

AGENCIES

Islamabad, April 11: Pakistan Parliament Monday elected unopposed Shehbaz Sharif as 23rd prime minister of the country, bringing to an end the political uncertainty that had gripped the nation since a no-confidence motion was introduced against his predecessor Imran Khan March 8.

Shehbaz, 70, was the only candidate left in the race after former foreign minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi announced that his Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf party will boycott the voting and staged a walkout.

"Sharif has secured 174 votes... and has been declared as prime minister of Islamic Republic of Pakistan," according to the formal result announced by Speaker Ayaz Sadiq who presided over the session after Deputy Speaker Qasim Suri said his conscience did not allow him to conduct the session. In the House of 342, the winning candidate should get support

of at least 172 lawmakers. In his maiden address to the house as the prime minister, Shehbaz said that it was the first time in Pakistan's history that a no-confidence motion against a prime minister had been successful. "And good has prevailed over evil," he said. He said today is a "big day" for the entire nation as a "selected" prime minister has been sent home in a legal and constitutional manner. P10

talks between Russia and Ukraine will pave the way for peace in the conflict-torn country. In his opening remarks, Modi described the

recent reports of the killing of innocent civilians in Bucha city as "very worrying" and said India immediately condemned it and demanded a fair investigation. The prime minister referred to his phone conversation with the Presidents of both Ukraine and Russia.

under Infocity police limits here April 10. The incident allegedly happened on the concluding day of the Odisha State Athletics Championships here, an official said. The Infocity police registered a

case based on the FIR filed by the 16-year-old victim and arrested the three senior athletes identified as Suraj Thakur, Jagannath Das and Ashis Patra. The trio hails from different places of Rourkela city.



ROPEWAY HORROR: 2 DEAD, 15 STILL TRAPPED



HANGING ON FOR DEAR LIFE: A man is seen clinging on to the cable wire while his shoe falls off the Trikut ropeway in Jharkhand's Deoghar, MondayPTIPHOTO

Ghastly murder on City footpath for state's health Miscreants attack a homeless couple sleeping on

Deoghar (Jharkhand), April 11: A man was killed Monday after falling off a helicopter during a rescue operation following Sunday's Jharkhand ropeway accident, while 15 people trapped inside cable cars will have to wait out one more night before they are brought down to safety, officials said. A woman, who was injured in the accident, had succumbed Sunday night.

Thirty two people have so far been rescued, winched up by two Indian Air Force helicopters, or by sliding down the nylon ropes, more than 28 hours after two cable cars collided mid-air, stalling the ropeway, around 20 km from the temple town of Baidyanath Dham in Deoghar district.

A woman was killed and 12 people were injured in the accident. The rescued passengers were airlifted with the help of two IAF choppers, sources said. Dramatic visuals showed fidgety people inside the cable cars that hung in air against the backdrop of a rocky hill cliff that overlooked a denselyforested valley. Jharkhand Tourism says that the Trikut ropeway is India's highest vertical ropeway.

Communal clash flares up in Joda; 144 imposed

POST NEWS NETWORK

Joda, April 11: Communal tension flared up in Joda town in Keonjhar district Monday with people of two communities resorting to brickbats and vandalism after dispute erupted over religion procession. Section 144 has been subsequently enforced in Joda town.

According to reports, Hindus had taken out Akhada procession to a Shiv temple on Ram Navami Sunday. They wanted to wield swords during the procession, but police did not permit them.

Monday morning, police assured them that only five people can carry swords to the temple, but allegedly they were not allowed later. This led to tension among Hindus. Protesting this, a group of people staged a road blockade near Hanuman temple and later carried swords along a street domi-



Shot in the arm

Eight years ago, prices were indeed an issue for us. But no more! We're now the richest party in India!!

M	ARKE	T WAT	ĊH	
IN	DEX		VARI	ATION
RSES	SENSEX	58964.57	₽	482.61
BOU	NIFTY	17674.95	₽	109.40
CURRENCY BOURSES	DOLLAR	75.95		₹0.06
CURR	EURO	82.55	₽	₹0.04
NOI	GOLD	₹52,385		₹314
BULLION	SILVER	₹67,710	1	₹718

WEATH	IER		
	BHUB	СТК	
<mark>€</mark> MAX	39.4℃	36.1°(
[₽] MIN	25.8℃	25.2°	≍ Forecast
Humidity	78%	76%	Dry
Rainfall	Nil	Nil	weather mostly

■ Naveen flags off the first batch of Shri Jagannath Medical College in Puri in the virtual presence of Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, April 11: Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik Monday inaugurated Shri Jagannath Medical College in Puri in the presence of Union Health and Family Welfare Minister

Mansukh Mandaviya. The medical college has been established jointly by the Union and state governments. The medical college has the capacity for admitting 100 MBBS students annually. The first batch of the college was today inaugurated jointly by

health minister. Speaking on the occasion, Naveen said, "This is a historic day for

the Chief Minister and the Union



Puri district. I hope, with the efforts of the teachers and students, this institution will earn a great name in serving the people of Puri.'

It is heartening to know that the students from the poorest sections have got into the medical college. Especially, the students from the government schools have got the admissions due to the 15 per cent reservation policy of the state government, he said.

He wished the students on the start of their first day in the medical course. The Chief Minister also thanked the Union minister for his support in establishing the medical college.

The CM and the Union minister interacted with the students and the faculty.

Radhaballava Behera, a medical student, thanked the state government for the reservation policy for government school students. He is the son of a sharecropper from Balasore district and was admitted under the quota made for government school students.

In his interaction with the students, Mandaviya motivated the students to work for the rural population and provide the best of healthcare for the poor patients.

footpath along with their baby. While the man died on the spot, his wife is serious and the baby unhurt

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar; April 11: The Capital city Monday woke up to the ghastly murder of a homeless daily wager in front of a post office ATM near PMG Square under Kharavel Nagar police limits. The accused attackers also assaulted the victim's wife who sustained serious injuries. She is currently undergoing treatment at SCB Medical College and Hospital in Cuttack.

Sources claimed that the 24-yearold deceased identified as Babulu Behera of Malgodown area in Cuttack used to stay on the footpath at Lower PMG area along with his wife Poonam Behera alias Puja and their baby. Babulu worked as a daily wager to make both ends meet.

As per the locals, Babulu engaged in a heated argument with two persons, Rajesh Mohapatra and Ajaya Das over some unknown issue late Sunday night. The argument later turned violent and both the accused assaulted Babulu and his wife with a wooden plank before leaving

the couple in a pool of blood. Babulu who sustained severe injuries on the head later succumbed to the injuries at the spot while his wife was rescued Monday morning.

Informed, Kharavel Nagar police Monday morning rushed to the spot and sent the body to Capital hospital for post mortem. Babulu's wife was rushed to Capital Hospital where the doctors later forwarded her to SCB Medical and College.

Babulu's body has been kept in the morgue of Capital Hospital after autopsy. Cops handed over the baby boy to the members of Bhubaneswar Childline and he has been currently kept at Ama Ghara Child Care Institution at Patrapada on the outskirts of the city.

Sources in Kharavel Nagar police revealed that both the accused Mohapatra and Das, have been detained at the police station. The police are interrogating the duo to elicit the reason behind the altercation between the deceased and them which led to the murder of Babulu.

nated by people of the Muslim community. The people of the minority community strongly opposed it, leading to confrontation between both the groups.

Police immediately tried to settle the issue, but tension flared up. People of both the communities hurled stones, bricks and glass bottles at each other. As a result, many houses and vehicles got damaged. To control the mob, police had to

resort to blank firing.

Over a dozen people including po-lice and journalists were injured in the hurling of brickbats. Scribe Sameer Das sustained head injury from stone pelting and was admitted to Tata Hospital.

The mob had outnumbered the police. Police had a tough time in containing the tension.

SP Bhanumitra Mohapatra, Champua sub-collector Pratap Pritimaya, Barbil SDPO Himansu Bhusan Behera, tehsildar Alok Patel, Joda BDO Jagannath Hanuman and IICs of various police stations rushed to tha area. Police forces were deployed. As situation remained volatile, prohibitory order under section 144 has been imposed in the area.

Elon not joining Twitter's board, says CEO Parag

Just over an hour after Agrawal's post, Musk responds only with a face-with-hand-over-mouth emoticon on Twitter which he deletes later

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New York/New Delhi, April 11: In an unexpected turn of events, Elon Musk, the world's richest man and the biggest shareholder of Twitter. has decided not to join the board of the micro-blogging platform.

The decision of Musk -- who has made a raft of suggestions in recent days for Twitter, even wondering whether its headquarters should be turned into a homeless shelter - was made public by the platform's Indiaorigin CEO Parag Agarwal in a tweet Sunday evening.

With a 9.2 per cent stake, Musk is currently the biggest shareholder of Twitter, which had entered into an agreement with the billionaire whereby he will get a seat on the platform's board till the 2024 annual shareholders' meeting. He was to join the board April 9.

In a sudden turn of events, Agrawal tweeted saying, Elon has decided not to join our board.



The announcement was so abrupt that the company's website still showed Musk as a member of Twitter's board.

While the specific reason for the abrupt decision was not

known, Agrawal said, he believed Musk's decision is for the best and that Twitter will remain open to his input.

Musk, a tempestuous and extremely vocal billionaire, has also posted several suggestions, some radical, for the micro-blogging platform. Elon's appointment to the board was to become officially effective 49, but Elon shared that same morning that he will no longer be joining the board, Agrawal tweeted.

"I believe this is for the best. We have and will always value input from our shareholders whether they are on our Board or not. Elon is our biggest shareholder and we will remain open to his input,' Agrawal said in his tweet.

Agrawal also said that there will be distractions ahead but that the goals and priorities remain unchanged.

Six run over by Konark **Exp in Andhra Pradesh**

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Amaravati, April 11: At least six people were run over by the Konark Express in Srikakulam district of Andhra Pradesh late Monday night, police said.

They were passengers of a Guwahati-bound superfast express and had got down onto the adjoining railway track in Batuva village when their train stopped due to a technical problem, they said.

The Konark Express was coming from the opposite direction and ran over these six people,

they said.

So far, we have identified six bodies. The Government Railway Police are reaching the accident spot to ascertain if there are more casualties, Superintendent of Police, Srikakulam, GR Radhika told PTI over phone.

Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy expressed grief over the accident. He directed the district authorities to undertake relief operations and ensure that proper medical care is provided to theinjured, if any. Further details are awaited.





eisure

ALICIA SAYS HER 8-MONTH-OLD SON OWNS MORE CLOTHES THAN HER

Tomb Raider star Alicia Vikander says her wardrobe is in need of a serious update as her eight-month-old son Mark owns more clothes than her. Alicia admitted that she likes to pack lightly, which is likely influenced by the fact that growing up, her family didn't have a lot of luxuries.

KATE WINSLET TO ACT WITH DAUGHTER MIA IN I AM RUTH

Oscar-winning actress Kate Winslet will act alongside her daughter Mia- who she shares with her former husband Jim Threapleton -in the Channel 4 drama series I Am Ruth. The filming is set to begin at the end of this month.

200 English-speaking, polite bouncers for Ranbir-Alia wedding

non-smokers.

Mumbai: The grand wedding of Ranbir Kapoor

and Alia Bhatt is expected to take place between

April 13-17 at the RK Family house in Chembur.

security at the wedding consisting of 200 bounc-

ers. Mahesh Bhatt's son Rahul Bhatt said, "Yusuf

Bhai has taken over the security of Alia Bhatt

and Ranbir Kapoor's wedding. He has Mumbai's

best security force - the 9/11 agency. Ranbir and

Alia have demanded around 200 bouncers who

will be diplomatic, speaking English, polite and

Elaborating more, Rahul, son of Kiran Bhatt,

Mahesh Bhatt's first wife, adds, 'Countermeasures of drones have also been

taken. Roving Patrol Officers will be kept with

every guest. I will also look after the security

and fulfill the duty of a brother. Looks like

Ranbir Kapoor and Alia Bhatt's wedding is

no less than a royal wedding. The couple after

dating for almost 5 years are finally taking

AGENCIES

the big step and tying the knot.

As the couple gears up for the big event, fresh reports have surfaced about the extremely tight



FORTUNE FORECAST



ARIES

You will look for new opportunities to increase your competence, and for new ways to enjoy. If your relationship is under stress, it is about time you sorted out things. There is likelihood of making a short trip. If you are feeling under the weather, Ganesha says a long drive with your beloved may do you good.

TAURUS

The day is likely to turn out to be a difficult one. But your maturity and experi ence in handling adverse situations will come to your aid. You will, as the day advances, be able to sort out the prob lems that have cropped up and end up on an optimistic note.

GEMINI

You are likely to work extra hard to assert your authori-ty at the workplace. On the work front, your seniors and colleagues will appreciate your devotion and dedication to work. Monetary gains may be expected in the evening, says Ganesha.

It is very likely that your old

contacts will come quite handy for you today, fore sees Ganesha. At work, your skills in developing a guick rapport with others will help you perform better. People will have a high regard for your honesty. You will excel in social gatherings in the evening.



your planets. Ganesha foresees you heading for a shopping bonanza. Be prepared to come back home weighed down with goodies. as you are likely to squander a consider able amount on them. On the work front, it's a completely different story as you display your maturity and mellowness. Look forward to the evening, says Ganesha, as you are in for a sweet treat from your heartthrob.

VIRGO

LIBRA

Homesickness will make you yearn and leave you musing during the day. You will try making sincere efforts to add more fibres to the cloth of relationships Energy levels will go bonkers today. All in all, Ganesha sees a sanctified day.



'The Family Man' star says women need to feel confident in their skin and it's okay to be a plus-size person

Mumbai: Chennai Express actress Priyamani recently opened up about self-care and body positivity. According to her, being happy is of utmost

Spilling some beans on the same, Priyamani said, "I would not say go for a heavy workout. But being happy is of utmost importance. It is okay even if you are a plus-size person. Shell some time out to do what you love and take care of your health positively. Engage in a light workout or just do some household chores to get

ther, she added, Women and girls need to be confident in their skin. The first step to self-love is having confidence.'

also went on to show to the

that good even if it's okay.

Trolls feel that they have the authority to say what they want

body positivity

importance.

show only what I want to

to say.

Elaborating fur-

The south star

talk about dealing with negativity and trolls on social media. 'Social media is just part of your life and not your life. I like to

fans. If they like me for they don't

Some peo-

ple might



ion Abhishek Agarwal's birthday, The Kashmir Files team has made an announcement about their upcoming projects Abhishek

big screen.

Agarwal, Vivek Ranjan Agnihotri, and Pallavi Joshi are to produce the two movies, which will be under The Kashmir *Files* trilogy, and Tej Narayan Agarwal will present them. With its heart-wrenching portrayal of the exodus of

Kashmiri Pandits in 1990, The Kashmir Files joined the Rs 250 crore club recently, fuelling anticipation



for the next project from the team.

The Kashmir Files 2 States actor Shiv Kumar no more, industry mourns Mumbai: Actor-screenwriter Shiv Kumar Subramaniam,

who is widely remembered for his role as Francis in cult film Parinda (1989) and recently as Alia Bhatt's father in 2 States passed away Monday.

The cause of his death is not known at this moment. The actor died two

months after the demise of his only son - Jahaan, who succumbed to brain tumour, two weeks before his sixteenth birth-

day. Filmmaker Hansal Mehta took to his

Instagram to share the news of the actor's demise. He notified his followers about the cremation time and the place for the same.

Filmmaker Anurag Kashyap took to his Instagram to grieve the loss of Shiv Kumar, who is known for penning the screenplay of the Vidhu Vinod Chopra directorial Parinda and 1942 A Love Story. Sharing a long note, he shared how Shiv was instrumental in shaping his career. Actor Anil Kapoor, Manoj Bajpayee and several other film personalities also shared their association with the late actor in their tweets.

Shiv Kumar is also credited as the writer for other noteworthy movies ike 1942: A Love Story, Is Raat Ki Subah Nahin, Arjun Pandit, Chameli, Hazaaron Khwaishein Aisi and Teen Patti. Apart from that, he has appeared in films like, 2 States, Nail Polish, Rocky Handsome, Hichki, Happy Journey, Risk, Prahaar, Ungli, Bangistan, Kaminey, Stanley Ka Dabba and many more.



set for trilogy

With the grand start for *The* Kashmir Files which became the talk of the nation after its release, the makers will shortly announce

CROSSWORD

the body moving.

neighbours", said Frost. It's a good thing that you rubbish that idea, because you are all about making better friends with your neighbours and breaking down some walls today. The theological part of you contin ues to exert force through the evening. Also, money aspects seem brighter than usual for you, foresees Ganesha.

SCORPIO

You shall be bursting with self-confidence today, says Ganesha. On the profession al front, your herculean efforts will bear fruit. Domestic affairs will remain harmonious, predicts Ganesha

SAGITTARIUS

Ganesha advises you to flock with birds of the same feather today. The perfection in your ideas may not materialise on paper today. And, it shall be evasive even when you get to the job of executing ideas. But keep working, advises Ganesha and remain practical later in the day.

It's all true and not too hard to digest either: your family will be your ladder to suc cess and will bless you with all the luck you need, says Ganesha. You will make a good head-start today, right from your home, and will continue to maintain the same tempo at work too.

AOUARIUS

Today, you may finally appreciate the beauty of that valuable piece of abstract art in your living room! You have fine taste, but sometimes forget to see

things from the heart. Your sensitivity is at an all-time high, says Ganesha, and conse quently, you may even get touchy today.

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PISCES

You may find yourself unable to take critical decisions on a split-second basis today, and will probably keep second-guessing your self. Your family will be in focus today. Romance is in the air, and the evening should probably see you spend time with your soul mate, says Ganesha

ake it verv riously. Social media is tricky," she said. AGENCIES

the other details regarding the upcoming tales on the spine-chilling and unreported truths of Indian history very soon.

FUN

PEANUTS





CALVIN AND HOBBES



1111111

BREVITY







. .



CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMORROW

SUDOKU

To solve the Sudoku puzzle, fill in the boxes in such a manner that every row, column and 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9, without repeating any.

7				5	1		
	8		2		3		
		7		9	2		
	1	4	S				
	3	С.,				5	
					9	6	7
8				6		4	
	4		3				
 6	2		1	8			











downtown



TACKLING HEATWAVE

Cuttack Collector Bhabani Shankar Chayani presided over a district-level orientation programme on heatwave management at the Collector's conference hall in the Silver City, Monday



COVID-19 TRACKER

INFECTED	RECOVERED	DEAD
49,92,49,212	44,88,58,489	62,03,971
4,30,36,132	4,25,03,383	5,21,691
12,87,854	12,78,536	9,121
	49,92,49,212 4,30,36,132	49,92,49,212 44,88,58,489 4,30,36,132 4,25,03,383

Depute girls for self-defense training: HE dept to colleges

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, April 11: The Higher Education department Monday directed all the degree colleges of the state to select and depute girl students for self-defense training.

Department Deputy Secretary Ramesh Chandra Behera wrote to the colleges that the third and fourth phase of the self defense training programme for the academic session 2021-22 is scheduled from May 3 and June 18 respectively at Utkal Karate School, Bhubaneswar.

Urging the colleges to select and depute girl students, he said that only Plus III first year students shall be selected for this training Programme and students from maximum colleges of the districts shall be selected proportionately. Priority



The district-level nodal officers will escort selected girls for participation in training at the venue and their safe return upon completion of training

shall be given to interested students. If more applications are received, then selection shall be made on the basis of height (minimum 5ft), weight (minimum 45 kg), and medical fitness/marks secured in Plus II/12th bound sports activity. Behera further said district-level

coordinators/nodal officers shall co-ordinate with colleges under their jurisdictions and prepare a final list of students for participation in the programme. Since the trainees have to report during the summer vacation, the selection and final list shall be prepared well in advance to avoid any dislocation. The list shall be e-mailed to Utkal Karate School and the government prior to the commencement of the programme. The nodal officers will escort

selected girls for participation in training at the venue and their safe return upon completion of training. However, the selected students of nearby districts like Khurda, Puri and Nayagarh may come directly at their own risk if they desire, but only after intimating their nodal officers through e-mail or WhatsApp.



3 athletes held for harassing junior

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, April 11: The Commissionerate Police Monday arrested three athletes for allegedly harassing a junior athlete at his room under Infocity police limits here April 10.

