



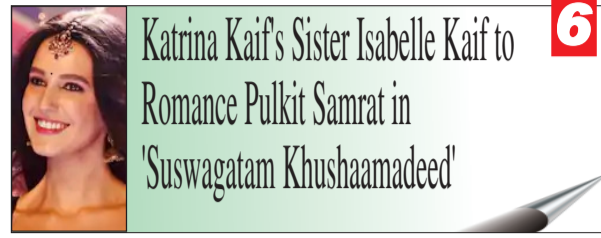
Centre offers to freeze farm laws

2



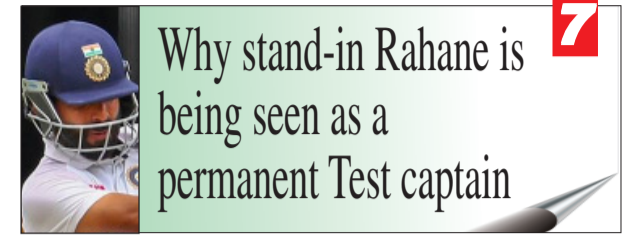
Arka Kumar Das Mohapatra Appointed New VC Of Odisha State Open University

3



Katrina Kaif's Sister Isabelle Kaif to Romance Pulkit Samrat in 'Suswagatam Khushaamadeed'

6



Why stand-in Rahane is being seen as a permanent Test captain

7

Odisha CM Announces To Make Konark Heritage Region Of International Standard



Bhubaneswar, Jan 21: After the announcement of 'Chief Minister Shri Naveen Patnaik' to make Puri a world heritage city, work has been underway. A draft plan for the development of the Konark Heritage Area has been prepared as a part of that order. Every day, many tourists come to Konark from all over the world. The Chief Minister has therefore directed to make infrastructure development in the Konark region an international standard. Today, a presentation was made by Chief Minister Shri Naveen Patnaik on behalf of the State Public Works Department

on various aspects of this. The public will be able to comment on the plan within 21 days. The Konark Temple is a unique example of Kalinga architecture. This unique thirteenth-century monument by the Langula king of the Ganges dynasty, Narasimha Dev, has attracted tourists from all over the world for its incredible art and sculpture. Although the main part of the temple dedicated to Lord Surya has been demolished, the beauty of the facade is still exalting the craftsmanship of Odisha's artisans and artisans. The temple symbolizes the prosperity of the then Odisha. The image of

the giraffe in the temple's interior also mentions the relationship of the then Odisha with the African countries. UNESCO has recognized Konark as a World Heritage Site in the 19th century. It is the moral responsibility of all of us to protect this great cultural heritage. The state government is planning to launch the heritage project under five programs to protect the temple, protect it and attract more and more tourists. The main objectives of the project are to protect the dignity of the Konark Sun Temple, a unique experience for tourists, the economic development of local businesses, and

the development of the tourism district of Konark, along with the tourism district of Puri and the entire state. It focuses on integrating the infrastructure development of the surrounding area of the Konark temple with this ancient heritage. The three-and-a-half-kilometer outer ring road will be constructed with six-lane roads, and all roads leading to the temple will be developed to accommodate passengers from Bhubaneswar to Konark. The magnificent Konark Entry Plaza will be built. In addition, a multi-modal hub will be

built for vehicle parking. The Konark Space Theater will be redesigned. Along with the beautification of the heritage area, special roads will also be built for pedestrians. The meeting was informed that the Konark Yojana reflects the aspirations of the local people as well as the global vision for heritage preservation and development. The meeting was attended by the Chief Minister's Secretary Shri V.K. Pandian conducted the programme. Minister Tushar Kanti Behera, Chief Secretary Suresh Chandra Mohapatra, and senior officials were present.

6.20 L Odisha Matric-2021 Examinees To Get Free 'Parikhya Darpan' Book

Bhubaneswar, Jan 21: With a view to help all the 6.20 lakh examinees of the Annual Matric Exams-2021 slated in May this year under the aegis of Board of Secondary Education (BSE), Odisha School and Mass Education (S&ME) Department has prepared an aid book named 'Parikhya Darpan'. It will be distributed to all the examinees free of cost. As per a list of the Class X students provided by the S&ME Department, the total

spondence Course – 1624. Talking to media S&ME Minister Samir Dash informed that the book contains probable questions and answers exclusively meant for the Class X Annual Matric Exams-2021 to be conducted by the Board of Secondary Education (BSE), Cuttack, Odisha. He also informed that the book will be provided free of cost to all Odia medium government, aided and private school students as the cost of the book solely

Covid-19 pandemic and on-line teaching facility had been made for the students. He added that 30% of the 2020-21 academic session's syllabus has been reduced for lessening the burden of the students and keeping in view the slashed syllabus, the 700-paged Parikhya Darpan book is meant for only the Class X students. The Odisha S&ME Minister also informed that the schools have reopened for the Class X students since January 8



6,20,508 Odisha Matric examinees belong to: S&ME Dept – 5,30,339, SSD – 27,026, Private School – 36,579, Ex-Regular – 24,939 and Corre-

borne by the State Government. The Minister explained that all the schools across the State were closed since March 17, 2020 due to the

this year and arrangements have already been in place for imparting classroom teachings to them for 100 days prior to the Matric Exams.

House Committee Seeks Report On Environmental Pollution

(A.O. Bureau) Bhubaneswar: The Odisha Assembly's House Committee on Environmental Pollution has sought reports from the Secretaries of Urban Development, Panchayati Raj, and Forest & Environment departments over environmental pollution. A meeting of the House panel chaired by State Assembly Speaker Surjya Narayan Patro held today decided to seek reports from the Secretaries of Urban

Green Tribunal (NGT) over environmental pollution in its next meeting. Release of wastewater/effluents by industries into different water bodies like rivers and canals and farmlands, carbon emission by sponge iron factories, and clean environment in urban and rural areas were mainly discussed at the meeting. Three sub-committees have been constituted to examine the aforementioned issues. While Opposition

sponge iron factories will be chaired by MLA Badri Narayan Patra. These sub-committees have been asked to submit reports after studying environmental pollution before the next session of the State Assembly. The meeting was attended by Deputy Speaker Rajnikant Singh, Panchayati Raj Minister Pratap Jena, Steel & Mines Minister Prafulla Kumar Mallick, Government Chief Whip Pramila Mallick, Opposition



Development, Panchayati Raj and Forest & Environment departments over environmental pollution and hold a meeting with officials of the concerned department on February 1, said an official press release issued here today. The Committee also decided to examine orders passed by the National

Chief Whip Mohan Charan Majhi will chair the sub-committee on release of waste water by industries into water bodies etc, the sub-committee on clean environment in urban and rural areas will be chaired by Congress Legislature Party leader Narasingh Mishra and the sub-committee on carbon emission by

Deputy Chief Whip Mohan Charan Majhi, CLP leader Narsingh Mishra, MLA Badrinarayan Patra, Deputy Leader of the Opposition Bishnu Sethi, MLA Brajakishore Pradhan, Ramesh Chandra Behera, Dasarathi Gomango, Minakshi Mahant, Prakash Soren and others.

Fire kills five on Serum Institute's Pune campus; Covishield production not affected



Pune, Jan 21: SII CEO Adar Poonawalla said "there would be no loss of Covishield production due to multiple production buildings that I had kept in reserve to deal with such contingencies at Serum Institute." Fire was reported on the fifth floor of a new building on the Manjari campus. At least five persons were killed in a fire that broke out on the campus of the Serum Institute of India (SII) at Manjari in Pune on Thursday afternoon, officials confirmed. Serum Institute CEO Adar Poonawalla has clarified that the fire will not impact Covishield production.

The fire brigade team found the bodies of five persons, including one woman, after the blaze was brought under control. "It is unfortunate that five people lost their lives in the fire. More facts are awaited," Pune Mayor Murlidhar Mohol said. The bodies of the five have been taken to Pune's Sassoon hospital. Mayor Mohol said, "Preliminary information, which is yet to be confirmed, suggests that these five persons were workers employed by a contractor. There are reports that the fire started at the place where welding work in the new building was on." Serum In-

stitute has announced a sum of Rs 25 lakh each for the families of the five deceased. "We are deeply saddened and offer our condolences to the families of the departed. In this regard, we will be offering a compensation of INR 25 lakhs to each of the families, in addition to the mandated amount as per the norms," the SII said in a statement. Prime Minister Narendra Modi also condoled the loss of lives in the fire. "Anguished by the loss of lives due to an unfortunate fire at the Serum Institute of India. In this sad hour, my thoughts are with the families of those

who lost their lives. I pray that those injured recover at the earliest," he said in a tweet. Meanwhile, a fire brigade official said the fire was reported on the fifth floor of the new building on the Manjari campus. "As per our knowledge, the building is not directly connected to Covishield manufacturing," he said. Corroborating this, SII factory manager Vivek Pradhan said the floor where the fire broke out was a rota-virus lab. "There is no stock of Covishield," he said. "The fire was brought under control at 4.15 pm. Cooling operations, in which water is used to reduce the increased temperature on the premises, are currently on. A total of nine people who were trapped have been rescued," Prashant Ranpise, the Chief Fire Officer with Pune City Fire Brigade, had said earlier. Poonawalla said "there would be no loss of Covishield production" due to multiple production

buildings kept in reserve. I would like to reassure all governments & the public that there would be no loss of #COVISHIELD production due to multiple production buildings that I had kept in reserve to deal with such contingencies at @SerumInstIndia. Thank you very much @PuneCityPolice & Fire Department A total of 10 fire tenders have been deployed by the fire department. A total of 10 fire tenders, a hydraulic lift and other equipment were deployed to bring the fire under control. A team from the 5th Battalion of the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) stationed at Talegaon near Pune was also sent to the spot. The fire broke out between 2:30- 2:45 PM. India has approved two vaccines — Covaxin developed by Bharat Biotech, and Covishield from the Oxford/AstraZeneca stable, being manufactured by Pune-headquartered Serum Institute of India.

