



We will make the choice to lead, to be bold and to lift up the women and girls everywhere who light our way
JILL BIDEN | FIRST LADY, US

BANKSY TO AUCTION ARTWORK FOR NHS

Banksy, the acclaimed anonymous British street artist, has offered to auction a piece of his artwork, called 'Game Changer', in an effort to raise funds for the UK's National Health Service (NHS)



of the day quote

Spain can't continue to be built with women in the margins, with a few that break glass ceilings while the most vulnerable continue on sticky floors
IRENE MONTERO | EQUALITY MINISTER, SPAIN

Even with the continuation of financial assistance from the United States to Afghan forces after an American military withdrawal, I am concerned that the security situation will worsen and the Taliban could make rapid territorial gains
ANTHONY BLINKEN | SECRETARY OF STATE, US

I do not underestimate how challenging the last few months have been with some children in class and most at home, but I do know how important it is for all children to be back in school, not only for their education but for their mental health and wellbeing
GAVIN WILLIAMSON | EDUCATION SECRETARY, UK

SHORT TAKES

Vietnam begins vax campaign

Hanoi: Vietnam Monday kicked-off its mass Covid-19 vaccination campaign, deemed to be largest inoculation drive in the country's history, with over 100 million doses expected to be administered nationwide. According to the Health Ministry, the first dose of the AstraZeneca Covid vaccine was administered at 8 am to health workers directly treating infected patients in the capital Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City and Hai Duong province, reports Xinhua news agency.

Equatorial Guinea blasts kill 15

Ouagadougou: A series of explosions at military barracks in Equatorial Guinea killed at least 15 people and wounded more than 400 others, authorities said. State television TVGE read out a statement from President Teodoro Obiang Nguema which said the explosion was due to the "negligent handling of dynamite" in the military barracks located in the neighborhood of Mondong Nkuantoma in Bata. He said that the explosion occurred at 4 pm local time.

Afghan receives COVAX doses

Kabul: The UN children's agency says Afghanistan has received nearly half a million coronavirus vaccine doses via the global COVAX initiative. War-torn Afghanistan received 468,000 AstraZeneca vaccines Monday, the first shipment through COVAX, UNICEF said in a statement. The vaccines were made by the Serum Institute of India, and arrived in the capital of Kabul aboard an Emirates flight, UNICEF said. More vaccines will arrive in the coming weeks and months. India previously donated 500,000 doses of AstraZeneca vaccines to Afghanistan.

Aviation tycoon killed in crash

Paris: A French billionaire aviation industrialist and member of parliament has died in a helicopter crash along with the pilot, authorities said. Olivier Dassault, 69, was heir to a powerful family business empire that made Falcon private jets and Rafale fighter planes and owned many other businesses including Le Figaro newspaper.

EU preparing sanctions on Junta



AGENCIES

Brussels, March 8: The European Union is preparing to widen its sanctions on Myanmar's armed forces to target businesses they run, in protest at the Feb 1 military coup, according to diplomats and two internal documents seen by Reuters.

The measures, which diplomats said could be agreed by EU foreign ministers March 22, would target companies "generating revenue for, or providing financial support to, the Myanmar Armed Forces", said one of the documents dated March 5.

While the bloc has an arms embargo on Myanmar, and has targeted some senior military officials since 2018, the measures would be its most significant response so far since the coup. EU diplomats told Reuters that parts of the military's conglomerates, Myanmar Economic Holdings Limited (MEHL) and Myanmar Economic Corporation (MEC), were likely to be targeted.



barring EU investors and banks from doing business with them.

The conglomerates are spread throughout the economy from mining and manufacturing to food and beverages to hotels, telecoms and banking. They rank among the country's biggest taxpayers and sought partnerships with foreign companies as Myanmar opened up during the democratic liberalization.

A UN fact-finding mission in 2019 recommended sanctions against the two companies and their subsidiaries, saying they gave the army extra sources of revenue that could finance human rights violations.

A Myanmar junta spokesman did not answer a call seeking com-

3 more protesters killed in Myanmar

Yangon: Three demonstrators were killed in Myanmar Monday, witnesses said, while shops, factories and banks were closed in the main city Yangon in protests against last month's military coup. Security forces were also deployed at hospitals and universities, state media said. Two of the victims died of gunshot wounds to the head in the northern town of Myitkyina, the witnesses said. It was not immediately clear who fired on the protesters although both police and the military were at the scene. Photos posted on Facebook showed the bodies of two men lying on the street. Witnesses said they were taking part in a protest against the coup when police fired stun grenades and tear gas. Several people were then hit by gunfire from nearby buildings. One witness, who said he helped move the bodies, told Reuters two people were shot in the head and died on the spot. Three people were wounded. "How inhumane to kill unarmed civilians," said the witness, a 20-year-old man. "We must have our right to protest peacefully." At least one person was killed and two injured during a protest in the town of Phyar Pon in the Irrawaddy Delta, a political activist and local media said.

ment on the EU's plan to broaden its sanctions.

