



## MAKING A POINT

Actor Rashmika Mandana asks trolls not to abuse her as the words and phrases used often affect her mentally

LEISURE P2



## TANKS FOR UKRAINE

Germany announces that it will deliver heavy tanks to Ukraine and the US will also do the same

INTERNATIONAL P10



## HONOURS FOR SURYA, RENUKA

ICC announces Suryakumar Yadav as Men's T20I Cricketer of the Year and Renuka Singh as Emerging Player

SPORTS P12



**INAUGURAL JOURNEY:** Union Ministers (from left) Ashwini Vaishnaw, Dharmendra Pradhan and G Kishan Reddy flag off the 'Shree Jagannatha Yatra' tourist train from Safdarjung Railway Station in New Delhi, Wednesday

## 4 FROM ODISHA GET PADMA SHRI

President Droupadi Murmu approves conferment of 106 Padma Awards for 2023



From (L) Antaryami Mishra, Krishna Patel, Maguni Charan Kuanr and Patayata Sahu

POST NEWS NETWORK

**New Delhi, Jan 25:** Four Odia achievers feature in the list of 91 luminaries who have been awarded the Padma Shri as per a release issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs, here Wednesday. The four personalities who have been awarded the Padma Shri are Maguni Charan Kuanr (Art), Antaryami Mishra (Literature and

Education), Krishna Patel (Art) and Patayata Sahu (Agriculture). Born in Keonjhar district Kuanr belongs to a family of traditional puppeteers while Mishra is a prolific writer. Patel on the other hand is a renowned folk singer and the first Aghria woman to be conferred the Padma Award. Sahu is well-known for creating a garden of medicinal plants and had been earlier praised by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. **Continued on P4**

**HOLIDAY NOTICE**

The offices of **Orissa POST** will remain closed on the occasion of Republic Day. Hence, there will be no edition of the paper January 27, 2023 (Friday).

—EDITOR

# 70 Jamia students detained

CLASHES BREAK OUT BETWEEN COPS AND STUDENTS OVER SCREENING OF BBC DOCUMENTARY ON NARENDRA MODI

AGENCIES

**New Delhi, Jan 25:** Clashes broke out between students of Jamia Millia Islamia University and the police here Wednesday over the screening of BBC's documentary India: The Modi Question. Sources said that the Delhi police detained 70 students who gathered at the university to protest against the detention of four activists over the proposed screening, the Students' Federation of India (SFI) said. There was no immediate response from the police.

Heavy deployment of police personnel was seen outside the campus where students had gathered. Personnel from the Rapid Action Force were deployed at the gate.

Pritish Menon, SFI secretary of the Delhi state committee said police detained protestors who had



gathered there. "We were about to begin our demonstration peacefully but were detained before that and taken to the police station," Menon informed.

The SFI's Jamia unit had released a poster Tuesday inform-

ing that the documentary would be screened at the MCRC Lawn Gate 8 at 6.00pm.

The university administration said the screening would not be allowed and that they were taking all measures to prevent people and

■ **SFI says more than 70 students detained, police say only 4 held**

■ **Jamia VC promises strict action against students involved in disturbing peace**

organisations with a 'vested interest to destroy the peaceful academic atmosphere of the university'.

"It has come to the knowledge of the university administration that some students belonging to a political organisation have circulated a poster about screening of a controversial documentary film on the university campus today," Jamia Millia Islamia said in the statement.

"The university had earlier issued a memorandum/circular reiterating that no meeting/gath-

ering of students or screening of any film shall be allowed on the campus without permission from the competent authority. Strict disciplinary action shall be taken against organisers in case of any violation," it added.

Vice-Chancellor Najma Akhtar accused SFI for 'disturbing peace and harmony', and asserted that she will not allow any such behaviour in the varsity under her watch. "We do not want any disturbance on the campus. We desire to keep peace and harmony in the university where students are studying and giving exams," Akhtar asserted. "A small group like SFI, which has no following, is holding protests. We do not approve of this kind of behaviour. At no cost, I will allow this kind of behaviour under my watch," she added.

**Continued on P4**



**IRREGULAR by MANJUL**

Aren't we supposed to display only indigenous weapons in the parade?

**MARKET WATCH**

INDEX	VARIATION
SENSEX	60205.06 ↓ 773.69
NIFTY	17891.95 ↓ 226.35
DOLLAR	81.31 ↑ ₹0.34
EURO	88.98 ↑ ₹0.21
GOLD	₹56,920 ↓ ₹49
SILVER	₹68,529 ↓ ₹13

**WEATHER**

	BHUB	CTK
TEMP MAX	32.9°C	30.5°C
TEMP MIN	16.3°C	15.0°C
Humidity	75%	89%
Rainfall	Nil	Nil

Forecast: Foggy weather mostly

## 13 Odisha policemen honoured

The awards are bestowed for gallantry, sacrifice and meritorious services

POST NEWS NETWORK

**New Delhi, Jan 25:** A total of 13 police officials of Odisha were awarded Wednesday with medals for meritorious services on the occasion of Republic Day. Among the 13, two were honoured with the President's Police Medal while 11 others were awarded with the Police Medal for meritorious services.

The Ministry of Home Affairs said in a release that the President's Police Medals have been awarded to Special Secretary, CMO Dharendra Sambhaji Kutey and Vigilance Directorate constable Prahallad Kumar Rout. They are



among the 901 police personnel who have been honoured with the President's Police Medal on the occasion of Republic Day.

The 11 cops from Odisha who have been awarded the Police Medal are: Himanshu Bhusan Swain, ACP, Bhubaneswar; Jatindra

Kumar Panda, Additional SP, Bhadrak; Pradyumna Mishra, Additional SP, Bhadrak; Sudhanshu Sekhar Pujari, DSP, Vigilance, Sundargarh; Gyanendra Kumar Das, Deputy Commandant BPSPA, Bhubaneswar; Arun Balliarsingh, Inspector, Bhubaneswar; Security Wing; Jugal Kishore Pradhan, SI, Berhampur Vigilance Division; Sarwordin Khan, Constable, Nuapatna, Cuttack; B Bhusan Mohanty, ASI of Police (Computer) SCRB, Bhubaneswar; Anil Kumar Minz, Drill Inspector, Bhubaneswar and Pradeep Kumar Behera, Sepoy, IV Battalion, Rourkela.

**Continued on P4**

## Germany, Dutch in last 4

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Bhubaneswar, Jan 25:** Germany struck twice with two minutes left in the match to wipe out a two-goal deficit and then prevailed over England in the penalty shootout to make a dramatic entry into the semifinals of the FIH World Cup here Wednesday.

In the second quarterfinal played on the day, the Netherlands vanquished South Korea to end the Asian campaign in the tournament.

In the semifinals now, the Netherlands will play defending champions Belgium while Germany will clash with three-time winners Australia.

Germany captain Mats Grambusch and his younger

brother Tom scored in the space of one minute after England held on to a 2-0 lead till the 58th minute. It was like coming back from the jaws of defeat for Germany. Earlier England had taken a 2-0 lead with goals from Zachary Wallace (12th) and Liam Ansell (33rd).

Niklas Wellen, Hannes Muller, Prinz Thies and Christopher Ruhr scored for Germany in the shootout. For England James Albery, Wallace and Phil Roper scored, while David Goodfield missed.

In the second quarterfinal, Koen Bijen (27th and 31st), Justen Blok (36th), Steijn van Heijningen (50th) and Teun Beins (58th) scored for the Netherlands. Inwoo Seo (51st) scored a consolation goal for South Korea. **P12**

## Ex-CM Gamang, son quit BJP

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Bhubaneswar, Jan 25:** Ahead of 2024 elections, former Chief Minister of Odisha and nine-time MP Giridhar Gamang and his son Sishir resigned from the BJP. Holding a press conference here Wednesday, the father-son duo announced their resignations from the primary membership of BJP.

Giridhar also announced that he will not contest in elections anymore as he is old. "My son Sishir will contest the elections from now on," the tribal leader said.

The father-son duo said that they have already sent their resignation letters to BJP national president JP Nadda. "They had joined the BJP in 2015 after resigning from Congress."

"I realised that I am unable to discharge my political, social and moral duty to my people in Odisha during the last several years. Hence, I tender my resignation from the primary membership of the BJP with immediate effect. Please accept the same," the former CM said in his resignation letter to Nadda.

Giridhar thanked PM Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah, who was party president in 2015, for clarifying on the floor of the Parliament on his voting against Vajpayee government in 1999.

Similarly, Sishir in his letter said he resigned after realising that he was unable to do much for the welfare of the tribal community and the youth during the last several years.

They are likely to join Telangana Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao's newly floated party - Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS).

"I have come from a national party (Congress) to BJP, another national party I will join another national party, which is yet to set a foothold in Odisha," Giridhar said.

## SHORT TAKES

### SC verdicts to be available in Odia

**New Delhi:** Chief Justice of India DY Chandrachud launched a Supreme Court service Wednesday that will start providing judgements in various Indian scheduled languages from Republic Day. There are 22 languages in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution including Assamese, Bengali, Gujarati, Hindi, Kannada, Kashmiri, Konkani, Malayalam, Manipuri, Marathi, Nepali, Odia, Punjabi, Sanskrit, Sindhi, Tamil, Telugu, Urdu, Bodo, Santhali, Maithili and Dogri. "We have 1,091 judgments in regional languages which will be launched tomorrow on Republic Day," the CJI said. "We have 21 in Oriya, 14 in Marathi, four in Assamese, 17 in Kannada, 29 in Malayalam, three in Nepali," the CJI added.

### Leopard carcass found in Dhenkanal

**Dhenkanal:** Forest personnel recovered Wednesday the carcass of a leopard from near Barihargadi village under Khajuriakata section of Hindol range in this district. Locals spotted the body of the big cat and informed the Forest department. Sources said that it was case of poaching, but officials said that the exact reason can only be established after post-mortem. The recovery of the leopard carcass raises questions about the safety of wild animals in the state. Only a few days back, a leopard and an elephant were found dead at the Simlipal National Park in Mayurbhanj district. Sources said that the incidents clearly portray the presence of a large number of poachers in forests of Odisha.

## Fairytale farewell awaits Sania at Melbourne

7 years after winning her last Grand Slam title, Indian tennis queen on the cusp of winning mixed doubles title

AGENCIES

**Melbourne, Jan 25:** Playing the last Grand Slam tournament of her career, Sania Mirza earned the chance to win her seventh major title by reaching the Australian Open mixed doubles final with compatriot Rohan Bopanna here Wednesday. The unseeded Indian pair knocked out third seeds Desirae Krawczyk and Neal Skupski 7-6 (7-5), 6-7 (5-7), 10-6 in the semifinal that lasted 112 minutes.

After splitting a set each, the Indians raced to a commanding lead in the super tie-breaker. Sania found a stunning backhand winner to earn three match points and sealed the contest with a drive volley that Krawczyk could not return.

"It was an amazing match, there was a lot of nerves. It's my last slam and it's so special to play with Rohan. He was my first mixed doubles partner when I was 14 and today I'm 36 and he is 42 and we are still playing, we have a solid rela-

tionship," Sania said after the match. "So who cares about age?"

Sania had earlier announced that the WTA event in Dubai in February will be her swansong and that the Australian Open will be her last Grand Slam. "We are excited to come back here and give ourselves another chance. We were playing the best mixed doubles pair on Tour and had to come up with the best," she said about the rival players from USA and England.

"I'm not a crier but I'm almost

there right now, I feel the love for the last 18 years I have been coming here. It feels like home for me, I have a family here, I eat at home and I have so many Indians supporting me," added Sania, who won her first Grand Slam title at the Australian Open in 2009, winning the championship with Mahesh Bhupathi. She later won the women's doubles title at Melbourne Park in 2016 with Swiss great Martina Hingis.

The 42-year-old Bopanna, who won his only major title at the French Open, said seizing the momentum in the break was crucial. "Really happy to be sharing the court with Sania. (It's an) incredible journey, inspiring everyone back home and today so many fans here. One more to go. It would be an absolute dream (Sania winning the title)," Bopanna said.



**SANIA'S GRAND SLAMS**

MIXED DOUBLES		
YEAR	PARTNER	EVENT
2009	Mahesh Bhupathi	Australian Open
2012	Mahesh Bhupathi	French Open
2014	Bruno Soares	US Open

WOMEN'S DOUBLES		
YEAR	PARTNER	EVENT
2015	Martina Hingis	Wimbledon
2015	Martina Hingis	US Open
2016	Martina Hingis	Australian Open

# leisure



## BEYONCE WORE JEWELLERY WORTH \$7.5 MN AT PRIVATE DUBAI GIG

Grammy winner Beyonce's jewellery for her private show in Dubai was reportedly worth \$7.5 million, around a third of her rumoured \$24 million pay cheque for the invitation-only gig. The *Crazy in Love* singer, 41, made a comeback to the stage in nearly five years.

## BIEBER SELLS MUSIC RIGHTS FOR \$200 MN

Pop juggernaut Justin Bieber has sold his music publishing and recording catalog shares to the Blackstone-backed Hipgnosis Songs Capital for \$200 million, the company said Tuesday -- marking the industry's latest blockbuster rights deal. The sale has been rumoured for weeks.



### FORTUNE FORECAST

GaneshSpeaks.com  
accuracy • reliability • trust  
FOR ASTROLOGY DIAL 55181

#### ARIES

You're finally impressed by the yogis. A degree course in Art of Living? Ganesha approves. You may even fulfill a desire to begin lessons in music or dance, or something that has interested you since long. A good, good day, and it smells of sweet success.

#### TAURUS

You need to be very and practical and realistic in all that you do today, urges Ganesha. You are known to be pretty emotional and sensitive and generally go by your feelings. Your mind, your reason do not normally feature in your decision making.

#### GEMINI

Your long-term goals seem to be shaping up well. You may also expect some good news, which will change the course of your life. Play a waiting game in matters of auctions and sealed tenders. And memorise these words: Prevention is better than cure.

#### CANCER

Today, you may focus your entire attention on your relationships - your ties with your parents, spouse, children, siblings and even neighbours. However, all that effort and energy may not get its due, and you may get a cold response from one or more of your relatives.

#### LEO

The bourgeoisie feasted on cake, while the masses starved for want of a mere loaf of bread. Ganesha foresees something similar for you today, as you show the propensity to indulge in unwanted expenses. Whether it is impulsive decisions or compulsive buying, they shall not serve as an excuse on a later date when the milk is already spilt.

#### VIRGO

You will be cool as a cucumber today. Nothing that happens will unsettle that composure, says Ganesha. Your loved ones will stand tall and strong behind you, and inspire you to overcome obstacles. Your work will reflect dedication, says Ganesha.

#### LIBRA

Sit back and think hard - think about what is it that you really want when it comes to your business enterprises, because there are many ways to go about things at work, and they all shall lead you somewhere different. The stars favour you today with a golden touch, so take it in your stride and make hay while the sun shines.

#### SCORPIO

Today, Ganesha is in the mood to give you health tips. Cultivate healthy eating habits and exercise regularly to stay away from disorders like obesity. Irregular eating habits and unhealthy lifestyle may lead to many other troubles. Eat healthy, stay happy.

#### SAGITTARIUS

Your friend base is slated to multiply today. At work, additional responsibilities will be thrust upon you, and you will also be given charge of new resources. Ganesha predicts you taking up the challenge and emerging triumphant in all spheres today.

#### CAPRICORN

Overcome with feelings, you may take decisions that may stand in the way of success. Don't let your sentiments ruin your future prospects because the damage done will be beyond repair, warns Ganesha. Today, there are also chances that your down-to-earth nature and amiable approach will win the hearts of many.

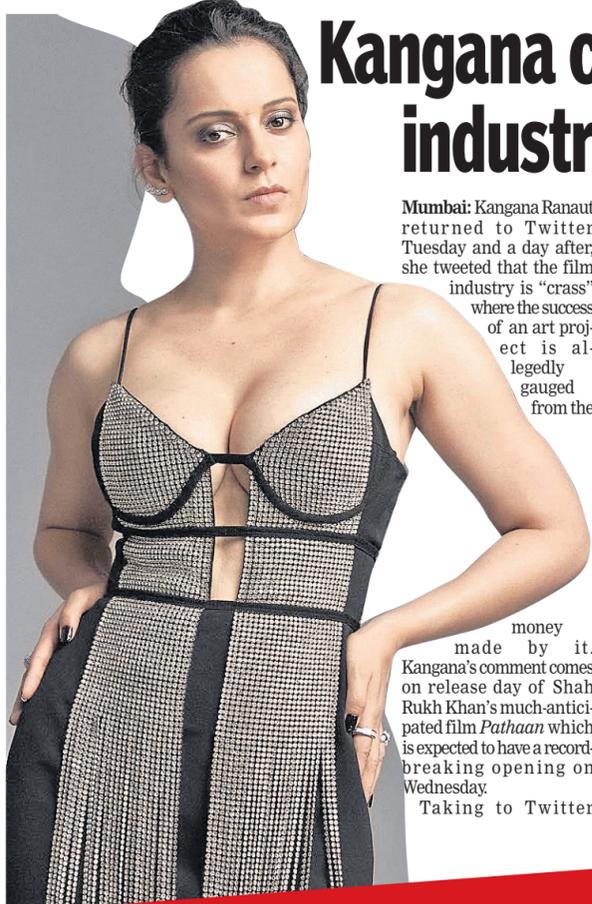
#### AQUARIUS

You will come out top in whatever you choose to do, and success will smell honeysuckle sweet! Naturally, recognition and rewards await you. Take your friends to that trendy café; you needn't wait for a reason to party, says Ganesha.

#### PISCES

Major expenses are coming your way, but the good news is a lot of them can be avoided simply by drawing a line between your needs and your wants. Exercising a little restraint now will go a long way in boosting your savings later on, says Ganesha.

## Kangana calls film industry 'crass'



Mumbai: Kangana Ranaut returned to Twitter Tuesday and a day after, she tweeted that the film industry is "crass" where the success of an art project is allegedly gauged from the money made by it. Kangana's comment comes on release day of Shah Rukh Khan's much-anticipated film *Pathaan* which is expected to have a record-breaking opening on Wednesday. Taking to Twitter

Wednesday morning, Kangana wrote, "Film industry is so crass and crude that whenever they want to project success of any endeavour/creation/art they throw flashing currency digits in your face, as if art has no other purpose.. it exposes their lowly standards and the kind of deprived lives they live." She also said that "major economic gains" like other industries and that's the reason artists are worshipped. She wrote, "Primitively art blossomed in temples and reached literature/theatres and eventually inside cinemas. It is an industry but not designed for major economic gains like other billion/trillion dollar businesses, that's why art/artists are worshipped not industrialists or billionaires." AGENCIES

### 12TH INDIAN FILM FESTIVAL BHUBANESWAR: DAY 3

## Need for more film fests stressed



Malayalam film director Kamal KM making a point at the event  
Bhubaneswar, Jan 25: There is a need to organise more film festivals in India as they encourage the budding filmmakers to work on themes that strongly relate to rural life, said Kamal KM, a leading name of Malayalam films. He was speaking on the third day of ongoing 12th Indian Film Festival Bhubaneswar (IFFB) here at Guru Kelu Charan Mohapatra Odissi Research Centre, Wednesday. "This is how we learned; by watching movies together and discussing cinema with each other: Film festivals are platforms where

we get to discover contemporary cinema," he added. Kamal's highly acclaimed film *Pada*, a socio-political thriller based on a true incident that occurred in 1996 when the then Palakkad collector was held hostage was screened on the occasion. Three more movies *Apur Sansar* (Satyajit Ray), *Be Ches Ne Veth* (I am not the river Jhelum), the only Kashmiri language movie of the festival directed by Prabhav Chandra and Abhinandan Banerjee's Bangla movie *Manikbabur Megh* (The Cloud and the Man) were also screened during the day. *Be Ches Ne Veth* explores the suffocation and trauma experienced by its protagonist Afeefa, a Kashmiri woman, in her life while *Manikbabur Megh* tells the tale of a recently-bereaved middle-aged man and his accidental complex yet meaningful relationship with a cloud.

