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RNI Regd No: ODIENG/2019/77780

BHUBANESWAR

www.aroundodisha.com

VOLUME - 2

ISSUE - 209

PRICE- Rs.2/-

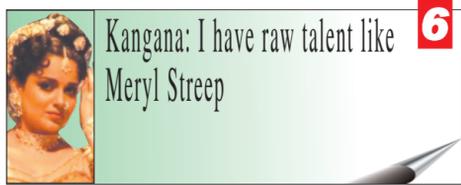
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## Odisha Govt Okays Eight Industrial Projects Of Over Rs 1,242 Cr Odisha To Reassert Its Stand Over MSP With Centre



Bhubaneswar, Feb 9: In a boost to industrial activities in Odisha, the State government today approved eight projects worth Rs 1,242.02 crore across industries. During the 98th meeting of the State Level Single Window Clearance Authority (SLSWCA) under the chairmanship of Chief Secretary Suresh Chandra Mahapatra, the eight projects in the metal and metal downstream, IT and ESDM, manufacturing, logistics and

tourism sectors received the in-principle approval. The projects are expected to generate 3,135 employment opportunities in the State. The details of the eight projects are as follows: A 30,000-MTPA Atomized Iron Powder plant with an investment of Rs 67.83 crore will be set up by M/s SLM Powders Private Limited in IDCO - Kalunga Industrial Estate, Sundergarh. The project will generate potential employment opportunities for over 430 per-

sons. A manufacturing unit of PET Preforms and Closures (Unit-II) of 24,000 tonnes/annum capacity for the Food and Beverage Industries to be set up by M/s Oricon Enterprises Ltd in Khordha with an investment of Rs 120 crore, which will generate potential employment opportunities for over 110 persons. A manufacturing unit for production of solar panel, advanced storage batteries like Lion Battery, Electronics Products for Energy Management,

Electromechanical Components and USB data cable and HDMI cable by M/s Surya International at EMC Park (Info Valley), Khordha district with an investment of Rs 67.50 crore, which will generate potential employment opportunities for over 680 persons. A Logistics Park by M/s Jagannath Industrial and Logistics Parks Private Limited at Tangi Choudwar in Cuttack with an investment of Rs 140 crore, which will generate potential employment opportunities for over 110 persons. Integrated Heavy Beach Sands Project by IREL IDCOL Ltd. at Krushnaprasad in Puri with an investment of Rs 460 crore, which will generate potential employment opportunities for over 800 persons. A 5-star hotel-cum-luxury resort by M/s

Pravat Hospitality Private Limited in Puri with an investment of Rs 135.69 crore, which will generate potential employment opportunities for over 350 persons. A 5-star Luxury Resort by M/s Swosti Premium Ltd in Puri with an investment of Rs 134 crore, which will generate potential employment opportunities for over 310 persons. A 4-star Hotel by Hotel Eden Roc in Bhubaneswar with an investment of Rs 117 crore, which will generate potential employment opportunities for over 345 persons. IPICOL recently submitted the State Reform Action Plan (SRAP) - 2020 as stipulated by DPIIT, Government of India. With this the State attracted investments worth of Rs 1,20,456.74 crore in the last one year across the six focused sectors.



Bhubaneswar, Feb 9: The Odisha Cabinet today resolved to move the Centre reiterating its earlier request to implement the recommendations of the MS Swaminathan Committee regarding Minimum Support Price (MSP) of all crops for doubling farmers income. An official press release said that Odisha government has been dedicatedly working towards development of farmers and is committed to the doubling of farmers' income. It said that all government

policies and programmes, including the new Agricultural Policy 2020 SAMRUDHI, are aimed at achieving rapid agricultural growth through improved profitability, inclusivity and sustainability. The State government considers that MSP is an important tool for income generation of the farmers. The income of farmers needs to keep pace with the growth of income in other sectors and the rise in the costs of cultivation. The MSP

of any agricultural produce has to be fixed in a holistic manner so as to make farming operations profitable and to safeguard the farmers against all types of risks. The Odisha Legislative Assembly has earlier passed unanimous resolutions in this regard in 2017 and again in 2018. MS Swaminathan chaired National Commission on Farmers had recommended the "MSP should be at least 50% more than the weighted average cost of Production".

## BJD MP Sasmit Patra Raises Issues Concerning Odisha's Development In RS



Bhubaneswar, Feb 9: BJD MP Sasmit Patra today raised various issues concerning Odisha's development and demands, included Special Category State status for the state pending with the Centre, in the Rajya Sabha. Speaking in Odia, Patra reiterated the demand for inclusion of Sambalpuri, Kosali and Ho languages in

8th Schedule of the Indian Constitution. Patra also raised the demand for establishment of second AIIMS hospital in Odisha in Sundargarh district, Odisha Vidhan Parishad and Shree Jagannath International Airport in Puri. Raising the issue of low telecommunication and banking coverage in the state, Sasmit said telecom-

munication coverage needs to be increased as 2235 villages in Odisha don't have access to it. Also, 70 % Gram Panchayats don't have banking coverage. "Issues of coal royalty, clean energy cess and coastal highway are pending as well. Hope the Centre would take due action to expedite the pending issues," said the MP.

## Odisha Cabinet approves implementation of REWARD project

Bhubaneswar, Feb 9: The Cabinet has approved a proposal to implement 'Rejuvenating Watersheds for Agricultural Resilience through Innovative Development (REWARD)' project. REWARD envisages an expenditure of Rs 500 Cr on science-based watershed management for a period of six years starting from April 2021. Out of this, World Bank will provide loan assistance amounting Rs

350.00 Cr. As the state has demonstrated capabilities in implementation of flagship watershed programmes including Govt. of India's Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) and DFID funded Western Odisha Rural Livelihood Project (WORLP), REWARD will also be delivered efficiently in order to bring in sustained impacts from watershed management of the



state. REWARD, further to scientific development of land resources, intends to disseminate agriculture resilient crop practices and support informed

interventions along the value chains of select crops through supporting investments in farmer producer organizations (FPOs) and market

linkages. This would have a greater probability of generating higher yields, gross revenue, and net income. There will be 1,90,000 direct beneficiaries including 10,000 poor and landless households. The project will be implemented by the Directorate of Soil Conservation & Watershed Development under Agriculture & Farmers' Empowerment Department for a period of six years.

## Engineering colleges, technical institutions to reopen from tomorrow

Bhubaneswar, Feb 9: All technical and professional institutions, including engineering colleges across the state, will reopen from tomorrow. However, the physical mode of teaching will resume on February 17. According to a notification issued by the Skill Development and Technical Education Department, ITI, polytechnic, engineering colleges and other professional institutions will resume their operations from tomorrow. Moreover, the physical classes for

first-year Post Graduate (PG) and pre-final year of Under Graduate (UG) courses will resume from tomorrow in the state. These colleges, which are closed due to the coronavirus pandemic, will be opened after about 10 months. The physical classes of the students of first-year PG and pre-final year of UG courses will resume from February 10 strictly adhering to the Covid guidelines, Higher Education Minister Arun Kumar Sahoo said on Tuesday.

## 504 Vacancies For Assistant Professor Posts At Odisha Varsities

Bhubaneswar, Feb 9: The Odisha Public Service Commission (OPSC) invited online applications from interested eligible candidates for recruitment to the posts of Assistant Professors in different State public universities. The commission released an official notification in this regard on its website. The process for online registration will begin on February 15, 2021. Interested eligible candidates will be able to apply for the posts online at <http://opsc.gov.in> on or before March 14, 2021. The commission is conducting the recruitment

drive to fill 504 vacancies for the posts of Assistant Professors. Out of the total vacancies, 48 positions are for Utkal University, 28 for Sambalpur University, 35 for Berhampur University, 64 for Kalahandi University, 14 for Fakir Mohan University, 34 for Maharaja Sriram Chandra Bhanj Deo University, 106 for Ravenshaw University, 63 for Rama Devi Women's University, 23 for Gangadhar Mehr University, five for Khallikote University, 72 for Rajendra University and 12 for Shri Jagannath Sanskrit University.

## Odisha Allows All Class IX, XI Students To Sit For Board Exams



Bhubaneswar, Feb 9: Students, who pursued Class IX at Odia medium schools in 2019-20 academic year, will be eligible to appear for the annual High School Certificate Examination this year conducted by the Board of Secondary Education (BSE), announced the Odisha government today. The annual board exam this year will be

conducted in May. As schools in the State remained closed since March 2020 due to the Covid pandemic, the Class IX students were unable to sit for the annual exam for class promotion. The government further said it directed schools to hold special classes for the Class IX students considering their issues. Worth men-

tioning, the government allowed schools to reopen for Class X and XII students from January 2021, adhering to the Covid guidelines. Similarly, Class XI students from 2019-20 academic year will be allowed to sit for the Plus II exam in May this year conducted by the Council of Higher Secondary Education (CHSE).