Syrian Prez, wife test Covid +ve



AGENCIES

Damascus, March 8: Syrian President Bashar Assad and his wife have tested positive for the coronavirus, the president's office said Monday, with both having only mild symptoms of the illness.

In a statement, Assad's office said the first couple did PCR tests after they felt minor symptoms consistent with the COVID-19 illness. It said that Assad, 55, and his wife Asma, will return to work after spending between two to three weeks in isolation in their home. Both were in "good health and in stable condition," it added.

Syria, which marks 10 years of war next week, has recorded nearly 16,000 virus cases in government-held parts of the country as well as 1,063 deaths, but the numbers are believed to be much higher with limited amounts of PCR tests being done.

Syria began a vaccination campaign last week, but no details have been given about the process. The health minister said the government procured the vaccines from a friendly country, which he declined to name.

HK leader 'fully welcomes' proposed electoral changes

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hong Kong, March 8: Hong Kong leader Carrie Lam said Monday the city's government "fully welcomes" changes to the city's electoral system that will substantially increase central government control over Hong Kong politics and exclude Beijing's critics.

Chinese authorities have said the draft decision before China's National People's Congress would mean the largely pro-Beijing committee that elects Hong Kong's leader would also choose a large part of the legislature to ensure that the city is run by "patriots." The Election Committee would also have the right to vet candidates for the Legislative Council, weeding out any suspected of being insufficiently loyal to China and the ruling Communist Party.

Currently, half of Hong Kong's legislature is directly elected by voters, although the mass resignation of opposition legislators to protest the expulsion of four of their colleagues for being "unpatriotic" means the body is now entirely controlled by Beijing loyalists.

"There are loopholes in the electoral systems, there are also flaws in the systems in Hong Kong," Lam said at a news conference after she returned from the meeting in Beijing. "I fully understand that this is not a matter that can be addressed entirely by the government." "I'm glad that the central au-



thorities have, again, exercised its constitutional powers to help address this problem for Hong Kong," she said.

She declined to elaborate on the views she had shared to the central authorities regarding the electoral reforms, and said many pieces of legislation in Hong Kong would have to be amended. The NPC, China's ceremonial legislature, will all but certainly endorse the draft decision, though it may not take immediate legal effect.

Unconfirmed reports say the legislation will also expand the size of the Legislative Council from 70 to 90 and the Election Committee from 1,200 to 1,500. Seats on the Election Committee now reserved for directly elected district councilors will also be eliminated, further cementing Beijing's control over the body.

Lam also said she could not confirm whether legislative elections — already postponed for one year last September ostensibly because of the coronavirus pandemic — would be further deferred due to the electoral reforms.

Yemeni Houthis attack Saudi oil heartland

REUTERS

Sanaa, March 8: Yemen's Houthi forces fired drones and missiles at the heart of Saudi Arabia's oil industry Sunday, including a Saudi Aramco facility at Ras Tanura vital to petroleum exports, in what Riyadh called a failed assault on global energy security.

The Saudi energy ministry said there were no casualties or loss of property from the attacks. The defence ministry said it intercepted an armed drone coming from the sea prior to hitting its target at an oil storage yard at Ras Tanura, site of a refinery and the world's biggest offshore oil loading facility.

Shrapnel from a ballistic missile fell near a residential compound in Dhahran used by state-controlled Saudi Aramco, the world's biggest oil company, the ministries said.

The attacks drove Brent crude prices above \$70 a barrel to their highest since January 2020, while US crude futures touched their loftiest since October 2018.

The sites are located on the Gulf coast across from Iran and near

Iraq and Bahrain, which is home to the US Navy's Fifth Fleet. Yemen lies thousands of kms southwest of the Gulf of Aden.

Announcing the attacks, the Houthis, who have been battling a Saudi-led coalition for six years, also said they attacked military targets in the Saudi cities of Dammam, Asir and Jazan.

"Such acts of sabotage do not only target the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, but also the security and stability of energy supplies to the world, and therefore, the global economy," a ministry spokesman said in a statement on state media.

The Saudi-led coalition earlier said it intercepted 12 armed drones aimed at "civilian targets" without specifying a location as well as two ballistic missiles fired towards Jazan. The Eastern Province is home to most of Aramco's production and export facilities. In 2019, Saudi Arabia, the world's top oil exporter, was shaken by a big missile and drone attack on oil installations just a few km (miles) from the facilities hit on Sunday, which Riyadh blamed on Iran, a charge Tehran denies.



Sahrawi women take part in a parade organised by the Polisario Front independence movement at the Awererd refugee camp in Tindouf, Algeria

Singapore to inoculate migrant workers

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Singapore, March 8: Singapore will start vaccinating migrant workers against COVID-19 as part of its national immunisation strategy, starting with 10,000 people living in the country's five largest dormitories.

