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## Lingaraj Temple Servitors Give Ultimatum For Withdrawal Of NMA Bye-Laws



Bhubaneswar, Feb 11: After Puri Srimandir, the proposed heritage bye-laws for two temples in Ekamra Kshetra sparked controversy in Odisha. Opposing the bye-laws, the servitors of the Lingaraj Temple demanded withdrawal of the notification framed by the National Monuments Authority (NMA). The servitors of the centuries old shrine gave ultimatum to the NMA to withdraw the heritage bye-law within 24 hours. "We will stage mass protest at the Lingaraj Temple

at 6.00 PM on Friday, if the bye-laws for two temples will not be withdrawn in 24 hours like the bye-laws for Puri Srimandir, warned Lingaraj Sena president Rajendra Samartha today. He termed the bye-laws as 'conspiracy' by Centre to hurt sentiments of devotees of Lord Shiva. With the enforcement of bye-laws, the ongoing beautification projects in Ekamra Kshetra will be disrupted, he opined. "We want widening of roads connecting to the Lingaraj Temple

ahead of the Mahashivratri. We want safety of our shrines and ancient structures. However, the bye-laws are hurting sentiments of servitors as well as residents, who are depending on the Lingaraj Temple for livelihoods," Samartha said. Worth mentioning that NMA's heritage bye-laws for Ananta Basudeba Temple and Brahmeswar Temple prohibit any kind of construction around the shrines upto 300 metre periphery in Ekamra Kshetra. "We

have been worshipping the living God in two temples. The people of Odisha have deep faith on these ancient temples. But, comparing the temples of Lord Shiva with museums and issuing a notification in this regard are insults to Mahadev. It has deeply hurt religious sentiments of Hindus especially the devotees of Mahadev," said the servitors protesting the proposed heritage bye-laws. The servitors in a release said that the Archeological Survey of India (ASI) was silent when lands around ancient temples were encroached illegally. But, the State Government has spent Rs 200 crore for development of Ekamra Kshetra. Now, the ASI is conspiring to suspend the development project of Ekamra Kshetra by enforcing such bye-laws. "We will protest together by lighting the lamps to drive out

the evil forces," the servitors said in a release. Meanwhile, the Collector of Khordha district, Sanat Kumar Mohanty, who is the Lingaraj Temple Trust Board Chairperson, has written to the NMA urging to withdraw the controversial bye-laws. Expressing concern for the servitors, he wrote that there are many habitations mainly servitors families around the Lingaraj Temple. They have been rendering services to the Lord Shiva since time immemorial. As they are likely to be severely affected by the intervention of authorities like the draft notification, they must be consulted before any process to restrict their rights. Earlier, Puri Lok Sabha member Pinaki Misra had raised his voice against heritage bye-laws on his Twitter handle while urging the Centre to withdraw the bye-laws for Puri Srimandir.

## CM Inaugurates Projects Worth Over Rs 28 Cr In Hinjili Municipal Council Area



Bhubaneswar, Feb 11: Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik today inaugurated projects worth over Rs 28 crore in Hinjili Municipal Council through video conferencing, said an official press release. Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Minister said that children are the future of this race, this country. Education is the key to transformation. Education is real empowerment. While informing that he has been all through emphasizing on development of education in Hinjilicut, Patnaik said that he aims to develop Hinjili as a leading area in the field of education. The Chief Minister said that has not

visited Hinjili for a pretty long time because of the Covid pandemic and will soon visit to meet the people as the situation has improved. "The way you fought the corona pandemic, the way Ganjam fought, the whole world has seen. With your cooperation, we have been successful in combating corona. Ganjam's success in this has been acclaimed worldwide. I am thanking you all, our panchayat representatives, members of Mission Shakti, and Covid Warriors for this. Though vaccination has started, the threat is not yet over. Therefore, we need to be careful and alert," Patnaik stated. He further said that he has been al-

ways with the people of Hinjili in their times of happiness and sorrow and will remain. He added that he has been keeping a finger on the development of Odisha along with Hinjili constituency. Announcing that projects worth over Rs 28 crore are inaugurated for development of Hinjili town, he said that efforts are underway to make all the facilities available to residents of Hinjili that are available in modern towns. The State government has been giving importance to development of small towns, he added. The function was conducted and coordinated by Secretary to CM (5T) V K Pandian.

## 'Missing' Posters Row: Odisha MP's PA Among Two Held For Assaulting Youth



Bhubaneswar, Feb 11: Two close aides of BJP MP from Bhubaneswar, Aparajita Sarangi were arrested today on charges of beating a man accusing him of pasting the missing posters of the Parliamentarian in different parts of the Odisha Capital. Based on a complaint of one Shubham Hira, who ekes out a living by pasting posters on shops and walls, the Commissionerate Police arrested Dhaneswara Barik, the Bhubaneswar MP's Personal Assistant, and

Jyotiranjana Panda in Laxmisagar area in Bhubaneswar. The complainant stated Dhaneswara and Jyotiranjana beat up him alleging that he pasted the missing posters of the Bhubaneswar MP, adding that he is clueless on such posters. Worth mentioning, posters carrying a picture of the BJP MP with 'missing' written on it were found in different parts of Bhubaneswar today. The posters mentioned as to why she has been quite over the

controversial heritage bye-laws framed for two temples in Ekamra Kshetra: Brahmeswara and Ananta Basudeba temples, prohibiting construction works around the shrines. "The draft bye-laws for Ekamra Kshetra still remain in force. The Centre is conspiring to destroy the existence of the prominent heritage site of the State," the posters alleged questioning the silence of Aparajita.

New Delhi, Feb 11: With their border dispute over the Kotia panchayat lingering for over 50 years, the Odisha government termed recent moves by Andhra Pradesh "an emerging constitutional crisis" and moved the apex court for initiation of contempt proceedings against its officials for violation of status quo. Senior advocate Vikas Singh, representing the Odisha government, sought an urgent hearing on the matter. "A constitutional crisis is emerging on the border and in spite of the top court's order to maintain status quo, Andhra Pradesh is trying to take over Odisha's land," he said. The villages un-

## Constitutional Crisis As Andhra Trying To Take Over Our Land: Odisha



der dispute are part of Pottangi taluka in Odisha's Koraput district. There are 21 villages in the Kotia group, which are entangled in dispute. In 1968, the status quo order was passed by the top court and the same order is holding till date, the Odisha government contended. "Administratively and otherwise as well, the state of Odisha has been in control of these vil-

lages throughout. However, of late clandestinely the contemnors (Andhra Pradesh government) have entered into the impugned act of contempt by which the order of this court has been violated," it said in its plea. On March 5, 2020, the AP government issued a notification roping in three villages from the Kotia group of villages into its Vizianagaram district

for the local body elections. "Tactfully the contemnors converted these three villages of one gram panchayat falling under territory of Odisha to three different gram panchayats. The said three-gram panchayat were made part of the Salur Mandal (of Vizianagaram)," the plea, filed through advocate Sibho Sankar Mishra, added. The Odisha government

cited that the top court in its final hearing in 2006, recorded the status quo undertaking given by both states while disposing of the suit. "Over the years, the petitioner state has taken many development initiatives in the said three villages and has built infrastructure like schools, police stations, roads, bridges etc. for the people of these villages," it argued. The government added that these villages have been getting the benefits under various social schemes of the state, and the Census 2011 in these villages was conducted by the government too. The top court is likely to hear the matter on Friday.

## CM Lays Stone For Development Of Udaipur-Talasari Beach

Balasure, Feb 11: Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik today laid the foundation stone for development, illumination and beautification of Udaipur-Talasari beach and its adjoining areas through video conferencing. The projects include 2.6 km illumination of the beach at a cost



of Rs 7.10 crore and beautification at a cost of Rs 29

crore. Tourism and Culture Minister Jyoti Prakash

Panigrahi, Bhograi MLA Ananta Das, Balasure

Collector K Sudarshan Chakravarty and senior officials of the Tourism Department were present during the foundation stone laying ceremony. Worth mentioning, the Chief Minister on January 12 had announced to develop Talasari beach into a world-class tourist destination.

## Bhubaneswar Headless Body Case: Why 'Puspalata' Remained Unclaimed For So Long?

Bhubaneswar, Feb 11: The discovery of a woman's headless body on Capital city outskirts created a sensation across Odisha. The case was solved by the Special Squad of Commissionerate Police in less than a week and the woman was identified as



Puspalata Roul of Dhirikuti slum in Mancheswar. "The case was very challenging. But the investigating officers worked diligently to crack it in few days," Police Commissioner Sudhanshu Sarangi said today congratulating the officers of Special Squad and Chandaka police.