## Modi-Biden Phone Call: What Was Unsaid is Perhaps More Important Than What Was Said

New Delhi, Feb 9: The statement lays emphasis on democratic institutions and values which is a bedrock for the US-India relationship. So Prime Minister Narendra Modi and US President Joe Biden finally had their first telephonic interaction after the US President's inauguration, late Monday night. The readouts shared by both the State Department and the MEA point to the topics touched upon. Both the statements refer to two very important issues which figured prominently in the talks; climate change and a free and open Indo-Pacific. Climate change is a cornerstone for the Biden administration. The importance of the issue can be gauged by the fact that President Biden has appointed a new special climate envoy, someone no less than former Secretary of State John Kerry. Rejoining the Paris climate accord was also one of the first decisions taken by the new President. Prime Minister Modi has also spoken on numerous occasions about the importance of mitigating climate change for India. His government has made a massive

push for 100 GW of renewable power by 2030. India is one of the few developing countries that is committed to playing its role in mitigating climate change. Modi's government would do well in appointing a special climate envoy

planet for our future generations. The other important issue which finds mention in both readouts is that of a free and open Indo-Pacific. This is a very important issue both to India and to traditional American allies like Japan, South Korea,

Thanks to Trump, no future US administration will be able to deal with China in a business as usual way. It is clear that the US-China relationship in the 21st century is going to be similar to the US-Soviet Union relationship through much of the

this time it could be different, given how the US administration has already commented on the farmers' protests. While welcoming the new laws, the State Department in its statement last week had also opined on the internet outage in the venues of the farmer protests. While there won't be any tweets or public comments by any of the administration officials on New Delhi to reconcile with the farmers, I'm sure behind the scenes this will be a topic of much discussion. One other area which could become a bugbear is Kashmir. New Delhi is clear there's no going back on the abrogation of Article 370. But the recent conciliatory comments by Pak Army Chief General Bajwa and later by Pak PM Imran Khan cannot be seen in isolation. Clearly there is some smoke behind the fire. Foreign policy watchers will be keenly following developments on the Indo-Pak front in the days to come. One cannot rule out a quid pro quo, concessions along the LoC for some easing up along the LAC. Watch this space.



to engage with Secretary Kerry, much like the Chinese have done. China has brought back veteran climate negotiator Xie Zhenhua who has had a track record of interacting with John Kerry back as the Chinese government's climate envoy. India too should think on similar lines. After all, a country with 700 million young people owes it most to them to ensure that we leave behind a reasonably inhabitable

Philippines, Vietnam and Indonesia, all of whom have been rubbed the wrong way by China in recent territorial disputes. India would be hoping that the new Biden administration will bring pressure to bear on the Chinese to ease up on the LAC. But it is clear from Secretary of State Antony Blinken's comments that while the Trump approach may have been correct in principle, the method was all wrong.

20th century. Many foreign policy commentators like Gideon Rachman are calling this the new Cold War. The statement also lays emphasis on democratic institutions and values which is a bedrock for the US-India relationship. In normal course of things, this would have been seen as standard fare as lofty words about democracy and shared values have always found mention in Indo-US joint statements. But

## 'Remarkable no Covid-19 death reported in Delhi in 24 hours': NITI Aayog

New Delhi, Feb 9: Delhi has been witnessing a steady decline in the number of Covid-19 cases. Till Monday morning, the national capital recorded 125 new cases and two fatalities, according to health department. The Union health ministry said on Tuesday that 15 states and union territories haven't reported any death linked to the coronavirus disease (Covid-19) in the last 24 hours. NITI Aayog member Dr VK Paul lauded the improvement in the Covid-19 situation in national capital Delhi. "It is remarkable that no death

in New Delhi. He also hailed the nationwide vaccination programme against Covid-19. "We can confidently say that the strategy to implement vaccination programme and the experience of vaccination is now consistently, very highly rated by people," said the NITI Aayog official. Union health secretary Rajesh Bhushan, who was also present, said, "There are 15 states and union territories that haven't reported deaths in last 24 hours. There are seven states and UTs that haven't reported deaths in last

The health secretary said that 97 per cent people are satisfied with overall vaccination experience. Delhi has been witnessing a steady decline in the number of Covid-19 cases. Till Monday morning, the national capital recorded 125 new cases and two fatalities, according to health department. The positivity rate stood at 0.23 per cent, the health department data showed. Last Friday and on Sunday, the fatality counts were two, same as on February 2, which was the lowest in the last 10 months. Delhi had recorded 96 coronavirus cases on



has been reported due to Covid-19 in Delhi in the last 24 hours," Dr Paul said at the weekly press briefing on the Covid-19 situ-

3 weeks," said Bhushan. "55% decline in average daily Covid-19 deaths have been reported in last five weeks," he added.

January 27, the lowest in over nine months, and the first time the daily infection count had stood below the 100 mark in that month.

## Uttarakhand: Govt estimates damage worth Rs 1,500 cr to project



New Delhi, Feb 9: The flash flood in Uttarakhand has resulted in an approximately Rs 1,500-crore hit to NTPC Ltd's 520 MW hydropower project, Tapovan-Vishnugad, according to Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Power, R K Singh. The total cost of the project is Rs 5,867 crore, of which, expenditure till date is Rs 4,780 crore, the spokesperson added. The flash flood in Uttarakhand has resulted in an approximately Rs 1,500-crore hit to NTPC Ltd's 520 MW hydropower project, Tapovan-Vishnugad, according to Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Power, R K Singh. The damage to the under-construction, run-of-river project has also made it difficult to ascertain how much time it

would take to commission, the minister said. Singh, who visited Tapovan on Monday to assess the extent of the damage at the project site, had said that estimated losses to the project were worth around Rs 1,500 crore, as per a PTI report. However, the Union minister ruled out any possibility of the project being scrapped, it added. "But there is a question mark now on how long it will take to desilt it, as lakhs of tonnes of silt is lying at the project site," PTI quoted Singh as stating. "As of now, it is difficult to say when we will be able to resume work at the site, and when the project will be commissioned," Singh said, according to the PTI report. At the same time, the actual damage, including losses to the project, are still be-

ing assessed and the amount cited may not be final, a spokesperson of the Ministry of Power told. "At present, the focus is on rescue operations," the spokesperson said. The total cost of the project is Rs 5,867 crore, of which, expenditure till date is Rs 4,780 crore, the spokesperson added. Earlier on Monday, the minister had said that approximately 34 people were stuck in the tunnel and, while 70 meters had been cleared, around 180 meters were left to clear out. NTPC, meanwhile, informed the Bombay Stock Exchange on Monday that the impact of the damage to Tapovan-Vishnugad "may not be considered material", as per SEBI regulations. The flood has impacted a part of the project, but "appropriate insurance cover" is available for the loss and damage caused, it said. Chamoli Disaster Management Officer Nand Kishore Joshi told The Indian Express that a total of 186 workers were missing on Monday, while around 20 bodies have been recovered so far.

## 'Proud Indian': Rajya Sabha bids emotional farewell to Congress' Ghulam Nabi Azad

New Delhi, Feb 9: Leaders from across parties bid an emotional farewell to senior Congress leader Ghulam Nabi Azad on his retirement from the Rajya Sabha. Mentioning Pakistan in his retirement speech, Azad, 71, said he was among the fortunate people who never went to Pakistan and he felt proud to be an Indian Muslim. "I am among those fortunate people who never went to Pakistan. When I read about circumstances in Pakistan, I feel proud to be a Hindustani Muslim," Azad said. Attributing his success to Indira Gandhi, Azad



said the former prime minister and Sanjay Gandhi gave him opportunities to work under the Congress. He also noted the opportunities given to him under the leadership of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, current Congress president Sonia Gandhi, and Rahul Gandhi. He also lauded former Prime Minister

Atal Bihari Vajpayee for his ability to seek solutions by including everyone. "I learned from Vajpayee how to solve problems by giving something to both the opposition and the ruling party," Azad said. "It was very easy to manage parliament under his leadership due to this." Azad highlighted that people will keep their

trust in the lawmakers till the time they do work for them and pass laws. "If we only keep on fighting amongst ourselves, we will lose the trust of people," he said. Prime Minister Narendra Modi said the Congress leader had "has set very high standards as MP and Opposition leader". "Posts come, high office comes, power comes and how to handle these, one must learn from Ghulam Nabi Azad Ji. I would consider him a true friend," PM Modi said. "The person who will replace Ghulam Nabi ji will have difficulty matching his work

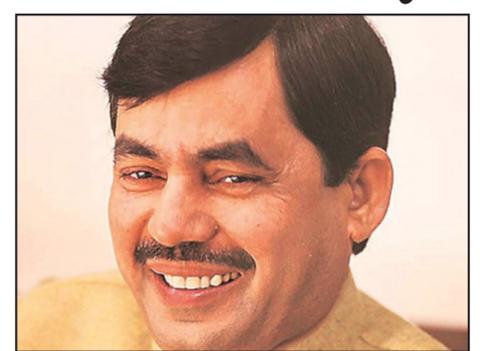
because he was not only concerned about his party but also about the country and the House," he added. PM Modi got emotional recalling Azad's help and efforts to bring back people from Gujarat stuck in Kashmir during a terror attack in 2007. "I will never forget Shri Azad's efforts and Shri Pranab Mukherjee's efforts when people from Gujarat were stuck in Kashmir due to a terror attack. Ghulam Nabi Ji was constantly following up, he sounded as concerned as if those stuck were his own family members," the PM said.

## Bihar: BJP's Syed Shahnawaz Hussain inducted as minister in Nitish govt

New Delhi, Feb 9: Former Union minister and BJP national spokesperson Syed Shahnawaz Hussain was Tuesday sworn in as the member of Chief Minister Nitish Kumar's cabinet in the Bihar government. Hussain was among the 17 leaders who were inducted into the Nitish government's cabinet, its first expansion after winning the State Assembly elections last year. With the expansion cabinet

strength has risen to 34. Others who were sworn in on the day included Nitin Nabin, Samrat Chaudhary, Neeraj Kumar Singh "Bablu", Janak Ram, Subhash Singh, Alok Ranjan Jha and Narayan Prasad from the BJP; Sanjay Kumar Jha and Shrawan Kumar, Madan Sahni, Lesi Singh and Sunil Kumar from the JDU. One member each was inducted from the quotas of smaller allies Hindustani

Awam Morcha (HAM) and Vikasheel Insaan Party (VIP) when the cabinet was formed in November last. CM Nitish Kumar said the allocation of portfolios has been taken and it will be notified soon. Hussain was the first to be administered the oath of office by Governor Phagu Chauhan at a ceremony held at the Raj Bhavan for the much-awaited cabinet expansion. Last month, Hussain was elected to the Bihar



legislative council. This was Hussain's first attempt in electoral politics after he unsuccessfully contested the Bhagalpur seat in the 2014 general elections. After being denied a ticket

in the 2019 Lok Sabha elections, Hussain has been working as one of the BJP's national spokespersons. He was a Union minister in the NDA government of Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

## Hope Foundation Organized Road Safety Campaign



(A.O. Bureau) Khordha, Feb 9: Leading Non-Government Organization of Odisha Yours Hope Foundation Organized Road Safety awareness campaign at Haribhaina and Sitaram Chhak Jatni, Khordha on Tuesday. The evaluation of campaigns aimed at improving road safety is still the exception rather than the rules. It is necessary that everyone should follow traffic rules. All those rebels who don't care

to follow the rules are in constant danger. It is our moral duty to follow road safety rules. Following words were said by the chief guest of the occasions IIC, Chandrasekharpur Traffic Police station, B B S R , A n j a l i Chhotray, MLA, Jatni Suresh Kumar Routray, Chairman Khordha District BAR, Association, Khordha, Sisir Kumar Parida, Chairman Yours Hope Foundation Reena Rani

Nayak, members of the organization Deepak Behera, Kulamani Jena, Ranjan Nayak, Sushil Dora, Jagannath Bhoi, Deba Behera, Anubhav Nayak, Prabhasini Nayak and others members of the organization were actively participated in this programme. Yours Hope Foundation Chairman Reena Rani Nayak welcomed the delegation who came on behalf of traffic police and speak about the traffic rules to the peoples.

