

POST NEWS NETWORK Bahanaga, June 19: CBI sleuths Monday sealed the Soro residence of signal engineer of Bahanaga Bazar and Soro stations in Balasore district after failing to nab him even after nineteen days

Bahanaga Bazar station. The signal engineer identified as Amir Khan of Bahanaga Bazar and Soro stations has been absconding with his family members after the horrific train accident occurred, June 2.

of the triple train mishap at

Khan had been staving at the house of Bhagirathi Sandhibigraha on rent at Kamarpur in Soro area. Earlier, the CBI had sealed the Bahanaga Bazar railway station and picked up two officials including the station manager for interrogation.

The sealing of the house of the signal engineer assumes significance as it came on the eve of Union Railways Minister Aswini Vaishnaw's visit to the Bahanaga Bazar railway station scheduled for Tuesday.



We need to send them back. Their Home Minister has just claimed that



WAITING TO ROLL: Security personnel and servitors pull Goddess Subhadra's chariot 'Darpadalana' from the Rath Yard to Lions' Gate of Srimandir on the eve of annual Rath Yatra in Puri, Monday

## **IPS** officer Sinha AGENCIES

New Delhi, June 19: Senior IPS officer Ravi Sinha, an expert on neighbourhood countries and operations, was Monday appointed as the new head of external spy agency R&AW, succeeding Samant Goel who completes his four-year stint June 30.

According to an order issued by the Ministry of Personnel, the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved the appointment of 59-year-old Sinha, a 1988 batch IPS officer from Chhattisgarh, as the Secretary RAW for a tenure of two years. Sinha, who has had an over two-decade-long stint in the Research and Analysis Wing (R&AW), is at present the second-

in-command in the organisation.

Before being promoted, he was

looking after the operations wing.

# IPS officer Sinha new R&AW chief J&K: 5 yrs sans democracy

### AGENCIES

Srinagar, June 19: Jammu and Kashmir Monday completed five years without an elected government, prompting a scathing attack from the mainstream National Conference and Peoples Democratic Party over the delay in restoration of democracy in the Union Territory.

On August 5, 2019, the Centre revoked Article 370, which



'Democracy is in our veins, it is in our culture': 'India is the mother of democracy'; 'India is the temple of democracy'. Great sounding words that the international community lap up & regurgitate ad-nauseam. Meanwhile J&K completes 5 years under central rule today. Democracy ends where J&K begins

PDP spokesperson Mohit Bhan said the entire nation should hang its head in shame.

Entire nation & its leadership must hang their heads in shame for calling itself 'Mother of Democracy'. J&K languishes under central rule for a staggering 5 years, with the last election held 9 years ago. The blatant disregard for people's rights & representation is appalling, he said in a tweet.

(KTF) chief Hardeep Singh Nijjar, one of India's mostwanted terrorists who carried a cash reward of Rs 10 lakh on his head, was shot dead outside a gurdwara in the North American country, officials here said Monday.

A resident of Bharsinghpur village in Punjab's Jalandhar, Nijjar was found dead inside a car with bullet wounds in the parking lot of Guru Nanak Sikh Gurdwara Sahib, of which he was the head, in Surrey around 8.30pm (local time) Sunday, they said.

Quoting preliminary information, the officials said Nijjar was shot by two unidentified assailants and died on the spot.

When his body was being moved from the scene by the Canadian police, a group of Sikhs raised pro-Khalistan and anti-India slogans, according to the officials.

Nijjar was one of the mostwanted terrorists in India for his alleged involvement in terror activities in the country.

In July last year, the National Investigation Agency (NIA) had announced a cash reward of Rs 10 lakh on information leading to Nijjar's arrest in connection with an attack on a Hindu priest in Jalandhar in 2021.



nobody died in the cyclone

MARKET WATCH				
IN	DEX		VARI	ATION
RSES	SENSEX	63168.30	₽	216.28
CURRENCY BOURSES	NIFTY	18755.45	₽	70.55
ENCY	DOLLAR	82.05	♥	₹0.06
CURR	EURO	89.44	♥	₹0.18
NOI	GOLD	₹59,215	♥	₹139
BULLION	SILVER	₹72,523	₽	₹165

granted special status to Jammu and Kashmir, and bifurcated the state into two Union Territories -- Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh.

PDP president Mehbooba Mufti resigned from the post of the chief minister June 19, 2018 after alliance partner BJP withdrew support to her coalition government.



In a sarcastic tweet, National Conference (NC) vice president Omar Abdullah Monday said democracy in India ends where Jammu and Kashmir begins.

"Democracy is in our veins, it is in our culture; India is the mother of democracy; India is the



temple of democracy. Great sounding words that the international community lap up & regurgitate ad-nauseam. Meanwhile J&K completes 5 vears under central rule today Democracy ends where J&K begins," he tweeted.

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Meanwhile, the chorus for holding assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir is growing with all political parties, including the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), urging the Election Commission to announce the poll dates.

The last assembly election in Jammu and Kashmir took place in 2014

The reward announcement came nearly three weeks after the NIA filed a charge sheet against him and three others in connection with the attack.

According to the NIA, Nijjar was also promoting the secessionist and violent agenda of pro-Khalistan group 'Sikhs for Justice' in India.

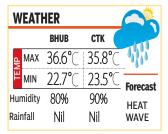
V-GUARD

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ଏହି ରଥ ଯାତ୍ରାରେ,

## IndiGo orders 500 planes from Airbus

### AGENCIES



Mumbai/New Delhi, June 19: In one of the largest-ever aircraft purchases by an airline, IndiGo Monday announced placing a firm order to buy 500 narrow-body planes from Airbus as the airline embarks on an ambitious long-term growth path.

The multi-billion dollar deal comes less than five months after Air India placed orders for 470 aircraft with Airbus and Boeing. The latest order by IndiGo is the largest-ever aircraft order placed by any airline with Airbus. Financial details of the order were not disclosed.

The aircraft purchase agreement was signed between the airline and Airbus at the Paris Air Show 2023. The latest order will provide IndiGo a further steady stream of deliveries

between 2030 and 2035, the airline said in a release. Currently, IndiGo operates more than 300 aircraft. It has previous orders totalling 480 aircraft, which are yet to be delivered.

This IndiGo order book comprises a mix of A320NEO, A321NEO and A321XLR aircraft, it said. With this new order, since its inception in 2006, IndiGo has ordered a massive total of 1,330 aircraft with Airbus. More P11

# Sunak, Zelenskyy relish homemade 'barfi'

Sunak has developed a close bond with the Ukrainian President since taking charge at 10 Downing Street in October last year

### AGENCIES

London, June 19: British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak revealed that he shared some barfi (Indian sweet) made by his mother with Volodymyr Zelenskyy at Downing Street recently, hours before his latest phone call with the Ukrainian President Monday.

The 43-year-old British Indian leader posted a reel over the weekend on his official Instagram account of an interview during which he shared the moment his mother Usha's homemade delicacy was en-



joyed by the Ukrainian leader. The incident goes back to last month when Sunak made a quick visit to his hometown of Southampton to launch a new government scheme for the statefunded National Health Service (NHS) to expand the role of high street pharmacies.

"They [parents] were upset because I had come to visit the pharmacy that my mum ran earlier in the week, I hadn't told them I was back in Southampton, they were very upset; they tried to come and see me, but it wasn't possible," he said. "My mum had got some Indian sweets that she wanted to give me

that she'd made, called barfi, that she couldn't give me then but then she managed to give them to me at a football match, which was important to her.'

'Oddly enough, I saw President Zelenskyy on the Monday after that, and he and I were chatting, and he was hungry. So, I actually gave him some of my mum's barfi... she was thrilled by that," he said.

Sunak has often spoken about his family-run Sunak Pharmacy in the southern England port city of Southampton, where he was born and helped out his mother as a schoolboy.

Sunak has developed a close bond with the Ukrainian President since taking charge at 10 Downing Street in October last year and assured him of the UK's diplomatic and military support in the country's conflict with Russia.

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### **BUTLER CUT HIMSELF TO GET OUT OF DEPRESSION**

Black Sabbath's bassist-and-lyricist Geezer Butler had the habit of cutting himself to 'get relief' from his depression. He has dished on in great detail about his battle with his mental health over the years, and how he would self-harm so he wouldn't be focused on his mental state, reports aceshowbiz.com.

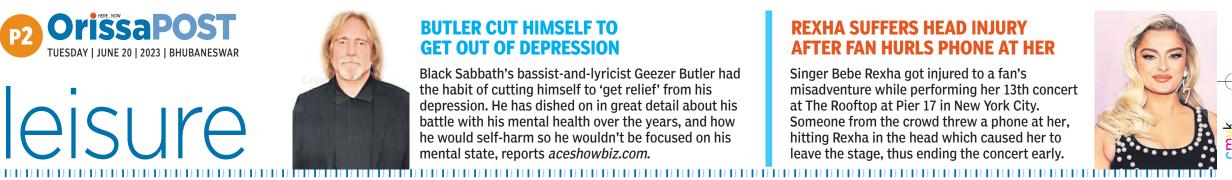
THOUGHT THEY

FUN

### **REXHA SUFFERS HEAD INJURY** AFTER FAN HURLS PHONE AT HER

Singer Bebe Rexha got injured to a fan's misadventure while performing her 13th concert at The Rooftop at Pier 17 in New York City. Someone from the crowd threw a phone at her, hitting Rexha in the head which caused her to leave the stage, thus ending the concert early.

SUDOKU



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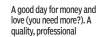
FORTUNE **FORECAST** 



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Today, you may want to express your artistic streak Hence, you may either decide to paint the walls of your house in vibrant colours, or touch up some old unused furniture in art deco style. You may even get nostalgic about an old matchbox collection and decide to restore it. Ganesha encourages all such fulfilling activity.

## **TAURUS**



approach will help you shine out in business today. Be it launching a product or marketing it, you will win yourself hearts, smiles and a bundle of green. Let the leader in you take over during the day and the lover in you return by night, says Ganesha

. . . . . . . . . . . . . .

## GEMINI

The first half of the day should see you fresh and rosy with enthusiasm. You will be able to channel your energies in the right direction today. You will be able to pursue projects which really interest you. You will likely spend your lunch time in the company of friends and family.

### CANCER

The health of a kin may cause anxiety, says Ganesha. Your lack of enthusiasm will influence you on family matters. So you will have to focus on family members. New ties and contacts are in the offing. Over-all, a hectic and profit-able day



You will be worried about financial matters today and will attempt to organise your monetary transactions intelligently. You will need to change your spending habits, both at work and at home. You should put off controversial discussions with your family members for some other opportune time, says Ganesha

## VIRGO

You will share your thoughts and ideas with other people. You could develop a new outlook on life, says Ganesha. Don't miss any chance to make your near and dear ones feel that they are special in your life. Ganesha foretells that you will take the advise of your close friends on professional and moral matters



## PEANUTS

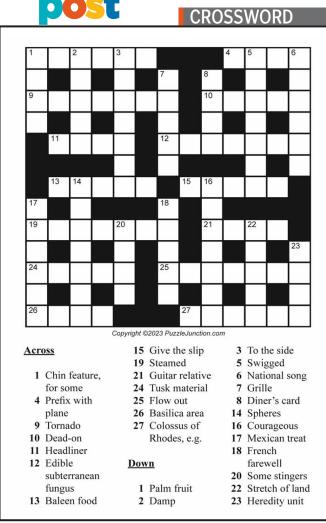
HOLIDAY



## CALVIN AND HOBBES







CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMORROW

### 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 8 6 2 5 1 3 6 7 3 3 9 5 4 3 4 1 1 2 4 8 2

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# Love makes you the best version of yourself: Rakul

Mumbai: Actress Rakul Preet Singh has said that the only deal-breaker for her in a relationship is lying, adding that there is nothing that cannot be spoken about in a relationship. Rakul is currently dating actor-producer Jackky Bhagnani. The Marjaavan actress told in an interview, "The biggest dealbreaker in a relationship, for me, is lying. I think there isn't anything in a relationship that can't be spoken about. I believe in that sort of a relationship, where you're friends at a basic level. If my partner makes a mistake, he should be able to come and tell me because we're all humans and humans make mis-

takes. But lying, trying to cover up lies, act

find your life more meaning-ful and fulfilling today because you will be able to indulge the artistic streak in your personality. In the evening, you may go out shopping, possibly for buying new things for your home.

### **SCORPIO**

Suddenly, you may become health conscious. According to Ganesha, today's resolution would be eat healthy and live a healthy life. A regular exercise regime would top the list of daily activities. Today, you realise the true meaning of the adage, 'work is worship'

### SAGITTARIUS

The day does not begin on a good note, says Ganesha. Certain circumstances at work may prove you weak. You are likely to come across hurdles in your work dur ing the later half of the day. However, monetary gains bring some respite to your disturbed mind.

### **CAPRICORN**

You are very close to your family members and they will lend a helping hand whenever you need them. They will help

you climb the ladder of success and mak ing the upward movement more comfortable. Happiness will come to you, however, you may have to pay a price for it.

### AOUARIUS

You have put your family life on the back burner, but now it is high time you pay attention to it. Make sincere efforts to win the affection and respect of your family members, advises Ganesha. Your honesty will not go unnoticed and you'll again feel the warmth of their hearts.

### **PISCES**

You will need to enlist the cooperation of your colleagues while chalking out strategies at the workplace today, if you desire to make substantial progress, says Ganesha. The good news is that your efforts are likely to fructify. Some important decisions will be delayed if left unat tended until the evening.

ing dodgy and emotional cheating is strict no-no for me.

She added, "I think 'love' as a word, today, is so misused. Sometimes we tend to think that when you love someone, you want them to do what you want to do as opposed to letting them flourish. But I think love allows you to flourish and be the best version of yourself." On the workfront Rakul has Indian 2, I Love You and was last seen in Chhatriwali and Boo.