## Pangong disengagement commences, Rajnath says next talks to focus on other friction points

New Delhi, Feb 11: Chinese and Indian armoured units have started disengaging south of Pangong Tso as a first step towards resolving the nine-month military stand-off along the Line of Actual Control in eastern Ladakh. As part of the process, Chinese troops will pull back from Finger 4 to east of Finger 8 on the Pangong north bank — they had come in 8 km west of Finger 8 which India says marks the LAC. Indian troops will be stationed at Dhan Singh Thapa Post near Finger 3. For the time being, the stretch separating them will be a no-patrolling zone. Confirming the start of the process on the north and south banks of Pangong Tso, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh told both Houses of Parliament Thursday that China and India have reached an agreement under which “both sides will cease their forward deployments in a phased, coordinated and verified manner”. Referring to the other friction points in Galwan Valley, Hot Springs, Gogra Post and Depsang Plains, where troops of the two countries are still in a faceoff, Singh



said: “I want to assure this House that in these talks we have not conceded anything. The House should also know that there are still some outstanding issues with regard to deployment and patrolling at some other points along the LAC in Eastern Ladakh. These will be the focus of further discussions with the Chinese side.” “We have agreed that both sides should achieve complete disengagement at the earliest and abide fully by the bilateral agreements and protocols. By now, the Chinese side is also fully aware of our resolve. It is therefore our expectation that the Chinese side will work with us in full sincerity to resolve these remaining issues.” His statement in Parliament came a day after the Chinese Defence Ministry an-

nounced the start of the Pangong disengagement process. Singh told Parliament that implementation of the agreement began Wednesday. “It has also been agreed to convene the next meeting of the Senior Commanders within 48 hours after the complete disengagement in the Pangong Lake area so as to address and resolve all other remaining issues.” “The Chinese side will keep its troop presence in the North Bank area to east of Finger 8. Reciprocally, the Indian troops will be based at their permanent base at Dhan Singh Thapa Post near Finger 3. A similar action would be taken in the South Bank area by both sides. These are mutual and reciprocal steps and any structures that had been built by both sides since April 2020 in both North and

South Bank area will be removed and the landforms will be restored.” “It has also been agreed to have a temporary moratorium on military activities by both sides in the North Bank, including patrolling to the traditional areas. Patrolling will be resumed only when both sides reach an agreement in diplomatic and military talks that would be held subsequently. The implementation of this agreement has started yesterday in the North and South Bank of the Pangong Lake. It will substantially restore the situation to that existing prior to commencement of the standoff last year,” he said. Recalling his September 2020 statement in the House where “I had highlighted that the Chinese side had since April/May 2020 amassed large number

of troops and armaments in the border areas adjacent to Eastern Ladakh” and how they had “made several attempts to transgress the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in various parts,” Singh said: “Since last September, both sides have maintained communication with each other through military and diplomatic channels. Our objective was to effect disengagement and maintain status quo along the LAC so as to restore peace and tranquility.” “The actions by the Chinese side since last year have seriously disturbed peace and tranquility. Consequently, they have also had an impact on the overall relationship. In our various high-level interactions with the Chinese side, including in my own meeting with the Chinese Defence Minister last September, my colleague, the External Affairs Minister Shri Jaishankarji’s meeting with the Chinese Foreign Minister and NSA Shri Doval’s conversation with his Chinese counterpart, we have made it clear that the foremost need was to ensure disengagement in all the friction points along the LAC in the Western Sector so as to help restore peace and tranquility.”

## After record sowing, over 3 lakh Gujarat farmers register to sell gram at MSP

Rajkot, Feb 11: A record number of farmers — 3.12 lakh — have got themselves registered for selling gram (chana), which saw record sowing, to the government at minimum support price (MSP) of Rs 5,100 per quintal with the registration window to remain open for four more days. The registration for Rabi marketing season 2020-21 began on February 1 and 3,12,647 farmers got themselves registered by February 10, according to the data available with the Gujarat State Civil Supplies Corporation Limited (GSCSCL). This is more than double the last year’s total registration of 1.48 lakh farmers last year. The unprecedented hike comes after the bountiful rainfall during an extended monsoon in 2020, allowing farmers to sow gram in 8.19 lakh hectare (lh) in the Rabi season 2020-21. The total chana acreage of 8.19 lh is 280.80 per cent of the past three years’ average acreage of 2.91 lh and more than double the last year’s acreage of 3.78 lh. In terms of percent growth, this is the highest among 21 major crops in the state, followed by coriander, the sowing of which was 225% compared to past three years’ average. Af-

ter wheat (13.66 lh), gram has emerged as the second largest crop this year. The second advanced estimate of the state government projects gram production in Gujarat at 13.01 lakh tonnes (lt), more than double compared to 6.35 lh last year. Gram is a less water intensive, hence a popular crop in otherwise water-starved Saurashtra region and maximum registrations

acres stands at 65,600 hectare (ha). This represents 7.54 per cent of total registrations and eight per cent of acreage. In the eight districts of central Gujarat region, 9,880 farmers (3.16 % of total registrations) have registered even as gram has been sown in total 1.24 lh (13.72 % of total acreage). In south Gujarat region, only 253 farmers (0.08% of total registrations) have registered



have been reported from this part of the state. The 11 districts of Saurashtra account for 2.78 lakh registrations or around 89.21 per cent of total registrations in the state. This is commensurately higher than 6.10 lakh hectare (lh) brought under gram cultivation by farmers of the region this Rabi season. In all, the pulse crop has been sown on 8.19 lh this Kharif season and Saurashtra’s share in it 74.25 per cent. Saurashtra is followed by six districts of north Gujarat region where 23,602 farmers have registered, whereas gram

though gram sowing stands at 30,300 ha (3.69 % of total acreage). In Saurashtra, the highest number of registrations is from Rajkot district (61,092), followed by Amreli (43,954), Junagadh (41,380), Jamnagar (30,872) Devbhumi Dwarka (25,645), Gir Somnath (20,989), Surendranagar (15,523), Porbandar (12,274), Morbi (13,501), Botad (6,911) and Bhavnagar (6,773). In fact, registrations in Junagadh, the third highest in Saurashtra is higher than total of north, central and south Gujarat regions.

## Prasad says social media platforms should follow Indian law; warns of strict action against non-compliance



New Delhi, Feb 11: Amid a row with Twitter over blocking of accounts, India on Thursday warned social media platforms of strict action for failure to crack down on inflammatory content, saying they have to fully comply with the country’s law. A day after his ministry rebuked Twitter for not complying with its orders to take down inflammatory content, Information Technology Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad said social media platforms cannot give differential treatment while handling problems on Capitol Hill and the Red Fort. The government, he said, was committed to freedom of media and rights of individuals but it was equally concerned about safety, security, and law and order in the

country. “Please don’t spread enmity, violence and misinformation. Please follow the Constitution of India and the law of the land (otherwise we will be very strict),” he said replying to a question in Rajya Sabha. On Wednesday, his ministry had expressed displeasure at Twitter for failing to remove all of the over 1,100 accounts and posts it alleged spread misinformation about the widespread protests by farmers against new agricultural laws. Prasad said the social media companies took immediate action when riots broke out at Capitol Hill in Washington but ignored similar action when farm bill protesters ran riot at Red Fort on Republic Day. “This double standard would not work here,” he said flagging inflam-

matory content, especially those with the hashtag of Modi planning farmers’ genocide. “Yeh kya mazak hai? (What kind of a joke is this?),” he said. The Constitution of India guarantees freedom of speech but Article 19 (2) also says that it is subject to reasonable restrictions because of the “sovereignty and integrity” of India. Prasad said that while social media platforms have their own self-regulatory mechanism to check and evaluate inflammatory content, that does not mean they will not follow the Indian rules. “This will not work here,” he said. Asked about steps taken by the government to check the spread of misinformation on social media, he said “We have recently flagged Twitter” on the issue.

## NIA files third chargesheet against SFJ, 6 booked under UAPA

New Delhi, Feb 11: The National Investigation Agency has filed a chargesheet against six members of the Sikhs For Justice (SFJ) — its third against the banned pro-Khalistan outfit — in a case of hoisting of the Khalistan flag and tearing of the Indian Tricolour on the premises of the deputy commissioner’s office in Punjab’s Moga in August last year. Filed in a Mohali court on Thursday, the chargesheet has been filed against six people, including US-based SFJ chief

Gurpatwant Singh Pannun, under various sections of the IPC and the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA). In the two chargesheets filed earlier, NIA had alleged that the SFJ was instigating Sikhs in the Indian Army and the police to rise in mutiny against the Indian State. It had also claimed that SFJ cadres in India had engaged in a series of acts of violence and propaganda for the cause of Khalistan. “Investigation has revealed that accused Inderjit Singh, Jaspal Singh and Akashdeep



Singh were radicalised members of SFJ... and conspired with Gurpatwant Singh Pannun and Rana Singh of SFJ. In furtherance of conspiracy, accused Inderjit Singh, Jaspal Singh and Akashdeep Singh were involved in hoisting Khalistani flag at DC Office Complex, Moga on

August 14, 2020, and also tearing of Indian National Flag,” the chargesheet filed on Thursday stated. According to NIA, following the hoisting of the flag, the accused made a video of the incident and sent it to Pannun and Rana Singh, who broadcast the same on social media platforms such as

YouTube, US Media International and SFJ Channel “to propagate the secessionist agenda of SFJ and in support of Referendum-2020 for making separate State of Khalistan”. It alleged that Pannun and Rana Singh also sent funds through money transfer services to Inderjit Singh and Jaspal Singh after the crime. “During investigation various electronic devices like laptop, hard disc, mobile phones containing incriminating material were seized from the accused persons establishing their strong involvement,” the agency alleged.

## Will grant citizenship to refugees under CAA after Covid vaccination ends: Amit Shah in Bengal



New Delhi, Feb 11: Union Home Minister Amit Shah at a rally in Matua dominated-Thakur Nagar in North 24 Parganas on Thursday, Feb 11, 2021. Union Home Minister Amit Shah Thursday said the Centre would start granting citizen-

ship to refugees under the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) after the Covid-19 vaccination drive ends. Attending a rally at Matua in poll-bound West Bengal, Shah said the Opposition is misleading the minorities on CAA

and assured that the law would not impact the citizenship status of Indian minorities. Earlier in the day, the home minister launched the fourth phase of the “Poriborton Yatra” from Rash Mela Ground in Cooch Behar. Launching a scathing attack on West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee and her nephew Abhishek Banerjee, Shah said the BJP’s ‘Parivartan Yatra’ in the state was

aimed at ending corruption by ‘Bua-Bhatija’. He said the rally was not organised to change the CM, MLAs or ministers, but to transform West Bengal. He said the yatra is intended to free the state from infiltration, unemployment, bomb blasts, and bring a change in the state of farmers. “This ‘Poriborton Yatra’ is a journey towards building Sonar Bangla,” he said to a roaring crowd of BJP supporters. Further attacking the

Mamata government, Amit Shah asserted that “TMC goons cannot stall BJP’s march to power in West Bengal”. Stating that the TMC government has created an atmosphere where chanting Jai Shri Ram slogans has become a crime, Shah asked, “Mamata Didi, if slogans of Jai Shri Ram are not raised here, will it be raised in Pakistan?” He added that by the time the election ends, Mamata will also chant ‘Jai Shri Ram’.

