodriguez said Tuesday that the tiger appeared calm and was possibly sedated.



### Prez Macron thanks Aus PM's 'delicious wife'

Sydney: French President Emmanuel Macron caused a social media frenzy in Australia Wednesday after he referred to Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull's wife as "delicious" while thanking them for their hospitality. Macron made the awkward remark during a joint press conference with Turnbull at Kirribilli House in Sydney, ABC News Australia reported. He began his three-day visit to the country Tuesday to discuss issues like climate change and defence. Opting to speak in English, the French President said: "Thanks to you and your delicious wife for your warm welcome, the perfect organisation of this trip." The slip-up was quickly forgiven with Turnbull smiling and shaking hands with Macron. But the comment quickly caught the attention of social media users, who debated whether Macron was joking or had stumbled over his words. "You can take the man out of France but..." one Twitter user wrote, while another said: "Maybe he was talking about wine, I can't be sure."



### Passenger's bizarre act for 'fresh air'

Beijing: A 25-year-old Chinese man, who felt "stuffy" and opened the emergency exit of a plane to get some fresh air has been detained and fined. The man, identified only by his surname Chen, was waiting to disembark the plane at Mianyang airport in the southwestern province of Sichuan when he decided he could do with some fresh air. Unfortunately for him, the handle he pulled was attached to the emergency exit and not only did the hatch come free from the plane, but it also activated the escape slide, report said. Chen, who was returning from the island of Hainan, insisted he did not know that it was an escape route. The crew alerted police and he was detained for 15 days for the unauthorised removal of aviation facilities. He will also be fined 70,000 yuan (\$11,000) to cover the airline's costs.





## CAREER IN HAIRSTYLING

Hair stylists perform a variety of services, such as colouring and cutting hair. They also recommend products and techniques that help with hair maintenance. While many hair stylists work in salons, employment opportunities are available in other settings. In addition to salary, these professionals may earn commissions and tips.

Many people have a passion and love for all things to do with hair and beauty, and becoming a hairdresser is often a perfect fit for that person. Some of these people often found themselves as children helping their friends with their hair by plaiting, braiding and styling their hair, not to mention chopping off the locks of their favourite dolls. Others decide later in life that a career change is on the cards, and feel like their interest in hair and beauty means that becoming a hairdresser will be a great choice. Some even have experience with styling and cutting their own hair or perhaps the hair of friends and family members, and have decided that it is high time to get qualified and become a professional hairdresser.

Being a hairdresser has many benefits which qualified stylists will tell you about. If you're thinking about becoming a hairdresser, these are the top reasons to get proactive and become a hairdresser.

**You can be creative**  
Sure enough, you will always have some clients that want to see you but have a set style in mind. But there are also clients who will want you to do what is best for them, their lifestyle and face shape. This is where you can really let your creativity flow and help a client to get the look that is going to work best for them. Using your knowledge of hair styles, hair types and colouring for a person will help you to become more creative in your daily work life, and help to increase interest within your day. Many people do not have the time to be creative outside of work, so having the added benefit of being creative while at work is a great thing for many people.

**You'll meet new people**  
It goes without saying that many people will go to the hairdresser and, as well as getting their hair cut and styled, will enjoy a nice chat with their stylist. If you enjoy meeting new people and having a conversation, this is going to be a big benefit to you if you want to become a hairdresser. Not only will you be able to have a nice conversation with your client, you'll be helping them to let off

some steam, chat to someone new and help them to de-stress.

Making new friends is always a benefit, whether it be within work or outside of work. You'll be able to extend your friendship circles, get to know some locals, and keep in touch with what is happening outside of the salon. Being sociable has many benefits and will only work to improve your life positively.

### The opportunity to be flexible

Many careers you encounter will only allow you to work a set 9-5 on weekdays, with not much room for change on these hours. This makes it hard for people with children or for those who have other commitments outside of work. Being a hairdresser means that you could have the opportunity to be a little more flexible within your career. Often, you can choose to work different hours to revolve around school pickups, for example, and you can work weekends if this suits better. As well as this, being a qualified hairdresser means that you can take your qualifications almost anywhere. You can decide to work as a freelance hair stylist, work from home, or even go to client's homes if you like to travel around.

There is often a need for stylists who can be a little bit more flexible and go to a person's home instead, so this can be a great opportunity to either work flexibly or to gain some

extra work outside of the salon.

### Provide a variety of services

Today's hairdressing is not just about a simple wash, cut and dry. Today, with many different styles, trends and new technologies, hairdressing has become a sort of science. Many people are looking for a professional who will be able to provide them with a particular style or colour that they may have seen online, on television, or a style that their favourite celebrity has been sporting.

With so many options for people to achieve with their hair, a hairdresser won't just be providing the standard wash, cut and dry ever again. As well as this, many people are expecting their salon to not just help with their hairstyle needs, but also beauty services such as nails and skin services. You may be able to learn some new skills and not only cut and colour hair, but also provide manicures and facials, which will also break up your day and help to make your job even more interesting.

### Pursuing your dreams

One of the key reasons a person decides to become a hairdresser is to pursue their career dreams that they may have had for a while. Growing up, the dream to be a stylist can be quite strong with some people and so becoming a hairdresser means this dream will become fulfilled.

Many people go through life work-

ing in jobs they do not feel passionate about, simply to return home at the end of the week with a pay cheque. Truth is, you will resent this kind of work over time, so it is best to simply find a career you're interested in and pursue it. Not only will this help you to enjoy your daily work life, but you'll also feel a sense of achievement and accomplishment with gaining the job you desire. When working in a role that you enjoy and are passionate about, going to work won't ever seem like a chore. Finding a job that you love and enjoy will make your day that much more enjoyable.

Working as a hairdresser, like any role, will sometimes have its downsides, but at the end of the day a job working as a hairdresser can be both rewarding and inspiring. Not only can you help others to achieve the looks they want, but you'll also be able to help you with your own personal career goals and work in a position that you absolutely love.

Some of the renowned Institutions Below I have listed some of the most famous institutions that you can join to pursue a course in hairdressing.

- Jawed Habib's Hair Academy
- Shahnaz Husain's International Beauty Academy
- Bharti Tanaja's Alps Beauty Academy
- VLCC Institute
- BBLUNT Academy



## WHAT TO WEAR TO A JOB INTERVIEW

You've prepared your responses to potential interview questions, researched the company and thought about what you're going to ask the interviewer... but do you know what you're going to wear?

Your professional attire may not seem like a big deal in the scheme of things, but the right – or wrong – interview outfit can make a first impression long before you utter a single word.

### Do some background work

While it's important to maintain your own sense of style so you feel comfortable with what you're wearing, job interview outfits should also be largely determined by the culture of the company.

A quick search of the company and their social media accounts will help give you an idea of the office environment, from strictly corporate to casual and cool. You may also like to check out SEEK company reviews for the organisation to see if the culture or dress code is mentioned.

Research the names of key staff members (and the name of the interviewer) and do a search for images of them online to see what they are wearing in their professional photos. If they're in a suit in their company headshot you can safely assume you should opt for a more corporate interview outfit. Alternatively, if they're in jeans and a t-shirt, which can often be the case for tech or design companies, they might have a more relaxed dress code and you can opt for a smart casual look.

### Quality is key

In the lead up to your interview, consider investing in an outfit that is tailored to fit and replace any items that are starting to look like they're past their expiry date. Even something as simple as the fabrics you wear can also make a big difference to your professional attire. For example items in a natural fibre, such as wool will always look smarter than one in a synthetic material that can look shiny. Avoid shopping online if you can, so that you can get a feel for the material.

Most importantly, keep it simple. Even though you might love that clinking bracelet or bright neon shirt, there could be a chance the interviewer will find it distracting. Remember, you want them to focus on your answers and not your attire, so save those items to change into after you get home.