Union Budget 2020-21: Indian Aluminium Sector Needs to be Nurtured for an Atmanirbhar Bharat with Global Competitiveness

Bhubaneswar, Jan 21: India is one of the fastest growing economies and fastest emerging markets in the world and Aluminium Industry plays a vital role in the nation's economy and the country's vision for an Atmanirbhar Bharat. Aluminium is an essential commodity for various other industries / SMEs due to its critical role in diversified applications crucial for economy like energy security, national defence, infrastructure, aerospace, automobile, consumer durables, packaging etc. However, the Indian Aluminium industry is going through a challenging phase and is under immense threat by rising imports, declining domestic market share, increasing production and logis-



tics costs. These challenges have been further compounded by the COVID-19 pandemic which has adversely impacted the domestic demand for aluminium. At the same time, the industry is not able to compete effectively in the global markets as the burden of Central & State taxes & levies amounting to ~15% of Aluminium production cost puts the domestic industry in a significant disadvantage compared to its global peers. In this

context, the Indian Aluminium industry in its representation from Aluminium Association of India has urged the Union Government for support in the Union Budget 2021-22 through a number of demands. First is the need to increase the basic custom duty on Primary Aluminium and Aluminium Scrap to 10%. This is necessary to battle current challenges being faced by the industry in sustaining the share of the domestic aluminium

demand, which is today being imploded with imported aluminium – both scrap aluminium and primary aluminium. Also, most countries in the world have a uniform import duty structure for scrap and primary aluminium, and India stands out as an exception, making it an anomaly, and an easy dumping ground for scrap aluminium. Second is the elimination of cess on coal to support highly power intensive industries like Aluminium. There is a GST Compensation cess of Rs. 400 per metric ton which is a bone of contention and makes the cost of producing aluminium higher than the world average. Third is the reduction in custom duty on critical raw materials for the aluminium industry value chain

such as Calcined and Raw Petroleum Coke, Caustic Soda and Alumina. These high input costs make Indian aluminium more expensive and uncompetitive in the global markets as compared to aluminium being produced by other countries thereby adversely impacting the metal's export potential. This also encourages local manufacturers of aluminium goods to seek out import channels to meet their requirements, thereby making it a lose-lose for the country and the industry. These demands from the industry assume special importance at the juncture when India has an opportunity to become more competitive at a global level and attract greater investments in its manufacturing sector.

Bengal Politics Hits Up As PM Modi To Visit West Bengal On January 23

Kolkata, Jan 21: Ahead of the upcoming West Bengal Election, Prime Minister Narendra Modi (PM Narendra Modi) will be visiting Kolkata on January 23 (Saturday) to mark the 125th birth anniversary year of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. The Prime Minister will preside over the inauguration of the 'Parakram Divas' function at the Victoria Memorial. On this occasion, PM will inaugurate a permanent exhibition and a projection mapping show on Netaji. During this time a commemorative coin and postage stamp will also be released by the Prime Minister, a cultural program based on Netaji's theme 'Amra Nutan Jibneri' will also be organized. To honor and remember



Netaji's indomitable spirit and selfless service to the nation, the Government of India has decided to celebrate January 23 every year as 'Parakram Divas'. Prior to this program, Prime Minister Modi will visit the National Library in Kolkata itself. An international conference 'Re-visiting the legacy of Netaji Subhash in the 21st century' and an art gallery has been orga-

nized here. To honor and remember Netaji's indomitable spirit and selfless service to the nation, the Government of India has decided to celebrate January 23 every year as 'Parakram Divas'. Prior to this program, Prime Minister Modi will visit the National Library in Kolkata itself. On this occasion, the Prime Minister will interact with the artists and participants of the conference.

Gautam Gambhir contributes Rs one crore for Ram Temple construction



New Delhi, Jan 21: The Delhi BJP has launched a campaign for collection of donations through coupons across the city, said party leaders. BJP MP Gautam Gambhir has donated Rs one crore for construction of Ram temple in Ayodhya. The cricketer-turned-politician said the donation

was made by him and his family for a "glorious" temple in Ayodhya that is the dream of all Indians. "A glorious Ram temple has been the dream of all Indians. Finally this long standing issue has been put to rest. This will pave the way for unity and tranquillity. A small contribution from me

and my family has been made in this endeavour," the east Delhi MP said in a statement. The Delhi BJP has launched a campaign for collection of donations through coupons across the city, said party leaders. "Coupons of Rs 10, 100 and 1000 will be used for collection of donations from as many households as possible," said Kuljeet Chahal, Delhi BJP general secretary and convener of the campaign. Contributions over Rs 1000 will be made through cheques. There are many persons who have their sentiments deeply associated with the Ram temple and who are willing to contribute large sums of one crore or more, he said.

'TMC did nothing for Muslims': Furfura Sharif cleric Abbas Siddiqui floats Indian Secular Front



Kolkata, Jan 21: "We have announced our party today. We will now sit for talks with other parties like AIMIM and then decide on how many seats we will field candidates. At present, we are considering all 294 seats," said Abbas Siddiqui. Pirzada of Furfura Sharif Abbas Siddiqui on Thursday

floated a new political party 'Indian Secular Front'. Months before the West Bengal assembly elections, Pirzada of Furfura Sharif Abbas Siddiqui on Thursday floated a new political party 'Indian Secular Front'. His brother Nausad Siddiqui will be the chairman of the party while Simul Soren

was named its president. "We have announced our party today. We will now sit for talks with other parties like AIMIM and then decide on how many seats we will field candidates. At present, we are considering all 294 seats," said Abbas Siddiqui. This comes weeks after AIMIM

leader Asaduddin Owasi held a two-hour-long meeting with Siddiqui and stated that his party is ready to fight polls in Bengal under his leadership. One of the descendants of the late Pir Abu Baqar Siddiqui of Furfura Sharif, Abbas Siddiqui said that he wants to be a king maker and will not contest polls. "I want to be the king maker. I will not contest polls. But will do everything possible for the party. We will work for the betterment of Muslims, Dalits and poor people. Our party is for all," said Siddiqui. Furfura Sharif is the second most prominent 'Mazar' in the

country after Ajmer Sharif in Rajasthan. According to political observers, his faction may emerge as a key factor in division of Bengali speaking Muslim votes which, so far, was with TMC in South Bengal and with Congress in parts of North Bengal. "Years of Congress rule, then that of CPM and then Trinamool Congress in Bengal did nothing for the Muslims or the poor people," added Siddiqui. "It was Trinamool Congress which allowed BJP to get into Bengal and win 18 Lok Sabha seats. I have a constitutional right to announce a political party," said Siddiqui.

Centre offers to freeze farm laws

New Delhi, Jan 21: The Centre on Wednesday proposed to suspend the three contentious farm laws for one or one-and-a-half years and set up a joint committee to discuss the laws to end the stalemate, but the farmers leaders did not immediately accept the proposal and said they will respond only after they hold internal consultations, possibly on Thursday. The two sides will meet again on Friday for the eleventh round of negotiations. The government made this offer during the tenth round of talks with the representatives of 41 farmers' unions at Vigyan Bhavan here. After the meeting, agriculture minister Narendra Singh Tomar said: "During the discussions, we said the government was ready to put on hold the farm laws for one year or one and a half



years. I am happy the farmers' unions have taken this very seriously and said they would consider it tomorrow (Thursday) and convey their decision on January 22." Ahead of the meeting which lasted for over five hours, Mr Tomar along with commerce minister Piyush Goyal met Union home minister Amit Shah. The home minister has been supervising all developments related to the farmers' agitation,

which has been going on for the last 56 days at the Delhi borders. Even Prime Minister Narendra Modi recently called a meeting of top agriculture ministry officials and advised them to put the three laws on hold till the matter was sorted out between the two sides. During the meeting, Mr Tomar told the union leaders the government was ready to give an undertaking in the Supreme Court that the new laws

will not be implemented till the matter is fully resolved. He also offered to set up a committee of agricultural experts, the farmers' unions and government representatives to discuss all the three laws clause by clause to resolve the matter. The farmers' leaders also raised the issue of NIA notices being served to some farmers, alleging it was being done just to harass those supporting the agitation, on

which the government representatives said they would look into the matter. The Supreme Court has already put on hold till further orders all the three farm laws. While staying the three farm laws, the Supreme Court-appointed a four-member panel to talk to farmers to end the stalemate. But the farmers' leaders objected to the committee members' names, saying they had already expressed their pro-farm laws views. BKU leader B.S. Mann has already recused himself from the committee. The other three members of the committee are due to hold their first meeting with the stakeholders on Thursday. But the protesting farmers have made it clear they will not appear before the court-appointed panel.

Andhra Pradesh CM Jagan Reddy launches door delivery of rations

Hyderabad, Jan 21: Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Jagan Mohan Reddy said that he was moved by the plight of elderly and differently-abled people who were kept waiting in long queues to get the ration supplies. Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy on Thursday launched door delivery of rice to ration card holders along with a fleet of 2,500 Mobile Dispensing Units from Vijayawada. The CM flagged off the fleet of vehicles today. The CM said that he was moved by the plight of elderly and differently-abled people who were kept waiting in long queues to get the ration supplies. "My government has taken the initiative to provide good quality rice and other ration supplies right at the doorstep of the ration



cardholders. The government aims to deliver good quality rice to the cardholder through a mobile vehicle, with an additional cost of Rs 830 crore per annum to the government," he said. The CM said that during the previous TDP regime, the percentage of husk and colored grains under the PDS were high, and that a majority of people rejected the rations. "To resolve this, the government has de-

ecided to provide cardholders with better quality rice by giving Swarna variety. The Civil Supplies Department made drastic changes during the procurement of rice by reducing the husk and broken rice to a great extent. For the first time, a quality sortex rice is being given to the cardholders, with zero percent of stones and less than one percent of dyed or damaged grains," Reddy said.

44880 Beneficiaries Vaccinated At 436 Session Sites In Odisha Today



(A.O. Bureau) Bhubaneswar, Jan 21: As the vaccination drive is underway across the State, 44880 beneficiaries, especially health workers, were inoculated today at 436 session sites in all the 30 districts of Odisha apart from the six session sites under Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC) area. As per the State Health and Family Welfare (H&FW) Department's 6 pm report released to media,

today's achievement has been 121%. Odisha H&FW Additional Chief Secretary Pradipta Mohapatra informed, "As we're calling more people than targeted to adjust for some absentees, the achievement has crossed 100%." The Covid-19 Vaccination Micro Coverage for today (21.01.2021) of the H&FW Department states that the target for the day had been 37076 for the 30 districts while the

achievement was 44880. Besides, Bhubaneswar had the target of 600 beneficiaries for the day at its six session sites while the achievement by 6 pm has been reported 1113. For tomorrow's (22.01.2021) Covid-19 Vaccination Micro Plan prepared by the State H&FW Department, there would be 137 session sites including BMC area, while the targeted beneficiaries are 11855.