AGENCIES

Cafeteria celebrates select

works of Sachi Routray

response from fans. More than the story it's Prabhas portrayal as Raghav (Lord Ram) that had piqued the maximum interest ever since the project was announced. The Radhe Shyam actor says, "There were apprehensions, but no reservations. Portraying such a revered figure comes with a great responsibility, considering the emotional and spiritual attachment people have towards Prabhu Shri Ram.' In an interview earlier, the

Mumbai: Actor Prabhas talks

about the responsibility of

playing a revered figure like

Lord Ram and how he did not

It's been three days since

Adipurush released, and the

film has been getting a mixed

want to make any mistake.

emotional and spiritual aspects attached to it.'

Baahubali actor shared, "This

film revolves around the epic tale

of Ramayana, which is deeply

rooted in Indian culture and reli-

gion. Hence, my approach was to

portray this part with utmost au-

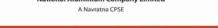
thenticity and respect, as we've

have all grown up listening to this

story and there are numerous

'Playing Lord Rama was a huge responsibility'

AGENCIES



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Bhubaneswar: Jnanpth Award winning poet Sachidananda Routray, aka Sachi Routray, is known for his poems on revolution. His compositions such as Baji Rout, Chhota Mora Gan Ti and Pallishri have fetched him loads of accolades and recognition. But not many are aware that he was a very sensible shortstory writer. To highlight his works in this segment of liter-

ature City-based literary organisation Cafeteria organised a storytelling-cum-discussion programmet here, Sunday. Among the luminaries who deliberated on Routray's short-stories were famous novelist Ajay Swain, poet Hiranmayee Mishra

and Alok Ranjan Sarangi, lecturer, Baji Rout Memorial College, Dhenkanal. The event was moderated by well known poet and columnist Kedar Misha.

Whether it is a poem or a short story, Sachi Routray's works will continue to inspire generations to come, said the participants.

Young poets Suman Dash and Subrat Senapati read out two popular stories-Bisarjan and Sakhi-while Arpita Pati set the tone by singing Routray's famous song Chhota Mora Gan Ti. Two other emerging talents Anshuman Sahoo and Gouri Sahoo recited Droupadira Shadhi and Konarka-two popular poems of Routray.

The participants appreciated the unique initiative undertaken by Cafeteria's director Subhashree Subhasmita Mishra.

Every month, one such event will be organised to involve young minds in Odia literature, said Mishra. For the unversed, Cafeteria is a popular hangout destination for the writing communities of Bhubaneswar which has been regularly conducting such interactive sessions for the last couple of years.

BIJAY MANDAL, OF



## **issaPOS** TUESDAY | JUNE 20 | 2023 | BHUBANESWAR

# **Stage set for Rath Yatra**

THOUSANDS OF DEVOTEES HAVE STARTED THRONGING PILGRIM TOWN PURI TO WITNESS THE NINE-DAY LONG RATH YATRA BEGINNING TODAY

Balabhadra and younger sister

the Singha Dwar and parked fac-

ing East towards Gundicha tem-

ple. The chariots will be pulled

A large number of devotees

visited the temple Monday on

the occasion of Nabajouban dar-

shan after the deities recovered

from 14-day long illness.

by lakhs of devotees Tuesday.

and visit Gundicha Temple.



### PNN & AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, June 19: The Odisha government has made elaborate arrangements for smooth and timely conduct of the famous annual Rath Yatra of Lord Jagannath and his siblings in Puri, Tuesday. All roads lead to the pilgrim

town. Thousands of devotees have started thronging pilgrim town Puri to witness the nine-day long Rath Yatra beginning Tuesday.

Lord Jagannath and his two siblings - elder brother

After due consideration of

the weather prediction.

School & Mass Education

department decided to

reopen all schools June 21

Bhubaneswar, June 19: The south-

west monsoon is likely to hit Odisha

within the next 2 to 3 days, the

India Meteorological Department

It said the southwest monsoon

has further advanced into some

more parts of Karnataka, Andhra

POST NEWS NETWORK

(IMD) said Monday.

7.20am due to early completion of rituals and this was followed by the Sahana Mela darshan from 8.05am in which the devotees witnessed the Nabajoubana Besha (attire) of the Lords from the Bhitara Katha inside the Jagmohan, said Odisha Chief Secretary PK Jena, who was in Puri Monday.

Praying for a chill weather tomorrow, Jena said all arrangements have been made keeping heat wave condition in view. Sufficient drinking water facilities including distribution of water bottles have been made for the devotees, he said.

Subhadra - are all set to give Water sprinkling will be done darshan to the public in Raths by the fire service personnel and ORS will also be given to The three majestic chariots the devotees, Jena stated. are ready and will be brought to

Till now, all the rituals are being conducted smoothly and little ahead. We will have another round of discussion with the senior servitors this evening for timely completion of the rituals during Ghosa Yatra, he added. Tight security arrangements have been made in and around

Puri town for the festival. The pil-The Parimanika darshan of grim town has been divided into the Lords was started early at 14 zones and 29 sectors

# Major fire breaks out at 4-storeyed building

### GYAN RANJAN MOHAPATRA, OP

Bhubaneswar, June 19: A major fire broke out at a four-storeyed building near BMC Bhawani Mall under Saheed Nagar police limits here Monday. Though no casualties were reported, properties worth over lakhs were gutted in the fire mishap.

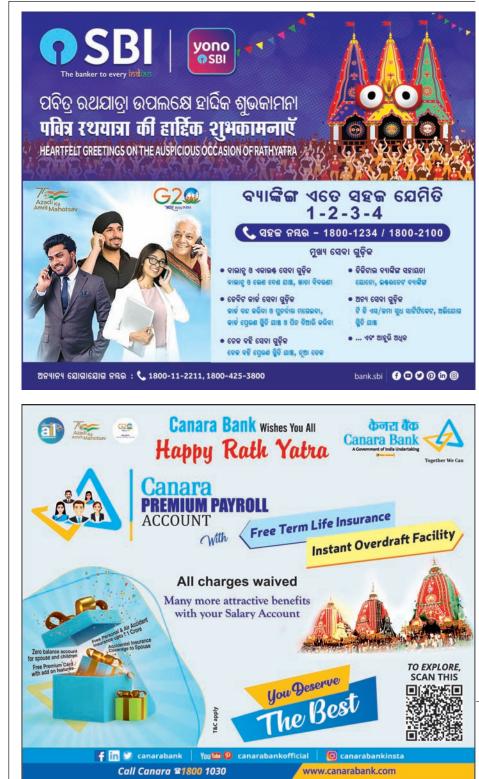
"We found during initial investigation that an electric short circuit at an electric panel caused the fire. Soon a thick smoke engulfed the whole building including a bar on the ground floor. Four employees of a private travel and tourism firm operating on the fourth floor of the building were trapped in the smoke. Our first priority was to rescue the entrapped staffers unhurt which we managed to do successfully," told Abani Kumar Swain, the Deputy Fire Officer, Bhubaneswar.

Informed, the fire department officials reached the spot along with two fire tenders, advanced equipment like concrete cutter and 25 firemen at 11.45am. The fire was completely doused after around a two and half an hour grueling effort by the fire personnel.

We faced a lot off problem to bring the fire under control and rescue the four persons as the building has no emergency exit door. It has only one door for both entry and exit purposes, no ventilation system in place for smooth release of smoke. We found serious fire safety lapse in the building. We are going to issue notice against the owner for the absence of required fire safety measures in the multiplex building as per the rules," said Swain.

### Smart queue mgmt system at Puri RTO

Bhubaneswar/Puri: Smart queue management system was inaugurated at Regional Transport Office (RTO), Puri on the eve of Rath Yatra, Monday, in an attempt to ensure hassle-free transport services in the Pilgrim City. The system was inaugurated by Commerce & Transport Minister Tukuni Sahu. Transport Commissioner Amitabh Thakur was also present on the occasion.







Monsoon likely to hit Odisha in 2 to 3 days: IMD Pradesh, westcentral and northwest Bay of Bengal, some parts of Gangetic West Bengal and Jharkhand, some more parts of Bihar and remaining parts of Sub-Himalayan West Bengal and Sikkim Monday.

'Conditions are favorable for further advance of southwest monsoon over some more parts of south peninsular India, some parts of Odisha, some more parts of Gangetic West Bengal, Jharkhand, Bihar and East Uttar Pradesh during the next 2-3 days," the IMD

said The Met department further predicted that heatwave conditions



over east India and adjoining areas are likely to abate gradually from Tuesday onwards.

The maximum temperature (day temperature) is very likely to fall gradually by 4 to 6 degree Celsius during the next 3 days and no large change thereafter at many places over the districts of Odisha.

Meanwhile, after due consideration of the weather prediction, the School & Mass Education department decided to reopen all schools June 21.

However, Collectors of Sundargarh, Sambalpur, Jharsuguda, Bargarh, Angul, Subarnapur and Bolangir are authorised to shift to morning school or declare holidays if the situation so demands.

Monday, seven places witnessed a maximum temperature of above 40 degrees Celsius

## **ON THE AUSPICIOUS** OCCASION OF THE RATH YATRA MCL WISHES ALL A JOYOUS CELEBRATION



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### FOCUS MANIPUR

In each heart, the Divine's Presence is the promise of future and possible perfections. THE MOTHER



# Weaponising UCC

here is every reason to doubt the intent of the 22nd Law Commission of India which has sought views from public and religious organisations about the implementation of the controversial Uniform Civil Code (UCC) that aims at framing one law governing marriages of all communities and religious groups dispensing with their respective personal laws. Similar attempts were made in the past too when it became the rallying point of right-wing Hindoo and fundamentalist outfits to drive a wedge between the majority Hindoo and minority Moslem population for electoral gains. The whole nation was then agitated as the move triggered panic among the minority population over scrapping of their personal laws and undue interference with the age-old convention and faith regarding their system of marriage.

The 21st Law Commission had earlier examined the UCC and solicited the views of all stakeholders through its appeal along with a questionnaire in 2016. It made further public appeals in 2018 and released a consultation paper in the same year on "Reform of Family" in which it cogently argued and concluded that formulation of UCC was "neither necessary nor desirable at this stage." In the 185-paper, the Commission, led by former Supreme Court judge Justice BS Chaushanin, emphasised that secularism could not contradict the plurality prevailing in the country. It categorically stated cultural diversity cannot be compromised to the extent that the urge for uniformity itself becomes a reason for threat to the territorial integrity of the nation. It made its point crystal clear without any ambivalence that a unified nation did not necessarily need to have "uniformity" and that efforts have to be made to reconcile the country's diversity with universal and indisputable arguments on human rights. Differences, it clarified, did not always imply discrimination in a robust democracy. In the same breath, it did not rule out certain uniform measures to be accepted by all religions on marriage and divorce. That was fair enough, given the fact that laws are not immutable and can be changed in the light of changing social conditions and reality.

The 22nd Law Commission's sudden realisation that fresh attempts need to be made to ascertain public views on the UCC as three years have passed since the previous Commission's verdict is, indeed, suspect. In the first place, it is not clear wherefrom the Commission has got the idea that this is the right time for reconsidering the crucial issue fraught with dangers of communal conflagration.

This is all the more dubious since only in February, then Union Law Minister Kiren Rijiju told the Rajya Sabha that the government had not taken any decision "as of now" on the implementation of the UCC in the country. He further clarified that the matter might be taken up by the 22nd Law Commission for its consideration. It could be surmised from his statement that even though there was no immediate need to rake up the vexed question, it could be revived in future to suit the ruling BJP's interests

The question is - what happened in the intervening four months that led to the Commission's decision not to waste any more time and take up this most sensitive issue with the potential to stoke communal passion.

The answer may be that when Rijiju dismissed the immediate possibility of taking up the matter, the BJP-government, led by Narendra Modi, was facing little threat from the Congress and the Opposition for the 2024 Lok Sabha election at that time. But, thereafter the unthinkable happened in the form of an ignominious defeat of the BJP at the hands of the Congress in the Karnataka Assembly elections. That not only ended the Congress' drought of electoral success since the Prime Minister occupied the centre-stage of Indian politics, but exploded the carefully crafted myth of "Modi hai toh mumkin hai" (with Modi around, anything is possible). The BJP seems to have read the writings on the wall that no one is invincible. It could not pass off the debacle as a reflection of the party's state leadership since Modi himself addressed a record number of election rallies and spent over a week campaigning in Karnataka.

Under the circumstances, the BJP leadership appears to be desperately looking for one tool after another for its divisive electoral politics. The UCC is one such weapon that the saffron brigade is trying to fish out of its armoury.

# **PLAYING WITH FIRE**

he Manipur crisis, complex as it is, has a cause, a trigger, and a history. In theory, it can be explained in the light of events in the immediate. Put simplistically, the cause is the long-standing divide between the Meitei (a little over 50% of population, concentrated in Imphal and the Valley districts occupying some 10% of land area) and the Kuki people (some 25%, many of them practicing Christianity, spread across majority hilly regions). The trigger, in part, is the judgement of the single judge of the High Court of Manipur at Imphal, Justice MV Murlidharan. The judge ordered the government to take a decision within four weeks on granting the Scheduled Tribe status to Meiteis, who have been demanding this in the face of opposition by Kukis. The HC order has since been called "factually wrong" by the Supreme Court and is under appeal. The trigger is also in part the action by the Meitei-dominated government against those illegally occupying forest land, action against illegal migrants from neighbouring Myanmar and a drive against poppy cultivation in hilly regions, feeding into new anxieties among the Kukis.

