

DSPL-418



Narendra Modi
Prime Minister of India



Naveen Patnaik
Chief Minister, Odisha



FIH ODISHA HOCKEY MEN'S WORLD CUP 2023 BHUBANESWAR - ROURKELA 13 - 29 JANUARY 2023

MEN'S HOCKEY WORLD CUP

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Anushka challenges Maharashtra government

Mumbai: Actress Anushka Sharma Thursday challenged in the Bombay High Court the orders of the Maharashtra State Tax Department hiking levies on the payments she has received for endorsements and hosting award functions.

When the matter came up before a division bench of Justice Nitin Jamdar and Justice Abhay Ahuja, government pleader Jyoti Chavan sought time to file a reply. Accordingly, the court has directed the state government to



file its response in two of the pleas which were taken up and posted the matter for further hearing February 6.
Anushka has questioned the orders of the Deputy Commissioner, Sales Tax raising her dues for the as-

essment years 2012-2013, 2013-2014, 2014-2015, and 2015-2016, under the Maharashtra Value Added Tax Act. She has contended that the assessing officer had wrongly levied the tax on her earning.

FORTUNE FORECAST



ARIES
Good news may bring cheer to you today! A job, a wedding, some profit... it could be personal or professional. Giving your best is almost a habit with you, says Ganesh, and it will pay off today.

TAURUS
Ganesh predicts that today, you will be successful in money matters. There is, at best, only an outside chance that any stimulating event or thrilling escapade will occur today. In short, the day may be boring. Fret not as the dreary day may change into an exhilarating evening, feels Ganesh.

GEMINI
You will long for some privacy today, says Ganesh. You may end up earning a large amount of money, mostly through some private venture. The day will be a greatly profitable one for cashiers, money lenders and those in retail business. Keep working hard to achieve success.

CANCER
Today, there is a strong possibility that you may face unexpected job changes. You are likely to spend lavishly to please family and friends. You may feel we make money to spend on loved ones. Still it would probably be a good idea to count every penny before using it, says Ganesh.

LEO
Being good to oneself is not vanity. To Ganesh, it seems as if you take this statement to heart, since it looks quite possible that you make your personal care number one priority today. On the flip side though, you become aware of the fact that the harder you try the more it seems you have to.

VIRGO
The time today is ripe to venture into a new business. Projects that have been put-off will finally be completed. Looking into the week ahead, you are most likely to give yourself an energy zap. Parties will be all fun and entertainment. Your kids will bring home joy and pride and this will brighten the mood even more, says Ganesh.

LIBRA
The Bhagavad Gita says, "Do your duty without expecting the fruit." Remember this important lesson and strive hard to put in extra efforts to finish off whatever you undertake to do. Worrying about results will only hamper your progress. Go with the flow and let results come to you. You may want to discuss some urgent matters with your close friend today, says Ganesh.

SCORPIO
Life is the best teacher, they say. And today, you even experience this. You may learn to survive the neck-tight competition in the market. This may invite a lot of envy, but nothing shall bother you. Ganesh reminds you of the adage, 'To err is human, to forgive is divine,' so, it's fine even if you commit some errors.

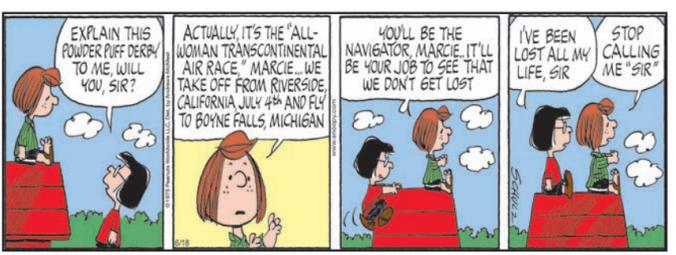
SAGITTARIUS
Today shall be a rather decisive day, speculates Ganesh. Situations that have pushed you into a corner will force you to make rash decisions. But take stock of the situation and assess the long-term consequences of your actions beforehand, advises Ganesh.

CAPRICORN
Mark this date on the calendar as today is going to be one of the most important days of life, the reason being you are going to meet somebody who is will stay with you through out your life. Though it may some time bore you, but your relationships will keep you busy today. Visits to religious places are on the cards for you. Most of the day you will spend time with your friends and family.

AQUARIUS
You may rave and rant, but all you'll get from colleagues or juniors are wishy-washy excuses for a job not done. Ganesh advises that you take care to finish your own work before you help others. The stars say that your beloved will smoothen your creased brow.

PISCES
You will need broad shoulders to deal with the added responsibilities which will be heaped on your plate today. And while the work will be draining, the satisfaction of a job well done will more than ease your stress. A pleasant surprise probably awaits you back home, later in the evening, says Ganesh.

PEANUTS



CALVIN AND HOBBS



BREVITY



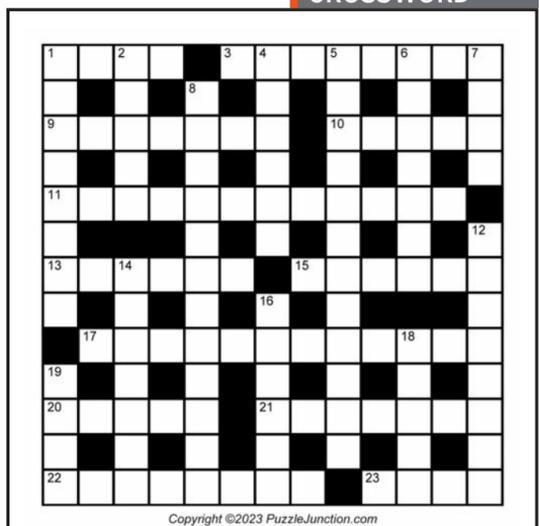
PC launches her first make-up collection

London: Priyanka Chopra has officially launched her first make-up collection with Max Factor. The launch took place in the UK. The collection includes the Masterpiece Eye Palette, nine Colour Elixir Lipsticks and eight Miracle Pure Nail Polishes. Priyanka Chopra looked the epitome of glamour in the campaign shoot.

woman of colour, I am all too aware of the struggles many people can have when searching for the right make-up for them," said Priyanka Chopra, as reported by Independent UK. She added, "I know the transformative impact it can have not just on my appearance, but on my self-confidence. For me, make-up has always been a tool of discovery and self-expression, and a way to feel like the best version of myself."



FUN post

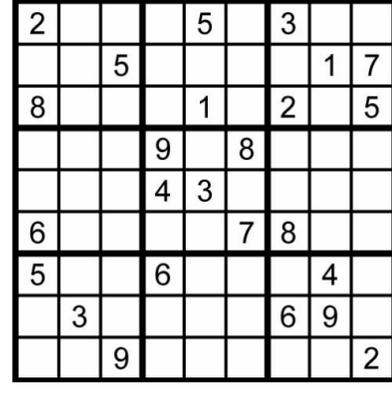


- Across**
- 1 Yield
 - 3 Clean and pure
 - 9 Theatre treat
 - 10 Before salts or Downs
 - 11 Weak spot (8,4)
 - 13 Arm joints
 - 15 Bloodsucking African fly
 - 17 Wedding party member (4,2,6)
- Down**
- 1 Bakery items
 - 2 Profundity
 - 4 Cheese-making substance
 - 20 Give permission
 - 21 Median like an automobile
 - 23 Egyptian fertility goddess
 - 5 Medical instruments
 - 6 Look over carefully
 - 7 Shade trees
 - 8 Internet sobriquet (5,4,3)
 - 12 Airedales, for instance
 - 14 Rock group of yore
 - 16 On fire
 - 18 Opaque gems
 - 19 Beach feature

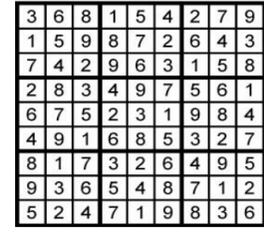
CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMORROW

SUDOKU

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



SOLUTIONS



Madhuri sees an actress in singing show contestant

Mumbai: Actress Madhuri Dixit said that *Indian Idol 13* contestant Bidipta Chakraborty is capable of becoming an actress and asked her to enact a scene from her film *Dil Toh Pagal Hai*.

Ayodhya, Bidipta Chakraborty, Debosmita Roy, Senjuti Das, Sonakshi Kar from Kolkata, Chirag Kotwal from Jammu, Navdeep Wadali from Amritsar, and Shivam Singh from Gujarat.

She said while praising her: "Bidipta is a fantastic singer and the way she performs with eye contact is a brave work which drives everyone to her sweet voice."

Madhuri also added that she has a potential of becoming an actress and asked her to deliver a dialogue from her hit film *Dil Toh Pagal Hai* which also starring superstar Shah Rukh Khan and Karisma Kapoor: Later, Madhuri danced to the tunes of *Choli Ke Peeche Kya Hai* during the show.

The top eight contestants that gave their performance included, Rishi Singh from

Madhuri has given a number of hits and she is also known for her dancing skills. She is a trained Kathak dancer and acted in films such as *Tezaab*, *Parinda*, *Anjaam*, *Hum Aapke Hain Koun*, *Koyla*, *Pukar*, among others. She made her web debut with *The Fame Game* and she was also seen among the panel of judges on the dance reality show *Jhalak Dikhhla Jaa 10*.



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MENTORING TALENT

Actor Madhuri Dixit roots for one of the Indian Idol-13 contestants to become an actress in future

LEISURE



COMPENSATION ANNOUNCED

Sri Lanka's ex-Prez Maithripala Sirisena and 4 others to pay 310 million rupees to the Easter attack victims

INTERNATIONAL P8



TRICKY ENCOUNTER

India to open their Hockey WC 2023 campaign today against Spain at the Birsra Munda Stadium in Rourkela

SPORTS BACK PAGE

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BHUBANESWAR | FRIDAY, JANUARY 13 | 2023

P1

SHORT TAKES

Former JD (U) chief Sharad Yadav dead

New Delhi: Veteran politician and former JD (U) chief Sharad Yadav died Thursday at a private hospital in Gurgaon, family sources said. The former Union Minister was 75. He is survived by his wife, a daughter and a son. A statement from the hospital said, Yadav was brought to the emergency ward in an unconscious and unresponsive state. "On examination, he (Yadav) did not have any pulse or recordable blood pressure. He underwent CPR as per ACLS protocols. Despite best efforts, he could not be revived and was declared dead at 10.19 pm," the statement said.

Elephant carcass found in Ganjam

Berhampur: An elephant carcass was found near Denga Khaman village in the Karda range of Phulbali Bankhand bordering Kandhamal in Ganjam district Thursday morning. Forest officials said that cause of death of the three-year-old pachyderm is still not clear. Locals found the carcass of the elephant calf Thursday and informed forest officials who reached the spot soon. It is suspected that the elephant died Wednesday night. Frequent deaths of elephants in the border areas have become a matter of concern for the Forest department, which is already investigating the death of an 18-year-old pachyderm in the central forest area.

Retail inflation falls to 1-yr low of 5.72%

New Delhi: Retail inflation declined to a one-year low of 5.72 per cent in December 2022, mainly due to softening prices of food items, according to official data released Thursday. The Consumer Price Index (CPI) based retail inflation was at 5.88 per cent in November 2022 and 5.66 per cent in December 2021. As per the data released by the National Statistical Office (NSO), inflation in the food basket was at 4.19 per cent in December as against 4.67 per cent in November. After remaining above the RBI's upper tolerance threshold of 6 per cent since January 2022, retail inflation declined in November to 5.88 per cent and further in December to 5.72 per cent.

IRREGULAR by MANJUL



Yes, our job is to nab fake news peddlers. But, only those who spread fake news against the govt



WELCOMING THE CUP: Students and artistes perform an Odissi routine on a bridge over the Brahmani river to welcome the Hockey World Cup trophy which arrived in Rourkela, Thursday

Youngster breaches PM's security cordon

Hubballi (Karnataka), Jan 12: A young boy, not even in his teens, who cut through the security cordon and tried to hand over a garland to Prime Minister Narendra Modi during a roadshow here Thursday, was taken away from the scene and is being questioned by the local police. According to police officials and grabs from live video streaming of the event, the boy, who was seen rushing towards Modi's motorcade with a garland in hand, managed to reach very close to prime minister. Modi extended his hand to accept the garland from above the car door, but could not reach the boy. The SPG personnel got hold of the garland before local police secured the boy and removed him from the scene. SPG passed on the boy's garland to Modi who then put it inside his vehicle. The incident happened as Modi was reaching the venue for inaugurating the 26th National Youth Festival here. Hubballi-Dharwad Police Commissioner Raman Gupta said the incident cannot be called a security breach as everyone had been frisked and checked.

Korean journo falls into drain; govt embarrassed

The incident brings back memories of Jyotirmoy Behera and Gautam Reddy, both residents of Odisha capital, who died after falling into open drains

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Jan 12: The Odisha government, the organisers of the FIH Men's Hockey World Cup were left red-faced with a photo journalist from Korea falling into an open drain Wednesday in the state capital. Luckily however, Park Song Moon escaped with minor injuries, but the instance of an open drain in this city has once more has put the government in a spot of bother.



The incident happened at a time when the state government is spending crores of rupees in a beautification drive of the state capital. The accident once more demonstrated the apathy of the officials in providing safety to the pedestrians.

The development brought back memories of a young 15-year-old Jyotirmoy Behera and four-year-old Gautam Reddy who breathed their last in 2021 and 2022 respectively after falling into open drains in Bhubaneswar. Luckily however, the Korean visitor escaped with minor injuries.

Sources said the photo journalist fell into the open drain while having a cup of tea at a roadside stall at Dumduma area. Other locals at the shop immediately rushed to his rescue and pulled him to safety before taking him to a hospital for treatment.