## Safety Related Modernisation Work In South Western Railway Jurisdiction

(A.O. Bureau) Bhubaneswar, Feb 11: A. Bhubaneswar-bangalore-bhubaneswar Special From Bhubaneswar Between 11 To 23rd February, 2021 Will Run Between Bhubaneswar & Satya Sai Prashanti Nilayam. B. Purivesvantpur Weekly Special From Puri On 19th February, 2021 Will Remain Cancelled. C. Four Trains To Run On Diverted Route. In view of Safety related modernisation work in connection with Non-Interlocking between Yelahanka and Maklidrug Stations for commissioning of doubling work in



Yelahanka and Dharmavaram Railway Section, train services will be affected as per the following - CANCELLATION OF TRAINS: 02063/02064 Puri-Yesvantpur-Weekly Special from Puri on 19th February

and from Yesvantpur on 20th February, 2021 will remain cancelled. PARTIAL CANCELLATION OF TRAINS: 08463/08464 Bhubaneswar-Bangalore-Bhubaneswar Special Prashanti Express

from Bhubaneswar from 11th to 23rd February, 2021 and from Bangalore from 12th to 24th February, 2021 will run between Bhubaneswar & Satya Sai Prashanti Nilayam and will remain cancelled between Satya Sai Prashanti Nilayam

& Bangalore from both the directions. DIVERSION OF TRAINS: 00617 Bangalore-Dimapur Parcel Express from Bangalore from 14th 21st February, 00619 Bangalore-Guwahati Parcel Express from Bangalore 16th to 23rd February, 00618 Dimapur-Bangalore Parcel Express from Dimapur on 17th February, and 00620 Guwahati-Bangalore Parcel Express from Guwahati on 20th February, 2021 will run on diverted route via Tumkur-Arsikere-Rayadrug-Bellary-Guntakal-Dhone bypassing Dharmavaram and Anantapur Stations.

## Launching of Smartcity Hackathon SCOUT 2021

(A.O. Bureau) Bhubaneswar, Feb 11: Electropreneur Park, Bhubaneswar (A CoE for ESDM Incubation) is set up with by STPI with support from Government of Odisha to promote ESDM Startups and create a holistic eco-system for encouraging R&D, innovation, Product developments, Entrepreneurship in the ESDM sector in

rektor, STPI, New Delhi, Mr. Stanley Chan, Senior Vice-President Excelpoint Systems, Mr. Sameer Garde -President, CISCO India & SAARC, Shri Dinesh Tiwari, Director-Business Development Singapore IoT Consortium. The objective of the Challenge is to invite solutions from Innovators/ Entrepreneurs/Startups/Enthu-

to making the POC. Among other Key take aways, the Winners shall get Real time implementation of POCs selected in the Hackathon ,Assistance in availing Tools, Technologies, Resources required to build the POC, Virtual Mentoring by Industry professionals, Academicians etc, Knowledge dissemination sessions by Experts



## Rescue of one women from Puri Railway Station Yard by RPF Staff of Puri on the night

(A.O. Bureau) Puri, Feb 11: On the night of 08.02.21, while on duty RPF Staff of Puri [ASI A.K.Mohanty & HC-T.C.Pradhan] were performing his duties at Puri Railway Station to prevent criminal activities against Passengers as well as safe Passing of train No . 0 2 8 0 1 [Purushottam Express] from Puri Yard, noticed one lady aged about-35



Years was standing in between Railway track in Puri Railway Station Yard, where train No . 0 2 8 0 1 [Purushottam Express] was ready to departure. After observing her activities the above

named Staff ascertained that, she came to commit suicide as it was night time and the area was totally restricted for normal public. Immediately RPF Staff attended at the spot and removed her from Railway track. During

interrogation she gave his identity & it could be noticed that she is belong from Satyabadi area, but at present Staying in Puri along with her husband and other family members. Further she also informed that on the night of

08.02.2021 at about-09.00 pm she fled away from her home without knowlegde of family members with intension to commit suicide by train or anything due to her family contradiction. After few time the matter was also transmitted to her family & at about-11.45 PM her family members attended RPF Post Puri and after counselling by RPF ladies Staff & her family members, she agreed to return her home. Finally the rescued lady handed over to her husband & other family members. On the morning of 09.02.2021 RPF Staff also visited her home just to know her Status as a follow-up action, where she along with her family members appreciated the work of RPF Staff [ASI A.K.Mohanty & HC-T.C.Pradhan], who timely attended the spot & make efforts to divert her mind to commit suicide.

Bhubaneswar, Odisha. As part of this initiative EP-Bhubaneswar jointly with Bhubaneswar Smart City Ltd. (BSCL) have organized a Pan India Idea Contest/Hackathons for Smart City Solutions namely Smart City Challenge & Outcome for Urban Tans formation (SCOUT 2021). SCOUT 2021 has launched by Dr. Omkar Rai, Director General, STPI, Shri Manoj Mishra, Secretary, Electronics & IT, Govt. of Odisha, Shri Prem Chandra Chaudhary, CEO, Bhubaneswar Smartcity Ltd, Shri Pradeep Gupta, CMD, Cyber Media & Chief Mentor, Shri Manas Panda, Director, STPI-Bhubaneswar, Shri Subodh Sachan, Di-

siasts/Students/ Research communities to come up with alternative ways of fulfilling the specific needs & products or service in making the city life better and bringing transformation through disruptive technologies. The 100 days Contest shall be followed by creation of POC for the successful solutions. Among rewards, Cash prize up to 3 Lakhs, 2 Lakhs & 1 Lakh shall be given to the Winner, 1st runner up & 2nd runner up respectively. Individual cash prize up to 50 Thousand each to 6 best PoCs against each problem Statement. Reimbursement up to 20k per participant for Components, Development boards and other services required

from areas of interest and Networking with Govt. Authorities/ Civil Society/ Potential Consumers as well as Incubation offer to the Winners. The Program will be supported by Excelpoint Systems, L&T, Ashoka Buildcon, Singapore IOT Consortium, Shapoorji Pallonji, MicroChip, Zeliot, Xilinx, ADI, VaanInfra, CSM Technologies, Innovative & Iwave. The Smartcity Hackathon SCOUT 2021 shall encourage the Innovators to come up with path breaking solutions in Smart city applications and achieving the desired goals for ensuring better quality of life for our citizens and promote Startups & entrepreneurship in this field.

## Hand over of recovered Luggage's by RPF Staff of Puri

(A.O. Bureau) Puri, Feb 11: While on duty Officer ASI J.M Sundry & Staff were engaged for conducting drive against undesirable elements at Puri Railway Station, noticed 02 bags [01 trolley bag & one air bag] lying in front of ticket counter in unclaimed condition. On the ground of suspicion the above named RPF Officer called Const-S.K.Behera, who was deployed at station main gate entrance along with HHMD [Hand Held Metal Dectector] for checking of the un-

claimed bags on the view of safety. After recovered the same on duty Officer made Co-operation with commercial Staff and made continuous announcement through Station PA System and subsequently the recovered items brought to RPF Post Puri for safe keeping till it's disposal to actual owner. After long time one person attended RPF Post Puri & given his identity as Biswajit Das of Berhampur Dist - Ganjam [Odisha]. He further informed that he is working in Indian

army and posted at Kolkata. On 10.02.2021 while he was going to join his duty first he came in Puri for lord Jagannath Darshan as since last one year he could not come Puri due to Covid. After Darshan of lord Jagannath, when he came Railway Station for enquiry of train towards Kolkata, at that time he forget his two bags. After departure of his train he remembered that his some luggages were not available with him at that time he was to much worried as some important documents were also kept in that bags. After some time he returned at Puri and explained the entire matter. Finally after Proper verification the recovered items handed over to the concern passenger. Being force personnel he highly appreciated towards the pro activeness and honesty of RPF Staff of Puri.

## Odisha MP Demands Central Varsity Status For Utkal University

(A.O. Bureau) Bhubaneswar, Feb 11: Lok Sabha member Achyuta Samanta demanded for central varsity status to Utkal University, Odisha's premier educational institution. Participating in a debate on Motion of Thanks to President's address in the Lok Sabha on Tuesday, Samanta put forth his demand for the Utkal University. Besides, he demanded for a second Central



University in a tribal-dominated district of Odisha. Hailing Odisha Chief Minister in the House, the parliamentarian from Kandhamal Lok Sabha Constituency said that for CM Naveen

Patnaik, Odisha has set an example for entire country in education, health, women's empowerment, social security, sports, culture, protection of ancient heritage and monuments, and the empow-

erment of farmers and peasants. Even, reservations have been made for government school students in engineering and medical colleges in the State. So if the Centre cooperates in making Utkal University a Central University, Odisha will set an example in the field of education in the country, he said. Samanta also demanded that Odisha be given a special focus on natural disasters and

provide special assistance in dealing with natural disasters. He also demanded the Union Government to provide more support for the classical recognition of Odissi music, the reduction of GST on kendu leaves from 18 per cent to 5 per cent, the establishment of an international airport in Puri, the revision of the Employee Pension Scheme 1995, and the development of sports infrastructure in rural areas.

