



## DUA ENJOYS SINGLE LIFE

Singer Dua Lipa says she enjoys being single because she learns a lot more about herself

GLITTERATI | P10



## US WARNS CHINA

The US Friday warned China that it would face 'consequences' for military buildup in the disputed South China Sea

INTERNATIONAL | P11



## PRANEETH ADVANCES

B Sai Praneeth enters the men's singles semifinals of the New Zealand Open badminton championship

SPORTS | P15

### SHORT TAKES

#### Twitter urges users to change passwords

**San Francisco:** Twitter Friday asked its over 300 million users to consider changing their account passwords after the social media giant identified a bug that stored "unmasked" information. However, Twitter assured its users that the bug has been fixed and its investigation has found no breach or misuse on any account. The advisory by the San Francisco-headquartered company comes as debates on data privacy online intensified in the wake of social media giant Facebook's reported data breach by UK-based analytics firm Cambridge Analytica to influence elections and market campaigns. Twitter said it masks passwords through a process called "hashing" using a function known as bcrypt, which replaces the actual password with a random set of numbers and letters that are stored in its system.

#### Four minor girls raped

**Bargaon/Sambalpur:** The nationwide hue and cry over alarming increase in rape incidents notwithstanding, three separate rape cases were reported from Sundergarh and Sambalpur districts in the state during the last 24 hours. An 11-year-old was raped by a sexagenarian at Bankibahal village Wednesday. In another incident, a 9-year-old was raped at Motijharan locality under Dhanupali police station in Sambalpur town Thursday. Another minor was allegedly raped in a village under Sasan police station in Sambalpur district. In Balasore, a minor girl was sexually abused allegedly by a 75-year-old man, who has been arrested, police said Friday. The incident took place at Sana Matipur village in Balasore district Thursday.

#### BSE Class X result May 7

**Bhubaneswar:** Class X examination results of Odisha Board of Secondary Education (BSE) will be declared May 7 morning, Board President Jahanara Begum said Friday. Addressing a press meet, Begum said the result will be available on the BSE's official website www.bseodisha.ac.in after 12 noon. This year, 590,363 students had written the examination that was held between February 23 and March 8. Last year, the pass percentage for Class X was 85.28.

### MARKET WATCH

INDEX	VAIATION
SENSEX	34915.38 ↓ 187.76
NIFTY	10618.25 ↓ 61.40
DOLLAR	66.86 ↓ ₹0.22
EURO	79.88 ↓ ₹0.06
GOLD	₹31,080 ↑ ₹34
SILVER	₹39,085 ↑ ₹207

### WEATHER

	BHUB	CTK
TEMP MAX	34.8°C	34.5°C
TEMP MIN	25.0°C	23.8°C
Humidity	92%	71%
Rainfall	Nil	Nil

Forecast: Partially cloudy sky

# Blacklisted firm still in 'super contractors' list

### QUESTIONS ARE BEING RAISED WHETHER CONSTRUCTION FIRM'S LICENSE CANCELLATION WAS MERE EYEWASH

**Bomikhal bridge collapse yet again speaks volumes of the malaise within the government. Rampant corruption and inefficiency are the hallmark of this government**

NARASINGHA MISHRA | LEADER OF OPNN



A snapshot of the state government's Works Department website taken Friday

**Why was Panda Infrastructure allowed to execute the project again? Whose money has been invested in this project? Is the government shielding to the real culprits?**

SAJAN SHARMA | BJP SPOKESMAN

**The Opposition is busy bringing allegations, but is not serious on the issue. It's a tragic incident. The construction firm should have been extremely careful regarding the safety of workers. Any sort of negligence will be dealt seriously**

AMAR SATPATHY | GOVT CHIEF WHIP

**SUDARSAN MAHARANA, OP**

**Bhubaneswar, May 4:** Despite being blacklisted soon after the Bomikhal flyover collapse in that claimed one live September 10, 2017, the agency executing the project - Panda Infra Projects (India) Private Limited (PIPPL), is still listed as a 'super class' civil contractor on the state government Works Department's official website.

On its official website ([http://www.worksodisha.gov.in/civil\\_contractors\\_super\\_class.html](http://www.worksodisha.gov.in/civil_contractors_super_class.html)), the Works Department has shared profiles of as many as 214 civil contractors (Super Class) and Panda Infra Projects is among them. With the name of a blacklisted firm appearing in the top 100 Super Class civil contractors list on the government website, questions are

being raised if the cancellation of the construction firm's license was a mere eyewash. It also raises doubts about the attitude of the state government towards the construction of the project, which has already claimed two lives.

The state government had blacklisted PIPPL October 4, 2017 for alleged violation of safety standards that led to collapse of a portion of under-construction road over bridge (ROB) at Bomikhal. The mishap claimed the life of a businessman, while his daughter sustained grave injuries.

Despite these, the name of PIPPL was not removed from the Works Department website. What is shocking is that the government also allowed the construction firm to go ahead with the completion of the project despite the fact that the report of a probe into the mishap sug-

gested that company flouted the standard operating procedure (SOP), which also mandated that the firm obtain fresh approval from the Works Department before continuing with the construction of the span, pillar and centering of the project.

On the other hand, PIPPL has repeatedly missed deadline of project. The work of the project, which started in 2012 and was scheduled to be complete in 2014, was given an extension of three years till 2017. Following last year's mishap, the firm was given another extension till March 2018. However, the company failed to complete the project within the stipulated period and the deadline revised again to June 2018, exposing an unholy nexus between some officials of the Works Department and the blacklisted firm.

**Continued on P5**

## Panda Infra MD arrested; CM orders high-level probe

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Bhubaneswar, May 4:** Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik Friday ordered a high-level inquiry into the flyover collapse at Bomikhal area Thursday, which claimed the life of a labourer died, while another was critically injured.

On the other hand, the Panda Infra Projects Pvt Ltd (PIPPL) managing director Pratap Kishore Panda, who was in-charge of executing the project, was arrested by the police Thursday morning.

Expressing his deep regret over the tragedy, Patnaik announced an ex-gratia of ₹5 lakh for the family of the labourer Ajaya Bhumij of Sundergarh district, who was killed when an iron railing of the

under-construction Bomikhal flyover here collapsed Thursday night.

The Chief Minister's Office (CMO) further said that all medical expenses of Ananda Kumar, the injured labourer would be borne by the state government. The victim is currently undergoing treatment at a private hospital in Bhubaneswar.

Addressing the media, Commissioner of Police YB Khurana said police arrested Panda in connection with the incident. Late night reports said that PIPPL MD was admitted to the SCB Medical College and Hospital in Cuttack after he complained of health problems. **Continued on P5**

Protest over deceased labourer's body | P6



Forensic team making an on-the-spot visit at the Bomikhal flyover mishap site, Friday.

## ANOTHER FARMER ATTEMPTS SUICIDE

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Bargarh/Barpali, May 4:** A day after a farmer Akrur Bisi (50) tried to end his life by consuming poison before the district collectorate Thursday, another farmer of the same village attempted suicide at Kanbar village under Barpali police limits in Bargarh district Friday.

The victim was identified as Niranjan Bhoi alias Matu (36), son of Sukru Bhoi. Suicide attempts by the two farmers within a span of 24 hours have triggered an outrage in the area. Bhoi was rescued and rushed to Barpali government hospital and later shifted to Burlabased VSS Institute of Medical Sciences and Research (VIMSAR) as his condition worsened.

The powerful Nor'wester prevailing since a week has caused heavy crop loss in the district, destroying vast acres of standing crops, harvested paddy as well as vegetables kept for sale. Family members claimed Bhoi took the extreme step as he was under stress. Bhoi was

the only bread-earner in the family after the death of his father.

Notably, farmers of Kanbar panchayat under Barpali police limits have suffered the worst due to the natural disaster. It has come as a bolt from the blue for the farmers, who earlier suffered crop loss due to brown hopper pest attack in the Kharif season last year.

Irate over governmental negligence to protect farmers from natural disasters and its failure to come up with effective compensation mechanisms by way of insurance schemes, hundreds of farmers from Kanbar panchayat led by political leaders organised a picket outside the collectorate Thursday.

Bhoi, who also participated in the rally, returned home after the incident. He also took the extreme step and consumed pesticides in the farm Friday morning on seeing the destruction in his farm. Barpali tehsildar Debjani Bhuiyan reached the village with a police team and launched a probe into the incident.

## Fresh storm warning for Odisha, WB, UP and Bihar



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**New Delhi, May 4:** A fresh warning about thunderstorm and squall hitting West Bengal, Odisha, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh Friday has been issued, the Home Ministry said, and noted that 124 people were killed while more than 300 injured in five states due to thun-

derstorm and lightning in the last two days.

The maximum casualty was reported in Uttar Pradesh where 73 people were killed, while 91 others were injured.

Most of the deaths and injuries in the state took place in Agra region, a home ministry spokesperson said.

In Rajasthan, altogether 35 people were killed and 206 injured, while eight people were killed in Telangana, six in Uttarakhand and two in Punjab. Nearly 100 people were injured in Telangana, Uttarakhand and Punjab.

Following the thunderstorms, power supply was cut off in many areas as squall uprooted trees and snapped electricity cables. At least 12,000 electric poles were damaged and 2,500 transformers damaged in the affected states in the last two days.

The Home Ministry spokesperson said a fresh warning has been issued about possible thunderstorms accompanied with squall which may hit four states - West Bengal, Odisha, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh - Saturday.

Thunderstorm accompanied with squall is very likely at isolated places over Assam and Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura.

**Continued on P5**

## Get your own food to royal wedding



**London:** If you are one of the lucky few with a ticket to Windsor Castle for Britain's royal wedding May 19 you might expect a feast fit for a king. But guests set to descend on the grounds of Windsor Castle for the marriage of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle have been warned to expect no such thing. Kensington Palace - the official residence of Prince Harry - told AFP Thursday that guests have been advised to bring their own picnics as only light refreshments and snacks will be served. Relaxing in the sun - if it deigns to appear - and enjoying drinks and a meal of your own making is intended to give the royal occasion a family feel, according to the same source.

## No Nobel Literature Prize this year



**Stockholm:** The Swedish Academy said Friday it would postpone this year's Nobel Literature Prize for the first time in almost 70 years, as it is rocked by turmoil over links to a man accused of rape and sexual assault. "The Swedish Academy intends to decide on and announce the Nobel Prize in Literature for 2018 in parallel with the naming of the 2019 laureate," it said. The institution, founded in 1786, has on seven previous occasions chosen to reserve the prize: in 1915, 1919, 1925, 1926, 1927, 1936 and 1949. "On five of those occasions, the prize was delayed then awarded at the same time as the following year's prize," the Academy said in a statement.

# 100 per cent ODF villages in Jharsuguda a sham

MANISH KUMAR, OP

**Jharsuguda, May 4:** Recently, the Union government claimed that the toilet coverage in the Jharsuguda district (rural) in the state has reached

## SWACHH BHARAT MISSION



100 per cent and declared it to be an Open Defecation Free (ODF) district on the government's sanitation monitoring portal. However, ground realities differ.

A visit to the rural areas of the

district revealed an altogether different tale. Jampada, inhabited by around 40 households and situated merely 14 km from the Jharsuguda district headquarters, is still deprived of several basic civic amenities. Contrary to this, reports on paper claim that 100 per cent households have toilets. It may seem incredible, but the fact is that villagers here have not used the toilets constructed under the Swachh Bharat Mission (rural) even for once.

The deprived villages cited many reasons behind their decision to shun the use of toilets under the Swachh Bharat Mission. "We do not even have a source of piped water in



our village. The only tube-well is situated outside the village and it serves all our water needs. What is pathetic is that even this tubewell for a toss during dry seasons," Sunil Hadia, a labourer from the village, told Orissa POST.

Hadia added that people need to fetch water from the tube-well or from other nearby villages for toilet usage. Hence, they have opted for defecating in the open close to a pond situated near to their village. Most people from the village echoed the same view to

substantiate their decision to defecate in the open in this 'ODF' district of Odisha, raising questions about the government's claims.

This village not only reels under the paucity of water, but many civic amenities too. While an electric pole has been installed not more than 100 meters from the village, electricity is yet to reach the village. Villagers also complained that while toilets were built under the Swachh Bharat Mission, government officials did not care to provide them with amenities to ensure that the toilets are used by people.

"Ours is a neglected village. Villagers are compelled to travel to nearby villages to fetch water during dry spells. Often, the solitary tubewell ditches us. It either gives drops of water or refuses to give water at

all. Under such circumstances, how can the people have the luxury of using a toilet, especially when you have to bring water from a source located one km away," asked Dukho Khodia, a 44-year-old farmer from Jampada.

Moreover, NGOs that worked on the project told this correspondent that assistance for toilet construction for the households was given as per the survey done in 2014. As a result, some villagers and households were excluded from the beneficiaries' list. While declaring the district ODF, the government did not even consider the cases of such people.

When contacted, Roopa Mishra, MD of Swachh Bharat Mission in Odisha, refused to respond to calls from Orissa POST seeking her side of the story on the issue.





## PRESS FREEDOM

Participants at a seminar conducted at Image in Siripur to commemorate World Press Freedom Day in Bhubaneswar, Thursday.

## SPIRITUAL CONFAB

Manav Nirman Shibir, a three-day camp being inaugurated by Arya Samaj at Buddha Mandir in Bhubaneswar, Friday.



## FORTUNE FORECAST



**ARIES**  
You will be impulsive today, and this may throw up unexpected results. In a rush of enthusiasm, you may finish pending work and even be left with enough time to plan long-term goals. You may also realise and make amends for your past mistakes, says Ganesha.



**TAURUS**  
As a manager, you may be able to outclass your colleagues by a great margin, predicts Ganesha. You will soften your approach with time and move towards a more democratic style of decision-making rather than the arbitrary protocol that you are used to.



**GEMINI**  
An auspicious day awaits you. You will pay more attention to your family than to your career or at the work-front. This will mean the resolution of some long pending issues and projects at home. An enjoyable time with your family and children awaits you, says Ganesha.



**CANCER**  
Ganesha says that this is good day to buy new house or car. It is likely that you shift to a new house shortly. So be prepared for a ceremony like house-warming. You will achieve tranquil mind through yoga and meditation. It will radiate a new energy, enthusiasm and optimism in you.



**LEO**  
You will be in a very good mood today. You will inspire others to achieve substantial things in life. While you have been looking to take on an extremely challenging project, you have been unable to find the right opening so far. You ought to start such projects today, says Ganesha. The obstacles in your way will fade away on their own and you will be easily able to find the path to success.



**VIRGO**  
Today you will find yourself delving deep into your inner self. You will reap a lot of monetary rewards, and will be generous in spending it on your near and dear ones. Ganesha says that you may make up for the pressures at work by entertaining yourself with material pleasures.



**LIBRA**  
Ganesha says that you shall be immersed in successfully completing all your remaining work today. Whatever work you undertake today you shall be able to do it to your best capability and successfully and your work ability will be praiseworthy. Ganesha showers his blessings on you



**SCORPIO**  
You may deviate a little from mundane chores and take up creative activities like cooking and gardening. Today, according to Ganesha, you wish to do smart work and not just hard work. Family joys and pleasures will replace work satisfaction.



**SAGITTARIUS**  
Amid chaos and confusion, don't forget the direction and destination, advises Ganesha. You may be running short of time today and may not find a single moment in peace. Taking a break at this point of time won't be a crime, go for it.



**CAPRICORN**  
You are not an impulsive person and this reflects in whatever you do. Money will be on your mind almost throughout the day. Generally, you are a penny pincher, but during the later half of the day you will go on a spending spree. Don't ignore your pocket while spending, otherwise you may end up burning a hole in it, advises Ganesha.



**AQUARIUS**  
It is time to make addition in your possessions. Book your dream house or buy a vehicle, as today is a favourable day to do so. You, however, need to consider your financial resources before deciding anything because it will take a major chunk out of your savings, warns Ganesha.



**PISCES**  
Fear is a part and parcel of life, and while it can not be eliminated, it can certainly be tamed, and that is what you will be doing today. All your suppressed audacity will be on full display, says Ganesha.



# BLACK-LISTED FIRM TO BLAME FOR BRIDGE COLLAPSE



Thursday's railing collapse at Bomikhal bridge claiming the life of a person (In less than eight months since September 10 mishap) on the same spot has stunned the citizens. Anger against the authorities and officials responsible for the loss of life and property was evident among the people who Orissa POST interacted with.

**Bhubaneswar: Reena Chhatter,** a resident of Income Tax Colony: "I frequently travel through Bomikhal for my work. After yesterday's mishap, I am scared of travelling through the area. What really shocks me is that the Government has not been taking any action against the culprits. It is our money they are squandering. They must not be spared. Punish them for their carelessness."  
**Magu Puhana,** an eye witness on the spot "I welcome the decision of building the bridge at Bomikhal. We curse the gov-



ernment officials who have been supervising the shoddy work. Nobody seemed bothered about people's lives."

**Devi Prasad Mishra,** Resident of Rasulgarh: "It's the only road that connects Puri to Cuttack. Accidents on this route have become frequent. The Panda Infra company's Pratap Panda was simply arrested and he will come out of bail soon.



Neither the Government nor officials are careful about human life."

**Sangram Rout,** a Bomikhal resident. "I am not surprised that the bridge has claimed two lives in eight months. If these people are allowed to construct, we all know what will happen after it is built. I urge the authorities to stop playing with the lives of people. Enough is enough."



**Bijay S,** a resident of Rasulgarh. "I travel to my office at Kalpana on my bike. I don't wish to travel again on the same route. There is no guarantee of life in the hands of these people, thanks to black-listed Panda Infrastructure which was allowed to rebuild the bridge after last year's mishap."

**Harihar Nayak,** a Bomikhal shopkeeper "This is not the right location to build a flyover. I don't think the officials of Panda Infraprojects are working properly. Despite last year's tragic accident, the construction firm has failed to provide safety measures. The workers must be provided helmets. Our government has handed over the project work again to the accused."

**Chhabindra Mallick,** a restaurant employee "This construction site may be identified as killer site. Mishaps have happened at the same spot twice due to reckless

work. I don't know when the authorities will learn to serve people honestly. We don't want any flyover in the area."

**Krushna Chandra Nag,** a local resident "I think the government is to blame for the incident. The project was again handed over to the black-listed company. The government only knows how to provide compensation to the victim's family. They could not prevent recurring deaths at the same site. We are tired of this government."



**Debesh Dash,** Bomikhal resident "The government should have inspected the construction site every day after the first tragedy. But we are expressing our anguish and anger now after the mishap."



**Resident Abhimanyu Bisoi** "Things would have been better had they taken safety measures. The construction firm's recklessness has claimed another victim."  
*Inputs: Dipchand Bihari, Chaitali S*

## JEE(M) topper eyes IIT-Bombay

DIPCHAND BIHARI, OP

**Bhubaneswar:** City boy Sarthak Behera emerged as the topper in Odisha and stood 29th in All India Ranking (AIR) at the Joint Entrance Examination (JEE-Main) results of which were announced April 30. Sarthak scored 335 marks out of 360. He had secured 10 CGPA in Class X board. He has also taken Class XII board examination and expects to score 90 per cent marks. In an interview with Orissa POST, Sarthak reveals his secrets to success.



**How long have you been preparing for JEE exam?**  
I was taking coaching at FIITJEE from Class VI. I came to this institute to prepare for National Talent Search Examination (NTSE). But from Class-XI, I started serious preparations for JEE. Here, we were given questions to practice after each class.

Our teachers helped us understand the concepts clearly.

- **What is the minimum time needed to prepare for JEE main?**  
I was preparing eight to nine hours a day if there are no classes. Otherwise, I studied five to six a day
- **Is there a difference in preparation for JEE Main and JEE advance?**  
In JEE main, there are a few chapters in mathematics, physics and chemistry which are not much advanced. But JEE advance covers selected topics which you need to have deep knowledge.

- **What did you do to improve your weak areas?**  
I was weak in chemistry. So, I put stress on this subject. I followed NCERT books and FIITJEE study material. Rigorous practice helped me improve the subject.

- **Do you think coaching is needed to crack JEE exam?**  
I believe coaching is necessary for JEE exam. There are a few who qualify JEE without coaching. They are the studious lot.

- **Did you take JEE Main exam online?**  
No, I took the offline exam because I felt it was suitable for me. I like pen and paper method. We may face many problems during online exam due to snags in computers provided by the exam centre.

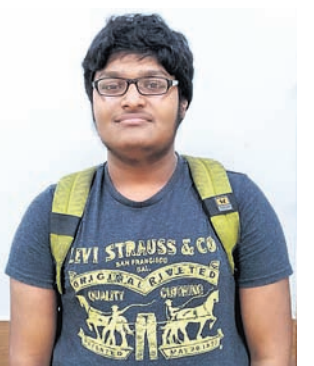
- **Do you think previous year questions help?**  
Yes obviously, previous years questions show the path for better

preparation. Without preparing previous years questions, the examinees may not feel confident. Once you are acquainted with the pattern of questions you can take the exams without stress.

- **Did you take mock tests?**  
Yes I did. I sat around 10 mock tests before JEE Main. Mock tests give you an idea of time management during the exams.

- **Which IIT do you have in mind now?**  
I want to study in the renowned IIT-Bombay. I hope to get a seat there.

- **Why do you want to go for engineering?**  
Actually, I love mathematics and physics from the beginning. I was keen to know more about programming, so, I decided to do engineering.



(DAV Public School Unit-VIII student Chirag Mohapatra emerged as the second state topper by scoring 61st in national ranking. He scored 325.)

## STAR WARS DAY

# SPACE FILMS CAST THEIR ALL-TIME SPELL ON FANS

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Bhubaneswar:** Fans of space science movie *Star Wars* Friday celebrated *Star Wars Day* in memory of George Lucas' epic space opera which was premiered May 25, 1977.

May 4 was chosen as the commemoration day for the catch phrase "May the force be with you" as May the Fourth be with you'.

The movie had influenced many film-goers since its first release in 1977 titled *Star Wars: A New Hope* after which there were a number of sequels and prequels with the latest being the franchise *Star Wars: The Last Jedi* which was released in 2017 to huge commercial success.

Orissa POST talks to a select star war fans and asks them about the influence of such films on them. Student Lalit Mundhra said although the original movie was released in 1977, its sequel trilogy was released recently and became very popular among the audiences.

Lalit said the movie



was first of its kind with its special effects which set a trend that continues till this day.

Roshan Bisoi says, "The star war series has been an inspiration to me. It had helped me overcome the bad phase I was passing through. Not only star wars but movies such as *Superman, Cast Away, Shaughank Redemption, A beautiful Mind and The Schindler's List* influenced me a lot."

Hindi movies such as *Taare Zameen Par, 3 idiots, Bhaag Milkha Bhag and Chak De India* had in-

fluence him, added Bisoi. Blogger Shreeta Dash says star war characters Luke Skywalker, Darth Vader and Han Solo had become favourites of moviegoers.

Although the star war films are set in space, they delineate the conflict between good and evil like all other films.

According to author Saurav Mondal, "Star wars or superhero movies impact mind more than anything else. I remember watching Shaktiman and I used to roam around the house in shaktiman outfits."

## MOVIE REVIEW A drama that reunites veterans & an ultra's biopic

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Bhubaneswar:** Bhubaneswar: After the stupendous superhero action movie *Avengers: Infinity War*, the moviegoers have two movies this week which promise to be good in content. The movies are Amitabh and Rishi starrer *102 Not Out* directed by Umesh Shukla and *Omerta* based on the life of terrorist Omar Saeed. Talking about *102 Not Out* which reunited two veteran actors after 27 years, the film directed by Umesh Shukla of *Oh My God* (OMG) fame, is a story of father-son relationship. The unique point in the film is that the father is 102 and the son 75. The father role was portrayed by Amitabh and Rishi plays his son. Amitabh Bachchan tries to set a world record in longevity for which he advises his son to go to an old-

age home. However, the son raises objection. The father asks his son to meet five conditions over a period of six months. The filmgoers love the movie for its unique storyline and camaraderie between two lead actors. Movie buff Sukant Sharma says watching



the Rishi-Amitabh duo after the 1977 film *Amar, Akbar and Anthony* is a wonderful feeling. The film is based on Gujarati play *102 Not Out* by Saumya Joshi. The play shows us a lesson on life skills and how to rise above bitter memories and cherish the sweet ones.



Aishwarya Behera, another film-goer, said watching the two veterans together in the latest film is a dream come true. The two actors had performed their roles to perfection. Amitabh has played the role of a 102-year-old person although his actual age is 75. Movie enthusiast Akash Baghar says it is a feel-good film like Umesh Shukla's classic movie *OMG*. Talking about the second movie starring Rajkumar Rao, a biographical crime drama, directed by Hansal Mehta, he said this is the fifth collaboration between Hansal and Rajkumar after *Shahid, Citylights, Aligarh and Bose: Dead/Alive*. The movie depicts horrific incidents committed by dreaded terrorist Ahmed Omar Saeed Sheikh of Pakistan having links with various Islamic

militant outfits including Jaish-e-Mohammed, Al-Qaeda, Harkat-ul-Mujahideen and the Taliban. The movie showcases the terrorist activities including abduction of four for-



designers in India, kidnap and murder of Wall Street Journal reporter Daniel Pearl by Omar Sheikh among others.