This batch of 10,000 workers have never been infected by COVID-19, the Ministry of Health (MOH) said Monday, announcing the vaccination programme for the migrant workers. The migrant workers, which include a huge number of Indians, make up about 90 per cent of Singapore's COVID-19 tally, which stands at 60,046. The death toll is 29.



The packed dormitories housing the foreign labourers were the biggest infection clusters during the peak of the COVID-19 outbreak in the island last year.

Infections among the foreign workers have fallen in the past few

months, with no new cases reported on most days, according to a report by Channel News Asia.

Workers who have received both doses of the vaccine would be subjected to a lower frequency of testing, ie every 28 days, instead of the current 14-day cycle, the Channel reported. Vaccinations will progressively be made available to all other migrant workers, the MOH said.

The ministry said the migrant worker dormitories are where large COVID-19 clusters could rapidly develop and grow, with a high risk of transmission to the local community.

China debates over move to scrap 'teaching English'

English gradually gained prominence in the Mandarin speaking country as schools and colleges made it compulsory since 2001 with a strong backing from the govt

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Beijing, March 8: A proposal by a member of China's national advisory body to drop English as a core subject for primary and secondary school students has triggered a heated debate among experts and netizens with a majority of them favouring to retain it, saying it would make the country capable of competing with other nations.

English gradually gained prominence in largely Mandarin speaking country as schools and colleges made it compulsory since 2001 with a strong backing from the government.

Xu Jin, a member of the National Committee of the Chinese People's

Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) which is holding its annual session here, has proposed that English should not be a core subject like Chinese and mathematics and more course hours should be given to improving students' skills in physical education, music and art.

Xu is a member of the Jiu San Society, one of China's eight non-Communist political parties permitted by the ruling Communist Party of China (CPC).

English and other foreign languages should also not be included as compulsory subjects for the national college entrance exam, he suggested, according to China Daily, one of the state-run English dailies.

While English takes up about 10 per cent of class hours, less than 10



per cent of university graduates use the language at work, he said.

Moreover, smart translation devices can offer sophisticated translation services and in the age of artificial intelligence, translators will be among the top 10 professions to

be eliminated, Xu said.

His proposal has triggered a heated discussion on social media and the hashtag removing English as a core subject for primary and secondary school students had been read 120 million times on Sina

Weibo, a microblogging site akin to Twitter in China, as of Sunday.

Some netizens agreed with his proposal, saying they had wasted too much time studying English at school and did not use it in their daily lives, while others said the idea is not in line with the country's pursuit of further openness and is unlikely to be endorsed by authorities. Significantly, in an online poll conducted by the state-run China Youth Daily, more than 110,000 respondents opposed the proposal and said English should be taught early at schools to enable China to compete with other countries.

However, around 100,000 people supported the proposal, saying it would be better to spend more time learning Chinese language and cul-

ture. Zhang Lianzhong, a professor at Beijing Foreign Studies University, said the Ministry of Education has made English a compulsory course from third grade in 2001. The decision had proved to be a smart one as hundreds of millions of Chinese students have broadened their horizons and improved their cultural awareness and critical thinking ability through learning the language, Zhang said in an interview with Beijing News.

Xiong Bingqi, deputy head of the 21st Century Education Research Institute in Beijing, said the key is to reform China's exam-oriented education system so that English teaching will focus on improving students' language skills, not exam-taking ability.

Aditya Dash's mom moves SC seeking CBI enquiry

POST NEWS NETWORK
New Delhi, March 8: Social activist Aditya Dash's mother Padmalaya Dash has filed a petition in the Supreme Court seeking Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) probe into the mysterious death of her son. In the petition filed through the Supreme Court advocate Swastik Dalai, the petitioner pleaded the apex court to direct CBI to initiate investigation into the death of social activist and motivational speaker Aditya Dash. The petitioner also prayed the apex court to issue directions to the Orissa High Court to dispose of the petition filed before it in a time-bound manner. The petitioner contended that almost nine months have been passed, but the state Crime Branch has not come up with any breakthrough. The Supreme Court is likely to hear the petition March 12. The petitioner contended that



The petitioner also prayed the apex court to issue directions to the Orissa High Court to dispose of the petition filed before it in a time-bound manner

the tardy pace of CB investigation has caused grave and immeasura-

ble damage to the petitioner and urged the court to not allow the state Crime Branch to carry on the investigation endlessly into the mysterious death of Dash rather transfer the investigation to CBI so that it is concluded early. "The pace of the investigation is going on at snail's pace and no direct or indirect evidence was found yet," the petitioner contended. Significantly, Dash's mutilated body was found on the railway tracks near Lingaraj Temple Road passenger halt here, July 7, 2020. The case was initially being probed by the Bhubaneswar GRP. Later, the Director General of Odisha Police ordered the Crime Branch to take over the investigation of the case July 30. October 22 last year, 'People for Seva', the NGO the deceased was associated with had submitted a memorandum to the Odisha Governor Ganeshi Lal seeking a CBI investigation.