### RASHMIKA ON HATE FROM TROLLS

## 'Don't be abusive, it affects mentally'

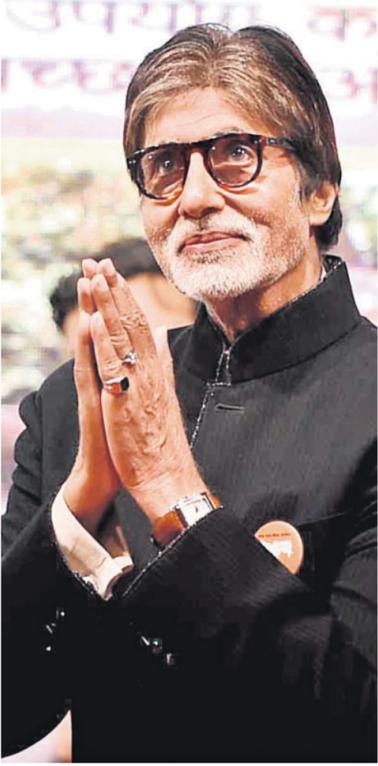
Mumbai: Actor Rashmika Mandanna, who was recently seen in *Mission Majnu*, has opened up about the hate she's been receiving from trolls over the last few months. In a new interview, Rashmika spoke about the troll having a problem with everything she does in her life. She added that she's willing to listen if they communicate properly but says it affects mentally when they turn abusive. Rashmika was asked if she felt like giving up everything, despite the success and fame. The actor said "sometimes" the thought did cross her mind. The *Goodbye* actress added, "People are having a problem with my body. If I work out too much, I look like a man. If I don't work out too much, I'm too fat. If I talk too much, she's too cringe.

If I don't talk at all, oh, it's attitude. I'm like people will have a problem with me breathing and not breathing as well. So what do you want me to do? Should I leave? Should I stay?" Rashmika said she will listen to people if they clearly tell her what they want her to change about herself. "If you have a problem with me, say what problem you have. Why do you have this problem? Don't be abusive. Some words and phrases that they use are mentally affecting some of us," she added. AGENCIES



## Honour for Big B in Saudi Arabia

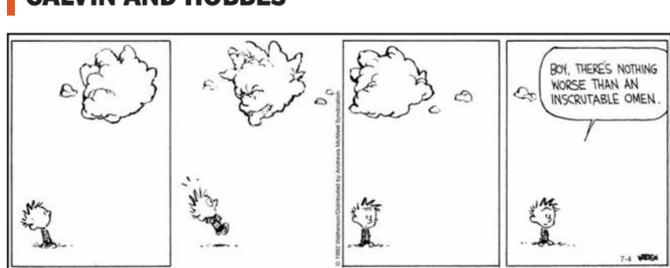
Mumbai: Legendary actor Amitabh Bachchan bagged yet another award - Lifetime Achievement Award at 2023 Joy Awards in Saudi Arabia - for his contribution to Indian movies. He took to Instagram to share his acceptance speech at the event. "My immense gratitude for your affection and care.. and for the honour..", the actor captioned while sharing the video. In his speech he mentioned that it was his first visit to Saudi, but won't be his last. The actor said, "I've always believed that cinema is a medium of entertainment, and it is a medium that brings people together and integrates human society." He continued: "My father, a great poet - during the last days of his life, he used to watch a Hindi film every evening. I asked him 'what is it that you find interesting in cinema?' He said, 'I get poetic justice in three hours. You and I won't get poetic justice in a lifetime or several lifetimes.' "That's the power of cinema. I'm proud to be a very small part of the film industry of my country. When you honour me today, you honour the film industry of my country, you honour my country," he further added. Amitabh was accompanied by his family members including Shweta Bachchan Nanda and Abhishek Bachchan in Saudi Arabia. AGENCIES



### PEANUTS



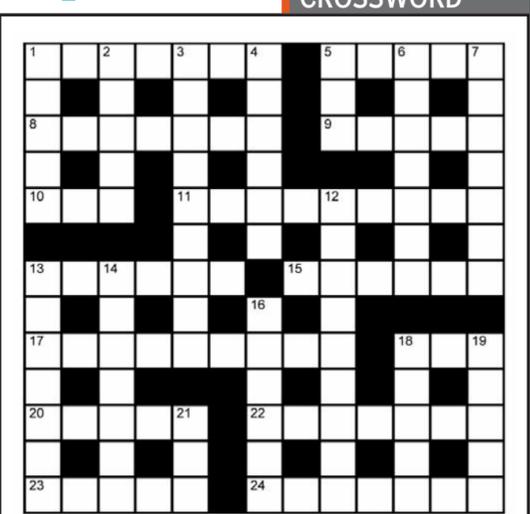
### CALVIN AND HOBBS



### BREVITY



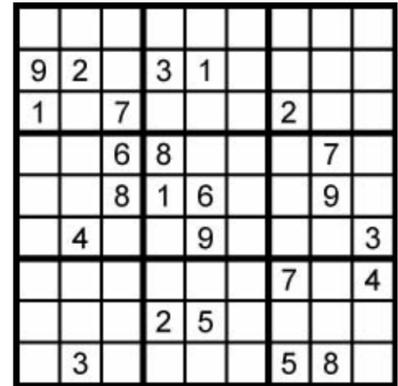
### FUN post CROSSWORD



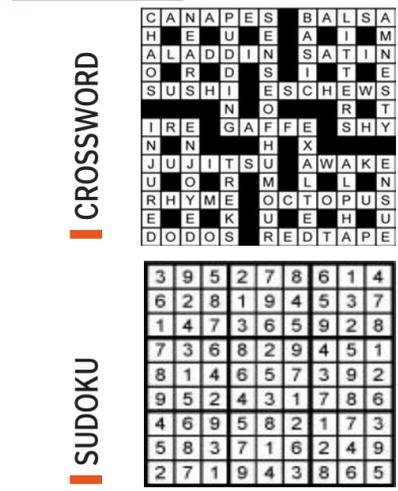
- Copyright ©2023 PuzzleJunction.com
- Across**
- 1 Beatific
  - 5 Great Australian \_\_\_ (Bay)
  - 8 Give advice
  - 9 Religious person
  - 10 Yearling
  - 11 Atoll (5,4)
  - 13 Dark grey cloud
  - 15 Moving and bending with ease
  - 17 Farmer's tool
  - 18 Toast topping
  - 20 Void
  - 22 Sculler
  - 23 Bird's greeting
  - 24 Clump of grass
  - 5 Exclamation of disgust
  - 6 Refined
  - 7 Edible subterranean fungus
  - 12 Energetic people (4,5)
  - 13 Most curious
  - 14 Dinner pastry (4,3)
  - 16 Audition (3,3)
  - 18 Gargantuan
  - 19 Capital of Belarus
  - 21 Still
- Down**
- 1 Cravat
  - 2 Hog noise
  - 3 Inevitable defeat (4,5)
  - 4 Edible herbaceous plant

### 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



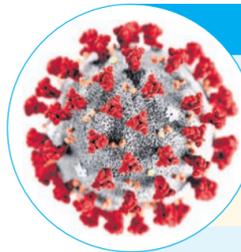
CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMORROW

# downtown

## MANOJ SHARMA NEW ECoR GENERAL MANAGER



**Bhubaneswar:** Manoj Sharma, a 1985-batch Indian Railway Service of Engineering (IRSE) officer, has joined the East Coast Railway (ECoR) as General Manager. Prior to the new posting, Sharma was working as Chief Administrative Officer (Construction) of Central Railway (CR) at Mumbai. He has also worked as Divisional Railway Manager (DRM)/ Ratlam in Western Railway, Chief Engineer in Northern Railway, at Delhi, Chief General Manager, in the National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) in Delhi and Joint Director/Director in Research Design and Standards Organisation (RDSO) at Lucknow.



## COVID-19 TRACKER

	INFECTED	RECOVERED	DEAD
World	67,38,44,144	64,58,76,019	67,50,248
India	4,46,82,206	4,41,49,547	5,30,737
Odisha	13,36,304	13,26,915	9,204

## Actor Mihir Das' son dies at 26

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Cuttack, Jan 25:** Aklanta Das, younger son of late veteran actor Mihir Das, passed away at All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Bhubaneswar late Tuesday night, family sources said Wednesday. He was 26.

According to them, Aklanta was undergoing treatment at AIIMS-Bhubaneswar for liver-related complications for a month now.

"Initially, he responded well to the medications but his condition started deteriorating Tuesday evening. Despite efforts, he could not be saved," said a sobbing relative. His mortal remains were consigned to flames by his elder brother and actor Amlan at Satichoura.

## Gorakabar renovation on cards

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Cuttack, Jan 25:** If things go well, Gorakabar, the graveyard housing the tomb of Utkal Gourav Madhusudan Das in the Millennium City here, will get a fresh lease of life by September this year, with the Cuttack Municipal Corporation (CMC) Wednesday deciding to renovate it with an expenditure of Rs 75 lakh.

A decision in this regard was taken at a high-level CMC meeting, led by city mayor Subhash Chandra Singh, held at Biju Bhawan here.

According to sources, Gorakabar has been lying in a dilapidated condition over the years. The side wall of the tomb of Madhu Babu, one of the great sons of the soil, along the Ring Road has turned into a virtual public urinal.

- Gorakabar has been lying in a dilapidated condition over the years
- The side wall of the tomb of Madhu Babu, one of the greatest sons of the soil, along the Ring Road has turned into a virtual public urinal
- The renovation work will begin February 4, the death anniversary of Madhu Babu, and complete by September this year, says Cuttack mayor Subhash Chandra Singh

Residents and shopkeepers of the locality near the Gorakabar have time and again drawn the attention of the civic authority, but a precious little has been done in this regard, it was learnt. A senior CMC official said Wednesday's meeting was held following a directive of Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik.

Singh said, "The renovation work will

begin February 4, the death anniversary of Madhu Babu, and complete by September this year. If required, the outlay can be stretched till Rs 1 crore," the CMC mayor said.

According to CMC executive engineer Dibyanjan Tripathy, the renovation work will be executed in two phases.

"In the first phase, the tomb, its surroundings and the connecting side wall will be renovated. Drinking water facility, water fountain, landscaping, flowerbed and lighting works will also be done in the initial phase," Tripathy said, adding that the second phase will focus mainly on beautification work.

Among others, Cuttack deputy mayor Damayanti Majhi, commissioner Nikhil Pawan Kalyan and representatives from the Christian community, including Gorakabar managing committee's SK Nanda, were present.

## Tourists' thumbs up to host city as WC nears end

ARINDAM GANGULY, OP

**Bhubaneswar, Jan 25:** As the FIH Men's Hockey World Cup 2023 is nearing the end and the final clash will take place January 29, enthusiasm is sky high among the tourists and hockey lovers from abroad even as they find an opportunity to explore tourism in Odisha.

**Orissa POST** spoke to some of the visitors and supporters from different participating countries who have arrived here to witness the Mahakumbh of hockey. Apart from enjoying the matches at Kalinga Stadium, these hockey lovers are also visiting several temples and places of tourists' interest.

Christian Betzmann, a travel vlogger from Germany, who has visited more than 50 countries and 16 states in India, appreciated the temple architecture in the City. Betzmann said, "The City now looks very clean and the beautification drive for hockey is great. I had visited Mukteswar temple



## Mascot, logo of 'Youth4Water Plus' unveiled

The mascot and logo for 'Youth4Water Plus', an initiative led by Unicef that aims at sensitising youth to promote water conservation, sanitation and climate action, were unveiled at Olly's Land in Kalinga Stadium here, Wednesday. Hockey India president Dilip Tirkey, who graced the occasion as chief guest, and Odisha State Disaster Management Authority executive director Gyana Das, the guest of honour, unveiled the logo and the mascot 'Jolly', which has been inspired by the concept of 'Jal Se Jolly', in presence of other dignitaries, it was learnt.

and was awestruck on seeing the structure. The City is a nice blend of culture and modernism. I would like to explore it more during my next visit. As a host City, Bhubaneswar has done a tremendous job in terms of preparations for the gala event." He also lauded the supportive sports environment and facilities.

Carol Hodget, the mother of the captain of England hockey team, described Bhubaneswar as a 'clean and safe place' for everybody. "I had visited Bhubaneswar in 2018 too during the last world cup. Things are better placed

this time. The City has been made squeaky clean and safer. I had visited several temples which are really beautiful." Fujimoto Ippei, a journalist from Japan, said, "I had visited Bhubaneswar in 2015 as a player for Japan and since then Kalinga Stadium has undergone a sea change." Ippei is looking forward to visit Rourkela to witness the remaining matches.

Similarly, George, a die-hard fan of Australian team from Queensland, has been touring with the team since the beginning of the tournament. According to him, "The Kalinga

Stadium in Bhubaneswar is a world-class facility. I hope that Australia wins the trophy that will make Bhubaneswar lucky for us."

Not only hockey lovers but culture enthusiasts are also enjoying the .FEST being organised here as part of the sporting extravaganza. Many are also seen relishing a wide range of cuisine put up at the International Food Festival.

Skyler, tourist from USA, said, I'm loving the atmosphere here and especially the best food. The performances at .FEST are enthralling."

**DEFINING A NEW PRESENT ENVISAGING A BETTER FUTURE**

Paradeep Phosphates Limited  
www.paradeepphosphates.com

WEDDING SHOPPING KARANTU  
DHAMAL TRIP SAHA  
KAMAL GIFT JITANTUI

BUY & FLY TO  
**Dubai Malaysia**

**sridurga**  
where happiness happens!

**TWO THINGS WILL NEVER AGE  
YOUR STYLE & THE  
SPIRIT OF OUR REPUBLIC**

Sridurga welcomes you to celebrate it with irresistible offers on its **Gents' Ethnic Wear Range**

**HAPPY REPUBLIC Day**

Offer for Ashok Nagar & Patrapada  
SHOP FOR ₹15000  
& GET GV OF ₹3000

Offer for Bada Bazar, Berhampur  
SHOP FOR ₹10000  
& GET GV OF ₹2000

Ashok Nagar, Bhubaneswar | Plot No. 283/2579, NH-16, Patrapada, Bhubaneswar  
Bada Bazar, Berhampur (Ganjam)

www.vedantaaluminium.com

## Aluminium: The Metal of the Future

Aluminium is crucial for India's ambition of becoming a global manufacturing hub. It is imperative for hi-tech industries and sunrise sectors such as aerospace, defence, renewable energy, electric vehicles, etc.

India has the second-largest aluminium production capacity in the world.

### Vedanta Aluminium

- Is the largest producer of aluminium, the green metal, in the country
- Has 1% induced impact on GDP and creates thousands of MSMEs and lakhs of jobs
- Has invested INR 60,000 cr to build the country's largest aluminium assets
- Is ranked 4<sup>th</sup> amongst global aluminium companies in the Dow Jones Sustainability Index
- Is India's only producer of low carbon 'green' aluminium, branded as Restora

**Vedanta Aluminium stands fully committed to nation-building and an 'AtmaNirbhar Bharat'.**

**vedanta** transforming for good | **aluminium**

DESH KI ZAROORATON KE LIYE  
ATMANIRBHAR BHARAT KE LIYE

# BJP plotting to stop rural housing: BJD

If Centre will stop PMAY scheme, state will construct pucca houses under its own fund, says BJD leader Sasmit Patra



POST NEWS NETWORK

**Bhubaneswar, Jan 25:** Reacting strongly to the allegations made by the BJP on selection of beneficiaries under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY), the ruling BJD accused the BJP of conspiring to stop the rural housing for poor people of the state.

Jointly addressing a press meet here Wednesday, BJD Rajya Sabha MP Sasmit Patra and spokesperson Shreemayee Mishra slammed the BJP for conspiring to stop the benefits for the very people who have elected them.

It has been seen that the BJP MPs of Odisha conspired and

elected them," Patra said. He said that Odisha needs more than 15 lakh houses but the Centre has sanctioned only 8 lakh houses and is going to stop the rural housing scheme from this year. So where will these 7 lakh homeless people go? he asked.

BJP government at Centre is stopping this scheme from this year so they are doing this cover up. BJP has been crying hoarse about beneficiaries who are present or not present in PMAY list, he further said.

Stating that beneficiary selection is done according to the guidelines issued by the BJP-led Centre, she said, "If they are unhappy, let the BJP ask its party in power in Centre to change their PMAY guidelines instead of shedding crocodile tears in Odisha."

"Even if you (the BJP) stop rural housing PMAY by conspiring, BJD government will provide houses and take care of our poor people and also expose the role played by BJP in depriving houses to eligible poor," he assured.

The MP said that BJD will continue to fight with Centre till their demands for providing lakhs of pending PMAY (G) houses for tribals and people of Odisha are met.

stopped the rural Awas houses under PMAY for the people of Odisha. Their conspiracy and stopping of rural houses was their return gift to the very people of Odisha who had elected them, said Patra. The BJD leaders said Odisha was awarded by the central government for best performance in rural housing but state BJP put so much pressure to stop sanction of houses to the best performing state.

"With tremendous pressure from the Odisha government and the BJD MPs, when we tried hard to get it implemented now, the BJP is again conspiring to stop it. They are working against the interests of the very people who



PATRIOTIC FERVOUR: A roadshow by Vandematram Anushtan on the eve of Republic Day at Lower PMG in Bhubaneswar, Wednesday

OP PHOTO

## Shanti Memorial Hosp bags 2 awards

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Bhubaneswar, Jan 25:** In the dazzling event of Times Health Icon -2023, held at ITC Welcome recently, Shanti Memorial Hospital bagged two prestigious awards. The first went to Sreejoy Patnaik, Chief Surgeon & CMD of the hospital for his visionary leadership in the field of technological innovations. This award recognized his contribution to the state, in launching Odisha's first center of excellence for Robotic Surgery at Shanti memorial hospital back in Dec 2021. The award was given to Sreejoy Patnaik by the Governor Ganeshi Lal. The second award went to the hospital for being ranked first in the field of Bariatric surgery in Odisha. Sreejoy Patnaik & Rekha Das received the award from eminent film personality Anupam Kher.

Expressing his thoughts on the



occasion, Patnaik said, "While these awards motivate me to strive harder for the betterment of the healthcare sector of Odisha, it also fills me with gratitude and a higher sense of responsibility. It has been a long and meaningful journey so far, but all said and done, the love and trust people have showered on me since the last 30 years, are my most valued earnings."

## 13 Odisha policemen

Continued from P1

Similarly nine personnel of Fire, Home Guard and Civil Defence services from the state have been awarded with the medals on the occasion of Republic Day.

Leading fireman Kali Charan Sabar, driver havildars Bipadabhanjan Behera and Nakula Nayak were awarded with the Fire Service Medal for Meritorious Service.

Pramod Kumar Dalai, civil defence volunteer was awarded with the President's Home Guards & Civil Defence Medal for distinguished services while five home guards were awarded with the Home Guards & Civil Defence Medal For meritorious service.

Significantly, a total of 901 police personnel have been awarded Police Medals on the occasion of the Republic Day.

Police Medal for Gallantry (PMG) has been awarded to 140, President's Police Medal for Distinguished Service (PPM) to 93 and Police Medal for Meritorious Service (PM) has been awarded to 668.

## 'warning letter' to CM over PMAY

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**Bhubaneswar, Jan 25:** The opposition BJP in Odisha staged protests in parts of the state Wednesday over the alleged irregularities in the implementation of a housing scheme, and shot off a 'chetavni patra' to CM threatening to intensify the agitation.

Snubbing the allegation as "baseless", the ruling BJD said the saffron party should follow protocol to raise objections, if it has any.

Activists and leaders of the BJP held protests in 314 blocks of the state during the day, claiming that the beneficiary list of the Centre's Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY), released recently, included names of many ineligible people.

## 4 from Odisha get...

Continued from P1

The 'Padma Vibhushan' is awarded for exceptional and distinguished service. 'Padma Bhushan' for distinguished service of high order and 'Padma Shri' for distinguished service in any field.

Among those who were conferred the Padma Bhushan this year were former Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Mulayam Singh Yadav, former External Affairs minister in the UPA government SM Krishna, tabla maestro Zakir Hussain, US-based mathematician Srinivas Varadhan, medical professional Dilip Mahalanabis and noted architect Balkrishna Doshi. The last two and Yadav were conferred the award posthumously.

No one has been named for the Bharat Ratna, the country's highest civilian award.

Noted industrialist Kumar Mangalam Birla, novelist SL Bhyrappa and author Sudha Murthy were among nine people awarded Padma Bhushan, the statement said. Rakesh Jhunjhunwala (posthumous), actor Raveena Tandon, Manipur BJP president Thounaojam Chaoba Singh were conferred the Padma Shri.

Music director MM Keeravaani, whose composition for Telugu blockbuster RRR won Golden Globes recently, famous playback singer Sunam Kalyanpur and renowned singer from Tamil Nadu Vani Jairam were also selected for Padma Shri. Nineteen of the awardees are women and the list also includes two people from the category of foreigners/NRI/PIO/OCI and seven posthumous awardees.