Large-scale restoration and beautification of this city have been taken up on a war footing ahead of the World Cup which will start Friday onwards. To give Bhubaneswar a new look, roads have been repaired, paintings and graffiti have come up at many places, roadside vendors and hawkers have also been evicted. Massive electrification work was also done to make the city look colourful and bright. However, it seems that certain areas were left out and that led to the freak accident.

Since the mishap, the drain was covered up promptly, by authorities. However, the damage has already been done and it will take some time for scars to heal.

Mayor of Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC)

Sulochana Das when questioned about the incident Thursday stated that the job of covering up open drains had been given to another department. She however, refused to blame any particular department for the mishap. She added that since the BMC and other departments are working as a team for the beautification drive, the blame for the accident lies with everyone. "We should coordinate for better work, rather than play blame games," Das said.

Das asserted that the beautification drive of many interior parts in this city will continue. She informed that BMC has already completed beautification of a 40km stretch in the Capital city with mural art and installation of sculptures.

Odisha's next Budhia Singh on horizon

Six-year-old Rudra Sethy completes 17km mini-marathon with ease in Malkangiri

POST NEWS NETWORK

Malkangiri, Jan 12: He is frail looking and just six years old. However, Tanush Prasad Sethy also known as Rudra, belonging to Korukunda in Malkangiri district, is well on the way to become Odisha's next Budhia Singh.

Budhia burst into limelight in 2006 and was featured in the Limca Book of Records for running 65 kilometres from Puri to Bhubaneswar. Even though Rudra has not bettered the distance there are enough indications that he may do so in the near future.

Rudra is already being called Malkangiri district's 'Budhia' for his ability to run long distances. He grabbed eyeballs Thursday while taking part in a mini-marathon organised by the district admin-



istration as part of 'Malyabanta Mahotsav'. Not only did Rudra complete the race spanning 17 kilometres, but did so easily.

Those who witnessed the race informed that Rudra, who is a Class-I student at Malkangiri Kendriya Vidyalaya, covered the entire distance seamlessly.

I LOVE RUNNING, SO COMPLETING THE 17KM WAS NOT DIFFICULT AT ALL AND I HOPE TO RUN 100KM AT A STRETCH IN THE NEAR FUTURE

RUDRA SETHY

Sources close to Rudra stated that he has been running distances between five to 10 kilometres on a daily basis since he was three years old. His mentor and inspiration is his maternal grandfather D Rabindra, a former police constable and footballer. Rabindra is training Rudra with the hope that the latter one day will become a national-level marathoner.

"I ran from Korukunda to Malkangiri and I was quite con-

fident that I will be able to cover the distance. It felt good," Rudra said after completion of the race. "Someday I aspire to run 100km at a stretch, it is my dream. However, nothing would have been possible without the guidance of my grandfather," he added.

Rabindra on the other hand is proud of his grandson's feat. "I was confident that Rudra will finish the race. At his age, winning or losing doesn't matter. What does is that he completed the race. His feat gives me hope that he has a great future," Rabindra added.

The former policeman however wants his grandson to get proper exposure to competitions. He knows that only participation in races will help Rudra improve. "I hope the district administration helps Rudra," his grandfather said.

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2014	Champions Trophy	Dec 6 to 14
2016-17	FIH Pro League	Dec 1 to 10, 2017
2018	World Cup	Nov 28 to Dec 16
2019	FIH Pro League finals	June 6 to 16
2019	Men's Olympic Qualifiers	Nov 1 to 2
2020-21	FIH Pro League	Jan 18 to May 24
2021	Junior World Cup	Nov 24 to Dec 5
2021-22	FIH Pro League	Feb 26 to April 15

* Many women's tournaments have also been played at the Kalinga Stadium including Pro League matches.

Odisha's ode to Indian hockey

SAKYASEN MITTRA, OP

What started as a distant and impossible dream has turned into a beautiful reality. Odisha has now become the epicentre of world hockey with the state all set to host the 15th edition of the World Cup in Bhubaneswar and Rourkela. All this has happened due to the vision of Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik whose astute thinking has helped hockey regain its old glory in the country. Now the Kalinga Stadium in Bhubaneswar and the Birsamunda International hockey stadium in Rourkela have become hockey hubs in the world.

The journey has not been easy, there have been problems galore. However, Patnaik's determination and decision making, along with his hard-working team that includes officials like ST Secretary VK Pandian and Sports Secretary Vineel Krishna, have contributed to make Odisha synonymous with hockey in India.

Even though there have been many players from Odisha who have gone to represent India, including the legendary Dilip Tirkey, who is the current Hockey India president, Birendra Lakra, Michael Kindo, Amit Rohidas and Neelam Sanjiv Xess, the state got its first taste of international hockey when it hosted the Champions Trophy in 2014. And since then, there has been no looking back for Odisha to transform itself from the cradle of Indian hockey to the hockey hub of India.

Today for the sports lovers, Odisha, especially Bhubaneswar is a familiar



Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik with 'Olly', the mascot of the World Cup during a function

name, and with the addition of Rourkela to the list as another venue for the World Cup, things will only get bigger and better. It was seen during the 2018 World Cup that the number of foreign tourist influx grew in the state quite substantially and the same is expected this year too. It just goes to show that Odisha now, other than its culture, heritage and magnificent structures, also has another attraction, namely hockey. Who will let go of such a place where one of the world's fastest games is played?

Leaving aside cricket, if there are two other sports nee... one person and one sport that is well followed in India, are Neeraj Chopra. He captured the imagination of the whole nation by winning the javelin gold in the 2020 Tokyo Olympics (postponed to 2021 due to the Covid-19 pandemic) while the hockey team ended a 41-year medal wait at the Olympics. For rural India, hockey as always been the eas-

ier sport to take up and it is this that prompted the Odisha government to delve into hockey in a big way.

The masterstroke of the Naveen Patnaik-led government in Odisha was its decision to sponsor the Indian men's and women's hockey teams in 2018. No one knows the exact amount of sponsorship, but sources have confirmed it to be Rs 30 crore annually. It gave Hockey India and more so the hockey players a new lease of life. It was a huge boost for upcoming talent who knew they could get the millionaire tag just by playing hockey. The time had arrived for a massive boost to the sport.

And it came in after India's bronze-winning feat at Tokyo. The Odisha government felicitated both the men's and women's (fourth place) with Rs 10 lakh each in August 2021. Amit Rohidas and Birendra Lakra from the state got cheques of Rs 2.5 crore each while Deep Grace Ekka got Rs 50 lakh. Not just the amount, but the patronage

shown by the Odisha government went a long way in making hockey, which was already popular, a 'fashionable' sport to indulge in. The game promised affluence if one could attain a certain standard could be attained.

Patnaik then played his second masterstroke by announcing the sponsorship term being extended by 10 years till 2033. Initially the sponsorship was till 2023, but then during the felicitation programme, Patnaik declared that Odisha will continue its support for Indian hockey for another decade. Hockey India couldn't have hoped for anything better. It allowed the association to splurge at the grassroots level all across India, something which is essential for the development of any sport.

Public affection, adulation and love grow for a winning side that consistently delivers results. The Indian hockey team, both the men's and women's teams have been achieving that for the past few years. And behind it has been the training facilities that have been provided by the Odisha government at the state-of-art Kalinga Stadium in Bhubaneswar. That is the main reason why the venue has become the training centre for junior and senior national hockey teams. The Odisha government has seen to it that the most modern facilities are available to the teams other than providing financial stability. Also for any sport to prosper, it needs a dedicated fan base. The Odisha government has provided the fillip to hockey and should be credited for that.

What more can a sport want!



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ARINDAM GANGULY, OP

Be it in any modern-day sport, proper nutrition and diet on many an occasion is the difference between success and failure. To be at the ultimate level of physical fitness before any tournament, special emphasis is given on diet. For the teams participating in the FIH Men's World Cup hockey tournament beginning Friday diet is an integral part of their preparations. Some of these teams have their own nutritionist while others give strict instructions to the chef of the hotels for the type of food they want.

Spain, the Netherlands and Argentina are staying at Hotel Mayfair; Germany in Trident, France at Taj Vivanta, South Africa at Swosti Grand and Chile and Japan at HHL. Among the other teams, England and New Zealand are residing in Lemon Tree, Belgium and Australia have been put up at Sandy's Tower while Malaysia and Korea are at Swosti Premium. In all the hotels special diet has been arranged for the players and support staff.

Jyoti Ranjan Swain, banquet manager at Sandy's Tower said that Australian and Belgian players like pancakes and so it is being provided to them in sufficient quantities. "We had consulted with the team officials regarding the preparation of food," Jyoti informed. "They will require special diet during the tournament," he added.

Among Indian cuisine, the players like palak paneer and garlic naan. They also ask for bolognese pasta and buffalo chicken that are being specially prepared for the players. "We are also providing pulses, dry fruits and healthy juices in consultation with nutritionists of both the teams," Swain informed.

Swain said as the team had stayed in same hotel in 2018 they are familiar with the surroundings and arrangements and are comfortable this time.

Sumant Parida, assistant food and beverage manager of Swosti Grand informed that the needs of the players are being given special attention.

"The players like food items that are less spicy, so we are giving attention to this detail. We are preparing a mixture of Chinese, Indian and south Indian dishes for the players," Parida said. "The players also want bananas and oranges on a daily basis and that is being provided to them. The South Africans have special fondness for veg moussakam and garlic naan," he added.

Prashanta Shee, the executive chef of Swosti Premium informed that the players are very particular about their diet. "We have discussed and prepared the menu accordingly. For Korean players we are preparing protein-based, less oily food. They mainly consume chicken and fried rice while avoiding carbohydrates like potato. The Malaysian team on the other hand, prefer South Indian dishes," Shee said.

For this edition of the World Cup, Rourkela will also be a venue. A Games Village has been set up with 225 rooms to cater to 'every need of the players and support staff of the participating teams', an official informed. Officials of all the hotels informed that special security arrangements have been made for all the teams and their needs are being attended to, promptly.



Players enjoy food in a Bhubaneswar hotel they are staying in for the FIH Men's World Cup

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To achieve a podium-level finish, the Men in Blue will not just have to play well, but above all maintain consistency

Go India... Go

SAKYASEN MITTRA, OP

Expectations are sky high to say the least. No, it was not so during the FIH Men's Hockey World Cup which was played also in Bhubaneswar in 2018. That was because the Indian team's performance was mediocre leading to the tournament. Had India achieved a podium finish, it would have been considered a miracle.

Cut to 2023, and the situation is completely different. A bronze medal at the Tokyo Olympics in 2021 and a silver in the Birmingham Commonwealth Games last year have fuelled public and fans' expectations to the limits. Now, nothing short of a gold medal, or at least a podium finish, will satisfy them.

To be honest, India have the talent and the ability for at least a podium finish in 2023 FIH Men's Hockey World Cup. The preparations have been meticulous with every different aspect being addressed.

India's results in other tournaments have also been noteworthy indeed. Even though, they lost the hockey series against Australia 1-4 a couple of months back, India showed that they have the prowess to compete with the best. However, to achieve a podium-level finish the FIH World Cup in Rourkela and Bhubaneswar, the Men in Blue will not just have to play well, but above all maintain consistency. Up and down form is simply not a virtue that the men's team can achieve at this stage.

The reason why India need consistency is to avoid meeting two of their bogey teams in the tournament. Australia and defending World Champions Belgium have been the two sides that have been India's nemesis the recent past. So it would be nice if India manage to avoid them before the semifinals. But then optimism is the order of the day and with the backing of the fans, India have the ability to overcome even the insurmountable and impossible.

Skipper Harmanpreet Singh, who many expect to be India's trump card in the upcoming edition of the World Cup, is confident that India can achieve a podium finish at least. "This is indeed a huge occasion for the players of



THE PLAYERS ARE AWARE OF ACHIEVING SUCCESS ON HOME TURF. THERE CAN BE NOTHING MORE GRATIFYING FOR THE INDIAN TEAM
HARMANPREET SINGH | INDIA SKIPPER

WORLD CUP TRIVIA

INDIA, NETHERLANDS AND SPAIN ARE THE ONLY TEAMS TO HAVE APPEARED IN ALL 14 EDITIONS OF HOCKEY WC

INDIA WERE THIRD IN 1971, SECOND IN 1973 AND WON THE GOLD IN 1975

INDIA HAVE SCORED 199 GOALS IN THE HOCKEY WORLD CUP AND ARE RANKED BEHIND AUSTRALIA (305) AND THE NETHERLANDS (267)

the Indian team. Playing the World Cup in front of home fans is indeed a special occasion," Harmanpreet said during a TV show a couple of days back.

"We don't know whether in our careers we will be able to play the World Cup again on home turf, because we don't know when we will host the tournament again. So we don't want to leave anything to chance. We have worked very hard and now it is time to go to the pitch and deliver and that is exactly what we want to do. It will indeed be gratifying to see the home fans happy," the Indian captain added.

Incentives galore are waiting for the Indian team if they succeed. The Odisha government has already announced cash awards of Rs 1 crore each if India win the trophy.

However, there will definitely be other awards also should they achieve glory. The hockey bronze in Tokyo is proof of that also.

Sports psychologist Dr Paddy Upton

had once said, "It is the mind that matters the most to overcome tough situations."

Legendary Kiwi cricketer Sir Richard Hadlee always used to visualise about

success. "I knew that even if I could achieve 70 per cent what I visualise, I would be immensely successful. The fans are dreaming and let's just hope that the players are on the same path too."