Arundhati Jewellers owner Brahmananda Meher felicitates ace sprinter Dutee Chand at Janpath in Bhubaneswar on the occasion of International Women's Day, Monday

Man's decapitated body found on railway track

POST NEWS NETWORK
Bhubaneswar, March 8: The body of a man with its head severed was found on a railway track near Lingaraj Road railway station here Monday morning. The 42-year-old deceased identified as Sushant Sahu is a resident of Housing Board Colony in Bhimatangi area here. Sushant was a florist who had a makeshift shop near his residence. According to the deceased's wife, Sushant left house after having dinner at around 10pm Sunday. However, he did not return home for a long time prompting his family members to search for him till late in the night. The family members of the deceased told media persons that he might have jumped before a moving train under the influence of liquor. Police sources revealed that the deceased and his wife had a heated argument over some issues Sunday night before he left home. Cops suspect that Sahu might have committed suicide over family discord. Locals spotted the decapitated body lying near the track Monday morning. Informed, the GRP reached the spot. Police recovered the body and severed head and sent them for post-mortem.

PRADHAN PITCHES FOR NIV IN CAPITAL CITY

POST NEWS NETWORK
New Delhi, March 8: Union Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister Dharmendra Pradhan Monday urged Union Health Minister Harsh Vardhan to set up a National Institute of Virology (NIV) in Bhubaneswar. In a letter to Vardhan, Pradhan stated that Bhubaneswar has emerged as a prime centre of medical research and education in eastern India with the presence of world-class institutes such as All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Institute of Life Sciences, ICMR-Regional Medical Research Centre and ICAR-ICFMD (International Centre for Foot & Mouth Disease). "Owing to its strategic location and skilled manpower, Bhubaneswar is well positioned to be considered

as location for one of the four proposed NIVs. NIV Bhubaneswar will benefit from proximity to the above-mentioned R&D centres of excellence and leverage it for pushing collaborative research efforts. This can cater to the population of eastern, south-eastern and central Indian states. This will also be in line with the Purvodaya vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi," Pradhan said. He urged the Health minister to seriously consider the setting up of one of the four proposed NIVs at Bhubaneswar. Pradhan also congratulated Vardhan for the country's successful fight against the novel coronavirus. He said that India's success story of curbing the spread of virus and supplying vaccines to the world has been acknowledged by the WHO and international organisations.

Develop places linked to freedom struggle: Naveen

POST NEWS NETWORK
Bhubaneswar, March 8: Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik Monday urged the Centre to identify and develop the places linked to freedom struggle. "With the passage of time, the youth of our country need to be reminded of the sacrifices of our forefathers in a context they can identify with. One of the ways in which this can be done is to highlight the events of our freedom struggle and develop the places linked to it," he said. The Chief Minister was addressing the preparatory meeting of the National Committee to Commemorate Azadi Ka Amrut Mahotsav (celebration of the 75

years of Independence) through videoconferencing. The meeting of the panel was held under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. He emphasised on the need to highlight significant events led by lesser known leaders as well as to capture the pan-India nature of the movement. Stating events that happened out-

side India need to be captured, Patnaik said, "Our greatest tribute to the founding father of our nation will be to carry forward in letter and spirit the values and ethos of our Independence movement as enshrined in the Constitution of India." The ideals of freedom, justice and equality which defined the freedom struggle need to be reiterated in today's circumstances, he said, adding all efforts should be made to ensure every Indian, residing anywhere in the world, should be touched through the various activities as part of the commemoration ceremonies. Service oriented activities can be part of the programme to encourage community service among the citizens especially the youth, he added.

Divert unused fund to three projects, GM varsity told

POST NEWS NETWORK
Bhubaneswar, March 8: The Higher Education department Monday directed the Gangadhar Meher University for diversion of the unutilised fund of Rs 5 crore towards execution of three new projects sanctioned during financial year 2020-21. The govt had sanctioned ₹5Cr for GM University for construction of a sports complex, but the work could not commence even after lapse of two years

Teams at police stations to crack down on snatchers

POST NEWS NETWORK
Bhubaneswar, March 8: At a time when the rising graph of snatching cases in the city has become a major headache for the cops and denizens, the Commissionerate Police Monday said special squads are being formed at each police station to deal with the street crimes. Speaking to media persons, Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP) Umashankar Dash said that the team comprising one or two officers assisted by four constables at each police station of the city will exclusively deal with growing number of snatching cases. Notably, two unknown armed

looters on bike Sunday snatched away the gold chain of a lady in Bharatpur area of the city. The lady, Anasuya Behera of Khandagiri Bari under Bharatpur police limits, was plucking flowers for puja near her residence Sunday morning when the miscreants reached the spot. One of them holding a sharp weapon pushed her to the ground and tried to snatch her chain. When she resisted the loot bid, the accused hit her leg with the weapon and decamped with the chain. The incident of loot was caught in CCTV cameras installed in nearby houses. Meanwhile, in another incident, some bike-borne miscreants snatched away a lady's bag containing cash and mobile phone near

Raj Bhawan square here Sunday afternoon. Speaking on the issue, the DCP said that the city police have been witnessing around 50/60 snatching cases every month during the past few years. The criminals who get arrested by police again engaged in the same activities after getting out of the jail on bail. The police have been forming special squads at the police stations to check various 'street crimes'.