## CSIR-IMMT launches 'one week, one lab'

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Bhubaneswar, Jan 25:** 'One week, one lab,' a nationwide campaign of CSIR to showcase the breakthroughs and innovations made at CSIR-IMMT Bhubaneswar was inaugurated Tuesday by CSIR director general and DSIR secretary N Kalaiselvi, in presence of Industries department principal secretary Hemant Sharma and IMMT director S Basu.

While inaugurating the initiative, Kalaiselvi said, "Here at CSIR-IMMT, I visited the labs and found everything in its place and that is just beyond imagination as I came here with the expectation to find only metals and minerals but I could see a number of innovations worth medicinal value. It's a great agglomeration of different facets which are required for equipments."

Sharma in his address said, "It's my pleasure to be here at CSIR-IMMT to celebrate the curtain

raiser programme of 'One week one lab' which is the brainchild of our PM. Our department and the MSME department work closely with CSIR-IMMT as it plays a crucial role in the metal, mineral and industry ecosystem of Odisha. I promise to extend all support to CSIR-IMMT for their work."

Speaking about the initiative Basu said, "We are trying for a wider reach with technocrats, industrialists, general public, and other stakeholders like student, and research scholars. In the programme, we will showcase the end-to-end process from sourcing to application, of metal and alloys."

On this occasion, the dignitaries also unveiled MinMart, an e-newsletter offering from IIMT and an annual Hindi magazine Abhibyakti. Sujata Chaklanobis, head, CRTDH, and her team also visited and expressed their happiness with the activities and developments happening at CSIR-IMMT.

## Smrutishree shows culinary skills at .Fest

**Bhubaneswar:** It was a delicious affair at Bhubaneswar's .FEST as the finalist of Masterchef India season 6 - Smrutishree showcased her impeccable culinary skills in front of the people of her state. 30 food enthusiasts were a part of the masterclass where they learnt some mouth watering Odia dishes prepared by Smrutishree. She had shared a reel on Instagram about the opportunity and urged people to tag their family and friends in it. The 30 lucky winners were chosen to be a part of the masterclass which was free of cost. On this occasion, Smrutishree said that, "I feel excited and thrilled to be a part of this event. It's a historic moment for Odisha as it is organising FIH Men's Hockey World Cup.

## Air pollution may impair brain function

Just two hours of exposure to air pollution may impair human brain function, according to a study.

The researchers found that exposure to diesel exhaust for just two hours causes a decrease in the brain's functional connectivity - a measure of how different areas of the brain interact and communicate with each other.

The study, published in the journal Environmental Health, provides the first evidence in humans, from a controlled experiment, of altered brain network connectivity induced by air pollution.

"For many decades, scientists thought the brain may be protected from the harmful effects of air pollution," said senior study author Chris Carlsten, a professor at the University of British Columbia



(UBC) in Canada. "This study, which is the first of its kind in the world, provides fresh evidence supporting a connection between air pollution and cognition," Carlsten said.

The researchers briefly exposed 25 healthy adults to diesel exhaust and filtered air at different times in a laboratory setting.

They measured the brain activity before and after each expo-

## KHIMJI'S 'BRIDAL BLESSINGS' OFFER

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Bhubaneswar, Jan 25:** Khimji Jewellers, this wedding season, is introducing 'Bridal Blessings' offer to make the bride's big day even more unforgettable with its exclusive collection of bridal jewellery. Starting from January 20, the uniquely designed 'Bridal Blessings' offer from the finest and most trusted jewellers in Odisha. In the offer, Khimji includes one free gold coin on every purchase of gold jewellery worth Rs 30,000 and two free gold coins on every purchase of diamond jewellery worth Rs 30,000.

Speaking on the motivation behind the Bridal Blessings collection, Mitesh Khimji, Director, Khimji Jewellers stated that "For a bride, jewellery is not simply a purchase-it's an investment of emotions and sentiments. With our exclusive Bridal Blessings collection and the gold coin offer everyone will be excited to go for it."

## Channel MD, editor-in-chief summoned in defamation case

POST NEWS NETWORK

**New Delhi, January 25:** The Patiala House Court here has summoned Odisha Television Limited Managing Director and the Editor-in-Chief in a defamation case filed by Biju Janata Dal MP Anubhav Mohanty. Metropolitan Magistrate Yashdeep Chahal directed OTV MD Jagi Mangat Panda and Editor-in-chief Radhamadhav Mishra to appear before the court March 27.

"Having gone through the complaint as well as the evidence led at the pre-summoning stage, I am of the prima facie view that the accused persons have committed the offences punishable under section 500 (defamation) read with 34 (common intention) of the Indian Penal Code," the court said.

The court put a specific query to the complainant (Anubhav Mohanty) as to ascertain the involvement of Jagi Magat Panda, who is Managing Director of the

Channel in question. "It has been stated in evidence that the accused is specifically In-Charge of the affairs of the channel and plays an instrumental role in finalizing and publishing the content through various modes," the court noted.

The court also noted the submissions made by advocate Ashwani Kumar Dubey, who claimed on behalf of Anubhav Mohanty that the accused made several defamatory statements against him on various public platforms, including Youtube, and email. Anubhav Mohanty stated in the complaint that the accused persons intentionally and knowingly indulged in the circulation/telecast of various false stories/articles/videos about him. It is further deposed that the accused persons indulged in such activities with the sole objective of harming the reputation and goodwill of the complainant as the complainant has been a successful actor in the Odia Film Industry.

## Workshop on sustainable, diverse agriculture system

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Bhubaneswar Jan 25:** The Agriculture & Farmers' Empowerment department in collaboration with Foundation for Ecological Security (FES) organised a one-day workshop on 'Systems Approach to Agriculture & Pathways for Action' here, Wednesday.

Agriculture and Farmers' Empowerment and Fisheries Minister Ranendra Pratap Swain inaugurated the event as the chief guest. The purpose of the event was to discuss the situation and prepare blueprint for economically viable and ecologically sustainable diverse agriculture systems.

Swain said, "Our country and state mostly depend on agricul-

ture as it is the backbone of the economy and unorganised workforce. Agriculture and allied activities are the primary source of livelihood for almost 80 per cent of the rural population in Odisha with a share of 27 per cent of state's GDP. But climate related uncertainties and natural calamities affect 90 per cent of small and marginal farmers' income."

The minister also said that Odisha is second state to bring special agricultural budget since 2013-14. The farm budget that started from Rs 7,000 crore has now reached Rs 21,000 crore, he stated. "To minimise the crop loss we must work with all stakeholders and prepare suitable policy for farmers," the minister added.

**FOR CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS CONTACT OUR BOOKING STATIONS**

Acharya Vihar-Dayal Agency-9437135727, A.P. Tours and Travel, Maitri Vihar, C.S. Pur- 9861301598, Aurobindo Market-Sai Audio & Electronics-9438304668, Airport Road-Sai Baba Variety Store-9090071530, Anish Infotech- Tankapani Road-9861341488, Bapuji Nagar- Dreamland Studio- 9777517314, Baramunda Rental Colony-Maa Ramchandi Communication-9658821469, Baramunda Housing Board Colony-Pappu Variety Store-9040500106, Cuttack Road-Alishan Snacks-8984236754, District Center (Chandrasekharpur)-Sai Google Mart-9776056507, Forest Park-DTDC Couriers & Services (HB Services)-7381024156, IRC Village-Bapi Xerox-9090090404, Gift Hut(Antriksh Gifts & Decors Pvt. Ltd.)-9954781084, Pruthvi Medicine-9853314816, Janpath-Krupajal Book Store-7978646669, Jaydev Vihar-AK Enterprises-7978116618, Subam Sai Books Store-8895550649, Swain Graphics- 9337121249, Jagannath Mobile Point- Janpath Road, Ram Mandir- 9938475415, Kanan Vihar-Auro Electronics-8260697560, Khandagiri- Swosti Mobile Centre- 7992914045, World Solution- 9938317559, KIIT Road-Jugad Jn-9338545031, Laxmi Sagar-Aditya Mobile-9438191836, Lewis Road-Spider Web-7809186415, Metro Satellite City-Arogya Mitra Medicine Store-9853621640, Madhusudan Nagar-Mohapatra Communication-9124446664, Maa Santoshi travels- Gajapati Nagar- 9777675867, Nayapalli- The Cake Room- 7873660137, Near Mayfair Lagoon-Cookiemann-9439491273, Nigamananda-Omm Sai Travels-9668284823, Nr Cosmopolis Main Gate- Shreeram Medical Store- 8763711714, Net Square- Niladri Vihar (C.S. Pur)- 7205634821, Priyadarshini Market-Astro Point-9938134346, R.N. General Store-Nilakantha Nagar-9438642501, Sahid Nagar- Maa Communication- 9437353424, Sahini General Store- Near Patia Railway Station, Mahavir Vihar- 9937586626, Satya Nagar-Baishnavi Mixture & Sweets-7894821764, Samantapur- Download Point-7504557743, Sailashree Vihar-Harsha Book Store-8093449515, Saheed Nagar-Jagannath Graphics-7978652670, Photo World-7978468191, Sainath Photo Studio-8984436129, Shanti & Co-9937071063, Siripur-Omm Maa Sarala Communication-9777682449, Sushree fashion- Jagmara-9938714347, Shree Vision- Sailashree Vihar-9861476678, Unit-3-LIC of India Premium Point-9337787080, Unit-7- LIC Premium Point- 9338227422, VSS Nagar-Friends Cake & Bake-8658200930, Jeet Infoworld-7205195782, XIMB Square-LD Books-9658061373.

CONCERN IN KENDRAPARA

# AP, Bengal traders illegally procure basmati

SCENES OF FIVE TO TEN TRUCKLOADS OF BASMATI RICE BEING TRANSPORTED TO KOLKATA AND ANDHRA PRADESH ARE COMMONPLACE

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Mahakalapara, Jan 25:** Basmati, a variety of long, slender-grained aromatic rice, is cultivated by the farmers under this block in Kendrapara district.

The paddy variety is mainly cultivated in Kharinasi, Batighar, Ramnagar, Petchhela, Jambu, Baulakani, Suniti, and Nanjura panchayats of the block because of its high demand among the rice-eating people.

However, farmers in this block, instead of selling the harvested Basmati paddy at the local mandis, are selling it to outside traders from Andhra Pradesh and West Bengal to make a fast buck.

This is because the outside traders pay them ₹3,000 per quintal of paddy, while the government pays them only ₹2,040 per quintal at the local mandis. The traders then sell the paddy for ₹4,000 per quintal at local markets. Scenes of



five to ten truckloads of basmati rice being transported to Kolkata and Andhra Pradesh are commonplace.

Moreover, the farmers face a deduction (katni-chhatni) of ₹5 per quintal, while the outside traders procure their whole stock without making any deductions. This has severely hit the government's move to streamline paddy sales and derailed the whole process.

This has also sparked concern

among the local residents as they demanded the district administration and the state government to intervene and check the illegal procurement of paddy to outside traders.

Notably, the state government has been implementing various measures for the benefit of the farmers. It has set a price of ₹2,040 per quintal for farmers to sell their paddy at their nearest mandis.

The state Cooperative and

Supplies departments have also opened 24 primary agricultural societies in the block to check distress sale of harvested paddy by the farmers. However, the government's fixation on low prices has hit the procurement of Basmati rice.

Reports said that the farmers here harvested this variety of paddy after spending a lot on its cultivation. As a result, farmers want more profit from their sale.

Taking advantage of the situation, traders from Andhra Pradesh and Kolkata, in connivance with the local traders, procure the paddy from the farmers at ₹3,000 per quintal without any deduction, only to sell it later at their nearest market at ₹4,000 per quintal.

When contacted, Block Cooperative Officer Jogendra Biswal said that he would order a probe and would take action if he received any complaints in this regard.

## Youth detained for 4-yr-old's murder

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Dharakote, Jan 25:** Police Wednesday detained a youth on charge of lynching a four-year-old boy at Mundamarai village under this police limit in Ganjam district, the previous day.

The accused was identified as Srikant Sethi, son of Kirtan Sethi of the village. A team led by Aska SDPO Umashankar Singh detained the accused and interrogated him in this connection. Meanwhile, a scientific team also visited the spot and seized some articles from the crime spot.

The deceased is four-year-old Nitesh Patra, son of Gobind Patra in the village. He had gone missing from home Tuesday afternoon.

Family members searched for him but failed to trace him. Finally someone informed them to have seen him with Srikant. They visited the house of Srikant and recovered him dead, lying in a pool of blood on his terrace.

Police registered a case and sent the body for post-mortem after the victim's family members lodged a complaint at the police station.

## NIA nabs hardcore Maoist carrying reward of ₹3 lakh

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**Malkangiri, Jan 25:** A team of the National Investigation Agency (NIA) with help of Odisha Police arrested a hardcore Maoist carrying a bounty on his head from Swabhiman Anchal in Malkangiri district, NIA sources said Wednesday.

The arrested Maoist, Ranju Khila alias Chanti, was allegedly involved in the killing of four BSF personnel including a commandant in 2012.

He was earlier arrested by the police for his role in the attack on the BSF personnel and was released on bail in 2018. Since then he was absconding.

As he never appeared in court proceedings and was untraceable, the NIA registered a case against him and launched a manhunt. A reward of ₹3 lakh was also announced on his head. Based on inputs from the state police, the NIA Tuesday apprehended Chanti from Swabhiman Anchal.

Swabhiman Anchal, earlier known as the cut-off area, was once considered a Maoist hotbed. Left-wing ultras operating in neighbouring Andhra Pradesh and Chhattisgarh used to take shelter in the area as it was almost inaccessible for security personnel.

## Bear on a rampage mauls 20 villagers

**Jhumpura:** Man-animal conflict took an ugly turn Wednesday with a bear going on a rampage and injuring 20 persons residing in four villages under Balibandh and Palashpanga forest ranges in Keonjhar. Among the 20 injured, four of the victims were badly mauled by the bear. With people of various villages turning panicky, officials of the Balibandh and Palashpanga forest range rushed to the spot and tried to drive away the animal inside the jungle. However, despite repeated attempts they failed to drive it away which continued to roam from one village to the other. Despite being chased by a large number of people, the bear refused to budge and at times charged at the crowd forcing people to run for their lives. Champua ranger Sanjip Rout said that the Forest department will bear the treatment costs and provide necessary assistance to all injured.

## Covishield booster offers best immune response: Lancet

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**New Delhi, Jan 25:** A booster dose of Covishield offers the best immune response, irrespective of whether the primary doses were of Covishield or Covaxin, according to a new study conducted in India and published in The Lancet Regional Health Southeast Asia journal.

According to the study, even though homologous and heterologous boosting with Covishield or Covaxin in Covishield or Covaxin primed individuals are immunogenic and safe, boosting with Covishield produced better binding and functional antibodies, irrespective of whether the primary vaccination series used Covishield or Covaxin.

Primary SARS-CoV-2 vaccination has been shown to wane with time and provide lower protection from disease with new viral variants, prompting the World Health Organisation (WHO) to rec-

ommend the administration of booster doses.

The study, conducted by researchers from Christian Medical College, Vellore, Tamil Nadu and Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology, Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh, determined the safety and immunogenicity of homologous or heterologous boosters with Covishield or Covaxin, the two vaccines used widely for primary immunization in India, in participants who had already received two primary doses of these vaccines, it said.

Covishield and Covaxin are the two vaccines used in the majority of the Indian population. The four permutations for a booster dose evaluated in this study are primary immunization with Covishield followed by a homologous booster or a heterologous Covaxin booster and primary immunization

with Covaxin followed by a homologous booster or a heterologous Covishield booster, the study said. Participants primed with two doses each of Covishield or Covaxin 12-36 weeks previously, were randomised to receive either Covishield or Covaxin booster in a 1:1 ratio, the study said.

The primary outcome was day 28 post-booster anti-spike IgG seropositivity and secondary outcomes were anti-spike IgG levels and assessment of safety and reactogenicity. The results of 90 days intention-to-treat analysis are presented, the study said.

In the Covishield primed group with 200 participants, the seropositivity 28 days post booster in the heterologous Covaxin arm was 99 per cent and non-inferior to the homologous Covishield arm, which was also 99 per cent, the study said.

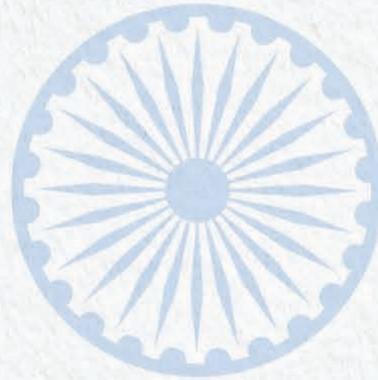
In the Covaxin primed group with 204 participants, the seropositivity 28 days post booster in the heterologous Covishield arm was 100 per cent and non-inferior to the homologous Covaxin arm which was 96 per cent, the study said.

The day 28 geometric mean ratio (GMR) of the anti-spike IgG between the heterologous and homologous boosted arms was 0.42 in the Covishield primed group and 5.11 in the Covaxin primed group, the study said.

There were no related serious adverse events reported in any group, the study said. Based on study results, homologous and heterologous boosting with Covishield or Covaxin in Covishield or Covaxin primed individuals are immunogenic and safe.

The study found that a heterologous boost with Covaxin after Covaxin prime offers the best immune response among the four combinations evaluated. For both binding and functional antibodies, in participants primed with Covishield, homologous boosting with Covishield offers better immune responses than heterologous boosting with Covaxin; and in those primed with Covaxin, heterologous boost with Covishield offers the better immune response.

A heterologous boost with Covishield after a Covaxin primary schedule offers the best immune response among the approaches evaluated in this study.



# Republic Day

Greetings To All Fellow Citizens

Jai Hind



We can empower the society and country only by walking on the path of duty. If there is dedication and seriousness towards one's duties, then even a single person can change the future of the whole society.



- Narendra Modi



Live telecast of Republic Day celebrations from Kartavya Path from 9:00 a.m. onwards on Doordarshan network

**“** We are always surrounded by the things of which we think. **”**  
THE MOTHER



## Lesson from Bengal

The world has reached a major turning point. As artificial intelligence increasingly edges out traditional labour, it becomes clear that the future belongs to countries that can adapt to the changing nature of work. But adaptability requires an education system that nurtures creativity. This is particularly true in countries like India, where the growing digital divide threatens to widen existing inequalities.

I have been on the road in India over the past month, interacting with people engaged in education and research. I happened to arrive in Delhi just as the 2022 Annual Status of Education Report (ASER), the most important source of information on schools and education in rural India, was released.

This year's report, the first to rely on in-person interviews since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, is based on the accounts of volunteers who visited more than 17,000 schools across the country. Given the four-year gap, this report provides the first meaningful glimpse of the pandemic's devastating effect on learning outcomes for Indian children. It also provides crucial insights into the experience of millions more pupils in other developing and emerging economies.

The report shows that Indian children's basic reading skills have dropped to pre-2012 levels across all ages, reversing the slow improvement that was achieved before the pandemic began. For example, the share of third-grade students who can read at a second-grade level dropped from 27.3 per cent in 2018 to 20.5 per cent in 2022.

One area where India did make progress is in public-school enrollment. While the share of children aged 6-14 enrolled in government schools had been dropping steadily between 2006 and 2014, the trend has reversed. In 2018, 65.6 per cent of children in that age group were enrolled in public schools; in 2022, this figure increased to 72.9 per cent. Current initiatives to reform education in India, if adopted and fully implemented, offer cause for optimism.

During my journey, what encouraged me the most was the progress made in one poor region, the Purulia district, a tribal hinterland in West Bengal that is home to a large number of Santals, an Austro-Asiatic tribe that moved into India from Southeast Asia some 10,000 years ago.

I arrived at the Filix School, located in the middle of this impoverished rural area, to give some lectures to tenth-grade students on game theory. The Filix School is an ambitious experiment that aims to provide modern, English-language education covering mathematics, science, and the humanities – the full range of subjects that a child would learn at a top school in New York City or New Delhi. Established in 2014, the school now has more than 500 students, almost half of them girls. Most of the pupils come from households below the official poverty line, a disproportionate number of whom are Santals.

Purulia is quite remote. To get there, I had to fly from Bangalore to the Kazi Nazrul Islam Airport in Durgapur. From there, we drove on the highway crossing the Damodar River before veering off to narrow country roads that meander through ramshackle villages and fields. After more than two hours, we arrived at the school.