Hansal who had made award-winning films like *Shahid and Citylights* based on serious issues, had depicted how a normal guy without a shady past can turn into brutal criminal. Amit Mohanty said Rajkumar Rao had showed once again why he is the most brilliant actor of contemporary times with many acclaimed movies





## SAVE HERITAGE

CPI activists take out a rally in Konark, Friday, to protest the Centre's decision to offer the Sun Temple to private parties for adoption

## HELPING HAND

Members of Akhila Bharatiya Marwari Mahila Sammelana offer drinking water to commuters at Choudhury Bazar in Cuttack, Friday



## Mercury to soar again from May 7

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Bhubaneswar, May 4:** After some relief, the heatwave condition is all set to return to the state, with the Met department predicting rise in day temperatures from May 7.

Director of Bhubaneswar Met Centre Sarat Chandra Sahu said due to thunderstorms and rain, temperatures had dipped across the state.

However, the mercury will again start rising in the interior pockets of the state from Saturday, he said, adding: "The mercury will start soaring in all places from May 7."

A maximum temperature of 40.2 degrees Celsius was recorded at Sonepur Friday - the highest in the state. Temperatures at Bolangir and Sambalpur were 39.5 degrees and 39 degrees respectively; however, it remained below 39 degrees in all other places of the state.

Thunder squall accompanied by hail and gusty surface wind reaching up to 50-60 kmph was likely in one or two places in coastal Odisha and the adjoining districts of Mayurbhanj, Keonjhar, Angul, Dhenkanal, Jajpur, Rayagada, Gajapati and Kandhamal during the next 24 hours.

# Conman dupes ECoR employee's family

Posing as RPF inspector, miscreant makes away with gold worth ₹7L, vital documents

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Bhubaneswar, May 4:** Inspired by the movie 'Special 26', a conman Friday looted gold to the tune of around Rs 7 lakh and important documents from an employee of East Coast Railway here. Posing as an inspector of Railway Protection Force, the conman duped the family members of the ECoR employee.

The victim, identified as G Srinivas Rao of Vishakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh, has been staying at plot no. N/4 on Type 1 block at the Railway employees' colony under Mancheswar police limits. He is an employee at the engineering department of East Coast Railway.

An unknown person reached his house when he was in office around 11am Friday. The miscreant reportedly came by a TVS Apache motorcycle that did not have a number plate. The person was successful in

## Hoodwinked

- The miscreant was successful in convincing the family members of the ECoR staffer that he had been arrested by the Vigilance department in an embezzlement case and cops would soon conduct a raid at their residence
- He asked the panicky family members to store all vital documents and jewellery at a safe place away from home

convincing the family members that Rao had been arrested by the Vigilance department in an embezzlement case and cops would soon conduct a raid at their residence.

He asked the panicky family members to store all vital documents and jewellery at a safe place away from home. Rao's mother along with her grandchildren collected all the documents and gave them to a neighbour in the same colony. However, the

conman told them that the documents were not safe even in the neighbour's house. He asked Rao's son to accompany him to a secret place where the documents could be safely stored.

The fraudster returned to Rao's house after leaving the latter's son near the State Bank of India branch at railway workshop in Mancheswar. He then asked the ECoR employee's daughter to hand over gold jewellery weighing 226.60 grams so that Vigilance could not find them during the supposed raid.

Later, he asked Rao's daughter to go back home and took the jewellery and documents with him. He left the ECoR employee's son in front of the OMFED plant nearby saying that he would return soon. Rao's 14-year-old son returned home after waiting for a few hours. Mancheswar police have started investigations into the matter.

# Sex clip goes viral again; youth arrested

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Cuttack, May 4:** At a time when incidents of circulation of intimate videos on social media are growing alarmingly in the state another girl approached Mahila police here Friday accusing her boyfriend of uploading a vulgar video involving her on social media.

Acting promptly, police registered a case and arrested the accused who was identified as Debidatta Harichandan (23) of Reba area in Salipur.

Police have seized a cell phone and laptop from him and taken steps to

The accused took the girl on a date outside the city and got intimate with her. He clandestinely recorded their private moments on his mobile phone without the girl's knowledge

delete the intimate videos on the internet.

Police said the girl belongs to Jobra

in Cuttack. In 2015 when she was pursuing Plus III she befriended the accused on Facebook. Later, their friendship blossomed into love. Subsequently, they met and decided to take their relationship to the next level by tying the knot.

In the course of their love affair, the youth took the girl on a date outside the city and got intimate with her promising to marry her.

He clandestinely recorded their intimate moments on his mobile phone without the girl's knowledge.

Meanwhile, the accused secretly

started an affair with another girl. When the complainant came to know about this she protested.

Annoyed with the repeated complaints of the girl the accused asked her not to contact him further and threatened to make the intimate videos viral if she defied him.

As the girl kept contacting the accused, the latter got infuriated and uploaded the intimate video on the web. Later, the girl's family lodged a complaint against the accused, said Mahila police inspector-in-charge Anusuya Nayak.

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Clampdown on late-night eateries

Phulnakhara, May 4: Issuing strict guidelines to shops and eateries operating along the Cuttack-Bhubaneswar national highway...

The decision was taken to clamp down on the alarming loot incidents reported on the highway. According to reports, a police team led by IIC Jena conducted raids on several eateries...

37 WAYSIDE AMENITY CENTRES SET TO OPEN

The state has spent ₹1cr for construction of each centre

Bhubaneswar, May 4: As a delight for travelers, the state government is all set to open 37 wayside amenity centres constructed at various locations along important stretches across the state...

The tourists and travellers, who are visiting on the roads, will get the basic services like foods, snacks, toilet, rest room and parking stand among various others.

Most importantly, majority of the buildings were constructed using green technology and solar-power system has been installed for electricity purposes.

According to the source, four such projects are taken up in Koraput district, while three such centres have been constructed in

The amenity centres will have food plaza, ice-cream parlours, OMFED parlours, rest shed, toilets, vehicle repairing shops and ATM kiosks among other facilities

Kalahandi, Sambalpur, Kandhamal and Cuttack districts and two each in Angul, Jajpur, Mayurbhanj, Koraput, Rayagada, Sundergarh, Bargarh, Deogarh, Bolangir and Sonepur districts.

Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has given his consent to inaugurate the centres from Secretariat through a video conferencing, however, the date has not been finalised yet, sources said.

According to the draft proposal, the state government has named the centres 'Biju Pathasraya', after the former Chief Minister Biju Patnaik.

TAKING TO THE STREETS



Members of Odisha Revenue Clerks' Association demonstrate at PMG Square in Bhubaneswar Friday demanding grade pay hike.

DGCA licence for Jharsuguda airport

THE AIRPORT SPREADS OVER 909 ACRES AND 200 MORE ACRES WILL BE ADDED TO IT

Bhubaneswar, May 4: The Director General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) Friday provided licence for operation of flights in the Jharsuguda airport...

Initially, 18-seater aircrafts will be allowed to operate from the airport and later, A-320 type of aircrafts will start their operations from the airport.

Recently, Chief Secretary Aditya Prasad Padhi had approached civil aviation secretary RN Choubey and AAI chairman Guruprasad Mohapatra to request commercial airlines like Air India, IndiGo, GoAir and AirAsia for exploring

regional connectivity scheme (RCS) UDAN (Ude Desh Ka Aam Naagrik). After getting report from the team, the DGCA approved the licence Friday, sources said.

He assured that the state government would provide all support for early operations at the airport.

Jharsuguda airport which has been upgraded to an airport from an airstrip has been developed over 909 acres and 200 more acres will

be added to it in the next phase. The state government is trying for regular flight operations from Jharsuguda to cities like Delhi, Mumbai and Kolkata besides Bhubaneswar under the UDAN scheme.

Four airstrips in state—Jharsuguda, Rourkela, Utkela in Kalahandi and Jeypore in Koraput districts—have been selected in phase-I for implementation of the scheme. The Biju Patnaik International Airport will serve as the mentor airport for the scheme.

The average price of a ticket for these flights would be around ₹2,500.

introduction of regular commercial flights from the airport. Meanwhile, welcoming the accord of licence to Jharsuguda airport Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik said, "Air connectivity will fulfill people's aspirations and boost socio-economic progress in western Odisha."

WASSUP TODAY

BHUBANESWAR

- Tree Plantation Drive by Green India, UPHC Hospital premises, Pokhaript, Ananta Vihar, 8.10am
Rally by Odisha Aspirant Students' Council, Lower PMG, 11am
'Astha' project launch and ECoR Scouts & Guide Fellowship launch, Inspection Bungalow, ECoR, Mancheswar, 11am

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SAFETY FIRST CCTV cameras on bridges soon

Cuttack, May 4: The Commissionerate Police (CP) has decided to install closed circuit television (CCTV) cameras on all bridges in and around the Silver City to keep a tab on anti-social elements and open a modern control room to manage them.

Sources said twin city Police Commissioner YB Khurania has recently directed the Cuttack Deputy Commissioner of Police Akhilesh Singh to conduct a survey for the CCTV project.

The Traffic Management Committee of the CP had decided to install CCTV cameras on Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Bridge over Kathajodi River and Madhusudan

CCTV cameras will be installed on Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Bridge over Kathajodi River and Madhusudan Bridge over Mahanadi

Bridge over Mahanadi at its April 30 meeting. CP sources said robbers are targeting commuters on bridges in and around the city. Besides, criminals often choose Netaji Subhas Bridge and Madhusudan Bridge as their hideouts after committing crimes.

A few miscreants had fired at Khurda resident Kartik Khatei

February 6 and snatched ₹20,000 from him on a flyover at Telengapenta on the city outskirts. Police are yet to trace them. Similarly, a few unidentified persons had killed one auto-rickshaw driver on Birupa Bridge near the city two years ago.

Irregularities in PDS kerosene distribution

Cuttack, May 4: Massive irregularities in the distribution of PDS kerosene in the district came to the fore recently, with sources claiming that retailers have sold huge quantities of PDS kerosene in the black market.

Irregularities in the distribution of kerosene came to light after officials of the Civil Supplies Department raided a PDS retail shop in Banki area and seized around 1,500 litres of kerosene a few days ago.

Moreover, the Civil Supplies Department has recently suspended two PDS retailers in Mahanga area



in connection with irregularities in kerosene distribution. It is learnt that many PDS retailers in the district have collected kerosene for two months (April and May) from the Civil Supplies

Department but distributed only one month's quota to consumers. "Many consumers in the district are unaware of the fact that PDS retailers have collected kerosene for two months from the Civil Supplies Department. The retailers have pocketed lakhs of rupees by selling kerosene in the black market," said Congress leader Bankanidhi Behera.

Left leader Badri Narayan Das claimed that retailers are selling kerosene anywhere between ₹50 and ₹60 per litre in the black market. A few social activists have also alleged that most of the retailers in the district used to provide less kerosene to people than

their monthly quota. "Consumers are entitled to get 600 ml kerosene per head every month. But, they actually receive 500 ml per head from the retailers," said social activist Abhimanyu Das.

District Civil Supply officer Amar Mahapatra, however, rejected the allegation. "We have seized 1,500 litres kerosene from a retailer in Banki area. But, there is no report of similar irregularities in other areas of the district," he added.

Civil Supplies Department officer Anath Sahu said the suspension of two retailers in Mahanga area has nothing to do with the alleged irregularities in PDS kerosene distribution.

Rain threat during Car fest

Puri, May 4: Collector Aravind Agrawal Friday directed officials of various departments to prepare for possible rains during the upcoming Rath Yatra festival in the Holy Town.

Presiding over a review meeting ahead of the annual festival, Agrawal asked the officials of Health, Public Works, Drainage, Sewerage, Irrigation and Electricity departments to make arrangements to face the rains during the fest.

Expressing concern over poor drainage in the Holy City, the collector asked the officials of the city's civic body, Public Works department and Drainage department

to address water-logging issues at the earliest. He directed the sub-collector to register cases against officials of the three entities under Section 133 of the CrPC if water-logging is reported during Rath Yatra. Participating in the meeting, officials of the National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) said they would expedite work of an under-construction bypass road near Puri.

Agrawal asked the NHAI authorities to lodge complaints against people who damage the median strip of the Bhubaneswar-Puri National Highway.

SJTA officials informed the gathering that they would procure around 4,000 metre high-quality fabrics.

Cops move HC to cancel Raja's bail

Bhubaneswar, May 4: The police here Friday moved the Orissa High Court seeking cancellation of gangster Raja Acharya's bail, in a hint of fresh trouble for the gangster who had walked out of the Jharpada Special jail some time ago.

The Commissionerate Police was on a move to get the bail of the gangster cancelled. Twin City Commissioner of Police

Yogesh Bahadur Khurania had said the police was mulling the filing of a petition for this after obtaining certain documents from the high court.

The court had granted him conditional bail April 20 in a case relating to the abduction of an employee of Jyote motors and extortion of money from him. The bail was granted against two sureties of ₹50,000 each. The court had also directed him to appear before Lingaraj police on a regular

The Bhubaneswar ADJ court had rejected Acharya's bail plea in a kidnapping and extortion case in March last year.

Notably, Acharya was arrested from Goa May 28, 2008. The Bhubaneswar district and sessions court had convicted him in the Judo coach Biranchi Das murder case and sentenced to life imprisonment. He was serving the term in the Jharpada Special jail since 2008.

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The Bhubaneswar ADJ court had rejected Acharya's bail plea in a kidnapping and extortion case in March last year.

Cops move HC to cancel Raja's bail

Cops move HC to cancel Raja's bail

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Continued from P1

**Panda Infra MD arrested...**

Khurania, who visited the spot this morning, assured that all those found guilty for the mishap will be arrested and punished according to the law of the land.

Around eight labourers were working at the site when the mishap occurred Thursday.

Meanwhile, an eight-member forensic team, deputed by the state government, made an on-the-spot investigation Friday morning. The team of experts reached the spot of mishap for investigation at around 11am.

Khorda district Collector Nirmal Mishra, who visited the site after the tragedy, said a thorough probe would be conducted by the technical team to ascertain the circumstances that led to the incident and preliminary inquiry has started. Engineer-in-chief (R&B) Om Prakash Patel, in his preliminary investigation report, said that the mishap occurred due to negligence on part of construction firm and its labourers.

The state government came under sharp attack with leaders of the opposition Congress and the BJP holding it responsible for the tragedy. They slammed the government for allowing the same construction firm, which was blacklisted after a similar mishap September 10 last year, to continue with the work.

**Blacklisted firm...**

Interestingly, when the firm was allowed to continue work even after last year's mishap, the Works Department came 'clarified' that it would be responsible for the completion of the project as no other firm will come forward to complete it.

However, following Thursday's tragedy, which claimed the life of a labourer when a portion of iron railing caved in during centering work, the government's previous decision to reassign the execution of the project to a blacklisted firm has come under scrutiny again and many has already leveled the decision as "unscrupulous".

In fact, locals have alleged that the incident was a fall-out of the Works Department engineers' failure to undertake regular inspection of the under-construction project. Taking advantage of such a lackadaisical attitude of the authorities, the firm freely used substandard materials at the cost of innocent lives.

As of now, the next course of action of the state government vis-à-vis the completion of the project and whether a new tender will be floated to invite other firms to take forward work is still unclear. Both Works Department Minister Prafulla Mallick and department secretary Nalinikant Pradhan seem to be avoiding the media after the tragedy. Hence, this correspondent couldn't obtain their responses on the issue despite repeated attempts.

**Fresh storm warning...**

Isolated places in Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Haryana, Chandigarh and Delhi, Punjab, Bihar, Jharkhand, Sikkim, Odisha, northwest Madhya Pradesh, Telangana, Rayalaseema, north coastal Andhra Pradesh, interior Tamil Nadu and Kerala are very likely to experience thunderstorm along with gusty winds. Heavy rains are very likely at isolated places over Tamil Nadu and Kerala, while dust storm and thunderstorm very likely at isolated places over Rajasthan. The home ministry has also issued an advisory for tomorrow saying thunderstorm accompanied with squall are very likely at isolated places in Uttarakhand, Assam and Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, Sub-Himalayan West Bengal and Sikkim.

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**CANCELLATION OF TENDER CALL NOTICE NO: 61/2017-18**

No.136-O: The Tender Call Notice No. 61 of 2017-18 for the work "Supplying all materials, labour, T&P and Laying of Pipe Line, Construction of Pump House, RCC UGR 100000 ltr Cap , RCC ESR 50000 Ltr Cap, 15m Staging Ht, and other ancillary works for RPWS Scheme to Saradeipur under Bhubaneswar Block in the district of Khurda" is hereby cancelled due to Single Tender.

**EXECUTIVE ENGINEER  
RWSS & DIVISION, BHUBANESWAR**  
25011/11/0006/1819

**GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA  
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e-mail: eerwss\_kld@nic.in, eerwsskld@gmail.com  
Phone No.: 06670-230784

**1st Corrigendum Notice**

Bid identification No. 01/EE/RWSS/2018-19/Bpt Dated.25.04.2018

No. 130-O: In pursuance to Tender call notice vide Bid identification No. 01/EE/RWSS/ 2018-19/Bpt Dated.25.04.2018 following changes has been made.

Sl. No.	As Per TCN 01/EE/RWSS/2018-19/Bpt Dated.25.04.2018	Change of Critical Date
1	Submission bid through online from 02.05.2018 to 07.05.2018	Submission of bid through online from dt 02.05.2018 to 14.05.2018
2	Last date of bid submission through online dt 07.05.2018	Last date of bid submission through online dt 14.05.2018 up to 5.00 PM
3	Last date for submission of bid security and bid cost in original up to 10.05.2018 at 11.00AM	Last date for submission of bid security and bid cost in original up to 17.05.2018 at 11.00 AM
4	Date of technical bid opening dt 10.05.2018 at 11.30 AM	Date of technical bid opening dt 17.05.2018 at 11.30 AM
5	Date of Financial bid opening dt 11.05.2018 at 11.30 AM	Date of Financial bid opening dt 19.05.2018 at 11.30 AM

**Other terms & conditions are unchanged**  
Cost of tender paper & payment of EMD to be made online payment system. Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal http://tenderodisha.gov.in.

**Sd./- Executive Engineer,  
Kalahandi RWS&S Division, Bhawanipatna**  
25005/11/0009/1819

**WORK IN FULL SWING**



A Maharana servitor fixing an iron ring around the hub of a chariot wheel ahead of the Rath Yatra in Puri OP PHOTO

**20 SPs to maintain law & order at 81 OJEE centres**

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Bhubaneswar, May 4:** In a bid to preempt the occurrence of any untoward incident during the Odisha Joint Entrance Examination (OJEE) 2018, the state government has asked the SPs of 20 districts to maintain law and order at the examination centres.

More than 48,000 candidates will appear in OJEE -2018 to be held May 13 at 81 centres in various parts of the state for admission into professional and technical courses in the state.

Skill Development and Technical Education secretary Sanjay Kumar Singh Friday wrote letters to SPs of Angul, Balasore, Bhadrak, Mayurbhanj, Ganjam, Khurda, Bolangir, Cuttack, Dhenkanal, Jagatsinghpur, Koraput, Jharsuguda, Kalahandi, Kendrapara, Keonjhar, Kandhamal,

Puri, Rayagada, Rourkela and Sambalpur in this regard.

"For smooth and hassle-free conduct of OJEE-2018, kind co-operation of the district police administration is highly essential. You are, therefore, requested to take adequate steps for police arrangement at the examination centre(s) to maintain law and order. Further, you are also requested to kindly extend all co-operation to the officers engaged for conduct of OJEE 2018 as and when required," Singh said in his letter.

Moreover, the secretary requested Home secretary Asit Tripathy, director general of police RP Sharma, and twin city police commissioner YB Khurania to issue instructions to all concerned authorities for deployment of adequate police personnel at the centres.

**AP EYES BORDER GAJAPATI VILLAGE**

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Rayagada(Gajapati), May 4:** "Forget about development. No one has ever come to ask us, 'how are you all?'" This was how an elderly woman spoke of the abject neglect from the local administration towards the plight of the residents of Madhiakhol village under Gangabad panchayat of Rayagada block in Gajapati district.

The village is situated on the Andhra Pradesh-Orissa border. Taking advantage of the neglect of the area by local administration, Andhra Pradesh officials are trying to slowly acquire rights on the village and the people.

After media reports about AP's move appeared, the district administration woke up from its slumber. A few days back, district collector Anup Saha visited the village. He had directed the block officials to start development works.

**ED SUMMONS BALABANTRAY**

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Bhubaneswar, May 4:** The Enforcement Directorate Friday summoned Biju Janta Dal MLA from Dharamshala Pranab Balabantray for alleged links with gangster duo D brothers. ED issued the summons in relation to financial transactions between Balabantray's company and the D brothers.

The MLA was asked to appear before the ED by 3pm May 7. According to sources, ED officials recently stumbled upon information about financial transactions between the jailed gangsters and Balabantray Transport and Minerals Private Limited.

Later, ED issued a summons to Balabantray May 1. The MLA is the managing director of an alleged company which was registered at Rasulpur village in Jajpur district.

He was asked to produce all details about the amount he had paid and received on behalf of his company from the duo between 2005 and 2010.

**Youth hacked to death in broad daylight**

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Sorada, May 4:** In a gruesome incident, a youth was brutally killed in broad day light by a group of miscreants at Badgad Chhak under Sorada block in Ganjam Friday.

The deceased was identified as Sania Bisoyi of Gangpur village under Badgad police limits. Based on a complaint lodged by Bisoyi's elder brother, police registered a murder case and launched a probe. The body was seized and sent for post-mortem.

According to sources, Bisoyi's elder brother was supposed to tie the knot Friday evening. Family members were busy for the marriage feast when Bisoyi left home to bring some decorative items from a nearby market.

Before he could understand anything, five miscreants armed with swords, Mausers and other sharp-edged weapons pounced on him. Though Bisoyi tried to run from the scene to save life, the

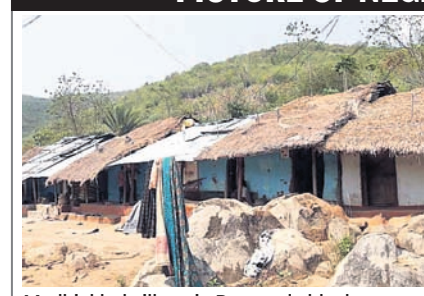


Deceased Sania Bisoyi OP PHOTO

miscreants followed and assaulted him repeatedly. On being informed, police rushed to the spot and rescued Bisoyi while the miscreants fled the scene. Police first admitted him to Badgad community health centre (CHC) and later shifted to MKCG Medical College and Hospital (MKCG) in Berhampur as his condition worsened. However, he succumbed to the injuries on the way to the hospital.

Police seized a cartridge from the spot. Preliminary investigation revealed the murder was a fallout of previous enmity while no one was arrested till filing of this report.

**PICTURE OF NEGLECT**



Madhiakhol village in Rayagada block OP PHOTO

■ Cashing in on the lackadaisical attitude of the state administration, the Andhra government has provided Voter ID cards and solar lights to the residents

■ After media reports about AP's move appeared, the district administration woke up from its slumber, alleged a social activist

■ Located just 80km away from Sadar headquarters, the village is home to 12 tribal families with a population of 46

Soon after, Rayagada BDO Nrusingh Charan Sethy also visited the village and assured villagers of safe drinking water facility.

The sudden visit of the officials gave some hope of development to the villagers. Little did they know

that the assurances of the officials would remain in pen and paper? In the absence of media glare, the officials have once again opted to remain silent it seems, as no development work has started yet.

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## FOLK CHARM

Students being trained on playing folk musical instruments at a summer camp on the premises of Budharaja Nodal school in Sambalpur.



## MEDIA SEMINAR

A seminar on challenges and opportunities in mass media in 21st century is in progress at Central University of Orissa, Koraput.



## SHORT TAKES

### Salipur rape accused produced in court

**Salipur:** Mohammad Mustafa, accused in the Salipur minor rape case, was produced before POCSCO court here Friday. Cops have sought a two-day remand of the accused for further interrogation. Mustafa, arrested for the crime, had allegedly attempted suicide in the Salipur sub-jail toilet Wednesday night by hanging himself with a 'gamcha'. He was rescued by the jail staff. The state government has announced an ex-gratia of ₹5 lakh to the family of the victim. The girl died of injuries after struggling for life for a week at SCB Medical College and Hospital, Cuttack, April 29. It was April 21 that the girl was rescued from a school veranda with injuries on her head, face, chest and private parts.