App soon to monitor hotel check-ins in City
The Commissionerate Police will launch a mobile app this week to keep tabs on anti-socials visiting hotels in Capital city. A pilot project to this effect has remained successful, said the DCP.

In a letter, Higher Education joint secretary Birendra Kumar Nayak wrote to the registrar of GM University that in FY 2018-19 the government had sanctioned Rs 5 crore in favour of university for construction of a sports complex. However, this work has not been started even after lapse of a long time. "Meanwhile, you have submitted a proposal for execution of the other three projects including construction of a utility building, construction of boundary wall at new GMU campus and construction of a cubicle. The total estimated cost of this project is estimated around Rs 6.55 crore. Therefore, it is hereby decided to sanction the following three projects and cancel the sports complex project. The unutilized amount of Rs 5 crore shall be diverted for execution of the three projects.

WASSUP TODAY

- BHUBANESWAR**
- Protest by Congress party, Master Canteen Square, 11am
 - Workshop by 'Satadibi Ra Kalakaar', Biju Natya Kendra, Nayapalli, 3pm
 - Guru Dakshina Utsav by Kala Ashram, Rabindra Mandap, 6pm

BALIANTA

- 44th annual 'Astaprahari', Dudurabasta, Srimahaveer peeth, 8am

BRAHMAGIRI

- Jagara Mahotsav, Esaneswar Peeth, 7pm

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

CLASSIFIED

AFFIDAVIT

By virtue of an affidavit before Notary, Cuttack I, Kirtiraj Nanda, S/o. Jeetendra Kumar Nanda, At/P.O.- Odagaon, P.S.- Odagaon, Nayagarh declare that I want to change my name from "Kirtiraj Nanda" to "Kirttiraj Nanda" for all future purposes.

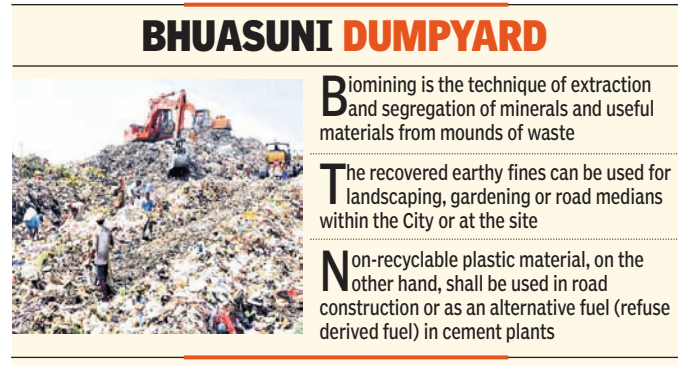
FOOD SAFETY



Hosted by CMC, a workshop on food safety in progress at Town Hall in Cuttack, Monday

BMC's novel way to treat legacy waste

POST NEWS NETWORK
Bhubaneswar, March 8: The Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC) has decided to use biomining method to get rid of the legacy waste, garbage that remain piled up for several years, at Bhuasuni dumpyard here as it would help recover around 60-acre land. According to sources, BMC has recently issued a request for proposal (RFP) for the mammoth exercise. "We've issued an RFP for biomining of legacy waste at Bhuasuni. The operator is expected to install a plant of the required capacity for the process," a senior BMC official said. According to the civic body official, around 16 lakh metric tonne of legacy waste remain piled up at Bhuasuni, on the outskirts of the Capital city. It will take around three years to biomine the waste and reclaim the land. Biomining is the technique of extraction and segregation of minerals and useful materials from mounds of waste. The recovered earthy fines can be used for land-



BHUASUNI DUMPYARD
Biomining is the technique of extraction and segregation of minerals and useful materials from mounds of waste. The recovered earthy fines can be used for landscaping, gardening or road medians within the City or at the site. Non-recyclable plastic material, on the other hand, shall be used in road construction or as an alternative fuel (refuse derived fuel) in cement plants. "The heavy fractions like sand and gravel will be used for construction of road shoulders or for plinth filling. Stones and concrete recovered, if any, will be used for road sub-grade or for reuse in the construction industry," said the official. "In a bid to achieve the desired target, we're looking to have a minimum average quantity of 2,000 MT per day. The material retrieved from the legacy waste will be immediately sent to the recycle/identified vendors without hoarding them at site for more than 20 days," the official added. Notably, land reclamation is a relatively new approach used to expand municipal solid waste capacity and avoid the high cost of acquiring additional land. Otherwise, once the dumpsite gets filled with garbage, there will be no option other than closing it permanently.