The lecture itself turned out to be a revelation. The bright-eyed students took in every word, were troubled by the Prisoner's Dilemma, delighted by the Surprise Test paradox, and argued with me about my logic before playing an animated game of Hex on the blackboard. They seemed to me to be significantly ahead of their peers in other schools.

An ongoing statistical study by C-DRASTA, a research group in Kolkata, appears to confirm my intuition. The Filix School's success is now being emulated via the Education for All programme in schools for poor children in the jungles of the Sunderbans and the foothills of the Himalayas in northern West Bengal. But what is it that makes this school's model a success?

It is true that the school has capitalised on ideas for education from around the world, perhaps most importantly from Finland. But another explanation has to do with India's ongoing struggle with teacher apathy and absenteeism in public schools. In their efforts to address this problem, economists typically focus on financial incentives, such as monetary penalties and rewards. While such measures can help, my four-day stay and earlier visits to Purulia convinced me that instilling professional pride among educators matters as much, if not more. As economists, we underplay the power of self-monitoring. The truth is that innate pride in the work is a more powerful motivator than financial sanctions.

The Filix School is a case in point. In their efforts to export their model to other regions, the school's teachers reached out to their community and asked for the support of the local police, taking advantage of the unique civic police volunteer force that was started in 2012. One cannot generalise this to all, but the police officers who are helping the teachers set up learning centers in the remote tea gardens of northern West Bengal are exemplary in terms of enthusiasm and a sense of mission.

This type of anecdotal evidence suggests that employees' pride in their work and personal identification with its mission are critical sources of product quality. The Greek military leader and historian Xenophon made the case powerfully when he famously noted that Socrates not only did not charge fees to his students, but he enjoyed teaching so much that he would have been willing to pay to give his lessons.

*The writer, a former Chief Economist of the World Bank and Chief Economic Adviser to the Government of India, is Professor of Economics at Cornell University.* #PROJECTSYNDICATE

### WISDOM CORNER

- “Chains of habit are too light to be felt until they are too heavy to be broken.” WARREN BUFFETT
- “Our virtues and our failings are inseparable, like force and matter. When they separate, man is no more.” NIKOLA TESLA
- “I find hope in the darkest of days, and focus in the brightest. I do not judge the universe.” DALAI LAMA

### WORDSWORTH

#### Filemot

This word is now so rare that people who write about it usually quote from one of its last unforced appearances, Lew Wallace's Ben-Hur of as long ago as 1880 (“each compartment crowded with labelled folios all filemot with age and use”). Here's another, from a little earlier still: *October now. All the world swings at the top of its beauty; and those hills where we shall live, what robes of color fold them! Tawny filemot gilding the valleys, each seam and rut a scroll or arabesque, and all the year pouring out her heart's blood to flush the maples, the great impurpled granites warm with the sunshine they have drunk all summer!* (*The Atlantic Monthly*, Feb. 1860). We may perhaps forgive the writer's strained and impassioned, even impurpled, prose, since she goes on to say that she is to be married at noon. You may by now have guessed that filemot (said, if you please, as three syllables, and not as file-mot) is a colour, the russet or brown colour of dead autumn leaves.

# DOCTORS AGAINST HEALTH

## FOCUS HEALTHCARE

A landmark bill that promises to make healthcare a fundamental right has run into an ugly, unseemly and odd opposition from private hospitals and doctors, a group that should have been delighted that the people at last have a right that is often denied even 75 years after Independence. The opposition from doctors is at its peak in Rajasthan, where the Assembly has led the nation in bringing the bill and in making the efforts to pass it even though it ran into some rough weather earlier. The bill, which was meant to be passed in a previous session, was referred to a select committee and comes up for a vote in the current session of the Assembly.



Dr Pavitra Mohan & Jagdish Rattanani

**INDIA CANNOT REMAIN UNMINDFUL OF THE HUGE INEQUALITIES IN ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE**

The feisty and perplexing opposition by private hospitals and doctors stands in the face of a strong civil society movement to support the bill, which seeks to provide free full range of health services at public health facilities to all persons in the state of Rajasthan, as a matter of right. The bill builds on wisdom that has led to models like the National Health Service (NHS) in the UK and other developed societies in Europe. NYE Bevan, Health Minister of England from 1945 to 1951, and the architect of the NHS had proclaimed way back then that “Illness is neither an indulgence for which people have to pay nor an offence for which they should be penalised, but a misfortune the cost for which should be shared by the community.”

In India, 50 to 60 million people sink into poverty on account of health bills, according to data cited at the Asia Health Conference 2020 organised by the CII. The latest National Health Accounts released last year noted that out-of-pocket expenditure all over India was ₹2.88 lakh crore in 2018-19, comprising 53.23% of current health expenditure so that households spent more than government. Rajasthan will be the first state to give a firm push to the movement to end all this, creating the right demand momentum



In India, 50 to 60 million people sink into poverty on account of health bills, according to data cited at the Asia Health Conference 2020 organised by the CII

for a similar adoption across the nation. However, the state association of doctors, especially those representing private doctors and private hospitals have opposed the bill tooth and nail. They have even threatened to go on strike if the bill is not rolled back.

They have three significant demands, none of which are about improving the bill for the patients. The bill makes a significant provision: any emergency care will be provided cashless and free of cost to all residents, at a public or a private facility. This is significant as it has the potential to save thousands of lives by ensuring that a sick patient is provided timely care in such a situation at the closest facility, irrespective of their ability to pay. So, it is even more baffling as to why doctors are opposed to a provision that would save lives.

There is a fear among private providers that the cost of giving emergency care is unpredictable and may be very high. In many ways, the fear is exaggerated given that only a fraction of all emergencies are going to land up at a private facility. Secondly, many emergencies will not entail high costs in stabilising the patient before sending him or her to a public facility. For example, most patients with convulsions will require inexpensive care during the acute

phase. Thirdly, there already exists a state government scheme called Chief Minister Durghatma Beema Yojana, coupled with the Chiranjeevi Yojana, the state version of Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY). This scheme provides for free emergency care of all accident victims, irrespective of their insurance status. Government can and should consider enlarging it to include all emergency care. Finally, some costs can be absorbed by the hospitals which have received benefits from the government in the form of land subsidised, and an in-flow of patients through the Chiranjeevi Scheme.

The second demand is around representation of the doctors' association in district and state health authorities. While it is a fair demand, there is a need to enlarge the representation of healthcare providers to include not only doctors, but also nurses, ANMs and ASHAs, who provide a large proportion of primary healthcare to rural populations. Also, as civil society groups have demanded, the representation should most importantly include civil society groups, patients' groups and citizens' groups.

The third significant demand is around removing the provision that restricts appealing to the civil courts any matters that are pending before the grievance redressal

mechanism set up under the act. Legal experts have commented that such a restriction in any case is bad in law, and is against the right to justice. Government should have no difficulty in removing such a provision. The Rajasthan right to health act is an act in the right direction, and will provide a legal framework for progressive improvement in strengthening public health systems, and ensuring equitable healthcare. Columbia is a small country in Latin America. In 1993, the country's health system was built on the foundation of a strong right to health Act. Over the next twenty years, the act provided the constitutional foundation on which progressive, pro-people health reforms, some of them through the intervention of the court, invoking the Act. We can hope for a similar trajectory for Rajasthan, followed by other states. It is time for doctors' associations to keep people's interest topmost, and constructively engage with the government to allow for the passage of an Act with suitable improvements. Any win for the people will be a win for the doctors as well.

India cannot remain unmindful of the huge inequalities in access to healthcare. While on one hand, those with means can access state-of-the-art healthcare by paying huge sums in private hospitals, the poor continue to avoid seeking treatment, or are mistreated in overburdened and under-resourced public hospitals. The Right-to-health Act, backed by adequate budgetary allocations and legal commitments to ensure access to quality healthcare without incurring a financial burden on families, can make healthcare equitable, humane and responsive.

*Dr Pavitra Mohan is a co-founder of Basic Healthcare Services. Jagdish Rattanani is a journalist and faculty member at SPJIMR. Views are personal.*

©THE BILLION PRESS

## SPECTRUM ARAB-ISRAEL TIES

# Rejuvenating the Abraham Accords

The historic Abraham Accords may not have contributed substantially to resolving the political impasse, as expected between Israel and Arab nations, but they have been able to bolster economic and trade relations in the region. It seems as if the US has taken another step towards being a relevant player in the Middle East, after an ill thought hiatus, leading to relations with regional players like Saudi Arabia hitting rock bottom. The latest American initiative is through vitalising the Abraham Accords. This may also lead to normalising its strained ties with Saudi besides efforts to contain Iran.



Asad Mirza

**THE ABRAHAM ACCORDS HAVE NORMALISED DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS BETWEEN ISRAEL, THE UAE, SAUDI ARAB AND MOROCCO, AND SO FAR HAVE ACHIEVED MIXED RESULTS**

Israeli PM Benjamin Netanyahu met visiting White House National Security Adviser Jake Sullivan a fortnight ago, in Jerusalem. The two discussed ways to broaden the Abraham Accords and reach a breakthrough that could lead to the normalisation of relations between Israel and Saudi. After becoming PM for a third time in December 2022, Netanyahu has set normalising ties with Saudi as one of his two main foreign policy goals, though Israelis admit that it won't be possible if relations between Riyadh and Washington remain tense. Reports say that Sullivan and Netanyahu also discussed the Iranian nuclear programme, Iran's actions in the region and its military assistance to Russia in its war in Ukraine, the

Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and the normalisation process between Israel and its neighbours.

The Abraham Accords, which were signed on 15 September 2020, normalised diplomatic relations between Israel, the UAE, Bahrain and Morocco, and so far have achieved mixed results. As anticipated, normalisation has opened new opportunities for defence and security cooperation, especially among Israel, Bahrain, and the UAE, which share a common perspective on the security threat posed by Iran. But there are shortcomings at the level of bilateral cooperation. Most notably, despite the initial goal of the Arab nations, cooperation between Israel and its Arab partners has failed to produce tangible improvements in the Israeli-Palestinian conundrum.

In reality, the Israelis are now, arguably, more cautious about managing relations with the Palestinians to avoid conflict with their new-found Arab partners, affecting trade ties. The Palestinians have not yet embraced the American vision. Eighty-six per cent of Palestinians believe the normalisation agreement with the UAE serves only Israel's interests and not their own. There is indeed a possibility that the Palestine quest might be ignored further.

Netanyahu told Sullivan that the latest Palestinian moves in the international arena, especially the

Palestinian Authority's push for the International Court of Justice to issue a legal opinion on the Israeli occupation of the West Bank, “are an attack on Israel and oblige us to respond.”

Sullivan also met Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas in Ramallah. Abbas is reported to have warned Sullivan that the new Israeli government's policy could have dangerous consequences and stressed the Biden administration must intervene “before it is too late.” Abbas told Sullivan that the Israeli government's policy and the recent sanctions it has imposed on the Palestinian Authority, destroy the way to two-state solution, violate the agreements between the parties and ruin the chances that are left for achieving peace and stability in the region.

Getting the Israeli government and PA agree to any understanding, might be a bit tough, as the issue has many intertwined political and legal elements to be resolved, but on the other hand, Abraham Accords have been a boon to both Israel and other Gulf nations to bolster economic and trade ties.

Statistically speaking, the Abraham Accords seem to have made a positive impact on entrepreneurs and investors in Israel and the Gulf. Besides facilitating a pro-business environment in the region, it has indirectly brought positive momentum to deals such as

the maritime border agreement between Israel and Lebanon, reached last year, which was mainly driven by local economic interests.

In particular, the economic and trade ties between Israel and UAE have grown substantially, besides notable steps in strengthening economic relations between both countries, like the decision by the Dubai International Chamber to open up an office in Tel Aviv. According to Israel's Central Bureau of Statistics, trade between Israel and the UAE reached \$212.6 million in August 2022, constituting a 163% increase in trade from August 2021.

Israel's new Foreign Minister Eli Cohen has said that the volume of trade with Arab countries that normalised relations with Israel under the Abraham Accords in 2020 broke the 10 billion-shekel (\$2.8 billion) barrier in 2022. Cohen said the Abraham Accords have dramatically changed the face of the Middle East. He added that a summit would be held in March with other Arab countries to boost regional trade.

Though the Abraham Accords might not have been able to resolve the regional schisms and rivalries, yet they have, indeed, paved the way for greater economic and trade relations, which seems to be the way forward.

*The writer is a political commentator based in New Delhi.* #IANS

### Uncompromising hero

Sir, “Had Netaji an opportunity to serve his country after Independence, most certainly he would have given priority to such issues as proper education for all and public health and particularly, he would have been proactive for eradication of illiteracy as well as communalism...He also wanted to eradicate oppression, religious, casteist divides and subjugation of women...He used to inspire the students and youths to come forward and perform a determining role in bringing about social change. He established a separate female regiment in INA as a mark of his respect for women.” Such were the words of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's daughter and former professor of economics Dr Anita Bose Pfaff, while taking part in an online webinar on 31 December, from Munich, Germany. While giving a brief account of Netaji's eventful revolutionary life, his ouster from Congress presidency by Gandhite right-wing leaders, betrayal of so-called leftists to his righteous cause and Netaji's martyrdom to his staunch opposition to communalism and religious fanaticism, she was overwhelmed to find at what high esteem her father is held even today. The webinar was organised as a ‘curtain raiser’ on the occasion of observance of Netaji's birth anniversary on 23 January 2023 by ‘Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose 126th Birth Anniversary Committee,’ a public body of eminent intellectuals, scientists, jurists, doctors, educationists, litterateurs, film personalities, journalists and other democratic minded admirers of Netaji.

Asit Mohanty, JAJPUR

### End the confrontation

Sir, The friction between the Centre and the Supreme Court never seems to die down. The top court posting on its website detailed deliberations of the collegium meetings as well as its communication with the government is a new low in the bilateral confrontation. Its move appears to be ‘tit-for-tat’ for the verbal garbage thrown at it by the Union Law Minister and others. The cold war between the Union government and the Supreme Court has existed ever since the two institutions came into being. The government should know that no system to select constitutional judges can be foolproof. There were extended delays in picking judges before the National Judicial Appointments Commission was put in place. So, it is high time both sides patch up for the sake of timely and impartial justice delivery. Washing dirty linen in public should be a big no.

Ganapathi Bhat, AKOLA

## 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](mailto:edit@orissapost.com)

**OrissaPOST**  
B-15, Russagarh Industrial Estate, Bhubaneswar-751010



Founders of the Constitution gave us a map and moral framework, the task of walking that path remains our responsibility  
DROUPADI MURMU | PRESIDENT

### SRI SRI RAVI SHANKAR'S CHOPPER MAKES EMERGENCY LANDING

A helicopter carrying founder of 'Art of Living' foundation, Sri Sri Ravi Shankar and three others made an emergency landing near Wednesday due to inclement weather, police said. The private chopper landed at the playground of Okkiyam government school, near Kadambur in the district this morning, due to foggy conditions. As Ravishankar alighted the helicopter, a group of villagers approached him and sought his blessings



### SHORT TAKES

#### A K Antony's son quits all Congress posts

**Thiruvananthapuram/New Delhi:** Veteran Congress leader and former Defence Minister A K Antony's son, Anil, Wednesday resigned from all his posts in the party following "intolerant calls" and "abuses" over his tweet against the controversial BBC documentary -- 'India: The Modi Question' -- on the 2002 Gujarat riots. While announcing his resignation from the posts in KPCC Digital Media and AICC Social Media and Digital Communications Cell, Anil Antony said he has not given up the primary membership of the party as he would like to remain as a Congressman for now.

#### Left parties, VCK to skip TN Gov's R-Day 'At Home'

**Chennai:** Four of DMK's allies, including the two Left parties, on Wednesday announced boycotting the Republic Day 'At Home' reception hosted by Tamil Nadu Governor R N Ravi, days after all the ruling coalition members skipped the Pongal celebrations organised by him amidst the tussle between the state government and the Raj Bhavan over a number of issues. The state unit of the CPI(M), CPI, Thol Thirumavalavan-led Viduthala Chiruthaigal Katchi (VCK) and Tamizhaga Vazhuvirimai Katchi (TVK) announced boycotting the event, scheduled Thursday.

## LAKHIMPUR CASE

# SC grants interim bail to Ashish Mishra

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

**New Delhi, Jan 25:** The Supreme Court Wednesday granted eight-week interim bail to Union minister Ajay Kumar Mishra's son Ashish in the 2021 Lakhimpur Kheri violence which claimed eight lives.

A bench of Justices Surya Kant and J K Maheshwari directed that Ashish shall not stay in Uttar Pradesh or Delhi during the interim bail period.

"The petitioner is directed to be released on interim bail, initially for a period of eight weeks subject to furnishing bail bond to the satisfaction of the trial court," the bench said. "With a view to ward of any direct or indirect influence on the material witnesses, who are yet to depose, the petitioner is directed to leave the state of Uttar Pradesh within one week from the date of his release on interim bail," it said. The apex court said Ashish shall surrender his passport to the trial court and not enter Uttar Pradesh except to attend the trial proceedings.



"Any attempt by the petitioner or his family or supporters to influence or threaten the witnesses, directly or indirectly, shall entail cancellation of the interim bail," the top court said.

It said Ashish shall disclose the place of his residence to the trial court as well as the jurisdictional police station where he would stay during the period of interim bail within one week of his release. The bench said he shall mark his presence in the jurisdictional po-

lice station once in a week.

The bench also ordered that four persons, accused in a separate case lodged over the killing of three occupants of the SUV which allegedly mowed down farmers, be released on interim bail till further orders subject to furnishing bail bonds to the satisfaction of the trial court.

It observed that there are two separate FIRs with different narratives regarding the incident and the question as to who are the ag-

gressor or responsible for the "unfortunately ghastly incident" would be ascertained only after a full-fledged trial.

It directed the trial court to prioritise the deposition of the protected witnesses, followed by other crucial witnesses. The bench directed that the accused and their lawyers would extend full cooperation to the trial court during the trial proceedings.

It also directed the trial court to send progress report to the apex court along with details of witnesses examined on each date. The bench has posted the matter for further directions March 14. On October 3, 2021, eight people were killed in Lakhimpur Kheri district's Tikunia where violence erupted when farmers were protesting against the then deputy chief minister Keshav Prasad Maurya's visit to the area. According to the Uttar Pradesh Police FIR in the case, four farmers were mowed down by an SUV in which Ashish was seated.



Indian Army soldiers during a drill at firing range at Line of Control (LoC) ahead of Republic Day, at Pallanwala sector in Akhnoor, Jammu and Kashmir PTI PHOTO

## INDIA IS THE 7TH MOST BREACHED COUNTRY OF 2022: STUDY

**A**nnual study by cybersecurity company Surfshark shows that a total of 310.9M accounts were breached in 2022, with 1 in 3 breached accounts being of Russian origin. China takes second place with a 45% year-on-year growth, while the US appears third with a nearly 9-fold decrease since 2021.

Global data from Surfshark's data breach statistics tool records

more than 310M breached internet users in 2022, as opposed to 959M seen in 2021. Yearly report ranks Russia 1st in the world by leaked accounts (104.8M), followed by China (34M), The US (23.5M), France (20.1M), Indonesia (14.7M), Brazil (8.7M), India (4.7M), Germany (3.6M), Australia (3.4M) and Turkey (3.2M). The top 5 most-breached countries account for nearly two thirds of all

leaked accounts in 2022. "Every second of 2022, 10 internet users

### CYBERSECURITY

have lost their data," - says Agneska Sablovskaja, Lead Researcher at Surfshark. "While these numbers remain unsettling, we're happy to report an immense global decrease of 68% compared to last year. Some

countries, including US, India and Brazil, managed to improve their situation significantly, while Indonesia, China and Russia experienced the biggest surges in data breaches year-over-year." India sees 94% less breached users in 2022, but still ranks among the top 10.

India had 4.7M breached email accounts, 94% more year-over-year.

As a result, the country moved from 3rd to a better 7th place in the 2022 ranking.

Swachh city data breach in January affected the largest number of Indian email accounts (91.8K), amounting to 2% of all breaches of the year. Flipkart and ClickASnap were among the biggest too, responsible for 69.7K and 44.7K users breached respectively.

Globally, 2022 had 68% less breached users than 2021. While the majority of countries around the world showed improvement, the sharpest victim spikes were spotted in Indonesia (269%), Sri Lanka (204%), Russia (191%), Uzbekistan (73%) and China (45%).

The most breached region was Europe, with Asia following closely behind.