## Odisha's Ishwar Behera Accused Of Spying For ISI Convicted

(A.O. Bureau) Balasore, Feb 11: Ishwar Chandra Behera, former cameraman of Integrated Test Range (ITR) at Chandipur in Odisha's Balasore district who was accused of spying for Pakistani intelligence agency ISI, was today convicted in the espionage case by the court of ADJ-I here and sentenced to life imprisonment. The court held

him guilty of passing confidential information to ISI regarding testing of missiles at the ITR. He was convicted under Sections 121A and 120B of the IPC, and 3, 4 and 5 of the Official Secrets Act. There are proofs of transfer of money to Ishwar's bank account from various countries, reports said. He was arrested on January 23, 2015. A native of



Kantipur village near Baisinga in Mayurbhanj district, Ishwar was employed as a cameraperson at the ITR on contractual basis in 2007. He had been spying for ISI for 8-10 months prior to his arrest. Ishwar was in constant touch with his handler over phone and had met him at least 10 times during his trips to Kolkata, a police official had said.



# EDITORIAL

## True spirit

The speeches by PM Modi and Congress leader Azad reflect the strength of democracy. Critics might accuse him of running roughshod over the Opposition, not being accommodative of contrarian viewpoints and being too assertive at times, but Prime Minister Narendra Modi's emotive speech in the Rajya Sabha proved again that he is a sensible person driven by strong emotions and love for millions of countrymen whom he addresses as "bhaiyo aur behno". The way he choked up a couple of times while bidding farewell to leader of the Opposition Ghulam Nabi Azad is what makes him stand out. Azad, too, echoed the sentiments and welled up visibly. What happened in the House of Elders is enough to reflect the true strength of our parliamentary democracy. However, the display of such emotions or camaraderie and respect for leaders cutting across party line is not unprecedented. For one, Modi himself — after being elected leader of the BJP parliamentary party in May 2014, in other words the PM-elect — choked up while responding to LK Advani's speech where the senior leader said that Modi had done a *kripa* (favour) on the party. Even earlier, in 1994, then Prime Minister PV Narasimha Rao requested Atal Bihari Vajpayee, a member of the Opposition at the time, to lead the Indian delegation at a crucial United Nations (UN) meeting in Geneva, and Vajpayee agreed and played an important role at the session. Had the resolution against India passed, the country would have been put under economic sanctions. These leaders, belonging to rival parties, disagreed politically but put India first. It may be unconceivable for those who believe in the politics of allegations and counter-allegations, and take the political discourse to a new low every day. However, Modi and Azad — sitting across each other in the Upper House — shared the spirit of working together in national interest, which made them transcend party or petty politics. The farewell speeches were the day's highlight as these drowned the MPs and millions of television viewers in a sea of emotions. "I am concerned that whoever is appointed to his (Azad's) position may not be able to match up to him," Modi said. Visibly overwhelmed, the PM had to pause for a few sips of water while recalling how Azad, then the Chief Minister of J&K, called him up (Modi was the Gujarat CM) in 2006 to inform him about a terror attack in the Valley that claimed the lives of several Gujarati tourists. Azad also referred to the incident in emotionally charged words, and said that when he reads about the situation in Pakistan, he feels proud to be a "Hindustani Muslim". Political pundits are free to interpret the speeches any way they like; they may argue that those were only "crocodile tears" and seasoned politicians like Modi and Azad know well how to use the "emotional quotient" for political mileage. However, we need not take such pessimistic and cynical assumptions seriously as long as leaders with emotion in their hearts continue to spearhead our democracy. We need not worry, we are in safe hands. It may be unconceivable for those who believe in the politics of allegations and counter-allegations, and take the political discourse to a new low every day. However, Modi and Azad — sitting across each other in the Upper House — shared the spirit of working together in national interest, which made them transcend party or petty politics. The farewell speeches were the day's highlight as these drowned the MPs and millions of television viewers in a sea of emotions. "I am concerned that whoever is appointed to his (Azad's) position may not be able to match up to him," Modi said. Visibly overwhelmed, the PM had to pause for a few sips of water while recalling how Azad, then the Chief Minister of J&K, called him up (Modi was the Gujarat CM) in 2006 to inform him about a terror attack in the Valley that claimed the lives of several Gujarati tourists. Azad also referred to the incident in emotionally charged words, and said that when he reads about the situation in Pakistan, he feels proud to be a "Hindustani Muslim". Political pundits are free to interpret the speeches any way they like; they may argue that those were only "crocodile tears" and seasoned politicians like Modi and Azad know well how to use the "emotional quotient" for political mileage. However, we need not take such pessimistic and cynical assumptions seriously as long as leaders with emotion in their hearts continue to spearhead our democracy. We need not worry, we are in safe hands.

# End of the Golden Age?



Time and again in history, a great age is almost always followed by a time of darkness. That is where the aviation industry finds itself now. In the first couple of months of 2020, your columnist made two trips to the West Coast of the United States. Each time he boarded flights that took over 14 hours, a couple of flights even passed over, as near makes no difference, the North Pole. Travel that once took days and several transfers with the potential of lost luggage and what not, now took just one, maybe two flights, in relative luxury even in Economy Class, thanks to inflight WiFi and a better choice of movies than most streaming platforms. Sure, the food still could taste bland but that possibly had more to do with the human body's physiology at higher altitudes where taste buds often go for a toss. But the most fascinating thing was that in early 2020, these ultra long-haul flights had become almost ordinary. Indeed, while rumours of an impending pandemic started to filter out, global air travel was on a massive high. It was growing at an unprecedented pace and a shortage of aircraft after the grounding of the Boeing 737 MAX was the biggest concern. Now, while it is far too soon to sound the death knell for very long-haul flights as Air India has just started a Bengaluru to San Francisco flight, something that would have been technologically impossible just a decade ago, global air travel is today in a quagmire. Thousands of planes are grounded across the world with demand having collapsed in the wake of the pandemic. International travel, which had been truly democratised with lower fares and increased connectivity, is now on life support. It

isn't as if there are no more flights; with strict quarantine measures and several countries restricting travel to citizens and legal residents, travel has become essentially one for emergencies and repatriation. Of course, there are some who have to travel for business, particularly in an age of globalised workforces, but that is now being done without families. Will air travel recover from this devastating hit? There are many ways to look at it, but one has to understand that there are different types of air travel. It is evident from the numbers emerging that the Indian economy is on the upswing and local business travel will almost certainly recover. Once all the States fully open up, one can expect air travel to regain some normalcy by the middle of 2021. Of course, there are other factors: While evidence points to a decreasing caseload of COVID-19 and the vaccination rollout has been impressive in India, the emergence of new variants, particularly in Brazil and South Africa against which existing vaccines are less effective, is alarming. If one of these variants is able to spread inside India, it could again lead to havoc. That said, domestic

air travel will emerge healthier post-pandemic, not just because of business demand but also leisure demand as travellers after a year of being cooped up at home will want to travel and, with foreign destinations closed off, domestic tourism is bound to pick up. But as for international air travel, it could be several months, even a year or two, before things come even close to recovery. There are however a few trends that might change, the first being more direct connectivity thanks to nations having different rules for transit passengers. While this might again change going forward, particularly as a vaccine is deployed, this fundamental change, coupled with the emergence of modern aircraft, will pose an existential threat to airlines that have for years survived primarily thanks to connecting passengers. There is also the likelihood of a "vaccine passport". Anyone travelling to Sub-Saharan Africa or certain Latin American countries needs to show that they have taken a yellow fever shot; now this requirement will likely be global. Popular destinations,

like in South-East Asia, have travellers from many countries and preventing them from interacting is impossible. While COVID-19 rages on in North America and Western Europe, the only way to protect both citizens and tourists from bringing in the virus is some sort of vaccine passport. This might actually be a good time for India to explore the opportunity to embed its passports with RFID chips that can store vaccination information. Then, of course, there comes the very concept of necessary travel. This pandemic has made us all realise that working from home is an option for many people. Work travel and large conferences are not going to go away, but will big shows such as motor shows take place or will the '2020 Auto Expo' at Greater Noida go down in history as the "last big show"? The huge trade shows, even for the airline industry such as the events in Farnborough and Paris, might never be the same and that will take a toll on business-class travel. Low-cost international leisure travel might come back roaring thanks to the introduction of new aircraft such as Airbus's A321XLR, of which several are on order by India's largest airline, IndiGo. But we do not really know how we, air passengers who love travelling, will react in a few months, once a considerable number of people have been vaccinated. We still don't know whether nations will have quarantine rules up in place if the virus evolves into a deadlier form. But one thing is certain, aviation is in a dark place right now and it could be another year before there is any hope of recovery.

Kushan Mitra

# India's farm crisis is of the middle peasant, not the chhota kisan

It is the rural middle class — which experienced a roughly four-decade spell of prosperity from the 1970s and now has its back to the wall — that's at the forefront of the agitation against the farm reform laws. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has defended his government's agricultural reform laws by invoking Chaudhary Charan Singh and pointing to the "dayaniya sthiti (sorry plight)" of marginal farmers. These below-one-hectare cultivators accounted for 51 per cent of India's total operational holdings in 1970-71, a share that crossed 68 per cent in the last 2015-16 Agriculture Census. PM Modi further quoted the legendary peasant leader as saying that marginal farmers could never eke out an honest existence, no matter how much they worked their small piece of land. The suggestion here was that the crisis of Indian agriculture is of the *chhota kisan* and the government's reform measures are aimed at uplifting this stratum of smallholders. The above understanding of "crisis" isn't the most helpful, whether from an analytical or even political perspective. To begin with, as the political scientist Paul R Brass has shown, Charan Singh didn't believe agriculture policy should focus on the one-hectare farmer. The redemption for those tilling tiny uneconomic plots lay in non-farm employment, especially in rural small-scale and cottage industries. Charan Singh, in fact, advocated both a maximum ceiling of 27.5 acres and a minimum floor of 2.5 acres that would provide decent subsistence and also prevent large-scale capitalist farming.