### For a corporate office

If you're interviewing at a corporate organisation, a suit – either in full or as a separate pant or jacket – can be a failsafe option for men and women. Opt for neutral hues such as black, navy, tan or grey.

For women, shoes in a classic style will generally complement any corporate outfit. Women might also choose to wear a shift dress with a jacket, or pencil skirt and blouse.

For men, it's better to err on the side of cau-

tion and wear a tie. If you arrive early and see that no one entering or exiting the building is wearing one, it can easily be removed and placed in your pants pocket or bag.

### For a casual or creative environment

Jeans and a tee may be fine for everyday office attire in a more casual work environment, but it's always better to take it up a notch for a job interview. Looking and feeling great also has the added benefit of giving you an extra confidence boost on the day.

For women, a creative environment means you can inject a little more creativity in your outfits. That said, it's best to choose only one element for this. Whether that's a skirt with a work-appropriate print or a different texture, such as a silk shirt – make sure you pair it with simple elements, to ensure the overall look remains professional.

For men, a pair of chinos, a collared, button-down shirt and brogues will look casual yet smart. For cooler climates and seasons, a blazer or knit in good condition will keep you warm without sacrificing your professional style.

### Pay attention to detail

Your professional attire may be on point but you can let yourself down if you don't pay attention to the finishing touches, from a belt and cufflinks to appropriate jewellery that complements your outfit without being distracting.

A job interview should be considered a more formal occasion so the bag you bring also should be on the dressy side, such as a simple leather tote or shoulder bag. Leave canvas bags or backpacks for the weekend.



### Don't forget

Always, always iron your clothes. You may think your dress or slacks don't look wrinkled out of the washing machine, but it's better to take a few minutes to press them than risk looking disheveled in a job interview.

Now you're all set to make a great first impression, it's time to prepare for the actual interview, including how to answer difficult questions as well as planning questions to ask your interviewer.

## LOOK SUPER COOL AT WORKPLACE IN SUMMER



workplace.  
Light coloured formal suit can also be worn during summer as it gives a formal touch to an individual. Nowadays, it is widely chosen by man, as it is

more trendy and stylish.  
White shirt always work at office, as it repels sunlight and is soothing to the eyes.  
Switching on to blue and gingham can make an individual more fashionable

and professional. It not only adds bold colour to the outfit, but also enhances the outlook of an individual.  
Karan Oberoi, Actor and Model, too suggested some tips:-

If you are a suit person go for a light fabrics like cotton, linen or any other breathable stuff. Also choose light colours to stay comfortable during the sweltering days.

Another way to face summers in style is to stick with a classic outfit that works anywhere and everywhere. A lightweight semi formal white shirt with grey or blue check pants will keep you cool in the hot days

For meetings and formal events, an unstructured Navy blazer is just perfect. This is one of the most versatile, stylish, and comfortable pieces your wardrobe should have.

If you require to wear ties to work, go for a silk-knit ones for summer.

IANS

enhances the personality.  
Formal shirts over pencil trousers or narrow pants can also be worn in order to look modest and elegant at workplace.  
This creates a formal and sophisticated look.  
One can wear khaki pants to the office and can uplift their fashion statement at the

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<h3>WANTED</h3> <p>Wanted candidates required for an NGO working on Urban Slums with Diploma or Degree in Biotech or Agriculture or Civil engineering. Please apply within 7days. Email: id-judicial.technical@gmail.com</p>	<h3>APPOINTMENT</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ACCOUNTANT: 2 Nos. Tally, 3-4 years Experience</li> <li>SALESMAN: 4 Nos. 3-4 years Experience in Medicine Shop. Come with resume within 7 days at</li> </ul> <p><b>JIVANREKHA DRUG HOUSE</b> Mallik Complex, Jagamara Contact: 9583666001</p>
<h3>Recruitment Drive for Odisha</h3> <p>Position - Field Officer -(100) &gt; Age - 20- 26 Years. &gt; Experience - Employed with any microfinance organization for over 1 year / Freshers are welcome. &gt; Minimum qualification HSC, Graduates in Arts, Commerce, Agriculture will be given priority. &gt; Salary, Travelling Allowance, Mobile Reimbursement, Performance based incentives.</p>	<p>Position - Branch Manager (10) &gt; Experience - Employed with Microfinance organization for more than 1 year as BRANCH MANAGER. &gt; Communication in Local Language, Hindi &amp; English is mandatory. Computer knowledge essential. &gt; Graduates in Arts, Commerce, Agriculture will be given priority. &gt; Salary, Travelling Allowance, Mobile Reimbursement.</p>
<p>Position - Risk Officer -05 &gt; Experience - Employed with Microfinance organization for more than 1 year as Audit Officer. &gt; Communication in Local Language, Hindi &amp; English is mandatory. Computer knowledge essential. &gt; Fresher MBA, MCOM, BCOM candidate also apply for this Post. &gt; Salary, Travelling Allowance, Mobile Reimbursement, MediClaim for family, Accidental Insurance, ESIC, PF.</p>	<p>Position - Back Office Manager -10 &gt; Age - 20- 26 Years. &gt; Communication in Local Language, Hindi &amp; English is mandatory. Computer knowledge essential. &gt; Graduates in Arts, Commerce, Agriculture will be given priority. &gt; Experience-Employed with microfinance, NBFC &amp; Bank for more than 1 year as back office.</p>
<p>04.05.2018 Sonepur [At - Patavadi, Haldipali Road, Sonepur] 10.00 AM to 3.00 PM</p>	<p>05.05.2018 Bhubaneswar [Hotel Adyasha Plaza, Near New Bus Stand, Mathabashi] 10.00 AM to 3.00 PM</p>
<p>For further details contact : 9078897279, 9853690256, 9439540581, 9078897279, 931936025 / HRD: Mumbai   Head Office : 022 6141 5900</p>	
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“The company has registered a strong growth in consolidated PAT. All our subsidiaries and plants have reported robust performance despite challenging circumstances and sectoral challenges. This has been largely due to company's relentless focus on operational improvements & excellence”

Praveer Sinha | CEO & Managing Director, TATA POWER

## ICICI NAMES RADHAKRISHNAN NAIR AS NEW DIRECTOR

ICICI Bank Wednesday said its board has appointed Radhakrishnan Nair as an additional (independent) director of the bank for five years. The appointment is subject to the approval of shareholders, the private sector lender said in a regulatory filing.



## of the day quote

We welcome Anil Sardana to the Adani Family. He joins us at a very critical phase when the company has recently entered the power distribution space with the acquisition of the Mumbai GTD business. Sardana, (who) comes with a vast experience in the power sector, will play an important role in taking our Transmission business to new heights



Gautam Adani | Adani Group Chairman

The proceeds of the fresh issue will be used to augment capital base to meet future capital requirements



R. Sridhar | Chief Executive of Everstone Capital-backed Indostar Capital Finance Ltd

We entered into the AC market in March 2017 and sold around 75,000 ACs in one year, which is around 1 per cent of the country's market of 4.5 million units in the last fiscal," he said, adding, "In 2018-19, we have set a target of selling 1.5 million units



Nikhil Garg | Product Business Head, Intex

## DRAFT TELECOM POLICY AIMS AT 40L JOBS

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, May 2: With the promise of rationalising levies including spectrum charges to rejuvenate the debt-ridden telecom sector, the draft new telecom policy proposes broadband access for all with 50 mbps speed, 5G services and 40 lakh new jobs in the sector by 2022.

The draft policy branded as 'National Digital Communications Policy 2018' was unveiled by the government Tuesday. It aims to attract \$100 billion in the digital communications sector by 2022 with help of regulatory reforms.

The draft also proposes to address woes of the sector by reviewing licence fees, spectrum usage charges, universal service obligation fund levy - all of which add to the cost of telecom services.