AGENCIES

## ନୂଆ ସୋପାନରେ ଓଡ଼ିଶା

ଓଡ଼ିଶା ସରକାର

- ଓଡ଼ିଶାର ୭୦ ଲକ୍ଷରୁ ଉର୍ଦ୍ଧ୍ୱ ସ୍ୱାଚ୍ଛତା ମହିଳାମାନଙ୍କ ମିଶନ 'ମିଶନ ଶକ୍ତି'କୁ ସଶକ୍ତ କରିବା ପାଇଁ ଆଗାମୀ ୫ବର୍ଷ ମଧ୍ୟରେ ୫୦ ହଜାର କୋଟି ଟଙ୍କାର ରଣ ଓ ୧୨୦୦ କୋଟି ଟଙ୍କାର ସୁଧ ରିହାତି ।
- ବିଜୁ ସ୍ୱାସ୍ଥ୍ୟ କଲ୍ୟାଣ ଯୋଜନାରେ ରାଜ୍ୟ ଭିତରେ ଏବଂ ରାଜ୍ୟ ବାହାରେ ଚିହ୍ନିତ ୫୦୦ ପ୍ରମୁଖ ସେବକାରୀ ଚିକିତ୍ସାଳୟରେ ପ୍ରତି ମାସରେ ହାରାହାରି ୧୬୫ କୋଟି ଟଙ୍କା ବ୍ୟୟରେ ୭୩ ହଜାର ରୋଗୀ ଉପକୃତ ।
- କ୍ରୀଡ଼ା ଭିତ୍ତିଭୂମିରେ ବ୍ୟାପକ ପରିବର୍ତ୍ତନ ତଥା କ୍ରୀଡ଼ା ଓ କ୍ରୀଡ଼ାବିତ୍ତକୁ ପ୍ରୋତ୍ସାହିତ କରିବାରେ ମୁଖ୍ୟମନ୍ତ୍ରୀ ଶ୍ରୀଯୁକ୍ତ ନବୀନ ପଟ୍ଟନାୟକଙ୍କ ଆତ୍ମିକ ଉଦ୍ୟମ ଯୋଗୁଁ ବିଭିନ୍ନ କ୍ରୀଡ଼ା ପାଇଁ ଓଡ଼ିଶାରେ ପ୍ରତିଷ୍ଠା ହୋଇଛି ଅତ୍ୟାଧୁନିକ କ୍ରୀଡ଼ା ଓ ଉତ୍କର୍ଷ କେନ୍ଦ୍ର ।
- 5-T ବିଦ୍ୟାଳୟ ରୂପାନ୍ତରଣ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମରେ ରାଜ୍ୟର ପ୍ରାୟ ୪ ହଜାର ହାଇସ୍କୁଲ ରୂପାନ୍ତରିତ । ରୂପାନ୍ତରିତ ବିଦ୍ୟାଳୟ ପରିବେଶରେ ନାମଲେଖା ୯୨.୧%କୁ ବୃଦ୍ଧି ।
- ରାଜ୍ୟର ୩୧୩ ବ୍ଲକ୍ରେ ଓଡ଼ିଶା ଆଦର୍ଶ ବିଦ୍ୟାଳୟ ଏବଂ ଭୁବନେଶ୍ୱରରେ ଉତ୍କର୍ଷ ଆଦର୍ଶ ବିଦ୍ୟାଳୟ ସ୍ଥାପନ, ୧ ଲକ୍ଷରୁ ଅଧିକ ଛାତ୍ରଛାତ୍ରୀଙ୍କୁ ଗୁଣାତ୍ମକ ଇ-ରାଜ୍ୟ ମାଧ୍ୟମ ଶିକ୍ଷା ସୁଯୋଗ ।
- ଗତ ଦୁଇ ବର୍ଷ ମଧ୍ୟରେ ୧୩ ହଜାରରୁ ଅଧିକ ଶିକ୍ଷକ ପଦବୀ ପୂରଣ ହୋଇଥିବା ବେଳେ ଆଉ ୭୫୪୦ ଶିକ୍ଷକ ପଦବୀ ପୂରଣ ପାଇଁ ପ୍ରକ୍ରିୟା ଆରମ୍ଭ ।
- ମେକ ଇନ୍ ଓଡ଼ିଶା ସମ୍ମିଳନୀ-୨୦୨୨, ନୂଆ ଓଡ଼ିଶା ପାଇଁ ୧୦.୫ ଲକ୍ଷ କୋଟିରୁ ଅଧିକ ପୁଞ୍ଜି ନିବେଶ ପ୍ରସ୍ତାବ, ୧୦.୩୮ ଲକ୍ଷରୁ ଅଧିକ ନିଯୁକ୍ତି ସୁଯୋଗ ।
- ରାଜ୍ୟର ୧୯ଟି ସହରରେ ୨୪ ଘଣ୍ଟିଆ 'ଡ୍ରିଙ୍କ୍ ଫ୍ରମ୍ ଟ୍ୟାପ୍' ପାନୀୟ ଜଳଯୋଗାଣ ସୁବିଧାର ଶୁଭାରମ୍ଭ ।
- ୨୦୨୪ ପୁଞ୍ଜା ସମସ୍ତ ଗ୍ରାମୀଣ ପରିବାରକୁ ପାଇବ୍ ଯୋଗେ ବିଶୁଦ୍ଧ ପାନୀୟ ଜଳ ଯୋଗାଣ ଲକ୍ଷ୍ୟ ।
- ଓଡ଼ିଶାକୁ ଏକ ଅଗ୍ରଣୀ ଏମ୍ଆଇସିଭି ପର୍ଯ୍ୟଟନ, ଇକୋ-ଟୁରିଜିମ୍ ଏବଂ କ୍ରୀଡ଼ା ପର୍ଯ୍ୟଟନ ସ୍ଥଳ ଭାବେ ସ୍ଥାନୀତ କରିବା ପାଇଁ ପ୍ରଣୀତ ହେଲା ନୂଆ ଓଡ଼ିଶା ପର୍ଯ୍ୟଟନ ନୀତି-୨୦୨୨ ।
- ମିଲେଟ୍ସ ଲୋକପ୍ରିୟତା ପାଇଁ ମିଲେଟ୍ ମିଶନ । ରାଜ୍ୟର ଜନଜାତି ବହୁଳ ୧୫ଟି ଜିଲ୍ଲାର ୮୫ଟି ବ୍ଲକ୍ରେ ମାଣ୍ଡିଆ ଜାତୀୟ ଶସ୍ୟ ଉତ୍ପାଦନ ଏବଂ ରାଜ୍ୟ ଭିତରେ ଓ ବାହାରେ ଏହାର ବ୍ୟବହାରକୁ ଅଗ୍ରାଧିକାର ।
- ମିଲେଟ୍ ପାଇଁ ସର୍ବନିମ୍ନ ସହାୟକ ମୂଲ୍ୟ ନିର୍ଦ୍ଧାରଣ କରିବାରେ ଦେଶର ପ୍ରଥମ ରାଜ୍ୟ ଓଡ଼ିଶା ।
- ଏମ୍.ଏସ୍.ଏମ୍.ଇ ବିକାଶ ନୀତି ୨୦୨୨ ପ୍ରଣୟନ ଫଳରେ ରାଜ୍ୟରେ ୨୪ ହଜାର ୩୪୧ କୋଟିରୁ ଅଧିକ ପୁଞ୍ଜି ବିନିଯୋଗ ସହିତ ୫ ଲକ୍ଷରୁ ଅଧିକ ଏମ୍.ଏସ୍.ଏମ୍.ଇ ସ୍ଥାପିତ । ସ୍ମାର୍ଟ ଅପ୍ ସେକ୍ଟରରେ ଅଗ୍ରଣୀ ରାଜ୍ୟ ଓଡ଼ିଶା ।
- ପୂର୍ବ ଭାରତର ନୂତନ ଆଇ.ଟି. ହବ୍ ଓଡ଼ିଶା : ଦକ୍ଷତା ବିକାଶ ଓ ନିଯୁକ୍ତି ସେକ୍ଟରକୁ ମିଳିବ ନୂଆ ଦିଶା ।
- ରାଜ୍ୟରେ ଉତ୍ତେଜ ହେଲା ଠିକା ନିଯୁକ୍ତି ବ୍ୟବସ୍ଥା ।
- ରାଜ୍ୟ ଖାଦ୍ୟ ସୁରକ୍ଷା ଯୋଜନାରେ ୧୮୫ କୋଟି ଟଙ୍କା ବ୍ୟୟରେ ୨୦୨୩ ଜାନୁଆରୀରୁ ଡିସେମ୍ବର ପର୍ଯ୍ୟନ୍ତ ହିତାଧିକାରୀଙ୍କୁ ମୁଣ୍ଡ ପିଛା ୫ କେଜି ଚାଉଳ ଯୋଗାଣ ।
- ଶ୍ରୀମନ୍ଦିର ପରିକ୍ରମା ପ୍ରକଳ୍ପ, ଏକାମ୍ର ସେକ୍ଟ୍ର ଓ ତାରାତାରିଣୀ ପୀଠର ବିକାଶ ସହିତ ରାଜ୍ୟର ଅନ୍ୟାନ୍ୟ ଐତିହ୍ୟ ସ୍ଥଳୀର ପୁନରୁଦ୍ଧାରକୁ ଅଗ୍ରାଧିକାର ।
- ରାଜ୍ୟ ସରକାରଙ୍କ 'ବିନା ଜୀବନ ହାରିବେ ବିପର୍ଯ୍ୟୟ ପରିଚାଳନା' ନୀତି ଯୋଗୁଁ ବିପର୍ଯ୍ୟୟ ପରିଚାଳନା ସେକ୍ଟରରେ ଓଡ଼ିଶା ମଡେଲ ବିଶ୍ୱ ପାଇଁ ଉଦାହରଣ ।
- ଉପକୂଳ ଅଞ୍ଚଳ ପାଇଁ ସ୍ୱତନ୍ତ୍ର ବିପର୍ଯ୍ୟୟ ସହନଶୀଳ ଯୋଜନା ।
- ଦେଶର ସର୍ବନିମ୍ନ ୦.୯% ବେକାରି ହାର ଓଡ଼ିଶାରେ ।

OIPR-150011302442223

# NE polls: Security along Myanmar, B'desh borders to be tightened



Tripura and Meghalaya share 856 km and 443 km international borders with Myanmar, while Nagaland has 215 km unfenced borders with Myanmar.

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

**Agartala/Shillong, Jan 25:** Security along the international borders with Bangladesh and Myanmar will be further tightened in view of the upcoming Assembly elections in the three northeastern states of Tripura, Meghalaya and Nagaland, officials said Wednesday. Tripura and Meghalaya share 856 km and 443 km international bor-

ders with Bangladesh, respectively, while Nagaland has 215 km unfenced borders with Myanmar. A senior election official said that the Border Security Force (BSF) that guards the India-Bangladesh borders, and the Assam Rifles, who are posted along the Myanmar borders, would not only intensify their vigil but also keep a in touch with their counterparts from across the frontiers to prevent any kind of illegal entry into India. "Indian border guards convene meetings immediately with their counterparts to sensitize them to take a more vigilant approach considering the ensuing assembly elections in three northeastern states," the official told IANS. Three special observers of the Election Commission are now on a five-day tour in Tripura to review

the February 16 poll preparedness and security arrangements. From Tripura, the observers will Friday proceed to Meghalaya, where the Assembly elections will be held February 27. The three special observers are Yogendra Tripathy, retired IAS officer of Karnataka cadre; Vivek Johri, former Director General of Police of Madhya Pradesh; and B. Murali Kumar, IRS officer, who was special observer in the Assembly elections of Gujarat (2022) and West Bengal (2021). During the meetings with Tripura officials Tuesday and Wednesday the observers asked the senior security officials to set up at least three naka points (check gates) in each Assembly constituency and there should be three teams per naka for 24x7 monitoring. "It should be ensured that every naka point has an arrangement of CCTV and there should be at least three or more Flying Squad Teams per assembly constituency. It should be ensured that vehicles being used by the FST shall have GPS facilities and the movement shall be monitored on a regular basis," the official said, quoting the EC observers' directions. The observers directed that drones should be used for detection of marijuana plantations and other enforcement measures wherever possible, the official said.



**WINTER WALK:** A man walks with sheep during light snowfall on the outskirts of Srinagar, Wednesday. Light to moderate snowfall was recorded at most places of Kashmir while the higher reaches witnessed heavy snowfall. PTI PHOTO

## CENSUS 2021

# J&K freezes boundaries of all administrative units

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**Jammu, Jan 25:** The Jammu and Kashmir administration has ordered the freezing of boundaries of all administrative units, including districts and tehsils, in the Union Territory till the completion of the Census 2021, officials said. The step is aimed to pave the way for the process of conducting of the Census in J&K, they said. "In exercise of the power conferred by clause (iv) of rule 8 of the Census Rules, 1990 and in supersession of all notification issued in this behalf, J and K government

hereby freezes the boundaries of districts and tehsils, municipalities, towns, revenue villages and other administrative units in the whole Union territory with effect from first of July, 2023 till completion of Census 2021," a notification issued by the Planning Development and Monitoring Department said. Before every Census, states are required to provide information on changes in the number of notified districts, villages, towns and other administrative units such as tehsils, talukas and police stations to the Registrar General of India, the officials said.

# Once a 'madrasa for azaadi', Kashmir varsity will now host G-20 events



INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

**New Delhi, Jan 25:** The University of Kashmir at Hazratbal in Srinagar has been listed among 15 premier institutions of the country that will be representing the nation and hosting Youth-20 (Y-20) events during India's Presidency of the Group-20 in the current year. The University of Kashmir is joining the 'Initiating Workshop for Y-20 Events' being held at the Indian Institute of Management Raipur January 28, 2023. Ahead of

India's taking over the chair last year, Pakistan had launched a diplomatic campaign in a failed attempt to block any G-20 event in Jammu and Kashmir which Islamabad treats as 'disputed territory' and New Delhi as an integral part of India. According to senior officials associated with the G-20 event management, at least two events, one each in Srinagar and Jammu, have been cleared for Jammu and Kashmir, even as the UT's institutions are scheduled to participate in sev-

eral events across the country. The KU's Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Nilofar Khan said it is an honour for the University of Kashmir to become a part of the Y-20 events being held under the aegis of the Union Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports. She said academic institutions have been rightly chosen to realise the attainment of 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) adopted by the G-20 countries. According to the VC, the University has already geared up to host the proposed seminar in Srinagar. A high-level committee has been constituted in the University for making necessary preparations and arrangements related to the Y-20 event. "We will be regularly holding discussions in this regard with all relevant stakeholders so that we are able to fulfil our mandate with all determination and success," she said, urging the varsity's faculty to contribute in advancing the G-20 agenda among the students and research scholars so that the same is disseminated through community engagement at grassroots. The Y-20 events are being held in line with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision that calls upon the country to present its experiences, learning and models as the possible templates for others, particularly the developing world, during India's G-20 Presidency.

# INSURGENT GROUPS IN NE CALL TO BOYCOTT R-DAY

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

**Guwahati, Jan 25:** Insurgent groups in the northeast have called to boycott Republic Day in the region. In Assam, the banned United Liberation Front of Asom-Independent (ULFA-I) militant group has called for an 18-hour bandh and asked people to remain indoors and mark the day as protest instead of celebrating it. In a statement, the disbanded organisation said: "Essential services such as relief works, medical care, electricity, water supply, fire services, and the press shall remain outside the purview of the general strike." Another insurgent group, National Socialist Council of

Nagaland-Khaplang (NSCN-IM), has also issued a similar statement to boycott Republic Day celebrations in the northeast. Meanwhile, the conglomeration of six militant outfits KCP, KYKL, PREPAK, PREPAK (Pro), RPF and UNLF has also called to boycott the day in Manipur. These six insurgent groups have been demanding the sovereignty of Manipur. "The people of Manipur have no reason to be happy for being a state of India and should not join the Republic Day celebrations. The past history mentions that Manipur was a nation that regained its independence from the colonial British in 1947, one day ahead of India. It was never a part of India," the outfits said in a joint statement.



# SC setback for Assam on law on rural healthcare

The apex court struck down the Assam Rural Health Regulatory Authority Act, 2004, which provided for the establishment of a regulatory authority to register diploma holders in Medicine and Rural Healthcare



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**New Delhi, Jan 25:** A state assembly has no legislative competence to enact a law in respect of modern or allopathic medicine contrary to the standards determined by a central enactment, the Supreme Court said Tuesday while upholding the Guwahati High Court order annulling an Assam law on managing rural healthcare. The apex court struck down the Assam Rural Health Regulatory Authority Act, 2004, which provided for the establishment of a regulatory authority to register Diploma holders in Medicine and Rural Health Care (DMRHC) and to regulate their practice in rural areas. The law also intended to regulate the opening of medical institutions to impart education and training for those with Diploma in Medicine and Rural Health Care. The apex court said any variation between the standards of qualification required for medical practitioners who render services in rural areas and those offering services in urban or metropolitan areas must prescribe to constitutional values of substantive equality and non-discrimination. A bench of Justices BR Gavai and BV Nagarathna upheld the decision of the Gauhati High Court which had held the state law as null and void. The Guwahati High Court had

said "...The Assam Rural Health Regulatory Authority Act, 2004, is declared to be null and void, in view of the Assam Legislature not having the legislative competence to enact the said Law." It had said the framers of the Constitution, in Article 47, have directed the Union and State Governments to regard the improvement of public health as their primary duty. "These efforts must be made to progressively realize the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, as acknowledged in international conventions and agreements," it said. The Supreme Court bench said while the State has every right to devise policies for public health and medical education, with due regard to peculiar social and financial considerations, these policies ought not to cause unfair disadvantage to any class of citizens. "The citizens residing in rural areas have an equal right to access healthcare services by duly qualified staff. Policies for enhancing access to rural healthcare must not shortchange the citizens residing in rural areas or subject them to direct or indirect forms of unfair discrimination on the basis of their place of birth or residence," it said.

# Meet the volunteers ensuring a smooth BJY

WITH MANY OF THEM WITNESSING SNOWFALL AND SUB-ZERO TEMPERATURES FOR THE FIRST TIME, THE VOLUNTEERS ARE IN HIGH SPIRITS AND ECSTATIC TO BE APPROACHING KASHMIR

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**Jammu, Jan 25:** Armed with walkie-talkies, dozens of Congress volunteers walk in small groups either close to their leader Rahul Gandhi or ahead of him during the Bharat Jodo Yatra, managing the crowd and clearing the road ahead. With many of them witnessing snowfall and sub-zero temperatures for the first time, the volunteers are in high spirits and ecstatic to be approaching Kashmir, the final destination of the foot march that started from Kanyakumari in Tamil Nadu in September last year. When not walking beside Gandhi, these sprightly volunteers are busy overseeing arrangements at camping sites and putting up billboards, among other things. "We have been moving continuously since the yatra started September 7. Many of the volunteers preferred to remain part of this historic march and are moving with the yatra to its final destination in Kashmir," Devender Yadav, the youngest MLA from Chhattisgarh who is heading a group of 125 volunteers, told PTI. The 33-year-old former mayor of



Bhilai said all volunteers are happy that the yatra is achieving its goal of spreading brotherhood. "Our country is full of diversity and any conflict between the communities is very harmful for our unity. The only aim of the Bharat Jodo Yatra is to unite people against hatred and spread the message of love and brotherhood," Yadav said. On meeting the people of Jammu, he said, "They are very good and the way they received the yatra is a reflection of its success." With lakhs joining the Bharat

Jodo Yatra, managing crowds has proved to be a 'big challenge' for the volunteers, Yadav said. "Managing such a huge crowd was quite impossible. We have braved hot and humid weather, cold and rain over the past four months and now let us experience snowfall and sub-zero temperature as well. We are ready for any situation," he said. The Bharat Jodo Yatra will enter Kashmir January 27. Rahul Rao, national chairman of Indian Youth Congress' media department,

thanked his stars to have got the chance to join this 'significant and memorable' yatra. Hailing from Haryana, Rao has been part of the yatra from the day one and is responsible for managing the camps where the yatri stay for the night. "It has been a life-changing experience for me and heading closer to Kashmir, I am feeling that my long wish to visit Kashmir will be fulfilled shortly," he said. Rahan Ramdayal from Jodhpur in Rajasthan said the inclement weather does not deter the volunteers and they are "very excited" to enter Kashmir. "Gandhi is not feeling cold and can be seen moving around in a T-shirt in this winter. He is getting energy from the people who are joining him and we are drawing energy from our leader," he said. Before the yatra started, Ramdayal said, he was planning to visit Kashmir to witness snowfall and now finally his dream will be fulfilled. One of the volunteers, Pandit Dinesh Sharma from Haryana, is walking barefoot. "My family has been a Congress supporter for generations and I feel lucky to have been part of the

Bharat Jodo Yatra from Kanyakumari. I have been walking without any shoes or slippers for the last 12 years. I have pledged not to wear shoes till Rahul Gandhi becomes the prime minister of the country," said Sharma, carrying the national flag. He said Gandhi and all those accompanying him are 'tapasvis' and "we have no fear of anything, be it heat, cold, snow or rain". Besides the volunteers, hundreds of yatri are accompanying Gandhi. Suraj Matte, a 69-year-old farmer from Uttar Pradesh, is travelling in his tractor, which he said is a symbol of strength and reads 'Daro Mat' (don't be afraid). He said he joined the yatra in Delhi. Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee spokesperson Jahanzaib Sirwal said the party unit feels privileged to welcome the volunteers who have stood with Gandhi to strengthen the 'idea of India'. "It is a once-in-a-lifetime event and being part of it is our pride. It provided an opportunity for all of us to interact with each other and witness senior leaders, who are aged above 80, move alongside Gandhi with great zeal and energy."