Promote Local Entrepreneurs In Potential Areas Of Success: WODC Chairman Asit Tripathy

(A.O. Bureau) Bhubaneswar: Identify and promote the local entrepreneurs in potential sectors of success directed Asit Tripathy, Chief Advisor to Chief Minister and Chairman Western Odisha Development Council (WODC). Tripathy said this while reviewing the progress of various developmental projects of Boudh and Sonepur districts today in the Collectorate conference hall of Boudh. He asked the local officers to identify the youths with entrepreneurial talent and handhold them to start their ventures. "Boudh district has promising and proven potential for horticulture, fishery, handloom, handicraft poultry, rice bran oil, layer farms and vegetable processing units. The local entrepreneurs could be linked with various bulk purchasers and online marketing platforms to sale their products at profitable rate," he said. WODC funds

would be used for creating the deficit infrastructure in maintaining the supply chain in these sectors, he added. The progress of the projects under WODC fund was reviewed in the meeting. The major projects included establishment of agro polytechnic institute at Boudh, construction of cultural auditorium, construction of new library in Boudh Panchayat college, pipe water supply scheme in village Btamhanipali of Boudh block, children park at Khaliapali, Biju Patnaik stadium at Kantamal, improvement of Hrbanga-Dhalpur road, improvement Jagati village-Pherighat road, Tileswar-Ramgarh road and other road projects. So far, 1,616 projects worth Rs 81.31 crore have been sanctioned for Boudh district under WODC fund. As of now 1,458 projects have been completed and 158 projects are in various

phases of implementation. Around Rs 77 crore has been invested in construction of these projects. Tripathy directed to complete the projects within the scheduled time for avoiding any possible price escalation in cost of the projects. Similarly, around 1,985 projects of worth

Rs 84 crore, and the balance 480 projects are in different phases of implementation. Tripathy reviewed what role private sector can play in creation of new employment opportunities in primary sectors like agriculture and allied sectors. He advised the district administration of both the districts

Sonepur Collector Manisha Banarjee, Superintendent of Police, Boudh V Raghunath Rao, Chief Executive Officer WODC SK Patel, Project Director Babita Dalabehera along with senior officers participated in the review. Before the review, Tripathy inspected the arrange-



around Rs 100 crore have been sanctioned under WODC fund in Sonepur districts. Against this as of now 1,505 projects have been completed with investment of around

to invite more private sector investment in these sectors and provide them all facilitating support to set up their units in these districts. Boudh Collector Lalatendu Mishra,

ments for tourists to the district museum at Boudh. Expressing satisfaction over the displays in the museum, "The museum is a link between past, present and future.

Deeply saddened by the loss of lives in the tragic fire accident at Serum Institute of India: Naveen

(A.O. Bureau) Bhubaneswar, Jan 21: Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik expressed condolences to the family members of the workers who were killed in a major fire at the Serum Institute of India in Pune on Thursday. In a tweet, Naveen said he is deeply saddened by the loss of lives in the



tragic fire accident at the Serum Institute of India campus. Deeply

of lives in the tragic fire accident at #SerumInstituteOfIndia campus. My thoughts and prayers are with the bereaved families in the hour of grief and pray for the speedy recovery of those who are hospitalised. — Naveen Patnaik (@Naveen_Odisha) January 21, 2021. Around 2.45 pm, a

major fire broke out at an under-construction building at the Serum Institute's campus in Pune killing five persons and injuring many. At least 15 fire tenders took almost two hours to douse the fire. The fire has not impacted the Covishield vaccine manufacturing unit, the company stated.

Central team appreciates Odisha e-assembly project



Bhubaneswar, Jan 21: Union Parliamentary Affairs Secretary Dr Rajendra S Shukla and Joint Secretary Dr Satya Prakash highly appreciated the underway e-assembly project during a courtesy call on Odisha Assembly Speaker Dr Surya Narayan Patro. The Central team that is on a three-day visit to the state also opined

that the progress made by the Punjab and Odisha Assemblies is remarkable. Odisha Assembly Secretary Dasarathi Satpathy apprised the Central team about the progress made till date. As many as 66 computer sets have been punched for the Assembly Secretariat, video conferencing facility in the House and

modernization of LAN as well as WiFi facilities. The e-assembly project is being undertaken with the technical support from OCAC. The Central Government has sanctioned Rs 1,296,408 for the Odisha e-assembly project, while the State Government is bearing 40% of the expenditure.

Bhubaneswar Minor Bike Rider Sans DL, Helmet Slapped Rs 26,000 Fine, Bike Seized



(A.O. Bureau) Bhubaneswar, Jan 21: As wearing of helmet both by the biker and pillion riders as well as driving license (DL) are being strictly enforced nationwide besides other mandatory norms of the amended Motor Vehicle (MV) Act, a minor bike rider of the capital city had to bear the brunt and pay a heavy price.

The minor boy was reportedly driving the bike without a driving license and was also not wearing a helmet. He was caught red-handed during the MV checking by RTO-I at Chandrasekharpur area yesterday. As per the norms of the amended MV Act, his bike was also reportedly confiscated and fined Rs 25,000. Besides, the pillion rider, reportedly another minor was also reportedly penalized with an additional fine of Rs 1,000 for not wearing a helmet. Thus, the challan bore Rs 26,000 in total.

Arka Kumar Das Mohapatra Appointed New VC Of Odisha State Open University

(A.O. Bureau) Bhubaneswar, Jan 21: Odisha Governor Ganeshi Lal today appointed eminent academician Arka Kumar Das Mohapatra as the new Vice Chancellor of Odisha State Open University (OSOU),



Sambalpur, an official notification here said. Das Mohapatra will function as the Vice Chancellor of OSOU for a period of three years with effect from the date he assumes office as such or until further orders, whichever is earlier, it said.

NHRC raps Odisha Chief Secretary for forgetting wrongly transfused patients in VIMSAR

(A.O. Bureau) Bhubaneswar, Jan 21: The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has directed the Chief Secretary of Odisha to pay one lakh rupees each as compensation to two victims, who were wrongly transfused HIV blood in 2016, at VIMSAR, Burla and to submit the proof of payment within eight weeks. Acting on a petition, re-



ports of the state authorities and subsequent submissions filed by Lawyer and human rights activist

Radhakanta Tripathy the apex human rights panel passed the order recently. Since the Joint Secretary,

Health & Family Welfare Department stated before the NHRC that payment of the compensation as desired by the Commission has not been disbursed to the victims due to non-availability of their address. Noticing the issue, the NHRC asked the Collectors of Sambalpur and Jharsuguda districts to publish a public notice in local newspapers in favour of the victims for payment of compensation to them. Tripathy alleged that a 70-year-old person hailing from Rairakhol was admitted to the surgery ward of VIMSAR on June 9, 2016. He had undergone operation on June 13, 2016. Similarly, a 60-year-old person of Brajarajnagar was admitted to the hospital on June 12, 2016 for a leg surgery.

Adivasi Mela to be held in virtual mode



(A.O. Bureau) Bhubaneswar, Jan 21: Bhubaneswar Adivasi Mela is going to be organised in virtual mode. The Tribal Development Department is all set to inaugurate it on January 26, which will conclude on February 9. Chief Secretary Suresh Chandra Mohapatra launched the website of the Adivasi fair in Lokseva Bhawan on January 20. The fair website will enable people to witness the fair from home and order

typical tribal goods online. Mohapatra advised the SC & ST department to create a permanent web platform of Adivasi Fair. This year's tribal Fair will be held in Unit-I Adivasi exhibition ground instead of Unit-III exhibition ground. The fair ground will be smartly developed with hybrid system keeping Covid-19 guidelines in view. Visitors will be sensitized to maintain social distances among them as a precautionary measure against Covid-19.



Plans Afoot For Konark Temple Facelift

EDITORIAL

Let the leaders lead

Like elsewhere, prominent personalities of India should get the shots so that the common citizen feels reassured. When the virologists in different countries developed vaccines for Coronavirus, there was a sense of relief and jubilation globally and people could not wait for the inoculation drives to begin. However, that euphoria turned into fear, distrust and vaccine hesitancy when side-effects and deaths began to be reported in nations like Norway, the UK, the US, and so on. In India, too, two people died after getting vaccinated on January 16 but, after the post-mortem reports came in, the Government declared that the deaths were in no way related to the COVID-19 jab, but to cardiopulmonary disease. Of course, the sceptics will take this statement with a pinch of salt. However, even if we were to attribute these deaths in India to the vaccines, we must not let such incidents cloud our vision. If one were to look at the larger picture, the number of infections and deaths globally due to the pandemic till now is 96,700,231 and 2,067,913, respectively. In India, the number of infections has been 10,596,442 and the casualties have touched the 152,754-mark. As compared to this, of the 6,31,417 healthcare workers who have been vaccinated so far across 11,660 sessions in India, only nine adverse events requiring hospitalisation were reported. So, just 0.18 per cent minor adverse events have been reported and only 0.002 per cent of them needed to be hospitalised. According to the Health Ministry, this figure is in fact the lowest, so far as we know, in the world. So, it does not take a genius to understand that the advantages of getting the jab far outweigh the disadvantages. Plus, in such huge vaccination drives as the world is undertaking right now, adverse effects and some casualties are to be expected, particularly among the old, infirm and people with allergies. But the fact remains that globally, scientists and Governments are responding very quickly and, apart from the strong adverse event surveillance, they are being flexible and vigilant to finding out the causes and issuing directives on who can safely take the vaccine and who cannot. For instance, Norway has adjusted its advice on who should be administered the vaccine by giving individual doctors the discretion to make this decision. In India too, Bharat Biotech, the company that developed Covaxin, is warning people with weak immunity and other medical conditions to consult a doctor before getting inoculated and, if possible, to avoid it altogether. However, till now the other vaccine that is also being used, AstraZeneca's Covishield, has seen a good response. Though India is battling vaccine hesitancy even among healthcare workers, the Centre plans to press on with the inoculation drive. This is because the Government realises that pandemics can be contained only when people become resistant to the disease-causing pathogen. There are two ways to acquire herd immunity: One, on exposure to the pathogen, people develop antibodies and immune response in the body and; second, the body develops antibodies when the vaccine is administered. Allowing the natural spread of a disease to generate herd immunity is not desirable as it comes at the cost of avoidable morbidity and mortality. With mass vaccination against COVID-19, the Government is determined to protect the people. We must help it in every way possible. We are a big country, and rolling out vaccines to 1.3 billion people is not an easy task. But we are a very determined country that successfully eradicated smallpox and polio. We have the resources and the experience. With the hard work of those leading and implementing the campaign and with the support of people, we are bound to succeed in our gigantic vaccination drive. However, if the Government truly wants the people to embrace the immunisation drive, prominent leaders of the country should get the shots like they did in other nations, so that the common citizen can feel reassured. The leaders of the country need to lead from the front and not let the common man feel like the proverbial guinea pig.