The policy aims to accomplish provisioning of broadband for all, creating 40 lakh additional jobs in the digital communications sector and enhancing its contribution to 8 per cent of India's GDP from about 6 per cent in 2017.

Under the new policy, the government aims to enable fixed line broadband access to 50 per cent of households and start headline portability services.

The policy suggests providing universal broadband coverage at



50 mbps to every citizen and providing 1 gbps (gigabit per second) connectivity to all gram panchayats by 2020 and 10 gbps by 2022.

It proposes to adopt 'Optimal Pricing of Spectrum' to ensure sustainable and affordable access to digital communications. High spectrum price and related charges have been main concern of telecom services segment which is reeling under a debt of around ₹7.8 lakh crore.

The draft policy also proposes recognising of mid-band spectrum, particularly the 3 GHz to 24 GHz range, for next-generation networks.

It also outlined roadmap for high in demand backhaul spectrum for transmitting signals between mobile towers in E and V band as per international best practices.

## Cut in levies to below 10% key to \$100 bn investment: COAI

New Delhi: Cutting telecom levies to below 10 per cent and speedy implementation of the proposed new telecom policy will be crucial for attracting \$100 billion investment as envisaged in the NTP draft, COAI said Wednesday. The government last evening released the draft of the new telecom policy which proposes to address the woes of the debt-ridden telecom sector by reviewing licence fees, spectrum usage charges, universal service obligation fund levy - all of which add to cost of telecom services. "Bringing down total taxes and levies, currently at about 30 per cent, to below 10 per cent, will be important for attracting investment targets outlined in the draft policy document," Director General of Cellular Operators' Association of India Rajan Mathews said. He said the industry - reeling under a massive financial stress - would like the policy to be finalised and implemented by July-end. Mathews said the mobile industry fully supports the NTP blueprint released after public consultations. The draft proposes to adopt "Optimal Pricing of Spectrum" to ensure sustainable and affordable access to digital communications. High spectrum price and related charges have been main concern of telecom services segment which is bruised by a debt of around ₹7.8 lakh crore. It also proposes to recognise mid-band spectrum.

"Promoting the effective utilisation of high capacity backhaul E-band (71-76/81-86 GHz) and V-band (57-64 MHz) spectrum in line with international best practices. Rationalizing annual royalty charges for microwave links for backhaul connectivity," the draft said.

To propel development of the country with use of next generation technology through investment, the policy proposes at-

tracting "investments of \$100 billion in the digital communications sector" by 2022 with help of regulatory reforms.

"The policy recognises the importance of continued improvement in the regulatory framework for attracting investments and ensuring fair competition, to serve the needs of Indian citizens. The policy aims to attract long-term, high quality and sustainable investments," it said.

## Vedanta top bidder in oil block auction

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, May 2: Mining mogul Anil Agarwal's Vedanta Ltd and state-owned ONGC were top bidders Wednesday for 55 oil and gas blocks offered in India's maiden open acreage auction that was shunned by domestic private and international energy majors.

Vedanta bid for all the 55 blocks while ONGC bid for 37 blocks either on its own or in consortium with other state-owned firms. State-owned Oil India Ltd (OIL) bid for 22 blocks in a similar fashion.

Vedanta was sole bidder for two blocks and had either ONGC or OIL as direct competitor in the remaining.

Except for the two blocks that received three bids each, all the other 53 had just two bidders. Reliance Industries and its partner BP plc did not bid for a single area. Essar Oil and Russia's Rosneft-backed Nayara Energy also abstained from the round.

No foreign company participated in the auction, a first since India began offering oil and gas area for exploration and production through bids in 1999.

DGH said a total of 110 bids were received from a total of nine

No foreign company participated in the auction, a first since India began offering oil area for exploration and production through bids in 1999

companies - five state-run and four private firms. Besides Vedanta's oil unit, Cairn India, other private players bidding included Selan Exploration, HOEC and Sun Petro. Bidding in the auction of 55 exploration blocks on offer for prospecting of oil and gas under the OALP closed Wednesday. Sources said Cairn put in very aggressive bids for 13 blocks and a little less aggressive bids for another nine. The remaining bids were mostly routine, they said. DGH, the upstream technical arm of the ministry of petroleum and natural gas, began opening of offers received under the OALP bid round being held under the new Hydrocarbon Exploration and Licensing Policy (HELP). India had in July last year allowed companies to carve out blocks of their choice.

## SHORT TAKES

### EPFO discontinues services through CSC

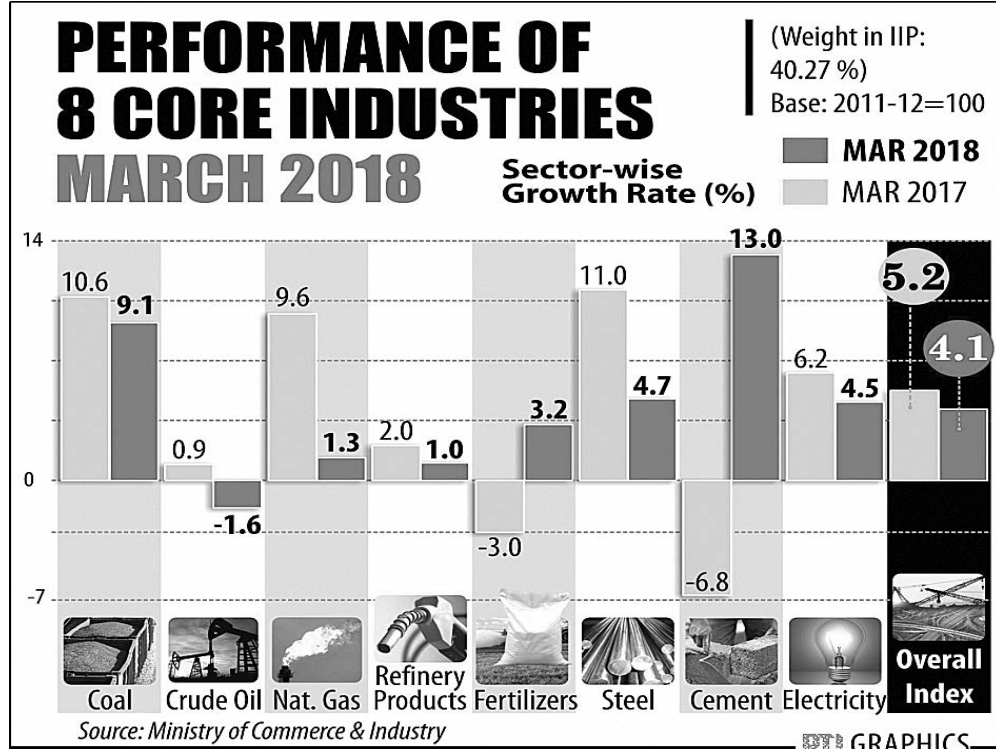
New Delhi: Retirement fund body EPFO Wednesday said it has discontinued services provided through Common Service Centre "pending vulnerability checks" and ruled out any leakage of subscribers' data from a government website. EPFO's statement comes against the backdrop of reports suggesting theft of data of subscribers by hackers from aadhaar.epfoservices.com, a website operated by Common Service Centre (CSC) that comes under the Ministry of Electronics and IT. The reports were based on a letter by EPFO Central Provident Fund Commissioner VP Joy to CEO of CSC, Dinesh Tyagi. "Warnings regarding vulnerabilities in data or software is a routine administrative process based on which the services which were rendered through CSC have been discontinued from March 22, 2018," said an EPFO statement issued after the report went viral.