### Minor drowns

**Bonai:** A seven-year-old boy drowned in a nullah while taking bath at Tikayatpali in Sundargarh district Friday. The deceased was identified as Mukteshwar Kishan alias Munna of Kantasara village. The incident occurred when he had gone with his parents to his maternal grandfather's house. He had been to the nullah to take bath when he accidentally slipped and drowned. Family members rescued and rushed him to the Bonai sub-divisional hospital where he was pronounced dead by doctors. Police handed over the body to his family members after post-mortem.

### 3 hurt in clash

**Hatadihi (Keonjhar):** Three persons were injured in a group clash between residents of this block and of Chhenapadi around noon Friday. The fight was over an issue of soft drink. Police reached the spot, detained three persons and seized a sword. Steps were in place to avoid more clashes, police said. "Some villagers had a verbal fight with a shopkeeper over a soft drink in Chhenapadi market. This turned into a group fight involving locals of Hatadihi block and Chhenapadi. Anandapur sub-divisional police officer Maheswar Sethy, Nandipada IIC Bijay Mallick, ASI Sanatan Maharana and a posse of police reached the spot and managed to bring the situation under control. An investigation is on, police said.

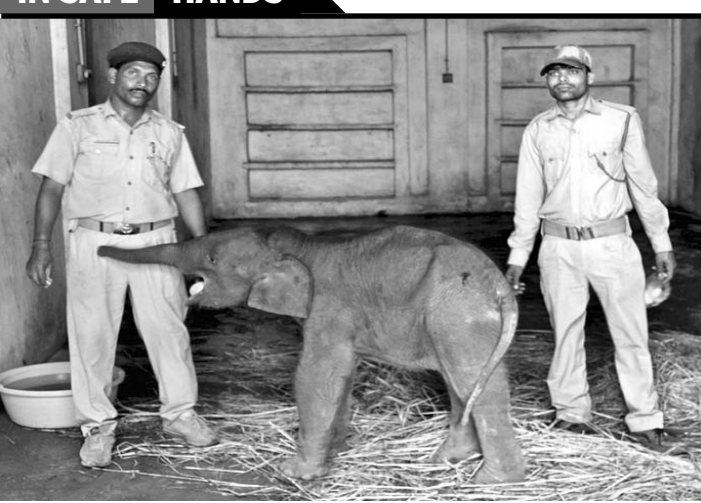
## SU grants ₹10 lakh for research on Mahanadi

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Sambalpur, May 4:** Sambalpur University approved a special package of Rs 10 lakh for its dream project "Mahanadi River Research" at its Syndicate meeting held on its Jyotivihar campus Thursday. Prof Dipak Behera presided over it as the vice chancellor and got the project approved.

It was felt at the meeting that the research project is relevant now as Mahanadi has become a hot topic all over the state. So, it was decided to do research on Mahanadi under the guidance of Prof Sanjay Sahu to let people of Odisha know the facts behind all this hue and cry. However, it has been clarified that the research deals with academic aspects as well as finding a solution to various problems dogging the river. The research work will be based on nine themes: Water flow in Mahanadi; effects of weather on it; problems faced by fish and other aqua life; soil; effects of industries; water-borne diseases; folktales and folk-lore related to Mahanadi. An academic committee comprising some senior professors, research scholars working on Mahanadi and some eminent persons has been formed. The university has earmarked Rs 10 lakh from its own kitty and plans to collect funds from various government and private sources for the project. The syndicate also decided to approach the Union HRD ministry to improve the condition of a high school on the campus, as it is facing management problems.

## IN SAFE HANDS



Forest personnel rescued an elephant calf that has been separated from its herd from Dangapala village under Chhendipada forest range in Angul district. OP PHOTO

## CONCERN FOR GURUPRIYA



ADG (Operation) RP Koche along with other BSF officials takes stock of security measures for Gurupriya bridge in Malkangiri. OP PHOTO

## Killer bear dies of 'drug overdose'

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Nabarangpur, May 4:** A bear that mauled a driver to death Wednesday in Kujaguda village under Kodinga forest range in this district died late Thursday night while undergoing treatment. Drug overdose is said to have caused the animal's death. Application of two doses of tranquiliser left the bear ill, it was suspected.

The tranquiliser team made the bear unconscious and put it in a cage. Later, it was moved to the Central Nursery in Nabarangpur. However, it succumbed at about 11 pm. The carcass was buried on the nursery premises following a post-mortem by a veterinary surgeon. The exact cause of its death would be known once the post-mortem report is received, officials said. Meanwhile, the district ad-



ministration has completed all modalities to include the bear attack victim's family under the National Family Benefit Scheme (NFBS). Efforts are on to cover them under other schemes like the Biju Pucca Ghar Yojana and Madhu Babu Pension Yojana. The family is also entitled to get Rs 4 lakh compensation as per the existing government provision for wild animal attack victims

in the state. The victim Prabhu Bhatra of Papadahandi area took some passengers from Jatabali to Kattamala Wednesday afternoon and was returning in his vehicle when the mishap took place. Near a forested area in Kujaguda village, the victim alighted from the vehicle to take photograph of the bear when it pounced on him.

## Teacher strangles wife to death

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Patrapur, May 4:** A woman was allegedly strangled to death by her husband, a primary school teacher, over a family feud at Nandigaon village under Jarada police limits in Ganjam district Friday. The deceased was identified as Tukuni Behera, wife of the accused Kumud Ranjan Behera.

Based on a complaint lodged by the deceased's parents, police registered a case and started an investigation.

According to reports, Tukuni, daughter of Ladukishore Behera of Ramchandrapur village under Patrapur police limits was married to Kumud Ranjan, son of Patit Ranjan of Nandigaon in 2008.

Kumud worked at Titirisinghi under Patrapur block. However, his frequent drinking habit often led to discord in the family.

## NON-COMPLIANCE OF ORDER

# NGT LEVIES PENALTY ON DIST ADMIN

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Berhampur, May 4:** Taking strong exception to non-compliance of its earlier order on shutdown of country-liquor units in Ganjam district, the Kolkata bench of the National Green Tribunal (NGT) has levied a Rs 45 lakh penalty on the Ganjam district administration.

The Collector, SP of excise department and the Orissa State Pollution Control Board (OSPCB) were directed to deposit the amount by July 3, 2018.

Despite repeated warnings from the NGT, the administration hardly did anything to shut down the liquor shops. Earlier, the tribunal had ordered a shutdown of all the country-liquor units in the district for non-compliance of environment norms. However, this order was not carried out, drawing resentment from the NGT.

Ten complaints were lodged with the NGT over illegal liquor sale in the district. Out of 10, nine were heard by the NGT bench before an order was issued. In the order, the tribunal has asked the OSPCB, Ganjam Collector and SP (Excise) to pay the penalty.

As many as 79 country liquor



units were in operation in Ganjam district without mandatory environment clearance from the OSPCB. The unauthorised units are a constant source of pollution. The NGT had, in an earlier order, issued a directive for closure of the illegal units in Ganjam district. However, the order was not carried out.

The NGT maintained that no liquor unit of the present kind could be permitted to run without obtaining environment clearance, which is mandatory under law. According to law, these units are supposed to take air and water pollution clearance before they start their operations. But the units in Ganjam have failed to do so.

## Missing woman's body found

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Bhanjanagar, May 4:** A woman who had gone missing while on a morning walk was found dead in an abandoned well at Kirapalli village under Belguntha police limits in Ganjam district Friday.

The deceased was identified as Sita Sahu, wife of Rabindra Sahu, of Belguntha. Police recovered the decomposed body in the well Friday afternoon. Doubts are being raised whether her death

was accidental or a murder. Sita had gone missing after leaving home for a morning walk on Jirapalli road April 28. Belguntha outpost police sent the body for post-mortem and started an investigation.

Police said the woman lived with her children at Belguntha while her husband was working in Nayagarh. Family members searched for her but failed to trace her whereabouts. Police registered a case over a complaint by the family members.

## Police register case against Baijayant

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Kendrapara, May 4:** Kendrapara Town police Friday registered a case against MP Baijayant Panda, who has been expelled from the BJD, on the direction of the SDJM court.

The SDJM court Thursday adjudicating a petition filed by Dillip Kumar Das, had directed the Town police to investigate the case and submit a report by July 25 next.

Town police registered a case against Panda under Section 125-A of the Representation of People Act, and Sections 419 and 420 of IPC.

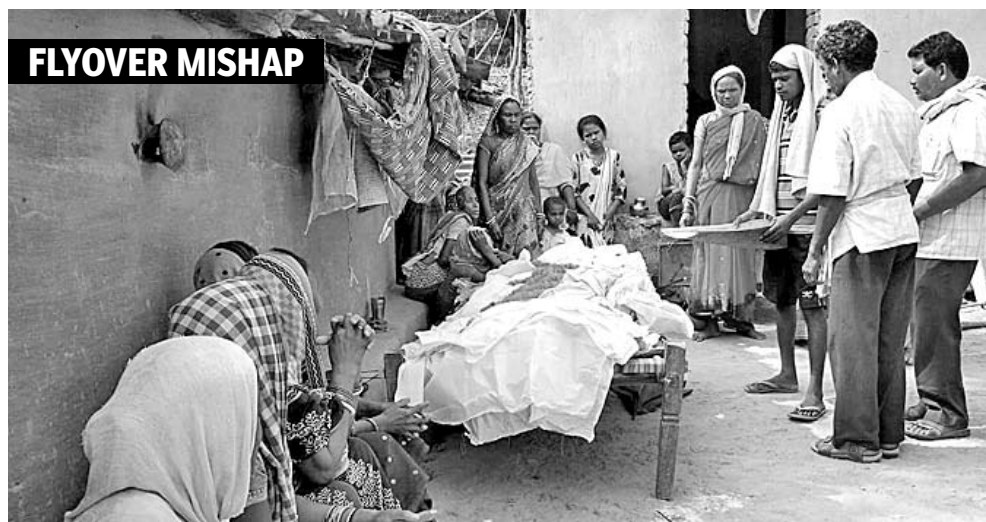
Town police station IIC Tapan Kumar Nayak is the investigating officer of the case and he has started probe to collect evidence, Rajib Lochan Panda, SDPO of Kendrapara, said.

The complainant filed an application under Section 156(3) of CrPC supported by an affidavit duly sworn by him as per the guidelines of apex court and the SDJM court took cognizance and asked the Town police to investigate the matter.

In his petition January 28 last, the complaint alleged that Panda had filed a false affidavit before the returning officer, Kendrapara, at the time of his nomination for Kendrapara Lok Sabha seat in the 2014 General Elections.

He stated that Panda, who is the vice-chairman of Indian Metals and Ferro Alloys Ltd (IMFA) had not made declaration about the post holding in IMFA which amounts to concealment of material and substantial information in Form-26 filed under Section 33 of the Representation of Peoples Act.

## Rage in village as labourer's body arrives



Villagers mourning the death of Ajay Bhumija, Friday. OP PHOTO

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Rourkela, May 4:** The rage over the death of a labourer in Bomikhal flyover mishap in Bhubaneswar spread to Ganjutoli village in Lathikata of Sundargarh district where his

body reached Friday.

The villagers demanded a compensation of Rs 25 lakh for the bereaved family.

Tension prevailed at the village after the body of Ajay Bhumija reached there in the afternoon. A pall of gloom de-

scended on the village even as villagers mourned the tragic death of Ajay.

The villagers said that the contract for the construction of the flyover was handed over to the tainted Panda Infra though one person was killed and 12

others were injured after a portion of the same under-construction bridge had collapsed in September 2017.

The handing over the contract to the same builder was not right, the villagers rued. As a result, another mishap occurred on the same bridge and a labourer lost his life.

The villagers also demanded action against the government officials concerned who are responsible for awarding the contract to Panda Infra which was carrying out the work without any previous experience and known for its substandard work.

Two labourers were trapped under an iron railing after it came crashing on them during a side wall construction of the flyover Thursday evening.

The two were rushed to the Capital Hospital in Bhubaneswar where Ajay was pronounced brought dead by the doctors.

The health condition of the other labourer, Ananda Kumar Nayak, is stated to be critical.

## Temple management moots barricade removal for darshan

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**Kendrapara, May 4:** The management of a 300-year-old Jagannath temple in the district is deliberating with the government and local community members for removal of barricade near the sanctum sanctorum for unhindered darshan of the deity.

The Jagannath temple in a sleepy village in Kendrapara district had hogged spotlight over a decade back over caste flare-up on Dalits' right for darshan of the Lord.

The Dalits were earlier denied access into the temple and were only allowed to peep through the inbuilt holes on the temple boundary wall to catch a glimpse of the Lord.

However, after days of simmering dispute that had threatened to disrupt peace,

the upper castes had relented and the Dalits had broken the age-old barriers by entering the temple January 14, 2007.

The Orissa High Court had also ruled that the Dalits have the right to enter any Hindu temple.

Till 2006, members of the Dalit communities were paying obeisance through the nine holes created on the temple wall while upper caste people had access to the main temple.

The issue of Dalit entry into the temple had made two the communities confront each other.

The administration had later brokered a truce between the warring groups. It had been decided then that the sanctum sanctorum of the temple will remain out of bounds for devotees.

## The Jagannath temple in a sleepy village in Kendrapara district had hogged spotlight over a decade back over caste flare-up on Dalits' right for darshan of the Lord

Both the caste groups were permitted access into the temple premises. But, the devotees could have darshan from outside the temple structure from a barricaded site.

The in-built holes of the outer wall, that symbolized the caste divide, had also been blocked by the district administration.

Devotees and followers of Jagannath cult are disappointed over denial of the Lord's darshan from a close distance.

"So we have begun the process for removal of barricade structure so that everybody could go close to the deity for darshan. People from all sections will be taken into confidence," said Sibendra Bhanjajdeo, scion of Kanika Jamindari and trustee of the temple.

"The matter has been taken up for discussion. Gajapati Dibyasingha Deb has assured us of all helps," he said.

Rajkanika tehsildar Nihar Ranjan Mallick said no proposal has been received by them from any quarters in this regard so far. However the administration will act as facilitator if consensus emerges over this sensitive issue.



SHORT TAKES

Student dies in road accident

**Baripada:** A student was killed in a road mishap Friday. Mangala Murmu of Padmanavpur village was run over by a truck on National Highway-18 near Baisinga Chhak in Mayurbhanj district. A Plus II student of Betanati College, Mangala was cycling to his tuition centre when the mishap occurred. Irked locals staged a road blockade near the accident spot, demanding compensation to the deceased's family. "We demand action against the driver," said a villager. The agitators withdrew the blockade as, on reaching the spot, the Betanati additional tehsildar, SDPO and other officials promised them that their demands will be met. The blockade disrupted traffic on the road connecting Baripada and Balasore for a couple of hours. Police detained the driver and seized the truck.

SP urged to act against cattle smugglers

**Bhadrak:** A cattle-smuggling racket has been active in Dhamnagar, Bhandaripokhari, Bhadrak town and other parts of the district. Locals alleged that the racket thrives with tacit support of the police and the administration. Cattle smuggling is usually done at night while police patrolling has failed to catch the traffickers. The recent seizure of over 100 cattle heads at Darada Chhak is a pointer to the ongoing illegal act. Members of various outfits including Bajrang Dal, Congress, BJP and student leaders met SP Battula Gangadhar Friday and demanded stern action against the cattle smugglers. The SP assured them that immediate steps will be taken in this direction while there is a need for public cooperation.

FIR against Bishnu Sethi for 'murder threat'

**Bant:** A complaint was lodged with Bant police station in Bhadrak against state BJP vice-president Bishnu Sethi for issuing murder threat to former Bant Mandal BJP president Patanjali Karsharma. There was a tussle between two groups of party workers during an inaugural ceremony by Union petroleum minister Dharmendra Pradhan at Bhandaripokhari March 30. Karsharma had made some comments on social media about the unruly behaviour of party workers in front of the state leaders. The complaint said that upset over the comments, Sethi had abused Karsharma over telephone and even made murder threats. Police registered a case and started an investigation.

Youth's body recovered

**Rayagada:** Police Friday recovered the body of a youth, hanging from a tree, just 200 metres away from the local railway station. While the identity of the youth was yet to be ascertained, police recovered ₹6,831 from his pocket. The police said they noticed that injuries had been inflicted from a blade on his hands and feet. On the orders of Rayagada IIC Rabintra Patra, SI Ripan Kindo along with a police team reached the spot and seized the body. A case of unnatural death was registered and the body sent for post-mortem. No exact reason of the death was known as yet while a probe was on, police said.

IPL BETTING RACKET BUSTED, 3 ARRESTED IN BOLANGIR DIST



POST NEWS NETWORK

**Bolangir, May 4:** Acting on a tip-off, a special squad of Bolangir police busted an IPL betting racket and arrested three persons besides seizing ₹11.17 lakh during a raid at a gambling den in Kantabanji town here, police said Friday.

The police also seized 11 mobile phones, four laptops, three calculators, seven bank passbooks, six ATM cards, five cheque books, eight pens, a diary and other documents during the raid.

This was stated by SP K Shiva Subramani at a press meet held at the district police headquarters.

The accused were identified as Pradip Jain alias Papu, his accomplice Debendra Behera and Anand Kumar Mohanty alias Landu. Five others managed to escape the police dragnet. A case was registered in this connection and the accused were produced in a court.

A special squad was formed following the SP's direction and the gambling den was raided after intelligence inputs alerted the police about the racket.

GIRL'S FATHER HAD HANDED HER OVER TO A FRIEND TO 'TAME' HER  
MAN BRANDS 'MISCHIEVOUS' GIRL WITH HOT IRON, HELD

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Berhampur, May 4:** In a shocking incident, a man branded a four-year-old girl with hot iron in a bid to 'tame' her as she was reportedly mischievous. The heinous incident was reported from Sriram Nagar under Bada Bazaar police limits here.

The incident spread outrage after neighbours spotted the girl with severe burn injuries on her face, knees and other parts of the body. They alerted the police who rescued the girl and arrested the accused Runa Gouda.

The girl Sanjana is the daughter of Dasrathi and Ranu Majhi. According to sources, Sanjana's parents were fed up with the naughtiness of the girl. Unhappy with frequent quarrels with his wife over the Sanjana's behaviour, Dasrathi handed over the child to his brother's friend Runa to discipline her.



The victim girl.

Since then, the girl was staying with the accused in a rented house in Sriram Nagar. Runa

used to beat up the girl and kept her locked for hours. He did not even allow her to play in the courtyard with other children of her age.

Runa had been doing this for the past two months. A few days ago, he branded the girl with hot iron over reasons best known to him.

Neighbours suspected something fishy after the girl did not show up for days.

Upon making enquiries, they came to know about the torture and alerted the police.

Police rescued the girl. She was admitted to MKCG Medical College and Hospital.

"The accused had branded the girl on her knees so that she could not go out. The girl was very cheerful and playful which did not go well with the accused," IIC Suresh Kumar Tripathy said, adding a case was registered and Runa was produced in a court.

Services hit at CHC as patient's kin thrashes doctor

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Ganjam, May 4:** Healthcare services came to a halt at Ganjam CHC after a patient's relative thrashed an Ayush doctor Friday.

The incident followed after the needle of a syringe broke when a staff nurse was administering injection to the patient. Enraged, the kin of the patient thrashed Ayush doctor Banoj Kanta Kar. A complaint was lodged in Ganjam police station.

After reports surfaced, the hospital staffers refused to discharge their duties and left the hospital. The protests severely affected healthcare services in the hospital as pregnant women admitted for delivery were left unattended. The highhandedness of the patient's kin did not go down well with the locals as they gheraoed him and questioned him on the assault. Dr Kar is managing the healthcare services alone in the hospital in the absence of the medical officer, who is on a study leave. According to sources, the accused youth is a relative of the chairperson of Ganjam NAC.

Vendors use citric acid as 'gupchup' taste enhancer

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Kendrapara, May 4:** The gupchup business is flourishing in both urban and rural areas. Gupchup kiosks and pushcarts can be found everywhere, starting from school areas to lanes and bylanes. This is a favourite of not just children but also the elders swarming these kiosks.

Does this mouth-watering item have any harmful effect on us? Apart from other ingredients, the sour-taste and flavoured water makes the stuff tastier but harmful as well. Dr Mirza Babar Beig notes that citric acid is added to the water to give it a special taste.

He says citric acid is poisonous and its consumption in the form of gupchup water gives rise to various health problems, including stomach disorders.

Rajesh Behera, a resident of Manakarpur, alleges that there are many vendors who use citric acid. He had alerted the health department. Confirming this, district food inspector Samitita Das said the water samples have been collected twice and the tests revealed the presence of citric acid in the water. Social activist



Radhakant Mohanty alleges that the raid is nothing but an eye-wash. He claims citric acid is available in market at a rate cheaper than tamarind. So, most vendors use citric acid instead of tamarind. And if a raid is carried out properly, many such vendors would find themselves behind the bars.

The administration is doing nothing to spread awareness among the people, basically among the children, he said, and urged the administration to take immediate preventive steps.

Sub-collector Sanjay Kumar Mishra said lack of proper inspection was due to staff shortage. Ramesh, a gupchup vendor who hails from Darbhanga in Bihar and living here for the last 22 years, however denies any mixing of the chemical. Instead, he prepares it by mixing tamarind pulp, mint leaves and black salt, Ramesh said.

TEMPLE COFFERS



Members of several temple committees of Rayagada town counting the cash collected from the donation box of Maa Majhighariani Temple in the presence of the trustees Friday.

ARCHEOLOGICAL TREASURE

Centuries-old rock edicts discovered in Balasore

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Khaira, May 4:** Rock inscriptions, believed to be 600 years old, were recovered near Chandli temple at Goliha under Khaira block in Balasore district.

Various places of Khaira block have relics of ancient temples and Buddhist and Jain cultures. New findings about antiquity have come to the fore after decoding and research by archeologists and historians on the ancient rocks, statues, archeological articles which were found on Sundira, Gada, Kupari, Palasa, Jalanga hills and at the foothills of Suasari hills. History professor Dr Ajay Kumar Nayak of Oupada Mahavidyalaya



The discovered rock edicts

has discovered the latest rock edicts at Goliha.

Subrat Acharya, professor of History in Ravenshaw University, has revealed some new facts.

The latest rock edicts belong to the 14th or 15th

century and were written in the first prototype of Odia script.

The rock has 14 lines while first five lines were defaced and not legible.

The rock edicts tell about the landed properties of temple with warning that if people grab the land, their next 57 generations will be afflicted with miseries.

Besides, 10 ancient statues including two of Lord Buddha and one of Tara, are being worshipped in the temple.

The archeological evidence says that there were two towering temples - one Buddhist and another Hindu - at the place.

Locals demanded a museum for protection of the artefacts.

Tussar seed-producing centre planned for Kasia

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Jhumpura, May 4:** Good news for silk farmers in this tribal-dominated block of Keonjhar district. To boost tussar-farming in the forested region, the government would set up a seed-producing centre and construct a building for the tussar farmers' society at Kasia village.

Sub-collector Parel Patwari visited the village Thursday, accompanied by sericulture officer Sadananda Behera, block welfare officer Ashutosh Loknath Ghadei and the project administrator of Champua ITDA and held talks with over a 100 tussar farmers. They included Sarat Munda, Mangal Munda, Binod Nayak, Trilochan Munda, Sunaram Munda, Kali Nayak and Siga Munda. The joy of the farmers

knew no bounds after hearing about the much-awaited project. Kasia and several other forested areas are suitable for tussar-farming. Hundreds of farmers have been doing silk cultivation for decades in Kasia, Balabhadrapur, Nunagadia, Andharikhaman and Patua Kudar. However, for the last few years, the farmers have to face loss in the farming due to lack of the right kind of seeds. Besides, Arjuna plants, which sustain the growth of silkworms, are depleting in the area. The farmers had been demanding large-scale plantation of Arjuna plants, besides construction of a building for the silk-farmers' society and a seed-producing centre. Orissa Post had carried reports about the plight of the silk farmers in November, 2017.

Tribal woman dies after faulty tubectomy

DAMANI'S 4 CHILDREN HAVE BEEN LEFT HELPLESS, WHILE THEIR FATHER IS A DAILY WAGER

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Raisuan, May 4:** Even as healthcare services are out of reach in remote tribal pockets in Keonjhar district, a tribal woman died after a faulty tubectomy at Kamardihi. Now, her four children are left helpless.

The deceased was identified as Damani Munda, wife of Das Munda.

According to sources, an ASHA had convinced eight women of the village to go for tubectomy in March this year. All had undergone the surgery. But the condition of Damani grew critical and she was shifted to the district headquarters hospital.

However, after two days of treatment, she was sent back home, said her husband Dasa.

Doctors had stated that she had



Damani's children with their grandmother.

OP PHOTO

an infection after the surgery. The woman died April 10. The deceased has left behind

four children, the youngest being only 11-month-old. Their grandmother is their only

support while their father is a daily wager and is unable to earn enough to feed them properly.

It is alleged that the death of the woman due to faulty tubectomy is being suppressed.

The CDMO said a report on the matter has been sought. Locals demanded immediate rehabilitation of the helpless kids and assistance to the bereaved family.