ROLE OF HONOUR			
YEAR	WINNER	RUNNERS-UP	THIRD
1971	Pakistan	Spain	India
1973	The Netherlands	India	West Germany
1975	India	Pakistan	West Germany
1978	Pakistan	The Netherlands	Australia
1982	Pakistan	West Germany	Australia
1986	The Netherlands	England	West Germany
1990	The Netherlands	Pakistan	Australia
1994	Pakistan	The Netherlands	Australia
1998	The Netherlands	Spain	Germany
2002	Germany	Australia	The Netherlands
2006	Germany	Australia	Spain
2010	Australia	Germany	The Netherlands
2014	Australia	The Netherlands	Argentina
2018	Belgium	The Netherlands	Australia

On his arrival at Rourkela with the Indian squad, head coach Graham Reid had said India are now a force to reckon with in world hockey because of consistency.

"I understand the high stakes involved and the public expectations. The players are aware of that also. Now is the time to deliver as it is they who have to take the field. To live up to the public expectations is not easy, but I am confident. The preparations have been very good and now it is the time to execute what we have trained on for so many days," Reid said.

August 4, 2021 will always be written in gold (oops bronze) in the annals of India hockey history. It ended a 41-year wait for an Olympic medal and the nation erupted with joy.

The bronze was no less than a gold medal for a nation where the national game is hockey.

India have been without a world cup medal since March 15, 1975 when they won the gold beating arch rivals Pakistan 2-1 in the final at Kuala Lumpur. Will January 29 be another such red-letter day for Indian hockey?

The players have the answer.



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SRI AUROBINDO



Danger to Democracy

Brazil now has its own version of the January 6, 2021, assault on the US Capitol by supporters of the defeated President, Donald Trump. Two years and two days later, supporters of former President Jair Bolsonaro stormed the National Congress, the Supreme Court, and the Presidential palace in Brasilia, solidifying Bolsonaro's credentials as the "Trump of the Tropics." The uncanny similarity between Brazil's failed insurrection and the attack on the US Capitol highlights the many parallels between Bolsonaro and Trump. Both are far-right, antidemocratic one-term presidents who offered only disinformation and bravado during the COVID-19 pandemic, costing hundreds of thousands of lives. Both harangued the press and challenged their judiciaries' independence. Both claimed that only massive fraud and rigged voting machines could defeat their re-election bids. Their legacies are the millions of citizens who doubt the integrity of their countries' elections and the thousands who sacked their own capitals and brutalised police officers in a futile effort to overthrow democracy.

But the subtle differences between the post-presidencies of Bolsonaro and Trump underscore the importance of prosecuting antidemocratic former leaders. Many Americans fear that indicting Trump for inciting an insurrection would produce a tit-for-tat dynamic in which each succeeding administration used the courts to settle political scores. But Brazil's history since the restoration of democracy in 1989 suggests otherwise.

Fernando Collor, Brazil's first democratically elected president after the end of the military regime, resigned in 1992 after being accused of influence peddling. He was impeached anyway, and thus disqualified from holding elected office again. Collor was later acquitted of criminal charges and eventually had his political rights restored, allowing him to run for lower offices (and win). Subsequent Brazilian presidents have been indicted, and some have faced judicial abuses, yet Brazil did not descend into an endless cycle of retaliatory prosecutions. Fernando Henrique Cardoso, who succeeded Collor, was a frequent critic of his own successor (and current president), Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva. But Lula's administration did not use the judicial system to settle scores. Lula himself was convicted of corruption and sentenced to 12 years in prison before his conviction was annulled, and he was released in 2019 after serving less than two years. Lula eventually had his political rights restored and went on to run for president again, beating Bolsonaro, but the grounds for his indictment were not purely political or baseless.

Bolsonaro himself could face charges linked to a fake-news troll farm that operated out of the presidential palace, as well as for spreading misinformation about electronic voting. When Bolsonaro's political party asked the electoral court to cancel millions of votes, the court fined it for trying to undermine the country's electronic voting system and froze its assets. Brazilian media have reported that Bolsonaro is effectively trying to avoid prison, for himself and family members, by offering to stop attacking democracy in exchange for amnesty. Some have speculated that his current sojourn in Florida is an attempt to escape potential charges at home.

Bolsonaro's legal exposure may explain why he suddenly deviated from the Trump playbook after years following closely in his idol's footsteps. Despite Bolsonaro's refusal to concede the presidential election, his chief of staff acknowledged in early November that there would be a peaceful transition of power: Whereas Trump still claims to be the victim of massive electoral fraud, Bolsonaro has gone quiet. And while Trump rallied the rioters on January 6 and continues to defend their actions, Bolsonaro emerged from his redoubt near Disney World to decry this week's violence in Brasilia.

Venezuela, Brazil's neighbour to the north, illustrates the dangers of allowing insurrectionists to get away with their actions. As the country's experience shows, when aspiring dictators re-emerge, they tend to come back emboldened. In 1992, a lieutenant colonel named Hugo Chávez led two failed coup d'états against the elected Venezuelan government. Chávez was released early from prison by then-President Rafael Caldera before being elected president in 1998. He then presided over the destruction of Venezuelan democracy and crashed its economy.

Ecuador offers another cautionary tale. In 2000, a severe economic crisis led to mass protests against the country's elected president, Jamil Mahuad. An army colonel at the scene, Lucio Gutiérrez, stood by and watched while demonstrators swarmed the National Congress. The protests then morphed into a coup attempt led by Gutiérrez and other military officers. Gutiérrez never faced criminal prosecution for the attempted coup in either military or civilian courts.

In 2002, Gutiérrez ran for president and won. The disdain for democratic institutions that he had previously displayed became the defining feature of his presidency, during which he suspended the Supreme Court and later declared a state of emergency. His term ended with him fleeing Ecuador by helicopter after Brazil offered him political asylum.

The final chapter of Bolsonaro's story has yet to be written. But we already see hints that the fear of indictment has chastened him. Americans should take this lesson to heart: though prosecuting former presidents carries risks, the cost of letting insurrectionists and would-be autocrats escape accountability could be too high.

The writer is Professor of Political Science at the University of Chicago. @PROJECTSYNDICATE

WISDOM CORNER

We are what our thoughts have made us; so take care about what you think. Words are secondary. Thoughts live; they travel far. SWAMI VIVEKANANDA

Live as if you were to die tomorrow. Learn as if you were to live forever. MAHATMA GANDHI

In three words I can sum up everything I've learned about life: it goes on. ROBERT FROST

WORDSWORTH

Fandangle

A fandangle may be a useless or purely ornamental thing. It may also refer to something nonsensical, foolish or silly. A big white wedding is a huge fandangle for not much return. The guests carp about their placement; the vicar, it turns out, would rather be at a funeral; and the happy couple are either rigid with stress or flaccid with drink (Sunday Telegraph, 8 Aug. 2010). One of the dictionaries describes it as archaic, but nobody seems to have told its users, who continue to find it the right word for any situation that implies confusion or fatuousness. This is from a New Zealand book review: "There's a sense of déjà vu about so much of the plot. And the whole fandangle could have been at least 100 pages shorter." And this from the US: "Feuding politicians in Washington continue their endless fandangle on possible changes to the evermore complicated federal tax code." It seems still to be known, to some small extent, almost everywhere English is spoken. A plausible suggestion for its origin is the Spanish dance called the fandango, known from the eighteenth century but whose name in English by the early nineteenth century had taken on the same senses of foolish nonsense or useless ornament that were later transferred to fandangle. Was this a Puritan reaction to the dance, perhaps?

FOCUS MILLETS

FOOD FOR FUTURE



As poor and developing countries struggle to feed their ever-growing population afflicted with hunger and malnutrition, cereal crops like millets provide an affordable and nutritious solution

With an aim to increase awareness on the contribution of millets to our food security and nutrition that have guided civilizations to the path of progress and prosperity and to highlight their potential for addressing the global scourge of hunger and starvation for a sustainable economy, the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) endorsed a proposal received from India to celebrate their importance on a global scale. Accordingly, the United Nations General Assembly declared the year 2023 as the International Year of Millets (IYM).



Nikunja Bihari Sahu

MILLETS HAVE BEEN AN INTEGRAL PART OF OUR DIET FOR CENTURIES

As poor and developing countries struggle to feed their ever-growing population afflicted with hunger and malnutrition, cereal crops like millets provide an affordable and nutritious solution. Millets can grow on arid lands with minimal capital inputs and are resilient to disease, drought and changes in climate. They don't even require the application of fertilizers. Large-scale millet production can support the lives and livelihoods of small-holder farmers and can provide jobs to millions of women and youth of these countries for sustainable growth and decent living. As rightly said by FAO Director General Qu Dongyu at the opening ceremony of the IYM on 2 December, 2022, "Millets are incredible ancestral crops with high nutritional value. Millets can play an important role and contribute to our collective efforts to empower smallholder farmers, achieve sustainable development, eliminate hunger, adapt to climate change, promote biodiversity and transform agri-food systems."

Millets is a collective term referring to a number of small-grained, annual cereal crops belonging to the grass family primarily cultivated on marginal lands in dry areas of temperate, subtropical and tropical regions. They are commonly used as food

for humans and fodder. They are highly tolerant to drought and other extreme weather conditions and have even greater nutrient value than the common cereals in use. Though various species of millets were initially domesticated in different parts of the world most notably East Asia, South Asia, West Africa and East Africa, they have eventually spread well beyond their original limits. Millets are now important sources of nourishment for millions of people in Sub-Saharan Africa and Asia. They are deeply rooted in the culture and traditions of indigenous peoples of these regions since time immemorial as various festivals and rituals are often associated with the cultivation and consumption of millets.

Millets have been an integral part of our diet for centuries. The earliest evidence of millet has been found in the Indus Valley Civilisation and was probably one of the first plants to be domesticated by people for food. Various types of millets were mentioned in some of our ancient texts like the Yajurveda under the name Priyaṅgu (foxtail millet), Anu (barnyard millet) and Syāmāka (black finger millet) indicating that millet cultivation was practised

around 3000 BCE in India. Some of the common millets now cultivated in India are jowar (sorghum), ragi (finger millet), korra (foxtail millet), arke (kodo millet), sama (little millet), bajra (pearl millet), chena/barr (proso millet) and sanwa (barnyard millet). In India, millets are generally cultivated mostly in tribal-dominated mountainous areas of the states of Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Telangana. Over the past five years, Odisha has recorded a 14-fold increase in millet production, from 3,333 ha in 2017-18 to 53,230 ha in 2021-22 because of sustainable agricultural practices and quality seeds.

Millets are grown in about 131 countries worldwide and are the traditional food for around 60 crore people in Asia and Africa. India, Nigeria and China are the chief producers of millets in the world, accounting for more than 55% of the global production with India itself being the largest producer, sharing 20% of the global production and 80% of Asia's production. Millets are nutritionally superior to other cereals like wheat, rice and maize owing to their

higher protein levels and more balanced amino acid profile. Millets also contain various phytochemicals which exert therapeutic properties owing to their anti-inflammatory and anti-oxidative nature. Further, millet grains are rich sources of nutrients like carbohydrates, dietary fibre, and high-quality fat and minerals like calcium, potassium, magnesium, iron, manganese, zinc and vitamins like B complex. For example, ragi is known to have the highest calcium content among all the food grains found in nature. Millet can provide nutritional security and act as a shield against nutritional deficiency diseases like kwashiorkor and marasmus, especially among children and women. Its high iron content can fight the high prevalence of anaemia in India in infants and women of reproductive age. Millets can also help tackle various lifestyle related health challenges like obesity and diabetes as they are gluten-free and have a low glycemic index and, hence, are capable of reducing the risk of heart disease and high blood pressure.

To boost millet production in India, the government has taken a number of initiatives by hiking the Minimum Support Price of coarse grains and including their steady supply in the public distribution chain. However, the measures taken by various governments around the world are minuscule by far and a lot more needs to be done to realise the full potential of this wonder crop. Extensive research should be undertaken to find high-yielding and high resilient varieties of the crop for ensuring its compatibility and versatility under diverse climatic conditions of the world. The declaration of the IYM will further glorify the role of millets in our daily life as an affordable and sustainable source of food ushering in a new era of a hunger-free world.

The writer is Education Officer, Regional Science Centre, Bhopal.

SPECTRUM ECOSYSTEM

Landmark initiative on biodiversity

In the realm of environment, which is obviously the centre point of focus in the world today, the climate and biodiversity conventions held last year have been landmark agreements. A Loss and Damage Fund in the former and a target to bring at least 30% of terrestrial, inland water and coastal and marine areas under effective conservation and management by 2030 in the latter have enormous bearing on the environment.

Around 190 countries approved a sweeping UN agreement to take a slew of other measures against rampant biodiversity loss which, if left unchecked, jeopardizes the planet's food and water supplies as well as the existence of untold species. Currently 17% and 10% of the world's terrestrial and marine areas respectively are under protection. For India, the figures stand at 5.26% and 0.2% respectively. Less than 10% of terrestrial protected areas in the world are both protected and conserved.

The agreement, which is considered as equivalent to the Paris Agreement, comes as biodiversity is declining worldwide at rates never witnessed in human history. Scientists have projected that a million plants and animals are at risk of extinction, many within decades. The deal lays out a suite of 23 conservation targets. Countries also agreed to manage the remaining 70% of the planet to avoid losing areas of high importance

to biodiversity and to ensure that big businesses disclose biodiversity risks and impacts.

This is indeed a highly significant agreement as it would go a long way to halt and reverse the destruction of nature. It is understood that the biodiversity summit has agreed to four goals and 23 targets. The goals include protecting 30% of the world's land, water and marine areas by 2030, as well as the mobilisation, by 2030, of at least US \$200 billion annually in domestic and international biodiversity-related funding from all sources, both public and private.