### National electronics policy by 2019

New Delhi: The government is expected to bring, this financial year, an ambitious national electronics policy that seeks to position India not only as production hub to serve the booming domestic market, but also for exports. The proposed policy that spans diverse areas ranging from medical electronics to mobile phones and automobiles will underscore India's growing manufacturing prowess, right down to the level of components and sub assemblies, and pitch its deeper value addition capabilities. It will also leverage the country's existing strengths in electronics design, given that nearly 75 per cent of global technology majors have Research and Development (R&D) presence in India, a senior IT Ministry official said. "The draft policy will be put up for public consultation in a month or so, and we expect it to be finalised by the second half of the current fiscal," said the official who did not wish to be named. The current thrust now is to incentivise maximum value addition, and the duty structure is geared towards encouraging players to bring in raw modules and components for assembly.

### Amazon offers to buy 60% stake in Flipkart

New Delhi: Amazon.com Inc has made a formal offer to buy a 60 per cent stake in Indian online retailer Flipkart, a TV channel reported Wednesday, citing sources. Amazon also offered Flipkart a breakup fee of \$2 billion, the report added. Amazon's bid is likely to be on par with Walmart Inc's bid for the Indian e-commerce company, it further said. The report also stated that Flipkart's investors and founders are in favour of the deal with Walmart, with founder Sachin Bansal overseeing final negotiations with Walmart. Amazon is also seeking a non-compete agreement with Flipkart's founders, the report further added.



## SEBI probes plunge in InterGlobe stocks

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, May 2: SEBI is examining the sharp plunge in shares of InterGlobe Aviation, parent of IndiGo, hours before it announced the resignation of its president Aditya Ghosh, officials said.

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) is probing a more than 6 per cent plunge in the country's largest domestic carrier's shares price April 27.

Hours after the market close that day, the airline announced the resignation of Ghosh at 7.56 pm. While his resignation as president is effective from July 31, Ghosh quit as a director of the company with effect from April 26, a day before the announcement was made.

As per the information available with BSE, the exchange disseminated the company's filing within 0.05 seconds of its receipt. SEBI is examining whether there

was any delay on part of the company in making the disclosure. Besides, the regulator has already asked exchanges to collate the share price data to examine any possible breach of the insider trading rules, the officials said.

Depending on preliminary examination, SEBI will ask the airline, its promoters and directors and as also the outgoing CEO to provide further clarifications, they added.

When asked for a comment, InterGlobe Aviation, which runs low-cost carrier IndiGo, said it has not received any notification from SEBI.

"In any event, please note that IndiGo has complied with all stock exchange listing requirements relating to Ghosh's resignation," the spokesperson added.

On April 27, the company had said that Ghosh would step down as president and whole time director.

## Push for NPA recognition to hurt profits

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, May 2: Moody's Investors Service said that the final stage of a multi-year initiative by RBI to push banks to recognise problem assets more accurately will reduce profitability for the sector in the near term, but produce benefits over the longer term.

While this push will increase the already-high non-performing assets (NPAs) ratios and provisioning burdens for India's banks, and strain their profitability in the near term, cleaner balance sheets in the long run will be credit positive for the sector, Moody's said in a statement.

The Reserve Bank of India's rules are credit positive because they provide a clearer, time-bound process for resolving stressed assets and will prevent a future buildup of problem loans in the system, it said.

"Also, we have already been taking into account the system's re-

Under the new rules for bad debt resolution that the RBI implemented in March 2018, banks can no longer resort to various loan restructuring schemes to delay the recognition of NPAs



structured assets, not just non-performing loans (NPLs), when assessing the banks' credit profiles. So shifts in the composition of the broader asset pool will not have much bearing on our assessment of the banks' asset quality," it said.

Under the new rules for bad debt resolution that the RBI implemented in March 2018, banks can no longer resort to various loan restructuring schemes to delay

the recognition of NPAs. Although banks have recognised many loans as NPAs following an extensive inspection of loan books by the RBI in 2015, they still hold large volumes of restructured loans, a large share of which will become NPAs in the coming quarters, it said.

As banks reclassify these assets, it said, NPA ratios will gradually rise, but once this process is complete, they will stabilise and

eventually decline substantially. Increased provisioning will hurt the banks' profitability, and weaker public sector banks in particular will continue to report losses in the next fiscal year, adding pressure on their capital ratios, it said.

Nevertheless, the near-term impact of this profitability deterioration on their credit profiles will be largely offset by planned capital infusions from the government, it added.

## WHY POTENTIAL CAR BUYERS PREFER RADIO CABS

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, May 2: Many potential car buyers are delaying their decision to make their purchases as they see radio cabs and aggregators as a more convenient and cheaper option of commuting, according to a recent study.

As per a study conducted by Kantar Millward Brown, which covered a sample size of over 1,000 users, around 72 per cent of the possible car buyers have delayed their decision to purchase a car, 88 per cent felt that using a cab aggregator is cheaper than owning a car, while 86 per cent of the respondents felt cabs were more convenient.

The study covered key markets like Delhi, Mumbai, Bangalore and tier II cities like Nagpur, Jaipur and Coimbatore. All the respondents were either car owners or were planning to purchase a vehicle in the next six months.

As per the findings of the study, 73 per cent consumers felt that distance travelled in the self-owned car has come down leading to a decline in the servicing frequency of the car for about 65 per cent of the respondents.

Besides, 73 per cent felt that cost of servicing the car has also gone down, it noted.

"The cab aggregator services seem to be turning the automotive



category from an aspirational one to a commoditised one," Kantar Millward Brown Executive Vice

President Anand Parameswaran said.

A category that used to be more

about status seems to be shifting towards convenience due to the benefits that these aggregator services provide, he added.

"The benefits propel consumers to choose them (aggregators) over their own personal vehicles. Manufacturers no longer can focus on functional benefits to create demand, aspiration and status of owning a car and driving it will lead to higher usage," Parameswaran said.

The study further noted that for 59 per cent of the respondents, comfort and convenience is the most important factor while opting for a cab.

About 66 per cent of the re-

spondents also felt that aggregator cabs had better service than regular cabs, making them more comfortable to sit in for long distances as well. "It seems consumers have found an alternative to driving on their own with the emergence of aggregator cabs. With clogged roads, difficulty in finding parking spaces, the consumer is seeking convenience over pleasure of driving," Parameswaran said.

However, owning a passenger vehicle is still an aspiration for majority of Indians, hence getting reflected in the robust sales for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2018, he added.



## Eat right & keep cool: Jacqueline

**A**ctor Jacqueline Fernandez says her mantra in summer is to eat right and keep it cool. The actress, who is an investor in Indian cold pressed juice brand RAW Pressery, says it is important to stay hydrated in summer. She tells her summer essentials:

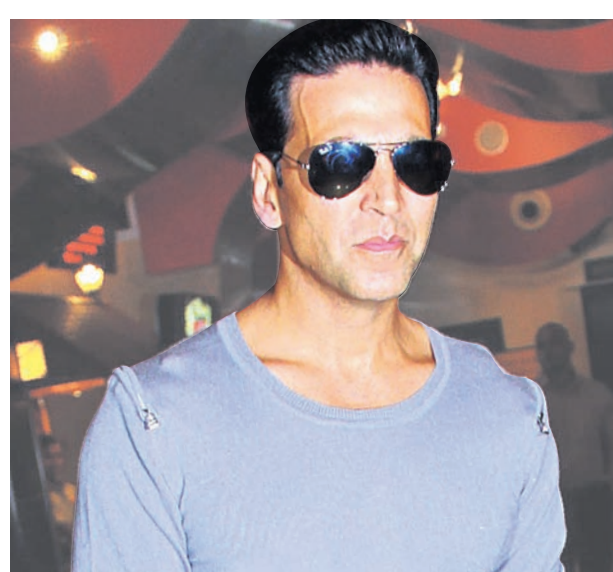
**Water:** Yes, I do drink like a fish. Nothing quite quenches my thirst during the summer than a cooling glass of water. I dial up my daily intake to about 3.5 litre. It keeps my body hydrated and my skin looking fresh as a daisy. Another big one on my list is coconut water, which I am absolutely nuts about - it replenishes electrolytes in my body and keeps me feeling light yet full.