The incident allegedly occurred on the concluding day of the Odisha State Athletics Championships here, an official said.

The Infocity police registered a case based on the FIR filed by the 16-year-old victim and arrested the three senior athletes identified as Suraj Thakur, Jagannath Das and Ashis Patra. The trio hails from different places of Rourkela city.

The accused were later produced before a court that sent them to judicial custody after rejecting their bail pleas. The trio has been booked under Sections 342, 323, 506 and 34 of the IPC and 75 of the Juvenile Justice Act and 67 of the IT Act. Two of them are from Rourkela

Two of them are from Rourkela squad, the same side that the Class X long-jumper belonged to. The third person arrested was a mem-

ber of the India Post team.

A total of 23 players representing Rourkela had come here to participate in the three-day State Athletics Meet which began **B**

April 8.rThe victim alleged that after heInfailed to qualify in the long jumpLevent, the accused, Ashis, askeda

the victim to meet him in his room. When the minor victim went to Ashis' room, the other accused -Suraj and Jagannath - were also there. Ashis reportedly told the victim that he would be punished for failing to qualify in the event and

closed the door. They later ordered the victim to undress which he did out of fear. They also asked the junior athlete to apply Amrutanjan, the analgesic balm, on his private parts. They also allegedly beat the victim who informed his parents about the torture.

Earlier in the day, the minor and his mother met DCP Umashankar Dash at the latter's office here, demanding the immediate arrest of the accused.

IPICOL-BPCL pact for a greener tomorrow

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, April 11: Staterun Industrial Promotion and Investment Corporation of Odisha Limited (IPICOL) Monday signed a pact with Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) for exploring the feasibility of setting up green energy and hydrogen plants in Odisha.

The pact was signed to collaborate in the fields of the feasibility of setting up renewable energy plant and green hydrogen plant (both for domestic and export customers), round-the-clock (RTC) power for consumers and proposed green hydrogen plants, setting up of requisite infrastructure, training, and knowledge sharing for a five-year period.

The agreement was signed between IPICOL managing director Bhupendra Singh Poonia and BPCL executive director (renewable energy) Amit Garg in the presence of Chief Secretary Suresh Chandra Mahapatra, Development Commissioner Pradeep Kumar Jena and BPCL



IPICOL MD Bhupendra Singh Poonia and BPCL executive director (renewable energy) Amit Garg signed the MoU in the presence of Chief Secretary Suresh Chandra Mahapatra, Development Commissioner Pradeep Kumar Jena and BPCL CMD Arun Kumar Singh OP PHOTO

The pact was signed to collaborate in the fields of the feasibility of setting up a renewable energy plant and a green hydrogen plant

(both for domestic and export customers), round-the-clock (RTC) power for consumers and proposed green hydrogen plants, setting up of requisite infrastructure, training, and knowledge sharing for a fivePOST NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi, April 11: In a dismal show of performance on indicators like clean energy and initiatives taken towards energy efficiency, Odisha was ranked 22 among the states and Union Territories in NITI Aayog's State Energy & Climate Index-Round I, launched Monday.

Among the larger states, Odisha secured 16th rank with the score of 37.1. While the state fared well in terms of DISCOM's performance and Access, Affordability & Reliability to Energy indicators, its performance was dismal in terms of new initiatives and clean energy initiatives.

Odisha's score was 0.9 in terms of new initiatives and 4.8 in clean energy initiatives indicator. The clean energy initiatives indicator highlights state's performance in terms of clean cooking fuel supply and penetration of CNG vehicles and penetration of renewable energy. The state scored meagre 1.8 in renewable energy penetration, 3.8 in CNG vehicle penetration and 9.2 in clean cooking due supply indicator The New Initiatives indicator tells the state's performance in terms of electric vehicle (EV) penetration, availability of charging infrastructure for EV and proportion of consumers with smart meters. Odisha's score on the availability of charging infrastructure for EV is nil. The state scored 2 on EV penetration indicator and 0.6 on consumers with smart meters. According to the NITI Aayog, the State Energy & Climate Index (SECI) Round I ranks the states' performance on 6 parameters – Performance of DISCOMs; Access, Affordability and Reliability of Although Odisha fared well in terms of performance of DISCOMs and access, affordability & reliability to energy indicators, its performance was dismal in terms of new initiatives and clean energy initiatives

Odisha 22nd at NITI

Aayog energy index

The state scored meagre 1.8 in renewable energy penetration and 3.8 in CNG vehicle penetration

While Odisha scored 2 on EV penetration indicator and 0.6 on consumers with smart meters, the state's score on the availability of charging infrastructure for EV is nil

Energy; Clean Energy Initiatives; Energy Efficiency; Environmental Sustainability; and New Initiatives. The parameters are further divided into 27 indicators. Based on the composite SECI Round I score, the states and UTs are categorised into three groups: Front Runners, Achievers, and Aspirants.

The states have been categorised

CHSE modifies Plus II exam date sheet Pradeep Kumar Jena and CMD Arun Kumar Singh.

AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, April 11: The Council of Higher Secondary Education (CHSE) has modified the date sheet of Plus II exam 2022 which is all set to commence from April 28 and end May 28.

Mathematics (Arts and Science), Home Science (Arts), and Biology (Vocational) exams, which were earlier scheduled to be held May 19, will now be conducted May 31.

Meanwhile, the CHSE further informed that the rest of the sched-

ule of the exams notified in the earlier examination programme 'shall

remain unchanged'. hy As per CHSE, all the exams will be conducted in offline mode and there will be one sitting everyday starting from 9am. Al More than 3.2 lakh students in

Arts, Science, Commerce and Vocational streams will appear for the exams.

However, the practical exams will be conducted internally by the Higher Secondary Schools with their own teachers.

Mahapatra said Odisha has a high potential for the production of green energy from ethanol and hydrogen. "We have huge natural resources and due to the expanding steel making industry, green energy is a big prospect in Odisha. Also, we have major ports and developing new ones, which will help the BPCL to export the green hydrogen and ammonia to other coun-

tries," he said. The Chief Secretary assured that the state government would push forward the green energy project in a big way, and BPCL year period

BPCL plans to spend ₹25,000 crore to build a renewable energy capacity of 10 gigawatts comprising a mix of solar, wind, small hydro and biomass by 2040

would be provided all support from grounding to commissioning of the projects.

The Development Commissioner said Odisha, as a lead state in metal and petrochemical investment destinations, would like to produce and utilise more of green energy in different sectors for arresting the carbon footprints. the hope that the present project would meet its target within the specified time limit.

Highlighting the growing de-

mand of green energy, Singh said:

"Many parts of Odisha have great

potential for production of solar and

Thanking the state government

for its facilitating policies and

ground level support in earlier

projects of BPCL, Singh expressed

green based ethanol energy."

The BPCL also plans to spend Rs 25,000 crore to build a renewable energy capacity of 10 gigawatts comprising a mix of solar, wind, small hydro and biomass by 2040, he added. Industries Secretary Hemant Sharma said that Odisha was the single largest manufacturer of steel in the country. "More than 33 per cent of the steelmaking capacity is now in Odisha, making it the primary prospect of green hydrogen and green ammonia. Because of the value addition policy, the demand is only going to increase in future," he said.

based on size and geographical differences as larger states, smaller states, and UTs. Guiarat, Kerala, and Punjab have been ranked as the top three performers in the category of larger states. Goa, emerged as the top-performing state in the smaller states category, followed by Tripura, and Manipur. Among UTs, Chandigarh, Delhi, and Daman & Diu/Dadra & Nagar Haveli are the top performers. Detailed state profiles and scorecards have been included in the report which provides a comprehensive snapshot of each state and union territory on the various parameters.

RP Koche now intelligence dir

Bhubaneswar: Senior IPS officer RP Koche has been given the additional charge of director of intelligence, an official said Monday. Currently, Koche is serving as Additional DGP (Special Armed Police). The Home department has issued a notification in this regard Monday. Lalit Das, an IPS officer of 1992 batch, who served as the director of intelligence since June 2021, has been appointed as OSD to the Home department, it was learnt.

NHRC seeks ATR on scribe torture

Bhubaneswar: The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) Monday directed the Balasore

superintendent of police to submit an Action-Taken Report (ATR) within four weeks in connection with an incident wherein a journalist was seen chained to the bed of the hospital in the district where he was admitted after being allegedly assaulted in police custody. The commission move came while hearing a complaint filed by rights activist Himansu Sekhar Nayak.



CPI (ML) Liberation workers staged a demonstration near Master Canteen Square in Bhubaneswar, Monday, condemning the skyrocketing fuel prices OP PHOTO



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, April 11: Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan Monday expressed shock over what he said was "selective targeting" and continued attacks including "hurling of bombs" on the residence of BJP municipality chairperson Jayanti Patra in Dhenkanal district.

Pradhan said the people of Dhenkanal and Odisha have always been peace-loving and lawabiding, and the recent trend of violence is a poor advertisement of the law and order situation and also on the democratic ethos of the state, Pradhan said in a series of tweets.

According to media reports, a bomb was allegedly hurled at the residence of Dhenkanal municipality chairperson of BJP Jayanti Patra at Similia Sahi Saturday night.

"Deeply shocked and disturbed by the selective targeting and continued string of attacks, including hurling of bombs at the residence of Smt. Jayanti and Shri Ramchandra Patra in Dhenkanal," the Union minister said on Twitter.

allegedly hurled at the residence of Dhenkanal municipality chairperson of BJP Jayanti Patra at Similia Sahi Saturday

According to media

reports, a bomb was

The voice of BJP leaders will not be silenced with such acts of "terror and intimidation", he asserted.

Pradhan, who hails from Odisha, said he has spoken with the Director General of Police of Odisha on the fearlessness of miscreants and the blatant disregard of rule of law. "Such brazenness is a matter of grave concern not just for me

but for every citizen of Odisha," he said. "I am sure @homeodisha which is also headed by Hon'ble @CMO_Odisha will take stringent action to ensure that no miscreant roams free and also act earnestly towards prevention of crimes and maintenance of law and order,"

he said in another tweet.









downtown

Students' body in state condemns **JNU** violence POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, April 11: The Akhil Bharat Chhatra Sangha Odisha Branch Monday condemned the attack on JNU students on Ram Navami over the serving of non-veg food in the mess.

Sangha president Sanghamitra Jena said they would stage a protest against this incident. Jena said: "As a diversified country we all have rights to wear, eat and do as per our own decision. India is a secular country but incidents like this put question mark on this. We will carry out a mass protest over it in the capital city Bhubaneswar April 13.³

Two groups of students clashed at the JNU's Kaveri Hostel Sunday allegedly over the serving of nonvegetarian food in the mess on Ram Navami. Police said six students were injured in the violence. The two groups, however, claimed that over 60 students were injured from both sides.

Several purported videos of the violence surfaced on social media, with one of them showing a student. Akhtarista Ansari. bleeding in the head. The police have not confirmed the authenticity of the videos. The JNUSU alleged that ABVP members stopped the students from eating non-vegetarian food in the hostel mess. However, the right-wing ABVP denied the charge.

SC to hear plea on simplification of child adoption

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, April 11: The Supreme Court Monday agreed to hear a plea seeking to simplify the legal process for child adoption in India saying that only 4000 adoption annually takes place in the country.

A bench of Justices DY Chandrachud and Surya Kant issued notice to the Centre after petitioner in-person Piyush Saxena, appearing for an NGO 'The Temple of Healing', said that he had made several representations to the Union Ministry of Women and Child Development for simplifying the process of child adoption but nothing has taken place till now.

The bench said, "We will issue notice and see what the government has to say on the issue."

Saxena said, "As per the data available in the public domain, there are only 4,000 child adoptions annually but till last vear we had three crores orphan children in the country. There are several infertile couples who are willing to

Bhubaneswar, April 11: Odisha Police has arrested an interstate drug trafficker who was on the run since his cannabis consignment of 1,051 kg was seized at Chitrakonda in Malkangiri, an officer said.

A team of the Special Task Force of Odisha Police with help of Hyderabad Police raided Saikrishna Nagar village and nabbed the absconding drug trafficker identified as ThyilShyam Sunder alias Kajabai. He was wanted in an NDPS Act case registered at Chitrakonda police station in Odisha. The raid was conducted April 8.

Chitrakonda Police while conducting patrolling October 10, 2021 seized contraband ganja weighing around 1051 kg, one truck and other materials from the possession of N Balu of Amalapuram in East Godavari district of Andhra Pradesh.

During interrogation accused N Balu confessed that as per direction of accused ThyilShyam Sunder alias Kajabaj he was transporting contraband ganja.

STF nabs wanted

drug trafficker

The arrested accused was one of was brought to Malkanagiri.

> hitrakonda Police while conducting patrolling October 10, 2021 seized contraband ganja weighing around 1051 kg, one truck and other materials from the possession of N Balu of Amalapuram in East Godavari

During interrogation N Balu con-fessed that as per direction of accused Thyil Shyam Sunder alias Kajabai he was transporting ganja

'he arrested accused was one of the masterminds in the case as well as an interstate drug trafficker.



the masterminds in the case as well as an inter-state drug trafficker. He was absconding since the occurrence of the case, a police statement said. Soon after his arrest, Kajabai was produced before a court in Hyderabad for transit remand and

district of Andhra Pradesh

He was absconding since the occurrence of the case





Locals of Charigharia area near Jobra anicut in Cuttack blocked the road alleging delay in search and rescue of missing children, Monday

SIPO delegation meets OSDA Chairman Bagchi

ROADBLOCK OVER DROWNING

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, April 11: Led by director Eric Tan and accompanied by UNICEF Odisha Chief Monika Nielsen, a delegation of the Singapore-India Partnership Office (SIPO), under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry of the Government of Singapore, met Odisha Skill Development Authority (OSDA) Chairman Subroto Bagchi here, Monday.

Bagchi said that the SIPO will assist trainees of the World Skill Centre in Bhubaneswar in getting recruitments at world-class institutions



The OSDA Chairman also said that the state government is encouraging startups and providing all kinds of assistance. He asked the SIPO delegation to visit the centers set up for startups in

the state. For traditional benefits, SIPO is keen on working with the state government on economic development projects and

capacity of youth.

Director Tan said that SIPO is interested in working with the state government on economic development projects for mutual benefit and enhancing the skills of the youth.

The delegation also visited the World Skills Center and met Skill Development and Technical Education department Principal Secretary Hemant Sharma.

Similarly, Monika Nielsen discussed with the Bagchi on ways to develop skills of youth and underprivileged adolescents of Odisha and integrate them into the working together to increase the mainstream.

Ispat Express to be extended to Kantabanji

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, April 11: The East Coast Railway (ECoR) has decided to extend the services of Howrah-Titilagarh-Howrah Ispat Express (12871/12872) up to Kantabanji, an official said Monday.

Bolangir MP Sangeeta Singh Deo will flag off the extension at Kantabanji railway station Tuesday, said the official.

On the inaugural run, the train will leave Kantabanii at 10:00am as a special train and reach Howrah at 11:30pm. However, the regular services will commence April 14.

'The train will leave Titlagarh at 10:55am, Bolangir at 11:50am, Bargarh Road at 12:54pm, Sambalpur at 1:55pm, Jharsuguda at 02:50pm. Rourkela at 4:43pm. Tata at 7:15pm, Ghatsila at 8:20pm and Kharagpur at 8:56pm towards Howrah," said the official, adding that the train will also stop at Sainthala, Loisinga, Barpali, Hirakud, Rengali, Rajgangpur, Manoharpur, Chakradharpur, Rajkharsuan, Sini, Rakha Mines, Chakulia, Jhargram and Santragachhi.

Property return submission **AIIMS Bhub cyclothon** deadline extended to April 30 to promote cleanliness

wait till the deadline comes closer and to file their property statement ahead of the timeline.

The government had extended the deadline thrice in view of the prevailing Covid situation. Though there was no provision for making the property statement public, CM Naveen Patnaik in December, 2020 announced that all government employees from entry level to Chief Secretary and peoples' representatives from ward member to CM

will disclose their property details. The state cabinet, in its meeting held June 9, 2020, decided to amend Odisha Government Servants' Conduct Rules, 1959 to pave the way for compulsory submission of property statements by all government employees. As per the provisions prescribed under Rule-21 of the Odisha Government Servants' Conduct Rules, 1959, every government servant is required to make a true and complete declaration of all his assets, movable and immovable, and the value thereof. A copy of the statement will also be forwarded to the Lokayukta, the cabinet had decided.



POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, April 11: The All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) Bhubaneswar, in collaboration with the Bhubaneswar Smart City Limited (BSCL), organised a cvclothon in the Capital city Sunday as part of the nation-wide Swachhata Pakhwada campaign (April 1 to 15). Over 270 staff and medical stu-

plastic free India, and reduce-reuserecycle among others. Awareness on personal hygiene and disease-free by the staff of the institution.

society was raised through Odia folk art Chakulia Panda performed Twin City Police Commissio Saumendra Priyadarshi attended the concluding event as the chief guest and hailed the arrangement of such an event to spread the message of cleanliness in society. He also appreciated AIIMS Bhubaneswar for bringing in modern quality healthcare services into Odisha with state-of-art facilities and expertise from all over the country.

campus and concluded at SOS

Children's Village, Participants con-

veyed the message on clean envi-

ronment, cleanliness at public places,

have a child.

He further said that people are not educated enough. Therefore the scheme should be based on the Income Tax scheme issued 16 years back. "Last year, during the pandemic the ministry issued a notification that relaxed the norms but this could be done on a regular purpose," he said.

tice of the GA&PG department that some of the employees could not submit their annual property statement due to their preoccupation with the election to Panchayati

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

details till April 30.

Bhubaneswar, April 11: The state

government has further extended

the deadline for officials to sub-

mit their annual property return

Public Grievances (GA&PG) de-

partment, in a circular to all de-

partments, Revenue Divisional

Commissioners and district

Collectors, said that the officials

must submit their annual property

return for the period from January

1, 2021 to December 31, 2021. Initially,

the officials were supposed to sub-

mit file the property return by

December 31. However, it was later

However, it had come to the

extended up to March 31, 2022.

The General Administration and

Raj Institutions and Urban Local Bodies or some other difficulties. Considering such difficulties. the government has allowed ex-

tension of the timeline for sub-

disclose their property details

mission of property statements online using HRMS (Human Resource Management System) portal for the period up to April 30, 2022.

his is for the fourth time the

government has extended the

hough there was no provision for

making the property statement

employees from entry level to Chief

Secretary and peoples' representa-

tives from ward member to CM will

public, Chief Minister Naveen

announced that all government

Patnaik in December. 2020

deadline in view of the prevailing

Covid-19 situation

Senior officers will inform their subordinate offices about the extension of the deadline. The employees have been directed not to dents of the premier medical institution participated in the eight kilometer long cyclothon, which aims to encourage people for adopting cleanliness as an integral part of their lives.

The event was flagged off by **AIIMS Bhubaneswar Medical** Superintendent Sachidananda Mohanty. It started from AIIMS

CLASSIFIED

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ଗୌରାଙ୍ଗ ଚରଣ ଜେନା, ପିତାः ମାୟାଧର ଜେନା, ବାଘବୁଦା, ରାଜକନିକା ଗତ ୭ ତାରିଖ ଦିନ ଘରୁ ରାଜକନିକା ବଜାର ଯିବା ରାସାରେ ଘରବାଡ଼ି ପଟ୍ଟା ଓ କବଲା କେଉଁଠାରେ ହକିଯାଇଛି । ପଟ୍ଟାର ମୌଜା: ବାଘବୁଦା, କିସମ: ଘରବାଡ଼ି, ଖାତା ନୟର: ୨୩୭/୪୩ ଓ ପୁଟ ନୟର ୫୫୧ ଅଟେ। ଯଦି କେହି ସହୁଦୟ ବ୍ୟକ୍ତି ଉକ୍ତ ବ୍ୟାଗଟିକୁ ପାଇଥାନ୍ତି ମୋ: ୮୪୫୮୦୨୯୭୧୪ ଜଣାଇବାକୁ ଅନୁରୋଧ ।

AFFIDAVIT

By an affidavit before Notary Public, Bhubaneswar, I have chagned my name Baikunth Nath Bhola to Baikunth Bhola for all purposes.