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Acharya Vihar-Dayal Agency-9437135727, **A.P. Tours and Travel**, Maitri Vihar, C.S. Pur- 9861301598, **Aurobindo Market**-Sai Audio & Electronics-9438304668, **Airport Road**-Sai Baba Variety Store-9090071530, **Anish Infotech**- Tankapani Road-9861341488, **Bapuji Nagar**- Dreamland Studio- 977517314, **Baramunda Rental Colony**-Maa Ramchandi Communication-9658821469, **Baramunda Housing Board Colony**-Pappu Variety Store-9040500106, **Cuttack Road**-Alishan Snacks-8984236754, **District Center (Chandrasekharpur)**-Sai Google Mart-9776056507, **Forest Park**-DTDC Couriers & Services (HB Services)-7381024156, **IRC Village**-Bapi Xerox-9090090404, Gift Hut(Antriksh Gifts & Decors Pvt. Ltd.)-9954781084, Pruthvi Medicine-9853314816, **Janpath-Krupajal Book Store**-7978646669, **Jaydev Vihar**-AK Enterprises-7978116618, Subam Sai Books Store-8895550649, Swain Graphics- 9337121249, **Jagannath Mobile Point**- Janpath Road, Ram Mandir- 9938475415, **Kanan Vihar**-Auro Electronics-8260697560, **Khandagiri**- Swosti Mobile Centre- 7992914045, World Solution- 9938317559, **KIIT Road**-Jugad Jn-9338545031, **Laxmi Sagar**-Aditya Mobile-9438191836, **Lewis Road**-Spider Web-7809186415, **Metro Satellite City**-Arogya Mitra Medicine Store-9853621640, **Madhusudan Nagar**-Mohapatra Communication-9124446664, **Maa Santoshi travels**- Gajapati Nagar- 9777675867, **Nayapalli**- The Cake Room- 7873660137, **Near Mayfair Lagoon**-Cookieman-9439491273, **Nigamananda-Omm Sai Travels**-9668284823, **Nr Cosmopolis Main Gate**- Shreeram Medical Store- 8763711714, **Net Square**- Niladri Vihar (C.S. Pur)- 7205634821, **Priyadarshini Market**-Astro Point-9938134346, **R.N. General Store**-Nilakantha Nagar-9438642501, **Sahid Nagar**- Maa Communication- 9437353424, **Sahini General Store**- Near Patia Railway Station, Mahavir Vihar- 9937586626, **Satya Nagar**-Baishnavi Mixture & Sweets-7894821764, **Samantapur**- Download Point-7504557743, **Sailashree Vihar**-Harsha Book Store-8093449515, **Saheed Nagar**-Jagannath Graphics-7978652670, Photo World-7978468191, Sainath Photo Studio-8984436129, Shanti & Co-9937071063, **Siripur**-Omm Maa Sarala Communication-9777682449, **Sushree fashion**- Jagmara-9938714347, **Shree Vision**- Sailashree Vihar-9861476678, **Unit-3**-LIC of India Premium Point-9337787080, **Unit-7**- LIC Premium Point- 9338227422, **VSS Nagar**-Friends Cake & Bake-8658200930, Jeet Infoworld-7205195782, **XIMB Square**-LD Books-9658061373.

of the day quote

It is an opportunity to showcase to the world our achievements since 1947. We need to tell people about the sacrifice of freedom movement heroes



NARENDRA MODI | PRIME MINISTER

The BJP is enjoying majority in the Parliament, and had passed farm bills and that of revocation of Article 370 even as the people were not in their favour. Why are they not passing this (women reservation) bill when the entire country wants it?



FAROOQ ABDULLAH | NATIONAL CONFERENCE PRESIDENT

When ruling parties legislators ask supplementary questions you (RJD MLC Subodh Rai) cannot say anything to them but when RJD legislators ask questions, then you become angry



NITISH KUMAR | CHIEF MINISTER OF BIHAR

SHORT TAKES

Exclusive vax centres for ladies

Mumbai: In a unique gesture to mark the International Women's Day being celebrated globally Monday, Maharashtra government has set up 189 special vaccination centres exclusively for females, an official said here.

Anshuman Singh passes away

Lucknow: Former Rajasthan Governor Anshuman Singh passed away at the Sanjay Gandhi Post Graduate Institute of Medical Sciences in Lucknow Monday at the age of 86.

2 Maoists surrender

Ranchi: Two Maoists carrying bounties on their heads, surrendered before police in Jharkhand Monday. The insurgents were TSPC zonal commander Raghubansh Ganju alias Chiretan and sub zonal commander Lakshman Ganju alias Patthar.

Covid vaccine for sale on darknet for \$250 to \$1,200

AGENCIES

New Delhi, March 8: Cybercriminals have posted sales advertisements for three major Covid-19 vaccines and the prices per dose range from \$250 to \$1,200, with an average cost of about \$500, said a report from cybersecurity firm Kaspersky.

The majority of sellers came from France, Germany, the UK and the US, said the researchers, while most likely what you would receive would not be an effective, valid dose.