The Usual Suspects

The SC-appointed panel to talk to farmers comprises a neo-con economist, a seed terrorist and a policy sahib, which has given rise to mistrust. As 2021 began, the Supreme Court (SC) appears to have got a taste for drama as it pitched a "biased committee" against the revolutionary, but peaceful, farmers camping on Delhi's borders. Why biased? Because all the four original members had unequivocally supported the farm "reforms". But the apex court believes that they will remain neutral; and Chief Justice of India SA Bobde orally observing that if a person on a panel has expressed views on the matter, it should not become ground for his disqualification from a committee and that "committee members are not judges; they can change their views". Meanwhile, Bhupinder Singh Mann rejected the SC's offer to be part of the committee and said he stands with Punjab. The three remaining members, who pledge to be "non-partisan", have only added to the mistrust of farmers because the media may see them as honourable but, to farmers, they are simply a neo-con economist, a known seed terrorist and a policy sahib. Let us go back to the start of this mess. After repeated failure of talks between the NDA Government and the farmers, petitions were filed in the SC which gave them a patient ear and even admonished the Centre for its "handling of the issue". There was some jubilation when farmers were teased by names such as "P Sainath" to be included in the committee. But the celebration was short-lived; it was as if the SC was testing the waters before delivering the masterstroke: Four pro-Big Ag names were invited to the committee. They being men of the law, we can't expect the judges to understand much about agriculture but who-soever advised them, has put the integrity of India's top court in a quagmire. Mann's polite refusal provides grist for this fact. Recently, committee member Anil Ghanwat has expressed fears

that the farmers may not even participate in the proceedings. How unbiased are the three remaining members — Ashok Gulati, Anil Ghanwat and Pramod Kumar Joshi? With a demonstrated history of promoting and advocating for Big Ag and US-style liberalisation, the apple doesn't fall far from the tree. Ashok Gulati, our neo-con economist, despite having worked in the Government for decades, is notorious as the poster child for Big Ag in India. His policy recommendations are hailed by the industry and vehemently opposed by farmers, whether on GM crops or farm-gate liberalisation. His economic models, to many farmers, are allied to the US industry interests and not to the welfare of Indian farmers and consumers. Gulati's models are a disservice to Gandhi's bread labour. Some would go so far as to say that his economic schizophrenia is so advanced for what he called the "1991 moment" for Indian agriculture, has turned out to be the biggest farmers' revolution in the history of our world. Next we move to 'policy sahib' — Pramod K Joshi, who is the director for South Asia, International Food Policy Research Institute. Without going too much into details about his personal views, the organisation he represents is heavily funded by the Big Ag corporations and allies. The Syngenta Foundation (Switzerland), The Rockefeller Foundation (United States), CropLife International (Belgium), Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (United States), Cornell University (United States), the US Department of Agriculture (United States), KPMG East Africa and Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA) are some of the biggies to generously donate to his kitty and push a global agenda through this organisation in countries like India. Farmers are curious as to why did the SC's advisors think of this international body? Does India have a dearth of swadeshi agriculturists or agrarian policy experts? Why the swerve from Aatmanirbhar

Bharat on policy matters? This name in the committee exposes the invisible hand behind the farm "reforms". Finally, we move to alleged 'seed terrorist' Anil Ghanwat, who is the president of Shetkari Sangathana (SS). It didn't take illegal seeds from China to reach the US or India in May 2020 for any member of the cotton seed industry to understand the term "seed terrorism". India has been an area of operation for many such illegal seed schemes which want to destroy India's native seeds, public health and seed industry by using criminal means. 'Seed terrorists' smuggle and peddle unapproved foreign seeds on India's soils and fields. They claim that it's good for the farmers but actually, as the past year has shown, sound the death-knell for Indian biodiversity and public health as these seeds can be a gateway for getting new pests or plant diseases into the country. In a bid to protect our biodiversity, the Rashtriya Swayamsewak Sangh's (RSS) own Bharatiya Kisan Sangh has led a campaign in Maharashtra against this hazardous contamination and to curb the illegal spread of HT Bt Cotton. Keep in mind that COVID entered the country using humans as a gateway; similarly, the American pink bollworm and fall armyworm have mysteriously entered India. We don't know what new disease could be in store next? A note on the history of the organisation: SS founder Sharad Joshi, a farmer leader for few, was a pariah in the national farmers' resistance movement. His stance on the World Trade Organisation (WTO), inclusion of agriculture into the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) and the Dunkel Draft alienated him from the farmers who resisted this takeover in the late 90s. His obsession for "technology" and "progress" was only meretricious. His Frankenstein still lives eating into the profits and health of maize to oilseed farmers. Following the same tradition, the SS has openly vio-

lated the Environment Protection Act, National Biodiversity Act and various other criminally punishable legislations by illegally planting and peddling an unapproved genetically modified organism (GMO) HT Bt Cotton in Maharashtra. This HT Bt cotton is a herbicide tolerant (HT) cotton variety that is unapproved by the Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC). The SC's technical committee on GM crops had also a few years ago put a moratorium on HT crops due to biosafety issues. Despite this, Ghanwat's organisation has been unabashedly part of a criminal conspiracy to contaminate our native cotton seeds and biodiversity. Last year alone, he caused a damage of over Rs 400 crore to the legal seed businesses, from Maharashtra to Telangana. Due to such fly-by-night operators, the legal cotton businesses are finding their seed lots contaminated by this unapproved variety and, in fact, many seed companies have been taken to court and their licenses suspended, yet Ghanwat's SS proliferates. They continue to do irreversible damage to our environment and health. The seed officials have booked various members for some of these offences, yet the ring leader — instead of being reprimanded — has been elevated to a power position. The judiciary is an independent pillar of Indian democracy, and in no way should it be under pressure to echo the will of the Government of the day. For, if they acquiesce, Indian democracy will be dented. By appointing a committee without consultation, the SC may also have committed the same mistake as the Government. The CJI, if he wants the farmers and people to restore their faith in the judiciary, should disband the committee for now and evaluate the members' profile. People like Ghanwat and his organisation who openly defy the rule of law, should be punished, not honoured.

Indra Shekhar Singh

The triumph in Gabba is a win to cherish. Indian cricket needs to build on it

We need to recognise that champions are not made in a day. In the making of such champions the sweat, the hard work, the mentoring, the dedication and most importantly the mental conditioning, have such a critical role to perform. When Indian cricket history is discussed it will be said of them that they took all the body blows but did not let the country down! The 11 in the first Test at Adelaide, Australia were vastly different from the eleven who handcrafted history on Tuesday at the Gabba. They faced body blows, tolerated sledging and endured racist slurs from the spectator's gallery. But not for a moment did they allow their single-minded dedication to slacken. The team was so heavily injury ridden that they had to fall back upon "net bowlers" and rookie batsmen, who had never imagined that they would be called upon, not only to make a playing XI in a Test match, but be the frontline warriors for the same. It speaks volumes of their aspiration, of their commitment to the cause, of their focus (which was their team's honour) that they single-mindedly addressed the task at hand. They fought bravely to ensure that the team romped home with one of the most magnificent victories in Indian cricketing his-

tory. Reams will be written on this match, gigabytes expended in electronic media coverage and tonnes of hot air will be blown on the valour of the team. All that will never be able to portray what may have been passing through the mind of Mohammad Siraj, who wept at his dad's memory while singing the national anthem, or the youngest member of the team who was the proud holder of the Border-Gavaskar trophy that his captain handed to him for the all important photo-op. Yes, this match will go down in the annals of Indian history like the 1983 World Cup or the 2007 ICC T20 trophy or the 2011 World Cup win. What we need to recognise today is how did this group of "rookies" took on the mighty Australians, especially after the humiliating 36 all out at Adelaide. We need to recognise that champions are not made in a day. In the making of such champions the sweat, the hard work, the mentoring, the dedication and most importantly the mental conditioning, have such a critical role to perform. I would believe that the initial moulding of these warriors has been sculpted by Rahul Dravid, himself a cricketing legend. These youngsters have all been part of the under-19 group of cricketers hand-picked and trained by Dravid. Shubhman Gill had spearheaded

the Indian U-19 team's batting prowess in the 2018 world championship. He turned in a splendid 91 in Brisbane. Rishabh Pant, a member of the U-19 squad of 2016, who started his Test career only in 2018, broke the great M S Dhoni's record of the fastest 1,000 runs by an Indian wicket-keeper. Pant played a sedate innings, the likes of which would have the hallmark of Dravid or Dhoni. He played the anchor at one end and speeded up at will, with no tension or pressure from the sledging of the Aussies, who were finding it difficult to digest the treatment that this rookie team was giving it. Washington Sundar, another 2016 U-19 squad member, whose commitment with the ball was well known but his 22 off 29 balls, brought forth a comment from his dad that he is 70 per cent a batsman. The Palghar boy Shardul Thakur, who travelled 100 kilometres to Mumbai for practice, is the diamond that ultimately shines when put to test. And he and Sundar possibly were considered to be seeing action only in the nets! We need to marvel the remarkable commitment of Siraj, son of an auto rickshaw driver who used up his savings to let the son play cricket, who was given the sad news of his father's demise the moment he landed in Australia and who chose

not to return for the funeral. There is the stamp of Kohli on the team. Aggressive, confident, physically fit and mentally focused on the job at hand. In partnership with the coach, Kohli has built a team that can be world-beaters. Many have derided the IPL. Many do not even call it "cricket". They need to realise that these are the "finds" of the IPL. How many selectors get to see Ranji or Mushtaq Ali tournament matches? How much of TV coverage is provided to them? The youngsters have reminded the BCCI of its responsibility towards them. We need to provide them an alma mater — a world-class Cricket Academy to train in, undergo rehab in and be mentored by the best that the "rich" BCCI can fetch. We need to provide them motivational speakers and mind-conditioning professionals. IPL franchisees or state associations cannot provide them world-class facilities. These are woefully lacking. The likes of Sachin Tendulkar, Dravid, Anil Kumble, Zaheer Khan, Harbhajan Singh, Virender Sehwag, Yuvraj Singh should constitute the resource to provide the motivation. The youngsters need to be incubated. It is the crucible that is urgently required. Indian cricket needs to forge ahead with the incredible story which has just been scripted.