STIR FOR STRINGENCY

ନେଶ୍ୱର କମିଶନରେଟ୍ ପୋଲିସ ଏୟାରପୋର୍ଟ ଥାନ _{ଅନ୍ତର୍ଗତ} ରାମପୁର ଅଞ୍ଚଳର ଅନୁସ୍ଥିତିତ କାଡିର ବୃଦ୍ଧା ବିଧବା ମହିଳା ଅଉଁପୂର୍ଦ୍ଧା ଭୋଇଙ୍କୁ ବାରମ୍ବାର ଆକ୍ରମଣ ସହିତ ଜାତିଆଣ ନିର୍ଯ୍ୟାତନା ଦେଉଥିବା ଓ ନିଜକୁ ମହିଳା ସମାଜସେବୀ ବୋଲାଉଥିବା ମମତା ସାସନ୍ତରାୟଙ୍କୁ ଗିରଫ ଦାବୀରେ

6 680 261

ଆସ୍ଟୋଜକ : ଜାତୀୟ ଦଳିତ ଆଦିବାସୀ ମହାସ୍ପଘ ନୂଆଦିଲ୍ଲୀ, ଓଡ଼ିଶା National Confederation of Dalit Adivasi Organization New Delhi, Odisha (NACDAOR)

The National Confederation of Dalit Organisation staged a protest before the DCP office in Bhubaneswar demanding arrest of Mamata Samantaray accused of torturing Arnapurna Bhoi, Monday

Oppn warns stir if evictees not compensated

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, April 11: State units of the opposition parties Monday warned to launch a major protest in case of the denial of adequate compensation to the traders affected in the eviction drive carried out by authorities in Jharpada earlier April 8.

Several affected traders along with the delegations of state BJP and Congress complained that small businessmen and shopkeepers incurred the loss of lakhs of rupees due to the eviction carried out by the Bhubaneswar Development Authority (BDA) within a short period of notice.

"The BDA's eviction drive near Ganesh Mandap has dealt a severe blow to over 500 poor vendors who used to earn their daily livelihood by doing some business. Some of them have lost properties worth lakhs of rupees to the eviction drive as they hardly got any time

A BDA official said that the eviction was carried out as the plot had been allotted in favour of the **BDA for the construction of** a neighbourhood market

to save themselves," said BJP leader Jagannath Pradhan.

It can be mentioned that earlier, April 8, the BDA along with the BMC and Commissionerate Police had demolished the unauthorised structures at Ganesh Mandap in Jharpada area despite a stiff resistance from the shopkeepers and locals. As per sources, three houses, 14 godowns and 97 shops were razed during an early morning drive.

Alleging a political vendetta, the BJP leaders claimed that the drive was planned by the ruling BJD as the BJP's Dharitri Jena was elected as Corporator of Ward 33 in the recently concluded Urban Local Body polls in the state. The shopkeepers had been doing business in the haat since 2008 after being relocated from a nearby place the same year. Responding to the allegations, an

official at the BDA said that the eviction was carried out as the plot had been allotted in favour of the BDA for the construction of a neighbourhood market. The official also added that though no prior notice was required to be issued in case of the eviction of encroachments, verbal announcement was made a day ahead of the eviction providing ample time to the vendors to vacate the place.

"The decision to carry out the eviction drive was taken prior to the ULB polls. However, we will convene a meeting with the representatives of the market and officials of Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation soon to discuss the rehabilitation of the evicted vendors," the official said.

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90







35K textbooks stolen from block edu office

POST NEWS NETWORK

Dhamnagar, April 11: As many as 35,000 textbooks have been stolen from the block education office in Dhamnagar of Bhadrak district Block education officer Kailash Jena has issued a letter in this regard to the district education officer and the district project coordinator. Alleging that the books were stolen Saturday night, the BEO has filed a complaint at Dhamnagar police station.

As for the theft, block education coordinator Bhimsen Ho said Saturday was holiday and people found the lock of the office broken Sunday morning. On being informed, officials rushed to the office and found 35,000 textbooks -15,000 for students of Class 1 to Class III and 20,000 for Class IV to Class VIII-- missing.

He added that the textbooks had not been distributed to students as they were busy doing some other works. Books had been stolen from the office previous year, too.

BOOSTING ATTENDANCE



Officials flagged off a vehicle to create awareness about reducing school dropouts and promoting enrolment at Kabisuryanagar in Ganjam, Monday

'Sudakshya' fulfilling career dreams

SUCCESS OF COACHING INITIATIVE PROMPTS ADMINISTRATION TO OPEN 4TH CENTRE

POST NEWS NETWORK

Sundargarh/Koira, April 11: The free pre-recruitment coaching initiative 'Sudakshya' run by the administration in Sundargarh is gaining traction among youths following its success in fulfilling their career dreams, a report said. This prompted the administration to open one more centre in Koira block recently.

Bonai MLA, Laxman Munda and District Collector Nikhil Pavan Kalyan graced the opening ceremony. The centre, set up on Koira College premises, becomes the fourth such facility in the district. Speaking on the occasion, the

Collector said that it has been a vear since three 'Sudakshva' cen-



tres are operational in the district. courses are inducted to this three Many candidates skilled at this short-term job training programme have been hired by different organisations. This has helped in fulfilling the career dreams of vouths from the mining, scheduled caste and scheduled tribe communities and underprivileged families, Kalyan said.

Munda appreciated the efforts of the district administration for establishing the new centre at Koira. The administration had initially

established three centres at

Sundargarh, Rourkela and Bonai

with support by the district min-

eral foundation (DMF). Students

who cleared Plus II and degree

month free residential and specialised coaching programme through a selection process. They are trained for jobs in the banking and insurance sectors, Railways, Army, Air Force, Navy, Odisha Police, Para-military forces and other sectors.

Subjects like maths and reasoning, general awareness, computer skills, communication and personality development are taught here. Candidates are also provided free books and study material, uniform, food and library facilities. Physical training is an added feature for aspirants of military, paramilitary and police jobs.

KHONDALITE STONE FOR PURI FACELIFT

MINING AT PARABHADI HILL SPARKS PROTEST

POST NEWS NETWORK

Jajpur, April 11: Hundreds of residents have opposed the state government's decision to start mining at the historic Parabhadi hill at Bandareswar and Kesaraipur under Darpan tehsil of Jajpur for Khondalite stones that is required for the beautification of Puri town.

The residents submitted a memorandum to Jajpur district Collector Chakravarti Singh Rathore in this regard.

Locals are of the view that Parabhadi hill is a historic site and has an ancient Boudha Stupa (Budhist Pillar). The structure is almost on the verge of extinction owing to lack of conservation and proper upkeep, the locals alleged

The Parabhadi hill also has sev eral other Buddhist structures. The villagers worship an ancient stone idol of Buddhist deity Tara. The goddess is popularly known in the region as 'Ghantiasuni'.

Another monument named 'Hatikhalo' is located to north side of the Buddhist Pillar at Parabhadi hill and under Kesaraipur mouza Puri beautification project was chalked out earlier under the ambitious ABADHA scheme, the source stated. The beautification requires the Khondalite stone which is a foliated metamorphic rock. It is only available in the



Locals are of the view that Parabhadi hill is a historic site and has an ancient Budhist Pillar, which will be affected by the mining

The residents said that destroying the historic Parabhadi hill for beautification of Puri town is unjust and illogical

Tehsildar Pradeep Sethi assured that the location where the Buddhist Pillar stands will not be touched

mining. OMC has already set up machines for the purpose at the foothill. Earlier, many residents from Bandareswar, Kesaraipur, Sukhuapada, Palai, Lalitgiri. Chandia and Teligarh villages had voiced their concerns over the government's decision. On being contacted, the manager

8 schoolgirls forced to do 100 sit-ups, hospitalised

sional hospital. The condition of one

of the girls was stated to be critical.

School and Mass Education Minister

directed Patnagarh block education

Samir Ranian Dash has ordered a

probe into the incident. "I have

officer Shankar Prasad Maihi to

carry out a probe into the incident

treatment at Patnagarh sub-divi

of Khondalite mine (which has been leased out to OMC) Gangadhar Nayak said, "The mining process has started in Kesaraipur area and subsequently extraction will also be carried out in Sukhuapada as well. Local tehsildar Pradeep Sethi

said, "Necessary steps are being taken after the government decided to conduct mining for acquiring Khondalite stones from Parabhadi hill. However, the location where the Buddhist Pillar stands will not be touched.'

The residents said that destroying the historic Parabhadi hill for the beautification of Puri town is unjust and illogical. "A memorandum in this regard will soon be submitted to the state gov-

Municipality status eludes Chhatrapur

As per 2011 census, Chhatrapur had a population of 22,027. After 10 years, its population is said to have crossed the 25,000 mark

POST NEWS NETWORK

Chhattrapur, April 11: The longstanding demand for municipality status to Chhatrapur, the district headquarters of Ganjam and a notified area council (NAC), has allegedly been shelved owing to apathy of the state government, a report said.

People of many peripheral villages had agreed to be part of the civic body for its expanded territorial limits and population as re-

before the civic body polls, but the demand was ignored.

quired for municipality. Locals had raised the issue well

In the last civic body elections, the Biju Janata Dal (BJD) had

grabbed the chairperson's post, but this time the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) candidate won the seat in the direct election. The victory of the BJP candidate as chairperson is viewed as an outcome of the

ago, the Orissa High Court had directed the state government to take steps for declaring Chhatrapur as a municipality, but to no avail. "All that was done was only official communication between the government and the district administration." said locals.

At a press meet held six months

16 roads for two mining-hit blocks

POST NEWS NETWORK

Sundargarh, April 11: Sixteen new roads constructed in licataspecial occasion. Lahunipara and Koira blocks have



Although the HC had directed the govt to take steps for declaring Chhatrapur as a municipality 2-and-half years ago, no step was taken in this regard

> ago, Ganjam Collector Vijay Amruta Kulange had said that a proposal to grant municipality status to Chhatrapur was sent to the state government and that the state government would take a decision soon.

In a similar tone of assurance, Berhampur MP Chandra Sekhar Sahu had also assured the people that Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik would take a decision well before the elections and people of Chhatrapur would not be let down.

Reports said as per Odisha Municipal Corporation Act, an NAC having more than 25,000 population needs to be declared as a municipality.

As per 2011 census, Chhatrapur had a population of 22,027. It was claimed that after 10 years, its population must have crossed the 25,000 mark.

Besides, many villagers of two panchavats like Kanamana and Agastinuagan abutting the civic body had agreed to merge with the NAC. If the present population of the NAC and the peripheral villages like Puruna Chhatrapur, GN Palam, Bhagyalaxminagar and Bank Colony put together, the total

population would cross 28,000. Newly-elected NAC chairperson Sarmistha Pradhan assured that she would initiate efforts in this direction.

GOVERNME	N	T OF ODISHA	ŀ
DEPARTMENT OF	N	ATER RESOURCES	
OFFICE OF THE SUPE	R	INTENDING ENGINEER	
		ISION, BURLA	
		MBALPUR(ODISHA) 768017	
Governm	er	nt of Orissa	
		MDD-e-01/2022-23 (Online)	
	da	mdivn@gmail.com	
No.3557		Date:06.04.2022	
1. No. of Work	1	15 Nos.	
2. Estimated Cost	:	Rs.2.69 to 11.86 Lakhs	
Period of Completion	:	11 (Eleven Calendar) Months	
 Date & Time of availability of bid document in the portal 	:	13.04.2022 at 10 A.M.	
5. Last date/time for receipt of	:	22.04.2022 upto 5.00 P.M.	

people's resentment against the official apathy towards the municipality status issue, it is learnt. Notably, about two-and-half years

said region of Jajpur district. Odisha Mining Corporation

(OMC) Limited has obtained environment clearance to conduct the

Patnagarh: Though schools have

been declared punishment-free

High School at Sunamudi village

zones, eight girl students of Bapui

under Patnagarh block of Bolangir

they were forced to do 100 sit-ups

dents are currently undergoing

district had to be hospitalised after

by their teacher Monday. All the stu-

ernment for withdrawal of its decision," said the villagers. They also warned of widespread protests if their demands are not met.

and take appropriate action if need-

ed," the minister said. Sources said,

the girls as usual had gone to school

Monday morning. However, they did

some reason. Infuriated, their geog-

ordered them to do 100 sit-ups as

not attend the school prayer for

raphy teacher Bikash Dharua

expanded the network of road connectivity in the mining-affected areas of Sundargarh.



gurated the projects at a special event in Pratappur village at Lahunipara block in presence of the Collector Sundargarh Nikhil Pavan Kalyan. These 16 roads will connect various villages and gram panchayats in the two blocks with the national highway, local markets and urban centres, enhancing the life and livelihood of general people.

Out of the same, 12 roads fall under

Lahunipara and four in Koira block.

The roads were dedicated to the pub-

MLA Bonai Laxman Munda inau-

The newly-constructed roads will benefit over 12,000 people of 28 villages across Lahunipara and Koira blocks. A total of 24 Kms of road network under the projects launched shall improve connectivity across the mining affected, hilly and remote patches.

bids in the portal	
6. Date of Opening of Bid	: 25.04.2022 at 11.00 A.M.
7. Name & Address of the Office	r: Superintending Engineer
Inviting Bid	Main Dam Division, Burla
	At/Po-Burla, Dist-Sambalpur, Odisha
	Email:semaindamdivn@gmail.com
Further details, any corrigendum e-Procurement portal http://tenders	or addendum can be seen from the sorissa.gov.in.
Sd./- Superintending	Engineer, Main Dam Division, Burla
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	OIPR-32017/11/0002/2223

ODISHA HYDRO POWER CORPORATION LTD OHPC (A Gold Rated State PSU O/o. Sr. GENERAL MANAGER, RENGALI HYDRO ELECTRIC PROJECT P.O.: RENGALI DAM SITE, PIN- 759105, DIST.- ANGUL (ORISSA) TEL NO.: 06760-277214, FAX NO.: 06760-277324 No.: OHPC/RHEP/C&P/PUR-III-70/2502 Date: 08.04.2022 No. CAD-112 'e'-Procurement Notice

TENDER CALL NOTICE No.01/2022-23

SI. No.	Description of the Tender	Cost of Tender Paper (Non- refundable) in Rs.	EMD	Period of availability of tender at OHPC website	Last date & Time of receipt of Tender	Date & Time of Opening of Techno Commercial Bid
1	Roof treatment of Switchyard Store, Cycle shed inside Power House premises with Tarfelt BH at RHEP, Rengali	Rs.4,720/- (Rs.4000/- + 18%	In Lieu of EMD, Bid Security declaration form to be submitted	From Dt.12.04.2022 to Dt.21.04.2022 (Upto 01.00 P.M.)	Dt.21.04.2022 (Upto 01.00 P.M.)	Dt.22.04.2022 At 12.00 P.M.
	ther details can dersodisha.gov.i					

all only be published in the above website.

04/2223	RHEP, Rengali
	Sd./- C & P Head,



perintending Engineer	
abanji (R&B) Division	
OIPR-34099/11/0003/222)

Fishery turns money spinner for SHGs

punishment.

THE GOVT HAS BEEN ENCOURAGING FISHERY BY PROVIDING ₹1.5 LAKH FOR POND AND OTHER **INSTRUMENTS. AND FOR PURCHASE OF FINGERLINGS**

POST NEWS NETWORK

Padiabahal, April 11: Fishery business is flourishing in Padiabahal area and its peripheral areas of Sambalpur district, thanks to the efforts of women members of selfhelp groups (SHGs) who are taking up pisciculture and making handsome earning.

SHGs of Pudapada village under Baham gram panchayat of Jujumra block are earning accolades for their achievements in fishery.

According to sources, many women were sitting idle at home with during Covid-induced lockdowns. So, they looked for an alternative source of earning. With encouragement from family members, the women took interest in fish farming to become self-reliant.

They first mortgaged a small pond for ₹30,000 at Baham gram panchayat. They spent around ₹20,000 and cultured different varieties of fish in the pond.

Now, they have become successful and are earning in lakhs every month. Looking at them, a number of other SHGs have also emulated



the model and made it a profitable business.

"Earlier, I was just a homemaker. Now, I earn enough to feed my family. Fishing has created scope of direct and indirect earning for many people. Within three months, fish can be grown and is ready for sale," said a woman of the SHGs

"Fish farming is making women self-sufficient. The government is en-

couraging women to adopt fishery with low investment and high gains,' said another women.

It may be noted here that the government has been encouraging fishery by providing ₹1.5 lakh as financial assistance for pond and other instruments, and for purchase of fingerlings. The government is contributing 60 per cent of subsidy to SHGs (women, SC and ST cate-

Fish farming is making women selfsufficient. The government is encouraging them to adopt fishery with low investment and high gains

A scheme to this effect provides livelihood support to entrepreneurs, unemployed youths and progressive fish farmers to increase fish production in each block of the state

The scheme proved to be most suitable for youths who faced unemployment during the pandemic

gory) and 40 pc subsidy for male farmers

The state government has been promoting intensive aquaculture in fisheries so as to provide employment to people during the pandemic and period.

A scheme to this effect provides livelihood support to entrepreneurs, unemployed youth and interested progressive fish farmers to increase fish production in each block of the state. The scheme proved to be most suitable for youths who faced unemployment during the pandemic.

EAST COAST RAILWAY		SI. No.	Description of the Tende
e-Tender Notice No. ETCECONIVBBS2022037, Dated : 07.04.2022	ŀ		Roof treatment
NAME OF WORK: CONSTRUCTION OF OFFICERS REST HOUSE AT ANGUL AND RPF POST & RPF BARRACK AT BOINDA INCLUDING ELECTRIFICATION		1	Switchyard Store, Cyc shed inside Power Hous premises with Tarfelt BH RHEP, Rengali
WORKS IN CONNECTION WITH CONSTRUCTION OF JARPADA - BUDHAPANK 3RD & 4TH LINE WITH FLY OVERAT TALCHER ROAD.	t	en	ther details can dersodisha.gov III only be publish
Approx. Cost of the Work (₹) : 470.89 Lakhs, EMD (₹) : 3,85,500/-, <u>Completion Period of the Work</u> : 12 (Twelve) Months.		DIF	PR-04022/11/000
Tender Closing Date & Time : At 1200 Hrs. of 29.04.2022.	6		GOY OFFIC
No manual offers sent by Post / Courier / Fax or in person shall be accepted against such e-tenders even if these are submitted on firm's letter head and received in time. All such manual offers shall be considered	I		Source of the second se

lid and shall be rejected summa vithout any consideration mplete information including e-tende cuments of the above e-tender

vailable in website : http://www.ireps.gov.i Note : The prospective tenderers a

dvised to revisit the website 15 (Fiftee ays before the date of closing of tend to note any changes / corrigenda issue for this tender. The tenderers / bidder nust have Class-III Digital Signatu Certificate and must be registered o REPS portal. Only registered tendered idder can participate on e-tendering.

The tenderers should read a nstructions to the tenderers carefu and ensure compliance of al instructions including check lists, par 3.1 (additional check-list) of Tender for ond sheet) Annexure-I of chapter f Tender documents, submission nexure-B duly verified and signed by Chartered Accountant.

Chief Administrative Officer (Con PR-07/CF/22-23









power post

FOCUS SRI LANKA

Take Truth for your force; take Truth for your refuge.

Hindi Again

THE MOTHER

olitical parties and apolitical organizations have been protesting again against a move by the Centre to make Hindi a compulsory language up to class X. Union Home Minister Amit Shah has raked up this old issue by pushing the cause of Hindi in non-Hindi speaking areas of the country. Hindi is not spoken by over half the country's population (about 57 per cent) and therefore it is unjustified to push any one language that does not have the status of mother language across the country as the national language. Shah's Cabinet colleague Rajnath Singh had once clarified in Parliament as Union Home Minister that Hindi is 'Raj Bhasha,' official language, and not 'Rashtra Bhasha,' national language. Predictably, Shah's controversial remarks made at the 37th meeting of the Parliamentary Official Language Committee have triggered widespread criticism by Chief Ministers and Opposition politicians from eastern, north-eastern and southern states where Hindi is not the primary language. Shah said 70 per cent of the agenda of the Cabinet is prepared in Hindi and as such the time has now come to make the official language Hindi an important part of the unity of the country. The non-BJP political parties and governments see in it a move to impose a monolithic, uniform cultural domination which forms the core of BJP politics. After One Nation One Card, One Nation One Tax, this is a move towards establishing One Nation One Language policy, which would create a whole set of people who would be treated as second class citizens based on their inability to speak good Hindi. This could easily be followed by One Nation One Food where non-vegetarians might suffer.