The research showed that majority of these underground sellers have made between 100 and 500 transactions, indicating that they have been completing sales but what exactly darknet users are purchasing remains unclear.

For the study, the security researchers examined 15 different marketplaces on the darknet and found advertisements for three major Covid-19 vaccines -- Pfizer/BioNTech, AstraZeneca and Moderna.

Communications are made via encrypted messaging apps like Wickr and Telegram, while payments are requested in the form of cryptocurrency primarily Bitcoin.

It is not clear how many of the vaccine doses being advertised online are actual and how many advertisements are scams. "You can find just about anything on the darknet, so it's not surprising sellers there would attempt to capitalise on the vaccination campaign.

MATTER OF CONCERN

The majority of sellers came from France, Germany, the UK and the US, said the researchers, while most likely what you would receive would not be an effective, valid dose

Communications are made via encrypted messaging apps like Wickr and Telegram, while payments are requested in the form of cryptocurrency, primarily Bitcoin

and many of them have been successful," Dmitry Galov, security expert at Kaspersky, said in a statement.

"Right now, not only are people selling vaccine doses, but they're also selling vaccination records- pieces of paper that can help you travel freely. It's important for users to be cautious of any 'deal' related to the pandemic, and, of course, it's never a good idea to buy a vaccine off the darknet," Galov added.

The report comes at a time when production shortages have been a major hindrance for accelerating vaccination drive against Covid-19.

The researchers noted that darknet shopping is risky business, and it is clear from the past year that scammers have been all too eager to profit off the current crisis.

That means no one can be at all confident they will actually receive anything after transferring bitcoins, let alone a real vaccine dose that was stored properly and is safe to take, Kaspersky said.



SUSHANT DEATH CASE PROBE

NCB arrests drug peddler in Goa

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Panaji, March 8: The Narcotics Control Bureau has arrested a Goa-based man who allegedly had links with the accused in a drugs case related to actor Sushant Singh Rajput's death, an NCB official said Monday.

The NCB raided the premises of the accused, Hemant Saha, at Morjim in North Goa district and recovered 15 blots of LSD (commercial quantity) and 30 gm charas, NCB's zonal director Sameer Wankhede said in a release.

The raid was part of a series of searches held in Goa over the weekend. The accused was arrested Sunday from Miramar beach village near Panaji following a joint operation by the NCB from Mumbai and Goa, Wankhede said.

The official said the drugs case accused Anuj Keswani and



Regal Mahakaal during questioning named Saha as the supplier of LSD and charas.

Saha, a native of Madhya Pradesh, was running a shack in Morjim area for past several years, he said. The NCP also conducted searches in Mazal Wado at Assagao in North Goa on the intervening night of Sunday and Monday and recovered 41 blots of LSD (commercial quantity), 28 gm charas, 22 gm cocaine, 1.10 kg ganja, 160

The NIA taking over the case of a vehicle laden with explosives being found near industrialist Mukesh Ambani's residence in Mumbai suggests something was 'fishy'

UDDHAV THACKERAY | MAHA CHIEF MINISTER

KARNATAKA GOVERNMENT'S GIFT ON WOMEN'S DAY

On international women's day, Karnataka Chief Minister B S Yediyurapps Monday announced a proposal to provide six-months child care leave to women employees of the Government



FEARLESS ACT



Women officers of Himachal Pradesh police perform stunts on the occasion of International Women's Day, during an event at the Ridge, in Shimla

Bihar Police to get two dozen sniffer dogs soon

THE GERMAN SHEPHERDS, BELGIUM SHEPHERDS AND LABRADOR ARE PRESENTLY UNDERGOING TRAINING IN HYDERABAD

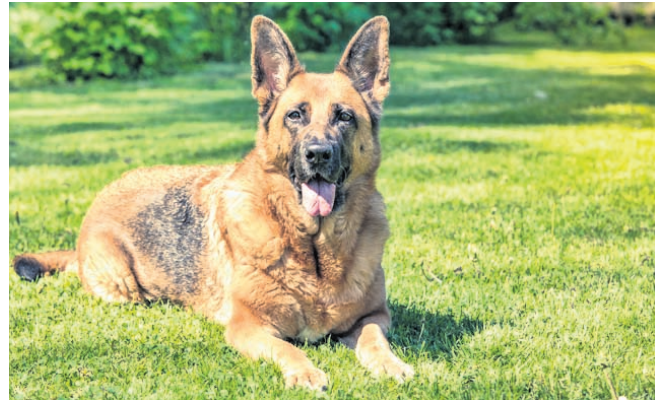
INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Patna, March 8: Bihar Police will soon be strengthened with the addition of over two dozen sniffer dogs.

The German Shepherds, Belgium Shepherds and Labradors are presently undergoing training in Hyderabad. Named Pubji, Teja, Duke, Simba and Sheru, among others, these dogs are expected to be commissioned to the investigating teams of the Bihar Police very soon, an official said.

An event related to sniffer dogs will be organised at the BMP 5 ground in Patna soon where Bihar Police will showcase the skills of the old and new dogs.