His ideal was the efficient yeoman farmer who actively cultivated his own land with minimal engagement of outside labour. Today's farm crisis is not of the impoverished *chhota kisan*, but of Charan Singh's *khudkasht* peasant-proprietor who has seen better times. It is this rural middle class — which experienced a roughly four-decade spell of prosperity from the 1970s and now has its back to the wall — that's at the forefront of the agitation against the farm reform laws. Some idea of what the *khudkasht kisan* is undergoing can be had from Surinder Kumar Panwar. This farmer from Bhainswal village of Shamli district, next to Charan Singh's own Baghat in west Uttar Pradesh (UP), owns 24 bigha or 1.7 hectares. It makes him a "small", but not "marginal" farmer. Moreover, he grows sugarcane on 16 out of his 24 bigha and has access to irrigation through a 7.5-horsepower motor tubewell installed jointly with his two brothers, who also farm 24 bigha each. Sugarcane, perhaps, has contributed more than anything else to the rise of west UP's rural middle classes. That, however, is an old story. Panwar gives a detailed break-up of his current production costs. The seed that farmers plant is the cane from their fields not sold to mills. At 5 quintals per bigha, the cost of this seed-cane, taking the UP government's state advised price (SAP) of Rs 325/quintal plus its harvesting charge of Rs 45/quintal, comes to Rs 1,850. Field preparation (seven ploughings, each consuming one litre diesel at Rs 78/litre), farmyard manure application (one trolley-load costing Rs

1,500) and sowing (two labourers at Rs 200 each and one litre diesel) adds another Rs 2,524 per bigha. In fertilisers, Panwar applies 20 kg of di-ammonium phosphate (at Rs 28/kg), 35 kg urea (Rs 6/kg), 5 kg potash (Rs 18/kg), 2 kg sulphur (Rs 125/kg) and one kg zinc (Rs 80/kg) per bigha, costing Rs 1,190. He spends even more on crop protection: 30 ml of "Coragen" (Rs 360), 100 ml chlorpyrifos-cypermethrin (Rs 70) and 1 kg "Ferterra" (Rs 187.5) insecticides; 50 ml of thiophanate-methyl fungicide (Rs 40); and "Regent" granule (Rs 160 for 2 kg) and liquid (Rs 50 for 50 ml) termite control formulations. Together with spraying labour (three rounds of Rs 150 each), it works out to Rs 1,317.5 per bigha. The next big-ticket item is water, where trenches are made (Rs 200/bigha) for a dozen irrigations (each costing Rs 80/bigha). Farmers also spend Rs 1,200/bigha each on *nirai-gudai* (weeding and hoeing) and *bandhai* (tying and propping up the cane plants after they have grown beyond five feet). Panwar's cane yields are 60 to 65 quintals per bigha. An average of 62.5 quintals would cost Rs 2,812.5 to harvest at Rs 45/quintal. To and fro transport to the sugar mill, 12 km away, involves burning six litres or so diesel at Rs 78/litre. All in all, cultivating sugarcane on a bigha yielding 62.5 quintals will cost around Rs 13,722, as against a corresponding realisation of Rs 20,312.5 at the official SAP of Rs 325/quintal. The net return of Rs 6,590.5 per bigha would be just 48 per cent above the production cost.

And there are many costs not even taken. These include maintenance/depreciation of Panwar's tractor and farm implements, imputed cost of family labour and interest on working capital. The last expense matters particularly in a scenario of delayed payments. Mills are required by law to pay farmers within 14 days of cane purchase, but Panwar is still to get money for 220 out of the total 1,000 quintals he supplied in 2019-20 (October-September) and another 600 quintals delivered so far this season. Nor has the SAP been revised since 2017-18, even as Panwar's basic cultivation cost has risen from some Rs 10,000 to Rs 13,700-plus per bigha in the last four years. The price of diesel alone has gone up more than Rs 18/litre and the monthly electricity tariff on 7.5-HP motor pumps raised from Rs 700 to Rs 1,750. If all costs are accounted for, Panwar's returns from cane may be hardly Rs 5,000 per bigha, with the crops on his remaining 8 bigha — wheat, mustard and berseem fodder — not yielding even that. His net income would be under Rs 10,000 per month. Ten years ago, or probably even five, he may have been leading a reasonable lower middle class life. Panwar is representative of the descent that a once-proud peasant-proprietor class is experiencing. These *khudkasht kisan* have been the change agents of Indian agriculture. Being serious full-time farmers who have produce to sell, unlike marginal subsistence cultivators, they know what agriculture is.

Harish Damodaran

## "Skillful" coaching center opened in Banai, free coaching for educated young men and women



(A.O. Bureau) Banai, Feb 11: The Sundergarh district administration has opened a "Sudaksha" coaching center in Banai to prepare educated young men and women for various competitive examinations. Deputy District Magistrate Pradeep

Kumar Dang, ITDA Project Administrator Lalatendu Loha was present on the occasion. Eligible candidates are being given free coaching for banking, staff selection, railway, army, air force, naval, Odisha police, paramilitary and insurance sectors

through the 'Sudaksha' program. With coaching, candidates are provided with free accommodation, meals and uniforms. The Sundergarh District Mining Institute is providing financial support for the program, while the Niyati Foundation is respon-

sible for its management. The "Sudaksha" program, launched by the Sundergarh district administration, is a good initiative. Under the program, eligible candidates will be given coaching for various competitive examinations. There is hope, " said Deputy District Magistrate Pradeep Kumar Dang. The inaugural function of the Banai Kendra was attended by DMF livelihood expert Anjan Kumar Panda, Nirmal Kumar Panda, chairman of the Niyati Foundation, and Itishree Panda, chief executive, among others. The district administration has launched

"Sudaksha" program to provide free employment-oriented coaching to young men and women who have passed +2 or +3 in Sundergarh district. "It simply came to our notice then. The coaching center provides coaching for mathematics, general knowledge, research, computers, communication, and personality development. It also provides training in military, paramilitary and police skills. Weekly tests and mock interviews will be conducted on how students can pass various competitive exams. Textbooks and old question papers are also being provided for various tests.

## BJD youth-student leadership conference was held at the Malkangiri DNK playground



(A.O. Bureau) Malkangiri, Feb 11: On the orders of Odisha Chief Minister and Biju Janata Dal supreme Naveen Patnaik, Malkangiri Yuva Janata Dal president Adama Raba and Chitrakonda MLA and district Biju Janata Dal president on behalf of the district Biju Youth and Student Janata Dal organised a conference at Malkangiri DNK Ground A large youth-led leadership conference has been celebrated with great

pomp. The chief guests at the event were Pranab Balwant Rai, general secretary of the state BJD and in charge of the state youth organization, Byomkesh Rai, state youth president and Chandbali MLA, Abhinash Thakur, state executive president of the Chhatra Janata Dal, Malkangiri district supervisor of the party. Chandra sarathi Behera, Bhadrak MLA Soumya Ranjan Mallick, Nabarangpur

MP Ramesh Chandra Majhi, Koraput Biju Yuva Janata Dal president Tapas Tripathi, Malkangiri District Special Development Council president Manas Madkami, former MLA Mukund Sodi, district executive president Durga Prasad. More than 2,000 youth activists and party leaders from different parts of district joined the BJD Janata Dal. DNK ground arrived at the scene. During the procession, guests were

welcomed to the stage with Koya, Banda, and other regional instruments and dances from the Malayabanta area. The city was abuzz with music and dancing. At first, the guests laid wreaths at the photos on the stage and lit lamps. Then the performers of Balimela Banishree Kala Niketan performed the dance with the opening song of Utkal Janani on the stage. Then the meeting began. He said the state government has

come up with various schemes for the betterment of the people and the younger generation and the district living in the tribal areas of the district like Malkangiri. Manchasin guests, who are paying special attention to the development of Malkangiri, commented. Pranab Balbanta Rai announced that the Youth Sports and Premier League for the younger generation would be held in Malkangiri district in the coming days. He encouraged ordinary people as well to take part in solving this great task: "One of the things you and other people can do is keep up the pressure ... there are many schemes of Government to be reached to each corner of Malkangiri".