While as the chairman of the Parliamentary Official Language Committee, it is within his ambit to promote the spread of Hindi, Shah gave a call for the use of an Indian language among people who spoke languages other than Hindi. He said Hindi should be accepted as an alternative to English and not to local languages. The intent is too obvious, though couched in a language that is known as equivocation. His strong pitch for Hindi appears to serve two purposes - undermining the importance of English and promoting Hindi. Question could be why is Shah promoting Hindi at this particular time.

If one views the political map of India, it is easy to understand that the BJP is incapable of entering states where Hindi is not the mother language. Take for example the case of Orissa. The BJP came a cropper in the recently held Panchayat polls not because the BJD alone matters but more so primarily because of the sops offered by the regional party and also the unspoken feeling that BJD belongs to Orissa while the leaderless BJP is a north Indian party. The case of



Assam could be different. First, the BJP needed a breakaway Congress to help it gain grassroots reach. Himanta Biswa Sarma satisfied that need. Secondly, the Assamese had long ago given up their original script in favour of Bengali script. This demonstrates the absence of possessiveness of one's own language amongst those people.

English is abhorrent to the present day ruling class because it stands for internationalism, education and a questioning intellect. Anyone questioning is a troublemaker who should be condemned. Hindi on the other hand, will not only localize but gravely limit worldview by its sheer limitations in reach and translation. Forcible imposition of Hindi will squeeze other regional languages and probably the present political leadership hopes fluent Hindi speaking leaders will then seem more appealing to voters all across the country. The current trouble is that regional parties are putting a spanner in the works of the BJP which hopes to 'unify' India in its uniquely perverted outlook. Only a Hindootva outlook does not seem to suffice in creating a new order in India.

It is up to the states to decide what their language of communication should be. There cannot be a fiat from the Centre not to use English. There is no doubt that English is a foreign language but it is equally foreign for all citizens. No one particular group or state has any undue advantage when it comes to English. Hindi speakers will definitely have an edge over other non-Hindi speaking people if it is imposed as the national language. Take for example any Oriya living in Delhi for over two decades. Whether that person admits or not, an Oriva speaking Hindi is quite discernable in comparison to a Harvanvi or UPite speaking the same language. Language supremacy is known to destroy cultures and thereby break countries. When the Soviet Union existed, Russian was forced as the link language. With the collapse of Communism and fragmentation of the erstwhile USSR, regional languages sprung back.

CRISIS OF SURVIVAL

built by Chinese contractors.

declared. The country is surviving

on credit. Sri Lanka's capacity to

pay back its loans with interests

was badly hit by COVID. Tourism

and foreign workers' remittances

were among Sri Lanka's main for-

eign exchange earners. The pan-

demic dried up both. Foreign ex-

change reserves plummeted by

almost 70% in two years. The

Ukraine crisis has further am-

plified the crisis with oil and fer-

Climate havoc which affects

South Asia most severely has also

intensified Sri Lanka's food crisis.

South Asia is economically and eco-

tiliser prices rising.

ri Lanka is facing a severe political and economic crisis. The crisis has multiple roots but has intensified in the last two years with issues related to COVID, climate change, rising and unsustainable debt and the contribution of chemical fertilisers to this rising debt. The protests we are witnessing now are triggered by an economy of greed, the creation of a debt trap and a history of rent collection, rising costs of living, all of it adding up to ordinary citizens facing an economic crisis of survival. Such protests were common sights across the world in 2019 before COVID and the attendant lockdowns that followed. Recall Beirut and Chile. When the cost of living becomes unbearable, people rise in protest. This is a vicious cycle in which countries are entrapped by debt that feeds billionaires and banks and im-

poverishes ordinary citizens. These complex sets of interconnected problems are being reduced to a simplistic reading that in many narratives have now begun drawing a straight line between the Sri Lankan attempt at reducing or stopping the use of chemicals in farming to the problems that the nation faces today. In the minds of many who offer this simplistic reading, Sri Lanka moved to curb or stop the use of chemicals in agriculture, leading to a drop in yields and triggering a crisis that has turned Sri Lanka from a sound economy to an economy dependent on imports for food and a host of other staples. Many leading media houses globally have flogged this narrative by now.

What this narrative does not see is that Sri Lanka was already heading into a debt crisis by borrowing heavily to build selective infrastructure - ports, power plants, highways, resorts. According to Gateway House, a non-profit which aims to raise awareness of foreign policy among Indians, Chinese debt and equity are funding more than 50 projects worth more than USD 11 billion. Most are roads and water treatment plants, but the largest projects are the Hambantota Port, the Colombo Port City and the Lakavijaya thermal power plant all three funded by Chinese government-owned banks and being



Localisation instead of corporate globalisation, ecological sustainability and sovereignty instead of fossil fuel intensive, capital intensive, debt intensive economies are the path to peace and freedom, resilience and self-reliance - for individuals, communities, countries and the planet

logically rich due to the monsoons. In March 2022, according to Climate change is severely impacting the monsoons, and with it, Reuters. Sri Lanka's central bank said foreign currency reserves agricultural production. According dropped to USD 2.31 billion by the to the latest IPCC report, for every end of February, covering only 1% increase in temperature, inone month of the nation's forex obtense and extreme events related to South Asian monsoon will inligations. A foreign exchange crisis has led to the inability of the crease by 7%. We cannot address government to pay for imports of climate change, and its very real essential commodities including consequences, without recognisfuel. The dependence on fossil fuel ing the central role of the industrial and globalised food system, imports has led to an economic crisis, with power cuts of upto 13 which contributes more than 50% hours and galloping inflation after to greenhouse gas emissions the currency was devalued. The 22 through deforestation, concenmillion citizens of Sri Lanka are trated animal feeding operations clearly facing a crisis of survival, (CAFOs), plastics and aluminum and have risen in protest against packaging, long distance transport and food waste. the government. Ministers have re-"Food and climate impacts go signed. Emergency rule has been

both ways. Climate change creates significant risks to the food system, with rising temperatures and changing weather patterns threatening enormous damage to crops, supply chains and livelihoods in the decades ahead." as the IPCC has pointed out. A study published by Nature, titled, "Climate change and food security in Sri Lanka: towards food sovereignty," notes that promoting food sovereignty could be the key to alleviating impacts of climate change. Synthetic chemical fertilisers emit nitrous oxide which is 300 times more

damaging to the climate than CO2.

Imports of synthetic fertilisers were also a big drain on Sri Lanka's scarce foreign exchange reserves.

The global chemicals industry is portraying the Sri Lankan crisis as related to a few months' stop in the import of chemical fertilisers in April 2021, not recognising that the ban was related to Sri Lanka's debt crisis. A ban on imports of chemical fertilisers does not automatically translate into policies for food sovereignty. Food sovereignty requires a considered transition to ecological agriculture, in practice, in research and in policy. Cuba managed the fuel and fertiliser crisis triggered by the collapse of the Soviet Union through a transition to organic agriculture supported by policy and research.

Sri Lanka makes visible the high costs of climate injustice. It also makes visible the high costs of dependence on foreign investments and borrowing to build costly infrastructure that benefits a few, while most citizens pay a very high price through the destruction of the infrastructure of life - both the ecological infrastructure of a stable climate, and the economic infrastructure of a guarantee of basic needs.

Localisation instead of corporate globalisation, ecological sustainability and sovereignty instead of fossil fuel intensive, capital intensive, debt intensive economies are the path to peace and freedom. resilience and self-reliance - for individuals, communities, countries and the planet. Any other way to read the Sri Lanka crisis is an attempt to perpetuate the miseries that landed us here in the first place.

In this context, the words of Don Stephen Senanayake, Sri Lanka's first Prime Minister, stand out. He wrote in 1935: "Agriculture is not merely a way of making money by raising crops: it is not merely an industry or a business; it is essentially a public function or service performed by private individuals for the care and use of the land...³

> The writer, a physicist, globally renowned author and eco-feminist, is the founder of the Navdanya movement which works to conserve traditional seeds. ©THE BILLION PRESS

SPECTRUM SUSTAINABILITY

Vandana Shiva

SOVEREIGNTY

REQUIRES A

CONSIDERED

ECOLOGICAL

AGRICULTURE.

IN PRACTICE. IN

RESEARCH AND

IN POLICY

TRANSITION TO

FOOD



The bitterness generated from imposition of political supremacy and language has led to war like situations amongst the erstwhile sister countries that were part of the union.

India too is a very diverse country. Any use of force today could possibly result in unforeseeable disasters tomorrow. India is not a country that was always as we see it today. Language, food, clothing and even the kind of Hindooism practiced differs from place to place. Many a times, it surpasses the political boundaries of states formed under the Constitution. Dealing with such an entity with so many people is not an easy task. While seeking to unify with a single point agenda, it has to be kept in mind that diversity could be damaged. India's diversity is the glue that keeps it united.

The question is why the Union Home Minister raised the issue knowing well the position of the Opposition parties and the sentiments of the people of non-Hindi speaking states. It could not even be that he is testing waters. The real purpose could be to divert the people's attention from the burning issues of the day such as the soaring prices of essential commodities in the wake of unprecedented and too frequent hikes in the prices of petrol and diesel in the past few months coupled with joblessness.

This is cynical politics. The ruling party would do well to address the problems of livelihood and jobs plaguing the country instead of playing with the people's sentiments.

WISDOM CORNER

To enjoy freedom we have to	control ourselves. VIRGINIA WOOLF
We may encounter many defe	
The biggest adventure you ca	n take is to live the life of your dreams. OPRAH WINFREY

WORDS**WORTH**

Snickersnee

we ever come across this word now, it's most probably in the lyrics of Gilbert and Sullivan's comic opera The Mikado: "As he squirmed and struggled, / And gurgled and guggled, / I drew my snickersnee!" A snickersnee was a large knife. A couple of centuries earlier it was not a single word but a phrase, steake or snye, which was also written as stick or snee, snick or snee, snick-a-snee, or in other ways. All these versions go back to a couple of Dutch words, steken, to thrust or stick, and snijden, to cut. We have exactly the same phrase, though inverted, made from native English words: cut and thrust. Snickeersnee and its variations referred to a type of hand-to-hand fighting with pointed knives, or - by the end of the eighteenth century – to the knife one did it with. It was fairly common in Victorian Britain, and appeared several times in works by William Makepeace Thackeray, for example in his Burlesques: "Otto, indeed, had convulsively grasped his snickersnee, with intent to plunge it into the heart of Rowski; but his politer feelings overcame him. 'The count need not fear, my lord,' said he: 'a lady is present.'" It seems certain that Lewis Carroll had it in mind when he wrote Jabberwocky: "One, two! One, two! And through and through / The vorpal blade went snicker-snack!"



Ndidi Okonkwo Nwuneli & Oliver Camp

EVEN IF EVERY OTHER SECTOR WERE TO REACH **NET-ZERO EMISSIONS TOMORROW, IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE TO LIMIT GLOBAL** WARMING TO 1.5 **DEGREES C WITHOUT SIGNIFICANT CHANGES TO** FOOD SYSTEMS

etters

are most welcome to contribute letters

postal address/email ID. They may also

and suggestions, preferably by email, to: edit@orissapost.com

Orissapost

B-15, Rasulgarh Industrial Estate, Bhubaneswar-751010

send in their valuable comments, opinion

(0)

TO THE EDITOR

Readers of Orissa POST

(200 words), articles and

requested to send their contact numbers and full

columns (between 750-1250 words). Contributors are

lood prices are surging to record highs in many countries, driven by factors including climate change, violent conflict, COVID, and supply-chain disruptions. This perfect storm has exposed the inefficiencies and flaws of global food systems, leading some to warn of a looming food crisis

Last September, a UN summit brought together key actors in food and agriculture and produced new national and international commitments to improve food systems for people and the planet. The summit's five Action Tracks identified powerful solutions to end hunger and malnutrition, and to ensure environmental sustainability throughout food value chains. Governments and businesses had an ideal opportunity-shortly before COP26 in Glasgow in November - to act decisively to transform food systems.

That opportunity has not been realised. But with time running out in the critical UN Decade of Action on Nutrition from 2016 to 2025, we must measure progress in months, not years - and COP26 largely relegated food systems to the sidelines. In UN climate negotiations, coal, cars, trees, cement, and steel - and cash - continue to capture political and media attention,

Politics & education

Sir, The Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) has once again come into the limelight for a clash that broke out between ABVP members and other students. More than six students have been found injured during the clash. The students have accused that the members of ABVP are imposing a ban on non-vegetarian food at the JNU's Kaveri hostel, while the members of ABVP had alleged that the members of the Left including NSUI were not allowing them to conduct a Pooja on the occasion of Ram Navami. JNU has always been in the media limelight due to different kinds of political activities since the current government has come into power at the Centre. The biggest losers are the students who suffer due to the dirty politics in different top educational institutions of India. The government and the college administrations should try their best to keep religious

Deba Prasad Nayak, CUTTACK

while the urgent need to change the way we produce and consume food

is generally overlooked. This is extremely short-sighted, given that food systems are responsible for one-third of global greenhouse-gas emissions. Even if every other sector were to reach net-zero emissions tomorrow, it would be impossible to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius without significant changes to food systems. Today, food systems use 70% of freshwater resources, cover 40% of the planet's ice-free land, and are a primary factor driving deforestation, the extinction of thousands of species, and the collapse of the ecosystems upon which we depend.

At the same time, food systems are also failing in their primary goal of nourishing the world's growing population. Rapid increases in hunger and malnutrition, exacerbated by COVID disruptions and increasing poverty rates, are erasing a decade of progress. Three billion people cannot afford a healthy and nutritious diet, and millions are at risk of death, disease, and debilitating physical and cognitive impairments as a result. It is widely feared that the war in Ukraine will worsen food insecu-

Pak turmoil

Sir, Imran Khan earned the du-

bious distinction of becoming

the first premier in Pakistan's

history to be sent home after

losing the trust of the House.

Hours after the unceremonious

ouster, Opposition leader in the

National Assembly and PML-N

chief Shehbaz Sharif was elected

Imran's successor. Shehbaz, a

cancer survivor, faces several

court cases, including a PKR

14 billion money laundering

charge. But, more drama is in

store as Imran isn't willing to

concede defeat just yet.

rity in developing countries. Still, there is hope. A food sys-

tem based on sustainable production, respect for natural ecosystems, a circular economy, and responsible stewardship of land and resources throughout the value chain will greatly benefit human and planetary health, and boost jobs and livelihoods. Moreover, the solutions identified during the UN Food Systems Summit process are ready to be implemented. Organisations focusing on health. nutrition, poverty, and development began to overcome barriers to collective action. By reviving the momentum toward reforming food systems generated last year. we can ensure that the UN's decade of action achieves its goal: to "eliminate malnutrition in all its forms, everywhere, leaving no one behind." And stronger collective efforts can help to achieve the goals of the 2015 Paris climate agree-

ment in the harvests that remain between now and 2030. This will not happen without political will; governments and businesses, together with partners in civil society, must step up. As a next step, action on food systems must become a mainstay of global climate policymaking in all major fora. Companies, meanwhile, must act on their commitments to reduce hunger and malnutrition, provide healthy foods, adopt and meet science-based targets, and tackle deforestation. Multilateral development banks, international institutions, donors, and philanthropists can increase financing of all kinds, explicitly targeting

the need for healthy food produced by sustainable methods. The WTO should put this issue at the center of the global trade agenda.

We are already witnessing the consequences of food-system failure, as extreme weather events, economic insecurity, conflict, and COVID continue to wreak havoc. These problems will only worsen if we fail to act fast. But another, more sustainable future is possible, and the solutions are within reach. Realising it requires only the political will to act now.

> Ndidi Okonkwo Nwuneli is an ambassador to the Food and Land Use Coalition. Oliver Camp is senior associate at the Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition. ©PROJECT SYNDICATE

Stop attacks on scribes

Sir, Journalists are the benefactors of mankind. They are the harbingers of social justice, equality, fraternity and harmony. They don't buckle under any pressure and intimidation. They embody honesty, professional integrity, moral uprightness and sincerity. They have not sold their intellectual freedom to anybody else. They do suffer a lot for their dissenting voice and for calling a spade a spade. The recent inhuman and brutal attack on a journalist in Nilagiri, Balasore district has saddened the whole journalist community in the state. The incident is unfortunate and deplorable. It doesn't augur well for a civilized society. Journalists are the mirrors of the society. It is high time journalists, both in print and electronic media in the state, be provided adequate security cover while discharging their professional duties.

Prabhudutt Dash, BHUBANESWAR

and political affiliations away from educational hubs

BANGALORE

NJ Ravi Chander,



national



The country cannot develop without the development of panchayats GIRIRAJ SINGH UNION PANCHAYATI RAJ MINISTER

NEW CAMPAIGN

The Delhi government will launch a month-long antiopen burning campaign from Tuesday and a drive to curb road dust pollution from April 15, Environment Minister Gopal Rai said Monday



uote 77

Officials must expedite the settlement of land measurement and revenue related matters in the tehsils YOGI ADITYANATH UP CM

The nation and its citizens believe in the **Border Security Force** (BSF) and its 2,65,000 security personnel that guarantees the security of the country

AMIT SHAH UNION HOME MINISTER



BHAGWANT MANN PUNJAB CM

SHORT TAKES

2 militants killed

Srinagar: A Pakistani terrorist was among two ultras killed in an encounter in Kulgam district of Jammu and Kashmir, while two policemen were also injured, officials said Monday evening. A police official said security forces launched a cordon and search operation in the Khurbatpora area of Kulgam in south Kashmir following inputs about the presence of militants there. He said the search operation turned into an encounter after the militants fired up on the forces, who retaliated.

Arms recovered

Guwahati: Assam police have recovered a large cache of sophisticated arms and ammunition from Assams Kokrajhar district, officials said Monday. A police officer said that acting on a tip-off about some sophisticated weapons kept hidden in Ultapani and Selekaguri forest areas Kokrajhar district, a search operation was launched which led to the recovery of three AK-56, one AK-47, one sniper, one M-16 rifle, one Serili rifle, four magazines and 130

PM condemns Bucha massacre in meet with Biden

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, April 11: In a virtual meeting with Prime Minister Narendra Modi, US President Joe Biden Monday said the US and India will continue their consultations in dealing with the destabilising effects of the Russian war against Ukraine and complimented New Delhi's humanitarian support for the Ukrainian people.

In his televised opening remarks, Modi said the recent reports of killings of innocent civilians in Bucha city were very worrying and that India immediately condemned it and demanded a fair investigation.

In his opening remarks, Modi described the recent reports of the killing of innocent civilians in Bucha city as 'very worrying'

"We hope that the ongoing dialogue between Russia and Ukraine will lead to peace," Modi said. The Prime Minister referred to his phone conversations with Ukrainian and Russian presidents and suggested to Russian President Vladimir Putin to hold direct talks with his Ukrainian counterpart. "Our talks today are taking place at a time when the situation in Ukraine remains very worrying. Till a few weeks ago, more than 20,000 Indians were stranded in Ukraine. And most of these were young students," Modi said.

"After a lot of hard work, we were able to get them out of there safely, although one student lost his life. Throughout this development, I spoke on the phone several times with the Presidents of both Ukraine and Russia," he said.

"Not only did I appeal for peace, but I also suggested President Putin to have direct talks with the President of Ukraine. The subject of Ukraine has been discussed in great detail in our

PETA PROTEST

Parliament as well," Modi added. In his remarks, Biden said the US and India will continue close consultation on "how to manage the destabilising effects of this Russian war in Ukraine"

"Our continued consultation and dialogue are key to ensure the US-India relationship continues to grow deeper and stronger delivering our people and our global good that we all are seeking to manage particularly in your part of the world," Biden said.

"I want to welcome India's humanitarian support for the people of Ukraine who are suffering the horrific assault including a tragic shelling on a train station last week that killed dozens of innocent children, women and civilians attempting to flee the violence." Biden said.

The American president also mentioned the strong defence partnership between India and the US. The Modi-Biden meeting took place ahead of the fourth India-US '2+2' dialogue in Washington which will be led by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on the Indian side and their US counterparts, Secretary of Defence Lloyd Austin and Secretary of State Antony J Blinken.