It is learnt that crores of rupees are being spent for birth control while poor women undergoing tubectomy are provided with various facilities, free medicine, treatment and financial help from the government. Sadly, this poor tribal woman was utterly neglected in terms of help and treatment.

Various quarters have decried the apathy of the health department to the poor woman, who died miserably.

Paradip's Yugoslavia Colony to become a thing of past

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Paradip, May 4:** Rapid expansion of Paradip Port, one of the premier maritime gateways on the east coast of the country, is all set to wipe out Yugoslavia Colony, the oldest human settlement of the region.

With the complete demolition of about 100 residential quarters, the colony, located near the gate no-5 of the port, would disappear from the map of the Port Town, it was learnt. There is an interesting tale behind the name of the colony. The state government had been assigned the construction of the port by the Centre. It roped in a Yugoslavia-based company and a group of engineers to construct the berths. More than 100 houses with asbestos roofs were



Damaged houses of the Yugoslavia Colony in Paradip.

OP PHOTO

constructed for their accommodation. The colony was named after the native land of the workforce. Many employees of the port were allotted the houses after the departure of the foreign nationals.

The colony remained one of the most happening places of the town from 1970 to 1999 with a floating population of more 40,000. A large market had also grown in the surroundings to meet the needs of the people. While the fishing harbour was shifted from Yugoslavia Colony to Nehru Bangala area in 1998 reducing the activities to a major extent, the Super Cyclone of 1999 ravaged the colony and the market beyond repair.

The port authorities resettled the cyclone-hit residents at Balijhara and declared the houses of the 1960s unsafe.

However, the authorities allowed some daily labour roll (DLR) workers to stay in the colony.

At present, the construction of oil and multipurpose berths has been completed.

The port authorities now want to store dry cargo for which the colony is being vacated. While the workers have been shifted to other places, work is in full swing to pull down the houses of the old colony. In a couple of days' time the Yugoslavia Colony would cease to exist and remain in the memory of elderly people, said some residents. Earlier, some other old settlements like Indira Park slum, Sanapadia, Patrika Mahal and CISF Complex had disappeared from the map of the town due to the port's expansion projects, they added.





By our stumbling the world is perfected

SRI AUROBINDO



## Compulsory retirement

Senior Rajasthan cadre IPS officer Indu Kumar Bhushan, who was awaiting posting orders, has been compulsorily retired by the government "in public interest". Sources say that the proposal concerning the cop's retirement was reportedly forwarded to the Ministry of Home Affairs last November and has recently been accepted by the Centre.

The 1989-batch IPS officer who has the rank of Additional Director General has had a controversial career. He was kept under awaiting posting order (APO) five times for various reasons. In September 2016, he was sent to Jaipur from the National Police Academy, Hyderabad for allegedly questioning the knowledge of Telangana Governor ESL Narasimhan during a mid-career training programme. Last year, he levelled corruption charges against the top brass of the state police. He also allegedly abused and thrashed his driver and gunman in 2013.

The state government clearly decided to pull the plug on the cop who crossed the line one time too many.

### No longer outsiders

The Modi sarkar continues to draw on babu talent from outside or at least almost-outside-talent. The appointment of former IAS officer Indu Bhushan as the new CEO of Ayushman Bharat National Health Protection Mission has drawn a parallel with the appointment of Parmeswaran Iyer, who spearheads the Swachh Bharat Mission. Both officers had left the IAS for greener pastures but have been tapped by the Centre to lead pivotal government schemes.

Bhushan, a 1983 batch IAS officer of the Rajasthan cadre, quit the service and worked briefly with the World Bank before joining the Asian Development Bank, Manila in 1997 as director. Parmeswaran Iyer too had quit the IAS and joined the World Bank before Modi summoned him back to head the Swachh Bharat Abiyaan. Bhushan will be heading the Centre's Ayushman Bharat, a mega health insurance programme that's set to cover 10 crore families. It's proposed that the scheme will have benefit cover of ₹5 lakh per family per year.

Observers note that lateral of outside talent has become a hallmark of Modi's administration. The other salient feature is the steady ingress of non-IAS officers (such as from the Indian Forest Service, Indian Economic Service) in positions previously held by IAS officers, most recently seen in a slew of appointments at the joint secretary level.

### Duelling systems

Political compulsion arising from the approaching state assembly elections this year could be behind Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan's move to introduce the police commissioner system in cities of the state. Chouhan had made a similar move six years ago, in April 2012, when he had announced to implement the police commissioner system in Bhopal and Indore. However, the process ended up in senior superintendent of police system being implemented in the two cities when crimes registered a sharp increase. Now, he's raised the matter again in view of increasing crimes in the state.

According to sources, Chouhan could implement the initial move after resistance from the IAS officers. It is a known fact that the issue has been a bone of contention with both IAS and IPS officers as the former do not want to part with their 'magisterial' powers and share it with their counterparts in the police. While top IPS brass including DGP Rishi Kumar Shukla are tight-lipped over the reported move, the state chief Secretary BP Singh has admitted that the government is preparing a proposal for immediate decision.

The buzz in the state secretariat is that if the government takes up the matter seriously, the proposal to implement the new system would be officially passed "very soon". Provided of course the government can "convert" the IAS officers to the idea.

Share a babu experience! Follow dilipthecherian@twitter.com . Let's multiply the effect

### WISDOM CORNER

If the wind will not serve, take to the oars. LATIN PROVERB

You can't fall if you don't climb. But there's no joy in living your whole life on the ground. UNKNOWN

We must believe that we are gifted for something, and that this thing, at whatever cost, must be attained. MARIE CURIE

### WORDSWORTH

### Opodeldoc

The medieval physician Paracelsus described 'opodeltoch', a word he seems to have conjured up from heaven knows where. One suggestion is that he derived it from bits of three other words: 'opopanax', 'bdellium', and 'aristolochia'. All three names come from Greek. The first is a foetid gum-resin from the root of a plant resembling the parsnip whose name is from 'opos', juice, plus 'panax', all-healing; the second is a fragrant resin related to myrrh; the third means "well-born" and refers to a shrub that in Britain has sometimes been given the name common birthwort because it helped childbirth. Paracelsus applied the word to a type of medicinal plaster and it appears in English with that sense until the 17th century. After that, it shifted dramatically, under the revised spelling of 'opodeldoc', to refer to various sorts of liniment based on soap dissolved in alcohol, with herbs and aromatic oils added.

### LOL

### MENTAL PATIENT

John and David were both patients in a mental hospital. One day, while they were walking, they passed the hospital swimming pool and John suddenly dove into the deep end. He sank to the bottom and stayed there. David promptly jumped in and saved him. The medical director came to know of David's heroic act. He immediately ordered that David be discharged from the hospital as he

now considered him to be OK. The doctor said, "David, we have good news and bad news for you! The good news is that we are going to discharge you because you have regained your sanity. Since you were able to jump in and save another patient, you must be mentally stable. The bad news is that the patient that you saved hung himself in the bathroom and died after all." David replied, "Doctor, John didn't hang himself. I hung him there to dry."



# SHRINKING RELEVANCE

FOCUS PERSONALITY

From 1949, when Mao Zedong's communists triumphed in China's civil war, until the collapse of the Berlin Wall 40 years later, Karl Marx's historical significance was unsurpassed. Nearly four of every 10 people on earth lived under governments that claimed to be Marxist, and in many other countries Marxism was the dominant ideology of the left, while the policies of the right were often based on how to counter Marxism.

Once communism collapsed in the Soviet Union and its satellites, however, Marx's influence plummeted. On the 200th anniversary of Marx's birth May 5, 1818, it isn't far-fetched to suggest that his predictions have been falsified, his theories discredited, and his ideas rendered obsolete. So why should we care about his legacy in the twenty-first century?

Marx's reputation was severely damaged by the atrocities committed by regimes that called themselves Marxist, although there is no evidence that Marx himself would have supported such crimes. But communism collapsed largely because, as practiced in the Soviet bloc and in China under Mao, it failed to provide people with a standard of living that could compete with that of most people in the capitalist economies.

These failures do not reflect flaws in Marx's depiction of communism, because Marx never depicted it he showed not the slightest interest in the details of how a communist society would function. Instead, the failures of communism point to a deeper flaw: Marx's false view of human nature.

There is, Marx thought, no such thing as an inherent or biological human nature. The human essence is, he wrote in his Theses on Feuerbach, "the ensemble of the social relations." It follows then, that if you change the social relations – for example, by changing the economic basis of society and abolishing the relationship between capitalist and worker – people in the new society will be very different from the way they were under capitalism.

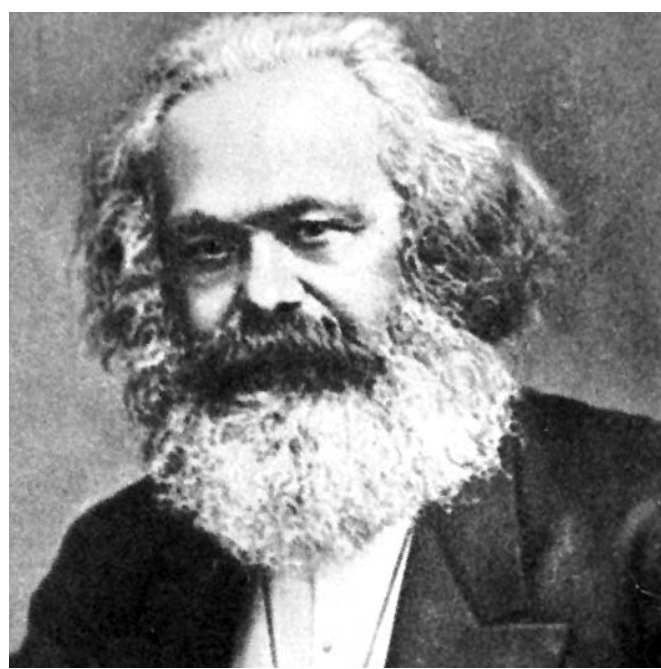
Marx did not arrive at this conviction through detailed studies of human nature under different economic systems. It was, rather, an application of Hegel's view of history. According to Hegel, the goal of history is the liberation of the human spirit, which will occur when we all understand that we are part of a universal human mind.

Marx transformed this "idealist" account into a "materialist" one, in which the driving force of history is the satisfaction of our material needs, and liberation is achieved by class struggle. The working class will be the means to universal liberation because it is the negation of private property, and hence will usher in collective ownership of the means of production.

Once workers owned the means of production collectively, Marx thought, the "springs of cooperative wealth" would flow more abundantly than those of private wealth – so abundantly, in fact, that distribution would cease to be a problem. That is why he saw no need to go into detail about how income or goods would be distributed.

In fact, when Marx read a proposed platform for a merger of two German socialist parties, he described phrases like "fair distribution" and "equal right" as "obsolete verbal rubbish." They belonged, he thought, to an era of scarcity that the revolution would bring to an end.

The Soviet Union proved that abolishing private ownership of the means of production does not change human nature. Most humans, instead of devoting themselves to the common good, continue to seek power, privilege, and luxury for themselves and those close to them. Ironically the clearest demonstration that the springs of private wealth flow more abundantly than those of collective wealth can be seen in the history of the one



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major country that still proclaims its adherence to Marxism.

Under Mao, most Chinese lived in poverty. China's economy started to grow rapidly only after 1978, when Mao's successor, Deng Xiaoping (who had proclaimed that "It doesn't matter if a cat is black or white, as long as it catches mice") allowed private enterprises to be established. Deng's reforms eventually lifted 800 million people out of extreme poverty, but also created a society with greater income inequality than any European country (and much greater than the United States).

Although China still proclaims that it is building "socialism with Chinese characteristics," it is not easy to see what is socialist, let alone Marxist, about its economy. If China is no longer significantly influenced by Marx's thought, we can conclude that in politics, as in economics, he is indeed irrelevant. Yet his intellectual influence remains. His materialist theory of history has, in an attenuated form, become part of our understanding of the forces that determine the direction of human society

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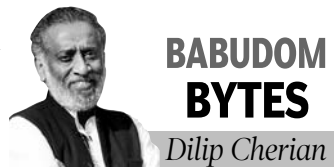
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Peter Singer

HIS PREDICTIONS HAVE BEEN FALSIFIED AND HIS THEORIES DISCREDITED, BUT MARX CONTINUES TO EXERT INTELLECTUAL INFLUENCE



### BABUDOM BYTES

Dilip Cherian

The appointment of former IAS officer Indu Bhushan as the new CEO of Ayushman Bharat National Health Protection Mission has drawn a parallel with the appointment of Parmeswaran Iyer, who spearheads the Swachh Bharat Mission. Both officers had left the IAS for greener pastures but have been tapped by the Centre to lead pivotal government schemes

### SPECTRUM PRESS FREEDOM

## Legal defence for the media

In India, freedom of the press is akin to freedom of speech and expression of any citizen as guaranteed under Article 19 of the Constitution. The architects of the Constitution have not given any separate place or status to the press and media in the fundamental rights chapter of the Constitution. However, like the three other organs of the state in our democratic system, the press is considered to be the fourth estate and, therefore, freedom of the press is absolutely necessary for successful functioning of democracy. Freedom of the press and legal defence for media is essential so that journalists can discharge their functions in an atmosphere of freedom and sans pressure from the powers that be.

It deserves mention that the role of the media in a welfare state cannot be overemphasised as it has a definite function in the process of nation-building and to create awareness about the different welfare measures of the state meant to uplift the toiling masses of the country. Besides, in a fast emerging society, the media plays a proactive role in governance by shedding light on the policies and programmes of

In India no law has so far been framed to provide security and legal protection to the media. It is vital that strong and comprehensive legislation is enacted to provide protection and security to the media. In countries like the UK and USA such laws are in place



the government. Therefore, in the process of presenting news the media should be impartial and independent and should be given the opportunity to disseminate news and views without fear and favour. To place news correctly without exaggeration, embroidery or embellishment is the virtue of a free press.

The media should have the highest regard for truth and should display exemplary impartiality. Paid news has no place in a democratic system. However, another aspect that needs to be highlighted is that, of late, the electronic media, while highlighting corruption or criminal charges against individuals or organisations, are subjecting the accused to a kind of trial. This is

against the ethics of investigating journalism. On the other hand, such practices can be held to be a form of yellow journalism which should be avoided at all costs. Media trial is opposed to the rule of law and the law of the land doesn't provide any such power to the media.

Many scribes are being killed, manhandled and assaulted while on duty. Therefore, it is important that media persons are being brought under security cover. However, in India no law has so far been framed to provide security and legal protection to the media. It is vital that strong and comprehensive legislation is enacted to provide protection and security to the media.

In countries like the UK and USA such laws are in place. To ensure that

the media gets legal aid at the cost of the state so that they can defend themselves in litigations and court cases brought forward against them is crucial. Such cases are usually civil and criminal defamation, contempt of court and breach of legislative privileges as well as criminal cases and writ petitions before the Supreme Court and high courts.

The media should follow the guidelines framed by the Press Council of India and press should not cross their limitations. In other words, media persons should not cross the 'laxman rekha' as pointed out by press council, the apex court and different high courts in judgments dealing with the role and function of the media.

The writer is ex-judge, CBI



HB Das

THE ROLE OF THE MEDIA IN A WELFARE STATE CANNOT BE OVEREMPHASISED

### Cry for clean air

Sir: Delhi, Kanpur, Srinagar, Jaipur, Patna, Lucknow, Varanasi, Faridabad, Gurugram, Patiala, Jodhpur and Agra – most are North Indian cities – are the top 12 of the 20 most polluted cities ranked by the WHO among a survey of 4,300 cities. The pollution in Delhi, due its susceptibility to air pollution, is stark because the national capital has air pollution monitors in place to measure the air indices whereas the same cannot be said of other Indian cities. The data distinctly point to the fact that there is a direct causal relationship between air pollutants and deadly diseases affecting human beings, including heart diseases and cancer, which otherwise could have been prevented. It is often said that air pollution is a price citizens pay for availing the opulence of modernisation. What India needs is a firm focus on robust solar energy and wind energy consumption. Regulation of burgeoning industries and infrastructural constructions should be hastened. Traffic congestion and emissions have to be brought down by innovative methods. Roads have to be built scientifically to reduce vehicular congestion. We require more greenery – enhanced lung space. Air issues cannot be handled by the governments alone; citizens' proactive participation is absolutely crucial.

Ganapathi Bhat, EMAIL

### All in a name

Sir: Those born much after India got independence are often confused why a state in the eastern part of the country is named West Bengal. Only old-timers know that since the western part of pre-independence undivided Bengal came to India, the state was named West Bengal, and East Bengal turned into East Pakistan (now Bangladesh). To remove unnecessary confusion, the prefix 'west' should be removed from the name of the state. Even the name 'Pashchimbanga', once suggested by the state government, is not correct because it again has the prefix 'pashchim', meaning west, in the suggested name. Distorted spellings of the country's capital, Delhi, should also be rectified as 'Dehli' means entrance. Already neighbouring countries like China and Bangladesh have changed the spellings of their capital cities from the earlier Peking and Dacca to Beijing and Dhaka respectively. Though spellings of many other cities like Jalandhar and Shimla have already changed, The Union government should also adopt a single name, Bharat, for the country abolishing the British name India in tune with the unanimous resolution once passed by the UP Assembly. Countries like Sri Lanka and Myanmar have already dumped their colonial legacy when it comes to names.

Madhu Agrawal, EMAIL

## Letters

### TO THE EDITOR

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

OrissaPOST

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Having night stay and food at houses of Dalits neither empowers the Dalit families nor benefits the politicians, Rahul Gandhi is a live example of it. Instead of pretending through night stay and eating food, it would be better if politicians come forward for food, clothes, houses, employment and treatment of needy dalits

UDIT RAJ | BJP MP

## WHO ASKS NATIONS IN SE ASIA REGION TO PROMOTE HAND HYGIENE

Good hand hygiene is needed to prevent sepsis, a potentially life-threatening condition which affects over 30 million people globally every year, WHO said Friday and asked its South East Asian Region member nations, including India, to promote the practice



## of the day quote

The state government has been doing everything possible to secure Constitutional recognition of the 11 left out communities as Scheduled Tribes in view of their historical background



PAWAN KUMAR CHAMLING | CM SIKKIM

Nearly 30 years of my association with the Parliament, I find that Parliament is going from bad to worse and worse still. Today, democracy is in serious danger because we do not have the right kind of relationship between media and politicians



MANI SHANKAR AIYAR | CONGRESS LEADER

Improved connectivity and infrastructure will lead to exponential growth in tourism sector in the region in days to come as northeast India has a lot to offer on the tourism front. The region can also expect increased flow of patients from Southeast Asia



SARBANANDA SONOWAL | CM ASSAM

## SHORT TAKES

### SC refuses to interfere with arrest of Rai

New Delhi: The Supreme Court Friday refused to interfere with the arrest of journalist Upendra Rai by the CBI for his alleged involvement in dubious financial transactions. A bench of Justices AK Sikri and Ashok Bhushan said it would not like to interfere in the arrest, saying it has not gone through the application filed by Rai seeking protection. The CBI had Thursday arrested Delhi-based journalist Upendra Rai for allegedly indulging in dubious financial transactions and getting an airport access pass made by the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS) by furnishing false information.

### Case filed in connection with hoax call

New Delhi: The Delhi Police has registered a case in connection with a hoax call received about a bomb on a Mumbai-bound flight, police said Friday. A staffer of the Indigo airlines had Thursday informed the security authorities that they had received a call at about 8:15 am from an unidentified man, who said there was a bomb on the flight. A case was registered today in the matter against unidentified persons. The call had sent the security apparatus at airport into a tizzy for a few hours. It had delayed an Indigo flight to Mumbai.

### 2 killed for protesting drinking in public

Varanasi: An egg vendor and his nephew were shot dead allegedly by four people for protesting against their drinking in public at Rajnaha in Sarnath near here, the police said Friday. Basanta Yadav and his nephew Rajesh (32) were selling eggs Thursday night when the four men started drinking liquor sitting on a bench in front of them. When the duo raised objection, the four got into an argument but left the spot after sometime. They returned late in the night and shot Basanta. He was rushed to a nearby hospital where doctors declared him brought dead. The body of Rajesh was discovered in the morning, with bullet injuries on his chest.

### Man arrested for raping minor daughter

Biharsharif: A man was arrested for allegedly raping his 16-year-old daughter for the past six months here in Nalanda district, the police said. The accused was caught in his house by neighbours while he was trying to commit the crime in an inebriated condition Thursday, police said. After he was caught, his daughter said that she had been subjected to repeated sexual assault by her father in the past six months. A rickshaw-puller by profession, the man stays in Asanol in West Bengal and was in Bihar to visit his family.

# Cong demands PM's apology for 'insulting' Bangalore

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, May 4: The Congress Friday accused Prime Minister Narendra Modi of "insulting" Bangalore and the people of Karnataka by calling it a "valley of sins" and demanded his apology for his "deplorable" remarks.

Congress spokesperson Abhishek Singhvi said that as the Karnataka assembly election approaches, "the fears, frustration and follies of the BJP grow due to its impending defeat and this is

reflected in the idioms and the language used by its leaders including the Prime Minister."

"You accuse Bengaluru, the Kannadiga of being a 'valley of sin'. I think it is shameful and I think the country needs an apology which I am sure we will never get from the Prime Minister," he told reporters. The Congress leader said the country's Prime Minister lacked his grasp of the country's history as was evident from his Thursday's "false and superficial" statements on Field Marshal K C

Cariappa and General KS Thimayya. "The Prime Minister in his insatiable urge bordering on greed to attack the Congress party actually ended up insulting comprehensively the people of Karnataka, insulting each and every one of its entrepreneurs, insulting each and one of its IT technologists and labelling Bengaluru as the 'valley of sin' from the Silicon Valley," he said.

"This is SIN - a 'Special Insult. 'S' for special and IN for insult which the prime minister of the



country has heaped upon Bangalore and the people of Karnataka," he said.

Describing Bangalore as a birth place of IT giants, a technological

hub, a start-up hub, he said, "The prime minister has ignored the 'S' for superior, the 'I' for Information Technology and 'N' for Novelty and calls it 'SIN'."

He said, "The Prime Minister ignores the 'S' for Super Highway which Bangalore and its IT industry are and ignores the 'I' for IT and the 'N' for Network. He only finds 'SIN' and that is "deplorable" as he is unable to create jobs and stop farmer suicides, and instead accuse Bengaluru, the 'Kannadiga' of being a 'Valley of Sin'."

"The higher the divisiveness factor, the higher goes the BJP's decibel. Their decibel is linked to divisiveness. Why it is - to digress and draw the attention of the people of Bangalore and Karnataka away from their failures in one day yesterday," he alleged.

In a full-scale attack on the Siddaramaiah government in Karnataka on city-related issues, Prime Minister Narendra Modi Thursday accused it of having turned Bangalore into a "garbage city and valley of sin" from "Silicon Valley."

# JUDICIARY-EXECUTIVE SHOWDOWN IN SC

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, May 4: The ongoing turf-war between the judiciary and the executive over the appointment of judges in the higher judiciary Friday witnessed an open showdown in the Supreme Court with the Centre taking the Collegium head on for recommending few names to fill up huge vacancies in the High Courts.

The apex court also hit out at the Centre for keeping the names recommended by the Collegium pending.

"Tell us, how many names (recommended by the Collegium) are pending with you," a bench comprising Justices Madan B Lokur and Deepak Gupta asked Attorney General (AG) KK Venugopal.

When the AG said "I will have to find out", the bench retorted



"when it comes to the government, you say 'we will find out.'"

The strong remarks by the bench came after Venugopal said though the court was dealing with a matter relating to the vacancy of judges in the High Courts of Manipur, Meghalaya and Tripura, the fact was that the Collegium has been recommending only three names for High Courts where the vacancy was for 40 judges.

"The Collegium will have to see the broad picture and recommend more names," the AG said, adding, "Some High Courts have 40 vacancies and recommendation of the Collegium is only for three. And the government is being told that we are tardy in filing up the vacancy."

"If there is no Collegium recommendation, nothing can be done," Venugopal said.

The bench then reminded the government that they have to make the appointments.

The Collegium had April 19 recommended to the Centre for appointing of Justice M Yaqoob Mir and Justice Ramalingam Sudhakar as the Chief Justices of the Meghalaya High Court and Manipur High Court respectively, which have not yet been cleared. During the hearing, Venugopal

said the issues related to Justice Sudhakar and Justice Yaqoob Mir would be dealt with and orders would be issued "shortly".

"What shortly? 'Shortly' could be three months," the bench retorted.

April 17, while hearing a petition filed by a man seeking transfer of his case from Manipur High Court to Gauhati High Court, the apex court had noted that the situation in the High Courts in North-East states like Manipur, Meghalaya and Tripura was "critical" due to the vacancy of judges there.

It had noted that Manipur High Court had only two judges against a sanctioned strength of seven, Meghalaya High Court had one judge against the sanctioned strength of four, while Tripura High Court had two judges against sanctioned strength of four.