# national



**The Congress is trying to defame the state of Uttarakhand by raising the Joshimath issue in Jammu and Kashmir**  
**PUSHKAR SINGH DHAMA |**  
 UTTARAKHAND CM

## 30 CBI OFFICERS GET POLICE MEDALS

Thirty CBI officers, including those who supervised cases related to Child Sexual Abuse Material, the death of Mahant Narendra Giri and against Lalu Prasad, were awarded police medals on the eve of Republic Day Wednesday



### SHORT TAKES

#### HC asks Ansal to reply to police's plea

New Delhi: The Delhi High Court Wednesday sought the response of real estate tycoons Sushil and Gopal Ansal to a plea by the Delhi Police seeking enhancement of punishment for allegedly tampering with evidence in the 1997 Uphaar cinema fire which claimed 59 lives. The police have challenged the trial court's July 19, 2022 order releasing the Ansal brothers.

#### SP spokesperson's wife, mother killed

Lucknow: Two women have died and two more people are still feared trapped a day after a multi-storey building collapsed in Lucknow. The deceased were identified as Samajwadi Party spokesperson Abbas Haider's wife Uzma Haider and mother Begum Haider. Begum Haider, 87, who was pulled out of the debris Wednesday morning after a nightlong rescue operation, was rushed to a hospital, where she died. It seems that she had suffered internal injuries, State Director General of Police D S Chouhan told reporters.

#### 4 devotees from Maha killed in AP accident

Tirupati: Four Tirumala devotees from Maharashtra were killed and four others injured in a road accident in Andhra Pradesh's Tirupati district Wednesday, police said. The accident occurred when the car, in which the devotees were travelling, hit a culvert near Kalroadpalle village in Chandragiri mandal. Four of the occupants in the car died on the spot.

## India, Egypt to boost strategic partnership



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Jan 25: India and Egypt Wednesday decided to elevate their ties to the level of strategic partnership with Prime Minister Narendra Modi and visiting Egyptian President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi vowing to broaden the relations in a time-bound manner in areas of defence and security, trade, counter-terror cooperation and culture.

Following the talks between Modi and Sisi, the two sides inked five agreements providing for co-operation in areas of culture, information technology, cyber security, matters relating to youths and broadcasting.

In the talks, the two leaders also decided to take the volume of bilateral trade to \$ 12 billion in the next five years from around \$ 7 billion at present. Foreign Secretary Vinay Kwatra said while describing the Modi-Sisi talks as "extremely productive" and "very warm".

The 68-year-old influential Arab leader, who arrived here on Tuesday on a three-day visit, will grace the Republic Day celebrations as the chief guest January 26.

"Strategic cooperation between the two countries will help in promoting peace and prosperity in the entire region. So in today's meeting, President Sisi and I de-

cidated to elevate our bilateral partnership to the level of 'strategic partnership'," Modi said in his media statement. "We have decided that under the India-Egypt strategic partnership, we will develop a long-term framework of greater cooperation in political, security, economic and scientific fields," he said.

The Prime Minister said India and Egypt are worried about the spread of terrorism around the world and the two sides are unanimous in the opinion that it is the most serious security threat to humanity. "Both countries also agree that concerted action is necessary to end cross-border terrorism. And for this, together we will continue to try to alert the international community," he said.

The Egyptian President echoed Modi's views on terrorism and said united efforts are required to deal with the menace.

The Prime Minister noted that there is immense potential for enhancing security and defence co-operation between India and Egypt.

Explaining the elevation of the bilateral ties to the level of strategic partnership, the foreign secretary said the focus would be on expanding cooperation in four key pillars - political and security, economic engagement, scientific and economic collaboration and wider cultural and people-to-people ties.

## DGCA provides relief to flyers with new norms

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Jan 25: Airlines will reimburse 75 per cent of the ticket costs to passengers whose domestic flight tickets have been downgraded, with aviation regulator DGCA putting in place new norms.

For downgrade of international tickets, the reimbursement amount will vary from 30 per cent to 75 per cent of the ticket costs, including taxes, depending on the distance covered by the particular flight.

The new norms will be effective from February 15, a senior official at the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) said Wednesday.

The regulator decided to amend the norms against the backdrop of complaints from air travellers



about their tickets booked for a particular class being downgraded by airlines. However, those proposals have been modified now in line with international practices, the official said. The watchdog has amended its Civil Aviation Requirement (CAR) pertaining to facilities to be provided to passengers by airlines due to denied boarding, cancellation of flights and delays in flights. "The amendment

will allow the passenger, who is downgraded involuntarily and is carried in a class lower than that for which the ticket is purchased, to be reimbursed by the airline," DGCA said in a statement Wednesday. For the downgrade of a domestic flight ticket, the passenger concerned will get 75 per cent of the cost of ticket, including taxes, from the airline.

In the case of downgrade of an international ticket, a passenger will receive 30 per cent of the cost of ticket, including taxes, for flights flying 1,500 kilometres or less. Inclusive of taxes, the amount will be 50 per cent if the flight covers a distance between 1,500 and 3,500 kilometres, as per the statement.

### MONEY LAUNDERING CASE

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi/Ahmedabad, Jan 25: The Enforcement Directorate Wednesday arrested Trinamool Congress (TMC) spokesperson Saket Gokhale in a money laundering case linked to alleged irregularities in a crowdfunding initiative in Gujarat, official sources said.

The state police arrested Gokhale from Delhi in December last year in

## ED arrests Saket Gokhale



a case of alleged misuse of money he had collected through crowdfunding. The Gujarat High Court had Monday refused regular bail to Gokhale in this case as it asked him to approach

the court only after a charge sheet is filed. The TMC leader had approached the high court after a sessions court and a magistrate's court in Ahmedabad denied him bail recently following his arrest and expiry of remand.

Gokhale has been in judicial custody since January 5 and lodged at a jail in Ahmedabad. He was arrested by the Ahmedabad Cyber Crime Branch from Delhi December 30, 2022, in this case.

## Bodies of 7 of family found in Pune river: 5 relatives arrested

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Pune, Jan 25: An investigation into the death of seven members of a family, whose bodies were found in a riverbed in Pune, has indicated they were murdered allegedly by their relatives over a previous incident involving the death of the son of one of the accused, a police official said Wednesday.

Mohan Pawar (45), his wife Sangita Mohan (40), their daughter Rani Fulware (24), son-in-law Shyam Fulware (28), and three children aged between three and seven years were found dead in the Bheema riverbed near Pargaon bridge in Duannd tehsil of Maharashtra's Pune district be-



tween January 18 and January 24. Police have arrested five siblings - Ashok Kalyan Pawar, Shyam Kalyan Pawar, Shankar Kalyan Pawar, Prakash Kalyan Pawar and Kantabai Sarjerao Jadhav - who are cousins of the deceased Mohan Pawar, an official said.

**Chola**  
Enter a better life

**DEMAND NOTICE**

**CHOLAMANDALAM INVESTMENT AND FINANCE COMPANY LIMITED**  
 Corporate Office : 1st Floor, 'Dare House', No. 2, N. S. C. Bose Road, Chennai - 600 001  
 Regional Office : 55 & 55/1, Chowringhee Road, 5th Floor, Chowringhee Court  
 Opp. Nehru Children's Museum in Rabindra Sadan, Kolkata - 700 071, W.B.  
 Branch Address : Annapurna Complex, 559, Lewis Road, Cuttack-Puri Road, Bhubaneswar - 751 014

**DEMAND NOTICE ISSUED UNDER SECTION 13(2) OF THE SECURISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002**

You, the under mentioned Borrower / Mortgagee is hereby informed that the Company has initiated proceedings against you under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and that the Notice under 13(2) of the Act sent to you by Registered Post Ack. Due for Borrower/s has been returned undelivered. Hence, you are hereby called upon to take notice and pay the outstanding loan amount mentioned against the said account with interest accrued there from within 60 days from the date of this publication, failing which the Company will proceed against you by exercising its right under Sub-Sec (4) of Section 13 of the Act by enforcing the below mentioned security to realize its dues with interests and cost. It is needless to mention that this notice is addressed to you without prejudice to any other remedy available to the Company.

Sl. No.	a) Loan Account Number b) Name and Address of Borrower / Co-borrower	Loan Amount	Date of Demand Notice & Demand Notice Amount & Date of NPA	Description of the Property / Secured Assets
1.	a) Loan A/c. No. : X0HEBH00002551992 b) 1. Purna Chandra Samantray, Plot No. 1106, Mahavir Nagar, Jharpada, Bhubaneswar, Pin - 751 006. Also at : Plot No. 581/3560, Madhupatna Unit No. 32, Cuttack Sadar, Cuttack, Pin - 753 010. And also at : Rahangorada, Adhena, Puri, Odisha, Pin - 752 121. 2. Bishnu Priya Samantray, Plot No. 1106, Mahavir Nagar, Jharpada, Bhubaneswar, Pin - 751 006. Also at : Plot No. 1127/2036, Lotus Enclave, Jharpada, Bhubaneswar, Odisha, Pin - 751 006. 3. Rangalata Samantray, Plot No. 1106, Mahavir Nagar, Mahavir Nagar, Bhubaneswar, Pin - 751 006. Also at : Plot No. 1127/2036, Jaydurga Nagar, Bhomikhal, Budheswari, Colony (MC), Khorda, Bhubaneswar, Pin - 751 006. 4. M/s. New Kalika South Indian Hotel, Plot No. 661, Bomikhal, Cuttack Road, Ward 31, Bhubaneswar, Pin - 751 006.	Rs. 21,00,000.00 (Rupees Twenty One Lakhs only)  Rs. 29,27,403.00 (Rupees Twenty Nine Lakhs Twenty Seven Thousand Four Hundred Three only) as on 11.01.2023  Date of NPA : 24.03.2021	12.01.2023  23.01.2020/ 17.08.193.66 as on 10.01.2023 + further interest, costs, other charges and expenses thereon	All that piece and parcel of the property and construction thereon situated in Dist- Cuttack, P.S. - Madhupatna No. 7, Tahasil & D.S.R.O. - Cuttack Sadar, Tahasil No. 231, Mouza - Cuttack Sahar, Unit No. 32 Madhupatna, Mutation Khata No. 861/518, Plot No. 581/3560, KISSAM - Gharbari One, Area Ac. 0.020 Dec, Hal Khata No. 818, Hal Plot No. 581. Bounded and bounded by : North - by Road, South - by Govt. Land, East - by Building (Mr. Panda), West - Vacate Land.

Date : 26.01.2023  
Place : Bhubaneswar, Odisha  
For M/s. Cholamandalam Investment And Finance Company Limited  
Authorised Officer

**Indian Bank**  
ALLAHABAD

**E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE**

**ZONAL OFFICE: SAMBALPUR, 2ND FLOOR, SHYAM ARCADE, KHETRAJPUR, SAMBALPUR - 768003, e-mail: zosambalpur@indianbank.co.in**

(See proviso to rule 6(2) & 8(6) Sale Notice for sale of property/ies under SARFAESI Act 2002)

**Sale of Immovable property/ies mortgaged to Bank under Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (No. 54 of 2002)**

Whereas, the Authorized Officer of Indian Bank has taken possession of the following property/ies pursuant to the notice issued under Sec 13(2) of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 in the following loan accounts with right to sell the same on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS", "AS IS WHAT IS BASIS" and "WITHOUT ANY RECOURSE BASIS" for realization of Bank's dues plus interest as detailed hereunder and whereas consequent upon failure to repay the dues, the undersigned in exercise of power conferred under section 13(4) of the said Act proposes to realize the Bank's dues by sale of the said property/ies. The Sale will be done by the undersigned through e-auction platform provided at the Website <https://www.msstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/ibapi/index.jsp>.

CHATUANKA BRANCH/ Name & Address of Borrower / Mortgagee	Description of the Immovable Property	Date of Demand Notice/ Date of Possession/Outstanding dues (As per 13(2) notice)	Reserve Price / EMD / Bid Increment Amount	Date & Time of E-Auction
Borrower: M/s Maa Bread Factory, Prop: Sri Babul Patel, S/o: Sri Makardhwaj Patel, AT: Ward No.: 9 (Opposite of RMC), PO.: Kantabanji, Dist.: Bolangir-767039 / Mortgagee: Sri Babul Patel, S/o: Sri Makardhwaj Patel, AT: Ward No.9 (Opposite of RMC), PO.: Kantabanji, Dist.: Bolangir-767039	All that piece and parcel of Property of the immovable property consisting of Land & Building in the name of Sri Babul Patel, S/o.: Makardhwaj Patal situated at Mouza: Kukudahaj, PS./Tahasil: Kantabanji, Khata No.: 218/238, Plot No.: 145/3173, Area: Ac.0.060 Dec., KISSAM: Gharbari, Bounded by North: Road, South: Laldei Patel, East: Laldei Patel, West: Laldei Patel	14.11.2019  23.01.2020/ 17.08.193.66 as on 10.01.2023 + further interest, costs, other charges and expenses thereon	₹20,00,000/-  ₹2,00,000/-  ₹10,000/-	28.02.2023  between 11.00 AM to 05.00 PM

**DATE AND TIME OF E-AUCTION: 28.02.2023 from 11.00 AM to 05.00 PM with unlimited extension of 10 Minutes duration**  
**LAST DATE AND TIME FOR SUBMISSION OF EMD AND DOCUMENTS ON OR BEFORE 27.02.2023 upto 05.30 PM by online**  
 Date & Time of Inspection of Properties: 24.02.2023 between 11.00 AM to 4.00 PM (with prior appointment from bank) at their own expenses

**TERMS & CONDITIONS:** 1) For detailed terms and conditions of the sale please refer to the link: <https://www.msstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/ibapi/index.jsp> and <https://ibapi.in>. prospective bidders may also contact the Authorised Officers / Branch no. as mentioned in above list.. 2) This is a 30 days' notice to the Borrower / Guarantor / Mortgagee of the above said loan about holding of this sale on the above mentioned date.. 3) All expenses relating to the stamp duty and registration of Sale Certificate/conveyance, if any, shall be borne by the successful bidder. 4) The Authorized Officer will not be held responsible for any charge, lien, encumbrance, property tax or any other dues to the Government or anybody in respect of the property under sale. 5) The Authorized Officer has the absolute right to accept or reject any bid or adjourn/postpone/cancel the sale without assigning any reason thereof. It may be noted that nothing in this notice constitute or deemed to constitute any commitment or representation on the part of the bank to sell the property.

**STATUTORY 30 DAYS SALE NOTICE UNDER RULE 8(6) OF THE SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES, 2002.**  
 Borrower/Mortgagee are hereby notified to pay the total dues along with up to date interest and ancillary expenses before the date of E-Auction, failing which the property will be auctioned/ sold and balance dues, if any, will be recovered with interest & cost.

Place: Sambalpur, Date: 25.01.2023  
Sd/-Authorised Officer, Indian Bank

**Bank of India**  
Zonal Office : Sambalpur, Near Sarlakani Chowk, PO.: Dhanakouda, Dist.: Sambalpur - 768006 (Odisha)

**E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE**

E-Auction Sale Notice Under SARFAESI ACT, 2002

**E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (SARFAESI Act) read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) and 6(2) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.**

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described movable and immovable property mortgaged/charged to the secured creditor, the constructive possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of Bank of India, will be sold on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS" and "AS IS WHAT IS BASIS" and "WHATEVER THERE IS BASIS" on 27.02.2023, for recovery of the below mentioned amount due to the Bank of India, respective branch, from the below mentioned Borrower(s)/Guarantor(s). The Reserve Price, EMD amount and Property details are as mentioned here under:

**Date & Time of E-Auction: 27.02.2023 From 11.00 A.M. to 5.00 P.M. with unlimited extension of 10 (Ten) minutes if bidding continues till sale is concluded**

**Last date for submission of EMD & Documents: 26.02.2023 upto 11.00 A.M.**

**Date & Time of Inspection of Property: 24.02.2023 between 11.00 A.M. to 5.00 P.M., For inspection please contact the Respective Branch Head or Recovery Department, Zonal Office, Sambalpur (Mr. Abinash Tripathy, Mob.: 9437368231 & Mr. Shashi Bhushan Pradhan, Mob.: 9861831060)**

Sl. No.	BRANCH / Name & Address of the Borrower/ Co-Borrower/Mortgagor/ Total Dues	Description of the Property	Reserve Price / EMD / Type of Possession
1.	<b>ROURKELA BRANCH</b> Borrower/Mortgagor: M/s Nigam Enterprises, Prop.: Gyanaranjan Mallick, S/o.: Late Krishna Chandra Mallick, Co-Borrower: Mrs. Pushpalata Sarangi, W/o.: Mr. Gyana Ranjan Mallick, Both are resident of 1 <sup>st</sup> Floor, GST/Revenue Office, Near Rashtriya School, Raigangpur - 770017/ Total dues Rs.22,90,252/- as on 08.08.2022 plus further interest, costs & incidental expenses.	All the part & parcel of the property in the name of <b>Gyana Ranjan Mallick, S/o.:</b> Late Krishna Chandra Mallick, Situated at Mouza: Rajgangpur (Kha), Khata No.: 516/1419, Plot No.: 1133/2978 of Area Ac.0.043 Dec & Plot No.: 1133/2977 of Area Ac.0.017 Dec, KISSAM: Gharbari-1, Tahsil: Rajgangpur, Dist.: Sundergarh, Odisha, Bounded by North: Road, South: Land of Radha Devi, East: Land of Raja Ahmad, West: Hanuman Temple Road	₹47,19,350/- / ₹4,71,935/- / Symbolic
2.	<b>MAIN ROAD BRANCH</b> Borrower/Mortgagor: Mrs. Sana Arju, C/o.: Irfan Ekhlague, Dargahi Mohalla, Simrah Apartment, Rourkela, Dist.: Sundergarh, Odisha - 769001 / Total dues Rs.29,44,374/- as on 04.05.2022 plus further interest, costs & incidental expenses.	All the part & parcel of the property in the name of <b>Mrs Sana Arju</b> , Situated at Mouza: RTU 35, Khata No.: 492/401, Plot No.: 511/2598, Area of undivided share Ac.0.004 Dcm of Total Area of Ac.0.05 Dec, Rourkela, P.S.: Plantisite, Tahsil: Rourkela (Panposh), SRO: Rourkela, Dist.: Sundergarh, Odisha, Bounded by North: Plot No.: 651, South: Road, East: Plot No.511/P, West: Plot No.511/P	₹52,19,000/- / ₹5,21,900/- / Symbolic

**Terms and conditions of E-Auction:** To the best of knowledge and information of the Authorised Officer, there is no encumbrance on the property/ies. However, the intending bidders should make their own independent inquiries regarding the encumbrances, title of property/ies put on auction and claims/ rights/ dues/ affecting the property, prior to submitting their bid. The e-Auction advertisement does not constitute and will not be deemed to constitute any commitment or any representation of the bank. The property is being sold with all the existing and future encumbrances whether known or unknown to the bank. The Authorised Officer/ Secured Creditor shall not be responsible in any way for any third party claims/ rights/ dues. It shall be the responsibility of the interested bidders to inspect and satisfy themselves about the property before submission of the bid. Particulars specified in the schedule above have been stated to the best of information of the Authorised Officer / Bank. Authorised Officer and / or Bank will not be answerable for any error, mis-statement or omission in this public notice. The auction will be online E-Auction Sale/Bidding and shall be done only through "Online Electronic Bidding" process through the website <https://www.msstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/ibapi/index.jsp>. For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in <https://www.bankofindia.co.in/tenders>

**30 DAYS E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO BORROWER(S)/ GUARANTOR(S)/ MORTGAGOR(S)**

This is also a 30 days sale notice to the Borrower(s)/Guarantor(s)/Mortgagor(s) of the aforesaid loan accounts for settlement of their outstanding dues with the bank and to participate in the public auction on the above mentioned date.