## The Dept of H&FW, will organize a Mass Drug Administration (MDA) for elimination of Lymphatic Filariasis (LF) in 17 endemic districts

(A.O. Bureau) Bhubaneswar, Feb 9: The Department of Health and Family Welfare, Government of Odisha, will organize a Mass Drug Administration (MDA) round in a phased manner for elimination of Lymphatic Filariasis (LF) in 17 endemic districts of the state. In this regards, A virtual media sensitization workshop was organized in the state by the Health department in collaboration with Global Health Strategies on February 9, 2021. The objective of this workshop was to ensure the dissemination of information highlighting the debility caused by Lymphatic Filariasis, so that people can get accurate information about this serious disease. Through his video appeal message, Mr. Naba Kishore Das, State Health Minister, Department of Health

and Family Welfare, Government of Odisha, appealed to the public to consume anti-filaria drugs administered during MDA program in 17 districts of the state in the presence of the drug administrator. During the workshop, Dr. Shubhashisha

2021 and acknowledging the importance of continuing important public health initiatives, the Government of Odisha Under the National Lymphatic Filariasis Elimination Program, is undertaking MDA rounds in 17 LF endemic districts in phases. The MDA

ary 19, 2021 and the second phase from February 25 till March 6, 2021. 8 districts that are undertaking MDA from 10 February include Bhadrak, Balasore, Cuttack, D h e n k a n a l , Jharasuguda, Khurda, Nuapada and Nayagarh. The districts

rector, Public Health, Department of Health and Family Welfare, Government of Odisha, stated through a presentation that "Filariasis or Hathipaon disease" is a serious public health problem which is spread by mosquito bites. Filariasis is one of the leading causes of long-term disability worldwide. Commonly acquired in childhood, this infection damages the lymphatic system and if left untreated, it causes abnormal swelling of the body parts. People with Filariasis often suffer from manifestations such as Hydrocele (inflammation of the scrotum), lymphoedema (swelling in the limbs) and Chyluria (milky white urine). The condition affects livelihoods, opportunities and working capacity of those suffering from LF and they often become a subject of stigma.



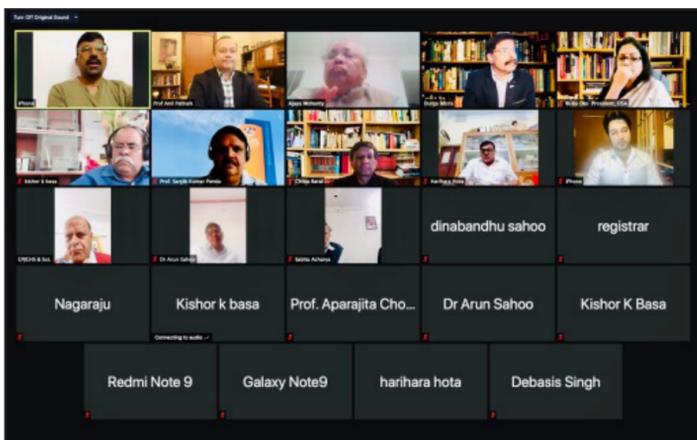
Mohanty, State Program Officer, Vector Borne Diseases, Department of Health and Family Welfare, Government of Odisha, said, "Keeping in mind India's commitment to eliminate filariasis by

rounds will be organized as per COVID-19 guidelines issued by the Government of India. The first phase of the Mass Drug Administration (MDA) program will begin from February 10 to Febru-

undertaking MDA in the second phase include Angul, Ganjam, M a y u r b h a n j , Sundargarh, Keonjhar, Kandhamal, Sonepur, Bargarh and Sambalpur". Dr. Niranjan Mishra, Di-

## Arun Sahoo lauded the Higher Education Initiative of OSA No Khandagiri Mela In Bhubaneswar This Year

(A.O. Bureau) Bhubaneswar, Feb 9: Odisha Higher Education Minister Arun Sahoo lauded the Higher Education Initiative being undertaken by Odisha Society of America (OSA). Particularly Dr. Sahoo appreciated the efforts being carried on by the Global Higher Education Committee (GHEC) floated by O.S.A for the development of the Higher Education in Odisha. Recently Dr Sahoo had a brainstorming Web Session with the representatives of O.S.A, GHEC, State Govt. Officials and VCs of different Universities. Attended by top Odia educationists and academicians of the World, The meeting deliberated on the measures to be initiated to enhance the quality of Higher Education of the Public Universities in Odisha. Extending a Warm Welcome to the participants, the Higher Education Minister Dr. Sahoo addressed the current issues and challenges before Higher Education sector in Odisha. It was agreed upon during the livestreaming interaction



that the International Community would be hosting Webinars and formulating the topics on institutional development depending on the needs of various departments of Universities, the Public Universities in Odisha will facilitate the International students as well as faculty exchange programmes starting with US Universities, the Higher Education Department of Government of Odisha will be ensuring the availability of upgraded WIFI Broadband in all the University Campuses expeditiously, the faculty Profile and their research interests will be clearly placed in the University Websites so that the Global Higher Education

Committee will be able to facilitate the collaboration with the International faculty members and researchers, the proposal for the formation of a strong alumni database for each University was given paramount importance leveraging the ongoing "Mo college" initiative and fostering of industry collaborations by establishing centres of excellence in Universities with innovation and incubation facilities. The proposal of formation of an external Advisory Council for the universities was also received very well by the Higher Education Minister, Dr. Sahoo, Principal Secretary Shri Saswat Mishra and the VCs of various universities start-

ing with inclusion of eminent personalities as syndicate members. Dr. sahuo agreed for the follow up meetings to be held quarterly with the representatives of OSA and Global Higher Education Committee, State Government Authorities and VCs of Public Universities for the exchange and implementation of ideas and Review the implementation of the programmes and projects in the future. Other dignitaries who attended the marathon internet meeting include Prof. Asoka Das, Vice Chairman of Odisha State Higher Education Council ; Prof. Sabita Acharya, Vice-Chancellor of Utkal University;

Prof. Dinabandhu Sahoo, Vice-Chancellor of Fakir Mohan University ; Prof. Harihar Hota, Vice-Chancellor of Sri Jagannath Sanskrit Vishwavidyalaya; Prof. Aparajita Choudhary, Vice-Chancellor of Rama Devi Womens' University; Prof. N. Nagaraju, Vice-Chancellor of Gangadhar Meher University; Prof. Kishore Kumar Basa , Vice-Chancellor of Maharaja Shree Ram Chandra Bhanjadesa University ; Dr. Manoj Pujari, Registrar of Odisha State Open University, Sambalpur And Shri Akash Dasnayak , C h a i r p e r s o n o f M o C o l l e g e Programme. The International Committee was represented by Kuku Das, President of OSA , Prof. Anil Patnaik, Vice President of OSA, Professor Durga Madhav Mishra of New Jersey Institute of Technology, USA, Dr. Ajay Mohanty of Deloitte and Touche, USA, Prof. Chitta Baral of Arizona State University, USA and Prof. Sanjeev Kumar Panda of National University of Singapore.



(A.O. Bureau) Bhubaneswar, Feb 9: The Magha Saptami Mela organized at Khandagiri every year, popularly known as the Khandagiri Kumbha Mela will not be held this year. The Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC) made the announcement today evening citing possible violation of COVID-19 guidelines

at the event. Besides, the ongoing expansion work on National Highway 16, also came up as a hindrance for the annual fair which witnesses a large congregation of visitors to the fair and Jatra or open-air orchestra. "There is apprehension that the maintenance of social distancing as per COVID-19 safety protocol will not be possible due to the ex-

pected large congregation, which will endanger public safety. Therefore, in view of public safety, it has been decided that the Magha Saptami Mela (Khandagiri Mela) will not be held for this year. The usual rituals that are being observed in relation to Magha Saptami may be done with strict adherence to COVID-19 safety protocols," the BMC order read.

## Odisha To Move Supreme Court Over Kotia Panchayat Polls

(A.O. Bureau) Bhubaneswar, Feb 9: The state Government today wrote to Supreme Court's Advocate on Record (AOR) Sibho Sankar Mishra directing him to file a writ petition in the Supreme Court challenging the Andhra Pradesh's notification for holding of panchayat elections in three villages of Kotia of Koraput district. In the letter, Law Department Deputy Secretary Bhagaban Nayak said the Revenue and Disaster Management Department has been requested to



contact the AOR with certified copy of judgment, original Vaklatnama duly executed in the AOR's favour and other relevant records and instructions to enable the AOR file the writ petition on time. It is pertinent to mention here that a total of 15 residents from Koraput district had filed

nomination papers for the panchayat polls, scheduled to be held on February 13 and 17. Yesterday, Laxmi Sabar, a resident of Gangabada in Gajapati district, withdrew her nomination for the post of ward member reportedly after intervention of the district administration.