# Internet services suspended in Aligarh

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA



Aligarh (UP), May 4: Internet services were Friday suspended in Aligarh district in the wake of unrest in AMU after the Jinnah portrait row.

"There will be no internet services from 2 pm Friday to 12 midnight Saturday," district magistrate Chandra Bhushan Singh said. This has been done to prevent rumour mongering, he said.

It had come to the administration's notice that some anti-social elements could vitiate communal harmony by spreading rumours through videos, using internet services, his order said.

Tension prevailed in Aligarh and students continued with their sit-in at the university's Baab-e-Syed gate, where they had clashed with the police Wednesday.

They are boycotting classes for the next two days. The students offered Friday prayers at the scene of the dharna in which a large number of teachers and other members of the AMU fraternity participated.

Wednesday's clash took place when the students were demanding action against right-wing protesters who entered the campus and waded the Pakistan founder's portrait removed from the student union office, where it has been hanging for decades.

The row started after local BJP MP Satish Gautam wrote to AMU raising objections to the portrait.

The University said portraits of all life members of the student union hang there. Jinnah, a founder member of the University Court, had also been given this honour before Partition.

AMU vice chancellor Tariq Mansoor today visited the Jawaharlal Nehru Medical College Hospital where three of the students injured in the police lathi-charge are being treated. The VC later visited the protesting students and assured them of his "solidarity".

AMU Teachers' Association (AMUTA) has sent a memorandum to President Ram Nath Kovind asking him to "urgently institute" a high-level judicial probe into the incident.

They said members of certain outfits entered the campus and disrupted the peaceful academic environment there.

The teachers also plan a peace march up to the district collectorate. AMUTA secretary Najmul Islam told PTI that they have urged the President to treat the matter seriously as it involved a breach in the security of former Vice President Hamid Ansari. Ansari was supposed to be felicitated at the University the day the violence broke out.

Islam said protesters who had entered the campus were reportedly carrying firearms. He said the police, instead of preventing the hoodlums from entering the campus, remained mute spectators.

## Mittal appointed acting Chief Justice

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, May 4: Justice Ajay Kumar Mittal has been appointed as the acting chief justice of the Punjab and Haryana High Court after incumbent chief justice Shivax Jal Vazifdar demitted office at midnight upon his retirement.

The Law Ministry issued a notification late Thursday night appointing Justice Mittal as the acting chief justice with effect from May 4. A recommendation of the Supreme Court collegium proposing the name of Justice Krishna Murari, senior-most judge of the Allahabad High Court after the Chief Justice, to head the Punjab and Haryana High Court is pending before the Centre.

Justice Vazifdar purportedly said he would not be able to decide on the roster after his retirement and the senior-most judge should be consulted in this regard.

## CARTOON CORNER



# Chhagan Bhujbal gets bail Minor girl raped, burnt to death

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, May 4: The Bombay High Court Friday granted bail to senior NCP leader and former Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Chhagan Bhujbal in a money laundering case.

Justice PN Deshmukh, however, directed Bhujbal who was arrested in March 2016, to pay a personal bond of ₹5 lakh to secure his bail. Justice Deshmukh also imposed certain conditions on Bhujbal's release on bail, including that he will appear before the Enforcement Directorate (ED), whenever summoned for questioning.

Citing his ailing health, Bhujbal had approached the High Court



he and his associates allegedly misused their office and caused financial loss to the government. According to the ED, Bhujbal had awarded contracts related to construction and development works, including one for the construction of the Maharashtra Sadan in New Delhi, to a particular firm, in return for kickbacks for himself and his family.

Bhujbal and his nephew Sameer Bhujbal used to channel such money to illegal companies owned by them, the agency had alleged. Sameer was also arrested in the case and is in jail. He has also filed a bail plea in the high court, which has been posted for hearing in June.

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INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Ranchi, May 4: A 16-year-old girl was gang raped and subsequently burnt to death in front of her family members in Jharkhand's Chatra district Friday.

According to local media reports, the girl was abducted by four youths from near her house and raped. The family members had gone to attend a marriage.

The incident took place in Rajakendua village under Itkhori police station in Chatra district — around 160 km from state capital Ranchi.

The issue was raised in the village Panchayat Friday morning. The Panchayat asked the accused

## Enraged over the Panchayat diktat, the four youths went to the house of the girl and thrashed the family members and burnt her to death

to pay ₹50,000 to the victim to settle the matter. Enraged over the Panchayat diktat, the four youths went to the house of the girl and thrashed the family members and burnt her to death. The family members have filed a case at the Itkhori police

station. The four youths have been named accused in the case and a manhunt has been launched to nab them.

In another rape incident in Palamau district, the village Panchayat asked the rape accused to pay ₹15,000 to settle the issue.

A minor girl was allegedly raped by her maternal uncle in the district on Wednesday night when she had gone to her maternal uncle's house to attend a marriage.

The victim returned home on Thursday and informed her family members. The issue was taken to the village Panchayat which asked the maternal uncle to pay the fine.

# Jaipur doppler radar dysfunctional when dust storm hit UP, Rajasthan

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi/Jaipur, May 4: The doppler radar in the Jaipur Met office, a critical component in the accurate forecasting of weather events, was not working the night of May 2 when a high velocity dust storm cut a swathe of destruction through parts of Rajasthan, killing at least 35 people, an IMD official said.

The doppler, a product of Finnish company Vaisala, has been dysfunctional for the last 10 days, said Devendra Pradhan, additional director general of the India Meteorological Department.

"The doppler radar of Jaipur has been dysfunctional for the last 10 days due to some technical issues. The engineers of Vaisala, a Finnish company, are here. The problem will be rectified in the next two-three days," Pradhan said.

Besides doppler radars, the IMD depends on observatories and satellites for accurate weather forecasts.

A doppler radar helps in better assessment of the severity of a hailstorm, thunderstorms, wind movement and also helps in nowcasts, weather alerts issued for two-three hours, Pradhan explained. "It is an important tool for dis-



aster management," Pradhan, who looks after doppler radars across the country, said.

Of the 27 IMD doppler radars in the country, two, in Jaipur and Karaikal, are not working, Pradhan said.

radar May 2, which was rectified the next day, said Himanshu Sharma, acting director, IMD Jaipur.

"However, we had issued a warning to the relief department about the dust storm that affected three districts of Rajasthan," Sharma added.

More than 100 people were killed as the dust storm whipped through parts of Rajasthan, including Dholpur and Bharatpur, and Uttar Pradesh, bringing down houses, uprooting trees and electricity poles and flattening crops.

A fresh warning was issued Friday about a possible thunder-

storm accompanied with squall which may hit West Bengal, Odisha, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh, a home ministry spokesperson said.

A doppler has a radius of 250 km and the alert issued by the Jaipur IMD today was based on the doppler radar in Delhi, officials said. However, several places in the Agra division, where more than 40 people were killed, and areas like Dholpur fall beyond the radius. Dholpur, for instance, is much closer to Jaipur than Delhi.

There is a doppler at Lucknow but the dust storm that hit parts of Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh was beyond its range.





**Tiger Shroff | Great initiative by shiksha guys let's support so more kids are educated and they have the opportunity to go to school!**



**Sushant Singh Rajput | Anyone who's just planning to solve visible problems in any context is either selfishly unaware or a dangerously stupid player**



**Anushka Sharma | Rewinding to my favourite summer memories... With #NUSH Get the SS18 collection at @shoppersstop**



## STORIES TOP

### FILM ACADEMY EXPELS COSBY, POLANSKI

**Los Angeles:** The Board of Governors of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences has voted to expel actor Bill Cosby and director Roman Polanski. The decision to remove Cosby and Polanski from the membership was made Tuesday at a scheduled board meeting. The move comes a week after Cosby was convicted of three counts of aggravated indecent assault brought against him by Andrea Constand. Cosby has been accused of sexual assault by as many as 60 women. Polanski's attorney Harland Braun said the director was not afforded an opportunity to defend himself to the Academy, which he says is at odds with the process outlined in Academy's new code of conduct.

### BRITNEY, BEAU GROWING 'STRONGER TOGETHER'

**Los Angeles:** Singer Britney Spears, who shared on social media a workout video of herself along with beau Sam Asghari, says they are growing "stronger together". The pop star, 36, shared the workout video on Instagram. "Stronger together. Sam Asghari," Spears wrote in the caption as the video began with the star doing suspended sit-ups with her legs wrapped around Asghari's waist. Spears continued with her workout as she held a plank over Asghari's body and did leg lifts with her model beau's assistance. In the next sequence, Asghari did push-ups with Spears holding on to his legs as feet rested on his back so she also worked her core with another plank position.

### KANYE WEST ACCUSED OF STEALING FASHION SKETCHES

**Los Angeles:** Rapper Kanye West has been accused of stealing fashion sketches from a former designer of the brand Nike. West, 40, has been accused of stealing a design blueprint and calling it his own when in actuality it appeared to be an original sketch by former Nike designer Tony Spackman, who currently serves as design director of Givenchy, reports *people.com*. It all started when West tweeted the sketch April 30 with the caption, "This is where a YEEZY study for base layer starts. I'm so excited about our new design team. Yeezy is no longer a fashion company we should be referred to as apparel or clothing or simply YEEZY."

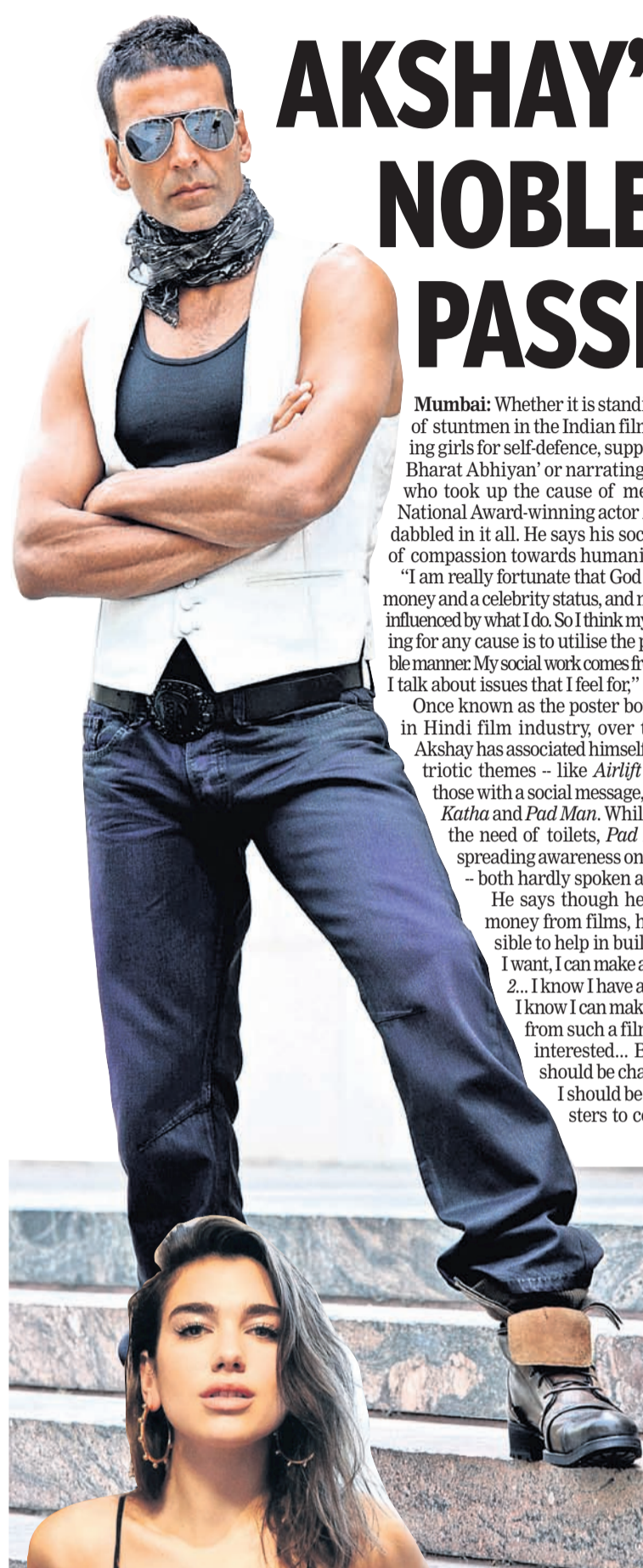
### CARRIE COON JOINS THE SINNER SEASON 2

**Los Angeles:** Actress Carrie Coon has been roped in for the second season of crime drama series *The Sinner*. Coon is set to play Vera, described as a formidable, mysterious woman who struggles between upholding the ideals of the community she leads and fulfilling her own desires. The casting marks Coon's return to television after critically adored turns in *The Leftovers* and season three of *Fargo*, reports *variety.com*. Joining her in the season two cast for *The Sinner* are Natalie Paul and Hannah Gross. Paul will play Heather, a detective in training.

### RYAN TALKS ABOUT HIS STRUGGLE WITH ANXIETY

**New York:** *Deadpool* star Ryan Reynolds has opened up about his struggles with "anxiety" and said he has been living with it for the most part of his life. The actor made the admission in an interview with *The New York Times* where he was promoting his new film *Deadpool 2*. "I have anxiety, I've always had anxiety. Both in the lighthearted 'I'm anxious about this' kind of thing, and I've been to the depths of the darker end of the spectrum, which is not fun," Reynold said.

# AKSHAY'S NOBLE PASSION



**Mumbai:** Whether it is standing up for the rights of stuntmen in the Indian film industry or training girls for self-defence, supporting the 'Swachh Bharat Abhiyan' or narrating the story of a man who took up the cause of menstrual hygiene - National Award-winning actor Akshay Kumar has dabbled in it all. He says his social work is a result of compassion towards humanity.

"I am really fortunate that God has given me fame, money and a celebrity status, and many youngsters get influenced by what I do. So I think my whole idea of standing for any cause is to utilise the power in a responsible manner. My social work comes from pure compassion. I talk about issues that I feel for," Akshay said.

Once known as the poster boy of action dramas in Hindi film industry, over the past few years Akshay has associated himself with films with patriotic themes - like *Airlift* and *Rustom* - and those with a social message, like *Toilet: Ek Prem Katha* and *Pad Man*. While *Toilet...* was about the need of toilets, *Pad Man* was aimed at spreading awareness on menstrual hygiene - both hardly spoken about subjects.

He says though he can make a lot of money from films, he also feels responsible to help in building the society. "If I want, I can make a *Singh Is Kinning* part 2... I know I have an audience for that. I know I can make millions of money from such a film. Not that I am not interested... But as a celebrity, I should be changing one thought. I should be influencing youngsters to contribute to a good cause. That is how we can build a society. I am doing it in my way," he said with a smile.

The actor, 50, has become the brand ambassador of the New India Conclave 2018, which will recognise rural achievers of the country. He says change will be visible in the society when people start focussing more on solutions than problems. IANS

## PC, Smith in YT's new original show



**Los Angeles:** YouTube has announced a new original show by Hindi film star Priyanka Chopra. The *Baywatch* star will host the series *If I Could Tell You Just One Thing*, from Sundog Pictures, according to *The Hollywood Reporter*.

The new show will chronicle her journey as she meets inspirational people and asks their advice on how to change the world. The Google-owned company made the announcement at its BrandCast event in New York City.

YouTube also announced that *Bright* star Will Smith has agreed to bungee jump from a helicopter over the Grand Canyon on his 50th birthday September 25. The event, titled *Will Smith: The Jump Off*, will be broadcast live. Another new show, called *Best Shot* is backed by the NBA and famous basketball player LeBron James. It follows the New York Central High's Blue Devil basketball team. The company has also renewed its existing shows including Demi Lovato's "Simply Complicate" and Kevin Hart's *What the Fit*. PTI

## CINE BITS

### Have no legacy to leave behind: Bachchan

**New Delhi:** The world knows him as Hindi film's *Shahenshah*, but he prefers to be known as the son of late eminent poet Harivansh Rai Bachchan. Megastar Amitabh Bachchan says he has been in public life from the day he was born, but has no legacy of his own to leave behind. The actor says his father's "public presence is far greater than" his. "It is coming on to 50 years in public life... That is as far as I am personally concerned... But I have been in public life from the day I was born. I was always the son of Dr Harivansh Rai Bachchan, eminent poet, litterateur, having public presence far greater than mine," Amitabh said.

### Couldn't have made Raazi without Alia, says Meghna

**Mumbai:** *Raazi* director Meghna Gulzar says actress Alia Bhatt was the only choice for her to play the protagonist in the movie, and without her perhaps she wouldn't have made the film. The film is based on Harinder Sikka's novel "Calling Sehmat" and is a cross-border spy drama. Asked what made her cast Alia as Kashmiri girl Sehmat, Meghna said: "I am really thankful to Alia for agreeing to do the film. Otherwise I couldn't have made the film. 'I don't think anybody else could fit in, with all due respect to the other actresses.'"

### Anil proud to see Janhvi, Khushi accept honour

**Mumbai:** Actor Anil Kapoor says it was a proud and heartwarming moment to see his producer brother Boney Kapoor's children Janhvi and Khushi accepting the National Film Award for late veteran actress and their mother Sridevi. "Such a proud and heartwarming moment for all of us to watch these beautiful people accept an honour for the most incredible person there ever was! Sridevi. National Film Awards, Boney Kapoor, Janhvi Kapoor and Khushi Kapoor," Anil tweeted. Boney Thursday was in the capital with his two daughters Janhvi and Khushi to receive the Best Actress posthumous honour at the 65th National Film Awards ceremony.

# Dua enjoys being single



**Los Angeles:** Singer Dua Lipa says she enjoys being single because she learns a lot more about herself. She spoke on her current relationship status in an interview to *ELLE* magazine, reports *metro.co.uk*. "There's so much fun in being single," she said in a statement. "When I'm

single, I end up having so much more time to do a lot of other stuff... I think you learn so much more about yourself when you're completely alone and you have no one to go to for help for certain things. You learn to rely on yourself in a different way." While Dua is happy

to be single, she is a "firm believer" in love because she's grown up seeing her parents in a strong and happy relationship. "I blame my parents for that, because they have a really good relationship and I think they've set my standards high," she added. IANS

### PEANUTS



### CALVIN AND HOBBS

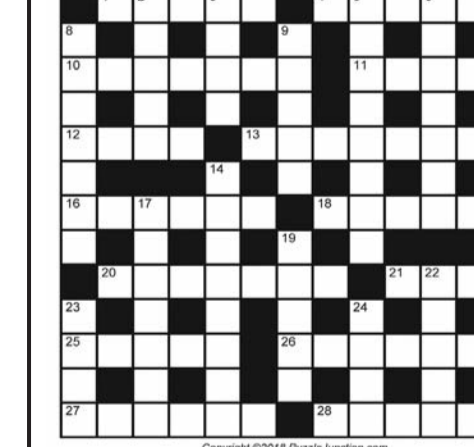


### BREVITY



## FUN POST

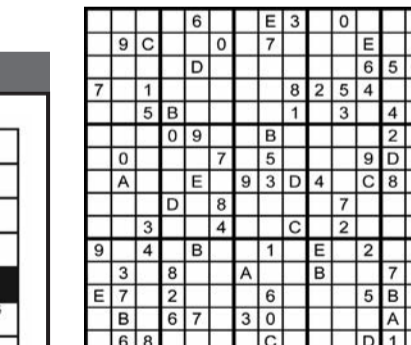
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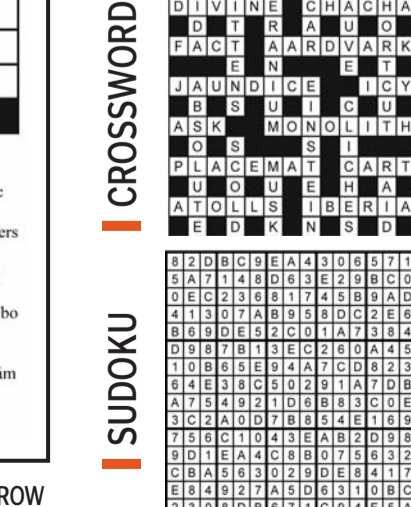
- Across**
- 1 Winter warmer
  - 4 Tropical fruit
  - 10 Vulgar
  - 11 Designer's concern
  - 12 River of Hades
  - 13 Matured
  - 16 Tease
  - 18 Edge tool
  - 20 Rapacity
  - 21 Wide-eyed
  - 25 Native New Zealander
  - 26 Slippery
  - 27 Step down
  - 28 Merry
  - 7 Ambience
  - 8 Gastronomic delight
  - 9 Certain singers
  - 14 Coquetry
  - 15 Hound dogs
  - 17 Jealous
  - 19 Largish combo
  - 22 Cookbook direction
  - 23 Poet Khayyam
  - 24 Martial art

### SUDOKU

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



### SOLUTIONS



CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMORROW





**Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping have the opportunity to meet at least three times this year to take forward their friendship forged during their unprecedented informal summit in Wuhan**  
LUO ZHAOHUI | CHINA'S AMBASSADOR TO INDIA

**SAUNA BATHS CUT RISK OF STROKE**  
Staying healthy need not make you always follow a tough regime of restrictions as a new study shows that frequent sauna bathing may significantly reduce the risk of stroke



## of the day quote

The Trump administration has good relationship with both India and China, and wants things to continue down the same road



SARAH SANDERS | WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY

We express our deepest sympathy and sincerest condolences to the large number of casualties and loss of property in the storms in India. We mourn the victims and hope the injured recover soon



HUA CHUNYING | FOREIGN MINISTRY SPOKESPERSON

I am optimistic about South Korea being shortlisted to build nuclear power plants for the Middle Eastern kingdom



KHALID AL-FALIH | SAUDI ARABIAN ENERGY MINISTER

## SHORT TAKES

### Imran Khan acquitted

**Islamabad:** Pakistan's opposition leader Imran Khan was Friday acquitted by an anti-terrorism court in a case related to the attack on a senior police officer during protests in 2014. Activists of Khan's Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) and Pakistan Awami Tehreek Chairman Tahirul Qadri had in 2014 staged a major rally here against alleged rigging in the 2013 election. They were also protesting the Lahore incident in June 2014 in which as many as 14 people were killed and 100 injured in police firing.

### 17 dead in Myanmar jade mine landslide

**Yangon:** A landslide at a jade mine in northern Myanmar has killed 17 people, local authorities said Friday, the latest disaster to hit the murky multi-billion dollar industry. Myanmar is the world's top producer of the near-translucent green gem in trade fuelled by demand from neighbouring China.

### Boycott call for Venezuelan Prez polls

**Caracas:** The opposition parties in Venezuela have said they will not participate in the May 20 presidential elections and urged citizens to refrain from "validating the fraud". The opposition coalition, Democratic Unity Roundtable also called for more protests against the government of President Nicolas Maduro on the day of the vote.

### North Korea rejoins South's time zone

**Seoul:** North Korea went forward in time by 30 minutes Friday, state media said, to match its clocks with those of the South following last week's inter-Korean summit. Leader Kim Jong Un promised the move during the meeting at Panmunjon in the Demilitarized Zone that divides the peninsula, when he and the South's President Moon Jae-in pledged to pursue denuclearisation and a peace treaty. "The time-resetting is the first practical step taken after the historic third north-south summit meeting," said the official of KCNA news agency.

### Dozens wounded in Gaza border protest

**Gaza City:** Dozens of Palestinians were wounded Friday as thousands demonstrated on the Gaza border for the sixth week in a row in a wave of protests that has already seen nearly 50 people killed by Israeli fire. Medics treated 170 demonstrators for gunshot wounds and tear gas, with 69 taken to hospital, a spokesman for the Gaza health ministry said. Black smoke billowed over a protest camp east of Gaza City where Palestinians were burning tyres and flying kites.

### Abbas re-elected chief of PLO

**Ramallah:** Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas was re-elected the leader of the Palestine Liberation Organization's executive committee Friday following a four-day meeting by the top legislative body that was boycotted by the Islamist group Hamas.

## China, US reach some deals in trade row

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**Beijing, May 4:** China and the US Friday reached a consensus on some trade issues while differences existed on some others as top officials from both the countries wrapped up their two day crucial talks here to end the tariff spat and avert a trade war between the two major trading partners, according to a media report.



**A trade spat between the top two economies of the world began last month with Trump imposing tariffs on steel and aluminum imports into the US from China**

The US delegation, led by Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin, who is also President Donald Trump's special envoy

and Chinese side, led by Vice Premier Liu He, also in charge of the economy and a Politburo member of the Communist Party of China Central Committee, met yesterday and today, and "agreed to stay in close communication on relevant issues and establish a corresponding work mechanism".

A trade spat between the top two economies of the world began last month with Trump imposing tariffs on steel and aluminum imports into the US from China, which also retaliated by imposing additional tariffs worth about USD three billion on 128 US products.

The two countries have not yet implemented their tariff increases to reach a negotiated settlement. "China and the US reached agreements on some issues in their economic and trade consultations in Beijing from Thursday to Friday. The two sides held candid, efficient and constructive on economic and trade issues of common concern.