"Apart from their sniffing capacity, these dogs are extremely good runners and jumpers, which is helpful for nabbing criminals. They have been trained to detect



bombs, land mines, narcotics and liquor," the official said. As per the data, the CID of Bihar Police has 68 sniffer dogs, with the home department sanctioning ₹1.5 lakh per month for their maintenance. Bihar Police had purchased 20 sniffer dogs one-and-a-half years

back to detect liquor. One of the dogs, Damini, a German Shepherd, has played an important role in cracking over two dozen cases. Two of the dogs -- Maddy and Hunter -- are experts in detecting liquor from under the ground.

BATLA HOUSE ENCOUNTER

Accused Ariz Khan convicted of inspector's killing

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, March 8: A court here Monday convicted Ariz Khan, allegedly associated with the terror outfit Indian Mujahideen, for the murder of Delhi police inspector Mohan Chand Sharma in a case related to 2008 Batla House encounter which was questioned by certain political parties and leaders.

Additional Sessions Judge Sandeep Yadav said "the evidence produced by the prosecution duly proved the case beyond reasonable doubts." The judge said that it was "duly proved that Ariz Khan and his associates caused murder of police official and fired gunshot on the police official."

The court will hear arguments on the quantum of sentence March 15. Ariz Khan faces a maximum punishment of death penalty while the minimum sentence for murder is life imprisonment.

He was arrested February 14, 2018, after a decade being on run. The judgement assumes importance as Congress leader Digvijay Singh had voiced his doubts over the police claims about the encounter and Samajwadi Party and Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) had also demanded a judicial inquiry into the matter.

However, the Congress party had distanced itself from the comment of Singh, who later in 2016 had also claimed that there was no evidence to prove the guilt of the accused arrested in the matter and had asked the central government to order a judicial probe into the encounter by dubbing it as "fake".

Teen raped by nine people for 8 days in Raj



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Kota (Raj), March 8: A 15-year-old girl was allegedly raped at separate places by at least nine people over eight days in Rajasthan's Jhalawar, police said Monday. Two of the accused are minors.

The girl somehow managed to reach her home Friday after which a complaint was lodged. Four of the accused, including the two minors, have been held, police said. Suket DSP Manjeet Singh said the girl alleged that her friend Bulbul and another youth, Chothmal, February 25 took her to Jhalawar City on the pretext of buying a schoolbag for her.

He, however, said the girl is a school dropout. She alleged that two to three other people joined them at a park where she was drugged and raped by them. She alleged that at least nine people at different times and separate places in Jhalawar raped her over eight days.

The DSP said a medical examination of the girl was conducted immediately and four of the accused were held. Two of them are minor and attempts are under way to arrest the rest, he said.

SOCIAL MENACE

'10mn more girls can be pushed into child marriage'

Worldwide, an estimated 650 million girls and women alive today were married in childhood, with about half of those occurring in Bangladesh, Brazil, Ethiopia, India and Nigeria, according to the analysis

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, March 8: According to a new analysis released by the UNICEF 'COVID-19: A threat to progress against child marriage', 10 million additional child marriages

may occur before the end of the decade, threatening years of progress in reducing the practice.

Five countries, including India, account for about half of the total child brides in the world, according to a new analysis released by the UNICEF said on the occasion of International Women's Day.

Worldwide, an estimated 650 million girls and women alive today were married in childhood, with about half of those occurring in Bangladesh, Brazil, Ethiopia, India and Nigeria, according to the analysis.

To off-set the impacts of COVID-19 and end the practice by 2030 – the target set out in the Sustainable Development Goals – progress must be significantly accelerated, it said.



"One year into the pandemic, immediate action is needed to mitigate the toll on girls and their families. By reopening schools, implementing effective laws and policies, en-

suring access to health and social services – including sexual and reproductive health services – and providing comprehensive social protection measures for families, we

can significantly reduce a girl's risk of having her childhood stolen through child marriage," said UNICEF Executive Director Henrietta Fore.

With 25 million child marriages averted in the last decade, UNICEF warned on International Women's Day that these gains are now under serious threat.

Quoting its previous report, UNICEF said one in three of the world's child brides live in India. The UN body said persistence of child marriage remains a potential challenge to India achieving Sustainable Development Goal 5 by 2030 even as its progress has been one of the strongest among countries in South Asia during the last decade.

The analysis said findings from

NFHS surveys between 1992-93 and 2015-16 show the percentage of young women who married in childhood has halved (from 54 to 27 per cent), and the pace of decline has increased in the last decade.

"The decline has been led by urban areas, which only had 18 per cent of women in the age group of 20-24 reporting (in 2015-16) – as compared to 32 per cent in rural areas – having got married before the age of 18," it said.

Noting that a girl's risk of getting married before the age of 18 has a direct correlation with their background characteristics, the analysis said, girls in rural areas or from poorer households are at greater risk, and a higher proportion of child brides are found among those with little or no education.