KCR deadline to PM over paddy issue



Rao said that the country's farmers are not beggars and are seeking minimum support price for their produce

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, April 11: Stepping up protest against the Centre's paddy procurement policy, Telangana Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao Monday led a dharna in the national capital organised by his party, and warned the Modi government to respond within 24 hours

if it will buy the grain from the state. If the central government failed to respond, Rao threat-

ened to take the protest across the country. This is the Telangana Rashtra Samithi's first protest rally in Delhi after coming to power in the state in 2014. TRS working President and chief minister's son KT Ram Rao and party MPs, MLCs, MLAs, and entire cabinet ministers sat on the dharna. Bharatiya Kisan Union (BKU) leader Rakesh Tikait also expressed solidarity with the Telangana chief minister at the dharna here. Staging a protest at Telangana Bhawan

With folded hands, l urge Modiji and (Piyush) Goyalji, to procure paddy in Telangana like you buy in other states. We will wait for 24 hours for your response to our demand on paddy procurement. After that, we will take a call

K CHANDRASHEKAR RAO I TELANGANA CM

here, Rao warned Prime Minister Narendra Modi, ...Don't play with the sentiments of farmers, they have power to topple the government. History says that all governments have fallen whenever farmers were put in hardship."

"With folded hands, I urge Modiji and (Piyush) Goyalji, to procure paddy in Telangana like you buy in other states. We will wait for 24 hours for your response to our demand on paddy procurement. After that, we will take a call," he said.

Rao further said that the country's farmers are not beggars and are seeking minimum support price (MSP) for their produce. However, "injustice" has been meted out to Telangana farmers by not procuring the paddy from the current rabi season, he said.

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER LOWER SUKTEL R.R. C&B DIVISION. BOLANGIR e-mail id: lsrrcbdbgr@gmail.com

'e' procurement Notice

Bid identification No.- LSRRC&BD-BGR-01/2022-23 No.A-33:- The Superintending Engineer, Lowr Suktel RRC&B Division Bolangir on behalf of the Governor of Odisha invites online percentage rate

Man ends life after boss asks to 'send wife for night'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Lakhimpur Kheri, April 11: AUP power corporation worker died after setting himself on fire outside the house of an engineer who had allegedly asked him to "send his wife for a night", police said Monday.

According to the FIR filed with police, Junior Engineer Nagendra Sharma had also asked lineman JE and another lineman, Jagatpal, have been suspended.

night at Hydle Colony in Pallia, Gokul made a video levelling the allegations. According to the FIR lodged by his wife Rajkumari, the JE demanded Rs 1 lakh and asked her husband to send her to him for a night for a transfer to Pallia.

Gokul was earlier posted at Manhgapur under the Pallia substation and transferred to Aliganja few weeks ago. The victim was rushed to a Lakhimpur hospital and later to Lucknow, where he died.

END CRUELTY TO **40 CRORE HENS** Ban Battery Cages 🗿 🗇 mensar

A People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) activist dressed as a chicken stages a protest, demanding ban on battery cage poultry farming, in New Delhi

INU warns students after clashes

Gokul (42) to pay him Rs 1 lakh for a transfer he was seeking. The Before taking the step Saturday



rounds of AK series ammunition.

Youth arrested

Muzaffarnagar: A youth has been caught vandalising the idol of a deity placed in a Shiv temple at Titawi village in Muzaffarnagar Monday. The accused has been identified as Yakub. Angry locals caught hold of Yakub, who was trying to flee after vandalising the idol, and handed him over to the police. The police have taken Yakub into custody and launched a probe into the matter. A video of the incident has been shared on social media.

Before his death, the video in which he levelled the allegations against the JE surfaced on social media. The victim's wife in her complaint held the JE and Jagatpal responsible for the tragedy.

Taking cognisance of the video, District Magistrate Mahendra Bahadur Singh recommended the suspension of the junior engineer and Jagatpal. A departmental inquiry into the case by a three-member panel has been ordered. The panel will submit its report within a week for further action.

Superintendent of Police Sanjiv Suman said an FIR has been lodged against the junior engineer and the lineman

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, April 11: A day after clashes in JNU allegedly over serving of non-vegetarian food in a hostel mess on Ram Navami, two student groups Monday lodged police complaints against each other, while varsitv authorities claimed the violence occurred after some students objected to a 'hawan', an assertion also made by RSS-affiliate ABVP.

The Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) administration also warned students of discplinary action if they were found indulging in any kind of violence on campus. Hundreds of JNU students affiliated to the Left-leaning All India Students Association (AISA) staged a protest near the Delhi Police headquarters on Monday and

OLD TACTIC



ABVP students interact with media after Sunday's clash between students of leftwing and ABVP over non-veg food during Navratri, outside JNU campus, in New Delhi, Monday ΡΤΙ ΡΗΟΤΟ

demanded the arrest of Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP) members for their alleged role in the violence at the university.

As many as 70 protesters were detained and taken to the Mandir Marg and the Tughlaq Road police stations. They were released later. The JNU Students Union (JNUSU), which is led by Left-affiliated outfits, has alleged that ABVP members attacked students while opposing the serving of non-vegetarian food in the Kaveri Hostel mess on the Hindu festival.

Twenty students were injured in the violence on Sunday, said police, which has deployed personnel outside JNU, while security inside the campus is being taken care of by the university's guards. Several purported videos of the violence surfaced on social media, with one of them showing a student, Akhtarista Ansari, bleeding from the head.

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GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA No.A-4 DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER MINOR IRRIGATION DIVISION, NAYAGARH B

Name of work	•••	Dam Protection and Repair of Works under Critical & DPIW grant of M.I. Projects for the year 2022-23.
No. of works	:	25 (Twenty five) No.
Estimated Cost	:	Varies from Rs. 8.45 lakh to Rs. 49.44 lakh Approximately
Class of Contractor	:	Class "D" , "C", "B" and "A".
Tender paper cost	:	Rs.4000.00 & Rs.6000.00 (Non-refundable).
Period of Completion	:	3 (Three) & 6 (Six) Calendar months.
Availability of Bid	1	From 10.00 AM of 13.04.2022 to 17.00 hrs
Documents		of 20.04.2022 in website
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Time of receipt of bid	:	From 10.00 AM of 13.04.2022 to 17.00 hrs
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Date of opening of bid	:	At 11.00 hrs of 21.04.2022 in the O/O E.E.,
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Date of Transparent Lottery (if cases arise)	:	At 11.00 hrs onwards of Dt. 29.04.2022.
Digital Signature certificate	••	The bidder must possess compatible digital signature certificate (DSC) of class II or class-III
http/dowrorissa.gov.in Name and address of the Tel No. (06753)253277, e	-M	ice can also be seen in the DOWR website IT:- Executive Engineer, M.I. Division, Nayagarh ail ID: eemidivisionnayagarh@gmail.com seen from the e-procurement market place a.gov.in
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Terrorists using mosques as shelters in J&K: Officials

The people's reluctance to help terrorists and the government's decision to heighten the vigil and seize any house that shelters militants has led to terror groups adopting their old tactic

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Srinagar, April 11: Faced with people in Kashmir increasingly refusing to give them refuge, terrorists are going back to taking shelter in mosques and madrassas that not only help them evade security forces but also provide them a school of young minds to indoctrinate, officials said Monday.

The people's reluctance to help terrorists and the government's decision to heighten the vigil and seize any house that shelters militants has led to terror groups adopting their old tactic.

According to the officials, sustained efforts by both the government and security forces have effected a major change in the way the common people in Kashmir look at the terrorism and radical ideology being propagated from Pakistan. They are no longer inclined to provide shelter and other aids to terrorists.

In the early 1990s, terrorists often used to hide in the Hazratbal Shrine as well as Charar-e-Sharief leading to massive stand-offs with security forces. An analysis of recent encounters, particularly in south Kashmir, conducted by security forces revealed that Pakistan-sponsored terrorists are again using places of worship and religious schools as shelters

This disturbing trend was visible in three encounters in Kulgam, Naina Batpora and Chiva Kalan in the past few weeks, the officials said. Terrorists had deliberately taken shelter in mosques and madrassas with the



dual aim of avoiding detection and inciting religious sentiments by instigating the use of force or firing by security forces.

Rauf, a terrorist who was apprehended by the Army in Pulwama district of south Kashmir recently, told his interrogators that they had been taking shelter in a mosque and posing as preachers whenever the security forces closed in on them, the officials said.

Two Jaish-e-Mohammad terrorists, who were killed in the encounter in Chiva Kalan in Pulwama district, had been hiding inside a mosque. One of the slain terrorists was a Pakistani national. This madrassa was set up by Maulvi Naseer Ahmed Malik in 2020 and prior to that, he was an imam at Jamia Masjid in Chiva Kalan for six to seven years.

Simultaneously, he used to impart religious teachings to young children of the village aged between 4 and 10 years. Since 2016, Malik has been involved in collecting 'zakat' (donation) from several villages in Pulwama, Budgam, Srinagar, Kulgam and Anantnag districts.

The suspicion that he might be using the donations to help Pakistansponsored terrorists was proved right by documents recovered from the encounter site in Chiva Kalan. It was also found that the terrorists killed at the madrassa were residing there for at least two months. Malik has been booked under the Public Safety Act and moved out of the valley, the officials said.

According to the security forces, the madrassa was not only used by dreaded terrorists to carry out atrocities and attacks targeting local Kashmiri people but also to misguide Kashmiri children and youths.

Alarmed by the indoctrination of these young minds, security forces have been holding special camps to make their parents aware about the threat of use of religious places for indoctrination of their children.

"If this is the way terrorists in the valley are going to target young impressionable minds while the common Kashmiri parents are kept in the dark by the very teachers they trust the lives of their children with, the future of next generation of Kashmir is anything but safe," an official said, highlighting the grave threat.

The officials urged the people of Kashmiri to raise their voices against these acts and save their children from falling prey to this vicious cycle of terror.

OIPR-32260/11/0001/2223

1.I. Division, Nayagai





Dissidence hits YSRCP after Cabinet rejig

AGENCIES

Amaravati, April 11: Reconstitution of his cabinet by Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy has triggered dissidence in YSR Congress Party with one of the ministers dropped by him announcing her resignation from the Assembly while another is contemplating a similar course.

Mekathoti Sucharitha, who was Home Minister in the earlier Cabinet, announced resignation as MLA.

She was upset since Sunday when Jagan Mohan Reddy decided to drop her from the Cabinet along with 13 others. On Monday, when a 25-member new Cabinet was sworn in, Sucharitha decided to quit as MLA from Prathipadu constituency in Guntur district. At a meeting with her followers, she announced her decision. She, however, made it clear that she will continue in the party.

Sucharitha also told her followers that none of them should quit the party. However, some public representatives in the constituency have already announced their resignation to show solidarity with her.

Meanwhile, senior leader Balineni Srinivasa Reddy is also reported to be planning to quit as MLA. He was sulking ever since Jagan Reddy decided to drop him from the Cabinet.

Srinivasa Reddy, who had served as a minister in the Cabinet of YS Rajasekhara Reddy in the undivided Andhra Pradesh, is angry over Jagan Reddy dropping him while retaining many others who are junior to him.

Several followers of Srinivasa Reddy Monday announced their resignations as public represen-



Andhra Pradesh Chief a meeting. The senior leader is **Minister YS Jagan** likely to meet Jagan Reddy. Jagan Mohan Reddy has retained Mohan Reddy has 11 ministers in his new Cabinet. reconstituted his Cabinet What has angered Srinivasa Reddy is the fact that Adimulapu Suresh.

who also comes from Prakasam

appointed. Nellore Rural MLA

Kotamreddy Sridhar Reddy could

60

The revamp has also left many aspirants of Cabinet berths dis-

district, has been retained.

with all 25 ministers taking oath Monday

tatives in Prakasam district as a mark of protest.

Political Affairs Adviser to the not hide his disappointment as he government, Sajjala Ramakrishna wept in front of the television cam-Reddy and two other leaders of the eras after Jagan Reddy announced his team. He, however, said he YSRCP, were continuing their efforts would remain the party and work to assuage his feelings. They called on Srinivasa Reddy at his resito strengthen it. In Anakapalli district, followdence in Vijavawada and advised

him not to take any drastic step. ers of Chodavaram MLA Karnam The Chief Minister has report-Dharmashri staged 'rasta roko' to edly directed YSRCP leaders to protest over their leader being de-

Roja's journey from silver screen to AP Cabinet

Amaravati: Luck has finally smiled on actor-politician RK Roja as she found a berth in Andhra Pradesh Cabinet. The two-time MLA and firebrand leader of YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) took oath as a member of Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy's revamped Cabinet Monday. Shouldering a new responsibility in her career, the 49-year-old was quick to announce her decision to bid adieu to shootings. A member of Andhra Pradesh Assembly from Nagari in Chittoor district, Roja announced that she will stop shooting for films and television programmes. The anchor will also stay away from 'Jabardasth', a popular Telugu comedy show.

After YSRCP stormed to power in 2019, Roja was a strong contender for the ministerial position. She, however, had to contend with the post of chairperson of Andhra Pradesh Industrial Infrastructure Corporation (APIIC).

nied a Cabinet berth. In Palnadu district, followers of Macherla MLA P. Ramakrishna Reddy also took out a protest march and staged 'rasta roko'. The followers, including local public representatives, threatened to resign. They raised slogans against government advisor Ramakrishna Reddy. Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy will continue to have five deputies along with 20 other ministers in his reconstituted Cabinet.

Muslim man builds temple out of his pension money

to build the temple" and he just

carried out the instructions. "That

was a lifetime experience. Even

today I get tears in my eyes re-

membering the experience," he

Rahman also distributes

'prasadam' to all and takes part in

the worshipping. When asked about

the recent developments leading to

communal discord in the state,

Rahman said he fails to under-

stand why people do such things.

it is male and female among the

If at all there is any difference,

Rahman not only built the temple but has appointed a priest and pays him ₹4,000 per month. He also arranges for the flowers and all worshipping materials every Monday and Friday, the two days when the deity is worshipped

AGENCIES

Chamarajanagar (Karnataka), April 11: At a time when Karnataka is witnessing communal flare up, the story of a Muslim man building the Lord Ganesha temple near Chikkahole reservoir in Chamarajanagar district has won hearts.

P Rahman, who continues to work as the gatekeeper at the Chikkahole reservoir, is being appreciated for his noble gesture across the state. Speaking to IANS, Rahman said that he got some "instruction from the divine forces

4 held for vandalising fruit vendor's shop

said.

DHARWAD, (KARNATAKA): Karnataka Police Monday arrested four persons attached to the Sri Ram Sena in connection with vandalising a fruit shop owned by a Muslim vendor in Dharwad district. The arrested persons were identified as Chidananda Kalal, Kumar Kattimani, Mylarappa Guddappanavar and Mahalinga Aigali. The police took into custody after Nabisaab, the vendor, lodged a police complaint. The Dharwad Rural police have lodged an FIR against eight persons on charges of deliberately hurting religious sentiments, unlawful assembly, rioting and deliberate attempt to breach of peace. Since 15 years, Nabisaab's shop has been operation from the premises of the Nuggekeri Hanuman temple. On April 9, the activists who showed up in the temple premises destroyed the fruits and asked him not to continue his business



human beings, apart from this there is no difference among the people. "We share the same blood, there is no differentiation," he says.

"It has been four years since I have built this temple. Though I had spent the pension money that I got at retirement, my family did not say a word. My community members do not have any problem with me worshipping a Hindu God and building the temple," he said.

There was an idol on a boulder near Chikkahole dam which was stolen. After divine force instruction, Rahman said he consulted local sages and went to Tamil Nadu to bring the idol of Ganesha.

"There were different idols for everyday worship and weekly twice worshipping. I chose the latter one. After installation of the idol, I am experiencing divinity and fulfillment," he says.

"There is only one God, devotees do not differentiate for the fact that the temple is being built by a Muslim, I don't understand why all of a sudden the discord has seeped in," he says.

K'taka comes up with State **Heatwave Action Plan**

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bangalore, April 11: With summer setting in, the Karnataka State Disaster Management Authority (KSDMA), in association with the State Natural Disaster Monitoring Centre (KSNDMC), has come up with a State Heatwave Action Plan for 2022



The plan is in conformity with the revised heat wave preparedness guidelines prepared by the **National Disaster Management Authority,** which was issued in 2019

and other stakeholders. The action plan aims to provide a framework for implementing heat response activities in a coordinated manner." Raian said in a state ment. According to him, the action

MANOJ RAJAN I KSDMA COMMISSIONER



SEVERE POWER CRUNCH IN AP

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Amaravati, April 11: Homes in darkness, patients suffering in government hospitals and industries coming to a grinding halt in Andhra Pradesh show the severity of the power crisis gripping the state.

An incident in which a woman delivered a baby under a cellphone light at a government hospital in Narsipatnam and the visuals of patients having a harrowing time at many other state-run hospitals due to power outages amid the sweltering heat highlight the grim situation. From domestic to agriculture and industry, every sector is suffering due to a huge gap between demand and supply. With power deficit hovering around 40-50 Million Units (MU) per day, the power distribution companies (DISCOMs) have resorted to Emergency Load Relief (ELR). While officially the power cuts are for one hour for the domestic sector in villages and half an hour in cities and towns, people have been complaining of outages for several hours every day.

week, in addition to their normal weekly off. The power utilities also told the industries to have only one shift during daytime.

The power holiday would adversely impact 253 industries that are working round the clock and 1,696 non-continuous industries under the AP Southern Power **Distribution Company Limited** (APSPDCL) purview. The government, private companies and shopping malls have been advised to use only 50 per cent of air-conditioners and not to use power for publicity hoardings and signboards between 6 p.m. and 6 a.m. This is the first time since the bifurcation of united Andhra Pradesh that the state has been forced to declare a power holiday. Against the daily demand of 220-230 MU, the power utilities are able to supply only 180 MU. According to the Energy Department, the crisis is due to the increased demand and this is in line with the national trend.

The plan is in conformity with the revised heat wave preparedness guidelines prepared by the National Disaster Management Authority, which was issued in 2019, KSDMA Commissioner Manoj Rajan said. The plan has been updated on region-specific dos and don'ts and also sets out medium and long heat wave risk reduction measures based on the global best practices, he added.

"The plan has been shared with all Deputy Commissioners and other stakeholders. The plan unambiguously sets out roles and responsibility of each department

plan has six chapters that deals with definition, vulnerability, impacts, preparedness and mitigation measures, roles and responsibility of various departments, and the dos and don'ts for heat wave. The district administration has been asked to ensure hospitals and other strategic locations are stocked up with oral rehydration solutions and appropriate medicines to effectively respond to any heat wave-related illness, Rajan said. The government is ensuring water availability at strategic places such as markets and places of large public gathering through government agencies and also by involving non-governmental



Former Karnataka CM Siddaramaiah and KPCC President DK Shivakumar along with state Congress leaders during a protest against hike in fuel prices, in Bangalore PTI PHOTO

Industries functioning roundthe-clock have been asked to slash their power demand by 50 per cent while others have been directed to declare a power holiday once a



Row over Tipu Sultan resurfaces in AP town

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Amaravati, April 11: The Tipu Sultan controversy has resurfaced in Proddatur town in Andhra Pradesh's Kadapa district

Unidentified person wrote 'Tipu Sultan Centre' on a divider on Jinnah Road Centre, once again bringing to the fire the controversy over the proposal to install a statue of the former Mysore ruler in the town.

On the intervening night of Friday and Saturday, unidentified persons wrote the name in Telugu. Anticipating trouble, the local municipal authorities moved swiftly to wipe out the writing on the divider.

The police beefed up the security as a precautionary measure and began investigation to identify the person who wrote 'Tipu Sultan Centre'

The town had witnessed tension in July last year after BJP staged protests against the proposal to install Tipu Sultan's statue in the town.

INDO-ASIN NEWS SERVICE

organisations.

Bangalore, April 11: Pollutants like microplastics may be causing growth defects among fish in the Cauvery river, including skeletal deformities, a new study reveals.