## Forest protection & Fire prevention Awareness in AJY area by Forest Deptt

(A.O. Bureau) Malkangiri, Feb 11: Today Fire Prevention and Forest protection and Awareness Meeting held on behalf of the Forest Department in the Aam Jangal Yojana area Today, on 11.02.21, a fire prevention meeting was held at Kusumput village on behalf of Mathili Forest Range .Mr Parsuram Bhumiya Forest Range Of-

ficer presided the meeting in this awareness meeting Mr Debasis Pradhan Forester Mrs Kalyani Rath, FG, Team Leader, Mr Suraj Majhi, Development officer NRM of Aam jangal Yojana , Banshi Anugulia, development officer CD, and Hrishikesh Panda of Srusti P NGO, along with VSS president Shri Madhu Mali and

other committee members were present at the meeting. The Kusumput VSS Committee members were also given 10 plastic chairs to encourage them for forest protection and fire prevention. In the end, the villagers took the oath of allegiance to the village forest goddess and vowed not to set fire to the forest or to hunting wild animals



Latitude: 18.571321  
Longitude: 82.315158  
Elevation: 510.58 m  
Accuracy: 3.8 m  
Time: 02-11-2021 11:40  
Note: VSS MEETING KUSUMPUT VSS MATI

## One-day cricket tournament was held at Gaurdihi in Gichamura

(A.O. Bureau) Rengali, Feb 11: A one-day cricket tournament was held at Gaurdihi in Gichamura, Rengali

Cricket Club. The chief guest and journalist and social activist Himanshu Shekhar Mishra, Rengali Zilla



block, Sambalpur district. A total of eight teams took part in the tournament from Jai Bir Vajrangi

Parishad members Tiroj Hedenga and Lalit Sahu graced the occasion as distinguished guests.

## Indian Navy's First Vice Admiral From Odisha No More

(A.O. Bureau) Balasore, Feb 11: The Indian Navy's first Vice Admiral from Odisha, Dr Barunikanta Rakshit

passed away on Wednesday evening while undergoing treatment at a hospital in New Delhi. He was 89.

## Dalmia Cement (Bharat) Ltd. supports education; constructs school building in Barunia

(A.O. Bureau) Tangi, Feb 11: In an endeavour to provide inclusive and equitable quality education, Dalmia Cement (Bharat) Ltd. (DCBL) today inaugurated a new school building at Harishankar VidyaMandir in Barunia, Jajpur. DCBL has constructed one classroom of the school and renovated the other two classrooms. For this initiative, the company has spent around Rs 5.6 lakhs to support the education of students living in the region. Sh. Ramawtar Sharma, Dy. Execu-

- Shri Amar Satpathy, Hon'ble MLA, Barchana inaugurated the school
- Dalmia Cement dedicates around Rs. 5.6 lakhs for the construction of the school

committee members also graced the event with their presence. As a company, DCBL has always been committed to providing quality education to students living in and around their plant locations. Through this construction, the company aims to provide access to an improved learning experience to the students without any ob-

tion for a better life for everyone. We are optimistic that with the renovation of the school infrastructure, the students will feel motivated to attend classes and continue working towards building a better future for them." Built near the KCW Cement plant of the company, the new school building aims to benefit students



Director & Unit Head, DCBL, Tangi gave an inaugural address in the presence of Hon'ble Chief Guest Sh. Amar Satpathy, MLA Barchana. Mrs. Swagatika Panda, Sarpanch Paria GP, Sh. Srikanta Behera, PS Paria GP, village elders, teachers and school management

living in and around the village of Barunia. This includes Amiyajhari, Barunia, Paria, Nandujhari, Nimadih, Baragada, Kaimatia villages. The school which has classes starting from 9th & 10th standard has a total strength of 80 students along with 11 teaching and non-teaching staff.

## Kendrapada Congress in "Open your mouth for the soil"! Kendrapara District Congress Movement for the Establishment of a Medical College



(A.O. Bureau) Kendrapara, Feb 11: Open mouths for soil, Congress demands medical college in Kendrapara in Wednesday, the Kendrapara District Congress staged a motorcycle rally demanding the establishment of a Medical Collage in heavy rally, PCC president Niranjan Pattnaik, Jatani MLA Sura Routaray, Senior lawyers Dharinidhar Nayak, Gyandev Behura, District President Anshuman Mohanty, Umesh Padhi, Sambit Srichandan, Rashmi Ranjan Chowdhury,

Ratikanta Kanungo, Pitabas Behera, Pradyumna Jena and Kulmani Mallick. He walked around the new bus stand and the market and reached the meeting place in front of the District Collectorate office. He opened his mouth to the ground and chanted such slogans. The rally was attended by thousands of Congress workers. Targeting the Odisha government, Niranjan Pattnaik said Naveen Babu had no sympathy for Kendrapara, and that those who were elected here feared that if they opened

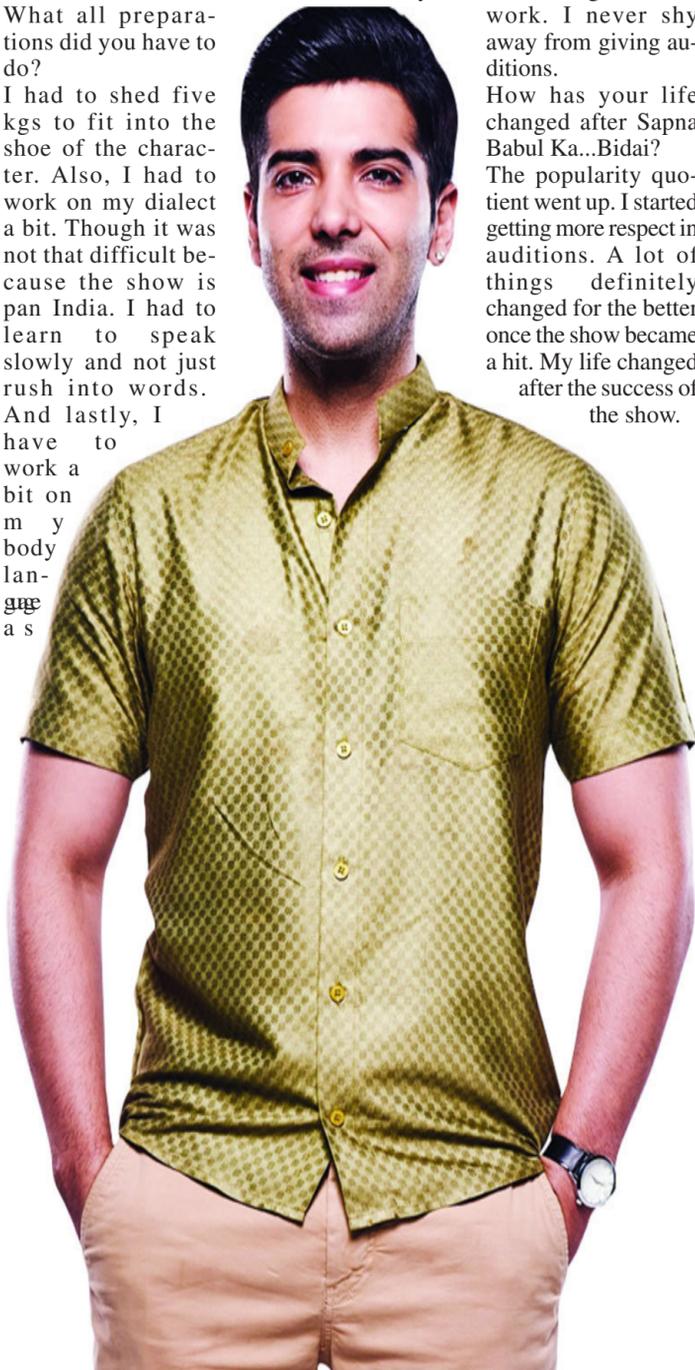
their mouths, he would not have a post. That is why no leader has opened his mouth, said PCC president Niranjan Pattnaik, Jatani MLA Sur Routaray said that all the elected leaders in Kendrapara are going to the next other district and they are only opening their mouths for themselves. This great movement was seen to have public support. It is a sign and a kind of demonstration of the power of the Congress ... It is kind of clear that the Congress will fight this issue in the upcoming municipal and panchayat elections.

## 'Bidaai changed my life'

New Delhi, Feb 11: K I N S H U K MAHAJAN speak about his role in Star Plus' latest offering Pandya Store, the attraction of playing it and how his life has changed after Sapna Babul Ka...Bidaai. What is your role in Pandya Store? I play Gautam Pandya, a shopkeeper. He is a kind-hearted and family oriented person. He keeps his family's dreams and happiness above his needs. His father is no more with them and his mother is bed ridden, so the responsibility of taking care of the family lies on his shoulders. The story revolves around how he runs the store and during the process gets to know that Pandya Store is mortgaged. He then gets married to Dhara, who then helps him in running the store. What attracted you towards the role? The simplicity of the character. There is no need of over-the-top acting, it all comes so natural. Also, Gautam is a person who wants to see everyone happy and that was one of the reasons what got me attracted towards this character. What all preparations did you have to do? I had to shed five kgs to fit into the shoe of the character. Also, I had to work on my dialect a bit. Though it was not that difficult because the show is pan India. I had to learn to speak slowly and not just rush into words. And lastly, I have to work a bit on my body language as

well. You have played both negative and positive characters. Which one do you prefer to play? I would like to play more positive characters because a hero is always shown in that light. Though negative characters offer more scope to show your acting skills, but having said that my priority is always to play protagonists. Also, my face suits best for positive characters so I mostly get cast for such roles only. With that being said, did you have any apprehensions in taking up the negative roles? Not at all. I believe an actor should explore all kinds of roles and genres. The more types of characters you play, the more refined your craft gets. Were you concerned about losing your positive image in the minds of the audience? The audience liked the characters I played. I have been fortunate enough to have got the audience's support in whatever role I played. There were no concerns at all. Also, the more negative comments you

get for your role, it means you are able to justify your character and strike the right chord with the audience. It is like a validation for your work and we take it in a healthy and positive way. How did acting happen to you? I did an acting course and then went on to do theatre for two years. In 2007, I got my first break in Dhoom Machao Dhoom and I shifted to Mumbai for the shoot. Then I went on getting more and more shows and this is how I reached here. Ups and downs are always there in every field, but I was lucky enough to keep on getting shows after shows. Was there a moment when you felt like quitting? Not at all. I was mostly busy with work and even if when I was not, that gap was not that big enough to demotivate me. In that gap, I focused on reinventing myself and my craft and never lost hope. Do you mind giving auditions? No. Today, we don't call it audition, we call it look test instead. But it is more or less the same thing and without it things will not work. I never shy away from giving auditions. How has your life changed after Sapna Babul Ka...Bidaai? The popularity quotient went up. I started getting more respect in auditions. A lot of things definitely changed for the better once the show became a hit. My life changed after the success of the show.