Both sides recognised that considerable differences still exist on some issues, continued hard work is required for more progress," the state-run Xinhua reported.

## INDIA ABROAD

### Physicians indicted for fraud in US

**Washington:** Three Indian-American physicians from Pennsylvania have been charged with health care fraud and illegal distribution of buprenorphine -- medication for opioid addiction treatment. The physicians -- Dr. Krishan Kumar Aggarwal, 73, Dr. Madhu Aggarwal, 68, and Dr. Parth Bharil, 69 -- are part of the Redirections Treatment Advocates, an opioid addiction treatment practice with offices in Pennsylvania and West Virginia. The indictments alleged that the doctors, working as contractors at various locations, created and distributed unlawful prescriptions for buprenorphine, known as Subutex and Suboxone, a drug that should be used to treat individuals with addiction. They were also charged with conspiracy to unlawfully distribute buprenorphine.

### Girl's heart disease project wins award

**Singapore:** An 18-year-old Chennai-born girl has won this year's A\*Star Talent Search award in Singapore for her study of genetic heart disease "hypertrophic cardiomyopathy". Vijayakumar Ragavi, now a Singaporean citizen, topped the list of 611 other students from secondary and tertiary institution, reported Tabla, a Friday weekly for the Non-Resident Indians community here. She has been awarded cash prize, a sponsored trip to an overseas conference and a trophy as well as a certificate for winning the competition. Ragavi said she spent almost two years studying and preparing for her award-winning project on hypertrophic cardiomyopathy. "It is estimated to be the most genetic heart disease in the world. People with the disease often suffer from arrhythmia induced sudden cardiac death," said Ragavi.

## May averts bruising in local elections

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**London, May 4:** British Prime Minister Theresa May Friday averted a bruising in the local elections, with results presenting a picture of mixed gains for her ruling Conservatives and Opposition Labour.

The biggest gains for the Conservative party came largely as a result of a near-wipeout of the far-right UK Independence Party (UKIP), which had made significant gains in the last local elections.

The Labour party, which was expected to capitalise on an anti-incumbency wave against the ruling party in government, failed to win several target seats from the Tories, including Wandsworth and Westminster in London, but won back Plymouth and became the largest party in Trafford.

"It is a great result and down to

**The biggest gains for the Conservative party came largely as a result of a near-wipeout of the far-right UK Independence Party (UKIP), which had made significant gains in the last local elections**



all the hard work of the local councillors. We won't take anything for granted and will carry on doing a great job," said May, during a visit to Wandsworth -- seen as one of the major battlegrounds of these polls.

The party's relatively robust performance will help quell renewed attacks over her leadership from her own party rebels, at least for a while.

The elections, covering over 150 local authorities and spanning metropolitan and district councils, unitary authorities and London boroughs, were seen as a crucial

test for her government as the first reflection of public opinion since the snap general election in June last year. Both major parties suffered bad publicity in recent weeks, with the Tory government criticised over the ongoing Windrush immigration scandal and Labour struggling with anti-semitism allegations.

The Lib Dems, which tend to fare well at a local level, made some strong gains, including taking over Richmond in London from the Tories as a Brexit backlash in a strong Remain-supporting area.

## Gaza women defy stereotypes, participate in protests

REUTERS

**Gaza, May 4:** On the Gaza-Israel border women are an integral part of the tent protests that have transformed a once-deserted restricted zone.

Some provide food, water and social media support - and some, although in much smaller numbers than men, roll burning tyres and hurl stones at the Israeli border fence. Since March 30, when the protests began, hundreds of women have taken part, sometimes with their entire families.

"Some tell us we can't do what men do, some are afraid we will get hurt and others encourage us,"

Aya Abeid, 18, said. Twice she managed to plant a Palestinian flag at the fortified wire fence that separates Gaza from Israel, a place most do not dare approach in demonstrations that have seen more than 40 Palestinians shot dead by Israeli troops. Abeid has used a slingshot against those same Israeli soldiers. There have been no women among the dead although at least 250 women have been wounded.

"I was injured two weeks ago in my thigh as I rolled tyres," she said. "Hopefully, I will be able to attend this Friday and do what I usually do, here is my slingshot ready." As Israel celebrates its 70th birth-



day, Palestinians mourn what they call the "Nakba" (Catastrophe) of their people's mass-dispossession during the conflict that broke out in 1948.

Two-thirds of Gaza's 2 million Palestinians are war refugees or their descendants. "The Great March of Return", as the Gaza

## World's rarest ape on edge of extinction

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**Melbourne, May 4:** Tapanuli Orangutan - the rarest ape species on the planet - could lose its battle for survival, unless decisive steps are taken to rescue it, scientists said Friday.

Fewer than 800 members of the species survive, and they are under assault from mega-projects, deforestation, road building, and poaching, according to a study published in the journal Current Biology.

The most imminent threat to the species discovered last year in Sumatra, Indonesia, is a planned USD 1.6 billion mega-dam project that would be constructed by a Chinese state-owned



corporation, researchers said.

"If it proceeds, the dam will flood crucial parts of the ape's habitat, while chopping up its remaining habitat with new roads and powerlines," said Jatta Supriatna, a professor at the University of Indonesia.

"This is just the seventh species of Great Ape ever discovered, and it could go extinct right before our eyes," said Supriatna.

## CRY FOR RIGHTS



Palestinians with their faces painted like characters from the movie *Avatar* take part in a protest demanding the right to return to their homeland, at the Israel-Gaza border in the southern Gaza Strip

## US warns China for militarising SCS

AGENCIES

**Washington, May 4:** The US Friday warned China that it would face "consequences" for military buildup in the disputed South China Sea where Beijing has deployed anti-ship cruise missiles and surface-to-air missile systems.

White House Press Secretary Sarah Sanders said that the Trump administration has raised the issue with the Chinese leadership. "We are well aware of China's militarisation of the South China Sea. We've raised concerns directly with the Chinese leadership about this. And there will be near-term and long-term consequences," Sanders told reporters, responding to a question on the Chinese military buildup in the South China Sea and other parts of the world.

China on Thursday defended the deployment of anti-ship cruise missiles and surface-to-air missile systems in the disputed waters, saying it has "indisputable sovereignty" over the area. The Pentagon has also expressed concern over the Chinese military buildup in the disputed waters.



"We have been very vocal about our concerns about them militarising these artificial islands. China has to realise that they've benefited from the free navigation of the sea. And the US Navy has been the guarantor of that," Chief Pentagon Spokesperson Dana White told reporters.

"We will continue to do our operations and ensure that the Chinese understand that they cannot, and should not, be hostile and understand that the Pacific is a place in which much commerce goes through. And it's in their interest to ensure that there's a free navigation of international waters," she said.

China is engaged in hotly contested territorial disputes in both the South China Sea and the East China Sea. China claims almost all

### China denies laser attack on US pilots

**Beijing:** China Friday dismissed US' charge that its personnel at Djibouti logistics military base in the Horn of Africa used military-grade lasers to target American aircraft injuring the pilots, saying that Pentagon's accusation is "groundless". The US has formally complained to China, alleging that the Chinese military injured two US airmen by directing high-grade lasers at American aircraft in Djibouti, The Washington Post reported. The incidents with the lasers, which can temporarily blind pilots, come as one of the first major dust-up since China opened its first overseas military base in Djibouti in 2017, the report said. The Chinese Defence Ministry in a statement dismissed the accusations from US officials as ungrounded.

of South China Sea. Vietnam, Philippines, Malaysia, Brunei and Taiwan have counter claims.

The US media reports earlier said China has installed anti-ship cruise missiles and surface-to-air missile systems on three of its outposts in the South China Sea.

In April, the Chinese military held its largest ever maritime drill in the disputed South China Sea during which it displayed for the first time the country's aircraft carrier strike group and the most advanced weaponry of the People's Liberation Army (PLA).

The drill was held amid frequent forays made by US naval and aircraft

into the South China Sea to assert the freedom of navigation especially around the artificial islands built by China, where it has also established garrisons. The strategic South China Sea is rich in energy reserves, fishery resources and is a busy shipping route. Meanwhile, the Pentagon confirmed that Chinese military personnel have used lasers against US military planes in Djibouti. "They are very serious incidents. There have been two minor injuries. This activity poses a true threat to our airmen," Pentagon Chief spokesperson Dana White said at her weekly news conference.

## Emergency in Hawaii as volcano erupts

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

**Honolulu, May 4:** The Kilauea volcano, one of the world's most active, has erupted near a residential area on Hawaii's largest island, prompting a local state of emergency and an evacuation of 1,700 residents.

The eruption Wednesday affected Leilani Estates and the Hawaii County Civil Defence asked its residents as well as those residing in Lanipuna Gardens to evacuate to a local community centre, the US media reported.

One resident said lava had burst across a road like a curtain of fire and he could smell sulphur and burning trees. Hawaii's Governor David Ige says he activated military reservists from the National Guard to help evacuate thousands of people.

"I urge residents in Leilani Estates and the surrounding areas to follow instructions. ... Please be alert and prepare now to keep your family safe," he tweeted. About 1,700 people in the Leilani Estates area were under the evacuation order, CNN quoted the Governor's spokeswoman, Cindy McMillan, as saying.

The eruption followed a series of strong earthquakes over the past few days. The US Geological Survey said the magnitude of the most severe quake was 5.

It hit Thursday morning and, within half-an-hour, two more quakes rattled the area, registering at 2.5 and 2.7. There had been a total of six smaller earthquakes since the biggest one, the agency said.





# CAREER AS CONTENT WRITER

A career in content writing comes with endless opportunities and challenges. The content writers have always been in demand. However, with the advent of the internet, the demand for excellent writers has increased manifold. Surprisingly, almost all content writers have become writers by accident. There are very few courses in universities that teach you the nuances of content writing in the era of the internet.

Content Writing involves writing the content for almost anything. For instance, as a content writer, you will be writing the content for websites, marketing collaterals (such as brochures, newsletters, advertisements, emails, pamphlets, packing, leaflets, etc.), blogs, research papers, press releases, etc.

Skills required  
Anyone can develop a sound career in content writing. You don't need a degree or educational qualification to become

You can become a content writer in any language. For instance, if you are good in Hindi, you can write content in Hindi. If you know more than one language, then you can also become a translator. The demand for writers and translator is continuously growing with increased penetration of the internet.

Scope of content writing  
Content writing as a career option has an enormous scope. It's hard to write the entire scope of this field in a single article. However, following are the broad categories of the content that are frequently required by all type of businesses. Do note that there is no hard and fast rule in categorizing the pieces of content. A lot of these terms are used interchangeably. For instance, copywriting is also known as creative writing or writing a business blog is a part of business communication.

Social media  
Billions of pieces of content

infographics. This is a high-level work. The earnings of writers depend on the level of their expertise and creativity. Also, since the content is posted on official social media profiles or blogs of the companies, grammatical errors are never acceptable. There is no limit for experienced writers. Those who are willing to learn and give their 100% can earn more than INR 100,000 per month and get opportunities to work with reputed organisations.

Blog writing  
According to Marketing Profs report, around 2 million blog posts are written every day. This number is expected to grow in the future at an exponential rate. This has created a lot of gap in demand and supply of quality content writers. The demand is always higher than the number of writers available in the market. Therefore, it is a golden time to make a career in content development and take advantage of growing the content economy. As a blog writer, you

plus per month.

Copy writing  
Copywriting is a form of persuasive writing which is used to convince customers and readers to take a particular action such as click on a link, purchase an item and subscribe to a newsletter. Copywriting is usually sim-

ple, short, crisp and direct. Blogs and other forms of content are used to educate readers whereas copywriting is used to convince readers to take action. Thus, knowledge of consumer behavior and marketing is crucial in writing great copy.



for businesses and political parties. Some of the famous tag lines in the Indian context are as follows: Abki baar, Modi Sarkar; Bazaate Raho; Darr ke Aage Jeet Hai; Daag Acche Hain.

Editing  
If you have extensive experience in writing and an ex-

have the flexibility to work at a place and time of your choice. You need not be physically present at a particular location to deliver great work. In fact, many writers believe that they need to be alone and away from all office distractions to write a perfect content. Therefore, content

cellent command over English language, then you can become an efficient editor. Editors with no prior experience in writing may not be able to do justice with their editing job. Also, to become an editor, you should have some basic knowledge of your industry. Editors proof read the content and also decides if it meets the requirement and standards of the organization. Most of the editors are well paid. Their compensation depends on the experience and their organisation.

Freelance vs full-time  
As a writer, you will always

writers have the option to work as a freelancer or develop a career in the corporate sector.

- Advantages of working on a full-time basis:
- Consistent flow of income
  - Career Growth- Over time you will learn leadership and team management skills
  - Opportunity to learn new things from your colleagues and seniors
  - Advantages of working with a great brand
  - No stress of acquiring clients/getting projects

# GADGETS TO BOOST WORKPLACE PRODUCTIVITY



Are you looking for the best office gadgets? Innovative technology adds fun to your work day while also making it more convenient to perform a variety of tasks. From recording meetings to upgrading your presentations, there are plenty of advantages to investing in office tools. So, instead of going back to the age-old cubicles, it's time to upgrade your work life with some of these office gadgets.

**Livescribe smartpen 3 bluetooth**  
Make writing easy with this smartpen. Its innovative design delivers a premium writing quality effortlessly,

**Kensington presenter green laser**  
Take your presentations up a notch with this exceptional Kensington Expert Green Laser. Its cursor control mode and built-in memory make this laser stand out from the crowd. Not only does it have impressive features, its green light is ten times brighter than the more common red models. Note-worthy fea-

**Philips voice tracer audio recorder**  
There are so many reasons why this voice recorder makes the list of our top five must have office gadgets. Its clear audio quality and convenient recording settings make it a great buy. With its 360° meeting microphone it's easy to record everyone in the room. You won't miss any of the important details with the help of this state of the art gadget. Just place the device on the table and push the record button on the remote for a crisp recording. A highlight of these office tools are their 8GB built in memory. It also comes with 3.5 mm stereo headphones.

**Wacom intuos art pen**  
Get creative and design digital paintings with these cutting-edge office gadgets. With free downloadable software, it's easy to unleash your inner artist. Not only can you have fun creating original artwork, you can also improve your design skills with the online training. The active area for this device is 21.6 by 13.5 cm and it weighs 480g.

# Tips to stop negative gossip in workplace

Being a manager can be tough because it often includes stepping into situations that are outside your comfort zone, such as handling negative office gossip. Dealing directly and swiftly with the perpetrators, meeting with your staff and encouraging positive gossip (not the negative kind) can help turn things around.

ment culture to one that encourages positive gossip.

- Encourage positive gossip. Positive gossip can actually be good for companies and employees. This is when managers and employees share positive stories. An example is a medical device company communicating personal stories of the lives saved by the automated external defibrillator the company makes - which can help employees feel proud of where they work, thus improving morale and helping reduce turnover. Positive gossip can also be



new to your managerial role is the best time to get to the bottom of what's going on and then put a stop to it.

Negative gossip can create productivity issues (because employees feel the need to engage in CYA behavior), morale issues (because employees come to distrust each other and the management team), employee engagement and turnover issues (because high-performing employees will look for jobs elsewhere), even liability issues when pervasive gossip is deemed "malicious harassment."

Here tips to stop negative office gossip:

- Address the specific perpetrators. Your first action should be to stop negative gossip on a personal level by directly addressing the key gossipers one-on-one. Do this in a confidential location and not where others can overhear the discussion, such as a conference room with a door you can shut. Your goal is to help the person understand the impact of their behaviour and the consequences of what will happen if their bad behav-
- Model the behaviour you want to see. As a new manager, if you previously gossiped in the break room with others, that behaviour must stop. Employees will look to you for what behaviours are acceptable and unacceptable, and you need to ensure you are "walking the talk" at all times and leading by example. Changing yours and others' bad habits isn't easy, but once you do so you may just find that your department becomes the role model for other departments throughout the company.
- This one is a "Don't." Something I don't encourage is trying to stop negative office gossip at



your continues (such as a written warning that will go into their personnel file, demotion, loss of job, etc).

- Meet with your entire team. After addressing the specific perpetrators individually, the next step is to discuss the situation with your entire team. This can be done by including "gossip" as a topic for discussion in a staff meeting and helping the team understand the differences between negative gossip and positive gossip and the ramifications of each. Then, work with your team to change the depart-

an all-employee level, such as by sending out an email blast to all employees that "office gossip won't be tolerated" or trying to address the issue during an all company meeting. Doing so generally isn't effective because it fails to address the specific offenders - and often causes good employees to shake their heads and wonder why the management team is conflict averse. Instead, provide managers with training on dealing with conflict and encourage all managers to address negative gossipers immediately and directly.

<p><b>OFFICIALLY JOB</b></p> <p>ଢୋସଂସଂ: ବଂଗଳ ପାଞ୍ଚ/ଢେଲ୍,</p> <p>ବୟସ: (18-35) yrs. Monthly Salary upto Rs.25000/-</p> <p><b>Contact Immediately: Mob: 8763257042</b></p>	<p><b>WALK-IN-INTERVIEW</b></p> <p>05.05.18 to 11.05.18 (10 A.M. to 1 P.M.)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Teleseller(F): 2 Nos. Qualification: Graduation, Salary: 6,000/-</li> <li>Marketing Executive (M/F): 2 years experience, Salary: 15,000/-</li> </ol> <p><b>BIRAJA CONSTRUCTIONS PVT. LTD.</b> Plot No. A/25, BJB Nagar (Kalpana Area), Near to Badagada Hata, Bhubaneswar (M): 7735738098</p>
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**The e-commerce sector is an emerging one with immense growth potential. A robust national e-commerce policy is required to provide the correct impetus to the sector**

CHANDRAJIT BANERJEE | CII DIRECTOR GENERAL

## 21% INDIANS FACE LANGUAGE BARRIERS DURING TRAVEL

Even as Indian travellers are keen to explore new destinations and experiences, many hesitate to do so fearing language barriers, according to a survey.



## of the day quote

Our AMG strategy in India has been very well received by our discerning customers... we will be launching many more AMGs and other cars through the year



ROLAND FOLGER | MERCEDES BENZ INDIA MANAGING DIRECTOR AND CEO

We have also generated ₹1,868 crore of net operating cash flow in FY 18, which has allowed us to reduce our debt by ₹653 crore while rapidly growing our company's development portfolio. We look forward to building on this momentum in FY19



PIROJSHA GODREJ | GODREJ PROPERTIES LTD EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN

We are setting up a 1.5 lakh tonne capacity carbon black greenfield plant at Ennore in Tamil Nadu at an expenditure of ₹600 crore. Along with it, we will go for de-bottlenecking of Dahej and Palej plants at a cost of ₹300 crore



SANJIV GOENKA | PHILLIPS CARBON BLACK LTD CHAIRMAN

# GST COUNCIL DEFERS DECISION ON SUGAR CESS

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**New Delhi, May 4:** The all-powerful GST Council Friday deferred a decision on levying a cess on sugar and referred the issue of incentivising digital payments to a group of state finance ministers. The panel, the highest decision making body of the Goods and

Services Tax (GST) regime, in its 27th meeting agreed to a proposal to convert the GST Network - the company that provides IT backbone to the new indirect tax regime - into a government-owned entity. Announcing the decisions taken Friday, finance minister Arun Jaitley, who chaired the meeting conducted through a video con-

ferencing, said a road map for introduction of simplified return filing has been decided.

A single monthly return filing system would come into force in six months, finance secretary Hasmukh Adhia said.

Jaitley said while most states were in favour of giving a 2 per cent incentive if all payments are paid

digitally or through cheques, some wanted a small negative list and so the issue will be referred to a five-member group of state finance ministers.

Another group of ministers (GoM) would look at the issue of levy of cess on sugar beyond the GST tax rates. West Bengal finance minister

Amit Mitra said some states were not in favour of such a levy.

Jaitley said the GST Network or GSTN currently is 24.5 per cent owned by the central government and a similar percentage is held by state governments collectively. The remaining 51 per cent is with five private financial institutions - HDFC Ltd, HDFC Bank Ltd, ICICI

Bank Ltd, NSE Strategic Investment Co and LIC Housing Finance Ltd.

The council agreed to a proposal of buying out the stake of private entities to make GSTN a government-owned entity; he said adding the central government will own 50 per cent and the remaining would be collectively held by state governments.

# TELCOS' REVENUE DIPS 8.6%

## GOVERNMENT COLLECTIONS FROM LICENCE FEE, SUC TOO PLUNGE

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

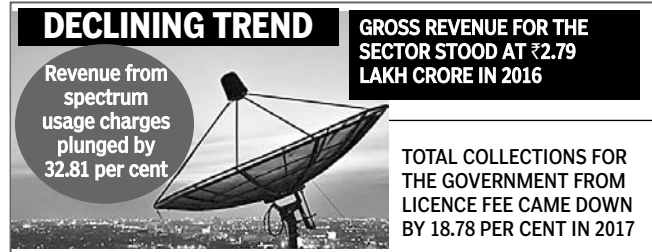
**New Delhi, May 4:** The telecom sector's gross revenue fell by 8.56 per cent to ₹2.55 lakh crore in 2017, resulting in a notable decline in government collections in form of licence fee and spectrum usage charges, showed data released by Trai Friday.

The gross revenue for the sector stood at ₹2.79 lakh crore in 2016.

Total collections for the government from licence fee came down by 18.78 per cent in 2017, while revenue from spectrum usage charges plunged by 32.81 per cent.

The report, however, revealed that there was a decline in telcos' revenue despite increase in subscriber base.

"The number of telephone subscribers in India increased from 1,151.78 million at the end of December 2016 to 1,190.67 million at the end of December 2017, registering a yearly growth rate of 3.38 per cent," the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India



(Trai) said in its report.

The adjusted gross revenue (AGR), earned by service providers from sale of telecom services, declined by 18.87 per cent to ₹1.6 lakh crore at the end of 2017 from ₹1.98 lakh crore at the end of 2016, as per data published by Trai in its annual performance indicator report. The licence fee (LF) and spectrum usage charges (SUC) are levied on AGR. The LF declined by about ₹3,000 crore to ₹12,976 crore at the end of 2017 from ₹15,975 crore the government collected a year ago.

The SUC collection declined by ₹2,485 crore to ₹5,089 crore from ₹7,574 crore during the period under revenue.

The AGR revenue chart showed that only Reliance Jio registered growth while all other players in the sector posted loss in revenues.

According to the chart, AGR of telecom major Bharti Airtel declined by 24.46 per cent to ₹36,922 crore from ₹48,880 crore.

The AGR of Vodafone declined by 24.14 per cent to ₹26,308 crore, Idea Cellular by 23.17 per cent to ₹22,616 crore, BSNL's AGR declined 19.42 per cent to ₹10,564 crore and MTNL 30.76 per cent to ₹1,985 crore.

Jio recorded 2,563.9 per cent jump in AGR to ₹7,466 crore at the end of 2017 from loss of ₹303 crore at the end of 2016.

There were 13 mobile service providers operational in 2016 which reduced to 12 in 2017 with Videocon closing down its mobile services business. By the end of 2017, Reliance Communications (RCOM), Sistema Shyam (merged with RCOM) and Quadrant closed their operations.

Airtel's AGR plunged by 54.48 per cent to ₹5,082 crore from ₹11,164 crore, RCOM's AGR dipped 43.39 per cent to ₹2,680 crore from ₹4,734 crore, Tata Teleservices by 34.94 per cent to ₹6,478 crore from ₹9,957 crore during the period under review.

Quadrant recorded 97 per cent dip in AGR to ₹4 crore.

## New telecom policy likely next month

**New Delhi:** The new telecom policy is likely to be rolled out by next month, telecom secretary Aruna Sundararajan said Friday. "We want to place it (the telecom policy) before the Cabinet in four weeks. It will be open for public comments for two weeks, then we will finalise everything in a week and send to the Cabinet after that. It will be in place in June," Sundararajan told reporters here. The DoT has already issued draft of the new telecom policy. The draft policy branded as National Digital Communications Policy 2018 was unveiled by the government Thursday. It aims to attract USD 100 billion or about ₹6.5 lakh crore investments in the digital communications sector by 2022 with the help of reforms. Promising rationalisation of levies such as spectrum charges to rejuvenate debt-ridden telecom sector, the proposed new telecom policy seeks to provide broadband access to all with 50 mbps speed, 5G services and create 40 lakh new jobs by 2022.

# Sebi proposes new norms for rating agencies, RTAs

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**New Delhi, May 4:** Regulator Sebi Friday proposed stricter ownership and governance norms for credit rating agencies, debenture trustees and registrar and share transfer agents as applicable to other market infrastructure institutions. At present, stock exchanges, depositories and clearing corporations are considered market infrastructure institutions (MIs). Sebi has now proposed to classify credit rating agencies (CRAs), debenture trustees (DTs) and registrar and share transfer agents (RTAs) in this category. This has been proposed following suggestions made by a high level committee under the chairmanship of former RBI Deputy Governor R Gandhi.