Published in the journal Ecotoxicology and Environmental Safety, the study was led by Upendra Nongthomba, Professor of the Department of Molecular Reproduction, Development and Genetics (MRDG) at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc)

Nongthomba, talking about his love for fish, said:"Over the years, I have cherished going to the backwaters of the Krishna Raja Sagara [KRS] Dam in Mysuru and having fried fish on the Cauvery river bank," he said

But in recent times, he has been noticing physical deformities in some of the fish and began wondering whether the quality of water may have something to do with it. 'Water is essential for every one, including animals and plants.

When it is polluted, it is capable of causing diseases, including cancer," adds Abass Toba Anifowoshe, a PhD student in Nongthomba's lab,

and the first author of the study. Nongthomba's lab conducted a comprehensive study of pollution at the KRS Dam and its potential effects on fish. They collected water samples from three different locations with varying speeds of water flow like fast-flowing, slowflowing, and stagnant, since water speed is known to affect the concentration of pollutants.

In the first part of the study, Nongthomba's team analysed the physical and chemical parameters of the water samples. All but one of them fell within the prescribed limits. The exception was dissolved oxygen (DO), whose levels were much lower than they needed to be in samples collected from the slow-flowing and stagnant sites. Water from these sites also had microbes such as Cyclops,

Daphnia, Spirogyra and Spirochaeta and E.coli, well-known bio-indicators of water contami-



pieces of plastic often invisible to the naked eye - and toxic chemicals containing the cyclohexyl functional group (a functional group

Microplastics found in several household and industrial products, and chemicals containing the cyclohexyl group, such as cyclohexyl isocyanate, are commonly used in agriculture and the pharmaceutical industry

refers to atoms in a compound that determine its chemical properties). Microplastics found in several household and industrial products, and chemicals containing the cyclohexyl group, such as cyclohexyl isocyanate, are commonly used in agriculture and the pharmaceutical industry.

In the second part of the study, Nongthomba's team investigated whether pollutants in water could account for the developmental abnormalities seen in wild fish. They treated embryos of the well-known model organism, zebrafish, with water samples collected from the three sites, and found that those exposed to water from the slow-flowing and stagnant sites experienced skeletal deformities, DNA damage, early cell death, heart damage, and increased mortality.

These defects were seen even after microbes were filtered out. suggesting that microplastics and the cyclohexyl functional groups are responsible for the ailments in the fish.

The researchers also found unstable molecules called ROS (Reactive Oxygen Species) in the cells of the fish that developed abnormally

ROS build-up is known to damage DNA and affect animals in ways similar to what Abass and Nongthomba saw in fish treated with water from the slow-flowing and stagnant sites. Other studies have shown that microplastics and chemicals with the cvclohexvl group lead to decreased DO, whichin turn triggers ROS accumulation in animals like fish.



The researchers used a tech-

nique called Raman spectroscopy,

to detect microplastics - minute

nation.







national



Three Es -- education. employment and entertainment -- are needed in rural areas to stop the flight of people from villages to urban areas M VENKAIAH NAIDU VICE PRESIDENT

TACKLING PARKINSON'S

Eating a variety of foods, regular exercise and adequate amount of sleep can help people with Parkinson's disease to improve their health and enhance the quality of life, say doctors



uote **77**

Hate, violence and exclusion are weakening our beloved country. The path to progress is paved with the bricks of

brotherhood, peace and harmony. Let's stand together to secure a just, inclusive India

RAHUL GANDHI CONGRESS LEADER

Our intention is that the work of ERCP should be completed soon, so that 13 districts of East Rajasthan can get drinking and irrigation water. The state

government has so far spent about Rs 1,000 crore on ERCP and has proposed Rs 9,600 crores in this year's budget ASHOK GEHLOT RAJASTHAN CM

After Kejriwal came to power, we changed the face, the picture of government schools in Delhi. The BJP has been in

power in Gujarat for 27 years. I am

keen to see and understand what changes and improvements the BJP has made in these 27 years of its rule MANISH SISODIA DELHI EDUCATION MINISTER

SHORT TAKES

3 injured in cylinder blast

New Delhi: As many as three people, including a woman, were injured in a CNG cylinder explosion in West Delhi Monday afternoon, a Fire Department official said. The official said that they received a call about the cylinder blast at 1.25 p.m. in H. No. 662/6, B-27, Khajan Basti, Mayapuri in west Delhi after which two fire tenders were immediately pressed into service. When the fire tenders reached the spot, three people, were already taken to Deen Dayal Upadhyay hospital.

Lineman sets self on fire

Lakhimpur Kheri: A power lineman at the Palia power station of Uttar Pradesh Power

Violence mars Ram Navami celebrations

MP Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan termed the incident as unfortunate and said

MONEY LAUNDERING CASE

News Delhi, April 11: The ED

ED examines Kharge

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhopal/Ahmedabad/Ranchi, **April 11:** Violence marred Ram Navami celebrations in parts of the country, with one person killed and 12 others injured at Lohardaga in Jharkhand, while curfew was clamped in Madhya Pradesh's Khargone city and 77 people were arrested there, officials said on Monday.

Khargone's Superintendent of Police Siddharth Choudhary received bullet injury and at least 24 other people, including six policemen, were also injured in the arson Sunday during the festival which marks the birthday of Lord Ram, they said.

In Gujarat, police arrested nine people for violence and stone-pelting during a Ram Navami procession at Khambat in Anand district, while CrPC Section 144 was imposed in Himmatnagar town of Sabarkantha district following a similar incident there.



A similar stone-pelting incident was also reported during a Ram Navami procession in Sendhwa town of MP's Barwani district where a police station in-charge and five others were injured. The situation was later brought under control, according to officials. The Vishva Hindu Parishad

(VHP) alleged that minority community leaders and Left liberals are to be blamed for "attacks" across

the country on people celebrating Ram Navami and cautioned them against leading their followers on the path of violence.

In a video message, VHP joint general secretary Surendra Jain termed the violence in Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Jharkhand and Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) in New Delhi as "unfortunate" and said it is everybody's responsibility to ensure such incidents do not happen.

In Lohardaga, one person died and 12 people suffered injuries following clashes between members of two communities near Hirhi village on Sunday evening after a group of miscreants pelted a Ram Navami procession with stones, district officials said. Internet services have been suspended in Lohardaga town and prohibitory orders under Section 144 CrPC imposed in the entire district, Sub-divisional Officer Arbind Kumar Lal said.

Ten bikes and a pick-up van were set on fire during the violence, the officials said. It took district officials and the police at least an hour to bring the situation under control.

In MP's Khargone city, police had to fire tear gas shells to control the situation after stone-pelting took place at a procession on Ram Navami. Curfew was clamped in the entire city on Sunday evening following the incident, as per an order issued by the office of Khargone Collector Anugrah P.

MP Chief Minister Shivraj Singh

Chouhan termed the incident as unfortunate and said the damages for public and private properties will be recovered from rioters. The rioters have been identified and will not be spared. Strict action will be taken against them. There is no place for rioters in Madhya Pradesh, he said

Khargone collector said the situation is now under control and citizens have been asked to step out of home only for medical emergency MP Home Minister Narottam Mishra said 77 people have been arrested so far in connection with the violence in Khargone and the government will not allow anyone to disturb peace in the state. Mishra confirmed that Khargone

SP Siddharth Choudhary suffered bullet splinter injuries in his leg. Six other police personnel were also injured, he said. A citizen, Shivam Shukla, received serious head injuries and is undergoing treatment, but the condition of all others is normal, he said.

the damages for public and private properties will be recovered from rioters Monday examined Congress leader Mallikarjun Kharge here in connection with its money laundering probe against the party-promoted Associated Journals Limited (AJL), which publishes the National Herald newspaper, officials said. He was summoned to appear before the federal agency with regard to the probe, following which

he deposed before it. His statement has been recorded under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) as the agency wants to understand some issues in the investigation, officials said. Kharge is stated to be an officebearer of Young Indian and AJL and hence his questioning in the case was necessitated, officials said.

The ED has been probing AJL and the role of various Congress leaders under the anti-money laundering law since 2016 after taking cognisance of a CBI FIR.

The agency had alleged that the accused in this case, that includes former Harvana chief minister and Congress leader Bhupinder Singh Hooda and late Congress leader Motilal Vora, "used the proceeds of crime" in the form of a land plot allotted "illegally" to AJL in Panchkula and pledged it to avail loan from a Syndicate Bank branch (Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg) in Delhi for constructing a building in Mumbai's Bandra area.

20 cows charred

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, April 11: A massive fire broke out at a slum area in Ghaziabad's Kinauni village on Monday, resulting in the death of around 20 cows, an official said.

Speaking to reporters at the site of the incident, Ghaziabad District Magistrate Rakesh Kumar Singh said that prima facie it looks like around 15-20 cows have been charred to death. While the exact number of cattle casualties is yet to be ascertained, several people present on the spot said that over 50 cows have been charred to death.

The DM said that an enquiry has been ordered into the incident to bring out the exact cause of the fire.

employees who were part of the at-

Show cause notices to Jakhar, Thomas

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, April 11: The Congress disciplinary committee, which met here Monday to look into the complaints against K.V. Thomas and Sunil Jakhar, has issued show cause notices to both.

Party General Secretary, Tariq Anwar said, "As per the procedure, the show cause notice has been issued and they have been given a week's time to respond and after that the disciplinary committee will meet again."

Jakhar is former Punjab **Congress President and Thomas** was a former Union Minister from Kerala

Both have been once blue-eyed boys of the party leadership. While Sunil Jakhar had spoken about former Punjab Chief Minister Charanjit Singh Channi, Thomas participated in a CPI-M meet.

Both the cases are being probed by the party disciplinary committee headed by A.K. Antony, sources said.

While Sunil Jakhar had spoken about former **Punjab Chief Minister** Charanjit Singh Channi, Thomas participated in a CPI-M meet

manded his expulsion, "Mr Sunil Jhakhar, Punjab Cong leader, must be expelled from the Party for his casteist & feudal comment that Mr Channi, being lowest caste, couldn't have been made CM. His place is in a feet instead

of on head. The Congress leaders from Kerala have been seeking Thomas's immediate removal following his participation in a seminar on the Centre-state relations held as part of the 23rd party congress of the CPI-M.

The CPI-M had as part of its 23rd party Congress invited Dr.



Police personnel detain Socialist Unity Centre of India (SUCI) activists during their protest over the death of a minor girl, who was allegedly gangraped, outside Governor's residence in Kolkata

ATTACK ON PAWAR'S HOME



Corporation Limited (UPCL), in Lakhimpur Kheri, died after he set himself on fire, accusing a junior engineer (JE) of harassment, Gokul Prasad, 45. was deployed as a lineman in the power department for the past 22 years. He was referred to a higher medical facility in Lucknow where he succumbed to burn injuries.

3 arrested in UP

Kannauj: Three persons allegedly involved in manufacturing and supplying spurious liquor, were arrested in a joint raid by the Excise Department and Uttar Pradesh Police in Kannauj. The police also recovered 15 litres of spurious liquor and the equipment used for manufacturing the same from their possession.

UP govt's Twitter handle hacked

Lucknow: The official Twitter account of the Uttar Pradesh government was hacked Monday. This comes two days after the Twitter account of the Chief Minister's office was hacked Saturday. Strange tweets were posted from the official account of the Uttar Pradesh handle on Monday. The tweets were deleted shortly thereafter.

..... Narcotics recovered

New Delhi: The Border Security Force on Monday claimed to have seized four packets of narcotics, suspected to be heroin, near the fencing areas at the border in Punjab's Firozepur. Following the recovery on Sunday evening, two farmers and a labourer working in the field at that time were detained.

Thomas has been upset with the party since he was denied the Rajya Sabha seat and Sunil Jakhar was making critical remarks after he was overlooked for the Punjab chief minister's

Jakhar's comments have offended the Dalit leaders in the party, and Udit Raj even deahead with the seminar.

Shashi Tharoor and Prof. K.V. Thomas to participate in the seminar K. Sudhakaran immediately informed both the leaders not to participate and even the party

president Sonia Gandhi intervened in the matter and told the leaders not to participate. While Shashi Tharoor backed out, K.V. Thomas decided to go



Mumbai cops ignored intelligence alerts

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Mumbai, April 11: Three days after the shocking attack by MSRTC employees on Nationalist Congress Party chief Sharad Pawar's home. it has come to light that the Mumbai Police had got an intelligence alert at least 4 days prior to the incident.

As per the intel inputs, a large number of Maharashtra State Road Transport Corporation employees, including many women, were expected to reach Mumbai for the verdict of the Bombay High Court on April 5 and join the agitators already protesting at Azad Maidan.

There was strong possibility of protests being carried out at Pawars' Silver Oak bungalow and Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray's official and private residences, 'Varsha' at Malabar Hill and 'Matoshree' in Bandra east, respectively.



The advance intel alerted of similar agitation plans at the Bombay High Court, Mantralaya, Sahyadri State Guest House, and the official and private residence of Transport Minister Anil Parab.

In view of these the inputs warned of a possible law and order situation in these areas, and recommended beefing up security at the entry points to Mumbai like

Around 110 persons including the MSRTC employees lawyer Gunratan Sadavarte were arrested in connection with the incident

Dahisar, Vashi, Mulund and also railway stations.

Soon after the April 8 attacks at Pawar's home, Home Minister Dilip Walse-Patil had announced a probe into the incident that sparked a furore in political circles and embarrassed the Maha Vikas Aghadi government of Shiv Sena-Nationalist Congress Party-Congress

among the centre and the states

will be critical for achieving en-

ergy and climate-related goals and

making the country self-reliant in

He said that after extensive dis-

cussions with stakeholders, several

key parameters have been identi-

fied to track and rank the per-

formance of the states in this re-

port. The report said the state

governments need to prioritise

the energy sector.

Parab on Sunday said that those

tacks would be dismissed from service. Several NCP leaders like Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar, Bharatiya Janata Party Leaders of Opposition Devendra Fadnavis and Pravin Darekar had slammed

the attacks and blamed the Mumbai Police and its failure of intelligence to take timely preventive measures. Pointing fingers at the BJP, Sena

MP Sanjay Raut said it was not an agitation but a well-planned attack on the Pawar family while Housing Minister Dr Jitendra Awhad said that the sinister intention was to inflict bodily harm to the NCP supremo.

Around 110 persons including the MSRTC employees lawyer Gunratan Sadavarte were arrested in connection with the incident.

Gujarat tops NITI Aayog's Energy and Climate Index chart

post

GUJARAT WAS FOLLOWED BY KERALA AND PUNJAB, ACCORDING TO THE GOVERNMENT THINK TANK'S REPORT PRESS TRUST OF INDIA New Delhi, April 11: Gujarat has topped Niti Aayog's State Energy and Climate Index-Round 1 (SECI) among larger states, which is aimed

Diu/Dadra & Nagar Haveli (D&D and D&N). Punjab was the best performer in discom performance parameter among larger states, while Kerala emerged as top performer in access, affordability and reliability at ranking states and Union tercategory among larger states.

Likewise, Haryana was the best performer when it comes to clean energy initiative among larger states, while Tamil Nadu emerged as top performer in the energy efficiency category. The index is based on 2019-20 data.

Releasing the report, NITI Aayog Vice Chairman Rajiv Kumar said that this index that compares states and UTs across many indicators will encourage them towards energy transition, and all the necessary steps must be taken to achieve this



Kumar further said there is a need to convert the country's efforts towards achieving the 'Panchamrit' targets announced policies to facilitate inclusive growth by providing affordable, accessible, reliable, and sustainable energy to the citizens. Energy being the centerpiece

of any development process, the government needs to ensure access to sustainable and clean en-NITI Aayog member V K Saraswat ergy sources through various said synergy and partnership schemes, it added. The State Energy and Climate Index (SECI) Round-1 ranks states and UTs on six parameters -- discoms' performance; access affordability and reliability of energy; clean energy initiatives; energy efficiency; environmental sustainability; and new initiatives

These parameters include a total of 27 indicators based on the outcome of SECI Round-1 scores, states and union territories have been categorised into three groups -- front runners, achievers, and aspirants.

The index can be used by the states and UTs to benchmark their performance against their peers, analyse the potential challenges to and efficiently manage their energy resources.

ritories (UTs) on six parameters in-

cluding discoms' performance, en-

ergy efficiency and environmental

Gujarat was followed by Kerala

and Punjab, according to the gov-

ernment think tank's report. States

like Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh

and Jharkhand were placed at the

bottom. Among the smaller states,

Goa topped the Aayog's index, fol-

Chandigarh topped the index, fol-

lowed by Delhi and Daman &

Among union territories (UTs),

lowed by Tripura and Manipur.

sustainability.

by the Prime Minister at COP-26,

Glasgow into a peoples' movement.





international

Ukraine says

troops still

holding out

in besieged

Mariupol



REUTERS

Lviv, Ukraine, April 11: Ukraine

said Monday its forces were still

holding out in the port of Mariupol,

where Russia was renewing its as-

sault in a siege believed to have killed thousands of trapped civilians.

of the defence forces heroically

holding the city is stable and main-

tained," Ukraine's military com-

mander-in-chief, General Valeriy

"We are doing the possible and

impossible for the victory and the

preservation of the lives of per-

sonnel and civilians in all directions.

Believe in the Armed Forces of

Ukraine!" Earlier, a post on the

Facebook page of a brigade of

marines holding out in the city

Zaluzhnyi, said on Facebook.

'Communication with the units

After retirement, I look forward to having a conversation about new life out of politics (via Twitter) MOON JAE-IN SOUTH KOREA'S OUTGOING PRESIDENT

MATTER OF CONCERN

A survey report has revealed that the Covid-19 pandemic has dealt a heavier blow to Bangladesh's hospitality sector. The country's hospitality sector incurred a loss of about 173 billion takas in gross value added during the pandemic, Xinhua news agency quoted the report as saying

Dussian assaults in east

Zelenskiy appeals to South Korea for military aid

elenskiv said thousands of

Zelefiskiy said thousand Russian troops were massing

for a new offensive in the east

Germany sees evidence of war crimes

repulsed



hacked and the post was fake. Reuters could not independently

verify it. After having driven Russian forces away from the capital Kyiv this month, Ukraine is now preparing for a new Russian mass assault on eastern territory, which Russia now says is its main objective.

Russian forces advancing from Crimea would be able to link up with those pushing in from the east and turn their attention to encircling Ukraine's main force in the area. "There are tens of thousands of dead, but even despite this, the Russians are not stopping their offensive," Zelenskiy told South Korea's parliament by videolink, describing Russia's assault on the city, which had 400,000 residents before the war.

drive towards full domination by the US and its Western subjects on the world stage SERGEY LAVROV RUSSIAN FOREIGN MINISTER In the past two

uote

It does leave

doesn't it? This

QUEEN

horrible Pandemic.

It's not a nice result

ELIZABETH II BRITAIN'S

Our special

operation is

military

meant to put an end

expansion (of NATO)

and the unabashed

to the unabashed

one very tired

and exhausted,

or three weeks, the American side has made excessive demands that contradict some

paragraphs of the text prepared for a possible agreement in the recent Vienna talk HOSSEIN AMIR-ABDOLLAHIAN IRANIAN FOREIGN MINISTER

SHORT TAKES

Sunak offers himself for independent review

London: UK Chancellor of the Exchequer Rishi Sunak has written to his boss, Boris Johnson, to be referred to one of the British Prime Minister's independent advisers to review all his ministerial declarations of interest amid a row around his family's tax affairs. The Indian-origin finance minister, who has been fighting back attacks over wife Akshata Murty's tax arrangements in India and also Opposition allegations around his own finances, said in a Twitter post Sunday that he is confident the independent review by House of Lords peer Christopher Geidt, the Independent Adviser or Ministers' Interests, wil provide "further clarity".

UK sanctions two **Bosnian-Serb leader**

.

London: Britain sanctioned two leading Bosnian-Serb politicians Monday, accusing them of encouraging ethnic

Shehbaz rakes up Kashmir in 1st speech

The 70-year-old leader, who replaced Imran Khan after a high voltage political tussle, said *he wanted good relations*

with India, but it cannot be achieved without the resolution of the Kashmir issue

AGENCIES

Islamabad, April 11: Soon after he was elected as Pakistan's Prime Minister, Shehbaz Sharif in his inaugural speech Monday raised the issue of abrogation of Article 370 in Kashmir and alleged that the people in the Valley were bleeding and Pakistan will provide them with "diplomatic and moral support" besides raising the

matter at every international fora. He said that neighbours are not a matter of choice, it is something we have to live with and unfortunately Pakistan's ties with India were never good since its inception.