Vinod Rai

Complaints of Utkalmani Yubak Sangh in Possession of 99 Acres In the hands of a Handful of People



(A.O. Bureau) Kendrapara, Jan 21: In Deuli Village of Badmohanpur Gram Panchayat in Pattamundai Block, about 99 Acres of Public Property in Anavadi pasture have been forcibly occu-

pied by a handful of people for some reason. The Utkalmani Yubak Sangh had written a letter to the District Magistrate on 24-7-2020 and issued a Memorandum to the Tahasildar of Pattamundai on 26-

12-20 Memo no.-5003 Utkalmani Yubak Sangha's 7 Decimil special problem fund 2018/18 4th Phase SI No-9 for the construction of Utkalmani Yubak Sangh's House is didn't construction due to in the hands of

a handful of brokers. As one lakh came, we convened a meeting in the village and buried the four poles with the opinion of the villagers. Forcibly Occupying an acre of Farmland by forcibly Occupying ancestral Property, Digging up Soil from Public Places and burying and building houses, digging ponds to house homeless people under the Prime Minister's Housing Scheme in that Land's. The work of forcible occupation is increasing day by day in our village and we members of the Utkal Mani Yubak Sangha are protesting against it and a hand-

ful of unscrupulous people are threatening to kill us and threaten to kill us today 21-1-2021 I have lodged a complaint with the Additional District Magistrate Shri Basant Kumar Raut has lodged a complaint with the five-member team led by President of Utkalmani Yubak Sangh Mr Gouttam Behera Requesting a Proper Investigation into the matter and sending a government amnesty to investigate the matter, otherwise the Mr Behera's extremist statement will go on a hunger strike in front of the district magistrate's office in the coming days.

Central University Of Odisha Launches Executive Mba Programme

(A.O. Bureau) Koraput, Jan 21: Most awaited Executive MBA programme for the working executives launched by virtual mode at the Central University of Odisha (CUO), Koraput on 20 January 2021 from this academic session. The CUO in its 12th year of coming into being, has been main fountain of academic excellence in this region of Odisha. It has been adding innovative programmes keeping the aspirations of the people around this region. This programme will enhance the managerial skills of the work-

ing executives which is the need of the hour." Prof. Ram Kumar Mishra, former Director and presently a Senior Professor of the Institute of Public Enterprises (IPE), Hyderabad was the Chief Speaker on this occasion. He said this is a new age Executive MBA and this University is best placed to use this programme for contributing towards improving socio economic climate of this relatively backward region. Prof. I. Ramabrahmam, Vice-Chancellor, Central University of Odisha, Koraput presided over the function. In his presidential address he said

Limited-Shri Debasish Deb (Former Executive Director), Shri J. M. Sahu (Executive Director) and Shri Ashutosh Mallick (General Manager) and Shri A.B. Pradhan (General Manager, HR, MiG Complex, Nasik) gave the messages to the participants wishing them a fruitful learning and knowledge-sharing exercise. Shri R.S.Das, Executive Director, M&R, National Aluminium Company, Damonjodi gave valuable message to encourage working executives to pursue such a value-added programme. Many emi-



Anti Airfield Weapon Test Fired Off Odisha Coast

(A.O. Bureau) Balasore, Jan 21: The Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) today successfully test fired a Smart Anti Airfield Weapon (SAAW) from the Hawk-i aircraft off the coast of Odisha. The indigenous stand-off weapon developed by Research Centre Imarat (RCI), DRDO is the first smart weapon fired from an Indian Hawk-Mk132. "HAL has been focusing on the Atma Nirbhar Bharat campaign. The Company owned Hawk-i platform is being extensively used for certification of systems and weapons devel-



oped indigenously by DRDO and CSIR labs," said R. Madhavan, CMD, HAL. The aircraft flown by HAL test pilots Wg Cdr (Retd) P Awasthi and Wg Cdr (Retd) M Patel executed the weapon release in a text book

manner and all mission objectives were met. The telemetry and tracking systems captured all the mission events confirming the success of the trials. Arup Chatterjee, Director, Engineering and R&D, HAL said that

HAL is indigenously enhancing the training and combat capability of Hawk-i. HAL is in discussions with Indian Armed Forces for integration of various weapons on Hawk platform. The Hawk-i is HAL's internally funded pro-

gram offering the Indian Armed Forces an upgrade and combat capability for the Hawk, transforming it into an Advanced Jet Trainer providing training on sensors and weapons in peacetime into a potent combat platform during conflict. The SAAW is an aircraft launched, advanced, precision strike weapon of 125 kg category used to attack and destroy enemy airfield assets such as radars, bunkers, taxi tracks, runways within a range of 100 kms. SAAW has been earlier successfully test fired from Jaguar aircraft.

ing executives which will contribute to growth in national productivity besides meeting the expectations of the working executives. Internationally acclaimed management expert and Director, IIM Sambalpur Professor Mahadeo Jaiswal, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. He congratulated the working professionals who joined this Executive MBA Programme and said "Executive programme provides the opportunity of mastering of best management practices with integration of collaborations, experimentation and inno-

"this is a memorable day for the University for launching the Executive MBA programme to enhance the managerial skills of the executives working in various industries. This will enhance the productivity of the Industries ultimately boosting the GDP of the Nation. Prof Kshiti Bhusan Das, Pro-Vice Chancellor, Central University of Odisha, Koraput spoke on the salient features of the Executive MBA programme floated by Central University of Odisha. The industry specialists from Hindustan Aeronautics

ment educationists and management experts from Xavier Institute of Management, IBSC (Siksha O Anusandhan University), Bhubaneswar, Institute of Public Enterprises (IPE), Hyderabad and professionals and practitioners from various establishments joined the inaugural programme and wished the participants an effective learning in this unique industry-academia partnership. Dr. Minati Sahoo, HoD, Business Management gave the welcome address and Shri Ashish Kumar Roy, Academic Consultant gave vote of thanks.

Truck-bike collision: Mother and daughter killed, father critical

(A.O. Bureau) Bargarh, Jan 21: A woman and her daughter were killed after the bike they were travelling on collided with an oncoming dumper truck near Burda area here. It was a narrow escape for husband of the woman with critical injuries, who was riding the bike. The deceased were identified as Satrunjali Barik and her 4-year-old daughter Pratikhya Barik, of

Bendra village in Balangir district, who were residing at Burla in Sambalpur district. The injured, identified as Mandhata Barik, has been admitted to a local hospital. According to sources, the trio was travelling on a bike to Bheden when an oncoming speeding truck hit the bike. On reaching the spot, the police sent the bodies for post-mortem and initiated a probe into the matter.

Khelo India Games: Meet Snow Girl Ranjita Behera, The Skier From Odisha In National C'ships



(A.O. Bureau) Rourkela, Jan 21: Who would have thought that a State where people touch the snow only in dreams, will produce a snow-girl one day! As exciting as it may sound, Ranjita Behera from steel city Rourkela will become the first person from Odisha to represent the State in Snow Skiing Skier event in the upcoming Khelo India Winter Games set to be held in Gulmarg, Jammu next month. Ranjita, stepping into the Snow Games, ideally means Odisha would also be placing its first step in the arena of Snow and Ice Sports of the country. Ranjita has certainly made everyone proud

by representing the State in the second Khelo India National Winter Games, 2021 to be held at Gulmarg, J&K from February 19-25, 2021, in the Alpine Ski event. This apart, she will also represent Odisha in the Senior National Ski and Snowboard Championship 2021 to be held in Uttarakhand from February 26-28, 2021. She happens to be the only qualified skier of the State for this event, sources said. Ranjita's keen interest in adventure sports prompted her to undergo different adventure trainings after completion of her graduation. Her father Raghunath Behera is a retired employee of Rourkela

Steel Plant. She is also an NCC 'C' certificate holder from the Directorate of NCC, Odisha. "My adventure journey started in 2016, and I did a Snow Skiing course two years later. It is after the training that I was able to build myself step by step. I will be participating in the Slalom event. It's an alpine skiing and alpine snowboarding discipline, involving skiing between poles or gates. I will also be participating in Ski Mountaineering in the coming days," she said. On how she developed an interest in adventure, Ranjita stated, "I'm a holder of NCC 'C' Certificate, and that was over before I completed my

graduation. My aim is to become an Army officer. Adventure sports was somewhere hidden in me, I always wanted to be different from others. I haven't thought about the Olympics as yet, but I want to cross every hurdle that comes my way." "This event is likely to witness participation of around 150 people. This is my first step. I am as nervous as I am excited. A participant always wants to come home with a medal. I will give my best to earn a medal," she added. Congratulating the "snowgirl" for her upcoming events, Minister for Sports and Youth Services, Tusharkanti Behera said, "It is a moment of pride for us that Ranjita Behera will be the first Odia from the state to participate in Snow Games. This is no small feat considering Odisha's terrain and climate. With sheer grit and hard work, she has achieved this. Her dedication to be a Skier is commendable and we will extend all necessary support to her to excel and win medals.

7 Persons Rescued After Boat Develops Technical Snag In Odisha Reservoir

(A.O. Bureau) Nabarangpur, Jan 21: At least seven persons had a close shave after the country-made boat they were sailing on developed technical snag in the middle of Indravati Reservoir at Thuamul Rampur in Kalahandi district. As per reports, all the occupants of the boat got stranded for several hours after the boat developed the technical snag.

other boat in the reservoir. However, we were lucky to return safely after one Ambulance boat spotted us and rescued," said one of the rescued persons. Sources said the Ambulance boat was passing through the reservoir from Bajraguda in Nabarangpur district. After hearing the SOS call from the stranded persons, staff of the Ambulance boat rescued them.



All the persons from Bijraguda village were reportedly travelling to Uparpanga village in the motorised boat to attend a ring ceremony when it developed some snag on Wednesday. After being stranded for long, all the persons were rescued by an 108 Ambulance boat. "All of us were stranded in the middle of the reservoir. We had almost lost hope of returning to shore as we could not see any

"Several persons are risking their lives to cross the reservoir as there are no safety jackets and other articles in such boats," said a local. The 108 Ambulance boat driver said, "We were on our way to bring a patient when we noticed some people waiving hands and pleading for help. Without wasting much time, we rushed to the spot and rescued all the persons."

80 acres of cultivated hemp plants destroyed in Kandhamal

(A.O. Bureau) Phulbani, Jan 21: Over 80 acres of cultivated hemp plants were destroyed in Kandhamal district during Operation Green that is targeting illegal cannabis plantation in Odisha. Baliguda police and excise personnel conducted a joint raid near Surubali vil-

lage under Mahasinghi gram panchayat and destroyed the plants. The team cut and set ablaze the plantation. A case was also registered at Baliguda police station in this regard. The estimated value of the destroyed cannabis plantation would be worth around Rs 16 crore.