While framing the recommendations, the committee took note of trends in ownership and governance of these market intermediaries, compared them with the

internationally prevailing practices and also took into consideration the views expressed by various market participants.

Sebi has sought public comments till May 19 on the suggestions made by the committee. Final regulations will be put in place after taking into consideration views of all the stakeholders.

With regard to CRAs, the panel suggested that it may not be desirable to prescribe any additional ownership norms for rating agencies at this stage. It also recommended that the appeal committee should be renamed as review committee as the word appeal has a legal connotation and that the review committee should also have independent members.

It also deliberated on the possibility of mandating the presence of Public Interest Directors (PIDs) in the board of CRAs as they satisfy the 'Essential Facility Doctrine' and 'Public Utility' criteria.

# Flipkart yet to finalise deal with Walmart

REUTERS

**Mumbai, May 4:** Indian e-commerce firm Flipkart's board is yet to finalise a deal to sell a stake to Walmart Inc, two sources with direct knowledge of the matter said Friday, adding that a deal could just be days away.

Bloomberg reported earlier Friday, citing unnamed sources, that Flipkart's board had approved a deal to sell a stake of about 75 per cent in the company to a group led by US retail giant Walmart for about \$15 billion.

Walmart is in advanced talks with Flipkart to acquire a controlling stake in the Bengaluru-

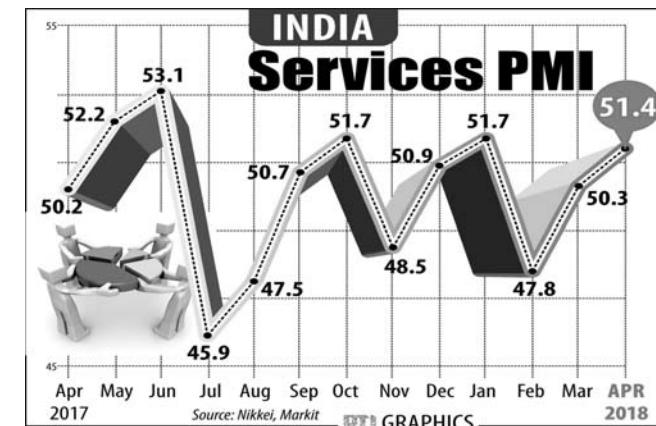
based online marketplace at a valuation of at least \$18 billion, Reuters has previously reported.

A third source told Reuters that while Flipkart's board has "in-principle" approved engaging with Walmart based on the terms of an offer before them, taxation related concerns and a few other issues need to be resolved.

Sources have said that Amazon.com Inc has shown an interest in buying Flipkart, India's top homegrown e-commerce firm, but a deal with Walmart is much more likely to go through. Amazon is Flipkart's biggest rival in India.

The first two sources said Alphabet Inc is also likely to in-

# Improved demand conditions push services output higher: PMI



AGENCIES

**Mumbai, May 4:** Improved demand conditions along with easing of inflationary pressures pushed the output of the Indian service sector higher during April, a key macro-economic data showed Friday. According to the season-

ally adjusted Nikkei India Services PMI Business Activity Index, the rise in service sector's output was supported by new order growth, improvements in demand conditions and job creation "accelerated to the sharpest since March 2011". Subsequently, the seasonally adjusted index registered an over-

all increase from 50.3 in March to 51.4 in April.

An index reading of above 50 indicates an overall increase in economic activity and below 50 an overall decrease.

The impact of higher services PMI accelerated the overall private sector's output during April.

Consequently, the seasonally adjusted Nikkei India Composite PMI Output Index rose from 50.8 in March to a three-month high of 51.9 in April.

Commenting on the Indian Services PMI survey data, Aashna Dodhia, Economist at IHS Markit, and author of the report, said: "It was encouraging to see the Indian service economy report a positive start in the April quarter, with output growth gaining momentum as demand conditions improve. "Subsequently the best round of job creation since March 2011 was registered within the sector."

# SYNDICATE BANK NAMES NEW REGIONAL HEADS



KC Tudu and K Venkateswarlu

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Bhubaneswar, May 4:** Syndicate Bank announced Friday that KC Tudu and K Venkateswarlu have joined as new regional heads of Bhubaneswar Region-1 and Bhubaneswar Region -2, respectively.

Prior to this Tudu was working as chief manager, Janakpuri branch in New Delhi. Tudu had started his career in Syndicate Bank in 1985 and served the bank in various capacities in different branches at Jharkhand, Assam, New Delhi and has gained vast experience, the bank said in a release. Out of his 33 years of service, he has worked at different branches of the bank. At present the region has 62 branches and six more branches are likely to be opened in the current financial year; the release said.

Venkateswarlu was earlier chief manager in Morbi branch, Gujarat. Venkateswarlu had started his career in 1986 and served the bank in different capacities at different places of Andhra Pradesh, New Delhi and Chennai. He also has experience as a trainer in the training centre of the bank. At present the region has 46 branches.

The bank, which is likely to be more focused on retail, agriculture and MSME sectors, also plans to reduce its NPA, the release added.



# V-Guard launches air coolers in state

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Bhubaneswar, May 4:** Leading consumer electrical and electronics major V-Guard Friday launched its air coolers in the state.

The coolers will be available in three categories: Desert, Personal, and Window.

The air coolers have an aerodynamically balanced body for better stability and a tetra airflow cooling system for efficient air circulation, an official said.

Along with these, the corrosion resistant fan blades and anti-drip water flow distribution increases the life span of the product.

"We are excited to launch air coolers in the state, which also marks our entry into this category. The air cooler category comprises industrial and residential segment with the latter com-

manding a 90 per cent share. The market for branded air cooler is growing rapidly because of new residential townships and housing projects across the state," Mithun Chittilappilly, managing director,

V-Guard Industries Ltd, said. The air cooler market in the country has been growing at a faster pace, he said.

"With Odisha being an important market for us, we will continue to expand more in this region," Chittilappilly pointed out.

The air cooler series comes with a product warranty of one year and extended warranty on motor and pump for one more year. The price range of the cooler starts from ₹6,990.

He said the air cooler industry in the country is estimated to be at ₹3000-3500 crore last year. Out of this, the organised players have 37 per cent share while the rest is from the unorganised sector.

The market is expected to reach ₹7900 crore by 2022 with organized sector set to increase its share to 56 per cent, he added.

## HC reserves order on IHCL plea

**New Delhi:** The Delhi High Court has reserved its order on a plea by Tata Group-owned Indian Hotels Company Ltd (IHCL), challenging the tender procedure of the proposed auction of Delhi's Taj Mahal Hotel by the NDMC. A bench of Justices S Ravindra Bhat and A K Chawla heard the arguments of the counsel for the IHCL and New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) which claimed they had not prejudiced Tatas in any way. The apex court had April 20 last year allowed the civic agency to e-auction the five-star hotel Taj Mansingh, currently being run by Tata Group firm IHCL, in the heart of the national capital. IHCL has submitted in the court that the NDMC has failed to consider the last year's order of the Supreme Court that they had an unblemished track record.



# ON SONG

**Neha Niharika Kar, who started singing at the age of six, has already notched up an impressive list of achievements**

BRATATI BARAL, OP

Singer Neha Niharika Kar, 16, wowed the judges and spectators alike with her talent on 'The Voice India Kids' TV reality show. She was also among the top 10 contestants in the Odia reality show 'Sa Re Ga Ma Pa Li'l Champs' telecast on Sarthak channel. The young artiste, who started singing at the age of six, has an impressive list of achievements already. Neha was hardly 14 when she amazed her mentors Shaan, Shekhar Ravjiani and Neeti Mohan with her rendition of the song 'Aao Huzoor Tumko' from the movie 'Kismat'. She was in Neeti Mohan's team and says that Niti is her inspiration. Neha's father Biranchi Narayan Kar, who discovered her singing talent, decided to train her in vocal music. "When she was

small, she was captivated by songs on radio and television. So I decided to teach her music and admitted her to a music class. Thanks to her music teacher Pradip Kumar Dalaray's dedication, Neha is what she is today," says Biranchi. A class XII



With Mohammed Aziz



With Shaan



With Shekhar



With Abhijeet



With Udit Narayan

student of DAV Public School, Unit 8, Bhubaneswar, Neha has participated in many reality shows in Odisha and outside the state. "Music is my passion. I am lucky to have been endowed with an appealing voice. I like to sing all kinds of songs and want to be a playback singer and make my parents proud. I don't want to quit studies,

however. Now I am focusing on my class XII exams although I want to make singing my career," says Neha. Blessed with a melodious voice, Neha says she is indebted to her first music teacher Pradip and current teacher Bijay Naik for rectifying her flaws. "I take part in all school functions. I am good at studies and co-curricular activities, so my teachers love me a lot. My school music teacher Matruprasad Dash is also a mentor," adds Neha. "I was 11 years old when I took part in my first stage show where I sang 'Purnyara Nadi tire'. I always keep in mind the feedback from the audience. Recently, I participated in the zonal competition for students of Odisha DAV schools. I am comfortable in all genres, but Hindustani classical is my favourite," she says. Saurin Bhat, Prakruti Mishra and Bikash Dash, who were the judges on 'Sa Re Ga Ma Pa Li'l Champs,' praised her singing several times. Her mother Kasturika says, "Her grandmother is also a good singer and has inspired her since childhood. As Neha is good in academics, I want her to focus on her studies. I thought her passion for singing might cause her to neglect studies. But when I noticed that she is trying her best to keep a balance between her studies and singing, I started encouraging her to think positive. Several Bollywood singers have showered praise on Neha and have described her as a star with potential." Neha has also lent her voice to a TV musical drama. She has just finished shooting for a new YouTube song which is to be released soon.

## SHORT STORY

# THE GOOD TURN



SMITARANI

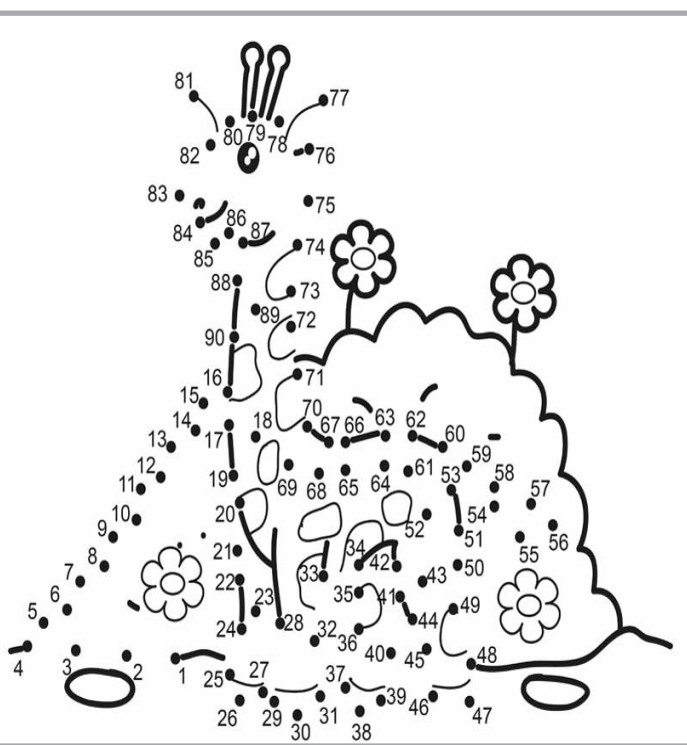
Every time Gina walked down her lane, some neighbour would invariably remark that "The Brat" was off to some place. She was six and the only child of her parents who had spoilt her thoroughly. When she was a small, her parents had given her everything that she demanded. She, in turn, always made sure that she got what all she wanted. One day Gina's mother Nitya Mehta noticed that her daughter was not ready to share anything with her friends — be it a book, a toy or something to munch. She discovered something else as well — most children did not like to play with her daughter. Gina's mother realised that it was their fault as they had pampered her a lot. Gina could not make good friends and did not learn to share her things with them. She would learn soon, they thought, as she was now admitted to Class I in a school. Everyone in her class admitted that Gina was very intelligent. But she had no friends until Rita joined her class. New to the city, and too shy to make friends, she did not mind being taken under Gina's wings. She knew Gina was aggressive in her ways, but at least she had someone to play with. One day, the class teacher scolded Rita for doing her sums wrong. The girl cried because the whole class was laughing at her. The teacher had patiently explained her how to do the sums, but Rita was just not able to grasp. Gina told her mother about what Rita did in the class. "Why don't you explain the sums in a simpler way," asked her mother. "She likes you. She will understand if you teach her." "Mummy, I can't waste time on her. What can I do if she is dumb," said Gina. "Rita is your friend. If you don't help her, who will," her mother pulled her up. Then she narrated the story of an ant

and a dove to Gina. "One day an ant fell into a stream and was desperately trying to save herself. A dove perched on a tree overhanging the water plucked a leaf and let it fall into the water close to the ant. The ant climbed onto it and floated safely to the bank," went the story. "A little later, a bird catcher came and stood under the tree, preparing to throw a net over the dove. The ant knew what he was up to and stung his foot. The bird catcher yelled out in pain and the noise made the dove fly away." "Did you understand the story, Gina," asked her mother. "It means, if you do good, you will only get good in return." To this Gina said: "What a silly story, mummy." Then Gina's mother decided to act tough. "If you don't help her out, I will not let you watch cartoons for a week." Gina then tried to help Rita in studies. Rita slowly picked her lessons as Gina knew simple tricks of explaining the sums. The teacher was happy that Rita had finally understood her lessons and complimented her. Rita was thrilled and told everyone what a good friend Gina was. Meanwhile, Rita had been wondering how she could thank and repay her friend. One day, in a fit of anger Gina called one of the younger girls at school a "stupid idiot" (these words were banned at school). She also pushed the girl, who fell and bruised her knee. It was reported to the principal who reprimanded Gina before the school assembly. The principal told Gina to stay back for two hours after school and pick up the waste paper from every classroom. Gina was heartbroken. After school finished, Gina was left all alone. Then she did what she had been holding back the whole day — she sobbed and sobbed and sobbed. That is how Rita found her best friend — sobbing. She stayed back with Gina and helped her clean the school and remembered the story of the ant and dove. From that day, Gina and Rita became the best of friends.

## COLOUR ME



## JOIN THE DOTS



## COLOUR PALETTE



ANSHUMAN DEBASIS MISHRA, CLASS VII

## WORDSCAPE

### QUESTIONS:

- EBE
- HTOM
- THXAO
- KACOHCCOR
- ARVLA
- MRETTIE
- CONOCO
- DBLYUGA
- TBELEE
- QISMOTUO

### LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS:

- Ball
- Swimming
- Rugby
- Baseball
- Run
- Win
- Throw
- Basketball
- Lose
- Bat

Answers will be published in the next issue of Kid's Corner

### A WORD FOR READERS

Dear kids, You are most welcome to contribute short stories, poems, sketches and articles of general interest to **Orissa POST**. You can either mail your photo (large-sized, good quality, solo) mentioning your name, class and school or send a hard copy for publication in the Kid's nook section. Send your contributions/photos to

features.orissapost@gmail.com  
Features Desk,  
Orissa POST  
B-15, Industrial Estate,  
Rasulgarh,  
Bhubaneswar - 751010

## KID'S NOOK



EVA

## POEM

### SPARROW'S NEST



Oh, why does the sparrow build a nest in the rain? Won't the downpour wash the nest away? Asked the child, to her grandmother. Monsoon is a time when there are lots of worms, and that means food for the little ones! That's why sparrows build a nest in the rain, said the granny with a smile.

Sneha Sagarika, Class V

## BRAIN BOX

- Lakes can be found in many areas of the world. However, most of them are spotted in the rift zones and mountainous regions.
- The artificial lake is also called as a manmade lake. It is constructed for the industries and agriculture. Various activities can be conducted on the artificial lakes based on their purpose. People can do recreational activities here. It can be a source of water supply or even source of hydroelectric power.
- Most lakes in the world are freshwater lakes. Most of them are located at high areas in the Northern Hemisphere.
- The average level of water in most lakes is maintained due to the presence of at least one natural outflow of water from a stream or river.
- Lakes are formed in several ways. The tectonic uplift on the



mountain ranges may form the tectonic lakes. Another lake is formed due to the landslides.

- The salt lakes have high degree of salinity. The Dead Sea, Aral Sea, and Great Salt Lake are some examples of salt lakes in the world.
- The lakes that you find in the calderas or volcanic craters are called crater lakes.
- Dal lake is arguably one of the most popular and beautiful lakes in India. It is the second largest in the state of Jammu and Kashmir.
- Bhimtal lake in Uttar Pradesh is the largest lake in the Kumaon region, which is known as the Lake District of India.

# BRAIN TICKLERS

### Answers

- The Equator passes through it
- Leisang
- Time Zone
- IITs
- Chumbak
- Quagga
- Onboard Wi-Fi and voice calls
- Telegram
- Amitabh Bachchan and Rishi Kapoor
- Mars

### CROSSWORD

1					
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					
9					
10					

#### ACROSS

- Quirky
- Pejorative
- Lionize
- Scuzzy
- Forum

#### DOWN

- Jujube
- Kitsch
- Elite
- Jones
- Skybox

Source: NEXUS





**West Ham striker Andy Carroll has been fined by manager David Moyes for his 'unacceptable' decision to leave the bench during the club's 1-4 Premier League defeat by Manchester City last weekend. "He however, has apologised to me and teammates and has returned to training," Moyes said**

**'LACK OF CONFIDENCE'**

Former World No.1 Novak Djokovic has attributed a 'lack of confidence' as the main reason for his recent spate of losses. "The only way I can turn it around is by winning matches on a regular basis, only victories can revive my confidence," Djokovic said in Belgrade



**SHORT TAKES**

**4 Indians in top 10 at Korean golf meet**

**Seongnam (Korea):** Ajeetesh Sandhu slipped into tied second spot despite dropping three shots in the second round of the 37th GS Caltex Maekyung Open Golf Championship here Friday. The Indian golfer, who carded four-under 67 on the opening day, shot an even par 71 on the second to be three-under for 36 holes. Sandhu trailed Korean Dongha Lee (68), while Heungchul Joo (70) joined him in second position. It was a good day for the Indians as Shiv Kapur, despite carding one-over 72, moved up from tied seventh to tied fifth, while Gaganjeet Bhullar (72-70) and S Chikkarangappa (72-70) were tied ninth as four Indians figured in top 10. Arjun Atwal (75-73) just about squeezed inside the cut line with a birdie on his closing hole, the ninth, after a roller-coaster ride.

**Neymar back in France without braces, crutches**

**Le Bourget (France):** Brazil star Neymar flew back Friday into France to rejoin his club Paris Saint-Germain after an operation on a broken foot bone in March. A photographer at the scene took shots of Neymar seemingly at ease as he strolled to an awaiting van wearing sports shoes, no sign of a foot brace and not using crutches. Meanwhile, the surgeon who operated on Neymar's foot told Brazilian daily 'Folha de Sao Paulo' the objective is 'that he is 100 per cent fit for the start of World Cup training', which is scheduled for May 21 at Teresopolis near Rio.

**Tsitsipas maintains his form, stuns Anderson**

**Estoril (Portugal):** Rising Greek star Stefanos Tsitsipas continued his excellent form on clay by beating Estoril Open tennis tournament's top seed Kevin Anderson 6-7(3-7), 6-3, 6-3 here, Thursday to reach the quarterfinals. World No. 44 Tsitsipas beat three top-20 players, including Dominic Thiem, en route to the Barcelona Open final last week, where he lost to Rafael Nadal. A double fault by Anderson gave Tsitsipas two match points and he needed just one to seal the issue. "It was really tough, with tricky conditions," World No.8 Anderson said. "But he (Tsitsipas) was just too good today (Thursday)." Tsitsipas will next face Spain's Roberto Carballes Baena.

**Putin wants 'strong' Russian performance**

**Sochi (Russia):** Russian President Vladimir Putin said he wanted to see 'strong-willed, no-compromise' soccer from his country's team at next month's World Cup. The host nation got into the tournament with no victories from their last five friendlies. They had failed to win a single game at the 2016 European Championship or 2014 World Cup. "We all hope our players will give themselves fully to the game, will play at full strength, will display the strong-willed, no-compromise soccer which fans value and love," Putin said while hosting FIFA president Gianni Infantino late Thursday evening here. Russia play their group A games against Saudi Arabia (June 14), Egypt (June 19) and Uruguay (June 25). Putin also said Russia was 'practically finished' with preparations for the tournament, which takes place across 11 cities.

**British MPs to investigate sale of Wembley Stadium**

**London:** The House of Commons will investigate the sale of Wembley Stadium by the English Football Association (FA) in a one-off evidence session, July 18, the digital, culture, media and sport committee (DCMS) said here, Friday. The FA confirmed last week that it is negotiating to sell the stadium to US billionaire Shahid Khan and British media said the deal could be worth up to one billion pounds (\$1.36 billion). The money from the sale of Wembley would allow the governing body to reinvest in the English game's grassroots. "Wembley is the home of English football," Damian Collins, chairman of DCMS, said in a statement. "There should be some public scrutiny of any decision to sell the stadium and how proceeds could be invested."

**Russian walkers banned**

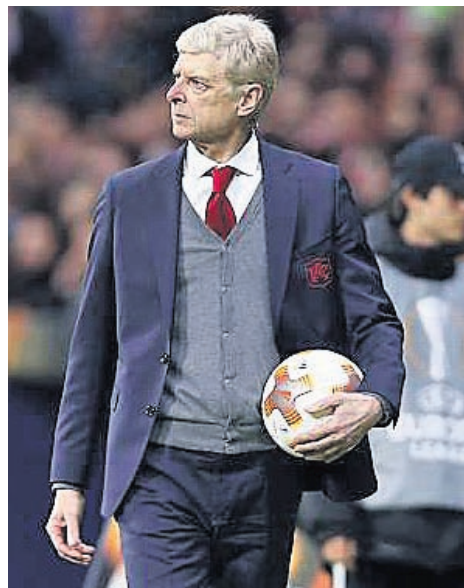
**Moscow:** The governing body of world athletics (IAAF) has suspended five Russian race walkers from competition pending further investigation of their participation in a training camp with banned for life coach, Viktor Chegin. The decision to revoke the neutral status of Klavdiya Afanasyeva, Olga Eliseeva, Yuliya Lipanova, Sergey Sharypov and Sergey Shirobokov means they will not be eligible to compete at the race walking team championships in China later this week, the IAAF said in a statement, Friday.

**GUNNERS SHOT DOWN IN SEMIFINALS OF EUROPA LEAGUE**

**Costa spoils Wenger's farewell party**



**APPLAUDING FANS:** Atletico Madrid players do the lap of honour Thursday evening after beating Arsenal at the Wanda Metropolitano in Madrid



**LOOKING DISTRAUGHT:** A dejected-looking Arsene Wenger walks off the park with the ball after Arsenal's loss

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

**Madrid, May 4:** Diego Costa killed Arsene Wenger's last hope of a glorious Arsenal farewell as his first half added on time goal sent Atletico Madrid through to the Europa League final. It marked Wenger's last European League fixture, a staggering 250th game in the tournament.

Arsenal's defence, fragile and nervous throughout, were particularly susceptible and this 0-1 defeat, 1-2 on aggregate, means Wenger's final season in charge will end with his team missing out on Champions League qualification for a second year in a row. "I'm very sad tonight (Thursday)," Wenger said. "Unfortunately you have to go through that - the game can be

very cruel, sometimes very nice, but the suffering is very strong tonight."

More immediately, there was the concerning sight of Laurent Koscielny being carried off on a stretcher in the 12th minute after the defender went down, with nobody near him, clutching his left Achilles.

"It doesn't look very good, it's his Achilles," Wenger informed. "You can always hope for a miracle in the scan but if he has a ruptured Achilles, his chances for the World Cup are non-existent." It was perhaps also telling that Costa's physicality and Atletico's defensive rigour ultimately proved decisive, two qualities Wenger's Arsenal in recent years have so lacked. "Costa came back here for nights

like this," Atletico coach Diego Simeone said. "To be important, to lead from the front, this side need an aggressive striker and that's exactly what he is."

Costa was hunting Arsenal's back four from the outset as he wrestled past Koscielny, knocked over Nacho Monreal before firing wide with only David Ospina to beat.

Koscielny was substituted soon after, replaced by Calum Chambers, but Arsenal enjoyed one of their best spells midway through the half, dominating possession and reducing Atletico to a series of rushed clearances.

At the back, however, they were shaky, as Ospina had balls booted out of his grasp by his teammates on more than one occasion while their passing out of the back was

too often, careless.

By the end of the half, Atletico had regained the ascendancy and in injury time, they struck. Granit Xhaka's weak header put Arsenal on the back foot and Antoine Griezmann threaded the ball through to Costa. He held off Hector Bellerin with ease before coolly finishing past Ospina.