PAKISTAN STOCKS MAKE HISTORY

KARACHI: Pakistans stock markets made history Monday as the KSE-100 index posted a historic single-day gain, Geo News reported. The bulls dominated trading at the Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX) Monday as the benchmark KSE-100 index rallied, reaching new records by gaining 1,700 points on the back of easing political turmoil. A report from Topline Securities noted that PSX made history with the KSE-100 index posting a record single-day gain in terms of index points. "KSE-100 index today gained 1,700 points in a single day to close at 46,145 level, breaching two barriers 45,000 and 46,000, which is a new record in the history of PSX." it stated.

Article 370 in August 2019.

'When the forceful encroachment was done in August 2019 and Article 370 was abrogated, what serious efforts did we make ... What serious diplomacy did we try...Kashmiris' blood is flowing on roads of Kashmir and the Kashmir Valley is red with their blood," said Shehbaz, the younger brother of former three-time Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif. He expressed a desire for better ties but with India linked it with the

ties with India but durable peace is not possible until the Kashmir dispute is resolved," he said, adding provide political, diplomatic and moral support to the people of Kashmir. "We will raise voice for Kashmiris brothers and sisters at come forward to address the Kashmir issue so that the two countries could concentrate on tack ling poverty, unemployment, shortage of medicines and other issues. Meanwhile, Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated Shehbaz Sharif on his election as the Prime Minister of Pakistan and said India desires peace and stability in a region free of terror so

that "we can focus on our development challenges" Ties between India and Pakistan nose-dived after a terror attack on the Pathankot Air Force base in 2016 by terror groups based in the neigh-

PAK'S POLITICAL TURMOIL WON'T AFFECT TIES: CHINA

said they had run out of ammu-

nition and were now facing death

or capture, with Monday likely to

be the "ultimate battle". Petro

Andryushchenko, an aide to the

Mariupol mayor, said on social me-

diathat the marines' page had been

BEIJING: China said Monday that the "political change" in Pakistan leading to the Imran Khan government's ouster will not affect the all-weather ties and expressed its firm opposition to any "external interference" in Islamabad's internal affairs. Khan's Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf government was ousted from power through a no-confidence motion in the National Assembly on Sunday. "China has noted the political change in Pakistan," Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Zhao Lijiang told a media briefing here on Monday, while answering a question about the fall of Khan's government and its impact on Pakistan-China ties. "As a close neighbour and an iron-clad friend of Pakistan. China sincerely hopes that all parties of Pakistan can stay united and jointly defend national stability and development," he said.

bouring country. Subsequent attacks, including one on an Indian Army camp in Uri, further deteriorated the relationship.

The relationship deteriorated after India announced withdrawing the special powers of Jammu and Kashmir and bifurcation of the state into two union territories in August 2019.

Will end economic crisis like we ended LTTE: SL PM

AGENCIES

Colombo, April 11: Sri Lanka's embattled Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa Monday said that his government was confident of overcoming the unprecedented economic crisis in the same way it crushed the LTTE over a decade ago. In a televised address to the na-

tion, Mahinda, who is under growing pressure to quit due to the worst economic crisis facing the island nation, said that he understands the people's sufferings.

"We have to strengthen the economy. We will take the responsibility to resolve the economic issue in the same way we ended the 30-year war," the prime minister said, referring to his military victory over the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) in 2009. "The government is spending

every second of the day to resolve this problem. My family is being slandered, we can tolerate it,' Mahinda said. He said the protesters were demanding to send home the entire 225 parliamentarians. "It will be dangerous to reject Parliament," he said. In a bid to blame the Opposition Janatha Vikmuthi Peramuna (JVP) party for the protests. Mahinda recalled the JVP rebellions in the 70s and 80s. The main Opposition Samagi Jana Balawegaya (SJB) said that they have begun the process to move an NCM against the government on its mishandling of the economy. The address of the prime minister came hours after



he LTTE, which led a separatis war for a separate Tamil homeland, was crushed by the Lankan military in 2009 with the death of its supremo Velupillai Prabhakaran

n his first public appearance since countrywide protests began demanding the resignation of his younger brother President Gotabaya and the entire Rakapaksa family, he appealed to the protesters to end their anti-government agitation and said that every minute spent on streets deprives the country of dollar inflow

Opposition Leader Sajith Premadasa alleged that poor economic policies of the government had contributed to the country's economic downturn. The Opposition Leader said that people gave ample time to President Rajapaksa to fulfil their requirements, especially by reducing the increasing cost of living but neither the President nor his Cabinet ministers were able to fulfil their demands. The anti-government protests, which started Saturday, continued to its third day Monday.

He attacked Khan for not making "serious and diplomatic ef-

forts" when India abrogated the

Kashmir issue. "We want good that Pakistan would continue to every forum. We will give them diplomatic and moral support," he added. Shehbaz also asked Prime Minister Narendra Modi to

natred and jeopardizing the peace accord that ended the civil war in Bosnia-Herzegovina more than 25 years ago. Milorad Dodik and Zeljka Cvijanovic will be hit with asset freezes and travel bans in the first sanctions the UK has levelled in Bosnia. Foreign Secretary Liz Truss said Russian President Vladimir Putin's invasion of Ukraine had emboldened the pair to further erode the international rules based system in the Western Balkans. "These two politicians are deliberately undermining the hard won peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina," Truss said.

2 killed in shooting near Los Angeles

Willowbrook (US): Two people were killed in a weekend shooting near Los Angeles and five people were wounded and hospitalised, authorities said. The gunfire erupted at about 4 p.M. Sunday on a residential block in the community of Willowbrook, about 10 miles (16 kilometers) south of downtown Los Angeles, the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department said.

PHILIPPINES: HEAVY RAINS KILL AT LEAST 25



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Manila, April 11: Heavy rains caused by a summer tropical depression killed at least 25 people in the central and southern Philippines, mostly due to landslides, officials said Monday.

Twenty-two villagers died in landslides in four villages in Baybay city in central Leyte province Sunday and Monday, city police chief Lt. Col. Joemen Collado said. At least six other people were reported missing in the landslides and

a search was underway, he said. Three other storm-related deaths were reported by the government's main disaster-response agency in the southern provinces of Davao de Oro and Davao Oriental. "In one village, a landslide occurred and

other victims, unfortunately, were also swept away by the surge of water." Collado told the DZBB radio network. "There were at least six missing but there could be more." In central Cebu city, schools and work were suspended Monday and

Mavor Michael Rama declared a state of calamity to allow the rapid release of emergency funds. At least 20 storms and typhoons batter the Philippines each year, mostly during the rainy season that begins around June. Some storms have hit even during the scorching summer months in recent years.



FOR A CAUSE: Climate demonstrators dressed as a rat, right, and as Britains Prime Minister Boris Johnson, left, hold up placards outside the Science Museum as Extinction Rebellion continues a week of action and outreach in London PTIPHOTO

German Minister guits over family vacation

AGENCIES

Berlin, April 11: A German cabinet minister Monday resigned after it emerged that she went on a long vacation shortly after devastating floods which left over 100 people dead last year in the state where she was then a senior official.

Anne Spiegel quit her post as minister for families and women, citing "political pressure" as she became the first member of Chancellor OIaf Scholz's government to step down. An emotional apology Sunday had failed to stem calls for her to go. Spiegel joined Scholz's Cabinet in December. Before that, she was the environment minister and deputy governor of Rhineland-Palatinate state. The region was worst hit by floods in July that nationwide killed more than 180 people - 134 of them in Rhineland-Palatinate's Ahr valley.

French duel: Macron vs Le Pen fight for presidency

Jailed Egypt activist becomes UK citizen

London: A leading Egyptian pro-democracy activist who has been imprisoned for more than 3 1/2 years has obtained a British passport, his family announced Monday. The move is likely meant to pressure Egyptian authorities to release him. Alaa Abdel-Fattah, an outspoken dissident, rose to prominence with the 2011 prodemocracy uprisings that swept the Middle East and in Egypt toppled long-time President Hosni Mubarak. The 40-year old activist spent most of the past decade behind bars.

Macron already faced Le Pen in the presidential runoff five years ago. But all opinion polls show the leader of the **National Rally** is much closer this time to a potential win

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Paris, Apri 11: French President Emmanuel Macron may be ahead in the presidential race so far, but he warned his supporters that "nothing is done" and his runoff battle with far-right challenger Marine Le Pen will be a hard fight. And she's ready for it. The duel is starting Monday,

after the two came out on top in Sunday's first-round vote. The centrist Macron is heading to an economically depressed area of northern France where a majority of voters chose Le Pen, close to her electoral stronghold of Henin-

Beaumont. Meanwhile, Le Pen's National Rally officials will meet Monday to plan strategy for the second round,



scheduled April 24. Le Pen summed up the standoff by saying voters are faced with "a fundamental choice between two opposing visions of the future.

Macron said he wants to court those who voted for the "extremes" or opted to stay at home. That's what he sought to do in the northern town of Denain Monday by campaigning on his rival's home ground. Le Pen garnered over 41% of votes there as opposed to 14% for Marcon

Macron met with area residents, many of whom criticized his proposed pension changes which include raising the minimum retirement age from 62 to 65.

Denain's mayor, Anne-Lise Dufour-Tonini, told reporters she will vote for Macron 'with no hesitation' in the second round, but intends to push for him to adopt more "leftist proposals."

On her third attempt to become France's first woman president, Le Pen was rewarded Sunday for her years-long effort to rebrand herself as more pragmatic and less extreme. Macron has accused Le Pen of pushing a dangerous manifesto of racist, ruinous policies. Le Pen wants to roll back some rights for Muslims, banning them from wearing headscarves in public, and to drastically reduce immigration from outside Europe.

In his speech Sunday evening, Macron said his project would protect all religions and the freedom "to believe, or not." The rise of food and energy prices is at the core of Le Pen's campaign, but Macron's team argue she wouldn't have the financial means to meet \rightarrow her promises.

Macron will use the next days to "go in the field," he said. Prior to Sunday's first round, Macron was absent from most of the electoral campaign as he spent most of histime focusing on diplomatic efforts over the war in Ukraine.











business

The intention of the government is good ... (but) the straws are not even 0.1% of total plastic consumption... The entire industry will be impacted RS SODHI AMUL MANAGING DIRECTOR

ANNIV EDITION OF YZF-R15M

India Yamaha Motor (IYM) Pvt Ltd Monday launched an anniversary edition of its flagship 155cc supersport motorcycle YZF-R15M priced at ₹1.88 lakh (ex-showroom, Delhi). The company also announced the launch of a new version of its popular MT-15 bike model with a price starting at ₹1.6 lakh (ex-Showroom, Delhi). YZF-R15M 60th Anniversary Edition is inspired by the World GP YZR-M1





We are seeing that the demand (for EV) is significantly outpacing the supply. The numbers are just

the ones which we are able to supply, the demand is definitely much stronger which is reflected in the number of bookings with us

SHAILESH CHANDRA MD, TATA MOTORS PASSENGER VEHICLE & ELECTRIC VEHICLES

The addition of D2C option makes Hero Lectro e-cycles, more accessible than ever -- be it through our Hero Lectro

Experience Centers, our dealer partners or the website, we are truly omni-channel

ADITYA MUNJAL HERO LECTRO CEO

We have seen demand grow for premium MPVs over the past couple of years. We are confident that the all-new XL6 with its bold styling, host of new and advanced technologies along with enhanced safety will deliver an indulgent and stylish experience for

SHASHANK SRIVASTAVA MSI SENIOR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

our NEXA customers

SHORT TAKES

m.Stock trading platform launched

New Delhi: Mirae Asset, a global leader in the financial services industry, Monday launched 'm.Stock', a platform for investment in the capital markets across the world. This new product combines seamless access to all trading and investment products under one roof paired with a 'zero brokerage' and 'nocommission' model. The product that not only caters to the need of seasoned traders but also new-age investors making it a one-stop-shop for the investor community, Mirae Asset said in a statement. With m.Stock, Mirae Asset consolidates its position as a world-class financial sales and trading services firm as well as the curator of exceptionally intuitive technology.

JSW Utkal Steel gets environmental clearance

THE PROJECT IS ONE OF THE LARGEST IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR IN THE COUNTRY

AGENCIES

company said.

Bhubaneswar, April 11: JSW Utkal Steel Ltd (JUSL), a whollyowned subsidiary of JSW Steel Ltd, has got the environmental clearance for setting up a 13.2 MTPA green-field integrated steel plant near Paradip from the Union Ministry of Environment and Forest and Climate Change, a senior official of the company said. The mega crude steel project will

generate huge employment opportunities in the region and boost the economy of Odisha, he said. The capital expenditure for the

modern, green and environmentfriendly integrated steel plant is expected to be approximately ₹65,000 crore including associated facilities like a 10 MTPA cement grinding unit and a 900 MW captive power plant, a statement issued by the

The phase-wise work for the project will start once the land is handed over to the company by the Odisha government, it said. The project is one of the largest

58,964.57

-2.72

-2.67

-2.16

in the manufacturing sector in the country and the ministry of environment gave the clearance after



successful public hearings, the company said.

JUSL has earmarked budgets for social interventions under public health, education, skill development, social infrastructure, waste management, environment, drinking water, women empowerment among others. Additionally, the company has plans to work for environment protection and mitigation measures based on the environment impact assessment.

It said JSW Steel has adopted a specific climate change policy and set an ambitious carbon dioxide emission reduction target of 42 per cent over the base year of 2005 by 2030 to a level of 1.95t CO2/tcs.

NSE Nifty

09:15

Grasim

Cipla

The company is also investing in research and development for sustainable products and emission control, resource optimisation. process efficiency and for ensuring multi-pronged digital focus to improve existing practices.

JSW Steel issued the global steel industry's first sustainabilitylinked US dollar bond in 2021 linked to its decarbonisation target for 2030. The target set by JSW Steel is much steeper than those committed as per India's Paris Accord nationally determined contributions and is aligned with the sustainable development scenario pathway of the International Energy Agency, the company said.

Apple Inc starts manufacturing iPhone 13 in India

REUTERS

New Delhi, April 11: Apple Inc has started making the iPhone 13 in India, the company said Monday, as the US tech giant tries to reduce reliance on its Chinese supply chain.

The phone is being produced at a local plant of Apple's Taiwanese contract manufacturer Foxconn, situated in the town of Sriperumbudur in Southern Tamil Nadu state, according to a source.

Apple has been shifting some areas of iPhone production from China to other markets including India, the world's second biggest smartphone market, and is also planning to assemble iPad tablets there.

India and countries such as Mexico and Vietnam are becoming increasingly important to contract manufacturers supplying American brands as they try to diversify production away from China.

The iPhone 13 is the fourth model to be produced locally after Apple launched manufacturing operations in India in 2017 with the iPhone SE.



Trai recommends over 35% cut in prime 5G spectrum base price

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, April 11: Telecom regulator Trai Monday recommended a 35 per cent cut in the reserve price for prime 5G spectrum frequencies in 3300-3670 MHz band, at ₹317 crore per MHz.

Releasing its much-awaited recommendations, Trai said that all available spectrum in the existing bands of 700 MHz, 800 MHz, 900 MHz, 1800 MHz, 2100 MHz, 2300 MHz, 2500 MHz and the new spectrum bands of 600 MHz, 3300-3670 MHz and 24.25-28.5 GHz, will be put to auction.

"To provide flexibility to the telecom service providers, block size of 10 MHz for 3300-3670 MHz band and 50 MHz for 24.25-28.5 GHz band recommended. Spectrum to be assigned in a contiguous manner," Trai said in a statement.

In all, the reserve price across various bands works out to be nearly 39 per cent lower than that suggested last time, sources said.

For the prime 5G frequency of 3300-3670 MHz band, all-India reserve price adds up to ₹317 crore per MHz, which is over 35 per cent lower than the ₹492 crore/MHz suggested by Trai last time. The base price for coveted 700

Mhz band works out to be ₹3,927 crore per Mhz, which is 40 per cent lower than that proposed last time.

The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (Trai) said that for the longterm growth and sustainability of the telecom sector, infusing liquidity and encouraging investment, the telecom service providers should be allowed easy payment options, including part payment with flexibility of moratorium.

The spectrum auctions are slated to be conducted in 2022, to facilitate the rollout of 5G mobile services within 2022-23, by private telecom providers. The next generation 5G will usher in ultra high-speeds and spawn new-age services and business models.

Adani Green is now 10th most valued company

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, April 11: Adani Green Energy Monday entered the list of top-10 valued firms as its market valuation zoomed over ₹4.22 lakh crore. backed by a sharp rally in its share price.

The company commanded a market valuation of ₹4,22,526.28 crore to grab the tenth spot on the top-10 list. Shares of the company jumped 16.25 per cent to settle at ₹2.701.55 apiece on BSE. During the day, it zoomed 19.99 per cent to ₹2,788.70.



ON SELL-OFF IN IT investment rises 8.5% YoY PRESS TRUST OF INDIA Mumbai, April 11: India Inc's di-17,674.95

rect overseas investment increased 8.5 per cent vear-on-vear to USD 3.34 billion in March 2022, data from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) showed Monday.

SENSEX PLUNGES India Inc's overseas direct

The Indian companies had invested USD 3.1 billion in their overseas fully-owned subsidiaries (WOSs) and joint-ventures (JVs) in the same month a year ago.In the preceding month (February 2022), the outward foreign direct investment was USD 940.62 million.

Of the total amount invested in March 2021-22, USD 1.31 billion was in the form of issuance of



guarantee; USD 1.2 billion as loan and USD 866.93 million was infused in the form of equity, as per the RBI data. The RBI said the data is provisional and subject to change, based on the reporting by authorised dealer banks.

Major investors who infused capital in their overseas ventures included Tata Communications USD 690 million in Singapore; Jindal

Steel and Power USD 366 million in Mauritius; Wipro USD 204.96 million in Cyprus; and Jindal Saw USD 64.50 million in the United Arab Emirates. All of them invested money in their WOS companies.

Restaurant Brand Aisa and Lupin Ltd put in USD 141.34 million and USD 131.25 million in their JVs in Indonesia and the US, respectively.

While Reliance New Energy invested USD 87.73 million in WOS in Norway; Mohalla Internet Pvt Ltd pumped USD 86 million in a fully-owned unit in Mauritius and ONGC Videsh infused USD 83.31 million in a joint-venture in Russia, the data showed.

FM on IMF quota review

New Delhi: Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman Monday held a virtual meeting with newly appointed IMF's Monetary and Financial Committee chair Nadia Calvino and stressed the need for timely completion general review of quotas of the International Monetary Fund to give more say to developing countries. "Finance Minister Smt @nsitharaman and Ms @NadiaCalvino spoke about IMF's role in designing a targeted policy mix to address the trade-off between growth and stability," the finance ministry said in a tweet. The meeting took place ahead of the upcoming Spring Meetings of IMF in Washington DC..

Godrej launches group's finserv arm

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Mumbai: Godrej Industries Ltd (GIL) Monday announced the launch of Godrei Capital (GCL), the financial services arm of the group. GCL is the holding entity for Godrei Housing Finance, a housing finance company and Godrej Finance Ltd. which is an NBFC (Non-Banking Financial Company). The Group plans to invest ₹5,000 crore of equity over the next few years into the financial services venture. "We believe there is clear logic and path in creating a strong position in this (financial services) space and that's why we are now investing in it. We now feel ready and have the appetite to invest. We see it as a big opportunity and will go after it with a lot of intent over the next few years." Godrei Capital's Chairman Pirojsha Godrej, said.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

UltraTech C 0.16 Winro

BSE Sensex

58800 09:15

NTPC

TCS

Nestle

GRAPHICS

Mumbai. April 11: Benchmark BSE Sensex tumbled by nearly 483 points Monday due to selling in IT, capital goods and banking shares following losses in global equities on worries over high-interest rates.

TOP GAINERS TOP LOSERS

ICICI Bank 0.71 HCL Tech -2.73

0.69 L&T

0.26 Infosys

0.10 Asian Paints-1.54

The 30-share index tanked 482.61 points or 0.81 per cent to close at 58,964.57 with 23 of its constituents closing in the red. During the day, it tumbled 552.78 points or 0.92 per cent to 58,894.40.