## A talkathon on relationships

New Delhi, Feb 11: **Malcolm & Marie**: Starting: Zendaya, John David Washington. Malcolm & Marie reminds one of a movie that's closer to home. Many would remember the 1964 movie and Anil in Yaadein played by Sunil Dutt. Yaadein, a black and white film is all about a man who reminisces his indiscretions when, one day he comes home to find that his wife and son are not there. This movie only had Sunil Dutt with a silhouette of Nargis at the end. Malcolm & Marie may not be about a lone man but it is about relationships, a movie that spends 106 minutes of running time in trying to get it's lead — Malcolm played by Washington — to apologise to his partner, a woman he loves, for not thanking her for her contribution in his life at his debut movie as a di-



rector. The entire movie is strangely cathartic and yet exhaustive as the only two people here go back and forth talking about their relationship, art, politics and how White people see a coloured person and sees everything with a tainted vision and turning it into a racist or political issue. It is taxing to see these characters go back and forth with highs and lows on a repeat like q

broken record. Still the acting by Washington is brilliant. His almost 10 minute tirade of what he thought of the review by a White lady of Imani, a coloured person who struggles with addiction, is an absolute joy to watch even though the four letter word finds its way at 50 times if not more. In fact, that is the high point of Malcolm & Marie; this and the climax. Zendaya, the

only other character her plays her part rather well and matches Washington to bring out Marie's need to be thanked for her role. Watch this for its roller coaster emotions that has well-fleshed out characters. It is very confusing **Bliss**: Starting: Salma Hayek, Owen Wilson. Here is another movie that not only exhausts one, in trying to decipher what is happening, it is confusing since one tries

to discern between reality and fiction. While some may find the narrative of this film easy enough to follow from the word go, others, who hate loose ends will want to know the answers to questions that remain unanswered. One would have thought that a movie starring Salma Hayek and Owen Wilson would be far more entertaining and fun to watch but Bliss, unlike it's title is anything but that. Interestingly, despite the major drawback of this movie, it manages to capture one's attention and hold it all through the 103 minutes. There is something that captures imagination. Curiosity killed the cat and the need to see how things end keeps one glued. Allow yourself to be drawn into the roller coaster ride that its characters go through and let the drama unfold however confused it may leave one at the end.

## Love you even more now: Sanjay Dutt to Maanayata on their wedding anniversary

New Delhi, Feb 11: Sanjay Dutt and Maanayata Dutt wished each other on their 13th wedding anniversary. Actor Sanjay Dutt and wife Maanayata Dutt are celebrating their 13th wedding anniversary on Thursday. The couple wished each other on the special occasion on social media. The Torbaaz actor shared a throwback photo with Maanayata where he is seen looking at her adorably. Along with

it, he wrote, "11.02.2008 Loved you then. Love you even more now @maanayata Happy anniversary???" Wishing her 'best grip in this world', Maanayata also shared a photo with the 61-year-old actor and captioned it, "Another year of fully accepting the dark and the light within each other...another year of holding on together.....happy anniversary to my



best grip in this world #positivity #dutt #love #grace #throwback ?? #love #grace #throwback

#beautiful life #thankyougod??" Maanayata often shares her special moments with Sanjay Dutt on Instagram. Last year, she stood strongly by the actor's side when he battled cancer. On the work front, Sanjay Dutt has films like KGF Chapter 2, Akshay Kumar starrer period drama Prithviraj, Ajay Devgn's Bhuj: The Pride of India and Ranbir Kapoor starrer Shamshera in his kitty.

## 5 Protein-rich Food Sources for Vegetarians

New Delhi, Feb 11: Going directly to the veggies allows us to consume the original source proteins and get all the amino acids to build and repair our muscles minus the health risks associated with meats. When it comes to a protein-rich diet, most people erroneously think that vegetarians do not have much options as meat is the only major source. However, vegetables are the primary protein source for herbivorous animals slaughtered for meat. Going directly to the veggies allows us to consume the original source proteins and get all the amino acids to build and repair our muscles minus the health risks associated with meats. Below are five such sources of high quality vegetarian



protein. Soybeans: Soybean has more protein content than meat of the same quantity. It also contains vitamins B and E, calcium, iron and zinc as well as unsaturated fatty acids. As per studies, soy protein also helps lower bad cholesterol levels and excess blood pressure. It contains isoflavones, a compound that helps maintain arterial health among meno-

pausal women and reduces the risk prostate and breast cancer. Lentils: Called dal in India, lentils like Masoor and Moong contain 9 grams and 7 grams of protein per 100 grams of dal, respectively, after boiling. They are also rich in fibre which aids in healthy weight management and prevention of diabetes. Chickpea: Chickpea, also known as Kaabulee

Chana in India, was originally introduced here from Afghanistan. A 100 grams serving of chickpeas contains about nine grams of protein after boiling. Chickpeas are rich in vitamins A, C and E and minerals like iron, potassium and magnesium and also dietary fibre. Studies have suggested that chickpeas prevent the progression of cardiovascular disease (CVD) and

type-2 diabetes among others. Rajma: 100 grams of boiled red kidney beans or Rajma, provides about nine grams of protein, just like chickpeas. Rajma also contains dietary fibre, polyphenols such as quercetin, whose benefits we discussed above, and B vitamins. Studies have found antibacterial, antioxidative and anti-inflammatory properties in Rajma. They also play a protective role in diseases such as CVD and cancer. Green Peas: 100 grams of these green seed pods contain five grams of protein. As per studies, green peas are packed with antibacterial, antifungal, anti-inflammatory, antioxidant and anticancer properties. They also help manage diabetes and lower bad cholesterol levels.

## Buttler, Bairstow back for T20Is against India as England name 16-member squad

London, Feb 11: Senior wicketkeeper-batsmen Jos Buttler and Jonny Bairstow were on Thursday named in a 16-member England squad for the five T20 International matches against India, scheduled in Ahmedabad between March 12 to 20. Buttler has gone back home after the opening Test against India, which the visitors won by 227 runs, while Bairstow has been rested for the first two five-day games of the



four-match series as part of England's rotational policy. Also coming back is IPL franchise Chennai Super Kings' all-rounder,

Sam Curran, who was rested for the Test series. Veteran pacers James Anderson and Stuart Broad no longer play white-ball games

but Jofra Archer will be available for the five-match series, which means he might be rested at some point during the ongoing Test rubber. The squad also has latest T20 dasher Dawid Malan, who, according to many, could be a hot pick at the February 18 IPL auction in Chennai. The squad for the three One-Day Internationals that follow the IT20 series will be announced in due course. Squad: Eoin Morgan

(Middlesex) (captain), Moeen Ali (Worcestershire), Jofra Archer (Sussex), Jonathan Bairstow (Yorkshire), Sam Billings (Kent), Jos Buttler (Lancashire), Sam Curran (Surrey), Tom Curran (Surrey), Chris Jordan (Sussex), Liam Livingstone (Lancashire), Dawid Malan (Yorkshire), Adil Rashid (Yorkshire), Jason Roy (Surrey), Ben Stokes (Durham), Reece Topley (Surrey), Mark Wood (Durham).

## Even as DSP, Hima Das will keep sprinting for India: Rijiju

New Delhi, Feb 11: Union Sports Minister Kiren Rijiju has made it clear that ace sprinter Hima Das -- who will be appointed as the Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP) in Assam Police -- will "keep running for India" in the future as well. On Wednesday, the decision to appoint Hima as DSP was taken in an Assam cabinet meeting chaired by the Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal in Dispur. "Many people are asking, what about Hima's sports career? She is training for Olympic qualification at NIS Patiala and will keep running for India," Rijiju said in a tweet. "Our elite athletes are employed in various jobs yet continue to play. Even after retirement, they'll be engaged in promoting sports," he added. Earlier the Sports Minister had hailed the Assam

government's decision and tweeted: "Well done! Assam Cabinet, headed by CM Sarbananda Sonowal Ji has decided to offer the post of DSP in Assam Police to sprinter queen Hima

Das!" Hima, nicknamed 'Dhing Express', on her part thanked the Assam Chief Minister and said that the decision is a "huge motivation" for her. "I thank our Hon'ble Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal and Himanta Biswa Sarma Sir for my appointment as Deputy SP with Assam Police. The de-



cision is a huge motivation for me. I look forward to be of service to my state and my nation. Jai Hind!" she tweeted on Thursday Hima has gone on to be recognised as one of the most promising talents in Indian athletics. At the 2018 Asian Games, she won two gold medals and a silver. The 20-year-old became the first Indian woman indeed the first ever Indian athlete to win a gold medal in any format of a global track event at IAAF World U20 Championships when she clocked a speed of 51.46 seconds.