## Dutee Chand Nominated For BBC Indian Sportswoman Of The Year

(A.O. Bureau) Bhubaneswar, Feb 9: Odisha's ace sprinter Dutee Chand has been nominated for the prestigious BBC Indian Sportswoman of the Year award. Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik congratulated Dutee for the nomination. Congratulations #Odisha's ace sprinter



@DuteeChand on being nominated for BBC Indian Sportswomen of the year. Wish her the very

best and wish her to keep inspiring. — Naveen Patnaik (@Naveen\_Odisha) February 9, 2021

The other contenders for the award are shooter Manu Bhaker, chess player Koneru Humpy, wrestler Vinesh Phogat and Indian hockey team captain Rani. The accolade honours the contributions of Indian sportswomen and celebrates the achievements of women in sport in the country. Voting

is open until 24 February at 18:00 GMT and the winner will be announced on 8 March at a virtual ceremony in Delhi and on the BBC Sport website. The inaugural edition of the award was launched in 2020. Indian badminton star and Olympic silver-medallist PV Sindhu won the award, last year.

## EDITORIAL

### Quarantines again

With several countries reimposing strict quarantine rules, global travel is lurching towards another crisis. Canada and the United Kingdom (UK) are among the countries that are bringing in compulsory quarantine rules from the middle of the month. This means that visitors from most countries will have to quarantine themselves at their own cost. And those found breaking the rules will have to pay massive fines, which should act as a deterrent. The United States has also imposed a condition that all incoming visitors will be required to have a negative RT-PCR test result before they arrive, but individual States have wildly different rules. All this is despite nations like the UK rolling out one of the most comprehensive vaccination systems, and are on track to have their entire populations vaccinated by summer. On the face of it, the new quarantine and testing rules might seem like overkill and only meant for the Governments and the pharmaceutical industry to get a feel of the virus. However, some particularly virulent new strains emerging from Brazil and South Africa, where existing vaccines appear to be less effective, are worrying administrators, doctors and scientists across the world. Travel to and from these countries has been severely curtailed by many nations and pharmaceutical majors have been working to adapt their vaccines to these new strains. In many parts of the West, the virus is wreaking havoc with both the number of infected and the number of deaths still climbing, although in countries like India it appears that the Government has got the hang of the virus, much to the consternation of many western journalists. In many non-metropolitan parts of India, life as usual seems to have resumed with mask compliance levels dropping and social distancing becoming a thing of the past. Even the Government has now allowed movie halls to be opened at full capacity, which is nothing short of an acceptance that things are back to somewhat normal. However, nations, including India, would do well to remain cautious. The tale of the virus in the Amazonian city of Manaus is a cautionary one. In that northern Brazilian city, too, authorities were convinced that they had the virus in check and that, thanks to a high microbial load, the city had achieved herd immunity. Today, Manaus does not have enough hospital beds or even oxygen to cope. The worst is still not past us, although we are in a much better state than we were a few months ago. India, like other nations, should continue to quarantine foreign arrivals and should not speed up opening the economy too fast, lest we regret it in the future.

## Seven rings

Thomas Edward Patrick Brady Junior, a boy from California who just about got selected to a team back in 2000, plays in one of the most violent sports in the world. We may not follow "American" football as we call the game played by the National Football League (NFL) in India, because football is football and not "soccer" as the Americans call it, almost derisively. Yet, we think of "American football" derisively ourselves; after all, the players are kitted out in protective gear and pads. Yet, if you have ever watched a game of America's most popular sport, the level of violence in the game is astonishing and while that has been brought down by a significant amount, as far as popular contact sports go, American football is not far removed from actual fighting. So much so that the career duration of an average player in the sport lasts even less than four years. So, to play a sport like this for over two decades and be not only a constant in American pop culture but also have the ability to keep winning is remarkable. The Super Bowl is America's top sporting event: It is the one event that stops the entire country in its tracks, where families sit together and watch grown men pile into each other and put their bodies (and minds) on the line playing a violent sport. Tom Brady has been doing it for 20 years, he has been to the pinnacle of this sport, the Super Bowl, an astounding 10 times and, after last night's game, has won it an incredible seven times, more than any other franchise. This, after leaving the team that he played for two decades and joining a new outfit in the midst of a pandemic with little time to adjust to new coaches, styles and teammates. And, do keep it in mind, with a strict salary cap in place, the NFL is on the face of it, one of the most equitable major sporting leagues in the world. A lot more equitable than large European football leagues such as the English Premier League and Spain's La Liga. Yet there appears to be one constant, Tom Brady. We Indians may not follow the NFL or really care about it, and might even be puzzled when our American colleagues and friends talk about Tom Brady (or 'TB12' as he is branded) and how he is the "Greatest Of All Time" or GOAT as the American sports media calls him. Yes, Tom Brady is a big deal and a good sports fan should not just know about Brady but respect and celebrate his achievements over the past two decades, even if they follow the NFL and may not like Brady's habit of always winning.

## Tragi-comedy in the Capital

The farmers' protest that went out of hand on Republic Day reminds one of similar demonstrations in Bengal, especially in the pre-Independence era. The agitators had asked for a tractor rally on Republic Day last month. Most governments would have refused permission (as it was a day of constitutional celebration) and, perhaps, offered a date before or after January 26. To the delight of some agitators and to the surprise of others, the Government accepted the idea, subject to police discipline. No one, it would seem, suspected the dangers pregnant in the tractor tamasha, namely the hooligan babies and the enormity of the damage they could lead to the cause. The day witnessed the worst rioting one could have seen or imagined except that not a drop of blood was shed; one death was of a tractor driver involved in an accident. For the farmers, the rally was the low point of their two-month struggle for the cause as demonstrated on the chilly highways around Delhi. For the Government, it was an unexpected bonanza. Only the Left Front could enact comedy on the streets of Calcutta (now Kolkata) whenever its ruling Government called a protest bandh, against whom no one knew, although it was impeccably enforced. Not a bird flew near any of the many streets in the city. Press was free to move, so I moved about; the boys at street corners guarding the bandh were often keen to be interviewed and photographed. It was a comedy for all those citizens who enjoyed a holiday but a sarco-comedy for the poor in the unorganised sector. The rickshawalas, taxi drivers, bus operators, mutias or coolies et al



had to go without wages. When I asked a boy at a street corner about it, his reply was that these men do not belong to our unions, what do we owe them? Working class was an expression too distant for the boy. The most tragic rioting that Calcutta ever witnessed was between August 16 and 18, 1946. It was an attempt by MA Jinnah to convince London that Hindus and Muslims could not coexist, hence the Partition. I quote briefly from the official letter of the Bengal Governor to the Secretary of State: "The scale of rioting was unprecedented. It was a pogrom between two rival armies of the Calcutta underworld. The fact that over 2,000 persons of the goonda type who had been confined under the Defence of India Rules during the war were released the previous year is of great significance. The only thing which prevented a complete collapse of the administration was the three battalions of British troops, who were readily available for this sort of emergency. Though the occasion and nature of the emergency could not be foreseen, the Army Commander and I had long agreed on the ne-

cessity of such a disposition of troops. I could not possibly have held Calcutta with the police alone, and I am doubtful if Indian troops would have inspired sufficient confidence. That the infection did not spread immediately to the districts is a fact for which we cannot be too thankful. We had to take a big chance in denuding Howrah and the mill areas of troops on the 17th. The obligations of the Constitution made my task far harder. My special responsibility for law and order is not a 'discretionary' matter and, in handling the situation, particularly at the outset, I had always to consider the susceptibilities of my Ministry. The dual personality of Suhrawardy, as Chief Minister (in charge of the Home portfolio) and as the most influential member of the Muslim League in Bengal, was a constant embarrassment. What was an even more tragic event, although bloodlessly, was the partition of Bengal in 1905. The idea was not new, it was bubbling since, say, 1875. By dividing Bengal on communal lines

and encouraging Muslim ascendancy in the east, the Government was, in Risley's words, weakening "a solid body of opponents" to the Raj. Viceroy Curzon was presented with hundreds of petitions, which he chose to ignore. Bengal united is a power; Bengal divided will pull several different ways. The summer of 1905 was a long, hot one in Bengal and the atmosphere was charged with tension. The editor of a leading daily had condemned the partition. Overnight, emotions had risen to fever pitch. People refused to participate in festivities where foreign salt or sugar was used. The giant was stirring and even the Viceroy was forced to admit "the spectacle that has been presented by the streets of Calcutta during the past fortnight has not in my opinion been creditable to the Capital of a great Empire". October 16, the day of the tragedy, became a turning point in British India's history. The announcement of partition shattered the long, legendary belief in the eventual fairness of the British. It became a day of national mourning. No food was cooked in Calcutta's homes, the domestic hearths remained unlit. Shops and offices were closed and, in several places, newspapers were not distributed. Poet Rabindranath's song, "Banglar mati Banglar jal", thrilled patriotic sentiments to an all-time high and the ball had been set rolling for a mass Raksha Bandhan ceremony. Virtual strangers stopped each other on the streets to tie the rakhi thread, symbolising brotherhood.