**50 shades of green:** I'm a year-round obsessive salad eater. The fresh summer produce is my go to saviour. You will always find a serving of leafy greens in my lunchbox, on set or in between interviews - I'm always crunching away. I like to keep it good by adding some radish, cucumbers and apples and pomegranate to it. Radishes and cucumbers are little summer jewels and keep your body hydrated.

**Lemon-aid to the rescue:** Lemonade is my main squeeze during summer months. Coming home, on a sunny afternoon to an absolutely chilled glass, sets the tone for my day, week and month. Aloe Vera Lemon (Aid) is my new discovery with my summer favourite lemonade topped with cooling aloe vera and mint.

**One in a melon:** Few things can instantly put a smile on your face. Summer love and watermelons fall in that category. They take me back to my childhood when my siblings and I would over dose on big, juicy watermelon wedges. I like to keep it smooth with a watermelon and mint smoothie if I'm on the go. High in water content, it helps me beat my occasional summer melancholy.

**Sabja seeds:** Our very own version of Chia seeds, Sabja seeds are most effective when soaked in water and had during the course of the day. They reduce overall body heat and are also quite rich in fiber. Mix it up by adding them to a bowlful of mangoes, mint and turn on the summer vibe. IANS



## I want scripts with solutions: Akshay

**B**ollywood star Akshay Kumar, whose latest films offer entertainment with a message, says he gets many scripts on the country's issues, but he is more interested in the solutions to those problems - an approach he feels the media needs to take too for the betterment of the country.

"I'm the kind of person who doesn't like to talk about problems. I prefer to talk about solutions than problems. I like solutions. I made a film like *Toilet: Ek Prem Katha* and in that, we showed that it is necessary to have sanitation facility for the women of the family. Then, I made *Pad Man* and in that also, I talked about solution.

"I get many scripts which talk about different problems but I don't like those scripts which only talk about problem. I'm more interested in solution of problems," Akshay said as he launched a non-government rural outreach programme New India Conclave 2018. Akshay said when he watches news channels, they always show different kind of problems in India.

"I wish in my life, someone would run a channel which continuously talks about solutions in every field because that's what we require in our country - solution and not problems," he asserted.

The actor is the brand ambassador of New India Conclave 2018, which

will recognise rural achievers of the country. It will take place in New Delhi in the first week of July with Prime Minister Narendra Modi and chief ministers of various states in attendance.

Akshay also hinted at making a film on a farmer's life.

Asked what kind of a movie would he like to make which will give a solution to the masses, he said: "I am looking for nice subject which I can make and talk about a solution through it."

"When I was interacting with one of the rural achievers here, I loved his concept of planting 111 trees whenever a girl is born in a village. I think if we can implement this concept in the entire country, then there will be no problem of lack of rain, increasing pollution and decreasing number of girl child."

"I am looking for different kind of things which I can compile in a film, but I think it's very hard way to make a story out of it which is entertaining at the same time worthy of giving a social message. It's not an easy job to do that, so I am still waiting for the right subject... but I have already got a lovely title of the film called as *Lakhpati Kisaan*," he quipped. IANS

## Mallika's Cannes mission

**A**ctor Mallika Sherawat is on a mission to Cannes. Her mission is to help eradicate child prostitution and trafficking. We know, she has been working tirelessly with her NGO Free-A-Girl to not just end this heinous form of violence against women and girls but also rehabilitate the victims.

Such is Mallika's dedication to the cause that she wants to highlight the issue at an international level. The actor and activist is looking to generate awareness about the issue at Cannes. In the past, Julia Roberts and Salma Hayek had used the forum to make a strong point on the issue.

She said, "This is my ninth year at Cannes. It is so important in today's world to raise awareness on the issue. It is 2018 and we are still grappling with child prostitution around the world. There are many children trapped in the racket. We need to focus on what is happening with women all over the world."

Her work with the Free-A-Girl NGO has been making headlines, especially when she reached out to External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj asking for help to get the Indian visa of Free-A-Child founder Evelien Holsken approved. Mallika is expected to walk the red carpet May 9 and May 10. She has been a regular at Cannes and her fashion choices at the fest have caught media attention. Mallika's constantly evolving classy fashion tastes and choices have drawn appreciation from fans over the world. When asked about her designer this time around, she said, "This time I am more excited for Cannes as my attire and look will be more attractive than the past years. I have two options from India and two from the US which I have shortlisted. One will be finalised next week. As far as jewellery is concerned, I'm accessories Boucher on this year." IANS



## Judd sues Harvey

**A**ctor Ashley Judd has sued disgraced producer Harvey Weinstein for retaliating against her because she refused his sexual advances.

Judd took the action in the Superior Court, reports variety.com.

The actress has claimed that Weinstein smeared her reputation with director Peter Jackson, causing him not to cast her in *The Lord of the Rings*.

Judd said in a statement: "Weinstein's abusive conduct toward others has caused no end of damage to aspiring actors and others in the film and entertainment industry. As my experience and the experience of others shows, even a few false statements

from Mr. Weinstein could destroy potentially career-changing professional opportunities."

"It's time that Weinstein be held accountable for that conduct and for the ways in which he's damaged careers."

The 50-year-old actress is seeking damages for defamation, sexual harassment and violations of California's unfair business competition law.

Judd's attorney, Theodore Boutros of Gibson Dunn, said that any recovery from the suit would be donated to a charity that benefits women. IANS



## Let's rise above looks: Sonakshi

**A**ctress Sonakshi Sinha, who has often been bodyshamed, says it is important for the audience to rise above looks and delve deeper into an artiste's work. Sonakshi is all for the fact that one's work speaks for itself.

The actress, who walked the ramp at the launch of StreaX Professional's Spring Summer 2018 Collection 'Marigold' in an orange floor-sweeping gown, told IANS: "We should tell the audience and honestly that is something I have advocated since the starting of my career."

"I have always been projecting a very strong body image. Being true to yourself... I have been bodyshamed quite a bit but moving ahead of that because that is what I have always believed in... That it's not how you look but how you do and about how many people you reach out to," she added.

While the media waited for a conversation with the actress, who had flown in from Kuala Lumpur to be a part of the event, there was chatter about Sonakshi's weight loss and "sculpted body".

Don't such comments and questions on weight annoy her?

"I have been answering questions on my weight loss for so long that I have become indifferent to them. There are certain things that seem odd at the moment, but I am kind of used to it," said Sonakshi.

"And it's okay, it's part of my profession. These are very basic things that people are interested in, which is why they ask. They are I guess, the most obvious questions," added the actress, who will next be seen in *Happy Phirr Bhaag Jaayegi*, *Kalank* and *Dabangg 3*. IANS





**Cricket Australia's chief executive James Sutherland handed disgraced opener David Warner a lifeline after the cheating scandal saying that the explosive batsman still has a future. "I think everyone deserves their chance and their own personal redemption story is very much in their own hands now," he said**

## HONOUR FOR SALAH

Mohamed Salah has been voted Footballer of the Year by the Football Writers' Association to complete the double of English soccer's major individual awards. "He is the first African to receive the award and we congratulate him on a magnificent season," FWA Chairman Patrick Barclay said



## SHORT TAKES

### SLC polls postponed

**Colombo:** The polls to elect the next set of office bearers of Sri Lanka Cricket (SLC) have been postponed and pushed to May 31, on technical grounds from the original date of May 19. Instead, the special general meeting (SGM) of the SLC will now be held May 19. Sri Lanka's sports ministry had informed the board that the procedure followed in appointing the election commission was invalid. "The ministry had informed us that the composition of the committee to oversee the elections needs to be formed only after an SGM and we will go ahead as we've been advised," said SLC president Thilanga Sumathipala.