One is inclined to refer here to the Living Planet Report 2022, the most authentic study of trends in the realm of biodiversity, which revealed an average 69% decline in species population since 1970. During this period, it is reported that half of the world's corals have been lost and are losing forest areas the size of 27 football fields every minute.

The Minister of Environment and Forests informed the Rajya Sabha in mid-December that 73 species in the country, including nine species of mammals, 18 birds, 26 reptiles and 20 amphibians are critically endangered, up from 47 in 2011.

"Climate change in India will impact key areas, such as water resources, agriculture, natural ecosystems, health and the food chain," Ravi Singh, Secretary-General and Chief Executive, WWF

India, had rightly observed in analysing the Living Planet Report.

It is a well-known fact that climate change coupled with habitat loss, pollution and development hampered the world's biodiversity, with one estimate in 2019 warning that a million plant and animal species face extinction within decades—a rate of loss 1,000 times greater than expected. It may be news that humans use about 50,000 wild species routinely, and one out of five people in the world depends on those species for food and income, the report said.

It is thus obvious that experts have voiced the need for an all-inclusive collective approach that can put us on a more sustainable path and ensures that the costs and benefits from our actions are socially just and equitably shared. Climate change and biodiversity loss are not only environmental issues, but economic, development, security, social, moral and ethical issues too. As has been emphasised again and again with statistical data, industrialised countries are responsible for most environmental degradation but it is the developing nations that are disproportionately impacted by biodiversity loss.

The WWF identified six key threats to biodiversity—agriculture, hunting, logging, pollution, invasive species and climate change—to highlight 'threat hotspots' for terrestrial vertebrates. "A nature-positive future needs transforma-

tive, game-changing shifts in how we produce, how we consume, how we govern and what we finance," highlighted the Living Planet Report.

However, though biodiversity loss cannot be allowed to continue, there is another aspect of the problem that also needs to be seriously considered. There are estimates by economists suggesting that the carrying capacity of the planet is about five billion humans at the most, without irreversibly running down natural capital. Other estimates of the carrying capacity of the planet for humans, average around eight billion. But we have steadily surpassed the figure and providing food thus becomes a big challenge, especially for the populous countries of the Third World.

There is thus a need to balance preservation of biodiversity with increased food production in the coming years. Neglecting biodiversity cannot be the answer to the requirements of human beings and a judicious approach is called for in this regard. As far as India is concerned, there is a need to concentrate on biodiversity conservation while also exploring ways and means with the help of technological innovations to increase agricultural productivity, especially in areas where it is below the national average. Sooner the better.

The author is Sr. Consultant & Guest Faculty of Bharatiya Vidya Bhawan, Kolkata. @INFPA



Dhurjati Mukherjee

CLIMATE CHANGE AND BIODIVERSITY LOSS ARE NOT ONLY ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES, BUT ECONOMIC, DEVELOPMENT, SECURITY, SOCIAL, MORAL AND ETHICAL ISSUES TOO

Focus on women scientists

Sir, The Indian Science Congress (ISC) that was held recently in Nagpur rightly focused on science and technology for sustainable development with women empowerment. Women scientists need to be provided the right opportunity at the right time. Women and girls lag behind their male counterparts in India's research in terms of participation and contribution. But in terms of research quality in science, women are second to none. It is only in "pure science," in terms of numbers, the ratio of women to men is low. Studies on the STEM subjects (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) reveal that girls are underrepresented. The aptitude is there; the sustenance seems to be missing. "Gender inequality" can be conveniently cited as a reason for not much women landing the STEM jobs, though highly talented and eager women tend to miss out on jobs in higher echelons as compared to men due to reasons more than one. A lot of employers have to put a more adaptable or accommodating policy in terms of recruitment and remuneration. Women must feel free to work to their best of their abilities, and there is no better incentive than a worker-friendly environment.

Ganapathi Bhat, AKOLA

Brazil turmoil

Sir, Brazil has been in news for wrong reasons. In the presidential poll after Jair Bolsonaro suffered defeat, his supporters stormed the Congress refusing to concede the defeat. Great stalwarts accept defeat while the counting is still in progress if they are convinced that defeat is imminent. Graceful acceptance of defeat is a virtue. Respecting the election verdict is easy for the winners but very difficult for the losers. But it is mandatory that every political party is bound by the electoral verdict. This stark trust must be realised. Voting power must be treated as more powerful than muscular and money power. The supporters of Bolsonaro must realise that democracy lies in the opinion of majority. Hooliganism cannot take precedence over democratic character of a country. Brazil President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva has taken a vow to punish the rioters. The Supreme Court has removed for 90 days Brasilia's governor for not preventing the storm. The open statement of Bolsonaro that he would not accept the result sends wrong signal and wrong message to the people. There is hardly any country in the world where the same party is voted back to power forever.

KV Seetharamaiah, BANGALORE

Letters

TO THE EDITOR

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

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Devpt of agri sector given special emphasis: Naveen

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Jan 12: Agriculture is the single largest employment providing sector of the state and holds the key to socio-economic development in the state. Therefore, the government lays special emphasis on development of this sector through various interventions supported by a comprehensive, inclusive State Agriculture Policy.

Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik said this Thursday during an induction programme for 22 Assistant Agriculture Officers in the state agriculture department. Besides, 53 officials also joined Odisha Cashew Development Corporation.

Patnaik said that Odisha is predominantly an agrarian economy with agriculture and allied sectors contributing nearly 21 per cent to the gross state value added products in the state.

Congratulating the new officers on a virtual platform, the CM expected that the state agriculture sector would be filled up with new energy and passion for service as young officers become part of its



delivery mechanism.

He advised the young officers to work with commitment following the 5T principles and hoped that their dedication would certainly boost the outcomes at field level.

Patnaik further said that services under the sector have been brought under the umbrella of 5T & Mo Sarkar with the objective of enhancing the delivery mechanism and reaching out to every farmer and every corner of the state achieving the highest level of satisfaction by farmers.

Focusing on the state's growth in agri sector, he said that Odisha has taken long strides from ship to mouth situation to become surplus in food grain production. Moreover, the food grain produc-

tion in the state has reached over 130 lakh Metric Tonnes during 2021 surpassing all its previous records. It has been more than double during the last 20 years, he added.

The Chief Minister said that Odisha is a top performing state in cashew production. It has a huge potential in employment and income generation.

"I hoped the infusion of new blood into the management of Cashew Development Corporation would vitalize the cashew sector in Odisha," he added.

Agriculture and Farmers' Empowerment Minister Ranendra Pratap Swain praised the vision of the Chief Minister in the growth of the agriculture sector and pro-farmer policies. He highlighted the steps taken up by his department.

Development Commissioner PK Jena advised the new officers to be closer to farmers and agri-entrepreneurs, and work for taking the benefits of state policies and programmes to the farmers in the last mile. Secretary to CM (5T) VK Pandian moderated the programme.



REMEMBERING SWAMI: Members of Krantikari Foundation gathered during the National Youth Day to commemorate the birth anniversary of philosopher and thinker Swami Vivekananda at Soochana Bhawan, Thursday

OP PHOTO

SC issues notices to 191 advocates

POST NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi, Jan 12: The Supreme Court has issued contempt notice to 191 advocates for their alleged involvement in agitation, picketing and vandalism during the protests for new benches of Orissa High Court in western Odisha.

Notices were issued by the Registrar of Supreme Court seeking attendance of 191 advocates to answer a charge of contempt of Court by willfully and deliberately disobeying the apex court order dated February 17, 2020 and explain as to why they should not be proceeded against and punished in accordance with law for contempt of order of the Supreme Court. The notices will be served through the district judges.

The apex court asked the advocates to appear either in-person or through an Advocate on Record before the top court at New Delhi February 6.

"You (advocates) shall attend the court either in-person or through an Advocate on Record on the 06th February, 2023, and shall continue to attend the Court on all days thereafter if the case against you stands adjourned and until final orders are passed on the charge



against you," the apex court said. Significantly advocate Sibo Sankar Mishra, appearing for Orissa High Court, had filed a letter requesting therein to issue notice through the respective District Judges where address of the members is not available.

Earlier in December last year, the apex court held that there is no question of setting up additional benches of Orissa High Court and noted that the use of technology is quite widespread now. It recorded that every district in Odisha has e-court facilities and litigants can file cases in HC from there. The apex court further ordered that virtual court facilities shall be made functional within three months in each district from where litigants and lawyers can appear before the High Court. The top court was informed that there are demands for

additional benches in Bolangir, Koraput, Berhampur, Balasore, Sonepur, Rourkela and Sambalpur. However, only two districts are eligible for additional benches as per the Jaswant Singh Committee report of 1985 which laid provision for setting up additional benches at the districts beyond 300 km from the existing bench of HC.

Exasperated with the conduct of agitating advocates, a two-judge bench of Justices SK Kaul and AS Oka had ruled that there is no hope for formation of a bench. Even if there was some possibility, that is lost now with their conduct, the bench said.

"The shifting or creation of High Court benches cannot be done with such whimsical demands. We are putting this in the order to foreclose the issue," the bench had said.

WC security beefed up

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Jan 12: The Commissionerate Police has made elaborate security arrangements with the FIH Men's Hockey World all set to start Friday. Other than the matches, many cultural programmes and events are scheduled to be held in the Capital city.

Speaking to mediapersons here Thursday, Twin City police commissioner, Saumendra Priyadarshi said that 75 platoons of police will be deployed at the Kalinga Stadium, places of cultural events like, FEST, and Sisir Saras Mela. There will also be adequate personnel at the tourist spots, he added.

"Adequate security arrangements have been made for the players at their hotels, the training venues and the Kalinga Stadium. Heavy security will be in place at the Kalinga Stadium so that movement of spectators happens seamlessly and does not hamper traffic movement, Priyadarshi said.

"We have made elaborate arrangements for smooth traffic movement on match days in coordination with Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation, Bhubaneswar Development Authority and other stake holders. We have the system in place to supervise overall security arrangements," added Priyadarshi.

Commissionerate Police will deploy 75 platoons including, over 400 senior officials, including 13 deputy commandants, 31 ACPs, 72 inspectors, 336 sub-inspectors, traffic constables, home guard, Special Tactical Unit and 200 volunteers for the security and traffic arrangements during the World Cup.

Personnel in charge of security inside the stadium during matches will don special trackuits. They will keep vigilance on movements to prevent disturbances inside the stadium. They have been asked to maintain strict vigil to prevent incidents like throwing projectiles inside the ground.

Maintenance of law and order, safety and security of players, match officials, foreign media personnel, spectators, VIPs and VVIPs, safety for places of tourist interest in the city, venues of cultural activities, regulation of crowds and traffic along with parking will be in focus of the commissionerate police during the tournament.

The Commissionerate Police Thursday organized a pre-match preparatory meeting to sensitize the police officials in view of the security arrangements during the world cup.



Hearing on Mangu Mutt demolition deferred

POST NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi, Jan 12: The Supreme Court Thursday deferred hearing on a contempt petition filed against the non-compliance of the Supreme Court order of 2019 in Mirinalini Padhi vs Union of India case over construction activities around Srimandir in Puri to March 29.

The petition was listed before the bench of Justices MR Shah and Hima Kohli but it could not be taken up for hearing due to Constitution bench matter. The bench of Justice MR Shah did not sit for the day as both judges are part of the Constitution bench of the Supreme Court that has been hearing the dispute between Delhi government and the Centre regarding the control of administrative



The government had demolished the centuries-old Mangu Mutt in order to construct a security corridor around Srimandir

services in the state.

The case was listed for hearing after a gap of three years.

The contempt petitioners submitted in the apex court stated that the state government had violated the November 2019 order of the SC by demolishing centuries-old Mangu Mutt in Puri. The petitioners submitted that the Odisha government had filed an additional affidavit in the Supreme

Court in October 2019 stating that the deities, sanctum sanctorum, gaadi, Samadhi of the mutt, relics of the mutt will not be disturbed and remain at their current place with better beautification in line with Kalinga style architecture. However, the government had demolished the centuries-old Mangu Mutt in order to construct a security corridor around Srimandir, the petitioner said.

CRUT initiative for Hockey WC

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Jan 12: The Capital Region Urban Transport (CRUT) has drastically eased the daily commuting needs of the citizens, its transit services have become the most preferred mode of public transport. CRUT's Mo Bus has become the mobility lifeline in its service areas since its inception. Recently Mo Bus service was launched in the smart city of Rourkela to ensure its citizens and tourists can experience seamless mobility service, especially during the FIH Odisha Men's Hockey World Cup 2023.

CRUT has been an integral part of the FIH Odisha Men's Hockey World Cup 2023 by providing its much loved transit services to help citizens and tourists commute easily within the city of Bhubaneswar and Rourkela and its connecting places. Recently

in view of FIH Odisha Men's Hockey World Cup 2023, CRUT has added 15 more E-Buses to its fleet of Mo Bus in Bhubaneswar which are plying in various routes from 12th January 2023. There will soon be 10 more E-Buses added in Bhubaneswar to meet the increasing demand of the public.

To encourage people to choose public transport over private vehicles and also to curb the traffic in the process, CRUT announced that citizens of Bhubaneswar with valid ticket/pass for FIH Odisha Men's Hockey World Cup 2023 match can commute in Mo Bus free of cost in its Special Shuttle Services on the date mentioned on the ticket/pass. The Hockey Special Shuttle Service will ply from 13th to 29th January 2023 in three different routes in Bhubaneswar covering the Kalinga Stadium as well as the city festival - dotFest.

'Katni-chhatni' practice slammed

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Jan 12: Odisha Congress Thursday strongly criticised the policies undertaken by the state government to purchase paddy from the farmers.