Katrina Kaif's Sister Isabelle Kaif to Romance Pulkit Samrat in 'Suswagatam Khushaamadeed'

New Delhi, Jan 21: The film will witness Pulkit Samrat essaying the role of a Delhi boy, Aman, with Isabelle playing the role of Noor who hails from the city of Agra. *Suswagatam Khushaamadeed* will see Pulkit Samrat star opposite Katrina Kaif's sister Isabelle Kaif. The entertainer with an underlying message on social harmony will witness Pulkit Samrat essaying the role of a Delhi boy, Aman, with Isabelle playing the role of Noor who hails from the city of Agra. Talking about their on-screen chemistry, Pulkit says, "I must say that our chemistry is quite dhamakedaar. People on the set say



that we look like a patakha together." "Isabelle has brought fresh energy on the set. She's extremely hard-working and has impressed everyone on the set. She is stunning and brings a streak of innocence to her character. She has left me

mesmerised." The duo recently shot for a Dandiya number with Ganesh Acharya. Ganesh, who has a list of superhit songs in his kitty says, "The song is a mix of a Jagrata and dandiya dance and the leading couple has done jus-

tice to it. I know Pulkit is a fantastic dancer, but Isabelle surprised me as she is new, but she learned the steps with ease. The two rehearsed for several days, and the romance and the chemistry that comes across on the screen is perfect!"

Titled *Ban Piya*, the song features Pulkit and Isabelle in black and gold desi costumes with 400 background dancers in traditional outfits. "It is one of my biggest songs. It looks so colourful. The way it is shot it will leave people stunned while watching it on the big screen. Masterji has introduced some interesting steps, and the hook step is quite catchy," says Pulkit Samrat. *Suswagatam Khushaamadeed* is produced by Insite India and Endemol Shine India in association with Yellow Ant Productions, helmed by Dhiraj Kumar and written by Manish Kishore.

Kiku rubbishes reports of Krushna being upset with him over Govinda joke on TKSS

New Delhi, Jan 21: Kiku Sharda has dismissed reports that Krushna Abhishek is upset with him over a joke he made on a recent episode of *The Kapil Sharma Show*. In a recent episode of *The Kapil Sharma Show*, Kiku Sharda apparently took a swipe at his co-performer Krushna

uncomfortable about?" Kiku added, "Both Krushna and I have worked separately on the show and also together in pairs. We both turn into kids, Dharamendra paaji and Sunny paaji and do many fun things together. So, I feel this was just picked up randomly by someone to create a contro-

scolded Kiku for saying something. "Chee chee aisi baat nahi karte (Don't talk like this, how shameful)," he said, in character. To this, Kiku, also in character, replied, "Chi Chi to aapse baat nahi karte (Govinda doesn't even talk to you)." 'Chi Chi' is Govinda's nickname. Krushna and Govinda



Abhishek's soured relationship with his uncle, actor Govinda. Kiku dismissed reports that Krushna was offended by his joke. In an interview, he said that all is well between the two, and that he would never ambush Krushna like this. "It was completely scripted, rehearsed and Krushna was aware that I had these lines," he told *The Times of India*. "It was just a joke and Krushna is not so shallow to take everything so seriously in life. And above all, why would I poke him about something he is

versy. We both found those lines funny and Krushna knows it's a joke. At the end of the day people should remember that we are just trying to make people laugh. Some jokes work and some don't. In this case, it was funny and we both laughed about it. I love Krushna and we gel really well. We share a great working equation with each other. I feel the credit for keeping us going for all these years goes to the writers who keep bringing something new to each episode." In the episode, Krushna mock-

have often spoken about their differences publicly, and Krushna even refused to participate in an episode of *The Kapil Sharma Show* that featured his uncle as a guest. Krushna told *Bombay Times*, "I learnt about Chi Chi mama coming on the show around 10 days ago. Since Sunita mami wasn't accompanying him, the team thought that I would have no qualms performing. However, the incident has left a bad taste in my mouth. Last year, she didn't want me to perform in front of them, but this time, I had reservations."

Arjun works out with baby son Arik in new video, says he's 'starting young'

Mumbai, Jan 21: Actor Arjun Rampal has shared a new video with his son, Arik. His partner, Gabriella Demetriades, loves it. Actor Arjun Rampal has shared a video of himself, 'working out' with infant son, Arik. In the video, shared by Arjun on Instagram on Thursday, an excited Arik could be seen sitting in front of his dad, pulling on some weights with his help. Arjun captioned the post, "Starting young. #Ironman." His partner, and Arik's mother, model Gabriella Demetriades, dropped a



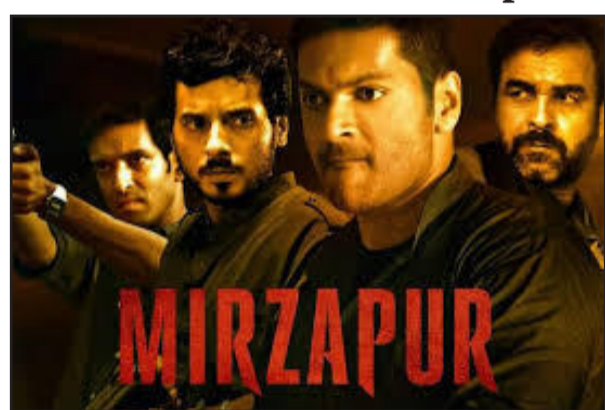
heart emoji in the comments section, as did celebrity photographer Dabboo Ratnani. Arjun's eldest daughter, Mahikaa, turned 19 recently. The actor took to Instagram to wish her

on the occasion, and also shared pictures of all three of his kids. He has another daughter, Myra, with former wife, Mehr Jessie. On Arik's first birthday in 2020, Arjun revealed

the baby's face to the world for the first time. He also shared a video of Arik's first year, edited by Mahikaa. "My babies... thank you my super talented @mahikaarampal for

this lovely video," he wrote with the post. Sharing Arik's pictures for the first time, he wrote, "On Arik's first birthday, it's time to share his love with my insta family. Thank you all for your patience and all the love you have poured upon us. Meet the little Rampal. Arik. Happy birthday my boy." Arjun recently unveiled his first look from *Dhaakad*, starring Kangana Ranaut. "Boom Evil has a new name- Rudraveer! Super excited to essay an antagonist who is dangerous, deadly and cool at the same time!"

After Tandav, Now Mirzapur Landed In Trouble



Lucknow, Jan 21: After *Tandav* another Amazon Prime's web series 'Mirzapur' has landed in trouble. The makers of the show were issued a notice by the Supreme Court of

India over the allegations of "maligning the image of Uttar Pradesh." The other Amazon Prime show 'Tandav' is battling the legal system, allegedly for 'hurting religious

sentiments'. A team of UP policemen has reached Mumbai to investigate the case filed by a journalist in Mirzapur town in UP. The Supreme Court also issued a notice to the makers of the series and Amazon Prime on a petition by another resident of the town. SK Kumar, the petitioner complained to the court that Mirzapur had been portrayed in a bad light in the web series and was shown as a place of terror and illegal activities.

Arthritis drug no better than standard care for severe Covid-19, says study

New Delhi, Jan 21: Treating severe Covid-19 patients with the arthritis drug tocilizumab along with standard care is no better than standard care alone in improving clinical outcomes at 15 days, says the results of a trial which was stopped early due to increased number of deaths among those receiving the drug. Treating severe Covid-19 patients with the arthritis drug tocilizumab along with standard care is no better than standard care alone in improving clinical outcomes at 15 days, says the results of a trial which was stopped early due to increased number of deaths among those receiving the drug. The findings, published in the peer-reviewed journal *The BMJ*, noted that there was an increased number of deaths at 15 days in

severe Covid-19 patients receiving tocilizumab -- contradicting earlier observational studies suggesting a benefit of the drug. However, the scientists, including those from Universidade Federal de Sao Paulo in Brazil, said these contradictory effects need to be assessed in future studies. They explained that the drug blocks a specific part of the immune system -- interleukin 6 -- that can go into overdrive in some Covid-19 patients. While tocilizumab was thought to help lessen the body's inflammatory response to the virus and avert dire consequences of the disease, the study said the drug's effects are not well defined. In the research, the scientists conducted a clinical trial comparing tocilizumab

plus standard care with standard care alone in patients admitted to hospital with severe or critical Covid-19. Their

standard care, and 64 who received standard care alone. Other factors, such as underlying conditions and use of



findings are based on 129 adults (average age of 57 years) with confirmed Covid-19 at nine hospitals in Brazil between 8 May and 17 July 2020. The patients received supplemental oxygen or mechanical ventilation and had abnormal levels of at least two molecules linked to inflammation in their blood. They were randomly divided into two groups -- 65 who received tocilizumab plus

standard care, and 64 who received standard care alone. Other factors, such as underlying conditions and use of other medication, were taken into account and all patients were monitored for 15 days, the study noted. By day 15, the scientists said 18 patients in the tocilizumab group and 13 in the standard care group were receiving mechanical ventilation or died. They said death at 15 days occurred in 11 patients in the tocilizumab group compared with two in the standard care group. Since the increased

number of deaths in the tocilizumab group raised safety concerns, the trial was stopped early, the researchers added. In both groups, they said deaths were attributed to Covid-19 related acute respiratory failure or multiple organ dysfunction. Citing the limitations of the study, the researchers said the sample size of the trial was small, which could affect the chances of detecting a true effect. However, they added that the results were consistent after adjusting for levels of respiratory support needed by patients at the start of the trial. The researchers concluded that in patients with severe or critical Covid-19, "tocilizumab plus standard care was not superior to standard care alone in improving clinical status at 15 days and might increase mortality."

Ankita Lokhande pays tribute to Sushant Singh Rajput: 'Will always remember you'

New Delhi, Jan 21: Many Bollywood and television personalities remembered Sushant Singh Rajput on his birth anniversary. The actor, popular for his roles in films like *Kai Po Che*, *MS Dhoni: The Untold Story*, *Chhichhore* and *Dil Bechara* among others passed away on June 14, 2020. Actor Ankita Lokhande, who dated Sushant for over six years, shared a video of the late actor where he can be seen playing with



his pet dog. Ankita wrote that she will always remember Sushant as a "happy, intelligent, romantic and adorable" man. "I don't know how to start and what to say

but yes today I'm gonna share few of yours old videos Sushant to celebrate you. these are the only memories I hv with u and i will always remember you Like this ?