### Busan to host TT worlds

**Seoul:** South Korea won the bid to host the 2020 International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF) World Team Table Tennis Championships. The Korea Table Tennis Association said Tuesday that South Korea's southern port city Busan has been named the host city for the 2020 worlds at the ITTF Annual General Meeting in Halmstad, Sweden. It will be the first time for South Korea to host the table tennis worlds. Busan competed against Katerinburg of Russia and San Jose of the United States to bring the world's biggest table tennis event to its city.

### Contract extended

**London:** Defender Rob Holding has signed a new long-term contract with Arsenal, the capital football club announced Tuesday. The 22-year-old, who joined Arsenal from Bolton Wanderers in July 2016, had made his debut against Liverpool in the opening match of the 2016-17 season. He has since gone on to make 42 first-team appearances and helped the team win the Emirates FA Cup against Chelsea at Wembley Stadium last year. The duration of the new contract was however, not stated by the club.

### Strong Indian squad

**New Delhi:** After securing a rich haul of 11 medals at the Asian Youth Boxing Championships in Bangkok last week, Indian boxing got yet another huge shot in the arm as 16 young pugilists booked their spots for the 2018 AIBA World World Boxing Championships, the second highest by any Asian country in the fray. A total of 10 women and six men have made the cut for the prestigious event. The World Championship will also serve as the last opportunity for the Indian boxers to qualify a complete field for the Youth Olympics.

### Former coach accused

**Rio de Janeiro:** A former coach of Brazil's national gymnastics team has been accused by dozens of athletes of sexual abuse in the latest child molestation scandal to rock the sport. Fernando de Carvalho Lopes allegedly watched children shower, touched them indecently and asked them to perform sexual acts, according to at least 40 of his victims. The gymnasts and former gymnasts revealed the accusations to the Fantastico news programme on TV Globo. Lopes has denied the allegations. The Sao Paulo state security department confirmed police were investigating but declined to provide details for judicial reasons.

### Shuttlers banned

**Kuala Lumpur:** Malaysian shuttlers Tan Chun Seang and Zulfadli Zulkifli have received 15 and 20 years bans respectively after being found guilty of offences relating to betting, wagering and irregular match results. Badminton World Federation (BWF) said Wednesday. Tan and former junior world champion Zulkifli were banned from any involvement in badminton, including administrative, coaching, officiating, and developmental functions. An independent panel came to the conclusion that both players "engaged in corruption offences over a significant period and a significant number of tournaments" dating back to 2013, BWF said in a statement. "In addition, Tan has been fined \$15,000 while Zulkifli has been fined \$25,000 by a BWF Ethics Hearing Panel," BWF said.

### Teams announced

**Mumbai:** Two youth teams of Delhi and Bangalore will represent India at the Junior NBA World Championships to be played in Orlando, USA August 7-12. The National Basketball Association (NBA) announced Wednesday that a team each from Delhi (boys) and Bangalore (girls) will represent India at the ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex after they won the Junior NBA National Finals. The two sides received their winners' trophies from Los Angeles Lakers' Brook Lopez. **AGENCIES**

## BENZEMA BRACE HELPS LOS BLANCOS SURVIVE BAYERN SIEGE AND ENTER 3RD SUCCESSIVE CL SUMMIT CLASH

# ULREICH BLUNDER SENDS REAL TO FINAL

REUTERS

**Madrid, May 2:** A goalkeeping howler from Bayern Munich custodian Sven Ulreich and a Karim Benzema brace helped Real Madrid reach the Champions League final for the third year in a row as Zinedine Zidane's men played a 2-2 draw with wasteful Bayern at the Santiago Bernabeu here Tuesday to win their semifinal, second leg 4-3 on aggregate.

Bayern defender Joshua Kimmich had put the visitors ahead after three minutes but Benzema levelled with a free header in the 11th. A catastrophic blunder from Ulreich then allowed Benzema to tap in Madrid's second just after the break.

James Rodriguez, on loan from Madrid, restored parity for Bayern in the 63rd to set up a gripping finale but Real held on despite waves of pressure to become the first team since Juventus in 1998 to reach the final for three years in succession. They will meet Liverpool or AS Roma in the final in Kiev May 26, where they will bid to become the first side since Bayern in 1976 to win the competition for three straight years.



**CATASTROPHIC BLUNDER:** Bayern Munich goalkeeper Sven Ulreich (C) looks haplessly as his error allowed Karim Benzema (L) put the ball into an empty net for Real Madrid's second goal at Santiago Bernabeu, Tuesday

Real rode their luck to win the first leg in Munich 2-1 after Bayern had missed a slew of chances and the Los Blancos, Real Madrid popularly known as, made the most of their few opportunities.

Bayern launched an early assault on their kingdom as David Alaba rushed forward only to pass into the hands of keeper Keylor Navas. Bayern came back down

the other flank and landed their first punch when Ramos failed to clear a cross and Kimmich gleefully knocked the ball home from close range. It was the third consecutive home game in the Champions League knock-out stages that Madrid had fallen behind, but they kept their composure and soon found an equaliser.

A superb cross-field ball from

diminutive midfielder Luka Modric was controlled by Marcelo who delivered the perfect cross from the left for Benzema to nod calmly in at the back post. An end-to-end game ensued, with the midfield frequently bypassed with long balls up to the forwards.

Bayern could have re-taken the lead but striker Robert Lewandowski was foiled by Madrid goalkeeper Navas and Rodriguez sent the rebound flying over the bar from close range.

Bayern finished the half strongly but were left fuming at a failed penalty appeal when Kimmich's shot struck Marcelo's arm. They contributed to their own demise, though, when Ulreich lost his footing as he tried to control a backpass from Corentin Tolisso, allowing Real's much-maligned striker Benzema to tap in what proved to be the killer blow.

Bayern did create chances before and after Rodriguez's goal but Navas denied the Colombia international while Mats Hummels headed wide from a corner in stoppage time. It was Bayern's fifth consecutive Champions League exit to a Spanish side, and their third to Madrid in that time.

# Custodian issues heartfelt apology

AGENCIES

**Madrid, May 2:** Bayern Munich goalkeeper Sven Ulreich took to social media Tuesday to issue a heartfelt apology for his mistake, which handed Real Madrid a 4-3 (on aggregate) Champions League semifinal victory at the Santiago Bernabeu here, Tuesday.

Ulreich has apologised for the error that cost Bayern Munich a place in the Champions League final. Ulreich made a bizarre mistake in the second half, as he attempted to collect Corentin Tolisso's back pass, only to seemingly realise that he was unable to use his hands. He then subsequently slipped, allowing Karim Benzema to score his second goal on the night.

Widely circulated pictures showed Ulreich on his own on the Bernabeu turf after the final whistle, clearly distraught, and he has now issued a public apology to Bayern's supporters.

"Words can't describe how dis-

**Words can't describe how disappointed I am. We gave our best and then this needless mistake happened to me. I'm sorry for my team and for you fans**

SVEN ULREICH

appointed I am for being knocked-out," he wrote on Instagram. "We desperately wanted to reach the final and we gave our best and then this needless mistake happens to me. I can't explain it. I'm sorry for my team and for you fans," the post added.

However, Bayern's official Instagram account, as well as many of his teammates including Jerome Boateng, Javi Martinez and James Rodriguez were quick to comfort Ulreich on the social media platform.

# Hafeez cleared to resume bowling

AGENCIES

**Karachi, May 2:** Pakistan off-spinner Mohammad Hafeez has been cleared to resume bowling in international cricket after his action was deemed to be legal by the International Cricket Council (ICC) following reassessment, the sport's governing body said Tuesday.

Hafeez, 37, was suspended last November after match officials reported him for a suspected illegal bowling action in October's ODI against Sri Lanka.