Prafull Goradia

## Budget's strategy of fiscal consolidation, compressing expenditure, could prove to be a costly miscalculation

The challenge before the finance minister was how to enhance public spending, without raising taxes, while adopting a credible path for fiscal consolidation. It appears as though expectations of a quicker recovery of the formal economy in 2021-22, and concerns over high debt levels, seem to have persuaded the government not to opt for aggressive spending in the immediate term, but focus on consolidation. This could prove to be a costly miscalculation. The economic outlook isn't as rosy once the base-effect-induced bounce in growth next year wears off. The roadmap laid out by the 15th Finance Commission indicates this possibility. Nominal GDP growth is expected to slow down from 13.5 per cent in 2021-22 to 9.5 per cent in 2022-23 — implying a real GDP growth of only around 5 per cent. By then, the second-round effects of job and income losses and weak balance sheets are likely to have worked their way through the system. And considering that economic growth had slowed down sharply to 4 per cent even prior to the pandemic — there were calls for raising government spending then as well — whether growth can recover to around 7 per cent (what the Finance Commission expects) or 8 per cent by 2025-26 (what the government expects) is debatable. Thus, what is critical is not just the fiscal stance of the general government (Centre and states) in the immediate but over the medium term as well. The risks of consolidating too much too soon, at the cost of medium-term growth prospects, could end up being counterproductive for both growth and debt sustainability. The budget, along with the Finance



Commission report, offers some cues on the road ahead. So, has the central government shed, albeit belatedly, its fiscal conservatism in the immediate term? Not quite. The Centre's total expenditure in 2020-21 is pegged to rise by Rs 4.08 lakh crore over its earlier estimate. Much of this, as has been pointed out, is on account of higher subsidy payouts, along with higher spending on MGNREGA, and others. But the medium-term fiscal statement notes that of the revised food subsidy allocations for this year, Rs 1.5 lakh crore is for prepayment of outstanding food subsidy loans of the Food Corporation of India. Another Rs 62,000 crore is reportedly for clearing fertiliser subsidy dues. This adds up to Rs 2.1 lakh crore. While this enhanced transparency in accounts is welcome, it is merely washing away past sins. It does not amount to a demand-side stimulus. This is payment for goods already consumed. Adjusting for this, the difference between what the Centre had planned to spend if 2020-21 was a normal year and what it will spend in a pandemic year gets whittled down to less than Rs 2 lakh crore or around a mere 1 per cent of

GDP. Excluding these payments, the government-expenditure-to-GDP ratio works to around 16.6 per cent for 2020-21. Next year, the Centre's spending is not even going to rise in line with nominal GDP growth, let alone surpass it. In fact, the spending-to-GDP ratio actually falls to 15.6 per cent in 2021-22. Further, as next year's figures also include allocations for clearing up of FCI dues (around Rs 70,000 crore), spending (excluding these payments) will be even lower at 15.3 per cent of GDP. That means that the size of the government actually shrinks. The aggressive fiscal consolidation next year has been secured through expenditure compression. It would seem that the government hopes that the switching of expenditure in favour of capital spending would help offset this — the multipliers for capital expenditure are considerably higher. But it was crucial to sustain, if not increase, government spending, especially on programmes like MGNREGA during these years, imparting a positive impulse to the economy when it was most needed. Where the government has suc-

ceeded is in avoiding aggressive tightening over the medium term. The half-hearted allegiance to the 3 per cent fiscal deficit target — the elusive target was last achieved in 2007-08 — has simply been dispensed with. The new fiscal consolidation roadmap of 4.5 per cent by 2025-26 (similar to the path recommended by the commission if the recovery is slower than expected) is perhaps as good as an admission that as the economic fallout stemming from the pandemic will be spread over multiple years, higher levels of government spending will be needed. Adopting this relaxed consolidation roadmap also creates space for the Centre to be able to spend more closer to the next general elections. But this luxury of delaying fiscal consolidation has not been extended to state governments. They are expected to bring down their deficits to 2.8 per cent of GDP by 2023-24 from 4.2 per cent in 2020-21. Considering that it is state governments that are actually expected to drive general government capital spending over the medium term, there was a case for a more relaxed roadmap. State governments are expected to run a revenue surplus of 2.4 per cent of GDP by 2025-26. Along with a fiscal deficit target of 2.8 per cent, this effectively means that states will be allocating around 5.2 per cent of GDP on capital expenditure. In comparison, while the Centre's fiscal deficit is pegged at 4.5 per cent of GDP by 2025-26, around 60-70 per cent of its borrowings will be used to finance revenue, not capital expenditure.

Ishan Bakshi

# CMD visits Talcher Coalfields



(A.O. Bureau) Sambalpur, Feb 9: As part of visit to Talcher, Sri Prabhat Kumar Sinha, CMD MCL inspected Lingaraj OCP and reviewed the parameters on production, productivity, OB removal and offtake to meet the annual targets. He was accompanied by Sri O P

Singh, Director (Tech/Operations) and GMs from Corporate office. During his visit, CMD made it a point to reach at coal face of Ananta OCP to boost the morale of the team. In the process, he interacted with the employees and motivated them to gear up the resources for achieving

the annual production target. He also addressed the bottlenecks on production and dispatch related matters as pointed out by Area officials. Earlier, he had a courtesy meeting with Shri Mahesh Sahoo, Hon'ble MP Dhenkanal on matters related to welfare of the people of peripheral areas.

# Mahanga Double Murder: My Father Knew He Will Die In A Road Accident, Says Prime Accused's Son

(A.O. Bureau) Mahanga, Feb 9: Prime accused in BJP leader Kulamani Baral's murder case, Prafulla Biswal death has stirred controversy. A day after Kulamani's son Ramakant apprised the police that he had received a call from Prafulla before his death, the latter's minor son has come up with another startling revelation. Prafulla's son today said that his father had a feeling that he will be killed in an accident. "My father said not to hold anyone responsible for the event (in future). He added over a phone



call that he was under severe duress." Prafulla was found dead on February 6 near Nua Bandal chowk in Tangi of Cuttack district. BJP has alleged that the Prafulla, the prime accused in Kulamanri Baral murder case was eliminated in a pre-planned manner to pro-

tect political heavyweights. Kulamani Baral, former Mahanga Block chairperson, who was brutally hacked to death along with his associate Dibyasingh Baral. His son Ramakanta had named 13 persons including Biswal and Law Minister Pratap Jena in FIR.

# The Bir Surendra Sai Workers' Union has demanded that the contract workers working in the NLC be paid as per the government's stipend

(A.O. Bureau) Rengali, Feb 9: The NLC company, which works in the Talabira 2 and 3 coal mines in the Rengali block of Sambalpur district, has been demanded by the Bir Surendra Sai Workers' Union to pay a fair wage to the workers working under it. The NLC has been accused of failing to provide adequate wages to its employees and its employees. Workers and trade unions have demanded that the company and its authorities be closed. But the company does not follow any rules. Accord-



ing to guidelines issued by the Union Ministry of Labor and Employment, the payment is due. According to the guidelines of the Union Ministry of

Labor and Employment, on-skill labor is to be paid Rs 906 per day, semi-skilled Rs 941, skilled Rs 975 and high skilled Rs 1010 per day. There-

fore, on Tuesday, Babulu Raut, Subrata Buddhia, Rudra Pradhan, Manu Pradhan, Santosh Meher NLC, led by Bir Surendra Sai Workers

Union President Kiran Behar, met the NLC company in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Union Ministry of Labor and Employment. Done.

# Woman Mortgages 5-Month-Old Son For Husband's Treatment

(A.O. Bureau) Berhampur, Feb 9: Acute poverty forced a woman of Baliapatna village under Bhanjanagar block of Odisha's Ganjam district to mortgage her 5-month-old son for the treatment of her ailing husband. Dukha Naik, husband of Jhili Naik, had sustained critical injuries on his leg in a road mishap three months ago. Due to lack of proper treatment, his condition worsened as the injury

intensified. Jhili, currently the only earning member of the family who works as a labourer, has carried the additional burden of treating her husband. She mortgaged her 5-month-old son to her elder sister for Rs 10,000 for the purpose of buying medicine and treatment for her husband. While Dukha was yet to recover completely, the couple expects assistance from the local administration for his timely treatment.



# 37th Annual conference of Paradip Bandar Sramik Union held



(A.O. Bureau) Paradip, Feb 9: The 37th Annual Conference of Paradip Bandar Sramik Union held on dt.07.02.2021 in the premises of its Union office at Madhuban under the president-ship of veteran Tred Union leader Com.Ajaya Rout. Inaugurating the conference Mr.Rout called on workers present policy of the

government. Taking advantage of the division among the workers and weak working class movement the government is taking all sorts of anti workers measure such as DA breeze and privatisation of all government organisations. So the working class should be educated and cautious and question the political leader coming at the

time of elections that how many times they raise their problem in parliament or Assembly. The veteran present leader Com.Sachikant a Pani called on the workers to change the tactical line of strangle in future to achieve their demands. The General Secretary of the Union Sri Nimain Baral has the Union.

# Attack On Police Team In Angul, Nine Arrested

(A.O. Bureau) Angul, Feb 9: A group of villagers allegedly attacked a police team while the latter were escorting an accused from Amana village in Dhenkanal district after arresting him in an oil theft case on Tuesday. The attackers were in an inebriated condition and mistook the accused for a child lifter that led to the commotion, informed Angul SP Jagmohan



Meena. According to Meena, the Indian Oil Corporation Ltd (IOCL) had lodged a complaint with Banarpal police regarding stealing of oil from its pipeline

by some miscreants. On the basis of the complaint, a police team had raided the spot and apprehended three persons while another had escaped. "While

chasing the escapee, the policemen landed at Amana under Kantabania police limits and apprehended him. However, some people there, who were in an inebriated state, assumed the accused as a child lifter and tried to assault him. When the cops tried to save him, a commotion broke out," the SP said. "We sent additional forces and the police personnel as well as the ac-

cusced were rescued," he said, adding that the four accused have been forwarded to court. On the other hand, a case was registered at Kantabania police station in connection with the attack and ransacking of the vehicle of the accused and nine persons have been arrested while another accused involved in the case is absconding. Efforts are on to nab him, the SP added.

# Administration stops child marriage in Koraput



(A.O. Bureau) Jeypore, Feb 9: Child marriage of a 15-year-old girl was stopped in Kotpad block of Koraput district today. Acting on a tip-

off, the Childline members raided the marriage venue in Dhamanahandi with the help of local police and rescued the minor girl. The offi-

cials informed the girl's family about the marriage law took an undertaking that they would not get her married till she turns 18.