'Took injection, couldn't feel my leg': Vihari describes batting through pain



New Delhi, Jan 21: Moments into his innings, Hanuma Vihari ran a single and grimaced in pain, and it was at that moment that everyone knew he had done something to his hamstring. India batsman Hanuma Vihari, who was responsible for India's famous draw in the third Test against Australia at the Sydney Cricket Ground, revealed that his left leg had gone completely numb after tearing a ham-

string while batting in the fourth innings of the match. With India needing 407 to win and the score at 250/4, Vihari walked out to bat, and with R Ashwin, added an unbeaten 62-run stand that ensured India escaped with a draw. However, just moments into his innings, Vihari ran a single and grimaced in pain. It was at that moment that everyone knew he had done something to his hamstring. It soon became

evident as Vihari stopped running quick singles and the ones he took, the batsman appeared in pain while doing so. Vihari was aware that he couldn't afford to retire hurt, such was his character. "I got a painkiller injection. And got taped up. In my mind, I knew this is the innings I have to give it back to the team. I was thinking in my mind I have to do something and show the character and grit and determi-

nation. That I have to go and bat for two-and-a-half hours," he told ESPNcricinfo. "In the tea break I took the injection. After tea, it stopped hurting me but I felt a weakness in my right leg. I couldn't feel my right leg at all. The numbness of the painkiller meant I didn't have any pain when standing, but I couldn't even feel my leg. And then when I ran it hurt." Vihari's torn hamstring added to India's growing list of injuries. After Mohammed Shami, Umesh Yadav, KL Rahul and Ravindra Jadeja, Vihari was India's fifth big injury concern, but he batted on along with Ashwin to save an incredible Test for India. When India lost Rishabh Pant and Cheteshwar Pujara in quick succession, India still had a chance to go for the

kill, but Vihari's injury shut it. Having said that, the batsman still had a job to do for his team and he did not disappoint. "I knew it then and there that it was the end of my series. I knew it wasn't a cramp or anything minor. I knew straightaway that I had torn my hamstring. Because I have done that before, I knew how it feels. I couldn't walk or run. I knew it was a tear," he said. "I knew whatever contribution I could make, whatever impact I had to have, it has to be in this time. In one way, the injury helped me with clarity of mind. I knew I just have to play close to the body and not try anything fancy because I am not looking for runs and I can't run anyway. It made things simpler for me to just be there and block balls that come my way."

No pain, no gain: Cheteshwar Pujara shares what his family was going through while watching the fiercest battle

New Delhi, Jan 21: Watching her father wince in pain at the Gabba, mother cringing and taking her eyes away from the television, Cheteshwar Pujara's daughter Aditi babbled out her two-year-old wisdom. "When he comes home, I will kiss where he is hurt, he will be fine." Sitting at Brisbane airport, with a swollen finger and torso still black and blue after taking 11 blows from the Aussie quicks on the final day of the 'greatest Test', Pujara shares what his family was going through while watching the fiercest cricketing battle of his career. It's not even 24 hours since the time he and 10 others were in the ring throwing punches to avoid defeat and draw. Pujara says he couldn't sleep

much since his painful finger and throbbing shoulder didn't allow him to toss or turn. But he sounds relaxed. Flying home after a job well done is always therapeutic. He is amused by his daughter's home rem-

juries, Aussie blows to Cheteshwar Pujara, Cheteshwar Pujara finger injury, Cheteshwar Pujara chin music, Cheteshwar Pujara fifty, Cheteshwar Pujara batting, Cheteshwar Pujara vs



edy. "That's what I do to her when she falls, so she believes that a kiss can heal every wound," he says indulgently. Cheteshwar Pujara, Cheteshwar Pujara interview, Cheteshwar Pujara in-

Australian bowlers Cheteshwar Pujara weathered a short ball barrage from Australian pacers on Day 5 before 'young India' delivered the killer blow on a tired home unit.

Why stand-in Rahane is being seen as a permanent Test captain

New Delhi, Jan 21: On the heels of 36 all out in Adelaide and Virat Kohli returning home on paternity leave, Ajinkya Rahane took charge of the team and presided over India's memorable come-from-behind Test series win in Australia. The stand-in skipper led the fightback with a century in Melbourne and throughout the se-

Did India embrace a more collective approach under Rahane? Team huddles had a lot more voices. On many occasions, Ravichandran Ashwin was the speaker-in-chief in team huddles. The senior off-spinner missed the fourth Test due to a back injury but he walked around the boundary rope and came to the field dur-

when he is out there, he is not ruffled by anything. He led from the front with his innings in Melbourne, which really set us back on track. And we haven't looked back since," the Indian team head coach Ravi Shastri said at the presser. Rahane collected the Border-Gavaskar Trophy, held it aloft, called his teammates, handed over the trophy to T Natarajan and left the scene. On ABC Grandstand radio commentary, legendary former Australia captain Ian Chappell was impressed. "That's Rahane for you. When the BCCI will hang a picture of this at its office, the captain will be missing from the group photo. His team mates love him and respect him. They are playing for him," Chappell said. "I think I would have really considered



ries, his captaincy wowed fans and pundits alike. How astute was Rahane tactically? Exhibit 1: Australia went into the fourth day in Brisbane leading by 54 runs and having an entire day to bat India out of the game. India's 'second-string' bowling attack had restricted the hosts below 400 in the first innings but the Gabba pitch was easing out and only one crack on the surface was prominent. David Warner looked to be finally finding his touch. About an hour into the fourth day, Australia's lead went past 100 and they still hadn't lost a wicket in their second innings. Rahane continued with a relatively attacking field

ing drinks breaks when India were bowling. He was always talking to the young players, especially Washington Sundar. Similarly, Jasprit Bumrah was mentoring the young fast bowlers. Everybody looked thoroughly involved, with seniors taking the lead. How significant was Rahane's innings in Melbourne? After the Adelaide debacle, India were once again on a slippery slope on 116/4 in their first innings in Melbourne. Rahane led by example and scored a century, which Sunil Gavaskar called "one of the most important hundreds in the history of Indian cricket". "(He is) very simple, very calm and composed. Ajinkya,

captain for @BCCI!!! Allowing @imVkohli to be the Batsman only would make India even more dangerous & Rahane has an incredible presence & tactical nous about him," former England captain Michael Vaughan wrote on Twitter. What about Rahane's captaincy record? Rahane first captained India in a home Test against Australia at Dharamsala three years ago. He made a winning start, as India clinched the series decider. So far, the 32-year-old has led India in five Tests - four against Australia and one against Afghanistan. He has four wins and a draw to his credit.

Mohammedan set to sign Pedro Manzi, derby hero Azharuddin Mallick

Kolkata, Jan 21: Pedro Manzi had been instrumental in Chennai City FC's first I-League title triumph in 2018/19. This year, could he be the force needed for I-League glory to return to Mohammedan SC? Mohammedan SC are closing in on the signing of Spanish striker Pedro Manzi and Nigerian John Chidi. And they have almost secured the services of Azharuddin Mallick, the derby match hero. Speaking on the transfer updates, Mohammedan SC official Istiaq Ahmed Raju told, "Mohammed Fatau has injury. After an MRI scan we have confirmed it. Now he is set to be released along with Raphael Odoyin Onwrebe." He added, "We are in



talks with Pedro Manzi and John Chidi. They both are quality foreigners. But nothing has been confirmed as of now. We are going to sign Azharuddin Mallick." The 130-year-old club secured an I-League berth this year after a successful qualification campaign. After three matches, Mohammedan have proved themselves to

be one of the strongest teams of the tournament. After a good start in the I-League, Mohammedan are now looking to make a few squad changes in the current transfer season. With coach Jose Hevia not being too happy with his forwards, The Black Panthers are eyeing a return for Uruguayan-born Spanish striker Pedro Manzi and John

Chidi. Pedro made his name in India while playing for Chennai City FC. In the 2018-19 season Pedro's prolific goalscoring had helped Chennai City FC earn their maiden I-League title. He went on to score 23 goals from 26 appearances and was awarded the Golden Boot of the tournament. Pedro, Sandro and Nestor had made

it a habit to rip apart rival defences that season. After his triumphant Indian sojourn, Pedro had moved to the J-league second division with Albirex Niigata. But his stint with the Japanese club was not a successful one. He made only 8 appearances without scoring a goal. After his contract with the club ended last October, he was eager to return to his favourite hunting ground - India. That is when the Kolkata club contracted him. John Chidi had played with Mohammedan a couple of years ago. If sources from within the club are to be believed, John Chidi will join within a week and Pedro is set to come to India in the last week of February.

'India's products play Test cricket, only talent does for us': Ex-Pak captain



Lahore, Jan 21: Lauding a young and inexperienced Indian side for their stunning series win in Australia, former Pakistan captain Mohammad Hafeez explained the difference between India and Pakistan cricket systems. Stating that only talent is not enough to be successful and be consistent at the international stage, Hafeez said the reason why India could recover from 36 all out even in the absence of their

captain Virat Kohli and go on to win the series is because their 'finished products' play Test cricket, which is not the case for Pakistan. "The reason why India came back from being bowled out for 36 and went on to win the series despite their captain not being available or so many players injured is because their new and young players are groomed properly into finished products.

Virushka Snapped Together First Time After Birth Of Their Child

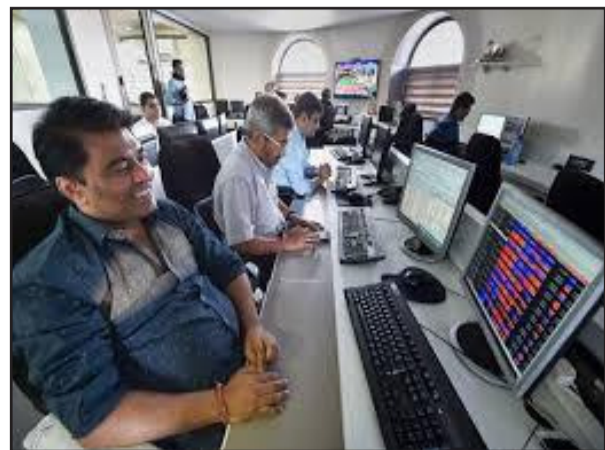
Mumbai, Jan 21: Indian cricket team captain Virat Kohli and Anushka Sharma have been seen for the first time after the birth of their daughter. Virat Kohli had tweeted on January 11 that his wife and Bollywood actress Anushka Sharma gave birth to a daughter. Apart from giving information about the birth of

the daughter, Virat Kohli also appealed to the paparazzi to maintain their privacy. Virat Kohli wrote - We are happy to tell both of us that we have a daughter here this afternoon. We are deeply grateful for your love and wishes. Virat Kohli further wrote - Both Anushka and Daughter are absolutely fine. It is

our good fortune that we got to experience this chapter of this life. We know that you will definitely understand that at this time we all need some privacy. Now after the birth of the daughter, Virat Kohli and Anushka Sharma have been seen in public for the first time.