Odisha Pradesh Congress Committee (OPCC) farmers' wing chief Amiya Patnaik said, "The paddy procurement policy of the BJD government lacks transparency and the farmers are often left at the mercy of the millers who are colluded with civil supply officials. Farmers are losing 3 to 10 kg of paddy at the mandis due to the standard practice of de-

duction - locally known as 'katni-chhatni'. Despite the provision of payment within 24 hours of sale of the produce, farmers are often left waiting for 7 to 10 days or even more."

"Neighbouring Chhattisgarh buys the harvest at Rs 2,800 per quintal but Odisha farmers sell it to the state government at Rs 1,200 to Rs 1,300 per quintal. The Chief Minister's announcement at Sohela Chasi Samabesh in 2016 to award Rs 100 as additional help to the farmers is yet to be materialised. Such inconsiderate behaviour of the state government towards farmers is intolerable,"

rueed Patnaik.

The party also pulled up Prime Minister Narendra Modi for his inability to deliver his promise in 2014 to double the minimum support price (MSP) as per the recommendation of the Swaminathan Committee and to provide legal guarantee for MSP.

The mandis or paddy procurement centres in Odisha, slated to open December 1, saw a delay by 15 to 30 days forcing farmers to sell a large chunk of their produce at throw away prices. Some instances of lapse of procurement tokens have also come to the fore.

MARKET WATCH

INDEX	VALUE	VARIATION
SENSEX	59958.03	↓ 147.47
NIFTY	17858.20	↓ 37.50
DOLLAR	81.87	↓ ₹0.39
EURO	87.78	↓ ₹0.02
GOLD	755,835	↑ ₹142
SILVER	768,450	↑ ₹477

WEATHER

	BHUB	CTK
TEMP. MAX	29.8°C	29.4°C
TEMP. MIN	15.5°C	15.5°C
Humidity	92%	81%
Rainfall	Nil	Nil
Forecast	Shallow to moderate fog likely	

CLASSIFIED AFFIDAVIT

By virtue of an affidavit sworn before Executive Magistrate, Bhubaneswar on 11/01/2023, I, Madiha Ali, D/o Mr. Syed Shariq Ali, residing in Royal Lagoon Tower 3, flat 510, Raghunathpur, Nandankanan Road, Bhubaneswar, District Khordha, Odisha. The Indian Certificate of Secondary Education Certificate vide No. TT80075227/Unique id: 7436250. I have corrected the name of my mother from Noor to Noor Bi for all official and Government purposes.

State's devpt approach based on peace and prosperity: Guv

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Jan 12: The Orissa Economics Association (OEA), in collaboration with the department of Analytical and Applied Economics, Utkal University and School of Humanities and Social Sciences, National Institute of Science Education and Research (NISER) organised the OEA's Odisha Vision 2036 conclave at MKCG auditorium of Utkal University here Thursday.

Speaking on this occasion, Secretary of OEA, Amarendra Das said Odisha is already a middle income state and by 2036 there are all possibilities of transforming the state into a high income state. Keshab Das, President of OEA said that the objective of this conclave is to make the making of vision document in-



Governor Ganeshi Lal and other dignitaries

clusive and broad basing.

Governor Ganeshi Lal, in his inaugural speech said that Odisha's development approach has been based on peace, prosperity and happiness. While envisioning for Odisha in 2036, we should go beyond growth

metrics. Vice Chancellor of Utkal University, Sabita Acharya thanked the governor for inaugurating the conclave. Joining the panel discussion on development perspectives of Odisha, Editor of Orissa POST and Dharitri, Tathagata Satpathy



Dharitri and OrissaPOST Editor Tathagata Satpathy

said that the present system is captured by the capitalists. Therefore, the public policy making and governance system benefits only a few people. The society does not give respect to labour, which is not a good sign of a welfare state, he noted.

Acharya, appreciated department of Analytical and Applied Economics for its academic achievements and also for its association in economics research and policy formulation in the state through events like these and emphasized that the three-day event shall provide a viable roadmap for socio-economic progress in the state.

The OEA document engages several scholars, practitioners and policy makers to prepare around 26 chapters on a range of themes including historical antecedents of economic backwardness, state income, agricultural progress, industrial development, social sectors, employment, migration, status of women, services sectors and traditional and knowledge-intensive modern enterprises.

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of the day quote

I don't understand why you (media) are discussing about the chief ministerial candidature now. From the very beginning itself, I have made it clear that there is no relevance for such discussion at present. You have to wait till 2026 (for the next Assembly polls)

SHASHI THAROOR | SENIOR CONGRESS LEADER

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will virtually flag off the prestigious Vande Bharat train from Secunderabad Railway Station on 15th January at 10.00 AM as a gift to the Telugu people on the occasion of Sankranti

G KISHAN REDDY | UNION TOURISM MINISTER

Such a big tragedy has taken place in Joshimath and the government still appears to be in a slumber. The government needs to extend proper compensation to the locals there as they are facing loss of all their lifelong savings in setting up their businesses, hotels and now they are forced to leave everything behind

AKHILESH YADAV | SAMAJWADI PARTY CHIEF

SHORT TAKES

Stones pelted at Vande Bharat train

Visakhapatnam: Unidentified persons pelted stones at a coach of the new Vande Bharat Express at the railway yard here, breaking a glass window. The Visakhapatnam police took three youths into custody in connection with the incident which took place Wednesday night, according to the local ACP A N Murthy. Preliminary investigation by the Railway Protection Force revealed that some youth playing near the coach complex at Kancharapalem mischievously pelted stones at the train resulting in the damage. Based on closed circuit television camera footage, the Visakhapatnam police nabbed the three youth from the area.

Two killed after avalanche hits J&K

Srinagar: Two labourers were killed after an avalanche hit Sonamarg in Jammu and Kashmir's Ganderbal district Thursday, officials said. The avalanche hit the Sarbal area close to Nilgrath where Hyderabad-based Megha Engineering and Infrastructure Limited (MEL) is executing work on the Zojila Tunnel. Two dead bodies, identified as Sandeep Singh and Bal Krishna -- both residents of Kishtwar -- have been retrieved so far, officials said.

Three killed as car catches fire

Hampur (UP): Three men were killed in a massive fire that broke out after a collision between a car and a truck on the Bundelkhand Expressway in Jariya Thursday, police here said. The accident took place near Italiabaji village in Jariya police station limits. The collision was so severe that the car caught fire, killing three people, Jariya police station SHO Brijmohan said. The car was coming from the opposite direction, due to which the accident occurred, Brijmohan said. The victims' bodies have been sent for post mortem.

SC to hear Ram Sethu PIL in Feb

New Delhi: The Supreme Court Thursday said it would take up BJP leader Subramanian Swamy's plea seeking a direction to declare the Ram Sethu a national heritage monument in the second week of February. A bench comprising Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud and Justice P S Narasimha said the matter was unlikely to be heard today as a Constitution bench was going on.



If religious and caste fanaticism are promoted, people are divided, such are the policies followed, it will become like hell. It will become like a Taliban-like affair, like Afghanistan, and lead to a terrible situation. Due to this hatred, circumstances in which the country's lifeline itself would get burnt would arise. So, especially, youth should be alert

K CHANDRASEKHAR RAO | TELANGANA CHIEF MINISTER

ASHUSTOSH'S BAIL PLEA REJECTED

A Metropolitan court Thursday dismissed the bail plea of Ashutosh Bharadwaj, an accused in the hit-and-drag case that killed a 20-year-old woman in the national capital



Amit Shah assesses Joshimath situation

PRSES TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi/Dehradun, Jan 12: Union Home Minister Amit Shah Thursday took stock of the situation in subsidence-hit Joshimath, where two "unsafe" hotels were being demolished and people evacuated to temporary relief centres in safer locations.

Joshimath, the gateway to famous pilgrimage sites like Badrinath and Hemkund Sahib and international skiing destination Auli, is facing a major challenge due to land subsidence. Hotels Malari Inn and Mount View had developed cracks and were precariously leaning towards each other posing a threat to the settlements around them, officials said. In Delhi, Shah assessed the situation arising in

Joshimath and steps taken to ameliorate people's hardship at a meeting attended by Union ministers Nitin Gadkari, R K Singh, Bhupendra Yadav and Gajendra Singh Shekhawat and top officials.

The Uttarakhand government told the Delhi High Court that authorities are rehabilitating affected families in Joshimath, and that the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) and State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) have been deployed in the area. The demolition of hotels got underway in the evening following an agreement between the administration and the hotel owners who had stalled the exercise for the last two days demanding compensation.

Joshimath, the gateway to famous pilgrimage sites like Badrinath and Hemkund Sahib and international skiing destination Auli, is facing a major challenge due to land subsidence



Kites featuring the logo of India's G20 presidency during International Kite Festival 2023 in Rajkot

PTI PHOTO

More U'khand towns staring at disaster

AROUND 80 KM FROM JOSHIMATH, AT LEAST 50 HOUSES AT BAHUGUNA NAGAR IN KARNAPRAYAG HAVE BEEN DEVELOPING CRACKS SINCE 2015

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA



tematic flushing out of rainwater.

Debris brought down by a landslide from above Bahuguna Nagar first inflicted damage to houses in 2015, former chairman of Karnaprayag municipal council Subhash Gairola said.

The municipal council had intervened immediately and the damage was restricted. It, however, started aggravating with the widening of the national highway in recent years and the unsystematic flushing out of rainwater in absence of a drain along the Karnaprayag-Kankhool road. Gairola said that Karnaprayag, being situated at the confluence of the Alaknanda and the Pindar rivers, suffers regular and heavy soil erosion during monsoon. Water

also gushes into homes during monsoon, further weakening their foundations, he said.

Pictures of half-tilted houses at Bahuguna Nagar with huge cracks on their walls grabbed people's attention only after the land subsidence in Joshimath hit national headlines. Asked about the houses in Karnaprayag developing crack, Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami, who is in Joshimath, said, "It has been there for some time. But it will be discussed in the meetings over land subsidence to be held during the day."

Parts of Chamoli district headquarters in Gopeshwar and Semi village near Guptkashi on the Kedarnath national highway face a similar situation, Gairola said, and demanded immediate assistance for the affected people as well as developing long-term plans to ensure the safety of locals. Land subsidence has also been reported from Landour in Mussoorie and Atali village near Rishikesh. A 100-metre stretch of the road from Landour Chowk to Kohinoor building in Mussoorie has been sinking slowly for the past 30 years, public representatives from the area said and attributed it to heavy construction activities in the hill town and a poor drainage system which causes waterlogging.

Mussoorie SDM Shailendra Singh Negi, who recently visited Landour to inspect the cracks, said land subsidence in the area is currently minor in nature. But in the larger public interest, the factors that have led to the situation are being studied so that corrective steps could be taken, he said.

In Atali village near Rishikesh, fissures have developed in the ground. Villagers claim that a railway tunnel being built in the area has caused the crack with Neighbouring Singtali, Lodi, Kaudiyala and Bavani villages also affected. SDM Devendra Negi said a team of experts has been constituted which will do an on-the-spot inspection of the affected villages January 15.

Car dragging woman: MHA directs Delhi Police to suspend those on duty in PCR vans

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Jan 12: The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) directed the Delhi Police Thursday to suspend the personnel posted at three PCR vans and two pickets on the night when a 20-year-old woman was killed in the national capital after her scooter was hit by a car and she was dragged by the vehicle for 10-12 kilometres.

Officials said the MHA also directed the city police to serve show-cause notices to the supervisory officers of the PCR vans and police pickets for their alleged dereliction of duties. The action came following a report submitted by an inquiry committee, headed by Special Commissioner Shalini Singh.

Disciplinary action will also be taken against the police personnel who were on duty on that night, the officials said. The MHA directed the Delhi Police to file the chargesheet in the case as soon as possible so that the culprits are punished.

The city police has also been ordered to ensure that there is no let up in the investigation and submit fortnightly reports to the MHA on the progress of the probe. Action must also be taken to improve the law-and-order situation in the capital so that people, especially women and children, live in a fear-free environment, the MHA said.

A thorough examination will be carried out to ascertain whether the PCR van units should be merged with the district police for better coordination.

Proper scrutiny will be carried out by police of the areas in outer Delhi where there is little or no CCTV camera presence and the areas that do not have street lights.

LEGAL EXPERTS DENOUNCE VP'S REMARKS ON JUDICIARY

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Jan 12: A number of legal experts Thursday denounced Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar's remarks questioning the landmark 1973 Kesavananda Bharati verdict which had held that the basic structure of the Constitution is unamendable, saying it is the Constitution which is supreme and not the Parliament.

The vice president at a function in Jaipur had virtually censured the judiciary saying "one-upmanship and public posturing" from judicial platforms are not good and these



institutions must know how to conduct themselves. He was also critical of scrapping the National Judicial Appointments Commission (NJAC) in 2015 by the apex court. Reacting to his remarks, Supreme

Court Bar Association president and senior advocate Vikas Singh said there is no question of posturing as the Supreme Court decides a case on the basis of pleadings.

Noted lawyer Prashant Bhushan said in a constitutional republic, the Parliament is not supreme and rather it is the Constitution which is. He also advised the Rajya Sabha chairman to study the Constitution.

Senior advocate P Chidambaram said Dhankhar is "wrong" in stating that Parliament is supreme and his views should warn every Constitution-loving citizen to be alert to the dangers ahead.

Covid strongly impacted manufacturing sector: Study

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Jan 12: Covid-19 strongly impacted the manufacturing sector in India, according to a study which provides new insight into how countries respond to systemic shocks such as the pandemic.

Previous attempts to quantify the impact of Covid-19 mostly looked only at the pandemic in a single dimension, such as gross domestic product or a country's unemployment rate.

The latest study, published in PLOS One, explored resilience across a variety of social, economic and political domains in several countries, including the US, Brazil, India, Sweden, New Zealand and Israel.