Yet, the immediate causes and triggers and history may not tell the full story. Bitterness in the heart, building bit by bit, cannot be easily understood or measured. Its outpouring into violence against the state and against fellow citizens carries the potential of a nasty surprise that we see today -Manipur is burning and the government knows not what to do next. This is a sensitive state in a sensitive region with not very friendly neighbours. The collapse of state machinery here should be a cause for alarm.



This is a sensitive state in a sensitive region with not very friendly neighbours. The collapse of state machinery here should be a cause for alarm

good governance, according to

the Good Governance Index

(GGI) report for 2020-2021 by

the Union government's

Department of Administrative

Reforms and Public Grievances.

To quote the report: "On the

other hand, Manipur with the

highest decline of 11.2% tops the

list of North Eastern States

that have registered negative

growth over 2019." The direction

has clearly been lost. All efforts

must be made at this critical

time to bring calm, to check

the spiral of violence and offer

all support and inputs that may

be required to bring peace. With

more than 100 lives lost, the

focus has to be on lowering the

While this will take time,

Manipur must alert us to the un-

predictable consequences of

policy slants that antagonise

sections of people in the belief

that state power will prevail to

order change in accordance

with a predetermined agenda.

The mistaken belief that in-

temperature

The extent of the trouble can be seen from the fact that a series of meetings and actions by Home Minister Amit Shah. who was in the state from 29 May to 1 June, and the visit by Chief of Army Staff General Manoj Pande around the same time, have not brought calm. There will be much discussion in coming days on how the BJP, which is ruling Manipur for the first time, has brought the situation to this sorry pass.

As many as 10 opposition parties have come together to question the silence of the Prime Minister on Manipur. Even the RSS has woken up to the unfolding misery and mayhem. RSS general secretary Dattatreya Hosabale noted over the weekend that the "continuous violence that is going on in Manipur for the last 45 days is extremely worrisome." The situation is truly worri-

some. It comes in a state that has been marked out for coming out the weakest in terms of

struments of the state can be used to deliver on ideas and policy that go against the grain of a nation built on foundations of democratic debate, of give-and-take, or accommodating and making space rather than seizing it for a preferred and narrower agenda, is a recipe for disaster.

It is easy to stoke hatred. Not all actions or statements will draw an immediate response. Some responses will come in the form of protests that will be easy to put down. Bigger protests can be crushed with force. But while this drama is playing out, and a government with an overwhelming majority thinks it is driving in its chosen direction, there is a slow rising of a counter current that can begin to take root. This wave of discontent is often unseen, unheard, building up silently to strike with the force and suddenness of a tsunami. We think we are on a road to a better future but we may be driving up the wrong alley, leaving the nation more divided and ungovernable.

In the book 'The Black Swan', Nassim Nicholas Taleb writes: "What is surprising is not the magnitude of our forecast errors, but our absence of awareness of it. This is all the more worrisome when we engage in deadly conflicts ... Owing to this misunderstanding of the causal chains between policy and actions, we can easily trigger Black Swans thanks to aggressive ignorance-like a child playing with a chemistry kit." There may be an important message in that for the current context in India.

The writer is a journalist and faculty member at SPJIMR. Views are personal. ©THE BILLION PRESS

## SPECTRUM TECHNOLOGY AI can even the climate playing field

Jagdish Rattanani

**MANIPUR IS** 

GOVERNMENT

**KNOWS NOT** 

**BURNING** 

**AND THE** 

WHAT TO

**DO NEXT** 

to exceed 1.5° Celsius of The technology has proved most useful for analysing massive data sets, identifying patterns, and predicting behaviour. It could well be the key to solving the intersecting climate, biodiversity, and inequity crises, starting at the international negotiating table.

The two world on track intelligence could play this role. plication of efforts, resolve disculd suddenly have the same agreements, and ensure that no crucial issue remains unadperts dressed. Moreover, AI can also facilitate the creation of a global treaty database, where negotiators can quickly search existing agreements for similar provisions, consult precedents, and avoid contradictions. Finally, by giving low- and middle-income countries access to the most advanced data analysis available. AI could also help correct the power imbalances that stymie genuine progress on climate change and biodiversity. While richer countries typically attend global negotiations with droves of high-powered lawyers and analysts, lower-income countries often struggle to send a single representative. This disparity was evident at COP27 last year. Although the meeting achieved a more representative balance than previous COPs, the biggest delegation, from the UAE, had more than 1,000 people, while more than 100 countries had 50 or fewer delegates, with several sending just one or two. With AI, countries as small as Bhutan (which had 15 delegates at COP27)

data and anal

### WISDOM CORNER

- Thoughts without content are empty, intuitions without concepts IMMANUEL KANT
- Never lose an opportunity of seeing anything beautiful, for beauty is God's handwriting RALPH WALDO EMERSON
- If you tell the truth, you don't have to remember anything. MARK TWAIN

### WORDS**WORTH**

### Keep mum

he word mum is one of the few that we can say for certain are onomatopoeic, which imitate or echo some sound. The sound in this case is the inarticulate murmur 'mmmmm', the only noise one can make when one's mouth is kept firmly shut. The word has been recorded in English from the fourteenth century in various spellings but settled to its modern form in the sixteenth century. It has produced several compounds, including mummer (a mime actor, one who performs silently, though the word is also linked to the French momeur), the verb to mumble and, less obviously, the name of that nasty disease mumps. This may derive from mump, an obsolete word for a grimace, which could possibly refer to the altered shape of the face due to the swollen glands in the neck, or perhaps to a resulting difficulty in speaking. It's the same word as the old verb to mump meaning to sulk. (Neither is connected with mumping in the sense of begging, which comes from a different word, Dutch in origin, or of mum for a type of beer, whose origin is uncertain.) And there are the various phrases, like mum's the word and your to keep mum which also include the idea of keeping silent. The sense of mum that produced the delightful double meaning in the headline you spotted is very much more modern. As a shorted form of mummy it appears only at the start of the nineteenth century. Until then, there would have been no joke, nor would that poster slogan of the Second World War have been possible, the one that enjoined people not to talk carelessly to strangers: "Be like Dad: keep Mum".

### Kelemenopy

t is an invented word that has no real existence outside the pages of the book in which it was first presented to the world. It was coined by the late John Ciardi, the American poet and teacher, in A Browser's Dictionary in 1980, describing it as "the one essential trope neglected by classical rhetoricians" and suggesting it meant a sequential straight line through the middle of everything, leading nowhere. He said it was "from my own psychic warp, to see if anyone would notice, and because I have always dreamed of fathering a word". The genesis of his creation was the sequence klmnop from the centre of the alphabet, with ten letters before and ten after it, which Mr Ciardi described as "a strictly sequential irrelevance". The word, he suggested, might be applied with special appropriateness to the career of one US politician in particular: "Teddy Kennedy's career has been the classical kelemenopy of the American twentieth century."



Maxwell Gomera **AI COULD VASTLY IMPROVE** INTERNATIONAL **NEGOTIATIONS BY ILLUMINATING THE** 

**HITHERTO-NEGLECTED** CONNECTIONS **BETWEEN BIODIVERSITY AND** 

CLIMATE ISSUES

etters

are most welcome to contribute letters

postal address/email ID. They may also

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

Orissapost

send in their valuable comments, opinion

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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

warming in the next decade, we can expect climate hazards to intensify, driving millions more into famine, causing trillions of dollars in damage, and disproportionately harming those countries that contributed the least to the problem. Worse, a global biodiversity crisis is upon us: ecosystems are being eroded to the point of collapse, and species extinctions are accelerating at a frightening pace. Here, too, the poor are dispro-

portionately affected. To address this dual crisis at the pace and scale needed, the international community must change its approach. Historically, global agreements to address climate change and biodiversity loss have been negotiated separately, even though the two issues are closely interlinked. Moreover, the process has been marred by structural disparities, power imbalances, and prioritisation of national and commercial interests over the global common good.

Neither human societies nor the natural systems that support them can work well in silos. We need a co-pilot. Following recent breakthroughs, artificial

For example, AI could vastly improve international negotiations by illuminating the hithertoneglected connections between biodiversity and climate issues. AI could also shed light on the broader effects of agreements like the Paris climate accords and the many inchoate sectoral initiatives focusing on issues like water, energy security, and oceans. As matters stand, at least 250,000 treaties have been nego tiated in the interest of deepening global cooperation, yet the broader effect of all this diplomacy has been underwhelming.

The predictive capabilities and analytic precision of AI could help solve this challenge. By processing enormous amounts of data from these treaties, AI can identify any conflicts, contradictions, or gaps, thereby helping to prevent ducountries with armies of ex-

But it is not just about numbers. Low-income countries are still catching up in terms of technology and research expertise, and this asymmetry is being exacerbated by the global digital divide. We can overcome the effects of such concentration by making AI co-pilots available to developing countries, rather than waiting for them to develop their own homegrown technologies.

To navigate the AI revolution, we must understand the technology's potential and its limitations, as well as our own responsibilities for ensuring its fair and ethical use. We must guard against biased data and remain vigilant against potential hacking and manipulation. If we can do that, we can forge ahead toward the goal of building a sustainable and equitable future - even at a time when hope is losing its hold in the public imagination.

The writer is a senior fellow of Aspen New Voices. ©PROJECT SYNDICATE

### 'LiFi' technology

Sir, 'LiFi' technology is a type of wireless connection that can be 100 times faster than WiFi. Professor Harald Haas, Chairperson of Mobile Communications, University of Edinburgh, is considered to be the founder of this technology. He promoted this technology in a 2011 TED Global Talk. LiFi is a wireless optical networking technology called "light fidelity" that uses LEDs (light emitting diodes) for data transmission. Using light to transmit data allows LiFi to offer some additional advantages. With LiFi technology, we can operate without interference in the sensitive electromagnetic fields of hospitals and airplanes and operate smoothly over high bandwidths while providing high transmission speeds. This technique creates particles of light emitted by an LED bulb that are invisible to the human eye, and through these emitted particles data can travel to the receiver and then from the receiver to the device. The receiver then collects the information and interprets the transmitted data. It's conceptually similar to Morse code decoding, but the process happens at a much higher speed millions of times per second. LiFi transmission speed can exceed 100 Gbps. Asit Mohanty, JAJPUR

### Political bickering

Sir, It is unfortunate that the BJP's political bickering against the Congress has made its way into the field of academics too, as it has decided to rename the Nehru Memorial Museum and Library. If one recollects, in September 2015 itself the saffron party played its dirty politics on this eminent institution when it made Prof. Mahesh Rangarajan to step down as its director, since he saw the BJP deliberately questioning the nature of his appointment solely because it was approved by the UPA government. Prof. Rangarajan was credited with turning the cloistered and somewhat sleepy institution of NMML into a vibrant academic space. And by making him resign in 🗎 an obnoxious manner, the BJP not only undermined the reputation of a distinguished scholar, but maligned the character of the prestigious NMML, conceived by Jawaharlal Nehru. Nevertheless, trying to erase Nehru's imprint on the country is a tall order because he is part of modern India's DNA. It is absolutely impossible to write a history of Independent – India without generous references to Nehru.

Ranganathan Sivakumar, CHENNAI

B-15, Rasulgarh Industrial Estate, Bhubaneswar-751010



# Fly ash dumping: Tehsildar asks SPCB to cancel Hindalco's CTO

### POST NEWS NETWORK

Sambalpur, June 19: Days after publication of a report on dumping of fly ash at Nildunguri area under Jujumora tehsil of Sambalpur district allegedly by Hindalco

Industries, the local tehsildar asked the state pollution con-IMPAC trol board (SPCB) to

cancel the 'consent to operate' (CTO) to the industrial firm, Monday. Orissa POST had pub lished a report June 15 on dumping of fly ash by the same firm.

Tehsildar Abhishek Sahu in his letter (No-1620) to the regional officer of SPCB has said that the pollution board had issued CTO vide letter No 1570, dated-10.05.2023 to M/s Hindalco Industries Ltd for dumping of flv ash in Nildunguri.

The tehsildar in the letter has



informed that the tehsil office was not consulted for the no-objection certificate (NoC) before granting the CTO. Sahu in his letter has further said that as the land in Khata No-3 and Plot No-44 in Nildunguri mouza has been leased out to a government-run firm, immediate steps are to be taken for cancellation of the CTO and informing the same to his office.

The report had stirred a controversy as public representatives visited the spot and stopped the dumping of ash at the site as it was being done illegally without fulfilling the necessary conditions. A complaint was even

lodged against 'Kalvani Transport' at the Sadar police station. The representatives even alleged the involvement of leaders of a particular political party in carrying out the dumping activities while violating government norms.

The huge quantity of fly ash has created problems both for vehicles plying on National Highway-53 as well people residing near the dumping ground. Thick layers of fly ash can be found both outside and inside the buildings. The villagers have been opposing the dumping of ash and had lodged complaints with the district collector and the SPCB. However, their pleas fell on deaf years.

The issue had gained prominence as the area is surrounded by a village, a training centre of the Agriculture department. National Highway-53, forests and farmlands of the residents.

## Mystery over Rourkela statue collapse deepens . STATUE OF ICONIC PLAYER DHYAN CHAND TO BE RE-ERECTED AGAIN, SAYS RMC OFFICIAL POST NEWS NETWORK ahead of the FIH Men's Hockey

Rourkela, June 19: The mystery surrounding the collapse of the statue depicting a hockey player here continues. The administration has said that the statue is of the legendary hockey player Dhyan Chand as it had been erected at a place known as Major Dhyan Chand Square. However, till now, no plausible clause has been offered as to why the statue came crashing down. The fact-finding team, which was supposed to complete investigation in a week,

is yet to submit its report. On the 12th of this month, the 40 feet statue of Major Dhyan Chand collapsed as the first nor' wester of the season hit the city. It had been erected just

World Cup held earlier in the vear and had become a major tourist attraction. However, when it collapsed, this city lost one of its iconic structures.