"Hafeez underwent a re-assessment of his bowling action, where it was revealed that the amount of elbow extension in his bowling action was within the 15-degree level of tolerance permitted under the ICC Illegal Bowling Regulations," the ICC said in a statement.

The sport's governing body said that Hafeez had undergone remedial work prior to the re-assessment and videos and images of his corrected action will be provided to match officials in future games. The images are provided to help officials ensure that Hafeez does not revert back to



Mohammad Hafeez

his illegal bowling action in the future. Hafeez had been suspended on two previous occasions for the same offence and served a 12-month ban from July 2015 after his action was found to be illegal for the second time in a two-year period.

Meanwhile, West Indies pacer Ronsford Beaton has been suspended from bowling in international cricket after the ICC found his action to be illegal. The 25-year-old could be allowed to play domestic matches in the Caribbean with the consent of the nation's cricket board Cricket West Indies (CWI).

## Bond optimistic about MI chances

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**Bangalore, May 2:** Defending champions Mumbai Indians (MI) are standing at the threshold of an early exit from the ongoing IPL, but an optimistic bowling coach Shane Bond feels the team have enough arsenal at its disposal to turn things turnaround in its must-win remaining six games.

With just two wins from eight matches, MI are currently languishing at the second last position in the eight-team IPL. Three-time champions Mumbai however have six more games remaining and Bond said they still can turnaround the script, just like 2015 when they went on to win their second IPL crown.

"We have six games left and we have to win them all. That is what we have to do. I still believe when you look at our squad, we have key players who can win us six games in a row. We have done it in the past (in 2015) and I believe we can do it again," Bond said after Mumbai lost by 14 runs against Royal Challengers Bangalore here last night. "We just have to take one game at a time and hopefully we can do that."

Bond said Mumbai players take a lot of pride in their performances so motivation is never a concern. "Motivation is there for the players. The guys take a lot of pride in their performances," he said.

## DEFENDING CHAMPIONS MUMBAI ALMOST OUT OF IPL-XI

# Bowlers fashion RCB victory

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

**Bangalore, May 2:** Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB) pulled off an excellent bowling performance to defeat Mumbai Indians (MI) by 14 runs in an IPL-XI clash here Tuesday.

Chasing a manageable target of 168 runs, MI lost wickets at regular intervals and could only post 153/7. Except for Hardik Pandya (50, 42b, 5x4, 1x6) the other Mumbai batsmen were unable to stand up to the RCB bowlers.

Mumbai's chase ran into trouble right from the start as they lost their entire top order in the first seven overs before the total had reached the 50-run mark. Kiwi pacer Tim Southee (2/25) struck the first blow when he bowled Ishan Kishan in the first over. Fellow pacer Umesh Yadav (2/29) struck in the fourth over when he sent back the other opener Suryakumar Yadav and skipper Rohit Sharma off successive deliveries.

### BRIEF SCORES

**RCB 167/7**  
 (Manan Vohra; Hardik Pandya 3/28)  
**bt MI 153/7**  
 (Hardik Pandya 50; Tim Southee 2/25)  
**by 14 runs.**

Kieron Pollard (13) and Jean-Paul Duminy (23) seemed to have stemmed the rot for a brief period when they put together 26 runs in the span of four overs. Pacer Mohammed Siraj (2/28) separated the duo. The two Pandya brothers Hardik



**BRILLIANT BOWLING:** Umesh Yadav (L) celebrates the wicket of Rohit Sharma at Bangalore, Tuesday

and Krunal however gave a tough fight to the RCB bowlers with a 56-run stand off 39 balls. But when Krunal miscued an attempted reverse scoop off Siraj to hand an easy catch to Mandeep Singh, it was as good as game over for Mumbai.

Earlier, a disciplined bowling effort by Mumbai restricted RCB to a moderate 167/7. Manan Vohra (45, 31b, 2x4, 4x6) was the highest scorer for them. Hardik (3/28) was the pick of the Mumbai bowlers.

## HOCKEY COACHING RESHUFFLE

# Marijne, Harendra to swap places

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

**New Delhi, May 2:** In yet another coaching reshuffle in Indian hockey, the national men's and women's hockey teams' head coaches Sjoerd Marijne and Harendra Singh have been asked to swap sides, Hockey India (HI) announced Tuesday.

The announcement comes after both the men's and the women's teams failed to grab a medal at the Gold Coast Commonwealth Games in April. This means 44-year-old Dutchman Marijne has returned to the women's team which he had left in September after being six months in charge.

Hockey India (HI) secretary general Mohd Mushtaq Ahmed said, "Harendra Singh brings with himself wealth of experience and has previously managed a lot of the men's team players during his stints in the Hockey India League and with the junior teams. While, Marijne's first stint with the Women's team was a very successful one and we are sure he will continue to do well with this team as he has done in the past."

Marijne, urged by HI to accelerate the growth of a talented young generation, saw the team change a lot of players. His team saw the axing of some of the seniors like Sardar Singh and Ramandeep Singh. Under Marijne, India retained the Asia Cup and clinched the bronze medal in the Hockey World League (HWL) Final in late 2017. However, his team finished fourth in the CWG. Experts questioned the changing of players in a crucial year for the Indian team.

It will also be a return to the men's coaching top post for former international Harendra, who worked as head coach between 2009 and 2011. He also led the junior men's team to World Cup glory during an eight-month stint. Harendra's most important contribution to the women's team was leading them to the Asia Cup title in Japan last year.

"It is an honour for me to now manage the Indian men's hockey team. It has been a very satisfying journey with the Indian Women's Hockey team and I would like to thank Hockey India for entrusting me with the new role," he said.



Harendra Singh during a training session with the Indian women's team

## 18-YR HIATUS ENDS

# Bihar back in Ranji Trophy

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

**New Delhi, May 2:** After a long wait of 18 years, Bihar will return to domestic cricket tournaments when it will play the Ranji Trophy in September this year.

Amicus curiae Gopal Subramaniam told this to the bench of Chief Justice Dipak Mishra, Justice AM Khanwilkar and Justice DY Chandrachud in the course of the hearing of a contempt plea filed by the Cricket Association of Bihar. Bihar did not get any opportunity to participate in any of the domestic cricket tournaments after the formation of Jharkhand November 15, 2000, when it lost its cricketing head-quarter at Jamshepur to Jharkhand.

The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) said that Bihar could not be accommodated in the domestic circuit because the domestic season had ended by the time the court had passed its January 4 order. The top court had this year had said January 4 that Bihar will play the Ranji Trophy and other domestic tournaments under the aegis of the Bihar Cricket Association (BCA).

The court had passed its January 4 order after Alok Verma of the Cricket Association of Bihar told the court that ever since the formation of Jharkhand November 15, 2000, following the bifurcation of the state, Bihar did not get any opportunity to participate in Ranji Trophy, Duleep Trophy or any other domestic tournaments.

TODAY'S MATCH KKR vs CSK Time: 8pm Telecast: Star Sports channels

SHORT TAKES

Dhuper in NCA camp

Cuttack: Odisha cricketer Rajesh Dhuper has been selected as the only player from the state to take part in the U-23 camp, which will take place at the National Cricket Academy (NCA) in Bangalore, June 25-July 24.

India lose top spot

Dubai: England have overtaken India to seize the top spot in the ICC ODI team rankings following the annual update. The 2014-15 season has been dropped from the latest calculations while those from the 2015-16 and 2016-17 seasons are weighted at 50 per cent.

SLC warns Malinga

Colombo: Sri Lanka Cricket (SLC) selectors are reportedly upset with pacer Lasith Malinga for apparently wasting his time as bowling mentor of Indian Premier League (IPL) side Mumbai Indians and issued the 34-year-old an ultimatum to return home to play domestic cricket if he intended to be recalled to the national side.