**AUCTION SALE OF VEHICLES**

Applications are invited from interested bidders for purchase of following vehicles, seized by the Bank on "As is where is & As is What is basis" as per terms and conditions listed below. This public notice will be treated as a notice to the borrowers/guarantors/mortgagors of the loans. They are hereby advised to be present at the auction venue on the auction date and are free to liquidate their entire dues before the auction date, failing which the vehicle will be auctioned and balance dues, if any will be recovered from them with interest and cost.

Sl. No.	Branch Name	Name of the Borrower	Vehicle Details	Minimum Bid Price / Earnest Money (EMD)	Parking Yard Details
1.	BARGARH	Mr. Lipan Satapathy	MAKE- ASHOK LEYLAND (TRUCK), Model- UE2820/39 T, YEAR OF MANUFACTURING -2022, FUEL TYPE - Diesel, ENGINE NO.: MNH2421173, CHASIS NO.: MB1H3LHD7NRMT8965, Regd. No.OD17 X7657	₹ 27,00,000/- ₹ 2,70,000/-	Shriram Automall India Ltd., Near Coffee Bar Nuapatana, Choudwar, Cuttack, Odisha-754027
2.	SAMBALPUR	Mr. K. Rajendra Reddy	MAKE-VE COMMERCIAL VEHICLE LTD, Model- EICHER 20.15M LPO (BUS), YEAR OF MANUFACTURING -2017, FUEL TYPE - Diesel, ENGINE NO.: E624CDDH137018, CHASIS NO.: MC2R3NRTOHD058041, Regd. No.OD15 K1006	₹ 19,50,000/- ₹ 1,95,000/-	Pushpnath Stockyard, Nh53, Sindurpank, Odisha-768005
3.	CIVIL TOWNSHIP	Mr. Laxmi Priya Jena	MAKE- TATA MOTORS LTD (TRUCK), Model- 3118TC BS3, YEAR OF MANUFACTURING -2016, FUEL TYPE - Diesel, ENGINE NO.: B591803251L63480122, CHASIS NO.: MAT466395F1N27461, Regd. No.OD14 G3656	₹ 10,50,000/- ₹ 1,05,000/-	Bol. Civil Township Branch, D/ 2 Civil Township, Rourkela, Odisha - 769004 Contact No - 7972060618

**Date of Auction: 03.02.2023 starts from 11.00 A.M. Auction Venue: As Per The Parking Yard Details Mentioned Above for the Respective Vehicle. Contact Person: Mr. Debasish Subudhi (Mob. 8249273250)**

**Terms and Conditions:** Interested bidders can inspect the vehicles at the premises of the respective stock yards as mentioned above from 25.01.2023 to 03.02.2023 from 10.00 A.M. to 5.00 P.M. Application & quotes to participate in auction would be supplied by SAMIL(Sriram Automall India Ltd.). Contact person : Mr. Debasish Subudhi (Mob.8249273250). The application along with earnest money, mentioned against above vehicle to be submitted well before Public Auction. The bidders are informed to be present at the venue positively. The successful bidder has to deposit 25% of bid amount within one day after bid is successful and the balance amount within 7 days failing which the money deposited by the successful bidder would be forfeited. The cost of transfer of ownership and statutory dues/all misc. charges, if any is to borne by the successful purchaser. Successful bidders are fully responsible for taking delivery of the vehicle(s) from stock yard after full payment is made within a period of 7 (seven) days. Vehicle will be auctioned on "AS IS WHERE IS & AS IS WHAT IS" basis. However the Bank reserves the right to accept/reject/cancel the auction sale process of the vehicle at its own discretion at any point of time. There will be bidding in the auction and the highest bidder will be declared as successful bidder.

**For further information & clarification contact at Ph. No.: 8249273250**

Place: Sambalpur, Date: 25.01.2023  
Authorised Officer, Bank of India

# international

## of the day quote

I call on the de facto authorities in Afghanistan in particular to reverse the outrageous and self-defeating ban on access to secondary and higher education for girls

**ANTONIO GUTERRES** | SECRETARY-GENERAL, UN

This move will significantly help businesses and families who are waiting for the arrival of workers and loved ones from India. It is unacceptable that the wait time for visas has been so long, and in Congress, I have pushed for these delays to be addressed

**GRACE MENG** | CONGRESSWOMAN, US

Brazil is back in the region and ready to work side-by-side with you with a very strong feeling of solidarity and closeness

**LUIZ INACIO LULA DA SILVA** | PRESIDENT, BRAZIL



**Being homosexual isn't a crime. These bishops have to have a process of conversion. They should apply tenderness, please, as God has for each one of us**

**POPE FRANCIS** | CATHOLIC CHURCH LEADER

## DOOMSDAY CLOCK

This year's Doomsday Clock announced disclosed that it is just 90 seconds to midnight which means that the world is now closer to annihilation than it has ever been since the first nuclear bombs were dropped at the end of World War II



## 'India-Pak were on brink of N-war'

### AFTER BALAKOT STRIKE



AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

**Washington, Jan 25:** Former US secretary of state Mike Pompeo wrote in a book published Tuesday that India and Pakistan came close to nuclear war in 2019 and that US intervention prevented escalation.

"I do not think the world properly knows just how close the India-Pakistan rivalry came to spilling over into a nuclear conflagration in February 2019," the likely future presidential contender wrote in "Never Give an Inch," his memoir of his time as Donald Trump's top diplomat and

earlier CIA chief.

India in February 2019 broke precedent by launching airstrikes inside Pakistani territory after blaming a terrorist group there for a suicide bombing that killed 41 CRPF jawans in Kashmir. India shot down an F-16 during an aerial combat in which an Indian warplane was shot down by Pakistan and the pilot was captured by them.

Pompeo, who was in Hanoi for a summit between Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, said he was woken up with an urgent call from a senior Indian official. "He believed the Pakistanis

had begun to prepare their nuclear weapons for a strike. India, he informed me, was contemplating its own escalation," Pompeo wrote.

"I asked him to do nothing and give us a minute to sort things out," Pompeo said.

Pompeo said that US diplomats convinced both India and Pakistan that neither was preparing to go nuclear. "No other nation could have done what we did that night to avoid a horrible outcome," Pompeo wrote.

Pompeo, who wrote that Pakistan "probably enabled" the Kashmir attack, said he spoke to "the actual leader of Pakistan," then army chief General Qamar Javed Bajwa, in an allusion to the weakness of civilian governments.

Pompeo at the time publicly defended India's right to act. In his book, Pompeo spoke highly of India and, unlike officials in New Delhi, made no secret of his desire to ally with the South Asian democracy "to counteract Chinese aggression."

India, followed by Pakistan, tested nuclear bombs in 1998, a watershed moment. Then-president US Bill Clinton later famously said that Kashmir was "the most dangerous place in the world."

## Emmy nominated filmmaker at helm of BBC docuseries on PM



AGENCIES

**London, Jan 25:** Sadhana Subramanian, a noted documentary filmmaker whose film 'India's Forbidden Love' was nominated for an International Emmy in 2019, is one of the producers of the BBC docuseries on Prime Minister Narendra Modi, 'India: The Modi Question'.

A specialist in high-quality, ambitious and original factual programmes, Sadhana writes and directs content for TV, online platforms, institutional clients and non-profits. She has worked on documentaries for Al Jazeera, Channel 4 and BBC.

The BBC series on PM Modi has triggered a row in India with the government banning it, while several Opposition parties and university students demanding the documentary film's streaming in the country.

## Journo deaths rose 50% in '22, led by Ukraine, Mexico

ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Port Au Prince (Haiti), Jan 25:** Killings of journalists around the world jumped by 50 per cent in 2022 compared to the previous year, driven largely by attacks in Ukraine, Mexico and Haiti.

According to a report Tuesday by the New York-based Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ), at least 67 news media workers were killed worldwide in 2022, the highest number since 2018. Journalists in the three countries say the increased danger has forced them to work under extreme stress.

The effect is particularly notable in Haiti, where seven journalists were killed in 2022, a huge number for a small island country of about 12 million people. Some were killed by violent street gangs that have basically taken over the capital, Port au Prince, but at least two were shot by police.

The CPJ noted that more than half — 35 of the 67 killings — took place in just three countries: Ukraine, Mexico and Haiti. Mexico saw 13 news workers killed, according to the committee. Other media groups have put the number at 15, which would make 2022 the deadliest year



in at least three decades for Mexican journalists. In war-battered Ukraine, 15 news workers were killed last year, CPJ said.

The CPJ said it had confirmed that 41 of the 67 journalists were killed "in direct connection with their work," and that it is investigating the motives for the 26 other slayings. The CPJ said journalists covering the war in Ukraine "face enormous risk."

"Members of the press are frequently injured by shelling while covering the conflict, and some report that they have been targeted by Russian forces," the committee said in its report.

The 2022 killings also included four journalists in the Philippines, and two each in Colombia, Brazil and Honduras. Two journalists each were also killed in Bangladesh, India, Myanmar, Somalia and Chad.

## SHORT TAKES

### Hipkins sworn in

**Wellington:** Hundreds gathered to applaud Jacinda Ardern as she left New Zealand's parliament to resign as prime minister Wednesday, before Chris Hipkins was swiftly sworn in as her replacement. Ardern said last week she no longer had "enough in the tank" after steering the country through natural disasters, its worst-ever terror attack and the Covid-19 pandemic. Hipkins was sworn in by Governor-General Cindy Kiro during a ceremony in the capital Wellington, saying he was "energised and excited by the challenges ahead".

### Snow grips Japan

**Tokyo:** Heavy snow blanketed wide swathes of Japan Wednesday, snarling traffic, forcing hundreds of flight cancellations, disrupting train travel and leaving at least one person dead. An unusually cold weather front and extreme low pressure systems set snow falling and strong winds blowing across Japan from Tuesday after causing havoc in other Asia countries earlier this week. At least 124 people died in freezing temperatures in Afghanistan earlier this week, according to media reports, while the temperature in Mohe, China's northernmost city, dropped to a record -53 degrees Celsius Sunday.

## WAR TURNING POINT

# Germany, US answer Ukraine's tanks appeal



**After 11 months into the war, the front line has been largely frozen in place for two months despite heavy losses on both sides, with both believed to be planning new offensives for the spring**

REUTERS

**Berlin, Jan 25:** Germany announced plans Wednesday to deliver heavy tanks to Ukraine, and the United States was poised to do so too, a breakthrough hailed as a decisive military boost by Kyiv and condemned by Moscow as a reckless provocation.

Kyiv has been calling for months for Western main battle tanks that would give its forces greater firepower, protection and mobility to break through Russian defensive lines and potentially swoop through territory occupied by the invaders.

"A few hundred tanks for our tank crews ... This is what is going to become a real punching fist of democracy," Andriy Yermak, the head of Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy's ad-

### 'Will burn like the rest'

**Moscow:** The Kremlin said Wednesday that if Western countries supply Ukraine with heavy tanks they will be destroyed on the battlefield, as Kyiv awaits a decision from Berlin on deliveries of Leopard 2 tanks. "Technologically, this is a failed plan. This is an overestimation of the potential that this will add to the Ukrainian army," Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters. "These tanks burn like all the rest. They are just very expensive."

ministration, wrote on Telegram.

Germany will send an initial company of 14 Leopard 2 tanks from its own stocks and approve shipments by allies who field them, with the aim of supplying Ukraine with two battalions, typically comprising three-four companies each. Berlin would also provide training, ammunition and maintenance.

"This decision follows our well-known line of supporting Ukraine to the best of our ability. We are acting in a closely coordinated manner in-

ternationally," Cancellor Olaf Scholz said in a statement.

Two sources in the United States said Washington would also provide dozens of its Abrams M1 tanks.

Twenty armies worldwide field Leopards, which Germany has made in their thousands. Poland and Finland have already pledged them once Berlin agrees, and several other countries are expected to follow swiftly. Britain has already offered a company of its comparable Challengers and France is considering sending its Leclercs.

Mark Hertling, a former commander of U.S. ground forces in Europe, estimated Leopards could reach Ukraine's battlefields as soon as March. The turbine-powered US tanks, which need more logistical support, could be more than eight months away.

In the 11 months since it invaded, Russia has killed thousands of civilians, forced millions from their homes and reduced entire cities to rubble and still occupies around a sixth of Ukraine, and has declared this territory part of Russia. Ukraine says it will not stop fighting until it recaptures all its territory.

## ChatGPT passes US law school exam

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

**Paris, Jan 25:** A chatbot powered by reams of data from the internet has passed exams at a US law school after writing essays on topics ranging from constitutional law to taxation and torts.

ChatGPT from OpenAI, a US company that this week got a massive injection of cash from Microsoft, uses artificial intelligence (AI) to generate streams of text from simple prompts.

The results have been so good that educators have warned it could lead to widespread cheating and even signal the end of traditional classroom teaching methods.

Jonathan Choi, a professor at Minnesota University Law School, gave ChatGPT the same test faced by students, consisting of 95 multiple-choice questions and 12 essay questions.

In a white paper titled "ChatGPT goes to law school" published Monday, he and his coauthors reported that the bot scored a C+ overall.

While this was enough for a pass, the bot was near the bottom of the class in most subjects and

"bombed" at multiple-choice questions involving mathematics.

"Not a great student"

"In writing essays, ChatGPT displayed a strong grasp of basic legal rules and had consistently solid organization and composition," the authors wrote.

But the bot "often struggled to spot issues when given an open-ended prompt, a core skill on law school exams".

Officials in New York and other jurisdictions have banned the use of ChatGPT in schools, but Choi suggested it could be a valuable teaching aide.

"Overall, ChatGPT wasn't a great law student acting alone," he wrote on Twitter. "But we expect that collaborating with humans, language models like ChatGPT would be very useful to law students taking exams and to practicing lawyers."

And playing down the possibility of cheating, he wrote in reply to another Twitter user that two out of three markers had spotted the bot-written paper.

"(They) had a hunch and their hunch was right, because ChatGPT had perfect grammar and was somewhat repetitive," Choi wrote.

**ବୁଦ୍ଧ ଗୋଲ ମହୋତ୍ସବ**  
ତା. ୨୭.୦୧.୨୦୨୩ ରୁ ୨୯.୦୧.୨୦୨୩  
SPECIAL CULTURAL ATTRACTION  
ବୁଦ୍ଧ ସଂସ୍କାରେ ଯୋଗଦେବା ପାଇଁ ନିବେଦନ ।  
ନିବେଦନ - ଶ୍ରୀଯୁକ୍ତ ଶ୍ରୀକାନ୍ତ ସାହୁ  
ସ୍ଥାନ : ବୁଦ୍ଧଗୋଲ ମହୋତ୍ସବ ପଡ଼ିଆ, କଟକଲା, ଭୁବନେଶ୍ୱର, ଓଡ଼ିଶା

**Our Vision**  
To actively contribute to the social and economic development of the communities in which we operate. In doing so, build a better, sustainable way of life for the weaker sections of society and raise the country's human development index.

**Transforming Lives**  
UTKAL ALUMINA INTERNATIONAL LTD  
Doraguda, Kucheipadar  
Rayagada

**IFFCO NANO UREA LIQUID**  
Introducing World's First Nano Urea for Farmers  
Reduces Input Cost | Increases Farmers' Income  
Environment-friendly | Enhances Crop Productivity  
Improves Nutritional Value | Cheaper than Conventional Urea  
INDIAN FARMERS FERTILISER COOPERATIVE LIMITED  
PARADEEP UNIT, ODISHA

# business

## TO CURB WHEAT PRICES

The Centre will sell 30 lakh tonne of wheat in the open market from its buffer stock to check rise in prices of wheat and wheat flour (atta), sources said. Last week, food secretary Sanjeev Chopra had said that prices of wheat and atta have increased in the retail market and the government was exploring all options to control the rates

# Hindenburg alleges fraud by Adani

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA



**New Delhi, Jan 25:** Well-known US activist investor Hindenburg Research has alleged that Adani Group was "engaged in a brazen stock manipulation and accounting fraud", a charge the conglomerate described as malicious, unsubstantiated, one-sided, and having done with malafide intention to ruin its share-sale.

Hindenburg, a US-based investment research firm that specialises in activist short-selling, said its two-year investigation reveals that "the Rs 17.8 trillion (\$218 billion) Indian conglomerate Adani Group has engaged in a brazen stock manipulation and accounting fraud scheme over the course of decades."

The report comes ahead of a Rs 20,000 crore follow-on share sale of Adani Group's flagship Adani Enterprises. Group representatives said a statement in response would be issued later.

The follow-on public offer (FPO) is slated to open January 27 and close January 31.

Adani Group said it was

shocked to see the report that came out without any attempt to contact it to get the factual matrix.

"The report is a malicious combination of selective misinformation and stale, baseless and discredited allegations that have been tested and rejected by India's highest courts," the ports-to-energy conglomerate said in a statement.

It went on to question the timing of the report, saying its publication ahead of the FPO "clearly betrays a brazen, malafide intention to undermine Adani Group's reputation with the principal objective of damaging" the issue.

Hindenburg's report details a web of Adani-family controlled offshore shell entities in tax havens spanning the Caribbean and Mauritius to the UAE, which it

claims were used to facilitate corruption, money laundering and taxpayer theft, while siphoning off money from the group's listed firms.

"Gautam Adani, founder and chairman of Adani Group, has amassed a net worth of roughly \$120 billion, adding over \$100 billion in the past 3 years largely through stock price appreciation in the group's seven key listed companies, which have spiked an average of 819 per cent in that period," the US researcher's report said.

Shares of Adani Group companies tanked after the report. Shares of Adani Transmission fell 8.87 per cent to close at Rs 2,511.75 per scrip on the BSE. Besides, Adani Ports & SEZ plunged 6.30 per cent to settle at Rs 712.90 per share.

# Govt raises ₹8K-cr via 1st tranche SGrBs

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

## MAIDEN AUCTION

**Mumbai, Jan 25:** The first tranche of Sovereign Green Bonds (SGrBs) worth Rs 8,000 crore was subscribed fully Wednesday.

As per the auction details provided by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), SGrB 2028 maturing in 2028 will have a coupon rate of 7.10, while SGrB 2033 maturing in 2033 will carry a rate of 7.29 per cent. Coupon rates of Sovereign Green Bonds are

very much in line with the G-Sec.

As announced in the Union Budget 2022-23, the central government as part of its overall market borrowings will be issuing SGrBs for mobilising resources for green infrastructure. The second auction of another Rs 8,000 crore will be conducted February 9.

SGrBs will be issued through uniform price auction and 5 per cent

of the notified amount of sale will be reserved for retail investors, the RBI said, adding these papers will be reckoned as an eligible investment for SLR purposes.

These bonds will be eligible for trading in the secondary market. The proceeds from the green bonds issuance cannot be used for extraction, production and distribution of fossil fuels or where the core energy source is fossil-fuel based, and nuclear power projects.

## Google blinks ahead of deadline

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**New Delhi, Jan 25:** After failing to get a court order to block an antitrust ruling, Google Wednesday said it will allow users in India to choose default search engine on Android-based smartphones.

Last week, the Supreme Court refused a stay a Competition Commission of India (CCI) order slapping a Rs 1,337.76 crore fine on

Google for exploiting its dominant position of its popular Android operating system, which powers 97 per cent of around 60 crore smartphones in India. CCI imposed another Rs 936 crore penalty on the US tech giant in a case related to its Play Store policies.

"We take our commitment to comply with local laws and regulations in India seriously. The CCI's recent directives for Android and Play require us to make significant changes for India, and today we've informed the CCI of how we will be complying with their directives," Google said.

We are of the people, by the people, for the people since 1895, standing tall with Nation in hard & good times.

**Greetings on Republic Day and Basant Panchami**

Reassuring our commitment towards people of Odisha

A Udaya Bhaskar Reddy  
 Zonal Manager, Bhubaneswar

पंजाब नैश्नल बैंक ...परतेने का प्रतीक!  
 punjab national bank ...the name you can BANK upon!