The administration has blamed miscreants for the collapse of the statue. Officials had said that a portion of the pole supporting the structure had been cut off. However there were no answers to questions like how could the statue collapse due to a storm or what was the guard doing when miscreants had allegedly tampered with the pole.

The BJP has alleged a sinister plan behind the whole episode. BJP state spokesperson Dhiren Senapaty said, "This is a big scam. Why eight mm steel was

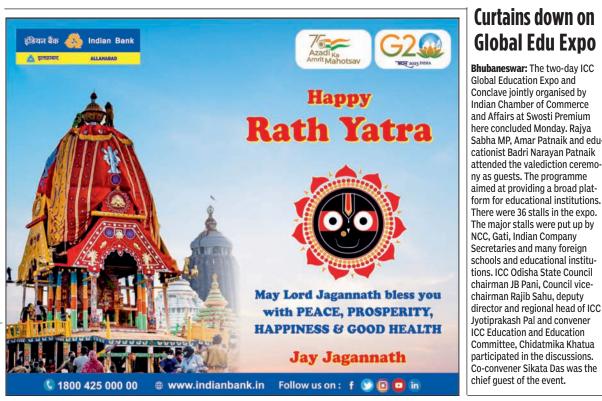
used to support such a huge statue? Many more facts will emerge if the media is allowed

to go near the statue. The Congress also has termed the entire episode as fishy. **Congress leader Biren Senapaty** said, "What are they (administration) trying to hide? This is nothing but pushing things under the rug and hiding facts from the public."

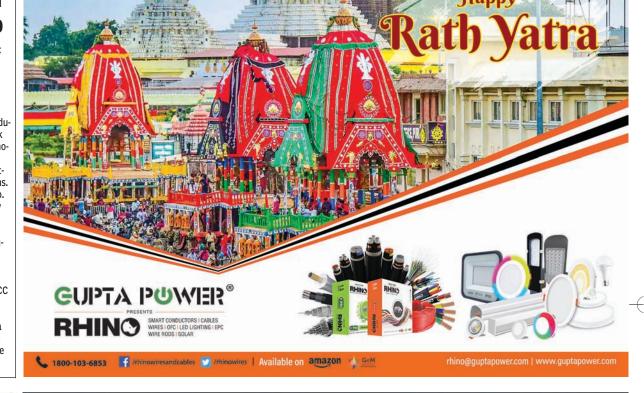
Initially when the statue collapsed, a two-member team com-

prising a PWD engineer and a professor from NIT Rourkela was formed to investigate the matter. The team was then expanded with the joining of the sub-collector of Sundargarh district and two more engineers. However, till now facts have not emerged. Deputy Commissioner of

Rourkela Municipal Corporation (RMC), Sudhansu Bhoi termed the entire episode as 'sabotage'. "The team will soon present its report," Bhoi informed Monday. "We believe it was an act of sabotage the way the steel poles have been cut. Had the poles got broken on their own, the edges would have been rough," Bhoi added. He also informed that the statue will be re-erected once investigations are completed.







May Lord Jagannath's blessings illuminate your life,

guiding you towards the path of righteousness and spiritual fulfillment



# **INDIANOIL WISHES**

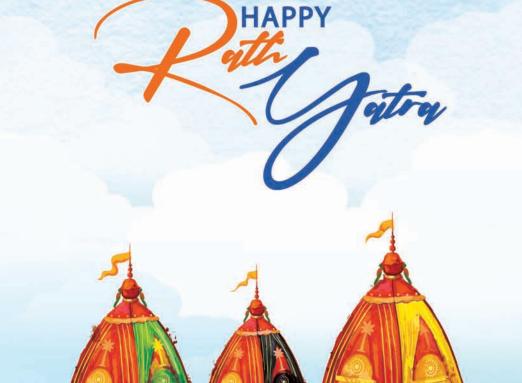
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May you be showered with health, happiness and prosperity in abundance!



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Lord Jagannath

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OF FAITH & FROLIC Today is that day of the year when countless pilgrims from across religions, sects, and philosophical perspectives

throng Puri to take part in the world's largest chariot festival. With the Grand Road set to receive over 25 lakh footfall this Rath Yatra, the most important day of Odisha's cultural calendar, **Orissa POST** offers some amazing facets of Jagannath, the Lord of the Universe

SUMAN MOHANTY, OP

Lord Jagannath, the most revered deity in Odisha and among the countless worshippers throughout the nation and the world, serves as the hub of the country's pervasive spiritual conscious-

The Indian culture is incomplete without taking the Jagannath culture into account. Since ancient times, it has been spreading the message of love, peace, friendship, unity, and integrity, which is India's greatest asset. Only because of the influence of Jagannath culture has Indian culture en enriched.

Throughout history, there have been a number of spiritual awakenings in Puri, the home of Lord Jagannath. Leading figures from other religions have travlelled to Puri over their lifetimes and have come to accept the magnificence, all-pervasiveness, and mysticism of the Trinity and their

A visit to Puri for a darshan of Lord Jagannath is a pilgrimage of fusion and a melting pot of all thoughts and faiths including the learned and the unlearned, the religious preachers, the historians, the scientists, the philosophers, the researchers and the great minds of all ages

The Jagannath culture already exemplifies the unity, peace, worldwide integration, and fraternity that world leaders are aiming for. It has already incorporated the ideals of religious secularism, religious tolerance, intergroup

harmony, and world peace. The fundamental principle of Jagannath culture is that we are all members of the same family. Additionally, it conveys the 'Bausdhaiva

Kutumbakam' which calls

for univer-

# above religion

mony across all communities and religious sects. A number of historians also concur that it is the only religion capable of sustaining not only Indian civilization but also the human race as a whole.

In addition, with Lord Jagannath being the most respected deity in this planet, Jagannath culture has come to be recognised as the beacon of all spiritual movements that have occurred in the nation.

He is the Shabar Devata for the Adivasis and Salabega, a Muslim devotee,'s favourite deity. The Brahmins, Dalits, Hindus, Sikhs, Buddhists, Jains, Vaishnavites, Shaktas, and Shaivaites who worship him in their respective ways regard him as their most beloved deity.

According to legend, Bhakta Salabega, one of the ardent devotees of Lord Jagannath, stopped His chariot Nandighosh at Saradhabali on a Rath Yatra day in the past by making ligious backgrounds, the deity Himself is not affiliated a potent appeal from Brundaban, over a thousand miles from Puri

Even a fervent follower of Lord Ganesh known as a true representation of secularism.

Ganapati Bhatt in Maharashtra firmly thought that Ganesh was the greatest Lord. He was adamant that Lord Ganesh was the greatest, in his opinion. He wanted to go to Puri after learning about Lord Jagannath. A day before Snana Purnima, he came at Puri. While

at Srimandir, he observed Lord Jagannath on the Ratna Singhashan in anticipation of seeing Lord Ganesh. He was disheartened, nevertheless, and made the decision to go back after an unknown person suggested him to pray sincerely so that he may see the Lord in his desired form.

After praying, he closed his eyes. When he opened them, he was amazed to see Lord Ganesha in the idol of Lord Jagannath. He knelt down and pleaded with God for forgiveness.

It is believed that the philosophy of the Veda, the Bhagavad Gita, the Kalpasutra, the Tripitak, the Zend Avesta, the Bible, the Quran, the Guru Granth Sahib, and other holy literature has been incorporated into the Jagannath culture. According to legend, people who practise other religions have worked hard throughout history to make Lord Jagannath their chosen deity.

As rivers lose their identity after flowing into seas, so have followers of many faiths lost their own characteristics upon assimilating into the Jagannath culture. The ocean of Indian culture is found in Srikshetra, the abode of Lord Jagannath. While many religious leaders have come to Puri to spread their doctrines, none of them have been able to overpower Lord Jagannath.

The worship of 'Brahma' is what is meant when we worship Lord Jagannath. It is via Lord Jagannath's symbolic representation that the Shaivaites discovered Shiva, the Vedic scholars discovered Brahma, the Buddhists Buddha, and the Jains Mahavirs as their Gods.

Thus, it may be reasonably assumed that although if followers of Lord Jagannath come from a variety of rewith any one religion. Instead, it has demonstrated respect for all nations and religious groups and has proven to be

# **AN ENCHANTING** SPECTACLE

HARIHARA KAR, OP

To very year lakhs of devotees throng Puri for the of the southern gate of auspicious Rath Yatra. This festival gives Srimandir. devotees a chance to be a part of the journey Amid the of Lord Jagannath, and His siblings Lord Balabhadra sea of and Devi Subhadra from Srimandir to Gundicha devotees, 4 temple for their annual sojourn. the

Amid the fervent devotion of Jagannath-lovers from all around the globe, the highlight of this magnificent event is the enchanting spectacle known as Pahandi Bije.

Pahandi Bije, a crucial ritual during Rath Yatra, symbolises the act of the deities descending from the Ratna Simhasan to embark upon their sacred 🔨 chariots.

There are two types of Pahandi -- Dhadi Pahandi and Goti Pahandi. Dhadi Pahadi – where deities are brought one after another simultaneously -- is performed when the Trinity is brought from the Srimandir to the chariots. Goti Pahandi -- in which the next deity is brought to the chariot only after the first one reaches -- is performed during the Bahuda

The devotees ululate beyond limit as the deities step out of the Singhadwara fitted with large, elaborate floral tiaras called 'tahia'. The Trinity is brought to the chariots in slow, swaying movements amid melodic strains of traditional musical instruments and the

chants of sacred hymns. Tahias are brought to the temple the very morning of Rath Yatra and then placed on the heads of the Trinity before they are brought to their respective chariots. These headgears are made of flowers, bamboo strips, and other decorative items.

Tahias have traditionally been made and supplied by authorities at Raghav

Das Matha. located in front

ther embellished with vibrant decorations, symbolic ornaments, and fragrant flowers. Legend of tahia Researcher Dukhi Shyam Behera in his book

Pahandi Bije progresses, offering glimpses of divine harmony and spiritual ecstasy. The sight of the deities evokes awe and reverence among onlookers. During the Pahandi Bije, servitors first bring Lord Sudarshan, then Lord Balabhadra, afterward Goddess Subhadra and at last Lord Jagannath to their respective ornately decorated chariots.

Srikshetra Jijnasa' has written that once during the

reign of Gajapati Purusottama Dev, the sculp-

ture of Madan Mohan, the representative

deity of Lord Jagannath, got submerged

in the Narendra Pushkarini due to

heavy storm. Later, at the request

of the Gajapati, Mahant Raghav

Das donated an idol of Madan

🛫 Mohan from his matha to

Srimandir. In return, Raghav

Das requested the Gajapati to

grant his matha the right to

provide tahias during Rath

Yatra. Since then, Raghav

Das Matha prepares

tahias for Rath

Yatra everv

The deities are carefully placed on their respective chariots, and the processions continue as they are fur-**AS PER TANTRIC BELIEFS, DEVI BIMALA INCARNATES THE 'UGRA** 

(DESTRUCTIVE) FORM DURING **DURGA PUJA. HENCE, AN ANIMAL IS** SACRIFICED TO APPEASE HER

PATIT MANDAL, OP

👕 t is widely accepted that 'animal sacrifice' is prohibited among the followers of Vaishnavism. However, most readers will be amazed to learn that animal sacrifice ritual takes place inside the Srimandir every year. Researcher Surendra Nath Dash in his book 'Srimandira Sabdakosha' writes that as per Jagannath temple's terminology. the ritual is known as 'Chheda Paka Niti' which is observed near the well of Goddess Bimala during three days of Durga Puja -- Ashwina Shukla Saptami, Ashtami and Navami.

### Significance of Goddess Bimala

Devi Bimala temple is situated next to 'Rohini Kund' on the southwest corner inside the inner wall of Srimandir. The sculpture of the deity is made of black granite.

Researcher Dukhi Shyam Behera in his book 'Srikshetra Jijnasa' pens that Devi Bimala is considered 'Kaibalya Bhojini Vaishnavi' (not to be offered non-vegetarian food). During normal course of worship except the three days of Durga Puja, Devi Bimala is served with the remnant of food offered to Lord Jagannath. Following the offering, the Naivedya becomes Mahaprasad which then the devotees partake of.

> Noted researcher Dr Satyanarayan Rajguru in his book 'Sri Purusottama O Srimandira' writes that the term Mahaprasad might have originated from the term 'Maa-prasad' (Mother's Bhog). Rajguru further elucipowerful manifestation of Lord Shiva) and Devi Bimala is considered as His consort (Bhairavi),

Behera said the Devi is offered animals and fish due to the amalgamation of Vaishnavite and Shakta traditions. As per tantric beliefs, Devi Bimala incarnates the 'ugra' (destructive) form tee is allowed to have darshan of the deity.



# **OrissaPOST** RATH YATRA SPECIAL

TUESDAY | JUNE 20 | 2023 | BHUBANESWAR

# **ANIMAL SACRIFICE AT SRIMANDIR**

sacrificed to appease Her.

### Chheda Paka Ritual

On Saptami, Ashtami and Navami of Durga Puja, two bucks (male goats) are sacrificed on each day near the Bakula Pindi close to Bimala temple during pre-dawn hours. The six male goats are offered by six different entities such as Mahashrama Matha, Senapati Matha, Mangu Matha, Bada-Odia Matha, Biraharekrsuhnapur Mahajana and Zamidar Khuntia for sacrifice ritual which is held in a secret ceremony at the outer boundary of the holy shrine.