# Firing In Gajapati Village Over Black Magic Suspicion, Narrow Escape For Victim

(A.O. Bureau) Gajapati, Feb 9: Suspicion over practicing black magic triggered a firing in Jadingi village under Adaba police limits in Gajapati district on Monday morning. Though the victim, identified as Damburudhara Majhi, had a narrow escape as the bullets fired at him missed

target, he suffered multiple injuries after the assailants attacked him with stones and sticks. According to reports, Damburudhara, a resident of Jadingi village was on his way to his friend's house at Karadabada on a motorcycle last morning, when three persons ap-



peared from nowhere and opened fire at him. The assailants fired two rounds from a for-

eign made pistol. However, the bullets missed him and hit the motorcycle instead. After com-

ing under sudden attack, Damburudhara lost control over the vehicle and fell down. However, the attackers refused to budge. Even as he lay on the ground crying for help, they started hitting him with sticks and rocks before making good their escape. Damburudhara, who suffered seri-

ous injuries to his head and ankle, lay unconscious at the desolate spot in a pool of blood. Later, some commuters and passersby spotted him and rushed him to a nearby hospital where he is stated to be in serious condition. Meanwhile, Majhi's family lodged a complaint with the Adaba po-

lice station. During preliminary investigation, the police have learnt that Damburudhara had previous enmity with one Pramod Majhi, a resident of the same village. Adaba SDPO Dilip Nayak said, "Sometime back, Pramod Majhi had implicated Damburudhara and his father over sus-

picion of practising black magic. During a village meeting recently he had threatened the duo with life," Nayak said, adding, "On Monday morning Pramod ganged up with two others to attack Majhi with firearms with an intention to kill the latter." However, the police are yet to make any arrest in the case.

## Sara Ali Khan's Epic Reaction When Paparazzi Told Her About Propose Day



Mumbai, Feb 9: The actress was last seen in Varun Dhawan-starrer Coolie No.1 that came out on Amazon Prime in December 2020. Sara will next be seen in Anand L Rai's Atrangi that stars Dhanush and Akshay Kumar. Sara Ali Khan may be single but paparazzi in Mumbai made sure that they reminded her of Valentine's week. The 25-year-old actress was spotted coming out of a gym on Monday when the paparazzi told her that it was Propose Day. In a video

shared by ZoomTV on Instagram, Sara, who was wearing a face mask looked up at the paparazzi after he said that today is Propose Day and shared her amusing reaction. Sara was seen wearing a black and white gym wear. She tied her hair in a braid. The actress did not say much about the valentine's week and got into her car and left after waving to the paparazzi. The actress was last seen in Varun Dhawan-starrer Coolie No.1 that came out on Amazon Prime in December 2020. Sara

will next be seen in Anand L Rai's Atrangi that stars Tamil actor Dhanush and Akshay Kumar. The actress shared a few pictures from her behind the scenes shenanigans. In one of the posts Sara shows off her rhyming skills as the cast and crew of Atrangi was preparing for a scene at Taj Mahal in Agra. She recently took a break from her pretty hectic work schedule. Sara flew to Maldives with her brother Ibrahim Ali Khan and mother Amrita Singh.

## Netflix's Bombay Begums gets a release date

New Delhi, Feb 9: Directed by Alankrita Shrivastava, Bombay Begums stars Pooja Bhatt, Shahana Goswami, Plabita Borthakur, Amruta Subhash, Aadhya Anand, Rahul Bose, Vivek Gomber, Danish Husain and Nauheed Cyrusi. Netflix series Bombay Begums is gearing up to release on March 8. Created and directed by Alankrita Shrivastava, the show stars Pooja Bhatt, Shahana Goswami, Plabita Borthakur, Amruta Subhash, Aadhya Anand, Rahul Bose, Vivek Gomber, Danish Husain and Nauheed Cyrusi. Bombay Begums revolves around five women from Mumbai, who are connected by "ambition, desire, struggle for power and vulnerability". It traces their journey as they fight obstacles in their careers and relation-



ships, while challenging societal norms. Zaruri nahi hai ki begum sirf mehal mein rahe, kabhi kabhi woh boardroom rooms mein bhi milti hai. #BombayBegums, only on Netflix!@PoojaB1972 @ShahanaGoswami @AmrutaSubhash @AadhyaaAnand @PlabitaB @RahulBose1 @DanishHusain @ManishC\_Actor

@EndemolShineIND #cherinin #bornilachatterjee pic.twitter.com/K6hRMFhJ98 — Alankrita Shrivastava (@alankrita601) February 9, 2021 Talking about the series, Alankrita Shrivastava said in a statement, "Bombay Begums is a story about Indian women that I hope women in India, and across the world will connect with. The series explores the com-

plex journey of working Indian women who are ambitious for power and success, but have many other battles to fight too. It's the story of their daily hustle, the story of their dreams – sometimes buried, sometimes fulfilled." She added, "It's the story of glass ceilings shattered, and also of the hearts broken in the process. I have tried to create a world that reflects the reali-

ties of urban working women. I hope audiences relate to the characters and find pieces of their own journey reflected in the story. I am excited and proud that Bombay Begums is coming on Netflix on the occasion of International Women's Day." Bombay Begums is produced by Endemol Shine India, Endeavor Content and Chernin Entertainment.

## Eijaz Khan: If all goes well, Pavitra and I will get married this year

New Delhi, Feb 9: Actors Eijaz Khan and Pavitra Punia might tie the knot this year. The Bigg Boss 14 contestants, who grew close to each other during their stint inside the house, confessed that they are now planning to take the plunge. "Shaadi inshallah hogi, aur bahut sahi waqt pe hogi. (We will tie the



knot and by God's grace, at the right time) We are keeping our fingers crossed and if all

goes well, Pavitra and I will get married this year," Eijaz told. The actor shared that what-

ever he did inside the Bigg Boss house was from the game's perspective. But now to think of it, even their fights reflected love. "Everything that came from Pavitra was very real. Now that I have come out of the house and I see those clips of our fights, I see that hesitation and smile on my face ki arreh yaar

mujhe Pavitra pe gussa kyun nahi aa raha hai? Love for her, I think was always there, and now I have confessed my feelings," he said. Pavitra Punia added, "I have always believed that love is a very beautiful feeling. Now, we have come out of the house and have confessed our feelings for each other.

## Kangana: I have raw talent like Meryl Streep

New Delhi, Feb 9: Sharing stills from her upcoming movies Dhaakad and Thalaivi, Kangana Ranaut stated that she can do challenging roles like veteran Hollywood star Meryl Streep and don a glamorous action avatar like Gal Gadot. Bollywood actor Kangana Ranaut on Tuesday claimed that she has more range in her craft than 'any other actress on this planet'. Sharing stills from her up-

coming movies Dhaakad and Thalaivi, the actress stated that she can do challenging roles like veteran Hollywood star Meryl Streep and don a glamorous action avatar like Gal Gadot. Bollywood actor Kangana Ranaut on Tuesday claimed that she has more range in her craft than 'any other actress on this planet'.



coming movies Dhaakad and Thalaivi, the actress stated that she can do challenging roles like veteran Hollywood star Meryl Streep and don a glamorous action avatar like Gal Gadot. She tweeted, "I am open for debate if anyone can show me more range and brilliance of craft than me by any other actress on this planet. I promise to give up my arrogance, until then I can surely afford the luxury of pride #Thalaivi #Dhaakad" Massive transformation alert, The kind of range I display as a performer no other actress on this globe has that right now, I have raw talent like Meryl Streep for layered character depictions but I

can also do skilled action and glamour like Gal Gadot #Thalaivi #Dhaakad pic.twitter.com/fnW3D20o6K — Kangana Ranaut (@KanganaTeam) February 9, 2021 Ranaut further wrote, "Massive transformation alert, The kind of range I display as a performer no other actress on this globe has that right now, I have raw talent like Meryl Streep for layered character depictions but I can also do skilled action and glamour like Gal Gadot #Thalaivi #Dhaakad." While Jayalithaa biopic Thalaivi is in the post-production stage, Kangana Ranaut is currently filming Dhaakad, where she will be seen essaying the role of Agent Agni. Also starring Arjun Rampal and Divya Dutta, Dhaakad is slated for an October 1 release.

## Fight Cold with This Homemade Onion-Honey Concoction

New Delhi, Feb 9: The syrup is made with a large onion or two that are chopped into small slices. They are heated with ample amount of honey on low flame for a couple of hours. January has been surprising chilly this year, with cold wave conditions persisting throughout India. Such a weather plays havoc on our immunity as we suffer from the various common cold symptoms. Onion-honey syrup is an herbal homemade concoction that has been used to treat cough and cold symptoms and has also other benefits as well. The syrup is made with a large onion or two that are chopped into small slices. They are heated with ample amount of honey on low flame for a couple of hours. The onions are discarded and the concoction is then poured in a jar through a strainer. Alternatively, the raw onion slices can also be soaked for a day in a honey-filled jar without cooking. Benefits of onions: Onions have always been used for medicinal purposes across households. The vegetable has



antibacterial properties that help fight infections. Onions contain flavonoids and alkenyl cysteine sulfoxides, two chemical groups that act as antioxidants and neutralise free radicals which cause oxidative damage. These compounds are also known to aid in the prevention of cardiac and other human diseases. Common cold: During common cold infections, the virus causes inflammatory reactions in our nose and throat, which cause nose congestion and inflamed sore throat. Onions contain the flavonoid quercetin, which not only act as an antioxidant, but also as an anti-inflammatory agent, helping ease the cold symptoms and aiding recovery. Allergies: The winter months also see a rise in cases of allergies. This

is because most of us spend the colder months inside our houses and don't go out much. We get exposed to dust, dust mites, pollen, molds, pet hair and dead skin flakes that can cause allergic reactions. The flavonoid quercetin as mentioned above, was found to have antihistaminic properties which can reduce allergic inflammation. Benefits of Honey: Honey has always been used as a treatment to relieve cough. Honey has antimicrobial activity, especially when taken undiluted. Apart from this researches have revealed that honey also contains antioxidant and anti-inflammatory properties, all of which collectively help in fighting cardiac ailments and cancer among other ailments.