Sensex Breached 50,000 Mark For The First Time



(A.O. Bureau) Mumbai, Jan 21: The 30-share major index Sensex on the Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) today managed to open beyond the record 50,000 marks for the first time. After a good rise in the pre-trade session, the Sensex opened at 50,002 today. This is the first time in history that the BSE Sensex has crossed the 50,000 marks. Sensex has covered the journey

from 25 thousand to 50 thousand in 6 years 8 months 5 days. Apart from the Sensex, the Nifty 50 has also managed to open beyond 14,700 points on the National Stock Exchanges. Before this, after the swearing-in of the new President Joe Biden in the US, Wall Street also saw a record boom. Its effect is being seen in Asian markets today. Sensex rises 10 thousand points in 2 years. For the first

time in the year 1999, the Sensex had crossed the 5,000 marks. After 8 years, it reached the 20,000 marks and after 12 years it crossed the 40,000 marks. But now it has climbed 10,000 points in less than 2 years and has crossed 50,000. Sensex rises nearly 25 thousand points in 10 months. Last year, there was a sharp decline in the stock market amid the news of Coronavirus. On March 25, the Sensex had dropped to a level of 25,639. However, the next day itself saw a recovery in the market and it managed to reach the level of 30 thousand. After this, it crossed 35,000 on 22 June 2020 and 40,000 on 31 August. On December 4, the Sensex crossed 45,000 in about 67 sessions.

Airtel Started Digital Payment Service



(A.O. Bureau) Mumbai, Jan 21: In view of the increasing trend of digital payments and digital transactions in India, telecom company Airtel has also made a foray into the world of online payments. Airtel has started a service called 'Airtel Safe Pay'. This service has been started under Airtel's online banking system Airtel Payments Bank. Airtel

claims that through this, users can do safe and easy online transactions. Please tell that WhatsApp and Amazon have already started this service. Special care is taken for safety - Airtel has clearly stated that special care has been taken for security in Airtel Safe Pay and users can easily do digital transactions without any fear. Airtel says that Airtel Safe Pay is better than the current two-factor authentication system

of the industry. There will be no risk of fraud - Airtel told through a press release that this service has been started to protect Airtel users from phishing and it is more secure. Users can send money to their friends and relatives very easily through this service. Through this, users will be able to transact without any fraud. It has been claimed on behalf of the company that it is absolutely safe payment service.

Rajasthan to have a third Sainik School in Alwar

(A.O. Bureau) Alwar, Jan 21: Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot has approved a proposal for the allotment of free land in Haldina village of Malakhera tehsil of Alwar for the establishment of the school, an official statement said. A third Sainik School will be set up in Rajasthan in

Alwar district after the establishment of two others earlier in Chittorgarh and Jhunjhunu districts. Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot has approved a proposal for the allotment of free land in Haldina village of Malakhera tehsil of Alwar for the establishment of the school, an official statement said on Thursday.

Power consumption in Dec 2020 indicates economy reviving: Shah



Gandhinagar, Jan 21: "During corona pandemic, the economy had slowed down in the entire world and India as well. But India's story of V-shape (recovery of economy) is a subject of discussion across the world; the speed with which India's economy has recovered," Amit Shah said. Union Home Minister and Lok Sabha MP from Gandhinagar, Amit Shah, on Thursday said

that Indian economy has started reviving and added that the consumption of electricity in December 2020 was maximum for that month any year. Speaking before virtually inaugurating a four-lane railway over bridge in Thaltej-Shilaj area of Ahmedabad, Shah said this while referring to the electricity consumption in the country. In the virtual address that was attended by Deputy Chief Min-

ister Nitin Patel, various MLAs from Ahmedabad and leaders of Gujarat BJP, Shah said, "During corona pandemic, the economy had slowed down in the entire world and India as well. But India's story of V-shape (recovery of economy) is a subject of discussion across the world; the speed with which India's economy has recovered." "Figures have come recently. Consumption of electricity is considered a very important standard of economy's development. In December, maximum consumption of electricity was last year. It means that our economy has started reviving. The fight (against Covid-19) was fought successfully under the leader-

Chintan Baithak is a important initiative for finalising a roadmap of India's Maritime sector for the next decade for fulfilling Prime Minister's vision of 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat': Shri Mansukh Mandaviya

New Delhi, Jan 21: Shri Mansukh Mandaviya, Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways (I/C) will chair three-day Ports Review Meeting named 'Chintan Baithak' at Dhordo, Kutch, Gujarat. From 21st to 23rd January 2021, Chairpersons of all Major Ports of India and Senior Officials of the ministry will participate in the

extensive brainstorming conference to finalise the roadmap of Maritime Vision-2030. The Chintan Baithak includes sessions on exploring new vistas of urban transportation, effective implementation of SAROD-Ports, issues related to International Arbitrations etc. The future action plan for development of satellite ports by all major

ports will be deliberated. Discussion on opening up more new routes for RO-RO, RO-PaX ferry and Seaplane services across the nation, and discussion on ways and means for increasing volume & movement of Coastal Cargo will also take place. Minister of Ports, Shipping & Waterways (I/C) Shri Mansukh Mandaviya

stated that the basic purpose of holding this Chintan Baithak is to evolve out of the box ideas for improving the performance and efficiency of our Major Ports, setting up of world-class infrastructure facilities at ports by adopting global benchmarks for reducing logistics costs, enhancing connectivity and Ease Of Doing Business are

our focus areas. All the ideas emerged out of the extensive discussions during this Chintan Baithak are going to be dovetailed in the Maritime Vision 2030 to fulfil Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's vision of 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat' with his key mantra of 'Reform, Perform & Transform' added Shri Mansukh Mandaviya.

UAIL Donates Ambulance to Rayagada Distt. Admin.

(A.O. Bureau) Bhubaneswar, Jan 21: As a part of its CSR activity and with the objective of supporting the Rayagada Distt. Healthcare in the backdrop of Covid 19 pandemic, Utkal Alumina International Limited a unit of Hindalco Industries of Aditya Birla Group has donated an advance life support Ambulance to the Rayagada Distt. Administration. This Advanced life support Ambulance is equipped with all emergency equipment facilities like syringe infusion pump, transport ventilator, mouth to mouth mask, folding stretcher, Emergency kit, suction pump, two oxygen cylinder, oxygen supply pipe line, cardiac monitor etc. A flag off ceremony on this occasion was held on 21st January 2021 at 10:00 am in the premises of District Head Quarter Hospital, Rayagada. Sri Saroj Kumar Mishra (OAS-SAG) Collector & District



Magistrate, Rayagada, Sri Prasad Chandra Pradhan (Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Rayagada), Sri Prasad Chandra Pradhan (Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Rayagada), Sri Tapan Kumar Rath (Sub-Divisional police Officer), Mr.

Makaranda Mudui, MLA Kashiपुर also present and appreciate the efforts of the company for the noble cause. Mr Mazharulla Beig (Unit Head) of Utkal Alumina International Limited handed over the Ambulance key with all necessary documents to Dr Artabandhu Nayak Chief District Medical Officer & Public Health Officer, Rayagada. Speaking in the occasion Mr Mazharulla Beig, Unit Head of UAIL expressed that "we had provided a life support ambulance for several months to the district administration for handling Covid

patients at the time when the pandemic was at its peak. In this context a need for a dedicated ambulance was felt and hence UAIL decided to donate a Critical Life support ambulance he too added that "we are committed toward the development of Rayagada District and community at large. We will always be standing with the people and administration for a holistic development of our district may it be education, health, and livelihood". While applauding UAIL for this noble effort, Sri Saroj Kumar Mishra (OAS-SAG) Collector & District Mag-

istrate, Rayagada said, that this support of UAIL by provide an ambulance which is a mini ICU having all latest lifesaving equipment will certainly strengthen the health care services in the tribal populated district of Rayagada. He too added that efforts are on to make the Rayagada Distt. Headquarter hospital a Super Specialty hospital. Other Dignitaries and Senior officials of UAIL Mr Rakesh Pratap Sing (Unit HR Head), Mr Siba Sankar Mahapatra, (Head CSR, R&R, Land & Liaison), Dr Arindam Ray Choudhury (Head Medical Services-Utkal Hospital), Mr Mukesh Jha (Head Mines), Dr Lopamudra Priyadarshini (Head Sustainability, CR & PR), Mr Sukanta Mahapatra (Manager-Admin) and Mr Pitambar Behera (Manager-Liaison & Co-ordination) were present in the occasion.

OFFICE OF THE PANCHAYAT SAMITI, SULIAPADA, DIST- MAYURBHANJ
No. 01/2020-21 **TENDER CALL NOTICE** Date: 19.01.2021
Annexure - 'A'

The Block Development Officer, Suliapada on behalf of Government of Odisha invites sealed tender on percentage (%) rate basis from registered contractors of Odisha PWD/WR/RWD/NH/MI/CPWD for the following work in conformity with the detail tender call notice.

Sl. No	Mane of the GP	Name of the work	Name of the Scheme	Estimated Amount put to tender (In Rs.)	EMD to be Deposited (In Rs.)	Cost of tender paper + GST (In Rs.)	Class of Contractors	Period of Completion
1	Deuli	Const. of New Model AWC Building at Gundurilocho under Deuli GP.	OMBADC	1327900.00	13300.00	5000+900	"C" & "D"	4 Months
2	Dhatika	Const. of New Model AWC Building at Dhatika-II under Dhatika GP.	OMBADC	1327800.00	13300.00	5000+900	"C" & "D"	4 Months
3	Kanimohuli	Const. of New Model AWC Building at Khamari (Mini) under Kanimohuli GP.	OMBADC	1327900.00	13300.00	5000+900	"C" & "D"	4 Months
4	Kantisahi	Const. of New Model AWC Building at Kantisahi-II under Kantisahi GP.	OMBADC	1327800.00	13300.00	5000+900	"C" & "D"	4 Months
5	Kantisahi	Const. of New Model AWC Building at Bari-II under Kantisahi GP.	OMBADC	1327800.00	13300.00	5000+900	"C" & "D"	4 Months
6	Mohabilla	Const. of New Model AWC Building at Kathogahala under Mohabilla GP.	OMBADC	1328000.00	13300.00	5000+900	"C" & "D"	4 Months
7	Ufaldadia	Const. of New Model AWC Building at Chandanilla under Ufaldadia GP.	OMBADC	1328200.00	13300.00	5000+900	"C" & "D"	4 Months

For more details regarding terms & Conditions the bidders may visit the website of DI&PRO, Mayurbhanj.
Sd/- Block Development Officer, Suliapada