"We found significant discrepancies between what experts had predicted would be the most resilient countries if struck with a pandemic," said Sara Del Valle,



from the Los Alamos National Laboratory in the US.

The researchers found that the most pandemic-impacted sectors also differed across countries.

The study shows that human health, public administration and defense were strongly impacted in the US and Sweden, while manufacturing was strongly impacted in

Brazil and India. The construction sector was moderately or strongly impacted across all countries, according to the researchers.

Unlike other countries, retail trade - excluding motor vehicles and motorcycles - was very strongly impacted in India relative to other sectors, as was the land transport sector, they said.

"We found that citizens in these countries responded quite differently to stringent Covid policies," Del Valle said.

"For example,

Unlike other countries, retail trade -- excluding motor vehicles and motorcycles -- was very strongly impacted in India relative to other sectors, as was the land transport sector

ample, we saw stricter governmental pandemic policy was associated with higher political unrest across states within the US, while the opposite was true for states in Brazil," the researcher explained.

The researchers assessed how observed responses and outcomes of the Covid-19 pandemic were associated with pre-pandemic characteristics or vulnerabilities and the systems in place prior to the pandemic that may have impacted the ability to respond to the crisis.

Education, for example, played an important role in pandemic response, the researchers said.

Even after adjusting for strictness of governmental Covid policies, they found that higher education was significantly associated with lower amounts of political unrest across the US. Diversity in responses even within countries showed the potential for regional differences to impact pandemic response.

"Understanding the differences in countries' abilities to respond after a pandemic can help society be better prepared for future pandemics," Del Valle added.

national

of the day quote

A capable and strong nation will be built only with a healthy body and a clean mind. For this, India's ancient and natural medicine method is the most effective

YOGI ADITYANATH | UTTAR PRADESH CM

A proposal has been sent to the LG for holding mayoral election in Delhi on January 18, 20, 21 or 24. He has been requested that the MCD has been working without a mayor for the last eight months. Therefore it was not good to delay it further

MANISH SISODIA | DELHI DEPUTY CM

Allegations of insulting the Tricolour were levelled against farmers and all these conspiracies were hatched in Nagpur

RAKESH TIKAIT | FARMER LEADER

4 killed, 12 hurt as van overturns

Seraikela: Four people were killed and at least 12 others were injured when a pickup van overturned in Jharkhand's Seraikela-Kharswan district Thursday, police said. The incident occurred around 6.30 am when the van, carrying around 20 people along with sacks filled with construction materials, was on the way to Rajnagar in Seraikela-Kharswan district from Chaibasa in West Singhbhum, they said. The driver lost control of the overcrowded van, which then overturned near Khairbani village in Rajnagar, around 50 km from here, they added. Three people died on the spot while the injured were admitted to the Rajnagar Community Health Centre, police said. Later, eight people were shifted to the MGM Hospital in Jamshepur as their conditions worsened. An injured woman died while undergoing treatment there, they said.

PLA increasing troops near LAC: Army Chief



INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, Jan 12: The Chinese PLA is increasing the number of troops in their area, near the eastern border of the Line of Actual Control (LAC).

The Indian Army has this vital information and it is keeping a close vigil on the development. Without naming China, Army Chief General Manoj Pande said that there is a slight increase in the deployment of adversary troops in the eastern border of the LAC.

India has also maintained adequate force deployment along the LAC and is ready to deal with any situation, he added. General Pande said that the situation at the northern border remains stable but unpredictable. He said one of the main challenges facing the Indian armed forces today is the situation at the northern borders.

"There is a slight increase in the number of troops opposite our Eastern command. We are keeping a close watch on the movements."

The Army Chief said the Indian Army is capable, powerful and ready to tackle any adverse situation at the international borders. The Army is creating a huge road network in our part alongside the international border. Simultaneously, India is boosting infrastructure near the India-China border. These border connecting roads will be 'all weather roads'. Tunnel and bridges are also being constructed to reach the border in

The situation along the frontier with China is stable but unpredictable and Indian troops are adequately deployed to deal with any contingencies even as there was slight increase in number of Chinese troops in their areas across the eastern sector

GEN MANOJ PANDE | ARMY CHIEF

the minimum time, General Pande added. He said that India and China are holding talks at both the military and diplomatic levels to resolve the issues. Five of the seven issues have been resolved through talks. The Army Chief said that during the last 3 years, around Rs 1300 crore have been spent in Ladakh on infrastructure and habitat requirements.

For Jammu and Kashmir, he said the ceasefire understanding with Pakistan happened in February 2021, and is going well. Though cross-border terrorism continues, so we remain alert, he added. Speaking on the effect of the Russia-Ukraine war on India he said this war is a lesson for India. "We carried out an analysis of what lessons there are for us at the operational, strategic and tactical levels. We have to contextualise these lessons. We have incorporated them in terms of larger weapons platforms, cyberspace" he added. The Army sees this as an opportunity also.

Minimum temps rise slightly in many northern states

Cold wave conditions are likely to re-emerge over North-West India and peak around January 15-16 with minimum temperatures expected to dip after two days from today according to IMD scientist

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Jan 12: A fresh spell of cold wave in northwest India next week would see mercury dropping by three to five degrees Celsius, the India Meteorological Department said Thursday even as the chilly conditions abated slightly in many states providing relief to people.

Western disturbance and consequent stronger surface winds have significantly improved fog conditions over Punjab, Haryana, Delhi, Rajasthan, and western Uttar Pradesh. However, dense to very dense fog continues over eastern Uttar Pradesh and Bihar.



Delhi witnessed light rainfall Thursday and recorded a minimum temperature of 9.3 degrees Celsius -- two notches above the season's average -- with the weather department predicting a return of cold wave conditions in the city next week.

The national capital recorded a cold wave spell from January 5 to January 9, the longest in the month in a decade, according to IMD data. In Rajasthan, Fatehpur in Sikar and Churu recorded minimum temperatures of minus 1.8 degrees

Celsius and minus 1.5 degrees Celsius January 5.

Chandigarh witnessed a bright sunny day after days of cold and foggy weather. The city recorded a minimum temperature of 9.2 degrees Celsius. In Haryana, Ambala recorded a low of 8 degrees Celsius, Hisar 8.5 degrees Celsius, Karnal 8.7 degrees Celsius, Narnaul 9 degrees Celsius, Rohtak 9.2 degrees Celsius and Sirsa 9.2 degrees Celsius. In Punjab, Amritsar recorded a low of 10 degrees Celsius, Patiala 8.4 degrees Celsius,

Pathankot 8.5 degrees Celsius, Faridkot 9 degrees Celsius and Muktsar 9.6 degrees Celsius. The minimum temperature in Mohali settled at 9.1 degrees Celsius.

The higher reaches of Kashmir received snowfall for the second consecutive day as the night temperature dropped below freezing point across the Valley, officials said Thursday.

Snowfall continued in Sonamarg, Gulmarg, Pahalgam and other higher reaches of Kashmir. The officials said many areas in the plains of Kashmir received intermittent light rain.

The Srinagar-Jammu national highway is through for traffic, while the Mughal Road -- the alternate road link connecting the Valley with the Jammu region -- and the Srinagar-Leh highway were closed for traffic, they said.

The officials said there was some delay in the flight operations at Srinagar airport here due to low visibility.

However, the operations took place in the afternoon after the visibility improved.

UZBEKISTAN SYRUP DEATHS CASE

Marion Biotech's licence suspended

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Noida/Geneva, Jan 12: The production licence of Noida-based pharmaceutical firm Marion Biotech, allegedly linked with the deaths of children in Uzbekistan, has been suspended while the test results of its controversial cough syrup are awaited, an Uttar Pradesh drug official said Thursday.

A team of central agencies and the Uttar Pradesh drug department Thursday carried out a fresh inspection at Marion Biotech's office here, a day after the World Health Organisation (WHO) issued a medical product alert on Ambranol and Dok-1 Max syrups, both manufactured by the firm. India's central regulatory body for pharmaceuticals and medical devices, the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO), had in December initiated

a probe in connection with the death of 18 children in Uzbekistan allegedly linked to Marion Biotech's cough syrup. The health ministry of Uzbekistan claimed these children had consumed the cough syrup.

The central and state teams had earlier carried out an inspection at the firm's office December 29 and taken six samples of Dok-1 Max for testing, while Thursday they took four samples of Ambranol, the official said. During the December 29 inspection, the firm representatives could not produce documents related to the production of 'Dok-1 max' cough syrup, prompting the government to order halting of its production immediately, Gautam Buddh Nagar Drug Inspector Vaibhav Babbar said. On the status of the test results, the officer said the samples were taken by the central agencies and their results are yet to arrive.

EAST COAST RAILWAY PUBLIC NOTICE FOR ENERGIZATION OF OVER HEAD TRACTION WIRES AT THE NEW 3rd AND 4th LINE BETWEEN DHENKANAL-HINDOL ROAD OF KHURDA ROAD DIVISION

Table with columns: SECTION, DIVISION, DATE OF CHARGING. Rows for NEW 3rd AND 4th LINE BETWEEN DHENKANAL-SADASHIBAPUR and NEW 3rd AND 4th LINE BETWEEN SADASHIBAPUR-HINDOL ROAD.

Notice is hereby given to all users of Railway lines and premises situated on the completed section of the under noted section of the East Coast Railway, Khurda Road Division that the 25,000 Volts, 50 Hz, AC Over Head Traction wires will be energized on or after the date specified against the section. On and from the same date the over head traction lines shall be treated as live at all times and no unauthorized person shall approach or work in the proximity of the said over head lines.

INTRODUCTION OF AC 25 KV TRACTION "WARNING TO ROAD USERS" Proforma 10-02

It is notified for information of the public that in connection with introduction of 25,000 volts AC electric traction over the section from the NEW 3rd AND 4th LINE BETWEEN DHENKANAL-HINDOL ROAD IN KHURDA ROAD DIVISION OF EAST COAST RAILWAY, height gauges have been erected at all the level crossings with clear height of 4.78 meter above road level with a view to prevent loads of excessive height from coming into contact or dangerous proximity to live traction wire (contact wire), which shall be at a height of minimum 5.5 meter above the rail level crossings.

Public are hereby notified to observe the height specified above for the purpose of loading vehicles and to see that the loads carried in road vehicles do not infringe the height gauges under any circumstances.

Bank of India POSSESSION NOTICE. Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the Bank of India under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 13 (2) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued Demand Notice calling upon the borrowers and guarantors in the loan account given below to repay the amount mentioned in the Notice plus interest & expenses thereon within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said Notice.

Bank of India E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE. Whereas the Bank acting through its Authorized Officer in exercise of its powers under-Section 13(4) of Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (SARFAESI) has decided to put up for E-Auction of the following properties for realization of the debts due to the Bank.

AP HC suspends GO banning meetings on roads

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Amaravati, Jan 12: The Andhra Pradesh High Court Thursday suspended till January 23 operation of the Government Order that prohibited conduct of public meetings and rallies on roads, including National Highways.

A division bench comprising Justices B Devanand and V R K Krupa Sagar held that the "Court is prima facie of the opinion that the impugned GO No.1 is contrary to the procedure provided under Section 30 of the Police Act, 1861". The bench passed the interim order, on a writ petition filed by CPI state secretary K Ramakrishna challenging the GO, and posted the case for further hearing January 20. The bench directed the state government to file a counter before January 20. The petitioner contended that the GO was brought in to stifle the opposition voices against the government. The Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy government issued the GO No. 1 on January 2 midnight in the wake of a stampede at a rally held by the main opposition Telugu Desam Party at Kandukur on December 28 last in which eight people were killed. The prohibitory order (GO No. 1) was issued under the provisions of the Police Act, 1861, and the police immediately started implementing it.

रेल पहिया कारखाना/वेला (खिला-सागर), बिलास-841221. ई-निविदा सूचना संख्या-सा/आ/इस/बी/4/4/2023-24 दिनांक 10/01/2023

प्रधान मन्त्री प्रसाद/रेल पहिया कारखाना/वेला भारत के राष्ट्रपति के लिए एक उम्मीदी और से भारतीय रेलवे ई प्रोक्UREMENT वेबसाईट www.ireps.gov.in के माध्यम से निम्न प्रकार सामग्री की खरीद हेतु नीलान्तरण (ई बुली निविदा) आमंत्रित करते हैं। सभी निविदाओं के बन्द होने का समय 14:00 बजे है। क्र.सं. 1. निविदा सं. : 01221018A, सामग्री का संक्षिप्त विवरण : Taper Ingate Sleeve, मात्रा : 600 Nos. निविदा बन्द होने/बुलने की तिथि: 09.02.2023

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER GANJAM (R&B) DIVISION NO.1 BERHAMPUR INVITATIONS FOR BIDS (IFB) [e-Procurement] Bid Identification No. S.E. (R&B)-BAM- 72 /2022-23 No.21, Dated 03.01.2023

No.B-1116:The Superintending Engineer, Ganjam (R&B) Division No. 1, Berhampur on behalf of Governor of Odisha invites percentage rate bid in double cover system in ONLINE MODE for construction of works detailed below from eligible contractors.

- 1. Nature of work : Building Work
2. No. of works : 1 (One) No.
3. Tender Paper Cost : 10,000/-
4. Class of Contractor : "B" Class
5. Date & Time of sale & receipt of Bids : From 17.01.2023 10.00 AM to 30.01.2023 upto 4.00 PM
6. Date of Opening of Bid : 31.01.2023 at 11.30 A.M.
7. The Bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only. Further details can be seen from the website http://tendersodisha.gov.in.