## Swing it like Jimmy: Anderson's reverse swing deflates India, England win by 227 runs

Chennai, Feb 9: Veteran James Anderson's artistic spell of reverse swing trumped Virat Kohli's show of grit as England decimated India in the opening Test by a comprehensive 227-run margin here on Tuesday. A target of 420, with 381 left on a fifth day worn out Chepauk track, was always a tough ask going by cricketing logic and Anderson's mid-morning burst blew away the Indian middle-order. In the end, the hosts could manage only 192 in 58.1 overs. That spell ensured that there wasn't a Sydney like heist or the magic of Brisbane final day which many had hoped for despite the world record target. Kohli (72 off 104 balls) seemed like a lonely general standing on a burning deck as he showed his colleagues how to bat on a difficult track. He covered the swing and shuffled towards the off-stump to counter Anderson, ran purposefully and scored his runs against spinners. But there was that one ball that was always going to keep low and he got that from Ben Stokes. "I don't think we put enough pressure on them with the ball in the first half...Credit to England, they got stuck in and put up a big total on the board," Kohli conceded in the post-match presenta-



tion. "England were far more professional and consistent throughout the Test match than we were," he added. Courtesy Anderson (11-4-17-3), the match became a mismatch within an hour and India now need to win two out of the next three Tests to qualify for the World Test Championship final in June. The player of the match honours went to England skipper Joe Root for his match-defining double hundred in the first innings. It was left-arm spinner Jack Leach (26-4-76-4), who after his first innings humiliation at the hands of Rishabh Pant, finished with the best figures but the effort paled in comparison to the effect that Anderson had on the psyche of the Indian team. Anderson sowed doubts among rank and file of the home line-up, whether they had the technique to play the moving ball which swings the

other way round. Kohli can but can his colleagues do it will be the big question going forward. The man from Burnley, in his 19th Test match season, showed his artistry with a semi-new ball, on a fifth day track and sapping Chennai heat, far removed conditions from the grey skies and cool breeze that Old Trafford gives him. But then Anderson is a devotee and best practitioner of Test match ethos and doesn't need to take refuge in conditions because of his supreme control over his craft. Wasim Akram made reverse swing fashionable as a pro in Lancashire and Anderson spent his teenage years watching the 'Sultan of Swing' practice his craft. But what he did on Tuesday would have certainly made Akram proud as the Indian batting line-up, save Kohl, didn't have an idea as to how they could stop Ander-

son. When he made his Test debut, Shubman Gill was in play-school and Rishabh Pant in nursery. At 38 years 194 days and in his 158th Test match, Anderson became an example of why one should never discount experience. Ishant Sharma, on first two days, bowled a few spells of lively reverse swing. What Ishant did well, Anderson just did that way better. Gill (50, 83 balls) once again looked dazzling till the time he was at the crease. The sinewy wrists were in play as he hit seven fours and a six, dealing with spinners comfortably. Even Cheteshwar Pujara's (15 off 38 balls) dismissal off Jack Leach's "peach" didn't unfaze the young man from Punjab as he along with Kohli calmly went about their business. It was the 27th over when Anderson first came into the attack and the second

ball was a perfect reverse inswinger which had Gill in a daze as the off-stump went for a walk. The way the shiny part on the inside tailed in was a sight to behold. Rahane (0), for all the appreciation coming his way, was in very poor form for the better part of the Australia series, save a hundred at MCG where he was dropped thrice. The first ball he faced on Tuesday was another one that came back a shade and it was hitting the middle of the middle stump with the Umpires' Call saving the vice-captain of what looked like a plumb leg before. The wily Anderson realised that an out-of-form Rahane's feet are not moving. The next time he just went a shade wide off the crease and delivered another reverse inswinger. Rahane knew that there was no comeback. Pant (11) has had three great knocks but he was facing a bowler with supreme game awareness and immaculate understanding of conditions. Against a left-hander, he predictably came round the wicket and angled a few in with a busy Pant hitting a boundary. By then, Anderson had gauged that Pant could be hurried on the drive. So the master changed his tactic and bowled a slower one enticing Pant to go for a drive.

## Days before Vijay Hazare Trophy, Wasim Jaffer resigns as Uttarakhand coach

New Delhi, Feb 9: Wasim Jaffer was appointed to the position last March after he had announced his retirement from all forms of the sport. The Uttarakhand Cricket Association is yet to accept his resignation. Former India opener Wasim Jaffer tendered his resignation as Uttarakhand coach days before the team was scheduled to depart for the Vijay Hazare Trophy,

over as coach, Jaffer included three players — Jay Bista, Iqbal Abdullah and Samad Fallah — in his team. He also picked his own support staff. Uttarakhand, however, failed to come up with any decent performances, winning just one game out of the five in the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy. Jaffer, who could not be reached for comment on Tuesday, had earlier said he was looking

Uttarakhand coach. He had also said he would coach just for one season since he did not want a long-term contract. "I didn't want a long term role as I want to check how things progress in the coaching role. Uttarakhand is a new team with long-term goals and I realise it will be a challenge to coach a smaller team. They have the potential to do well and the boys are keen to



which begins on February 20. Jaffer was appointed to the position last March after he had announced his retirement from all forms of the game. Reasons for Jaffer's sudden resignation are not known but officials in Uttarakhand confirmed that the domestic cricket legend had e-mailed his resignation. The association is yet to accept Jaffer's resignation. After he took

forward to his coaching career. "After I retired I wanted to take up a coaching role. A few teams contacted me but I liked the way Uttarakhand expressed their vision. When I was playing for Vidarbha, I was also in a mentoring role. But to become a head coach will be a challenge as I have to look after all areas," Jaffer had said after taking charge as

learn. At the moment, there is no clarity when the domestic season will start due to the pandemic," Jaffer had said. Jaffer is also a batting consultant with Bangladesh Cricket Academy. However, he hasn't been able to travel to Dhaka because of the travel restrictions owing to the pandemic. He is also the batting coach of Kings XI Punjab in the IPL.

## Sumit Nagal blown away by Ricardas Berankis, exits Australian Open

New Delhi, Feb 9: Sumit Nagal's challenge deflated in a matter of minutes as Berankis' powerful ground strokes proved to be too good for the Indian, who lost 2-6 5-7 3-6 in two hours and 10 minutes. India's Sumit Nagal exited the Australian Open with a first-round defeat, struggling to cope with the power-packed game of Lithuanian Ricardas Berankis, here on Tuesday. Nagal's challenge deflated in a matter of minutes as Berankis' powerful ground strokes proved to be too good for the Indian, who lost 2-6 5-7 3-6 in two hours and 10 minutes. Nagal had lost to the world number 72 in the last week's tune-up event too. The 23-year-old Nagal reeled off four straight games in the second set in his bid to stage a comeback but the initial dominance by Berankis largely dictated the outcome of the match. While Nagal made an impression on his previous two Grand Slam appearances, the world number 144 could only play well in patches on Tuesday. The precise and solid ground strokes of Berankis left Nagal playing defen-

sively. He did fight hard and played better as the game progressed but Berankis did not falter on key points. Serving at 2-3, the Indian hit a forehand long to give Berankis three breakpoints in the sixth game and the Lithuanian converted the second with a forehand winner to go up 4-2. Nagal himself had three chances to draw the first blood in the third game, going up 40-0 on Berankis' serve, but could convert none. The Indian tried to fight fire with fire but the intensity shown by Berankis blew him away and he found himself serving to stay in the set. In the second set too, it was Berankis who dominated the proceedings. Two breaks pegged Nagal back and he went down 0-4. Nagal struggled to get on the board, missing two break points offered by Berankis in the fifth game but managed to break his rival in that game. As he started to play more aggressive, Nagal found a way to claw his way back, making it 4-4. Berankis was guilty of unforced errors in that short phase, giving easy points to Nagal.



## Paul Pogba out for 'a few weeks,' says Manchester United manager Ole Gunnar Solskjaer

Manchester, Feb 9: Manchester United manager Ole Gunnar Solskjaer says midfielder Paul Pogba will be out for "a few weeks" because of a thigh injury. Manchester United midfielder Paul Pogba will be out for "a few weeks" because of a thigh injury, manager Ole Gunnar Solskjaer said Monday. The France international was forced off near the end of the first half of United's 3-3 draw against Everton



in the Premier League on Saturday. "Paul has been very important for us and we're not

going to take any risks," said Solskjaer, speaking ahead of United's FA Cup fifth-

round match against West Ham on Tuesday. "A few weeks, definitely." After a slow

start to the season, Pogba has been enjoying some of his best form since returning to United in 2016 for a second spell at the club, scoring winning goals against Burnley and Fulham last month to help the team stay in contention for the league title. "Paul was really finding his form and enjoying his football," Solskjaer said. "We've been very healthy and strong for a long period so we can't moan too much."

## Leeds into EPL top 10 after beating Crystal Palace 2-0

New Delhi, Feb 9: Leeds climbed into the English Premier League top 10 after beating Crystal Palace 2-0 on Monday. Jack Harrison's deflected shot gave the home side a flying start, and Patrick Bamford tucked home a rebound for his 12th league goal and 100th of his career early in the second period. "After being out of the league for 16 years it is important for a club like Leeds to get a footing and build from that," Bamford said. "This is no more than we've deserved. It bodes well for the future of Leeds." Their 10th top-flight win

avenged losing at Selhurst Park 4-1 in November. It should have won by more and registered a first clean sheet in seven matches this year. Palace arrived in freezing West Yorkshire riding two straight league

wins but was a clear second best for most of the match. The London side lacked a cutting edge in the absence of injured top scorer Wilfried Zaha. "We were not able to pressurize them like they pressurized us,"

Palace manager Roy Hodgson said. "We are a passing team and when we don't pass the ball well we fall below our standards." Leeds was quick to punish Palace for allowing too much space on the edge of the penalty area when Harrison's well-struck shot deflected in off Gary Cahill in the third minute. Leeds made another fast start to the second half. Raphinha's thumping shot was well saved by goalkeeper Vicente Guaita and Bamford followed up to turn home the rebound from eight yards.