Behera further notes that on those auspicious days, fish from the sacred Markanda temple tank is also served to the Goddess in midnight hours following the completion of daily rituals of the sibling deities or 'Pahuda'. The fish offering is prepared at a temporary kitchen and is taken indates that as per Shakta tradition, Lord side the Srimandir through the western gate to Bimala tem-Jagannath is manifested as Bhairava (a ple. Those few who witness the secret ceremony are given the 'Bimala Parusa' (Bhog). Subsequently, the passage leading to the Bimala temple is washed and sanctified with water following the esoteric ritual.All these rituals are wrapped up before the main sanctum of Lord Jagannath is unlocked at dawn.

As per tantric traditions, during the celebration of Sola Puja (sixteen-day worship) in Bimala temple, no woman-devo-

## MADHUSMITA SAHU, OP

t is believed by some that Anjana, who was once a beautiful apsara Lin heaven, after being cursed by the king of planets Brihaspati, took birth as a monkey on Earth. She was told that her liberation from the curse and her return to heaven can only come with the blessings of Lord Shiva.

Anjana, as a monkey, lived in forest. One day, monkey king Keshari met her and was instantly smitten by her beauty. He made her a marriage proposal. But she had a condition: Keshari would let her back to heaven once Lord Shiva liberates her from the curse.

One night, after days of faithful worship, appearing in her dreams, Lord Shiva promised her that she will give birth to a boy who will possess his powers. And once the boy is old enough, Anjana can leave her life on Earth and return to her original form. Lo and behold, soon she was pregnant and gave birth to a baby, extraordinamed Hanuman. And he grew up to accommensational masana, holding chakra in four hands, and is worpass the Meghanada Pacheri. plish such marvels, following Lord Ram, that his shipped as 'Astabhuja Hanuman'. glory still reverberates in the conscience of the Then at the South Gate, he is worshipped as boundary wall soundproof and being the loyal populace through the lore of Ramayana. 'Bada Bhai Hanuman'. And finally at the Western follower he is, he put his ears on the wall to make

Lord Hanuman's presence and power holds a 'Kanapata Hanuman.' significant place in the culture and history of There is a fascinating myth behind the pres- came to be known as Kanapata Hanuman. Puri Srimandir.

## How Kanapata Hanuman got his name



Hanuman is worshipped as 'Phate Hanuman'. beloved wife. And Mahalaxmi, bound in the cus- a Puri local.

toms of the household, can't visit the Lord as he sits on the throne with his elder brother. When things calm down as the rituals end, in middle of the night, Lord Jagannath comes to meet his wife

As goddess Laxmi is daughter of the Ocean God and Srimandir is situated near the seashore, sound of the sea always creates deep vibrations in the temple.

In the silence of night, the sound of the sea is so loud that it disturbs the Lord's nightly routine. But as the Ocean God is his father-in-law, he can't complain. But toleration has a limit.

It is said that one night, very much disturbed by the sound of the sea, the Lord sarcastically commented that the Ocean God lacks commonsense. Mahalaxmi did not say a word but was hurt inside.

The Lord realised immediately that he has made a grave mistake. He cajoled the goddess and the next day ordered the Hanuman of the Western narily beautiful and strong. That baby was Similarly, at the North Gate, he sits in pad- Gate to ensure that the sound of the sea doesn't

At the order of the Lord, Hanuman made the For this Rath Yatra, **Orissa POST** explores how Gate, with a height of four feet, he is known as sure that the sound of the sea has been seized. As he has his ears all the time at the wall, he

ence of Hanuman at the Western Gate, as he re- "It is an astonishing that in night, when one Srimandir has four gates, and Lord Hanuman mains near the temple of goddess Mahalaxmi. stands before the temple, she can hear the sea. guards them all, protecting the temple, in different Lord Jagannath, busy listening to the pleas of But inside the temple, the sound is never ever forms, performing many a service for the Lord millions of devotees daily, does not get enough heard. I think that is the wonderful manifestaof the universe. At the Lions' Gate in the East, time during the day to spend a moment with his tion of the God's power," says Bhagirathi Sahoo, BIJAY MANDAL, OP

S the main attrac-tions for tourists and celebrities, has been the sou of every Odia since it was constructed in the 12th Century While a visit to Odisha is always considered incomplete without the darshan of the Trinity of Srimandir, things were different in the past. The temple was attacked on multiple occasions, mostly by Muslim rulers, to plunder its treasures. Though, the assault on the Jagannath temple by Kalapahada, who is said to have set the idols on fire on the banks of the Ganga, has to rank as one of the most dreaded and talked-

about events in history, there were occasions including once under the rule of a Mughal emperor Aurangzeb ple and the idols had been destroyed. By when attempts were made to demolish Srimandir, the pride of Odisha.

In terms of religious bigotry, Aurangzeb had descended to his lowest point by 1681. He issued a direction to Amir-ul-Umra, the Subedar in the Bengal province, to destroy the Jagannath temple.



Aurangzeb's letter, written in Persian language, to demolish Srimandir (PC: RAJASTHAN STATE ARCHIVES) The officials travelled to Puri to de- the Marathas in south. He had to travel

molish the temple after receiving the to Deccan to put an end to the uprising. order. Even though Odisha was ruled by Sikhs, Jats, and other groups were often the Mughals, the shrine was nonethe- stirring up strife. Therefore, Aurangzeb less guarded by the Gajapati, or King of was unable to focus on such issues. Khurda, who lived there. As people heard this news, there was an atmosphere of fear, from the wrath of iconoclasts thanks to rage, and desperation. But nobody could the Marathas and others. After do anything. Eventually, a strategy was Aurangzeb's death, the temple was fiworked out. An agreement was reached nally reopened in 1707, and the Rath with the Subedar. A sizable sum of money Yatra was resumed. was offered to him as bribe. However, he was aware of the repercussions of dis- tory of assault on the enormous temple obeying Aurangzeb's decree. But because of Lord Jagannath in Puri is that the of the size of the payment and Odias' idols' 'Brahma,' which has persisted to passionate approach in convincing him this day, was never destroyed.

The most important aspect of the his-

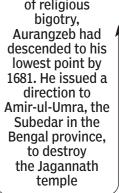


# Lord's replica in Aurangzeb's court rimandir, one of



offer, he ultimately de cided to take a chance and persuaded Aurangzeb that his

with



In terms

bigotry,

temple

command had been car-Aurangzeb had A ried out. Tricking Aurangzeb A replica of Lord

Jagannath was made and taken to Aurangzeb's court in Delhi in an effort to deceive him. The temple was permanently shut down. The rituals were all stopped. Rath Yatra was put on hold indef-

initely. A story was circulated that the temdoing all of this, a situation was created where Aurangzeb felt his commands had been followed.

Marathas come to aid At that time, Aurangzeb was dealing with a major challenge brought on by

مدمن ومعدم والمكر البرالالارم الاكفار عدا الما ويفر لمون في مندر من درمی (درمی در این این این مرون روی در می در از می در این این این از مرون بر دی رای در در از مرتب یا در שט נענונת יציי בשיטיונים שיני الا تراب محمد مر محاجر ما و مسر المسر ا الدو تعاني المسر - مراكب المراد المسر ال می و معدد کار ایس می در دوست ، دود و مارید و می مند معدد کم دند، مروم می که در ماری و کرد می می می رو می می که می دور موج معود کا بر

Thus, the pride of Odias was saved



# PHOTO POST



Security personnel patrol the violence-hit area of Irengbam village of Bishnupur district in Manipur



A family rides a country boat after fishing in Kochi







**P8** 



A woman and her child stand near their house submerged in flood waters at a village in Morigaon district of Assam

Britain's Kate, Princess of Wales, left, and Britain's Sophie, Duchess of Edinburgh hold their hats as they arrive at St George's Chapel to attend the Most Noble Order of the Garter Ceremony in Windsor Castle in Windsor, England



Volocopter CEO Dirk Hoke poses for a picture next to the Volocopter 2X, an electric vertical takeoff and landing multicopter, during the Paris Air Show in Le Bourget, north of Paris, France



Visitors enjoy at a water park on a hot day in Jalandhar



# national



Over two lakh jobs have been eliminated from PSUs. The government is trampling on the hopes of youngsters to benefit a few crony capitalist friends RAHUL GANDHI FORMER CONGRESS PRESIDENT

## **BOOSTING TIES**

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh Monday said that India will gift the indigenouslybuilt in-service missile 'Corvette INS Kirpan' to Vietnam and both the countries will also collaborate in defence industry cooperation, maritime security and multinational cooperation



uote

In free markets, when demand increases. supply will increase, but in India's free market, when demand increases prices will increase

P CHIDAMBARAM CONGRESS LEADER

A UPA-3 government comina to power in 2024 is very much possible provided the

Opposition parties have a commonality of purpose, an agenda reflecting it and are ready for give and take when fielding candidates to take on the BJP in the Lok Sabha polls

KAPIL SIBAL RAJYA SABHA MP

If there were literate people in the central government, they would not have brought

demonetisation and farm laws. When you vote for the next time, do one thing, vote for literate people. Do not vote for those who are illiterate and have fake dearees

ARVIND KEJRIWAL DELHI CM

### RTI activist found dead

SHORT TAKES

Hyderabad: A Right to Information (RTI) activist was killed in Telangana's Jangaon district in an apparent fallout of a land issue and three persons have been arrested for allegedly kidnapping and killing the retired Mandal Parishad Development Officer (MPDO), police said Monday. The killing of 70-year-old Nalla Ramakrishnaiah came to light on Sunday when his body was found in a water-filled quarry, three days after he went missing, they said.

### 3 die of suffocation

Korba: Three persons died of suffocation after a fire broke out at a commercial complex in Chhattisgarh's Korba city Monday afternoon, an official said. Seventeen persons, who were rescued from the complex, have been hospitalised, he said.

# Closer defence ties top Cong demands white paper on LAC situation agenda for PM's US visit

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

turing

New Delhi, June 19: Stepping up defence cooperation, India and the US are poised to unveil a roadmap for industries in the sector to partner closely in co-production, co-development and maintaining supply change during Prime Minister Narendra

Modi's visit to the US beginning June 21. Prime Minister Modi, during his first state visit to the US, will also hold discussions with President Joe Biden on bettering trade and investment relations, besides forging closer ties in the technology domain comprising

telecom, space and manufac-Addressing a press conference here, Foreign Secretary Vinav Mohan Kwatra said the prime minister will also be on a state visit to Egypt from June 24-25 at the invitation of President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi during which he is also scheduled to visit 11th Century mosque Al-Hakim, which was refurbished with the US.

The foreign secretary said the **Defence Industrial Cooperation** Roadmap was expected to be one of the key outcomes of Prime Minister Modi's visit to the US

Modi will begin the visit to the US from New York, where he will lead the International Yoga Day celebrations at the United Nations headquarters

and renovated by the Bohra community.

The foreign secretary said the **Defence Industrial Cooperation** Roadmap was expected to be one of the key outcomes of Prime Minister Modi's visit to the US."It essentially focuses on all aspects of defence co-production and co-development. It also talks about how defence industrial ecosystems of the two countries could cooperate much better. how the supply lines in the field of defence industry could also interface with each other much better," he said. Kwatra described defence cooperation as a "key pillar" of India's relationship

### PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, June 19: The Congress Monday demanded a white paper on the situation at the Line of Actual Control (LAC) at the border with China and a comprehensive discussion on the India-China border dispute in Parliament.

Senior spokesperson of the Congress, Manish Tewari said at a press conference here that three years ago, on June 19, 2020, Prime Minister Narendra Modi told an all-party meeting after the Galwan clashes that "neither anyone has entered our border, nor any post is in the possession of others".

Tewari said Modi's remarks were contrary to a statement issued by the Ministry of External Affairs a day before, where it was clearly stated that the Galwan incident took place because Chinese soldiers tried to intrude and set up tents on the Indian side of the border.

"As a responsible opposition, we demand a comprehensive discussion on the India-China border dispute. We also demand that a white paper be issued on what



is the truth of the developments that have taken place on the LAC in the last three years," the Congress leader said.

"After the prime minister's clean chit to China on June 19, 2020, is it that 2.000 square kilometres of Indian territory is in Chinese occupation and we are not able to get it back? The clean chit actually undermined and subverted India's national interest. We expect that the government will give a responsible statement on China," he added.

Tewari asked if it is true that the Indian Army has lost control over 26 of the 65 patrolling points on the LAC."Is it true that buffer zones have been created within our borders? What did the government of India do to stop the transgressions on the LAC by China? Why was China not discussed even once in Parliament or the Parliamentary Standing Committee of the Ministry of Defence?" he asked. questioning why does the Parliament secretariat not admit

As a responsible opposition, we demand a comprehensive discussion on the India-China border dispute. We also demand that a white paper be issued on what is the truth of the developments that have taken place on the LAC in the last three years

MANISH TEWARI CONGRESS LEADER

questions related to the LAC. On September 5, 2020, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh held a two-and-a-half-hour-long discussion with his Chinese counterpart during the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) meeting in Moscow, Tewari said. adding that during the Russia-India-China trilateral in Moscow on September 11, 2020, the external affairs minister also held discussions with the Chinese foreign minister on the situation at the LAC. "There have been 18 border-

level talks in the last three years. When there was no intrusion, then what is the truth of the continuous discussions for three years?" he asked.

## Man kept on dog leash, abused

### PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhopal, June 19: The National Security Act (NSA) has been invoked against a group of men who allegedly kept a man on a dog leash and abused him in Madhya Pradesh's Bhopal, state Home Minister Narottam Mishra said Monday.

Talking to reporters, Mishra said he received information about a video of the incident this morning and he had directed the police to act within 24 hours.

In six hours, the police identified the accused and nabbed them, he said, adding that a police station in-charge has been removed from the field duty in connection with the incident.

The stringent NSA has been invoked against the accused and the illegally constructed structures belonging to them have been identified and they will be razed, the minister said.