Sunita to lead India in ACT hockey



POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, May 2: Experienced Odisha defender Sunita Lakra will lead defending champions India at the Asian Champions Trophy women's hockey tournament, starting at Donghae City, Korea May 13.

THE SQUAD

Goalkeepers: Savita, Swati; Defenders: Deepika, Sunita Lakra (C), Deep Grace Ekka, Gurjit Kaur, Suman Devi Thoudam; Midfielders: Monika, Namita Toppo, Nikki Pradhan, Neha Goyal, Lilima Minz, Navjot Kaur, Udita; Forwards: Vandana Katariya, Lalremsiami, Navneet Kaur, Anupa Barla.

up as a drag-flicker, will operate the defensive line while the midfield will feature Monika, Namita, Nikki Pradhan, Neha Goyal, Lilima, Navjot Kaur and Udita. India's forward line will be led by Vandana Katariya,

Lalremsiami, Navneet Kaur and Anupa.

The team will be hoping to ride on the good show at the recently-concluded Gold Coast Commonwealth Games, where it entered the semifinals after 12 years, eventually finishing fourth.

In 2016, the Indian team had defeated China in the final to win the previous edition of Asian Champions Trophy. The girls followed up this victory with a successful outing at the 2017 Asia Cup where they beat China again in the summit clash.

This year, the team will begin its campaign against Japan May 13. Interestingly, it is expected to be Dutchman Sjoerd Marijne's first assignment with the team following his return to the women's camp after

being in charge of the senior men's side for eight months.

Following a disastrous Commonwealth Games outing, Marijne was forced Tuesday to swap places with Harendra Singh by Hockey India.

"We were very disappointed after losing the semifinal in CWG by a close margin to hosts Australia. We knew it was our best chance to make the medal round," said Sunita.

"But we have gained a lot of confidence and heart from these matches against tougher teams like England and Australia. While this team is of mostly experienced players, we also have talented youngsters who are eager to contribute to the team's success and help us defend the title," she added.

BCCI remains defiant

CA blasts BCCI for denying day/night Test

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, May 2: Cricket Australia (CA) CEO James Sutherland Wednesday said India's refusal to play a day-night Test during the series later this year is driven by a desperation to win Down Under even as the BCCI stayed firm in its rejection of the proposed match



Obviously, we want to beat Australia in Australia and what's wrong in it? If they can strategise how easily they can beat us, we will look after our interests

VINOD RAI | COA CHIEF

Sutherland feels that it is CA's prerogative to decide on the pink ball Test against India at Adelaide from December 6-10 but BCCI Committee of Administrators (COA) chief Vinod Rai once again made it clear that the game will not take place.

"I think personally the home country should have the right to schedule matches as it sees fit and start them at whatever time of day they want," Sutherland said. CoA chief Rai said, "I don't think BCCI's stand will change. As it has already been decided, D/N pink ball matches will continue at the first-class level. Duleep Trophy will be played under lights once again."

Rai, however, said that India's reluctance to play D/N Test does not imply that the two boards are on collision course. "I don't see this as a reason for friction between boards. Playing condition is something that both the boards sit and decide upon. But let me make it clear once again, there won't be any pink ball Test involving India," Rai said. In fact, Sutherland went to the extent of saying that India are only focused on winning the series rather looking at future of the game.

Mixed show by shuttlers

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Auckland, May 2: The Indians had a mixed day in office as the men's singles players made merry while the women players had a forgettable show during the opening round of the New Zealand Open Badminton Championship here Thursday. Lakshya Sen, B Sai Praneeth, Ajay Jayaram and Sameer Verma recorded victories in their respective matches.

Lakshya defeated June Wei Cheam of Malaysia 21-11, 21-16 to enter the second round where he will face top seed Dan.

India's top ranked player in the tournament, third seeded Praneeth made short work of Israel's Misha Zilberman 21-11, 21-19 in just 41 minutes. Fifth seeded Indian Verma put up an authoritative display beating Indonesia's Sony Dwi Kuncoro 21-8, 21-10.

Jayaram was the most impressive among the Indians as he upset fourth seeded Hsu Jen Hao 21-23, 21-12, 21-18. Sameer's brother Sourabh, however, had an early exit

Important results

Table with 2 columns: Match details and Results. Includes Lakshya Sen bt Wei Cheam 21-11, 21-16; B Sai Praneeth bt Misha Zilberman 21-11, 21-19; Ajay Jayaram bt Hsu Jen Hao 21-23, 21-12, 21-18; Sameer Verma bt Sony Dwi Kuncoro 21-8, 21-10.

losing to reigning Australian national champion Abhinav Manota who won 21-19, 14-21, 21-19. Sixth seeded Tommy Sugiarto of Indonesia beat Subhankar Dey 21-18, 21-10 in another match.

However, the Indian women had a disappointing day in the singles with both Jalka Vaishnavi Reddy and Chukka Sai Uttejitha Rao losing their respective matches. Vaishnavi lost to Hsuan-Yu Wendy Chen of Australia 16-21, 19-21 while Uttejitha lost to qualifier Yukino Nakai of Japan 14-21, 13-21.

CSK hot favourites against KKR

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Kolkata, May 2: Table-toppers Chennai Super Kings (CSK), who have looked a class apart so far, will start as hot favourites against Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) in an IPL-XI clash at the Eden Gardens here Thursday.

Back in the IPL after a two-year hiatus, the MS Dhoni-led outfit have till now won six games out of eight and just lost two. Dhoni has led from the front. The star former India captain has looked every inch like his old self with 286 runs in eight matches.

Besides Dhoni, top-scorer Ambati Rayudu has been superb with the bat as well, amassing 370 runs at 46.25. Veteran Australian opener Shane Watson has looked good too with a century. He along with South African skipper Faf Du Plessis, they make a deadly combination at the top.

Du Plessis' compatriot Lungi Ngidi has added teeth to CSK's pace battery after returning to the fold. The likes of Harbhajan Singh, and Dwayne Bravo have

RAIN PLAYS SPOILSPORT

Delhi: Rain played spoilsport as it first delayed the start of the match and later halted the game in the 17.1 overs of the Delhi Daredevils (DD) innings during their IPL-XI match against Rajasthan Royals (RR) at the Feroz Shah Kotla ground here, Wednesday. DD were 196/6 when rain stopped play. Umpires called it enough when the drizzles became heavier after the departure of Glenn Maxwell in the first ball of the final over of the 18-over-a-side encounter.

Earlier, Rishabh Pant (69, 29b, 7x4, 5x6) and Shreyas Iyer (50, 35b, 3x4, 3x6) scored blistering half centuries to put Delhi Daredevils in a commanding position. Put into bat, Delhi opener young Prithvi Shaw (47, 25b, 4x4, 4x6) and skipper Iyer added 73 runs for the second wicket after the early departure of Kiwi Colin Munro for a first-ball duck. Then Iyer and Pant scored an aggressive cricket to add 92 runs for the third wicket. However, wickets falling at regular intervals slowed the process of run flow. Vijay Shankar's (17, 6b, 2x4, 1x6) short cameo, though, allowed the hosts to go past 190-run mark. Jaydev Unadkat (3/43) was the pick of the RR bowlers.

also done well in games, giving the team an overall stability.

On the other hand, KKR registered a morale-boosting six-wicket win against Royal Challengers Bangalore in their last game. After a harrowing 55-run loss against Delhi, Chris Lynn starred for Dinesh Karthik's KKR with an unbeaten half century as wrist spinners Piyush Chawla and Kuldeep Yadav also looked good.

KKR have looked good in patches so far and against a formidable side in CSK, the men in purple will have their task cut out. A lot will once again rest on West Indian all-rounder Andre Russell who has been KKR's go-to-man this season. Kuldeep and Piyush will have to weave their magic with the ball to restrict Chennai and look for early wickets along with mystery spinner Sunil Narine.

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