Sd./ Superintending Engineer, Ganjam (R&B) Division No.1, Berhampur

SUNDARAM HOME Regd Office: No. 21, Pattulos Road, Chennai - 600 002. Corporate Office: Sundaram Towers, No. 46, Whites Road, Chennai-600014, Ph: 044-2851 5267. Sale Notice. Whereas the Authorized Officer of Sundaram Home Finance Limited, formerly known as Sundaram BNP Paribas Home Finance Limited, under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with Section 13(2), issued a demand notice calling upon the Borrower to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of notice.

international

of the day quote

Armenia considers the military exercise the Moscow-dominated Collective Security Treaty Organisation planned for later this year "inappropriate in the current situation"

NIKOL PASHINYAN | ARMENIA PM

If people take home food that has been thrown away without causing damage or unlawful entry, then, in my opinion, that should no longer be prosecuted

MARCO BUSCHMANN
REICH MINISTER OF JUSTICE OF GERMANY

Beijing is concerned about the safety of its workers based in Pakistan

QIN GANG | CHINA'S NEW FOREIGN MINISTER

SHORT TAKES

IS owns up

Kabul: The Islamic State group claimed responsibility Thursday for a deadly bombing that killed at least five people near the Foreign Ministry in the Afghan capital the previous day. The bombing was the second major attack in Kabul in 2023 and drew condemnation from the international community. The extremist group said in a statement that a "martyrdom-seeker" identified as Kheiber al-Qandahari detonated his explosive vest amidst a gathering of ministry employees and guards as they left through the ministry's main gate.

14 soldiers killed

Bamako: Coordinated attacks by Islamic extremists have killed 14 Malian soldiers and wounded nearly a dozen, the army said. Multiple improvised explosive devices detonated between Dia and Diabarabe villages as well as between Koumara and Macina towns in central Mali, said Col Souleymane Dembele, the director of public relations for the army, in a statement Wednesday. During the same attacks, which occurred earlier this week, Mali's forces killed more than 30 "terrorists," Dembele said.

Temple vandalised

New Delhi: A Hindu temple in Melbourne was allegedly vandalised by anti-India supporters and defaced with anti-India graffiti, media reports said. The walls of BAPS Swaminarayan Mandir in Melbourne's northern suburb of Mill Park were also marked with praises of Indian terrorist Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale -- a supporter of the creation of Khalistan for Sikhs -- as a "martyr", The Australia Today reported. "We are deeply saddened by the anti-India graffiti at the gates of the BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir in Mill Park, Melbourne, Australia by anti-social elements. The BAPS temple in Mill Park, like all temples of BAPS worldwide, is an abode of peace, harmony, equality, selfless service, and universal Hindu values," the BAPS Swaminarayan Sanstha said in an official statement Thursday.

Boosting ties

Washington: The United States and Japan unveiled plans to strengthen their alliance to help counter threats from North Korea and China, which they called the greatest security challenge in the region. In unusually blunt terms, the U.S. and Japanese foreign and defense ministers condemned China's increasing aggressiveness in the Indo-Pacific and elsewhere, called out Russia for its war with Ukraine and castigated North Korea for ramping up its nuclear and missile programs.

EASTER ATTACK

Sirisena, 4 others to compensate victims

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Colombo, Jan 12: Sri Lanka's Supreme Court Thursday ordered ex-President Maithripala Sirisena and four top former officials to pay a total of 310 million rupees as compensation to the victims of the 2019 Easter attack for their negligence in preventing the country's one of the worst terror strikes despite having credible intel of an imminent attack.

In its verdict, a seven-member bench of the apex court ruled that the respondents named in the petitions for failing to prevent the 2019 Easter Sunday attack had violated the fundamental rights of the petitioners.

The court ordered the then president Sirisena, who was also defence minister and commander in chief of the armed forces, to pay a compensation of 100 million rupees (USD 273,300) from his personal fund. It also ordered former police chief Pujith Jayasundara and former state intelligence services chief Nilantha Jayawardene to pay a compensation of 75 million rupees (USD 204,975) each, former defence secretary Hemasiri Fernando to pay a compensation of 50 million rupees (USD 136,650) and former national intelligence service chief Sisira Mendis 10 million rupees (USD 27,330).

The court said top officials failed to act on the detailed intelligence information shared by India to avert the deadly suicide bombings. They have been ordered to pay from their personal funds to the victim fund maintained by the office of reparations.

The apex court

The court said top officials failed to act on the detailed intelligence information shared by India to avert the deadly suicide bombings

As many as 12 petitioners, including the kin of the victims, the Catholic clergy, and the lawyers' body Bar Association of Sri Lanka, filed the fundamental rights petition against the then President for his negligence in preventing the attacks that proved fatal for the island nation's economy primarily dependent on tourism

must be reported within 6 months on the payment of compensation. The bench said Easter Sunday was just a few weeks away when the intel about the imminent attack came from India. Still, the officials failed to show alertness or perceptiveness to carry out any measures to safeguard churches across the country.

The bench also asked the state to take disciplinary action against Jayawardena. Nine suicide bombers belonging to local Islamist extremist group National Thawheed Jamaat (NTJ) linked to ISIS carried out a series of devastating blasts that tore through three Catholic churches and as many luxury hotels on April 21, 2019, killing nearly 270 people, including 11 Indians, and injuring over 500. The attack stirred a political storm as the then President Sirisena and then Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe were blamed for their inability to prevent the attacks despite prior intelligence being made available.



Russian forces press deadly assault

AGENCIES

Kyiv, Jan 12: Russia said Thursday that its forces are edging closer to capturing a salt-mining town in eastern Ukraine, which would mark an elusive victory for the Kremlin but come at the cost of heavy Russian casualties and extensive destruction of the territory they claim.

More than 100 Russian troops were killed in the battle for Soledar over the past 24 hours. Russian forces are using mortars and rockets to bombard Soledar in an unrelenting assault, struggling for a breakthrough after military setbacks have turned what the Kremlin hoped would be a fast victory into a grinding war of attrition that

RUSSIAN SOLDIER GETS 5 YEARS IN JAIL

Moscow: A Russian court sentenced a 24-year-old professional soldier to five years in prison for refusing to fight in Ukraine, officials said Thursday. The soldier, "not wanting to take part in a special military operation", did not report for duty in May 2022, said the press service for courts in the region of Bashkortostan in the southern Urals. Law enforcement located the man, Marsel Kandarov, in September, the statement added. Separately, a military tribunal said it sentenced Kandarov to five years behind bars for evading military service during mobilisation for more than a month. Russia announced the mobilisation of 300,000 men in late September to buttress Russian troops on the ground in Ukraine.

has dragged on for nearly 11 months with no end in sight.

Soledar's fall would be a prize for a Kremlin starved of good battlefield news in recent months, after losing the significant city of Kherson in December. The ministry announced that the country's



People jostle to buy subsidised sacks of wheat flour from a sale point in Quetta, Pakistan. People are suffering from recent price hike in wheat flour in Pakistan AP/PTI

CHINESE FRET OVER ELDERLY AS WHO WARNS OF SURGE

REUTERS

Beijing, Jan 12: People in China worried Thursday about spreading COVID-19 to aged relatives as they planned returns to their home towns for holidays that the World Health Organization warns could inflame a raging outbreak.

The Lunar New Year holiday, which officially starts on Jan. 21, comes after China last month abandoned a strict anti-virus regime of mass lockdowns that prompted widespread frustration and boiled over into historic protests.

That abrupt U-turn unleashed COVID on a population of 1.4 billion which lacks natural immunity, having been shielded from the virus since it first erupted in late 2019, and includes many elderly who are not fully vaccinated.

The outbreak spreading from China's mega-cities to rural areas with weaker medical resources is overwhelming some hospitals and crematoriums. With scant official data from China, the WHO on Wednesday said it would be

TWO BILLION TRIPS EXPECTED OVER LUNAR NEW YEAR

VIRUS SPREADING FROM CITIES TO VULNERABLE VILLAGES

WHO SAYS CHINA RESPONSE CHALLENGED BY LACK OF DATA



challenging to manage the virus over a holiday period considered the world's largest annual migration of people.

Other warnings from top Chinese health experts for people to avoid aged relatives during the holidays shot to the most-read item on China's Twitter-like Weibo on Thursday. "This is a very pertinent suggestion, return to the home town... or put the health of the elderly first," wrote one user. Another user said they did not dare visit their

grandmother and would leave gifts for her on the doorstep.

"This is almost the New Year and I'm afraid that she will be lonely," the user wrote. More than two billion trips are expected across China over the broader Lunar New Year period, which started on Jan. 7 and runs for 40 days, according to the transport ministry. That is double last year's trips and 70% of those seen in 2019 before the pandemic emerged in the central Chinese city of Wuhan.

Second batch of classified Biden docus found

REUTERS

Washington, Jan 12: Aides to US President Joe Biden have discovered at least one more batch of classified documents in a location separate from a think tank office he used after serving as vice president, news outlets reported on Wednesday, citing unnamed sources.

Biden aides have been searching for additional classified materials that might be in other locations since a set of classified documents was found in November at the Washington-based think tank, according to a report in NBC News, which first broke the news, and CNN.

The NBC News report said the classification level, num-



ber and precise location of the additional documents was not immediately clear.

It also said it was not clear when the additional documents were discovered and whether the search for any other classified materials Biden may have from his time as vice president is complete. The White House did not immediately respond to a request for comment from Reuters.

Senator Mark Warner, the Intelligence Committee's Democratic chairman, has asked for a briefing on the first Biden document discovery, he said Tuesday.

A spokesperson for Senator Marco Rubio, the committee's Republican vice chair, said Rubio and Warner had written to Director of National Intelligence Avril Haines, asking for access to the classified documents.

NYC nurses end strike

ASSOCIATED PRESS

New York, Jan 12: Two New York City (NYC) hospitals have reached a tentative contract agreement with thousands of striking nurses that ends this week's walkout that disrupted patient care, officials announced Thursday.

The nurses, represented by the New York State Nurses Association, walked out early on Monday after negotiations with management ran aground at Mount Sinai Hospital, in Manhattan, and Montefiore Medical Center, in the Bronx. Each has over 1,000 beds and 3,500 or more union nurses.

Nurses began returning to work at both hospitals on Thursday morning, with New York Gov. Kathy



Hochul greeting returning nurses at Mount Sinai just before dawn. Hochul, a Democrat, said that with the new three-year contract, "they'll receive a well-deserved 19 per cent pay increase here. Also better benefits, higher wages for those with higher education, and again, a working environment that allows them to focus on patient care".

Scientists sound alarm as ocean temperatures hit new record

Climate change has increased surface temperatures across the planet, leading to atmospheric instability and amplifying extreme weather events such as storms

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

Paris, Jan 12: The world's oceans, which have absorbed most of the excess heat caused by humanity's carbon pollution, continued to see record-breaking temperatures last year, according to research published Wednesday.

Climate change has increased surface temperatures across the planet, leading to atmospheric instability and amplifying extreme

weather events such as storms. Oceans absorb about 90 percent of the excess heat from greenhouse gas emissions, shielding land surfaces but generating huge, long-lasting marine heatwaves that are already having devastating effects on underwater life. The study, by researchers in China, the US, Italy and New Zealand, said that 2022 was "the hottest year ever recorded in the world's oceans".

Heat content in the oceans exceeded the previous year's levels by around 10 Zetta joules -- equivalent to 100 times the electricity generation worldwide in 2021, according to the authors. "The oceans are absorbing most of the heating from human carbon emissions," said co-author Michael Mann, a professor at the University of Pennsylvania.

"Until we reach net zero emissions, that heating will continue,



and we'll continue to break ocean heat content records, as we did this year," he said. "Better awareness and understanding of the oceans are a basis for the actions to combat climate change." Records going back to the late 1950s show

a relentless rise in ocean temperatures with almost continuous increases going back to around 1985.

"Nightmare for marine life" Scientists have warned that climbing temperatures have wrought major changes to ocean sta-

bility faster than previously thought. The research, published in the journal Advances in Atmospheric Sciences, was based on observations from 24 scientists across 16 institutes worldwide.

It also found other indications suggesting that ocean health is deteriorating. Increasing water temperatures and ocean salinity -- also at an all-time high -- directly contribute to a process of "stratification", where water separates into layers that no longer mix. This has wide-ranging implications because it affects the exchange of heat, oxygen and carbon between the ocean and atmosphere, with effects including a loss of oxygen in the ocean.

"Deoxygenation itself is a nightmare for not only marine life and ecosystems but also for humans and our terrestrial ecosystems," the researchers said in a statement. Updated data released this week

showed that average global atmospheric temperatures across 2022 made it the fifth warmest year since records began in the 19th century, according to Europe's Copernicus Climate Change Service.

Countries across the world have faced a cascade of unprecedented natural disasters made more likely and deadly by climate change. Many of these impacts can be linked to a fast-warming ocean and the related changes in the hydrological cycle.

"Some places are experiencing more droughts, which lead to an increased risk of wildfires, and other places are experiencing massive floods from heavy rainfall, often supported by increased evaporation from warm oceans," said co-author Kevin Trenberth, of the US National Center for Atmospheric Research and the University of Auckland.



Indian economy will be \$3.5 trillion at current prices by the end of the 2022-23 fiscal and is expected to be \$7 trillion in the next seven years
V ANANTHA NAGESWARAN | CHIEF ECONOMIC ADVISOR

LOUIS VUITTON SUCCESSION BUZZ

LVMH Chairman and CEO Bernard Arnault has reshuffled top management at his luxury goods empire, tightening his family's grip with the appointment of his daughter Delphine to lead Christian Dior, and naming a new boss for Louis Vuitton



EXITING INDIA

Alibaba sells half of stake in Paytm

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, Jan 12:

There was a big movement in Paytm stock Thursday as a block deal took place where 2,59,930 shares were sold at ₹535.90 worth ₹13.93 crore.