He further said that provisions of the Freedom of Religion Act were also invoked against the accused after a religious conversion angle came to light in the case. In a video of the alleged incident, the victim is seen with a leash around his neck and the accused are telling him to bark like a dog while abusing him. At the end of the 49-second video. the victim is also heard saying "main Miyan Bhai banne ko taiyar hoon" (I am ready to become Miyan Bhai, a term used for Muslims in Bhopal). The accused are also heard asking why the victim had used abusive language against them and demand that he apologise.

# 'Adipurush' faces protests across India

As the row over the film escalated and audiences in various parts of Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra and Delhi took to the streets, Mumbai police agreed to give security to dialogue writer Manoj Muntashir Shukla on his request

### PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, June 19: "Adipurush", a lavish multilingual retelling of the Ramayana, was at the centre of protests in several cities Monday and led to a ban on all Hindi films in Nepal with Union minister Anurag Thakur stepping in to say that nobody has the right to hurt the sentiments of people.

As the row over the film escalated and audiences in various parts of Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra and Delhi took to the streets, Mumbai police agreed to give security to dialogue writer Manoj Muntashir Shukla on his request.

The film, directed by Om Raut



and fronted by Prabhas and Kriti Sanon, has come under attack for its dialogue, colloquial language and representation of some characters from the much-loved mythological epic. In Nepal as well, "Adipurush"

provoked ire over its dialogues, but particularly for its mention of Sita as "India's daughter". Screening of "Adipurush" and all other Hindi films has been banned in the country until the film's team makes desired

changes. In Mumbai, Union Information and Broadcasting Minister Thakur said the film's writer and director have agreed to make some changes after the nationwide uproar."Nobody has the right to hurt the sentiments of others. The CBFC (Central Board of Film Certification) has taken a decision over the issue. It is their job," Thakur told reporters when asked about his views and the central government's stand over the controversial film.

Different parts of Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra and the national capital witnessed protests against the film on Monday. While seers in Ayodhya demanded an immediate ban on

Punjab amends Act for free telecast of Gurbani

the film saying its dialogues made their "blood boil", in Varanasi, a group of people staged a protest and tore posters of the Om Raut-directed film. temple town of Mathura.

A police complaint was lodged connection, police said. Acharya Satyendra Das, the chief priest of the Ram temple in Ayodhya, said. "The film's dialogues make our blood boil. The film should be banned immediately. The gov-

A Hindu outfit also staged a protest outside a theatre in the by the Hindu Mahasabha with the Lucknow police against the film's makers and actors. A case is yet to be registered in this

HAM withdraws support

The blaze broke out around 1:30 pm in a garment shop in the two-storey complex near Transport Nagar square, and gradually spread to other establishments, Korba collector Sanjeev Kumar Jha said.

## **CLASSIFIED**

### AFFIDAVIT

I, Prita Rani Mishra, D/o-Debi Prasad Mishra, Flat No.-5/102, Balmiki Debashram, SBI Colony, Kesura, Bhubaneswar-751002, Dist.- Khurda, Odisha declare by this affidavit C.F. No.-16, dtd.-09.06.2023 that now onwards I shall be known as Prita Tripathy for all future purposes.

I, Geeta Rani Mishra, W/o- Gangadhar Mishra, resident of House No-4, Smile City Scape, Kanchilo, Balianta, Bhubaneswar, Odisha, Pin-752101 declare by this affidavit No. 60AA 384638 dated-03 Feb. 2023 that from now onwards I shall be known as Mamata Manjari Mishra for all future purposes.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Patna, June 19: Former Bihar Chief Minister Jitan Ram Manjhi's Hindustani Awam Morcha (HAM) Monday withdrew its support to the Nitish Kumar government in the state and a letter to the effect was handed over to Governor

Rajendra Arlekar. Manjhi, who met the governor along with his son Santosh Suman, the national president of HAM, also said he will be in Delhi for the next few days during which he will try to meet

leaders of the NDA, including Union Home Minister Amit Shah,

to explore future options. Scores of HAM supporters stood outside the Raj Bhavan, raising slogans against Nitish Kumar for the period during which Manjhi, Suman and MLAs of the party stayed inside. The party has four MLAs, including Manjhi, while Suman, who resigned from the state cabinet a week ago alleging pressure from Nitish Kumar's JD(U) to

merge HAM, is a member of the

legislative council.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Chandigarh, June 19: The Punjab Cabinet Monday approved an amendment to the British-era Sikh Gurdwaras Act to ensure "free-to-air" telecast of Gurbani from Amritsar's Golden Temple.

Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann said the amendment bill will be introduced in the Punjab Assembly on Tuesday, the second day of its two-day session. Currently, Gurbani is broadcast from the Sikh shrine by PTC, a

private channel often linked to the Shiromani Akali Dal's Badal family. The Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee, the apex religious body of the Sikhs, has contested the move by the AAP government, saying the 1925 Act is a central legislation and can only be amended by Parliament.

However, Mann said the state government is fully competent to amend this Act as the Supreme Court had already ruled that this Act is not an inter-state Act, but a state Act, an official statement said.

The statement quoting the chief minister said the state cabinet has decided to amend the Sikh Gurdwaras Act by inserting Section 125A, thereby making it the responsibility of the SGPC to ensure "free-to-air" live telecast of the holy Gurbani from Sri Harmandir Sahib (Golden Temple).

ernment should ensure that this

does not happen again.

Mann said that this amendment has been approved with the objective that the entire humanity is able to listen to and see the live telecast of Gurbani free of cost.

# PATEL PEERLESS IN CYCLONE COMBAT

ver 22 years after a massive earthquake flattened Kutch district of Gujarat bordering Pakistan, the once blood-soaked region seemed headed for a double whammy last week. June 14 dawned to searing winds and soaking skies slicing the coastal landmass of Saurashtra and a 3.5 magnitude tremor in Kutch as the entrails of the earth and the wrath of the ocean joined in a destroyer dance on a cowering populace. Mercifully the earth relented though the sky had no such intentions as the ardour of the Arabian Sea poured its frenzy on the comely coastline

drenching its depths in a well of water. Cyclone Biparjoy has come and gone after a relentless pummeling and a night of fury leaving ordinary mortals to pick up the remnants of their soggy shattered and poverty penetrated lives.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah who conducted an aerial survey of the cyclone affected region reiterated the Gujarat government's claim that 'not a single life was lost' though unofficial sources have put the fatalities at a considerably low count of five so far. 40-yr-old Rajshri Kasundra was killed in Maliya Miyana near Morbi



when a wind flown tin sheet fell on her. Another woman was killed in a wall collapse in Vadodara, published reports said. While the prevalent BJP culture is to lay all accomplishments at the doorsteps of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. the fact is that Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendrabhai Patel and state chief secretary ,Raj Kumar deserve compliments for their ability to foresee a potential crisis, deftly plan for itangularities and all-and have trained manpower in position when it strikes to deal with the aftermath.

The Patel administration seems to have factored-in the devastation caused by the 1998 cvclone on the same Saurashtra-Kutch coast in its preventive planning for the very heavy death roll. Helped in no small a manner by Manorama Mohanty and her team in the India Meteorological department (IMD), Gujarat tracked the cyclone from its inception and projected landfall locations mak-

ing it possible for concentratedanticipatory action.

For those who watched the governmental effort from close quarters, the mobilization was done on a war-footing with the NDRF,SDRF and even paramilitary forces in deployment and the Coast Guard, Army, Navy and Air Force standing by. The aftermath of the cyclone havoc speaks of a long night ahead both for the people as well as the official agencies working to restore normal services. The reports of damage to infrastructure, water invaded fields and farms, homes and hearths are slowly beginning

to trickle in. In Kutch alone 80,000 electricity poles are in the dumps and over 33,000 hectares of land rendered temporarily unusable. Power supply to over 4000 villages has been fully or partially affected. Unending sheets of water have blighted coastal villages.

The cyclone has had a crippling affect on trade and industry. The Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry (GCCI) has put the loss to industrial trade at Rs 5.000 crores. There are almost 10,000 trucks stranded in Kutch as the bulk of the roads in the coastal areas are blocked with fallen trees.

## FOR CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS CONTACT OUR BOOKING STATIONS

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# international

I will neither make a deal nor surrender even if they put me in jail. I will continue fighting for the rule of law and a better future for the people of my country IMRAN KHAN FORMER PM, PAKISTAN

## TALIBAN TO CELEBRATE US WITHDRAWAL

The Taliban has declared August 31 as a national holiday to celebrate the withdrawal of American forces from Afghanistan. American troops had left the war-torn country after Taliban seized power in 2021



uote

Carrying weapons is a scourge on our society. And anyone doing so is risking their own lives as well as the lives of

those around them. This dangerous culture must be brought to a stop

SUELLA BRAVERMAN HOME SECRETARY, UK

The Russian government has so far declined our request to access the areas under its temporary military control

DENISE BROWN UN HUMANITARIAN COORDINATOR FOR UKRAINE

Prime Minister Modi's visit marks an important point in the relationship between the United States and India

TODD YOUNG SENATOR, US

## SHORT TAKES

### Gunbattle in Jenin

Jerusalem: Israeli troops killed three Palestinians, including a minor, and wounded at least 29 others during a massive gunbattle with militants in the streets of the occupied West Bank city of Jenin Monday, the Palestinian Health Ministry said. The fighting was the latest in more than a year of near-daily violence that has wrecked the West Bank. The Palestinian Health Ministry identified Khaled Asasa, 21, Qassam Abu Sariya, 29, and 15-year-old Ahmed Saqr among the killed and said at least four other were seriously wounded in the shootout.

## Floods kill 6 in Nepal

Kathmandu: Rain-triggered floods and landslides have killed at least six people and injured as many across Nepal police said Monday. Three persons died in Tapleiung and one each in Paanchthar. Nuwakot and Sankhuwasabha districts, the Nepal Police said. Three persons were injured in floods and landslides in Sankhuwasabha, two in Tapleiung and one in Paanchthar, Police said 29 people have gone missing in rain-related incidents in different parts of the country in the last 48 hours. Search for the missing is underway, police said, adding that 35 houses, 10 huts, 13 bridges, five industries and two government offices were damaged in the natural disaster.

# TALKS China, US agree to mend ties

THE LACK OF REGULAR AND OPEN COMMUNICATION CHANNELS BETWEEN THE WORLD'S TOP TWO ECONOMIES HAS SENT JITTERS AROUND THE WORLD, AND BEIJING'S RELUCTANCE TO ENGAGE IN **REGULAR MILITARY-TO-MILITARY TALKS WITH WASHINGTON HAS ALARMED CHINA'S NEIGHBOURS** 

REUTERS

Beijing, June 19: China and the United States agreed Monday to try and stabilise their intense rivalry to avoid veering into conflict, but did not announce any major breakthroughs during a rare visit to Beijing by US Secretary of State Antony Blinken.

Chinese President Xi Jinping hailed "progress" after shaking hands with Blinken at the Great Hall of the People, a grand venue usually reserved for greeting heads of state.

Blinken, the first holder of his post to meet the Chinese leader since 2018, told reporters he had raised contentious issues such as Taiwan, the democratic island Beijing claims as its own.

And while he said the two sides had not moved forward on establishing regular militaryto-military communications - a major concern for the wider world - he expected more senior US officials would visit China in coming weeks.

It had been hoped their roughly 30-minute meeting could help facilitate a summit between Xi and US President Joe Biden later in the year.

Biden and Xi last met on the sidelines of the G20 summit in Bali, Indonesia in November, pledging more frequent communication, although ties since then have deteriorated over Taiwan, espionage accusations and other concerns.

It was not immediately clear from Xi's remarks what progress he was referring to, although he



The two countries have an obligation and responsibility to manage their relationship and that the United States was committed to doing that ANTONY BLINKEN | SECRETARY OF STATE, US

told Blinken China "hopes to see a sound and steady China-US relationship" and believes that the two countries "can overcome various difficulties", according to Chinese readout of the talks. He also urged the US not to "hurt China's legitimate rights and interests", a signal

of potential flashpoints such as Taiwan. Earlier Monday, Blinken underscored the importance of open communication channels to manage their competition during more than three hours

Describing the US-China re-

of talks with Wang Wenbin, spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which the State Department called "productive".

lationship as being at a low point, Wang said the root cause was the United States' wrong perception of China. "We must take a responsible

The two sides have also

reached the agreement

on some specific issues.

made progress and

This is very good

XI JINPING | PRESIDENT, CHINA

attitude toward the people, history and the world, and reverse the downward spiral of US-China relations," Wang said during the meeting with Blinken, according to a statement released by China's foreign ministry.

Blinken's trip, which was postponed in February after a suspected Chinese spy balloon flew over U.S. airspace, was closely followed worldwide as further deterioration of ties could have global implications on financial markets, trade practices and routes and supply chains.

### FIRST SUCH MEETING SINCE 2018 AIMS TO MANAGE DISPUTES OVERCOME VARIOUS DIFFICULTIES' CONSTRUCTIVE' CONVERSATIONS

SUMMIT, WORLD WATCHING

### **FOCUS ON TAIWAN**

Beijing's tone on Taiwan was particularly pointed throughout Blinken's visit. Wang said "China has no room for compromise or concessions", according to the Chinese readout.

The United States has long stuck to a policy of "strategic ambiguity" over whether it would respond militarily to an attack on Taiwan, which Beijing has refused to rule out.

When asked last year, US President Joe Biden said Washington would defend Taiwan in the event of a Chinese invasion, though aides later said his comments did not reflect a policy departure from the longstanding "one China" policy.

US officials have underscored that the United States does not support Taiwan independence.

US officials have been playing down the prospect of a major breakthrough in talks, but they and analysts expect Blinken's visit will pave the way for more bilateral meetings in coming months, including possible trips by Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen and Commerce Secretary Gina Raimondo.