# Sixth Edition of Kalyan Jewellers Trust Ad – A Star Studded Affair JSPL Futsal 2021 – Team JOSH Lifts the Trophy

(A.O. Bureau)  
New Delhi, Feb 9: In a first of its kind ad film the Bachchans along with Katrina Kaif share screen space with 10 regional celebrities from across India. Keeping with the Kalyan Jewellers' tradition of Trust Series Ad Films, the brand today announced the launch of the 6th edition of its #TrustIsEverything campaign with a digital film starring all of Kalyan's brand ambassadors. 'Trust' is one of the most crucial pillars in the foundation of any marriage, and this reimagined rendition of Kalyan Jewellers' Trust series exhibits the emotion of 'Bharosa' through the storyline of wedding celebrations across the country. The 90-second multilingual film sees global and regional brand ambassadors come together, to celebrate



their different identities, languages, cultures and traditions, woven together by the emotion of 'Bharosa'. Over the years, through the Trust Ad series, Kalyan Jewellers has highlighted Trust – as the core value that the brand focuses on while also emphasising on its business practices including consumer-centric initiatives and pioneering programmes such as BIS hallmarking, 4-Level Product Certification etc. Starting

with the #MyGoldMyRight campaign to the latest #BharosaHiSabKucchHai, the brand has endeavoured to consistently portray the principle of trust in creative ways. Reinforcing this tradition through the new campaign, Kalyan Jewellers showcases the symbolic role that jewellery plays in wedding celebrations across the country, and also highlights the brand's hyper local jewellery designs that are part of the

from the day of the engagement to jewellery shopping with family to the wedding at the mandap followed by the reception and finally the grihapravesh in her new home – each, seen through the eyes of a different bride. The film aims to capture the essence of different cultures, languages, traditions and values, while highlighting that trust is the basis of relationships – everywhere! The multi-starrer #TrustIsEverything film was shot with a limited cast and crew abiding with the strictest lockdown restrictions. Kalyan's national brand ambassador Amitabh Bachchan digitally launched the film on social media. Kalyan Jewellers will be amplifying this video on television and the company's digital properties.

(A.O. Bureau)  
Angul, Feb 9: The interdepartmental football tournament Futsal-2021, organised by Jindal Officer Club (JOC) of Jindal Steel and Power Ltd. (JSPL), Angul has been concluded on 08th Feb, adhering to all the guidelines to

soccer tournament played under floodlight was inaugurated on 01st of February by Executive Director & Unit Head Mr. Hridayeshwar Jha, in presence of President and General Secretary of JOC Mr. Damodar Mittal and other senior officials of JSPL. Six

of JOC Mr. Damodar Mittal graced the occasion as the Chief Guest and distributed trophies to the Winner and Runners-up teams in presence of other department heads including EVP-CGP Mr. A.N. Tiwari, AVP-Iron Zone, Mr. Ashish Pandey, Head - Security Mr.



prevent COVID-19. Team JOSH, comprising players from CGP, RMHS, Coal Washery, Logistic etc. won the match by defeating the team Extreme in a thrilling penalty shootout of 2-1 goals. This yearly

teams, comprising of the best players from various departments of JSPL, Angul exhibited their sporting spirit and teamwork in the best possible manner. On the concluding day President of JSPL and General Secretary

Sushil Lodhi and others. Mr. Tamal Samantha (CGP), Mr Akash Choudhri (SMS) and Mr. Ajay Sharma of CGP were awarded with the Golden Boot Award and Best Goalkeeper Award of the tournament respectively.

## Scheme for "Formation and Promotion of 10,000 new Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs)"

(A.O. Bureau)  
New Delhi, Feb 9: Agriculture sector plays a very important role in both economic development and Nation building. India is globally in the forefront of development of agriculture. The goal is to achieve doubling of export by 2022. However, more than 86% of farmers in the country are small and marginal. There is a need to facilitate our farmers with access to improved technology, credit, better input and more markets to incentivize them to produce better quality commodity. For this, Aggregation of small, marginal and landless farmers into FPOs will help enhance economic strength & market linkages of farmers for enhancing their income. Keeping this in mind, Government of India has launched a new Central Sector Scheme titled "Formation and Promotion of 10,000 Farmer Produce Organizations (FPOs)" with a clear strategy and committed resources to form and promote 10,000 new FPOs in the country with budgetary provision of Rs 6865 crore. FPOs are to be developed in produce clusters, wherein agricultural and horticultural produces are grown / cultivated for leveraging economies of scale and improving market access for members. "One District One Product" cluster to promote specialization and better processing, marketing, branding & export. Further Agriculture value chain organizations forming FPOs and facilitating 60% of market linkages for members produce. Under this Central Sector Scheme with funding from Government of India, formation & Promotion of FPOs are to be done through the Implementing Agencies (IAs). Presently 09 Implementing Agencies (IAs) have been finalized for formation and promotion of FPOs viz. Small Farmers Agri-Business Consortium (SFAC), National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC), National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), National Agricultural

Cooperative Marketing Federation of India (NAFED), North Eastern Regional Agricultural Marketing Corporation Limited (NERAMAC), Tamil Nadu-Small Farmers Agri-Business Consortium (TN-SFAC), Small Farmers Agri-Business Consortium Haryana (SFACH), Watershed Development Department (WDD)- Karnataka & Foundation for Development of Rural Value Chains (FDRVC)-Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD). Implementing Agencies (IAs) will engage Cluster Based Business Organizations (CBBOs) to aggregate, registered & provide professional handholding support to each FPO for a period of 5 years. CBBOs have been empanelled & engaged by IAs. CBBOs will be the platform for an end to end knowledge for all issues related to FPO promotion. During 2020-21, a total of 2200 FPO produce clusters have been allocated for formation of FPOs, which also include specialized FPO produce clusters such as 100 FPOs for Organic, 100 FPOs for Oil seeds etc. Of these, 369 FPOs are targeted for formation during current year for formation in 115 aspirational districts in the country. NAFED would form the specialized FPOs which should necessarily be forwardly linked to the market, agri-value chain, etc. NAFED will provide market and value chain linkages to the FPOs formed by other Implementing Agencies. NAFED has formed & registered 05 Honey FPOs during current year in Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Bihar & West Bengal. FPOs will be provided financial assistance upto Rs 18.00 lakh per FPO for a period of 03 years. In addition to this, provision has been made for matching equity grant upto Rs. 2,000 per farmer member of FPO with a limit of Rs. 15.00 lakh per FPO and a credit guarantee facility upto Rs. 2 crore of project loan per FPO from eligible lending institution to ensure institutional credit accessibility to FPOs.

## Dalmia Cement (Bharat) Ltd. extends support for rural infrastructure development in Cuttack



(A.O. Bureau)  
Cuttack, 9th February 2021: In its continuous endeavour to provide a better livelihood for all - Dalmia Cement (Bharat) Ltd. (DCBL) has launched a series of initiatives to support the local communities by boosting infrastructure development around DCBL's Kapilas Cement Manufacturing Works (KCMW) at Tangi, Cuttack. The company has recently spent over Rs. 12 lakhs towards the construction of Community Centres, Toilet Blocks, and renovation of Temples and Religious Mandaps as part of its CSR initiatives in the region. "We are committed to serving local communities in Cuttack and

Jajpur districts and have undertaken a series of CSR initiatives in the region to improve the standard of living of the people. We are developing Community Centres, Mandaps, undertaken repairing works at various Temples, and also working towards creating a Hygienic environment by constructing Toilet Blocks around these places. We will continue to extend our support to the people and will increase infrastructure development in the region," said, Mr. Ramawtar Sharma, Unit Head, Kapilas Cement Manufacturing Works, during inauguration of a community centre building built by DCBL at the Old age home (SEVAK) run

by a voluntary organisation, in Solar village of Jajpur district. A community centre is an essential need for any village. Basis request of the Sarpanch Garudagaon G.P. and the villagers Dalmia Cement has extended its support for the construction of

a Community Centre at Haladibasant village. This has benefited the villagers in terms of ease of hosting various ceremonies and functions. Committed to creating a clean India, DCBL is aligned to the Swachh Bharat Mission. Therefore, the company has taken steps to address the health and sanitation challenges faced by the local community. Since open defecation has been a major issue in this region, the company has constructed a Common Toilet Block at Hajrat Alli Pitha to ensure proper hygiene and prevent the spread of diseases. Temples and

Mandaps have great significance in the social, cultural and religious life of the people of Odisha. As a responsible corporate citizen, DCBL has supported the local community in renovating these structures whenever needed. The Jagannath Temple at Bhagatpur is an old temple in the region. However, the infrastructure of the temple was not in a good shape. The front portion of the temple was on the verge of breaking down, hence on the request of the villagers and Sarpanch Kanheipur G.P., the company provided support for the roof slab casting of the temple.

## Actor-Director Rajiv Kapoor, Passes Away At 58



Mumbai: Bollywood actor and filmmaker Rajiv Kapoor has

breathed his last. He passed away after suffering a heart attack in Mumbai at the age of 58. Rajiv was the youngest of late legend Raj Kapoor's three sons, and the

younger brother of Randhir Kapoor and late Rishi Kapoor. Confirming the news of his death, sister-in-law Neetu Kapoor shared a photograph of Rajiv on Instagram on Tuesday afternoon and wrote "RIP", along with a folded hands emoji.

## Uttarakhand disaster: Three bodies recovered from Rishiganga power project site

(A.O. Bureau)  
Joshimath, Feb 9: Three bodies have been recovered from the Rishiganga power project site in Raini village, Joshimath, on Tuesday. According to officials, the Kundan group, which runs the project at site, has provided them with a list of 44 people who were on duty at the plant at the time of the flash

flood. Two police personnel were also at the site when the incident took place on Sunday morning. Villagers, however, say that there is a chance that more than 70 people are stuck under debris. "Around eight people from the nearby villages are missing. The water and sludge came with such force that we have no idea



what to make of the disappearances," said Bhavan Rana, pradhan of Raini village. Senior NDRF officials said that

work to clear the roads and the search for missing people will take at least a week. The BRO, State and national di-

saster relief forces, and police are assisting in rescue and relief work. The main bridge that connects the Joshimath area to the villages closer to the India-China border was destroyed in the flash floods. As a result 13 villages have been cut off by road and necessities are being provided to them through choppers.