Multiple sources confirmed that Chinese group Alibaba is behind the deal, selling up to 3.1 per cent of its total equity of about 6 per cent.

Shares of Paytm plunged 8.8 percent after the announcement, its steepest slide since November 22. Paytm's shares had been rising continuously for the past few days, after there were several good news floating about the company.

Alibaba seems to be making an exit from India as it has sold shares in other investments such as BigBasket and Zomato, sources said, adding that Ant Financial is not going to sell anytime soon.

Its associate Paytm Payments Bank has received the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) approval to appoint Surinder Chawla as its Managing Director and CEO. The company had posted a strong operating performance up-

CCPA raids toy stores

Since Jan 1, 2021, the govt has made it mandatory for toys to conform with safety norms specified by the Bureau of Indian Standards

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Jan 12:

The government Thursday said 18,600 toys have been seized in the last one month from major retail stores, including those of Hamleys and Archies, at airports and malls across India for lack of BIS quality mark and use of fake licences.

Meanwhile, consumer protection regulator CCPA has issued 18,600 notices to three major e-commerce players - Amazon, Flipkart and Snapdeal - for alleged violation of toys quality control order, it said.

"We received complaints from domestic manufacturers of sale of toys that do not conform with the BIS standard. We conducted 44 raids in last one month and seized 18,600 toys from major retail stores," BIS Director General Pramod Kumar Tiwari said.

The seized toys were both locally manufactured as well as imported. Some of the toys did not have mandatory BIS quality mark, some had fake BIS licence number and

IOB celebrates World Hindi Diwas

Bhubaneswar: Indian Overseas Bank, Regional Office, Bhubaneswar celebrated World Hindi Diwas. On this occasion, a quiz programme was organized among the regional office employees by the joint leadership of Gourav Bhardwaj, Chief Regional Manager and Sashikanta Bharti, Assistant General Manager and prizes were also distributed to the winners. Rajiv Ranjan, regional official language officer, conducted the programme and Smrutirani Panda delivered vote of thanks.



Inflation dips to 1-yr low

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Jan 12: Retail inflation declined to a one-year low of 5.72 per cent in December 2022 mainly due to cooling vegetable prices, according to official data released Thursday.

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) remaining below 6 per cent for the second month in a row has provided some room to the Reserve Bank to pause interest rate hike which has been going on since May last year. The RBI has been asked by the central

government to ensure inflation remains within 6 per cent.

The CPI-based retail inflation was at 5.88 per cent in November 2022 and the previous low was 5.66 per cent in December 2021. Retail inflation is on a downward trajectory since October.

As per the data released by the National Statistical Office (NSO) Thursday, inflation in the food basket was at 4.19 per cent in December as against 4.67 per cent in November and 4.05 per cent in December 2021.

In the vegetable basket, it dropped by



over 15 per cent on annual basis. The prices of fruits too showed a modest rise of 2 per cent in December 2022. The rate of price rise was also negligible in 'oils and fats' and 'sugar and confectionery'.

However, spices became dearer by

CPI REMAINING BELOW 6% FOR THE 2ND MONTH IN A ROW HAS PROVIDED SOME ROOM TO THE RBI TO PAUSE INTEREST RATE HIKE WHICH HAS BEEN GOING ON SINCE MAY LAST YEAR

IIP expands in Nov

India's industrial production growth rose to a five-month high of 7.1 per cent in November on the back of better showing by manufacturing, according to official data released Thursday. The rise in the factory output measured by the Index of Industrial Production (IIP) comes after a contraction of 4.2 per cent in October. The previous high was recorded in June 2022 at 12.6 per cent.

India Creates History with World's Longest River Cruise

Flagging Off of MV GANGA VILAS
Varanasi to Dibrugarh via Dhaka

18 Luxury Suites | 62.5 meters long and 12.8 meters wide cruise | Equipped with modern facilities
3200 Km | 51 days journey | Crossing 27 rivers | Covering 5 States & 2 Countries | Visiting 50 Major Tourist sites

INAUGURATION OF

- Multi-Modal Terminal - Haldia**
Project Cost : ₹ 600 Cr.
• Gateway connecting National Waterways-1, Indo Bangladesh Protocol route & North Eastern Region
• Reduction in logistic cost due to interface between Road & Railway
• Annual capacity of 3.07 million tonnes
- Maritime Skill Development Centre Guwahati**
Project Cost : ₹ 6 Cr.
• Window of new opportunity for North East
• Better job openings for local youth
• Helping students to stay relevant and future-ready in maritime sector
- Community Jetties - UP (Saidpur, Chochakpur, Zamania, Kanspur)**
Project Cost : ₹ 10 Cr.
• Reduced logistic cost for small traders, farmers, tourist etc.
• New livelihood opportunity for the local community
• Increased employment opportunities & promotion of tourism

LAYING OF FOUNDATION STONE FOR

- Ship Repair Centre at Pandu (Guwahati)**
Project Cost : ₹ 208 Cr.
• An alternate ship repair centre to Kolkata
• Huge saving in fuel and manpower cost for vessel owners
• Keeping vessels in good health and compliance with safety standards
• Boost in local ancillary industry and employment opportunity for people of North East
- Community Jetties in Bihar (Digha, Naktadiyara, Panapur, Barh, Hasanpur)**
Project Cost : ₹ 12 Cr.
• Pollution free and cost-effective transportation
• Reduction in road congestion and upliftment of socio-economic of the state
• Direct access to local market and also tourism promotion
- Elevated Road Connecting MMT Pandu and NH-27**
Project Cost : ₹ 180 Cr.
• Decongesting the existing road passing through a highly populated area
• Potential increase in cargo movement to approx. 200 MT/day
• 24x7 hassle free movement of cargo vehicles irrespective of any weather condition

BY NARENDRA MODI
Hon'ble Prime Minister

In the august presence of

- YOGI ADITYANATH**
Hon'ble Chief Minister, Uttar Pradesh
- SARBANANDA SONOWAL**
Hon'ble Union Minister, Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways and Ayush Govt. of India
- HIMANTA BISWA SARMA**
Hon'ble Chief Minister, Assam
- SHRIPAD NAIK**
Hon'ble Minister of State Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways and Tourism, Govt. of India
- SHANTANU THAKUR**
Hon'ble Minister of State for Ports, Shipping & Waterways, Govt. of India

on Friday, 13th January, 2023 at 10:00 AM
Venue: Ravidas Ghat (Varanasi) | Majhua (Balia) | Barh (Patna) | Haldia (West Bengal) | Pandu (Guwahati)

Watch live coverage of the event on DD News



And, the quest begins...

INDIA SEEK FIRST PODIUM FINISH SINCE 1975 AS THEY KICKOFF THEIR FIH MEN'S WORLD CUP 2023 CAMPAIGN AGAINST SPAIN TODAY

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Rourkela, Jan 12: A historic bronze medal in the Tokyo Olympics bringing them back among the international elite, India will seek their first podium finish in 48 years in the FIH Men's Hockey World Cup as they begin their campaign against Spain in a tricky match here Friday.

A medal in this showpiece will strengthen the claim that the former giants of the game with eight Olympic gold have turned the corner in world hockey.

The country won a bronze in the inaugural tournament in 1971 and clinched a silver in the next edition in 1973. Ajit Pal Singh led the side to title triumph in 1975 but since then they have failed to even reach the semifinals. From 1978 to 2014, India could not go past the group stage.

The Indian team, no doubt, would be one of the medal contenders with the talented bunch led by Harmanpreet Singh emerging as a force to reckon with. The team has earned respect from other top countries in recent times.

In the previous edition, also held in Bhubaneswar, India had exited at the quarterfinal stage after losing to the Netherlands, the eventual runners-up, and they would be looking to reach at least the semifinals this time. India have also done well in the FIH Hockey Pro League, finishing third in the 2021-22 season.

Since Graham Reid took over the head coach's position in 2019, India's stature has grown. He has been able to get the best out of the players, injecting a tactical discipline to their trademark skillful, fluid playing style, making them a team that is respected and feared in equal measure.

India will hope to begin with a win,



Skipper Harmanpreet Singh will be key to India's success at FIH World Cup

It is a good opportunity for us to win the World Cup. We have been doing well in the last one year, we are fit and experienced. Our plan is to keep the focus from the first match itself and execute our plans

HARMANPREET SINGH

Most of us (90 per cent) are playing our first World Cup. That does not mean we are going to be afraid of our opponents. We are going to be the way we are and we are ready

ALVARO IGLESIAS

Spain have never been an easy opponents for India and the European side will remain the same, though they are one of the youngest teams in the tournament.

Though without a title, Spain are always a tricky side as they can beat any team on their day. They had finished runners-up in 1971 and 1998 while taking the bronze medal in 2006.

The Spanish team had the upper hand in the ongoing Pro League season matches in Bhubaneswar in October-November last year.

It was even Stevens in the two matches of the 2021-22 Pro League season in February last year.

Historically also, there is not much difference between the two sides as India have won 13 of the 30 matches they have played against each other since 1948 (when India won 2-0 in the London Olympics). Spain have won 11 times while six matches were drawn affairs.

India will, however, go to England and neighbouring Wales who clash against each other in the first match of Pool D, two hours earlier than India vs Spain game.

The tournament-opener will be played at Kalinga Stadium in Bhubaneswar - which will become the first venue to host back-to-back World Cups - between Argentina and South Africa in Pool A. Title contender Australia face France in another Pool A match later in the day at Kalinga Stadium.

as that result can help them top Pool D for a direct quarterfinal berth and avoid playing cross-over matches (meant for second and third place teams of each of the four pools). Qualifying for the quarterfinals through cross-over matches could lead to facing stronger teams in the last-

eight stage like defending champions Belgium.

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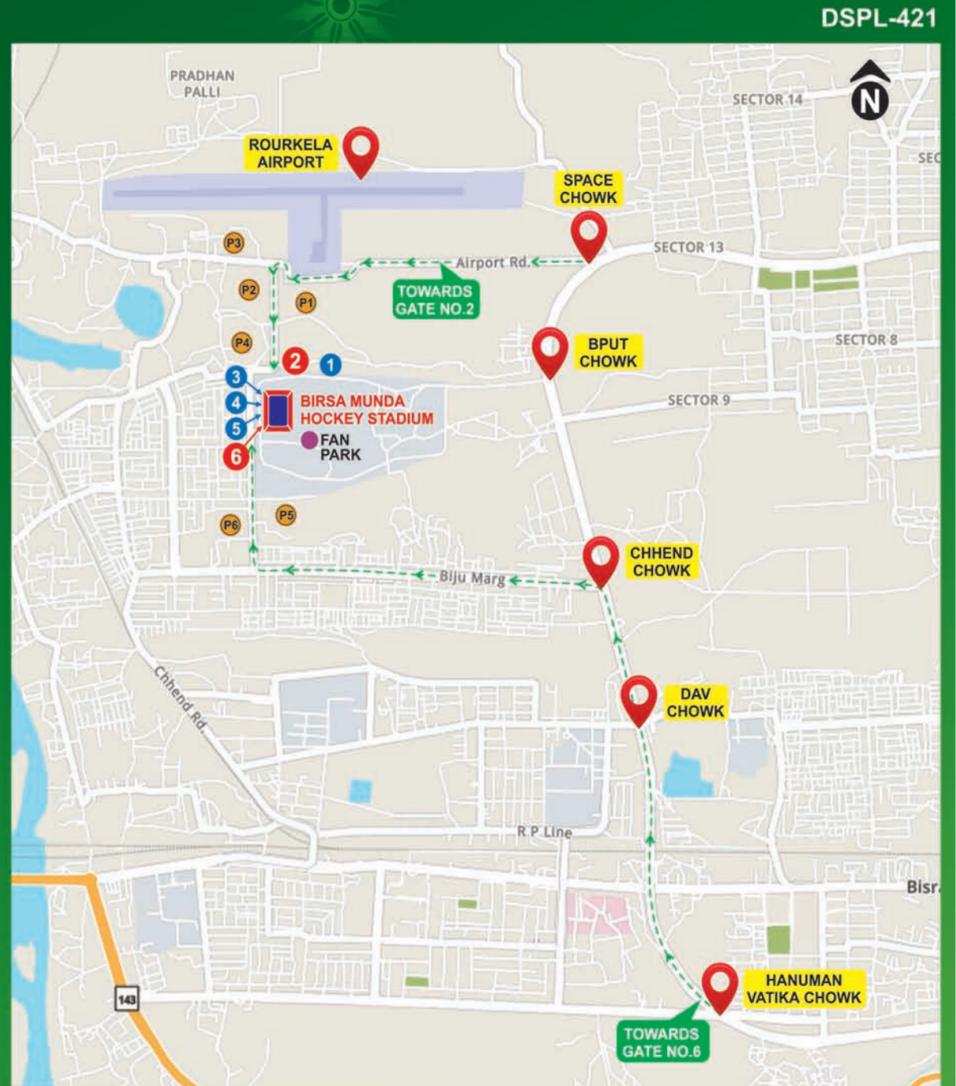


VENUE MAP AND OTHER FACILITIES DETAILS



STADIUM ENTRY	CATEGORY
Gate 2	SPECTATOR - PEDESTRIAN
Gate 6	SPECTATOR - PEDESTRIAN

INFORMATION FOR PARKING ARRANGEMENTS



STADIUM ENTRY	PLACE OF PARKING	VEHICLE TYPE
GATE 2	PARKING AREA - P1, P2, P3 & P4	2 & 4 WHEELERS
GATE 6	PARKING AREA - P5 & P6	2 & 4 WHEELERS

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