## **BATTLEFIELD GAINS** Ukraine retakes eight villages from Russia

The reported capture of the villages reflects *}incremental gains for* Ukraine that highlight the

challenge of breaking through lines Moscow has spent months strengthening

### REUTERS

Kyiv, June 19: Ukraine said Monday it had driven Russian forces from an eighth village in its two-week-old counteroffensive, a settlement on a heavily fortified part of the front line near the most direct route to the country's Azov Sea coast.

A Russian-installed official said Sunday that Ukraine had taken control of the village, Piatykhatky, in the southern Zaporizhzhia region. He later said Moscow had pushed them out and Monday morning he said Ukraine was attacking again.

Ukraine's Deputy Defence Minister Hanna Maliar said Ukrainian forces had not only retaken Piatykhatky but had advanced by up to 7 km into Russian lines in two weeks, capturing 113 square km of land.

"In the course of two weeks of offensive operations in the Berdiansk and Melitopol directions, eight settlements were liberated," Maliar said on Telegram, referring to two cities on the Russian-occupied coastline.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy hailed the efforts of the troops and said he would continue talks with



Western allies to get weapons and ammunition supplies to them as soon as possible.

"Our troops are advancing, position by position, step by step, we are moving forward," he said Sunday evening. "The main thing is the speed of supply."

On Monday, the Russian Defence Ministry said its forces had thwarted a Ukrainian attempt to take the village of Novodonetske in the eastern Donetsk region, another area where Kyiv's counteroffensive has been focused

It released a video showing what a soldier heard talking in it said was a captured Frenchmade tank. Kviv did not comment and Reuters could not verify the latest battlefield accounts.

### Wheel Plant/Bela (Distt. - Saran), Bihar - 841221 E-Open Tender Notice No.:- S/RWP/E/8 2023-24 Dated: 17.06.2023 Principal Chief

Rail Wh Materials Manager/Rail Wheel Plant, Bela for a no behalf of the **President of India** invites onli 'e-Open Tender'', through Indian Railways Procurement Website <u>www.ireps.gov.in</u>, for sup offollowing Storesitem at RWP/Bela. The closing the fall tenders is 14:00 hrs.

of all tenders is 14:00 ns. SNo.:- 1, Tender No.: 02225235A, Short Description of item:- TIPPER/DUMPER, Quantity:- 01 Nos., Date of Tender Closing/Opening:-17.07.2023 at 14:00 Hrs. 1. Website address, on which full tender details can be seen and downloaded from, is www.ireps.gov.in. 2. The prospective firms/ bidders submitting bid are advised to remain in touch with the above website for updates touch with the above website for updates including Addendum/ Corrigendum Cancellation with respect to the above tender However, this information will also be invariab published in the all concerned newspapers. Principal Chief Materials Manager/RWP/ RWP/CPRO/ADVT/2023-24/32

EAST COAST RAILWAY

Tender No. 09-KUR-TRD-OT-2023-24

## NK says botched satellite launch was 'gravest failure'



## SECRET DOCUS PROBE **Trump lawyers ordered**

REUTERS

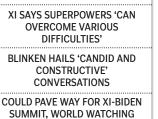
Washington, June 19: A US judge in Florida Monday ordered defense lawyers for former President Donald Trump not to release evidence in the classified documents case to the media or the public,

according to a court filing. The order from US Magistrate Judge Bruce Reinhart also put strict conditions on Trump's access to the materials.

(शिक्षा मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार के अधीन एक स्वायत संस्थान) (An autonomous Institute under the aegis of Ministry of Education (Shiksha Mantralaya), Govt. of India) Plot No. FA7, Zone P1, GT Karnal Road, Delhi-110036, INDIA दरभाष / Tele:+9111-33861000, 1001, 1005 फेक्स / Fax: +9111-27787503 वेबसाइट / Website: www.nitdelhi.ac.in Advt.: 06/2023 Dated: 16/06/202 Recruitment of Faculty Positions at the level of Assistant Professor (Grade-I) and Professor Online applications are invited from Indian Nationals for filling up the faculty positions at the level of Assistant Professor (Grade-I) and Professor in various Departments

राष्ट्रीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान दिल्ली

# NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY DELHI not to release evidence



### Navalny on trial again

Melekhovo: Imprisoned Russian opposition leader Alexei Navalny went on trial Monday on new charges of extremism that could keep him behind bars for decades. The trial opened at a maximum security penal colony in Melekhovo, 250 kilometres east of Moscow, where Navalny, 47, is serving a nine-year sentence for fraud and contempt of court · charges he says are politically motivated. Soon after it began, the judge ruled to close the trial despite Navalny's call to keep it open.

REUTERS

state media reported Monday.

with the rocket and its spy satel-

lite pay load plunging into the

sea, and to prepare for another

Officials "who irresponsibly

conducted preparations" for the

state news agency reported.

launch soon.

time.

Nuclear-armed North Korea Seoul, June 19: An unusually had earlier said it would launch its first military reconnaissance candid North Korea has said the botched launch of a military satellite to boost monitoring of US military activities, another satellite last month was the "gravest failure" but it vowed step in a military programme

it would soon succeed in its quest, that has raised fears of war. South Korea's navy last week North Korea's ruling party recovered a large, cylindrical made the assessment of its May part of the rocket, raising it 31 launch at a three-day meeting from the sea off the west coast, that ended Sunday, ordering which experts said could proworkers and researchers to vide clues to the North's rocket analyse the mission that ended development.

The North's state media said the ruling Workers' Party Central Committee also discussed bolstering nuclear capabilities and stepping up production of nuclear weapons.

failed launch were "bitterly crit-Leader Kim Jong Un attended icized" at the meeting, the KCNA the meeting, KCNA said, but it made no mention of whether he made a speech or delivered a The rocket failed "after losing thrust due to the abnormal report, as he usually does at starting of the second-stage ensuch important policy-making gine", North Korea said at the sessions.

"The Discovery materials, along with any information derived therefrom, shall not be disclosed to the public or the news media, or disseminated on any news or social media platform, without prior notice to and consent of the United States or approval of the Court," the order filed Monday said. It also specified that Trump "shall not retain copies" and that he may only review case materials "under the direct supervision of Defense Counsel or a member of Defense Counsel's staff."

The order granted a motion filed last week by prosecutors who had asked the court to put conditions on how the defense stores and uses the documents.

Trump, who is the frontrunner for the 2024 Republican presidential nomination, was indicted on federal charges earlier this month. He was accused of illegally retaining classified government documents after leaving the White House and then conspiring to obstruct a federal probe of the matter.

Trump has pleaded not guilty to all 37 counts in court. The former president faces other legal hurdles, having been indicted by New York prosecutors in connection with an alleged hush-money payment to a porn star.

	of the Institute. For details and other information, please visit institute website <b>www.nitdelhi.ac.in</b> . Online application process will start from 17.06.2023 and submission link will be disabled on 07.07.2023. The last date for receipt of hard copy of duly filled and signed application form along with all self-attested supporting documents is 14.07.2023 by 5.00 PM.	Name of Work: TRIMMING OF TREE BRANCHES IN THE ELECTRIFIED SECTIONS (EXCEPT KHURDA ROAD (KUR)-NUXR, ANGUL (ANGL)-SUKINDA ROAD (SKND) & HARIDASPUR (HDS)- PARADEEP (PRDP) SECTIONS) OF KHURDA ROAD DIVISION TO MAINTAIN SUFFICIENT CLEARANCE FROM OHE. Advertised Value: ₹ 22,74,570.94, EMD: ₹ 45,500/-, Period of Completion:
	CBC 21275/12/0001/2324 Registrar	180 Days.
	<b>_</b>	Bidding Start Date: 20.06.2023, Date & time of tender closing: At 1300 hrs. on
	No.A-250:	04.07.2023. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored.
	GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER	Complete information including e-tender documents are available in website : http://www.ireps.gov.in Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer/TRD
	SUNDARGARH IRRIGATION DIVISION,SUNDARGARH ଅଧୀକ୍ଷଣ ଯନ୍ତ୍ରୀ, ସୁନ୍ଦରଗଡ଼ କଳସେଚନ ବିଭାକନ, ସୁନ୍ଦରଗଡ଼ Email ID:irreesng@yahoo.in/irreesng@gmail.com	PR-272/O/23-24 Khurda Road
	'e' Procurement for Civil Works	EAST COAST RAILWAY
	Bid Identification No.SID-04/2023-24 (On-line), Dt.17.06.2023 No.2390, Dt.17.6.23	Tender No. ELOP-T-05-2023
	1. No. of Works       : Ten (10 Nos.)         2. Estimated Cost       : Rs.5.08 Lakh to Rs.11.36 Lakh         3. Period of Completion       : Four (04) to Five (05)         Calendar Months	Name of Work: MAINTENANCE OF CREW LOBBY AND RUNNING ROOM AT BHUBANESWAR (BBS) INCLUDING PROVISION OF SUBSIDIZED MEALS THROUGH OUTSIDE AGENCY FOR A
	<ul> <li>4. Date &amp; Time of availability</li> <li>5. Last date/time for receipt of bids in the portal</li> <li>1. Date &amp; Time of Dt.23.06.2023 at 10.00 AM to Dt.06.07.2023 upto 5.30 PM</li> <li>1. Dt.06.07.2023 upto 5.30 PM</li> </ul>	PERIOD OF 02 YEARS.           Advertised Value:         ₹ 1,86,98,225.96,           EMD:         ₹ 2,43,500.00, Tender Document           Cost:         ₹ 5,900.00, Period of Completion:           24 Months.         Bidding Start Date:         21.06.2023, Date &
	6. Date and Time of : Dt.10.07.2023 at 11.00 AM Opening of tender	time of tender closing: At 1630 hrs. on 05.07.2023. Manual offers are not allowed against this
	Further details can be seen from the State Govt. Portal:- www.tendersodisha.gov.in. Any Addendum/corrigendum/	tender, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored.
	cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said website. Sd./- Superintending Engineer	Complete information including e-tender documents are available in website : http://www.ireps.gov.in
1	Sundargarh Irrigation Division, Sundargarh	nitp.//www.neps.gov.in

*Europe likely to singe under more deadly heatwaves* 

The continent, which has been warming twice the global average since the 1980s, saw its warmest summer on record last year, with countries including France, Germany, Italy, Portugal, Spain and United Kingdom experiencing their warmest year on record

### AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

Paris, June 19: Europe should brace for more deadly heatwaves driven by climate change, said a sweeping report Monday, noting the world's fastest-warming continent was some 2.3 degrees Celsius hotter last year than in pre-industrial times.

Crop-withering drought, record sea-surface temperatures and unprecedented glacier melt are among the consequences laid out in a report by the World Meteorological Organization and the European Union's Copernicus Climate Change Service.

The world has warmed an average of nearly 1.2C since the mid-1800s, unleashing a devastating cascade of extreme weather, including more intense heatwayes. more severe droughts in some



areas and storms made more ferocious by rising seas.

Hardest hit are the most vulnerable people and the world's poorest countries, who have done little to contribute to the fossil fuel emissions that drive up temperatures. But impacts are becoming increasingly severe across the world, with regions in the northern hemisphere and around the poles seeing particularly rapid warming.

Temperatures across the continent rose 1.5C in 30 years, from 1991 to 2021, according to the report, the State of the Climate in Europe 2022.

Severe heat left more than 16,000 people dead last year, the report said, while floods and storms accounted for most of the \$2 billion in damages from weather and climate extremes.

Increasing temperatures have taken a toll on economies and ecosystems, the report said. In the Alps, glaciers saw a new record mass loss for a single year in 2022, caused by very low winter levels of snow, a hot summer as well as deposits of wind-blown Saharan dust.

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All amendments, time exte			



# business



The fusion of technology and digitisation has transformed the automotive customer experience BHUWAN LODHA CHIEF DIGITAL OFFICER

(AUTOMOTIVE SECTOR), MAHINDRA GROUP

# of the uote

India's ecommerce business has great growth potential. But the highly fragmented market and supply chain

supply chain complexity are hurdles to many businesses' growth

VIKASH AGARWAL

MD (SOUTH ASIA), MAERSK

We are looking a four-fold growth in the revenue to Rs 1,000 crore by the end of FY28. Last financial year 2023, the

company has closed the revenue at Rs 251 crore

SATISH KUMAR AGARWAL CMD, KAMDHENU PAINTS

Airbnb's global reach will provide enhanced visibility to India's unique and varied accommodation offerings and enable travellers an opportunity to experience the country's rich heritage first-hand

G KISHAN REDDY UNION TOURISM MINISTER

## HISTORIC MILESTONE Indigo orders 500 jets

IndiGo aircraft order comes months after a rejuvenated Air India under Tata Group placed an order for 470 aircraft with the world's two top aircraft makers -- Boeing and Airbus

> This is just the beginning, there's more going forward. With the growth of India (and) the growth of the Indian aviation market ... this is the right time for us to place this order PIETER ELBERS | CEO, INDIGO

With this additional firm order of 500 aircraft for 2030-2035, IndiGo's order book has almost 1,000 aircraft yet to be delivered well into the next

into the next commercial aviation," Airbus said in a statement.

"The latest agreement takes the total number of Airbus aircraft on order by IndiGo to 1,330, establishing its position as the world's biggest A320 Family customer," added the statement from Airbus. "This will provide IndiGo a fur-

ther steady stream of deliveries between 2030 and 2035. This 500 aircraft order is not only IndiGo's largest order but also the largest-ever single aircraft purchase by any airline with Airbus," a statement from IndiGo said.