When the final whistle blew, Wenger marched straight down the tunnel as around him, Atletico's celebrations began.

Atletico will meet French side Olympique Marseille who went down 1-2 to Salzburg, but went through 3-2 on aggregate. Rolando struck the vital goal for Marseille deep into extra-time after Salzburg had wiped out the 0-2 first leg deficit with a strike by Amadou Haidara and an own goal by Bouna Sarr.

**Praneeth in semifinals, Dan vanquishes Verma**

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**Auckland, May 4:** B Sai Praneeth was the lone Indian left in fray at the New Zealand Open badminton championships after he entered the semifinals of the men's singles here Friday.

Even as third seed Praneeth marched on, Sameer Verma, seeded fifth, was shown the door by top seed and two-time Olympic champion, Lin Dan of China.

Praneeth hardly broke a sweat as he took just 28 minutes to quell the challenge of Sri Lanka's Niluka Karunaratne 21-7, 21-9 in the quarterfinals. The Sri Lankan was guilty of committing too many unforced errors. In both the games, Praneeth established a healthy lead from the start of the game and then marched on to an easy win. He will next face second seed Jonatan Christie of Indonesia in the semifinals.

However, it was curtains for Verma as he failed to counter Dan's attacking game and vast experience to lose 19-21, 9-21 in another quarterfinal duel. In the first game it was a close affair with Verma at one point of time managing a two-point lead at 13-11. However, Dan used his superior court craft and body smashes to telling effect to get back the lead at 18-17. After that there was no looking back for the Chinese legend. In the second



B Sai Praneeth continued with his good form Friday at New Zealand Open

**Results (singles only)**

**B Sai Praneeth bt Niluka Karunaratne 21-7, 21-9**

**Sameer Verma lost to Lin Dan 19-21, 9-21**

game, he made it a one-sided affair once he established a 9-4 lead. Dan will be up against qualifier Kwang Hee Heo of Korea in the other semifinal.

The fifth-seeded Indian men's doubles pair of Manu Attri and B Sameer Reddy also crashed out after losing their quarterfinal encounter 10-21, 15-21 to fourth seeds Bodin Isara and Nipitphon Phuangphupet of Thailand.

**'NO CONTAMINATION OF SAMPLE'**

**AIU rejects Kiprof claims**

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

**Doha, May 4:** Asbel Kiprof tested positive for the endurance-boosting drug EPO, the Athletics Integrity Unit (AIU) confirmed Friday and refuted allegations by the Kenyan track star that his sample might have been contaminated.

Kiprof, a three-time World Champion in 1,500m and 2008 Olympic gold medalist, had Thursday 'vehemently denied' doping and had suggested an out-of-competition sample he gave could have been contaminated by two anti-doping agents he suspects might have targeted him for extortion.

The AIU, which deals with doping matters for track and field's governing body, the IAAF, responded and said that 28-year-old Kiprof was notified February 3 of having tested positive for erythropoietin (EPO).

"On March 16, 2018, Mr Kiprof was charged with violations of the IAAF anti-doping rules and the matter is currently proceeding before the independent IAAF disciplinary tribunal," the AIU said in a statement.

"The AIU is satisfied that there has been no mix-up or tampering with the sample and that the sample collected from the athlete,



Asbel Kiprof has vehemently denied the doping charges against him

November 27, 2017 was the same sample analysed by the laboratory and reported as an 'Adverse Analytical Finding'," it added.

However, the AIU confirmed that the doping control agent had given Kiprof advance warning of the test, an act it described as 'extremely disappointing'.

However, the body argued: "The advanced notice of testing given by the doping control assistant could not reasonably have caused EPO to be present in Mr Kiprof's sample and, as such, the departure does not invalidate the ad-

**Putting woes hit Anirban, Woods**

AGENCIES

**Charlotte (United States), May 4:** Anirban Lahiri had a disastrous finish as he dropped four shots in the closing three holes to end at five-over 76 on the opening day of Wells Fargo golf tournament here, Thursday.

Lahiri will need a very low second round to ensure he stays on for the weekend. Lahiri, now lying tied 128th, continued to miss short putts. Thursday, he missed at least four putts inside six-and-a-half feet and a few others between 10-15 feet.

On a day when nothing went right for him, the Indian golfer had four bogeys, one double bogey and a couple of birdies.

Meanwhile John Peterson, 29, made back-to-back eagles on par-5 seventh and par-4 eighth and added three more birdies on back nine for a splendid six-under 65 to emerge sole leader. He has declared that he will walk away from

golf if he doesn't earn enough money to keep his card in three events.

Tiger Woods returned to the Quail Hollow course after a six-year absence and shot a modest 71, which pegged him at tied 34th. Woods had back-to-back birdies on the holes where Peterson made his eagles, getting him to one-under. However, two bogeys derailed his efforts.

"I struggled with my speed all day," Woods said. "It's weird. The greens are slow. They're springy and firm. I struggled making the adjustments today."

Woods, healthy again after a spinal fusion more than a year ago, is playing his seventh tournament of the year. He said he was now in 'playing shape' and the goal is 'just trying to get a little better'.

Rory McIlroy, a two-time winner at Wells Fargo, was among 10 players at 68. Paul Casey and Jason Day were among seven players at 69.



Tiger Woods assesses the greens before taking a hit at the Wells Fargo course, Thursday

**SMITH PROMISES TO REGAIN TRUST VERY QUICKLY**

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

**Melbourne, May 4:** Former Australia captain Steve Smith vowed Friday to earn back the 'trust' that he lost due to his role in the ball-tampering scandal and stated he has been left humbled by the 'incredible' support that came his way after the furore.

"It's great to be back home in Australia. I have had some time away to come to terms with everything and now it's time to get back into it," Smith wrote in an Instagram post.

"The amount of e-mails and letters I have received has been incredible and I have been extremely humbled by the enormous amount of support you have given me. I now have a lot to do to earn back your trust," he added.

The batsman is serving a one-year ban for his role in the scandal that also led to suspensions on vice-captain David Warner and opener Cameron Bancroft. This incidentally was Smith's first comment on



Screen shot of Steve Smith's Instagram message

his future plans since the emotional breakdown at the airport on his return from South Africa in March. "To my Mum, Dad and Dani (his wife) you have been my rock through this and I can't thank you enough. Family is the most important thing in the world and I thank you for your love and support," Smith stated.

Smith was found guilty of knowingly altering the condition of the ball during the infamous Cape Town Test against South Africa. Warner was charged with developing the plan.

Both Smith and Warner were also banned from playing the Indian Premier League this year.

Besides, Smith and Warner lost their leadership roles. While Smith won't be considered for the position until 12 months after the end of his ban, Warner won't be handed any leadership post ever.

**CLASICO OF 'HONOUR' FOR BOTH TEAMS**

AGENCIES

**Madrid, May 4:** All eyes will definitely be on Andres Iniesta as Barcelona aim for an unbeaten league record when they take on Real Madrid at the Nou Camp, Sunday. The brilliant Spanish midfielder who will be playing his last 'Clasico' will certainly want to end on a high, but Real will definitely want to spoil his and Barcelona's ambitions.

"Out on the field at Camp Nou, Andres Iniesta could make his final appearance in a 'Clasico' after 37 previous appearances in the fixture, 25 of which have come in La Liga," Barca said in a statement on their website. "It has been

a privilege watching him in Barcelona colours."

Real Madrid know that they can transform their own season by beating Liverpool in this month's Champions League final, and Sunday they can dent Barcelona's by becoming the first team to defeat the Catalans in La Liga.

This Clasico will have minimal impact on the league, with Barca already crowned champions and Real's passing interest in pipping Atletico to second place diminished by their ambitions in Europe.

Barca, in particular, have been careful in celebrating their domestic double, their players aware of the disappointment that lingers from their Champions League

crash in the quarterfinals.

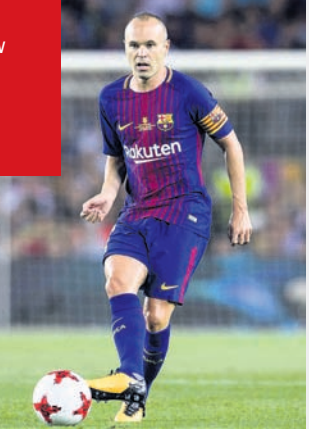
"The elimination in the Champions League, it hurt us because it was unexpected, it still hurts," said Barca coach Ernesto Valverde. "But it is very difficult to do what we have done and now what are we going to do? We keep trying to finish unbeaten in La Liga."

Real Madrid's march towards a 13th European triumph has certainly weighed heavily on Barcelona, whose sense of absence has been heightened by the progress of their rivals. "It's amazing to be in a Champions League final for the third time in a row and have the chance to win it for the fourth time in the last five years," Real midfielder Toni Kroos said, Thursday.

HEAD-TO-HEAD (LA LIGA)			
M	Real	Barca	Draw
175	72	70	33
IN 2017-18			
Barcelona	3	Real Madrid	0

"It's hard for me to find words to describe that. When it comes to the Champions League, we have extra motivation."

Barcelona are looking to avoid defeat this weekend, and in their last three league games against Villarreal, Levante and Real Sociedad to seal a historic season. However, if Real snatch a victory at the Camp Nou and also see off Liverpool they can become the flavour of the season.



**CYNOSURE OF ALL EYES:** Andres Iniesta will definitely want to finish his Clasico engagements on a high



**TODAY'S MATCHES**  
**CSK vs RCB**  
 Time: 4pm  
**SRH vs DD**  
 Time: 8pm  
 Telecast: Star Sports channels

**SHORT TAKES**

**Eden Gardens to host two play-off matches**

**Kolkata:** The Eden Gardens here will host two play-off matches that were originally scheduled to be played in Pune, the IPL-XI GC confirmed Friday. "The GC has confirmed that Kolkata will host the Eliminator and Qualifier 2, May 23 and 25 respectively," IPL GC chairman Rajeev Shukla said Friday. As per the original schedule, Pune was scheduled to host the two game, but the venue became CSK's adopted home for six matches owing to security concerns for the Cauvery protests in Tamil Nadu. "We are happy to host the play-off matches and are looking forward to it," Cricket Association of Bengal joint-secretary Avishek Dalmiya said.

**Sexual abuse scandal hits Brazil gymnastics**

**Sao Paulo:** A sexual abuse scandal engulfing Brazilian gymnastics this week as former national coach Fernando de Carvalho Lopes has come under investigation for allegedly abusing dozens of boys. Lopes, who trained one-time floor World Champion and Olympic silver medalist Diego Hypolito, has been accused in a report by Brazil's 'TV Globo' of sexually abusing dozens of young male gymnasts while training them at his club near here, in the past two decades. Lopes has claimed he is innocent. 'Globo' said it spoke with 40 current or former gymnasts who said they had been abused by Lopes. Police have confirmed they have started an investigation.

**Unified Koreans lose to Japan in World TT**

**Stockholm:** Having taken another step towards the sporting rapprochement of North and South Korea, the unified Korean women's table tennis team was soundly beaten by Japan at the World Championships team encounter here, Friday. The two Koreas opted Thursday against playing each other, and decided instead to field a joint women's team for the semifinals. In the semifinals, South Korean Jeon Jihee lost 2-11, 8-11, 9-11, to Japan's Mima Ito in the first singles. In the second singles, Kasumi Ishikawa overcame Kim Song Il of North Korea 11-4, 6-11, 11-8, 11-13, 16-14 while in the third tie Japan's top player, Miu Hirano dispensed with South Korea's Yang Haeun 11-4, 11-5, 9-11, 11-6.

**Doha's searing heat forces schedule change**

**Doha:** The IAAF said Friday that it will scrap morning sessions at the 2019 World Athletics Championships here because of the searing heat and also introduce a mixed 4x400 metres relay event and a midnight marathon. The championships will be conducted, September 28 to October 6. The decathlon and heptathlon will be run concurrently -- a first for the World Championships -- with their respective event-ending 1,500m and 800m finals both starting after midnight. "It's new and exciting," IAAF president Sebastian Coe said Friday in the Qatari capital.

**Banned shuttler rejects match-fixing allegations**

**Kuala Lumpur:** Malaysian badminton player, former world junior champion Zulfadli Zulkiffli, 25, hit with a career-ending 20-year ban rejected Friday allegations of match-fixing and said he will appeal. He claimed he was involved in casino gambling but not corruption. BWF had earlier said that Zulkiffli has been engaged in corrupt practices since 2013. The ban came after Zulkiffli faced a Badminton World Federation ethics hearing at Singapore in February. However, here at a press conference, Zulkiffli said he was innocent: "I have in no way spoken about, let alone been involved in match-fixing." He said he planned to appeal and called for support from the Badminton Association of Malaysia.

**Gerrard turns manager**

**London:** Rangers confirmed Friday former Liverpool and England midfielder Steven Gerrard as their new manager, and announced he would join the Scottish Premiership club this summer on a four-year deal. Gerrard, who has previously only worked with Liverpool's under-18s, faces a daunting task in trying to compete with old rivals Celtic, who have just sealed their seventh consecutive title. "I am honoured to become the next manager of Rangers," the 37-year-old said in a statement on the club's website. "I have enormous respect for this football club, and their history and tradition. I can't wait to start this new journey at Rangers as we look to build on the many successes that the club have achieved."

**MUMBAI KEEP PLAY-OFF HOPES ALIVE WITH EASY WIN**  
**MI BATSMEN NULLIFY GAYLE SHOW**



KXIP batsman Chris Gayle plays a sweep shot during his innings against Mumbai Indians at Indore, Friday

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**Indore, May 4:** Suryakumar Yadav (57), Krunal Pandya (31 n o, 12b, 4x4, 2x6) and skipper Rohit Sharma (24 n o) played knocks of substance to lead Mumbai Indians to a six-wicket win over Kings XI Punjab in their IPL-XI encounter here Friday.

MI were always in control of the game as they chased down the target in a well-planned manner. Marcus Stoinis conceded 20 runs in the 18th over to facilitate MI's win. Earlier Chris Gayle (50, 40b, 6x4, 2x6) continued his explosive run in IPL-XI with a wonderful half century, propelling KXIP to 174 for six in 20 overs after being put into bat

by Mumbai Indians (MI). Gayle collected just one run off the first eight balls and then 27 in the next 10 as he raced to his half century, his fourth fifty plus score in five innings in this edition of IPL so far. He, alongside KL Rahul (24) gave KXIP another cracking start as the destructive duo shared a 54-run stand off 40 balls.

**Gangpur eyes bow out with defeat in semis**

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Bhubaneswar, May 4:** Hockey Gangpur crashed out of the VIIIth Junior Women's Hockey National Championships (Division A) after a 0-2 defeat Friday at the hands of Hockey Jharkhand in the semifinals at Bhopal.

Jharkhand were bolstered by the joining of Salima Tete, who was the part of the Indian national team who finished runners-up in the recently-concluded Youth Olympic Games Qualifiers in Bangkok and dominated the match right from the start. She made her presence felt with a strike in the 17th minute which gave Jharkhand the lead.

Despite creating quite a few chances, the Gangpur eyes failed to capitalise. A resilient Jharkhand

defence also held firm throughout the game. Pinkki Ekka doubled the lead for Jharkhand 10 minutes before the final hooter.

Gangpur will play their bronze medal match against Uttar Pradesh Hockey, Saturday.

**Odisha hold FHFC**

Sports Hostel, Odisha played out an exciting 3-3 draw Friday against Fateh Hyderabad FC (FHFC) in their U-18 Youth League encounter in Shillong. Raman Mallah (18th, 69th) and Arun Minz (40th) scored the goals for Odisha. They will next play against Aizawl FC, Sunday.

Speaking after the match, Odisha coach Abani Mohanty said, "It's unfortunate that we could not win the game but we will come back stronger and try to win against Aizawl."



Sports Hostel Odisha players pose for a photograph before the start of their U-18 match, Friday in Shillong

**Top javelin exponents praise talented Neeraj**

AGENCIES

**New Delhi, May 4:** The list of Indian javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra's admirers has grown with reigning World Champion Johannes Vetter predicting a bright future for the Commonwealth Games gold medalist.

After winning gold at Gold Coast Games with his second career-best throw of 86.47m, the 20-year-old Neeraj had said that he would like to join the '90m club' soon.

"He (Neeraj) is really young. He is able to throw between 88 and 90m, this year of course," Vetter; who has a personal best of 94.44m, was quoted as saying Friday by the 'Olympic Channel'.

Neeraj is competing against Vetter in the season-opening leg of the Diamond League series in Doha. The star-studded field includes Olympic champion Thomas Rohler and Rio Olympics silver medalist Julius Yego of Kenya, besides Vetter.

Neeraj's personal best stands at 86.48m and it won him gold at the U-20 World Championships in 2016 in Bydgoszcz (Poland), which is also the existing world junior record.

Only 18 athletes have ever thrown over 90m, including six who are still in action -- Yego, Vetter, Rohler; Tero Pitkämäki, Andreas Hoffman and Asian record holder Chao Tsun Cheng.

However, none of these stars had inched past 80m in their teens -- a fact that is not lost on Yego. "It's possible (for Neeraj to throw 90m). He is a great talent and has a great, bright future. He has the qualities of becoming an elite thrower. He already holds the world junior record. He is way ahead of me," said Yego.

If Neeraj, who now trains under world record holder Uwe Hohn, hits 90m, he would be the youngest thrower to go past the javelin gold standard.

**SA fume over new IAAF rule**

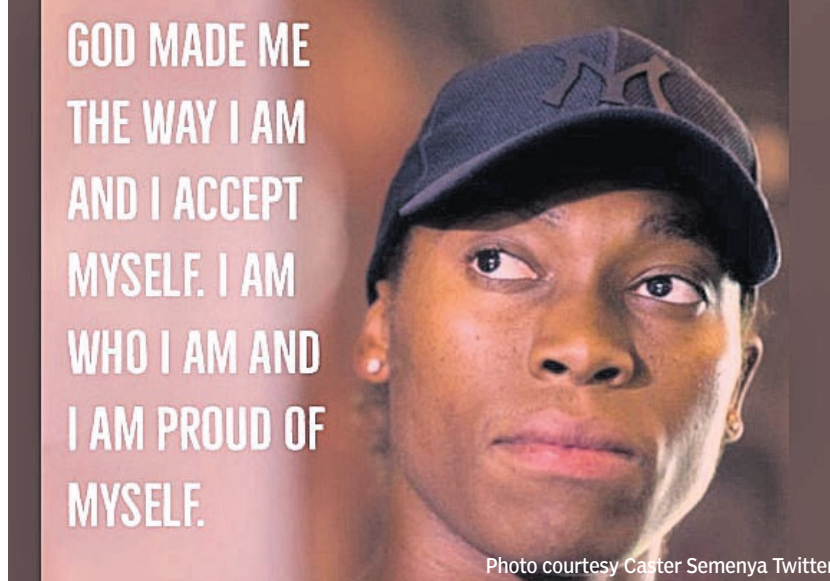


Photo courtesy Caster Semenya Twitter

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

**Johannesburg, May 4:** Anger is mounting in South Africa over new athletics rules prescribing maximum testosterone levels in female competitors widely seen as targeting the country's Olympic champion Caster Semenya.

Her backers at home and abroad have denounced the IAAF's new policies that target women who naturally produce unusually high levels of testosterone of being 'sexist', 'racist', 'homophobic', 'dehumanising' and 'humiliating'.

The IAAF has defended the rule change as scientifically sound. According to a study financed by the IAAF, high testosterone levels in some women athletes give them a 'significant' advantage in certain competitions.

The first athlete to be affected by the change is double Olympic 800 metres champion Semenya -- who also runs the 1,500 metres. "The regulations are solely to ensure fair and meaningful competition within the female classification for the benefit of the broad class of female athletes," the IAAF said in a statement.

South African sprinter Lyle Zyl told this agency that the decision was 'unfair because there are only certain events that are targeted'.

Semenya, who has undergone several sex tests since her first title in 2009, responded defiantly to the new IAAF rules. "God made me the way I am and I accept myself. I am who I am and I am proud of myself," she wrote over an image of herself looking skyward posted on Twitter.

Athletics South Africa said Thursday it would take the IAAF to the Court of Arbitration for Sport in Switzerland if it did not back down over the new rule.

**Kohli deal dirt cheap for Surrey**

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**New Delhi, May 4:** He might be the top earning cricketer in the world at present but English county side Surrey have got Virat Kohli for a dirt cheap deal as the BCCI was keen to ensure quality game time for the India captain ahead of the England tour.

"Contrary to popular belief that Virat will cost a bomb for Surrey, it was completely the other way round. Let's get it clear: Surrey are paying airfare, accommodation and a very nominal match fee during the month," a senior BCCI office-bearer privy to the deal told this agency on conditions of anonymity. "Since the board and Virat himself were very keen, the monetary part was least of concern for us. We are not at liberty to quote the amount but it will be very nominal. We can vouch it's a win-win deal for Surrey as well as for the BCCI," the official added.

While the news was out in Indian media in March only, the BCCI was engaged with Surrey about how much the county can use the Indian captain's image rights. That was the reason for the delay in putting pen to paper.



"Obviously, Surrey wants to cash in on his image. But then Virat's focus will be six games (three Royal London Cup 50-over games and three county four-day games)," pointed out the official. "He is going there to prepare for the England series and if he scores runs, it helps Surrey," the office-bearer added.

Kohli's stint with Surrey starts June 1 with a one-day game against Kent at Beckenham. He will be playing the second and third match of the Royal London Cup, June 3 and 6 against Middlesex and Glamorgan respectively.

The four-day campaign will start against Hampshire in Southampton, June 12 to 16 followed by a match against Somerset (at Guildford, June 20-23) and conclude with Yorkshire game at Scarborough (June 25 to 28).

**Boost for aspiring shooters**



BULL'S EYE: Budding shooters take aim during a shooting training camp at UKS, Friday

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Bhubaneswar, May 4:** To facilitate training facilities for budding shooters of the state, the Odisha Rifle Association (ORA) and Utkal Karate School (UKS) are jointly organising a summer camp at the latter's premises here, May 1-5.

"Sixty participants from different parts of the state are taking part in this five-day camp. The second part of this camp will start again, May 8. Aspiring shooters above 12 years of age can participate in the camp," informed UKS founder Hari Prasad Patnaik

through a press release Friday. "Apart from the shooters, members of different security agencies, NCC cadets as well as license holders can also take part in the camp. All the skills of shooting and handling of air rifle, air pistol, .22 rifle and pistols will be taught in the camp. Internationally acclaimed shooters will impart training in the camp," Patnaik added.

**Odisha emerge champs**

Odisha emerged champions of the National Tennis Ball cricket tournament beating hosts Jharkhand by six wickets in the final at Ranchi, Thursday.

Put into bat first, Jharkhand scored 120 for the loss of nine wickets in their stipulated 15 overs. In reply Odisha achieved the target in only 10 overs for the loss of four wickets. Sudhir Soni (72) led the run chase with a whirlwind half century and was adjudged man of the match.

**Coaching course**

The AIFF will organise a 'C' license coaching course at Cuttack, June 10-12. All 'D' license holders are eligible for the advanced course. Interested candidates should register on the AIFF website for necessary information.

**State players dominate show**

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Bhubaneswar, May 4:** Odisha players performed brilliantly as five of them emerged champions in seven categories of the TAB AITA-OTA Talent Series (TS7) tennis tournament, which concluded at the Kalinga Stadium here Friday.

In the U-16 boys' category final top seed Pratyush Mohanty of the state defeated unseeded state-mate Ashish Kumar Parida 6-1, 6-0 to clinch the title. In the girls' U-16 final second seed Odisha's Simran N Ekka stunned top seed Sanya Yadav of West Bengal 3-6, 6-3, 6-2 to take top honours.

In the U-12 girls' final, top seed Sohini Sanjay Mohanty of Odisha defeated second seed Charlotte Liu of West Bengal 2-6, 7-5, 6-3 to emerge champion. However in the U-12 boys' category, fourth

seed Stevan Ankit Ekka of Odisha had to be satisfied with the runner-up prize after losing 3-6, 2-6 to top seed Arnav Mandal of West Bengal.

In the U-12 boys' doubles final top seed Kaamlesh Rath of Odisha and his Assamese partner Ved Aditya Kalita thrashed the second-seeded West Bengal duo of Mayand Tewary and Vedant Agarwal 6-2, 6-0 to win the crown.

In the U-16 girls' doubles final the top seed duo of Simran from Odisha and her West Bengal partner Sanya defeated second seed Archita Sahoo of Odisha and Liu of West Bengal, 6-0, 6-2.

However in the U-16 boys' doubles final top seed duo of Vighnes Nanda from Odisha and Md Arib Afzal of West Bengal finished runners-up after losing 1-6, 1-6 to fourth seed West Bengal pair of Rounak Ghosh and Wyatt O'Brien.



EMERGING STARS: Winners and runners-up of the various categories in the TAB AITA-OTA Talent Series (TS7) tennis tournament pose with their trophies and certificates along with guests in Bhubaneswar, Friday