The 50-issue Nifty of the National Stock Exchange declined by 109.40 points or 0.62 per cent to finish at 17,674.95 as 29 of its stocks declined. 'Negative sentiment across Asian

equities had a bearing on local stocks, as investors followed suit and trimmed their positions in risky counters," Shrikant Chouhan, Head of Equity Research (Retail), Kotak Securities Ltd, said.

HCL Tech fell the most by 2.73 per cent while the other two IT majors Infosys and Wipro also declined by 2.67 per cent and 2.16 per cent, respectively. "Investors, especially, shunned

technology stocks ahead of TCS

results because of fears that any subdued outlook for the next quarter earnings could ignite further selling in the sector going ahead,' Chouhan said.

TOP GAINERS TOP LOSERS

1.55 Infosys

HCL Tech

2.58

Adani Ports 1.81 L&T

Apollo Hospital 1.39 Wipro

JSW Steel 1.24 SBI Life

16:00

-2.65

-2.64

-2.47

-2.07

-1.75

TCS, ahead of its quarterly financial results scheduled for release after market hours Monday, bucked the trend to close higher by 0.26 per cent.

Among major Sensex losers, Larsen & Toubro declined by 2.72 per cent, Asian Paint by 1.54 per cent, HDFC by 1.39 per cent, HDFC Bank by 1.25 per cent, Axis Bank and Dr Reddy's by 1.2 per cent each. Reliance Industries, HUL, Titan,

Tata Steel, Bajaj Finserve, Power Grid and Airtel also dropped. 'The market is wary ahead of the ECB meeting, the release of US inflation data, and the start of the domestic Q4 result season. Indian IT sector dragged due to weak result expectations on a QoQ basis. In this shortened week, the market is cautious as trading at the upper side of the trend and momentum has shifted from broad to stockspecific," Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Financial Services, said.

TCS net profit jumps 7.4 pc in Q4

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, April 11: The country's largest software services firm Tata **Consultancy Services Monday** opened the fourth-quarter earnings season with a stellar set of numbers, crossing the ₹50,000-crore revenue mark for the first time and recording 7.4 per cent yearon-year growth in net profit to ₹9,926 crore.

This quarterly earning helped the city-based software major -- which employs over 5,92,000 professionals deployed in 46 countries -- to cross the USD 25 billion annual revenue mark for the first time, clipping at 16.8 per cent to USD 25.7 billion or ₹1,91,754 crore, the company said in a press briefing this evening. Full-year net income grew 14.8

per cent to ₹38,327 crore. Rajesh Gopinathan, the chief

executive and managing director, told reporters that the quarter witnessed the higher-ever incre-



mental revenue addition of USD 3.533 billion and an all-time high order book of USD 11.3 billion, which for the full year stood at USD 34.6 billion.

The total income rose 15.8 per cent to ₹50,591 crore in the quarter, Gopinathan said, adding they could maintain an industry-leading operating margin of 25.3 per cent, which is down 180 bps from the year-ago quarter, while the net margin stood at a healthy 19.6 per cent. "We have closed FY22 on a strong note, with mid-teen growth and adding the maximum incremental revenue ever. Increasing participation in our customers' growth and transformation journeys, and an all-time high order book provide us with a strong and sustainable foundation for continued growth ahead," Gopinathan added.

The company pipped Bharti Airtel to enter the top-10 list. Bharti Airtel's valuation is at ₹4,16,240.75 crore. Shares of the company have rallied 103.46 per cent so far this year.

Reliance Industries Limited with a market valuation of ₹17.65.503.82 crore is the country's most valued firm, followed by TCS (Rs 13,52,531.75 crore), HDFC Bank (Rs 8,29,723.84 crore), Infosys (Rs 7,43,183.48 crore), ICICI Bank (Rs 5.27.898.16 crore). HUL (Rs 5,08,475.05 crore), State Bank of India (Rs 4,59,572.87 crore), Bajaj Finance (Rs 4,44,173.16 crore), HDFC (Rs 4,39,449.99 crore) and Adani Green Energy. Abu Dhabibased conglomerate International Holding Company will invest USD 2 billion in three green-focused companies of Adani Group.

Adani Enterprises Ltd, the group's flagship firm, will get ₹7,700 crore (USD 1.02 billion) by issuing preferential shares to IHC, while Adani Green Energy Ltd (AGEL) and Adani Transmission Ltd (ATL) will receive ₹3,850 crore each via the same equity instrument, the group said in a statement.

INDIA'S FUEL SALES HIT 3-YEAR HIGH IN MARCH

PETROL AND DIESEL CONSUMPTION RISE ABOVE PRE-PANDEMIC LEVELS

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, April 11: The country's fuel demand soared 4.2 per cent to a three-vear high in March as petrol and diesel consumption rose above pre-pandemic levels, according to official data released Monday.

Total petroleum product consumption in March stood at 19.41 million tonnes, the highest since March 2019, data from the Petroleum Planning and Analysis Cell of the oil ministry showed.

As the economy continued to rebound from the deep impact of the third wave of the COVID-19 pandemic, demand for transport fuel rose in March.

Diesel, the most used fuel in the country accounting for almost 40 per cent of all petroleum product consumption, saw the demand rising by 6.7 per cent to 7.7 million tonnes. Petrol sales, which crossed the pre-Covid levels a few months ago, were up 6.1 per cent at 2.91 million tonnes.

Demand for both the fuels in March was above pre-pandemic levels

Diesel consumption was higher due to strong demand from agriculture sector as well as stocking up by consumers and petrol pumps



in March

in anticipation of a price hike. Cooking gas (LPG) demand grew

Fuel demand in the fiscal year ending March 31, 2022 was up 4.3 per cent at 202.71 million tonnes, the highest since FY20.

While auto and cooking fuel consumption rose, there was a degrowth in industrial fuel.

Petrol consumption was up 10.3 per cent at 30.85 million tonnes in 2021-22 while diesel sales were up 5.4 per cent at 76.7 million tonnes. The demand for petrol in FY22

was the highest ever while the diesel sales were the highest since 82.6 million tonnes of consumption in 2019-20.

by 9.8 per cent to 2.48 million tonnes Consumption of LPG was up 3 per cent at 28.33 million tonnes.

Jet fuel or ATF demand soared 35 per cent to 5 million tonnes but was less than 8 million tonnes consumption in the pre-pandemic year. This was mainly because full aviation services resumed only towards the end of the last month.

Petroleum coke consumption fell 9.7 per cent to 14.1 million tonnes while kerosene demand was down 17 per cent at 1.5 million tonnes in FY22.

Consumption of naphtha, which is used as a fuel in industries, as well as that of bitumen, used in road construction, were marginallyhigher at 14.2 million tonnes and 7.7 million tonnes, respectively.









OrissaPOST TUESDAY | APRIL 12 | 2022 | BHUBANESWAR

CSK look for 1st win⁻⁶ **SRH SNAP GT'S UNBEATEN RUN** of season, face RCB

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Navi Mumbai, April 11: Sunrisers Hyderabad snapped Gujarat Titans three-match winning streak with a eight-wicket win in the IPL, with captain Kane Williamson leading from the front with a solid 57 (46b 2x4, 4x6) while Nicholas Pooran (34 n o, 18b, 2x4, 2x6) gave the finishing touches with a late flourish here Monday.

Hardik Pandya's unbeaten 50 (42b, 4x4, 1x6) had taken Gujarat Titans to 162/7 after being sent in to bat, but that was never going to be enough, as Williamson, who struck his first fifty of the season, anchored the Sunrisers' chase, as they crossed the line in 19.1 overs.

Sunrisers thus recorded their second consecutive win after de feating Chennai Super Kings Saturday last, while it was the Titan's first defeat after a hat-trick of wins.

Williamson first added 64 runs with opener Abhishek Sharma (42, 32b, 6x4) to lay the foundation of the win. He then forged a 40-run stand with Rahul Tripathi, who retired hurt on 17, to inch closer to the win.

Pooran sealed the deal with his brutal hitting after Willaimson was out in the 17th over. He hit a six to finish the match, taking his side to 168/2 in 19.1 overs.

There were two game changing moments. First, in the 13th over, Williamson launched into Hardik by hitting him for two sixes. Then, in the 16th over bowled by Lockie Ferguson, the Sunrisers captain clobbered a six and a boundary, as SRH were cruising towards the target.

Earlier, captain Pandya's responsible knock helped Gujarat Titans post a competitive 162/7 after a top-order failure. Invited to bat, Hardik first forged a 40-run stand for the fourth wicket with David Miller (12) to rally the innings after the top three batters failed to convert their starts as



Gujarat were in a spot of bother at 64/3 after eight overs. Hardik then added 50 runs with Abhinav Mahonar, who justified his

Rs 2.60 crore price tag with his quick fire 35 off 21 balls, to ensure that the Titans crossed the 150-run mark

Manohar, who got three lives, hit five boundaries and one six in his short stay and particularly launched into T Natarajan (2/34) in the 18th over, where Gujarat amassed 13 runs. However, it was an unusual Hardik knock, as he mixed caution with aggression to anchor the innings.

The 'all-rounder' announced his arrival with a straight-drive off Natarajan to fetch his first boundary and then was brutal on Umran Malik (1/39), whom he hammered two successive boundaries in the eight over, which fetched nine runs.

In the next over, he clobbered Aiden Markaram for his only maximum over cow-corner but Hardik was devoid of partners, as SRH kept striking at regular intervals.

The SRH attack largely kept Hardik at bay, as they did not allow him to free his arms in the last five overs and as a result it was Hardik' slowest fifty in the IPL.

Earlier, opener Matthew Wade earned his first boundary, courtesy a thick outside edge in the first over, where Bhuvneshwar Kumar (2/37) conceded 17 runs, 12 of them extras

But Gujarat lost Wade (19), Shubman Gill (7) and one-down batter Sai Sudarshan (11) cheaply. Gill was undone by a stunning onehanded diving catch by Rahul Tripathi at cover, off Bhuvneshwar, in the third over.

Sudarshan, who was looking rusty, became Natarajan's first victim, after ballooning to Kane Williamson at mid-off. Wade, who hammered three boundaries, was trapped in front of the wicket, after he missed a flick, off a fuller delivery by Malik in the eight over. Then it was Hardik and Manohar show as Gujarat added 82 runs in the final 10 overs

BRIEF SCORES

Gujarat Titans 162/7 (Hardik Pandya 50 n o, Abhinav Manohar 35; T Natarajan 2/34, Bhuvneshwar Kumar 2/37, Marco Jansen 1/27) lost to Sunrisers Hyderabad 168/2 (Kane Williamson 57, Abhishek Sharma 42, Nicolas Pooran 34 n o; Hardik Pandya 1/27, Rashid Khan 1/28) by 8 wickets.



NUIDO

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Navi Mumbai, April 11: Defending champions Chennai Super Kings would need to lift themselves after a nightmarish start to the season and play a 'complete' game when they take on a high-flying Royal Challengers Bangalore in the IPL here Tuesday.

In words of head coach Stephen Fleming, the team's self-belief is shaken after four losses in a row. The four-time champions haven't played the cricket they are known for under skipper Ravindra Jadeja, who has not been able to lead from the front.

The seniors in the team including 'Thala' MS Dhoni, Robin Uthappa, Ambati Rayudu and Dwayne Bravo need to step up in this crisis situation. CSK have only posted one 200 plus score so far while scoring sub-par totals in the other three games.

The CSK batters will have to face a potent RCB bowling attack including the likes of spinner Wanindu Hasaranga, David Willey and Mohammed Siraj.

Young Ruturaj Gaikwad, who has had a miserable season so far, will need to step up and deliver and also all-rounders Moeen Ali and Shivam Dube will have to take more responsibility.

Fleming admitted that the side is facing two-fold problems - unavailability of Deepak Chahar due to injury and a below-par show in all departments.



A buoyant RCB, however, are ticking all the boxes. Opener Anuj Rawat, who hit his maiden IPL fifty, came to the party against Mumbai Indians, while Virat Kohli also got much needed runs.

Skipper Faf Du Plessis can take any attack to cleaners and the topthree too are in good form. Dinesh Karthik is the firing finisher for RCB and engineer-turned cricketer Shahbaz Ahmed has also impressed with his batting so far.

Apart from veteran Dwayne Bravo, CSK bowlers have been way off the mark. They need to get the bowling combination right having tried many options. Another key weak-link is Mukesh Choudhary, who has been leaking runs. Unless CSK find the right combination, RCB would be expected to run away with the game.

TODAY'S MATCH CSK 🕐 RCB (🞽 Time: 07:30 pm TELECAST Star Sports channels & Hotstar

against Germany



Amit to lead India Durham to speak to Franklin over Chahal allegations

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, April 11: County side Durham has said they will speak to head coach James Franklin "privately" over the physical harassment allegations made by Indian leg-spinner Yuzvendra Chahal against the former New Zealand pacer

Earlier this year, in a podcast published by Royal Challengers Bangalore, Chahal had recalled an incident from 2011 when his then Mumbai Indians teammates Franklin and Australian all-rounder Andrew Symonds had allegedly tied him up while celebrating their win in the Champions League final that year.



ports surrounding an incident in 2011 which name a member of our staff," Durham said in a statement to 'ESPNcricinfo'. "As with any matters involving employees, the club will speak privately with all parties involved to determine the facts.

Chahal also alleged that the duo had taped his mouth, left him in a room and forgot about him for a whole night. Franklin, who was part of Mumbai Indians squad from 2011 to 2013, was appointed Durham coach in early 2019.

got together and tied my hands and legs and said, 'no, you've to open'. They were so lost that they taped my mouth and forgot about me completely during the party. "Then they all left and, in the morning, someone came to clean

ing, but he and James Franklin

[the room] and saw me, and called a few others and untied me," Chahal claimed. According to Chahal, neither player has ever apologised.

The allegations against Franklin and Symonds have come to the fore after the leg-spinner revealed another shocking incident when a drunk player dangled him from the 15th-floor balcony of a Bangalore hotel during a post-match IPL party in 2013.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhubaneswar, April 11: Defender Amit Rohidas will continue to lead the 22-member Indian men's hockey team in its next FIH Pro League tie against Germany, starting here Thursday.

Star dragflicker Harmanpreet Singh will don the responsibility of vice-captain in the double-header at the Kalinga Stadium. The second match of the tie will be played Friday.

There were no big surprises in the squad as the Indian team management continues to test various combination from the core group in the Pro League ties ahead of a busy calendar year, which includes the Birmingham Commonwealth Games and the Asian Games in Hangzhou, China.

The squad includes goalkeepers PR Sreejesh, Krishan Bahadur Pathak, and defenders Varun Kumar, Amit Rohidas, Surender Kumar, Jugraj Singh, Harmanpreet Singh, Jarmanpreet Singh, and Gurinder Singh

The midfield will manned by Nilakanta Sharma, Manpreet Singh, Vivek Sagar Prasad, Shamsher Singh, Hardik Singh, and Moirangthem Rabichandra Singh, while the forward line will feature Sukhjeet Singh, Abhishek, Mandeep Singh, Shilanand Lakra, Dilpreet Singh, Lalit Kumar Upadhyay, and Akashdeep Singh.

Speaking about the team composition, India's chief coach Graham Reid said, "This year's FIH Pro League has provided us with great opportunities to try different combinations and tactics. We have recognised what works and, more importantly, what areas

THE TEAM

Goalkeepers: Sreejesh Parattu Raveendran, Krishan B Pathak; Defenders: Varun Kumar, Amit Rohidas, Surender Kumar, Jugraj Singh, Harmanpreet Singh, Jarmanpreet Singh, Gurinder Singh; Midfielders: Nilakanta Sharma, Manpreet Singh, Vivek Sagar Prasad, Shamsher Singh, Hardik Singh, Moirangthem Rabichandra Singh; Forwards: Sukhjeet Singh, Abhishek, Mandeep Singh, Shilanand Lakra, Dilpreet Singh, Lalit Kumar Upadhyay, Akashdeep Singh.

we need to improve on.

"This week against Germany is the last leg of our home games for this year and we are looking forward to two more world-class encounters once again.

'Germany are always an extremely tough opponent and given where we both are on the ladder it will be important for us to finish this week with as many points as possible to remain at the top of the points table," he added.

India has so far played 10 matches in this season of FIH Pro League and are currently placed on top of the table with 21 points, while Germany occupy the second position with 17 points from eight games

The Indian team had beaten South Africa in the double header (10-2, 10-2), while they won a game and lost one each against France (5-0, 2-5), which was also held in South Africa.

At home, India won a game and lost one to Spain (5-4, 3-5), won one game 4-3 and lost one 2-2 (1-3 SO) against Argentina, and recently, won both their games against England, 3-3 (3-2 SO), and 4-3.

"We are aware of recent news re-

Eves look to recreate 2013 magic

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Potchefstroom (South Africa), April 11: Their dream of winning a maiden FIH Junior Women's Hockey World Cup title shattered, India need to lift their morale quickly to match their best-ever third place finish when they take on England in the bronze medal tie here Tuesday. India had a memorable campaign in the tournament till the

semifinals, where they lost 0-3 to three-time champions, the Netherlands. India had an unbeaten run in the pool stages, which include a 2-

1 win over Germany, a side which will play the Dutch in the title clash But the title chance now out of

their grasp, the Indians would look to at least finish on the podium, like they did in the 2013 edition in Monchengladbach, Germany.

Back in the 2013 women's Junior World Cup, it was the Netherlands who had defeated India 3-0 in the semifinals and the Indian team, led by Sushila Chanu, then had faced England in the bronze medal tie, which they eventually won after a tense shootout.

But it remains to be seen whether the Salima Tete-led side can recreate the 2013 script Tuesday. Tete was visibly disappointed with the team's effort against the Netherlands.

"We are quite disappointed from our match against Netherlands. We created so many chances but could not convert. It just felt like it wasn't our day," she said.

But the skipper said the semifinal is a thing of the past now. "There is no point thinking about what's happened in the past. Now we need to be focused on the upcoming match against England.

"Getting off to a good start

against them will definitely give us the right momentum and that is what we will be looking for against them." Tete said.

India would be banking heavily on Lalremsiami, Sharmila Devi and Mumtaz Khan, who is India's top-scorer with six goals, to deliver the goods upfront.

England, on the other hand, will be low on confidence after the 0-8 drubbing at the hands of Germany in the semifinal.

But vice-captain Ishika Chaudhary reiterated that India can't afford to let go off chances against England. "England is a good side and we watched videos from their previous matches. I just feel it is important for us to be focused on our game and ensure we score from the chances we create and be tight in our defending. It's important we don't allow space for them and we must play to our

strengths," said Chaudhary.



"It happened in 2011, wh Mumbai Indians won the Champions League. We were in Chennai. He [Symonds] had had a lot of 'fruit juice'.

"I don't know what he was think-

De Jong keeps Barca head high at Levante



(From L) Luuk de Jong and Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang share a laughter after the match, while Pedri follows them off the field, Sunday

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Madrid, April 11: Not even conceding three penalty kicks was enough to stop Barcelona's impressive run. Barcelona rallied to a 3-2 win against second-to-last Levante in the Spanish league Sunday, with substitute Luuk de Jong scoring in stoppage time after the Catalan club had conceded three penalties in the second half.

The win extended Barcelona's unbeaten run to 15 matches in all competitions and moved the team back into second place in the league after it was leapfrogged by Sevilla Saturday. Barcelona are 12 points behind leaders Real Madrid with a game in hand. Madrid beat Getafe 2-0 Saturday.

Barcelona's rally began after Xavi put Pedri into the game early in the second half with the team a goal down. The 19-year-old playmaker was rested ahead of Barcelona's return leg against Eintracht Frankfurt in the quarterfinals of the Europa League Thursday. Barcelona and Eintracht drew the first leg 1-1 in Germany last week.

José Luis Morales put Levante ahead by converting a penalty kick in the 52nd after a foul by Dani Alves. The second penalty for the hosts came four minutes later after a handball by Barcelona defender Eric García, with Roger Martí missing from the spot.

Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang equalised for Barcelona with a header off a cross by Ousmane Dembélé in the 59th, and Pedri scored the go-ahead goal from inside the area in the 63rd.

Levante evened the match after another penalty in the 83rd after a foul by Barcelona defender Clément Lenglet, with Gonzalo Melero converting his shot from the spot before De Jong got the late winner after a well-placed cross by Jordi Alba.

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