**JK PAPER**  
 towards transforming the Community .....

**JKPM CSR REDEFINES TRIBAL DEVELOPMENT**

"We believe people are basically good; we believe everyone has something to contribute; we believe that an honest, open environment can bring out the best in people; we recognize and respect everyone as a unique individual; we encourage you to treat others the way you want to be treated."-thereby, a successful society can't built. JK Paper is so abide by the commitment that "We, at JK Organization believe that if we want to have a successful business, then we must have a successful society around us".

**TOUCHING THE YOUNG MINDS**

ELUCUTION COMPETITION  
 J.K.PAPER MILLS, JAYKANTPUR

**OUR INNOVATION ENABLES MINING IN TRANQUILITY**

**IN SERVICE TO THE NATION 24x7**

**WE STOOD FIRM IN TRYING TIMES TO ENSURE ENERGY SECURITY**

**74th Celebrating REPUBLIC DAY**

**MCL**  
**MAHANADI COALFIELDS LIMITED**  
 (A Govt. of India Undertaking & Subsidiary of Coal India Limited)  
 Regd. Office : Jagruti Vihar, Burla, Dist: Sambalpur-768020 (Odisha)  
 www.mahanadicoal.in | @mahanadicoal

# Germans, Dutch advance

# ICC AWARDS FOR SURYA, RENUKA



The vociferous spectators at the Kalinga Stadium thought that England would wrap up the match comfortably after Zachary Wallace (12th) and Liam Ansell (33rd) had given them a 2-0 lead but, to their astonishment, the Germans came back roaring to score goals in the 58th and 59th minutes through Mats and Tom, respectively. Christopher Ruhr had wasted a chance from the penalty stroke in the 57th minute. When Germany were trailing 1-2 and got a penalty stroke with one minute to go in the match, Mats asked his younger brother Tom to take it. Tom made no mistake from the spot to take the match to the penalty shootout.



The Netherlands players celebrate a goal against South Korea in Bhubaneswar



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**Dubai, Jan 25:** Swashbuckling Indian batter Suryakumar Yadav was Wednesday named the ICC Men's T20 Cricketer of the Year for his ridiculously good run in the shortest format of the game.

Surya had a stellar 2022, breaking an array of records and setting a benchmark in the format. He beat the likes of Sam Curran, Pakistan wicketkeeper-batter Mohammad Rizwan and Zimbabwe's batting all-rounder Sikandar Raza for the top honour.

India's newest fast-bowling star Renuka Singh became the recipient of ICC Emerging Women's Cricketer of the Year Award.

However, last year's Cricketer of the Year Smriti Mandhana lost out to Australia's Tahlia McGrath in the women's T20 category.

Popularly known as 'SKY', the 32-year-old became just the second batter to make more than 1000 runs in a calendar year in T20Is and

ended the year as the highest run-getter, scoring 1164 runs at a strike-rate of 187.43.

Surya hit a stunning 68 sixes during the year, easily the most recorded by anyone in a year in the format's history. The Indian was the key batter for his team through the year, smashing two hundreds and nine half centuries.

There has been a buzz surrounding Renuka, who burst into life in a busy 12 months for the Indian women's team. The 26-year-old beat Australia's Darcie Brown, England's Alice Capsey and compatriot Yastika Bhatia to take home the emerging player award.

The right-armed claimed 40 wickets for her country in 2022 in just 29 matches across the two white-ball formats, filling the void left by the great Jhulan Goswami. In the ODI game, Renuka was especially potent, taking 18 wickets at an average of just 14.88. Her performances across the CWG and Asia Cup also grabbed attention.

**Bhubaneswar, Jan 25:** Germany edged out England in penalty shootout under dramatic circumstances after trailing 0-2 two minutes before regulation time to book a berth in the FIH World Cup semi-finals where the Netherlands joined them with a 5-1 win over South Korea here Wednesday.

Germany struck in the 58th and 59th minutes through captain Mats Grambusch and his younger brother Tom to take the quarterfinal match to the penalty shootout where they prevailed over a heartbroken England team 4-3, snatching win from the jaws of defeat.

Germany face three-time champions and last edition bronze medalists Australia, while the Dutch will meet the defending champions Belgium in the semifinals, Friday.



Editor of Orissa POST and Dharitri, Tathagata Satpathy (C) and Sports Secretary of MYAS, Govt of India, Sujata Chaturvedi (R) were present as chief guests alongside Hockey India CEO Elena Norman at Kalinga Stadium, Wednesday

**Niklas Wellen, Hannes Muller, Prinz Thies and Christopher Ruhr** scored for Germany in the shootout. For England, James Albery, Zachary Wallace, Phil Roper struck while David Goodfield missed. The German fightback was reminiscent of their national football team which is famous for its never-say-die attitude.

In the second quarterfinal match, South Korea, who had stunned 2016 Rio Olympics champions Argentina in the crossover match Monday, yet again punched above their weight as they gave a spirited fight to their more fancied opponents, ranked third in the world.

Koen Bijen (27th and 31st) struck twice while Justen Blok (36th), Steijn van Heijningen (50th) and Teun Beins (58th) scored the other goals for the Netherlands. Seo In-woo Seo (51st) scored the consolation goal for South Korea.

**Umpire hit on face**

**BHUBANESWAR:** In a bizarre incident, German umpire Ben Goentgen was hit on the face off a penalty corner strike in the FIH World Cup quarterfinal match between the Netherlands and South Korea here Wednesday. Goentgen was immediately taken off the field for medical attention. The incident happened in the 28th minute when South Korean Jang Jonghyun's stinging drag flick got deflected from a Netherlands player's stick and struck the face of Goentgen, who was standing a few meters away from the goal post. Goentgen fell down in pain while his co-umpire Gareth Greenfield of New Zealand and medical staff of the tournament organisers rushed to help him. The injured umpire held his face with one hand and rushed out of the field along with the medical staff. He was later replaced by the reserve umpire of the match, Raghu Prasad of India.

# BCCI earns ₹4669.99 crore windfall for 5 WPL teams

# Worst-ever finish looms over India

# Lakshya, Saina enter 2nd round

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**Mumbai, Jan 25:** The BCCI Wednesday earned a ₹4669.99 crore windfall for the sale of five teams in the inaugural Women's Premier League (WPL) with Adani Sportsline shelling out a massive ₹1289 crore for the Ahmedabad team, which emerged the most expensive franchise.

IPL team owners Mumbai Indians, Royal Challengers Bangalore and Delhi Capitals made successful bids of ₹912.99 crore, ₹901 crore and ₹810 crore respectively to enter the WPL. Capri Global Holdings got the Lucknow franchise for ₹757 crore.

"Today is a historic day in cricket as the bidding for teams of inaugural #WPL broke the records of the inaugural Men's IPL in 2008! Congratulations to the winners as we garnered ₹4669.99 Cr in total bid," BCCI secretary Jay Shah tweeted.

The eight franchisees in the men's IPL were sold for USD 723.59 million before the maiden edition in 2008. The WPL player auction will take place next month with the first edition to be played in March.

Earlier this month, the BCCI sold the media rights of the WPL to Viacom18 for ₹561 crore, getting a ₹7.09 crore per match value for five years.

Former England cricketer-turned-commentator Isa Guha wrote, "A landmark day for the women's game." England pacer Kate Cross didn't mince words, saying: "Today is the day where you get to put your middle finger up to all those people who have devalued women's sport. BCCI has recognised something special is happening and are going to give female cricketers the platform they deserve. Here comes the WPL," on her Twitter handle. Australia's pacer Megan Schutt said the development is great not only for women's cricket but female sports all over the world.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**Rourkela, Jan 25:** Already facing a huge backlash after failing to make the quarterfinals, India could end up with their worst-ever placing in the FIH Men's World Cup if they lose their 9th-16th classification match against Japan here Thursday.

A loss to the 2018 Asian Games gold medalists could push the hosts to play the 13th-16th classification match on Saturday against a yet-to-be-decided opponent. India's worst-ever placing and finish in the 14 previous editions of the World Cup is 12th and last - at London in 1986.

In the ongoing edition of the World Cup, 16 teams are competing as against 12 in 1986. While India may not finish last even if they lose to Japan on Thursday, but the loss will take the hosts to their worst placing ever, which will be between 13 and 16.

India had crashed out of ongoing World Cup after losing the crossover



match to New Zealand, ranked six places below them, in sudden death at Bhubaneswar on January 22.

The hosts had squandered a two-goal lead on two occasions as the match ended in a 3-3 stalemate in regulation time. The Harmanpreet Singh-led side lost the shootout 4-5.

During the 1986 World Cup in London, the team led by Mohammed Shahid had lost to Poland, Spain and Australia. They

beat Canada and drew with Germany to finish fifth in the six-team preliminary league round.

India then lost to New Zealand in the 9th-12th classification match and were beaten by Pakistan, returning home with the wooden spoon.

India will have to play their best hockey against Japan in the classification match, though the reigning Asian Games champions too have had an ordinary World Cup here.

Japan finished last in the four-team Pool A here after losing all three games - against Belgium, Germany and South Korea - conceding 12 and scoring two.

India fared far better, finishing second in Pool D with two wins - against Spain and Wales - and one draw (against England) before crashing out in the crossover game.

Japan have emerged as a strong continental powerhouse in hockey, beating a full-strength India 5-3 in the Asian Champions Trophy semifinal in December 2021 after losing 0-6 in the preliminary round. While a second-string India defeated Japan twice and lost once in the Asia Cup in May-June last year, the matches have been fiercely contested.

Historically, India have dominated Japan with 26 wins in 32 matches since 1932. Japan have won just three, with three matches ending in draws. But, under-fire India coach Graham Reid and his team will take Japan lightly at their own peril.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**Jakarta, Jan 25:** Indian shuttlers Lakshya Sen and Saina Nehwal made an impressive start at the Indonesia Masters Super 500 tournament, advancing to the second round of men's and women's singles events, respectively, with contrasting wins here Wednesday.

Sen, who had a subdued start to the new season with early exits from Malaysia and India in the last two weeks, dished out a superlative performance to outwit Japan's new sensation, Kodai Naraoka, 21-12, 21-11 in his opening match. Saina, who had reached the second round at India Open, eked out a 21-15, 17-21, 21-15 win over Chinese Taipei's Pai Yu Po to make it to the pre-quarterfinals.

Seventh seed Sen will face Malaysia's Ng Tze Yong next, while Saina takes on the winner of the match between two Chinese, Zhang Yi Man and eighth seed Han Yue.

**Prestige SUPER SAVER OFFER**

**BUY ONE, GET AT LEAST ONE FREE**

**From 16<sup>TH</sup> JAN 2023 Upto 28<sup>TH</sup> FEB 2023**

**JUMBO COMBO OFFER**

**BUY** Induction worth ₹3 645.00, Express Grinder worth ₹3 445.00, Kettle worth ₹1 945.00

**GET FREE ITEMS WORTH ₹9 035.00 (3U)**

**BUY** Easy-Clean Duo / Neo 3B Gas Stove (1U) worth ₹10 945.00

**BUY** PIC 20.0, PKSS 3.0, PKSS 1.0

**Convenient cooker offer**

**BUY** Flip-on Svachh Spillage Control Pressure Cooker 5L (1U) worth ₹5 290.00

**GET FREE\*** SS Popular Svachh Pressure Cooker 3L (1U) worth ₹2 420.00

**No supervision offer**

**BUY** Induction Cook-top PIC 3.1 V3 (1U) worth ₹5 945.00

**GET FREE\*** SS Popular Svachh Pressure Cooker 5L (1U) worth ₹3 170.00

**Kitchen essentials offer**

**BUY** 3Pc Non-stick Granite Cookware\* worth ₹4 220.00

**GET FREE\*** Deluxe Alpha Svachh Pressure Cooker 3.5L (1U) worth ₹3 160.00

**Automatic Whistle Counter**

**BUY** Nakshatra Alpha Svachh Pressure Cooker 5L (1U) worth ₹3 675.00

**GET FREE\*** Omega Granite Dosa Tawa 28CM (1U) ₹1 675.00

**Pour and Store offer**

**BUY** Vacuum Bottle 1.5 Ltr (1U) worth ₹1 895.00

**GET** PKOSS 1.5 L Kettle (1U) worth ₹1 445.00 FREE\*

**Space saving offer**

**BUY** Stack-O-Mix Mixer Grinder 750W (1U) worth ₹4 445.00

**GET** 25% Discount on Mixer Grinder & Hand Blender PHB 11 (1U) worth ₹1 425.00 FREE\*

**Smoke-free kitchen offer**

**BUY** Provo 900 Chimney (1U) worth ₹47 295.00

**GET** 25% Discount on Chimney & Desire Hobtop 3B (1U) worth ₹17 995.00 FREE\*

**Cake festival offer**

**BUY** POTG 36L (1U) worth ₹12 395.00

**GET** 20% Discount on OTG & Hand Mixer PHM 1.0 (1U) worth ₹2 345.00 FREE\*

**Hydration offer**

**BUY** Water Purifier PSWP 2.0 18L (1U) worth ₹2 695.00

**GET FREE\*** SS Bottles 1L PSWBC 17 (4U) worth ₹1 980.00

**Prestige**  
Jo apnon se kare pyaar, woh Prestige se kaise kare inkaar.

\*Conditions Apply. Prices indicated above are the MRP of the product (Inclusive of all taxes). Discounts indicate the percentage of discount on MRP. No two offers can be clubbed together. Offers on select models until stocks last. Offers are valid across select stores only. 3Pc Non-Stick Granite Cookware set consists of Omni Tawa 28 cm, Fry Pan 24 cm and Kadai 24 cm with glass lid. 1U stands for 1 Unit. Offers not applicable in Tamilnadu, Kerala, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Telangana, Maharashtra and Gujarat. For detailed terms and conditions visit your nearest Prestige Xclusive / dealer outlet.

TOLL-FREE PHONE CARE: 1800-123-334411  
BIRMALU CUSTOMER CARE: 0674-2597141

Follow TTK Prestige on

shop.ttkprestige.com

For Franchisee Enquiry:- Call +91 7077721612 • For Trade Enquiries, Call +91 7077721602 / 7008309169 • For Clean Home Products Trade Enquiries, Call +91 8826102361

**BHUBANESWAR, Rabi TakiesChhak:** Opposite to Kedar Gouri Resort, Mob: 7750925223; **Bapuji Nagar:** 105 Bapuji Nagar, Behind Yes Bank (Old Post Office Lane), Lane No. 08, 0674-2597141/9937138998; **Bapuji Nagar:** 237, Pani Tanki Lane, Bapuji Nagar, Ph: 0674 2597685, Mob: 9777744071, **Satyangar:** 10, Janpath, Satyangar, Mob: 8280056821, **ID Market:** Shop No FG 3, I.D. Market, Near Reliance Fresh, IRC Village Mob: 9861404879, **Damana:** 248, Sailashree Vihar Road, Damana Mob: 7327902258, **Baramunda:** A/37, Ruchika Market, Baramunda, Mob: 9937073674, **Raghunathpur:** Shop no- S5, Manson Green, Raghunathpur, Nandankanan road Mob: 8895390144; **CUTTACK, Dolmunda:** Hotel Akbari complex, Dolomundai, Haripur Road, Ph: 0671 2910337, Mob: 9348222581, **Baxi Bazar:** ManisahooChhak, Mob: 6371736954, **CDA:** Plot No.CM/3 (In front of Police Station), Market Nagar, Sector-7, Mob: 8917442506, 8280079702, **Rourkela:** Daily Market, Near Reliance trend, Rourkela, Mob:977457774, **BALUGAON:** Chikka Road, Balugaon, Mob: 8984858783; **KENDRAPARA:** Kakat Chhak, Ph: 06727 221241; Mob: 9040562233; **DHENKANAL:** I.G. Super Market, near SBI ATM, Mob: 9337472729 / 9348178750; **BOLANGIR:** A.B.S.S. Road, Near Samaleswari Temple, Ph: 06652 232419; Mob: 943731171, 9437241863; **SEMILIGUDA:** Infront of RAM MandirGate,Main Road, Mob: 8328800974, 06724221080, **ANGUL:** Near Havells Galaxy Store, Shankar Cinema Road, Mob: 7608885430, **JHARSUGUDA:** Near Khimji Jewellers, Sarbahal Road, Jharsuguda, Mob: 7004518123.

**AUTHORISED DISTRIBUTORS:-** BHUBANESWAR: Manorama Trading Co., Ph No.9437279239; Saraswati Enterprises-8249250386; **JATINI:** Kanha Agencies, Ph. No.9437090516, **CUTTACK:** Mahavir Enterprise,Chauliganga, Ph. No.9937025999Kendrapada: Nalini& Sons Ph.No.9938175761, **TALCHER:** Sidharth Enterprises, Hatatola, Ph. No.9437003384 **ROURKELA:** Shah Distributor, Ph-0661-2506904, 9438712456, **MAYURBHANJ:** Shree Sai Mobiles-7008514533; Keonjhar-Utkal Digital -700890597; **GANJAM:** Yogesh Agency, Ph: 8144553709, **BALANGIR:** Ably Info Solutions, Ph: 9437025475, **Jajpur:** Banadurga Traders -9437199772, **Jeyapore:** Likhit Enterprises-9348430456,Shiv Sai Enterprises-Jeyapore-833888703, **Nayagarh:** Ganapati Traders-953281930, **MIS Adventure:** Bhadrak-7978403886, **Durga Metal:** 9937009855-Malkangiri, **Padmuni Enterprises:** 8908632000-Puri, **Pratik Enterprises:** 9937446282-Puri, **MIS Krishna:** 9437012843-Cuttack, **Electric Avenue:** 7206855392-Jharsuguda, **Maa Tarini Enterprises:** 832888007-Balasore, **Kesinga- Jay Lakhmi Marketing:** 8093809411; **AUTHORISED DEALERS:-** BHUBANESWAR: REETA-0674259711, **Spectra Vision,** Ph.-9937722277, **PratapSweing Machine:** 9937138544, **Bharath Electronics & Home Appliances:** 9437506163, **Utkal Light House:** 9937019272, **Utkal Sales:** 9853150619, **Palace:** 934862955-Bhubaneswar, **Sai Traders:** 7008296982-Bhubaneswar, **Saraka Electro Digital:** 9776457173-Bhubaneswar, **PD Marketing,** Ph-737735345, **AnuAgency-AnuAgency,** Taranji Aluminium Stores, **SB Enterprises,** Ph.9861155551, **Crockeray Plaza:** 9938399889, **Kitchen King:** 9938475819, **Prasad Kitchen:** 9437041063, **Sivam Enterprises:** 7008565807, **Shree Traders:** 9937131901, **CUTTACK:** Union Sales Emporium-9338461472, **Janata General Store,** Ph-2419948, **AurobindaPlastic,** Ph. 8763923528, **Arbinda Home Appliances:** 9438480346; **Purani Agency:** 7205016581, **Balaji Distributor:** 8763153928, **Patra electronics (CDA):** 9348863657, **Sanjaya electronics:** 977777529-Salepur, **Maadpamavati Bastralaya:** 8908194534-Rahama-Patra electronics (Chauliganga)-9938941317; **KENDRAPARA:** Purnamasi Electrical, Ph. 9937070448, **PARADEEP:** Krishna Enterprise, Ph. 9937451474, **ROURKELA:** Prestige, Ph-2642265, **City Super Bazar,** Ph-9437047413, **Khemka General Store,** Ph-2502396, **Garg Enterprises,** Ph.9437046546, **Kitchen Accessories:** 9437837833, **RAJANGANGPUR:** Pradeep Store, Ph-9437244015; **SUNDARGARH:** Laxmi Steel, Ph-9776164771, **BALASORE:** United Sales Agency-9853519516, **Rohit Sales:** 7978204587; **RAHAMMA:** Maa Padmabati Enterprise-9861202577, **Sambalpur Bhatia Home Appliances:** 9556053558, **Samuka Steel Center:** 9437331074, **Bolangir:** Bapi Steel-Akash Steel-9437331491, **Suraj Steel:** 9437151437, **Bhadrak:** Sai Enterprises-9776701165, **Baripada:** Aerovision-9861828643, **Gajapati:** Panda General Store-8249162067, **Baripada Bazar:** 9439298333, **Dream Home:** 9437435010-Jaypore, **Uma Electronics:** 9937076299-Chandenswar, **Beauty Place:** 9774566555-Talcher, **Bulu Electronics:** 95562 09149-Dasapala