"It is difficult to overstate the sig-

nificance of IndiGo's new historic order for 500 Airbus A320 Family aircraft. An order book now of almost 1000 aircraft well into the next decade, enables IndiGo to fulfill its mission to continue to boost economic growth, social cohesion and mobility in India," Airbus quoted IndiGo chief Pieter Elbers. Industry executives say as many

Industry executives say as many as 2,000 jet orders are up for grabs worldwide in a resurgent commercial jet market, on top of those provisionally announced already, as airlines try to fill a void left by sharp falls in activity during the pandemic.

IndiGo's deal highlights the growing importance of India, the world's fastest-growing aviation market, serving the largest population, to planemakers.

In February, after its acquisition by the Tata Group, Air India had signed a 470-aircraft deal with Boeing at a price of \$70 billion. At the time, its chief Campbell Wilson had said it was a move meant to "transform the fleet and power significant network and capacity expansion".

With its fleet of over 300 aircraft, IndiGo is currently operating over 1.800 flights a day and connects 78 domestic destinations and over 20 international destinations. It also has orders that are yet to be delivered, taking up the current strength of its fleet to 480.

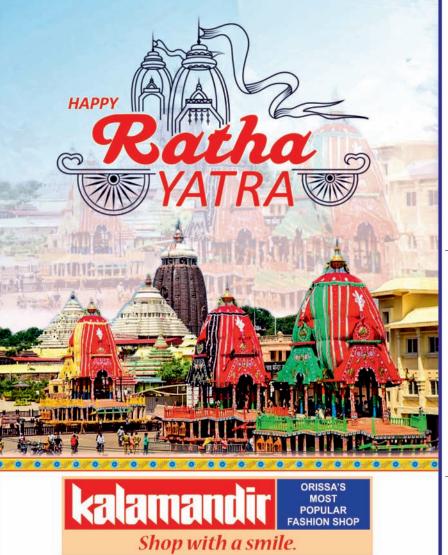
OFS for employees to open June 21

**Coal India** 

**New Delhi:** The government will sell up to 92.44 lakh shares or 0.15 per cent stake in Coal India to its employees at a price of Rs 226.10 a share. "The employee OFS (Offer for Sale) shall remain open from June 21, 2023 to June 23, 2023," Coal India said. Under the share sale offer, 92,44,092 equity shares (representing 0.15 per cent of the total paid up equity share capital of the company) would be offered to eligible CIL employees at a price of Rs 226.10 per equity share. The share sale would fetch around Rs 20,000 crore to the government.



## May Lord Jagannath bless you with peace, prosperity and happiness.



# Markets retreat from new highs

REUTERS

problems.

earlier this year.

Paris, June 19: Airbus

announced a record 500-

plane deal with Indian

airline IndiGo on day one

of the Paris Airshow

Monday, as strong demand for

jets and missiles vied for attention

with the industry's supply chain

The multibillion-dollar deal for sin-

gle-aisle planes confirmed a Reuters

report earlier this month, and

eclipsed Air India's provisional pur-

chase of 470 Airbus and Boeing jets

The world's largest air show,

which alternates with Farnborough

in Britain, is at Le Bourget for the

first time in four years after the 2021

edition fell victim to the pandemic.

The order for 500 A320 Family



Equities witness accelerated selling, particularly in the afternoon trade, dragging the key indices from record highs

### PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**Mumbai**, **June 19:** Equity benchmarks Sensex and Nifty pared early gains to close lower Monday as investors offloaded the 30-share BSE index fell 216.28 points or 0.34 per cent to settle at 63,168.30. During the day, it declined 336.75 points or 0.53 per cent to 63,047.83.

The NSE Nifty went lower by 70.55 points or 0.37 per cent to end at 18,755.45. The index registered its lifetime peak of 18,826 Friday.

"Indian equities shied away from closing at all-time high levels amid profit-booking, primarily driven by private banks. Global markets also took a breather after a strong rally last week as investors looked forward to China's rate decision and the Fed chair's testimony," said Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Financial Services.

Kotak Mahindra Bank was the biggest loser from the Sensex pack, skidding 1.83 per cent, followed by Axis Bank, NTPC, Hindustan Unilever, ICICI Bank, Bharti Airtel, Reliance Industries, HCL Technologies, IndusInd Bank and Nestle. In contrast, Bajaj Finance, Bajaj Finsery,



telecom, power and utility stocks amid a bearish trend in global markets and profit booking.

Besides, intense selling in Reliance Industries, ICICI Bank and Kotak Bank counters also hit investor sentiments, traders said.

After hitting its lifetime high Friday,

Tech Mahindra, Tata Consultancy Services, Titan, Infosys, HDFC Bank, HDFC and ITC were the gainers.

BSE benchmark zoomed 466.95 points or 0.74 per cent to settle at a record closing high of 63,384.58 Friday. The Nifty climbed 137.90 points or 0.74 per cent to end at its lifetime peak of 18,826.



# 3, Western Market, Bhubaneswar - 751009

BENARASIS I KANJEVARAMS I ODISSIS I PRINTED SILKS I BROCADES I JAMEVARS I SOUTH SILKS I BALUCHARIS GADWALS I SUITINGS I SHIRTINGS I SUITS I JACKETS I KURTA I PYJAMAS I SHERWANIS EXCLUSIVE READYMADES I KIDSWEAR I LADIESWEAR I FURNISHINGS I DRESS MATERIALS

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ପଥଗାମୀ ଭ୍ବତ୍ର ମେ

## SIP closures surge 7.4% MoM in May

The surge in SIP inflows amid higher cancellations shows that new investors continue to invest more money than the average ticket size

### PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**New Delhi, June 19:** The number of systematic investment plan (SIP) accounts being discontinued rose 7.4 per cent month-on-month (MoM) to 14.19 lakh in May, despite the stellar inflow into mutual funds through the route.

At the same time, the number of new SIP registration rose to 24.7 lakh last month from



19.56 lakh in April, implying fresh registration of over 5 lakh, data with the Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI) showed.

Meanwhile, investors continued

to park their money in mutual funds, with contributions in SIPs reaching a new high of Rs 14,749 crore last month, after a brief dip to Rs 13,728 crore in April. It was Rs 14,276 crore in March.

This robust inflow has led to assets under management of SIP rising by five per cent to Rs 7.53 lakh crore last month from Rs 7.17 lakh crore in April.

Going by the data, the number of SIP accounts discontinued or matured rose from 13.21 lakh in April to 14.19 lakh in May.

Overall, 1.43 crore SIPs were discontinued or matured in 2022-23, which was higher than 1.11 crore SIPs in 2021-22. Although, the number of SIP registration was higher during these periods too. Her Noble Journey Started on Rath Yatra 1918 Ended on Rath Yatra 2008

## Late Smt. Annapurna Mohanty Wife of Late Sri Mana Gobinda Mohanty

In fond remembrance of our pillar of strength Sri Rajib Lochan Mohanty (Eldest son) Family, Relatives and Staff of MGM Group of Companies

M/S. M. G MOHANTY







/



# **SPAIN REIGN SUPREME** Fencer Bhavani Devi creates history

La Roja claim Nations League title ending 11-year trophy drought as Unai Simon saves two penalties in shootout against Croatia in the final



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Rotterdam. June 19: Spain's 11year trophy drought is over. Croatia and its veteran captain Luka Modric are still waiting for their first international title. Goalkeeper Unai Simon saved two shots as Spain beat Croatia in a penalty shootout after their tense Nations League final had finished 0-0 Sunday.

The Bilbao goalkeeper used his feet to save a penalty by Lovro Majer when the shootout was level at 3-3 and then dived fulllength to tip Bruno Petkovic's spot kick around the post. Dani Carvajal converted his penalty -with a 'Panenka' chip - to seal the victory.

Spain's other previous titles came in the 2010 World Cup and the European Championships in 1964, 2008 and 2012.

Midfielder Rodri, who punched the air after scoring his penalty, has four titles this season after also winning a historic treble with his club, Manchester City. He was named the player of the Nations League tournament to cap his memorable year.

Spain did not manage a shot on target until the 84th minute of the match and when substitute Ansu Fati finally looked

like breaking the stalemate, Ivan Perišic was on the goal line to block his effort. It was Spain's only goal-bound attempt, compared to five by Croatia.

In the first period of extra time, Majer broke through and fell in the penalty area under a challenge by Nacho, but German referee Felix Zwayer ruled that the Spain defender had played the ball and waved off Croatia's ap-

peals for a penalty. Croatia's fans – many wearing shirts with Modric's name and No.10 on the back — far outnumbered their Spanish counterparts at De Kuip stadium in Rotterdam. But they were forced to leave disappointed as their nation and the 37-year-old Modric continued their wait for a first

Spain went a step better than

the last Nations League final in

2021, when they lost to France.

Not bad for a team with a coach,

Luis De La Fuente, who only

in European Championship qual-

international title.

and the ball bounced off the post in the ninth minute, but Livakovic recovered quickly to block an attempt by Álvaro Morata, who was flagged offside. Three minutes later, Gavi dragged a shot just wide.

But after weathering the early storm, Croatia - with Modric directing the action from midfield — then created the best chances. Twice, Modric curled crosses to find Perišic at the far post but both times Simon in the Spain goal saved. But he saved his two best saves for the penalty shootout.

### **ITALY THIRD AGAIN**

Federico Dimarco scored in the sixth minute and Davide Frattesi poked home a rebound to double the lead in the 20th to put Italy on course to beating the Netherlands 3-2 to secure third place in the Nations League for the second time in two attempts.

Steven Bergwijn put the took charge after the World Cup in Qatar and came in for criticism Netherlands back in contention when his team lost 2-0 to Scotland in the 68th minute only for Federico Chiesa to restore the Azzurri's two-goal lead four min-Both sides came close in the utes later. Substitute Georginio first half. Croatia goalkeeper Wijnaldum completed the scor-Dominik Livakovic fumbled an ing with one minute of regulation time to go as Italy held on. innocuous shot by Fabián Ruiz

### PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, June 19: Olympian CA Bhavani Devi Monday created history by securing India's first-ever medal at the Asian Fencing Championships - a bronze – after losing in the women's sabre semifinal at the continental event in Wuxi, China.

Bhavani lost to Uzbekistan's Zaynab Dayibekova in a hardfought semifinals 14-15, but ensured India its maiden medal in the prestigious event. Bhavani had earlier stunned reigning World Champion Misaki Emura of Japan 15-10 in the quarterfinals to script history.

Misaki had won the women's sabre gold medal at the 2022 World Fencing Championships held in Cairo. It was Bhavani's first win over Misaki as she had lost all her matches against the Japanese in the past.

The 29-year-old Bhavani had

## Max equals Senna in F1 wins; 100th victory for Red Bull

### ASSOCIATED PRESS

Montreal, June 19: When he won the pole in the pouring rain, Max Verstappen was quick to explain that it had been his father who would stand on the wet track during his early days of karting and point him to the correct driving lines.

So when Verstappen won the Canadian Grand Prix on Father's Day — a 41st victory that tied the Dutchman for fifth on the alltime Formula One wins list with the late Ayrton Senna and gave Red Bull its 100th win as an organization — he was quick to salute the man who had molded him into the two-time reigning World Champion. Lewis Hamilton holds the all-time record with 103 wins.

Fernando Alonso, riding in an Aston Martin, finished second 9.570 seconds behind Verstappen. Hamilton completed the podium in his Mercedes --14.168s behind the winner.



# Srabani clinches gold in 200m at Nationals

record with a huge throw of

21.77m to qualify for the World

The 28-year-old from Punjab

bettered his own Asian record of

21.49m, which he had set in 2021

in Patiala, with his third round

throw of 21.77m. The World

Championships qualifying mark

is 21.40m. He also qualified for

the Asian Games for which the

qualifying mark is 19m.

Championships.

### POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, June 19: Odisha sprinter Srabani Nanda claimed her second medal – a gold – on the concluding day of the National Inter-State Athletics Championships at the Kalinga Stadium here, Monday.

Srabani won the women's 200m with a timing of 23.77 seconds. However, she missed out on the qualification for the Hangzhou Asian Games as the qualification mark has been set at 23.43s. The 32-year-old had won a silver medal in the women's 100m on the opening day of the competition.

Uttar Pradesh's Prachi bagged the silver medal clocking 24.12, while Kerala sprinter PD Anjali finished the podium with a timing of 24.25s.

### **TOOR SHATTERS RECORD**

Top shot putter Tajinder Pal Toor shattered his own Asian

received a bye in the round of 64 before beating Dospay Karina of Kazakhstan in the next round. Bhavani then upset third seed Ozaki Seri 15-11 in the pre-quarterfinals.

Fencing Association of India secretary-general Rajeev Mehta congratulated Bhavani on her historic achievement.

'It is a very proud day for Indian fencing. Bhavani has achieved what no one could achieve before. She is the first Indian fencer to win a medal at the prestigious Asian Championships. On behalf of the entire fencing fraternity, I con-gratulate her," Mehta told this agency. "Although she lost in the semifinal, the contest was very close. It was a matter of just point. So it's a big improvement."

Bhavani Devi, who became the first Indian fencer to qualify for the Olympics, exited in the round of 32 at the Tokyo Games.

## **Bhagat secures** silver, 2 bronze at Canada meet

### INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, June 19: India's ace shuttler Pramod Bhagat won a silver medal in Men's Singles, a bronze medal in Mixed Doubles and a bronze medal in men's doubles with Sukant Kadam at the recently-concluded Canada Para-Badminton International.

The Padma Shri Awardee went down fighting to England's Daniel Bethell 12-21, 13-21 in the finals to secure a silver medal.

The World No.1 pair of Bhagat and Kadam, who struck gold in the past few events, couldn't recreate their magic and secured a bronze medal

In the mixed doubles, Bhagat and Manisha Ramadass secured a bronze medal. The duo went down fighting to the Indonesian pair of Fredy Setiawan and Khalimatus Sadiyah.

The Odisha lad later said that he wasn't satisfied with his performance in the tourney.

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