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## Drummer Devadiga finds his rhythm on the athletics track



New Delhi, Feb 11: The musician-athlete clocked 21.34 seconds for the top spot in Guwahati ahead of Ritik Malik and Nalubothu Shanmuga Srinivas. Devadiga was, however, distraught at missing the U20 200m national record by 0.14 seconds. Teen sprinter Abhin Bhaskar Devadiga likes to be at the centre of the action whether he is on the track or trying to set the tempo for his orchestra while handling the drums. The Karnataka athlete,

who is also a proficient drummer, bagged the gold medal in the U20 200m event at the Junior Nationals in Guwahati. This was the second national-level gold in a fortnight for the 19-year-old after he triumphed at the Junior Fed Cup in Bhopal in the last week of January. The 100 and 200 m specialist has bagged four national medals overall (two gold and two silver) in the last two meets. The musician-athlete clocked 21.34 seconds for the top spot in Guwahati

ahead of Ritik Malik and Nalubothu Shanmuga Srinivas. Devadiga was, however, distraught at missing the U20 200m national record by 0.14 seconds. "It wasn't my best performance. I am not fully satisfied despite the gold," the Udupi resident said. For Devadiga, a second-year B. Com student, took up drums at the age of six and became a prodigy of sorts. He soon started performing at concerts across the country with his teacher's band called

Rhythm Music Group. "At the age of eight, I entered the Indian Book of Records as the 'youngest drummer to play spot music'. I have played at several concerts, weddings and functions ever since. When I was in Class Four, I tried my hand at running and liked it. The rhythm I developed while playing drums helped me in my running," Devadiga says. Devadiga's gold-winning effort on Tuesday was within the qualification mark (21.38s) for the U20 Worlds to be held in Nairobi, Kenya in August, but the youngster will turn 20 just two days before the event. "I was well prepared last year for the U20 Worlds but it was postponed due to the pandemic. And this year, I won't be eligible. This is a huge setback for me but I can't sit pondering over it," he said. Devadiga's father

works as an automobile engineer while his mother is a homemaker. Whenever the Devadiga household is under financial stress, they are bailed out by close relatives. The youngster also chips in with the money he earns by playing drums at various events. But the pandemic has meant that concerts are now few and far between. For now, Devadiga's primary focus remains on athletics while he continues to play the drums. "Music can be pursued at any age. I want to focus more on running right now and if things don't work, I will go back to drumming," he says. Asked to choose between the two pursuits, Devadiga says: "Athletics is competitive and is about winning and medals while in music everyone is a winner. I like both equally."

## Fit Axar back in nets

New Delhi, Feb 11: India could go for one change to their playing XI in the second Test against England starting Saturday with Jharkhand left-arm spinner Shahbaz Nadeem making way for fit-again all-rounder Axar Patel after his poor show in the series-opener in Chennai. While Nadeem's replacement will be decided by Friday, one can expect Patel to replace him after his debut was put on hold by an injury. "Axar had a minor knee niggle and has already started batting at the nets. He is expected to start bowling during the next couple of days," a senior BCCI source said on Wednesday. "He was always the first choice to play the opening Test but it will depend on skipper Virat Kohli, head coach

Ravi Shastri and bowling coach Bharath Arun," he added. Indian captain Virat Kohli didn't hide his disappointment when it came to Nadeem's performance during the post-match presentation where he said that he and Washington Sundar couldn't keep up the pressure that was created by Jasprit Bumrah, Ishant Sharma and Ravichandran Ashwin. Nadeem had four wickets in all but gave away 233 runs in 59 overs across two innings with an economy rate of close to 4 runs per over. And if that wasn't enough, as a slow bowler, a total of nine no balls at the Test match level can be considered criminal. Washington bowled 26 overs for 98 runs in the first innings and got a solitary over in the second innings.

## Root rises in rankings

Dubai, Feb 11: India skipper Virat Kohli was on Wednesday pushed to the fifth spot by his English counterpart Joe Root, who rose two rungs to third in the latest ICC Test rankings for batsmen, even as Jasprit Bumrah and R Ashwin moved up in the bowlers' chart. Kohli, who had scores of 11 and 72 in the opening Test against England, has 852 points and down one spot in the latest chart issued on Wednesday. Veteran spinner Ashwin and pacer Bumrah have jumped a rung each to be seventh and eighth respectively. Root, who helped his team to a memorable 227-run victory in Chennai that kept England in contention for the World Test Championship final, has reached 883 rating points. It is his highest position since September 2017 after a fabulous run in the sub-continent saw him accumulate 684 runs in three Tests, two of which were in Sri Lanka. Ahead of Kohli

for the first time since November 2017, Root is now 36 points behind top-ranked Kane Williamson and trails Steve Smith by only eight points. With Marnus Labuschagne also in the mix, competition for the top five slots is intense with all of them above 850 rating points. For India, Rishabh Pant's knock of 91 in the first innings has helped him become the first full-time wicketkeeper from his country to reach 700 rating points as he retained the 13th position among batsmen. Opener Shubman Gill progressed seven places to 40th position while all-rounder Washington Sundar is 81st after moving up two slots. Left-arm spinner Shahbaz Nadeem too has gained two places to reach 85th position among bowlers. English players made the way up in the bowling rankings presently led by Australia fast bowler Pat Cummins.

Melbourne, Feb 11: Eight-time champion Novak Djokovic was made to sweat at the Australian Open on Wednesday, as Serena Williams made serene progress in her bid for a record-equalling 24th Grand Slam singles title. As Major winners Stan Wawrinka, Bianca Andreescu and Petra Kvitova were second-round casualties, Djokovic dropped his first set of the event before grinding past America's Frances Tiafoe 6-3, 6-7 (3-7), 7-6 (7-2), 6-3. "I was fortunate to get through the third set today, it was anybody's game," said the defending champion, after his win in hot conditions on Rod Laver Arena. The top seed looked in control after taking the first set, but lightning-quick Tiafoe, who reached the quarter-finals two years ago, refused to go quietly. The American bounced back to take a close second set but imploded as tensions rose in the fourth, receiv-

ing a code violation for an audible obscenity as Djokovic took charge. The Serb is targeting a record-extending ninth title and his 18th Grand Slam trophy overall as he snaps at the heels of Rafael Nadal and Roger Federer, who top the all-time list with 20 each. He avoided the fate of 2014 winner Wawrinka, who blew three match points in the fifth-set tiebreaker in his four-hour epic with Hungary's Marton Fucsovics, who won 7-5, 6-1, 4-6, 2-6, 7-6 (11-9). "I had some chance to finish the match, I didn't finish," said the 35-year-old Swiss, a three-time Grand Slam winner. Earlier, the 39-year-old Williams continued her quest to equal Margaret Court's all-time mark of 24 tennis Grand Slams with a 6-3, 6-0 romp past 99th-ranked Serbian Nina Stojanovic in just 69 minutes on Rod Laver Arena. Williams hit 27 winners in her 101st Australian Open match while again sporting her

## Djoker passes Tiafoe test



unique, one-legged catsuit inspired by track legend 'Flo-Jo'. In the evening session, Japanese sensation Naomi Osaka thwarted Caroline Garcia with an effortless straight-sets victory, as she stormed into the third round, where she will face 27th seed Ons Jabeur. The third seed, faced a tricky contest against the Frenchwoman, who was ranked a career-high of fourth in late 2018 but never gave her a sniff in the 6-2, 6-3 victory in 61 minutes. "I stayed fo-

cused throughout the match and I tried to play within myself," Osaka, who hit 23 winners, told the crowd at Rod Laver Arena. The three-time Grand Slam winner is riding a 16-match unbeaten streak -- including the US Open final -- dating back 12 months, and is building momentum having not played before arriving in Australia since her triumph in New York. Osaka is eyeing redemption after her title defence last year ended with a shock loss to American teenager

Coco Gauff in the third round. "Crowd helped me fight" Williams' older sister Venus, 40, however, was a major casualty when she painfully rolled her ankle in the first set against Sara Errani before hobbling through a 6-1, 6-0 defeat. And Andreescu, the 2019 US Open champion who missed the entire 2020 season with a knee injury, saw her comeback come to an abrupt end, losing 6-3, 6-2 to Chinese Taipei's Hsieh Su-wei. "You need to find a way to get

through and the crowd helped me fight," said Hsieh, after beating the Canadian, who was coming off a draining three-setter against Mihaela Buzarnescu. Elsewhere Kvitova, the former Wimbledon champion and Melbourne runner-up in 2019, committed 44 unforced errors in her 6-4, 1-6, 6-1 defeat by Romania's Sorana Cirstea as the big names tumbled on day three. However, reigning US Open champion Dominic Thiem, runner-up to Djokovic last year, was all smiles as he beat Germany's Dominik Kopfer 6-4, 6-0, 6-2. "It was great, to be honest," the Austrian said of his performance on Margaret Court Arena. "I really love this court and have pretty good stats on it, so super happy to be back." Eighth seed Diego Schwartzmann also hurried into the last 32, brushing aside Frenchman Alexandre Muller 6-2, 6-0, 6-3 in 1hr 32min on Show Court 2.

## IFFCO Paradeep Unit organizes 03 days corporate level cricket Tournament



(A.O. Bureau) Paradeep, Feb 11: IFFCO Paradeep Unit organizes 03 days corporate level cricket Tournament in its premises from 11.02.2021 to 14.02.2021. The opening match was organized between PPL vrs AM/NS India(Formerly ESSAR Steel) and between IFFCO Ltd. vrs Coast Guard, Employee's Union and IFFCO Officer's Association witnessed the event.

Paradeep. Sh.K.J.Patel, Executive Director, IFFCO inaugurated the three days Corporate Level Match as Chief Guest. All senior officials of IFFCO and President & General Secretary of IFFCO Employee's Union and IFFCO Officer's Association witnessed the event.

## Unique Feat Achieved: 60 Meters Long Bow String Girder Launched At Sambalpur



(A.O. Bureau) Sambalpur, Feb 11: A Bow String Girder of length 60 meters and weight about 355 tonne has been launched today at a Road Over Bridge (ROB) near Sambalpur by the Construction wing of East Coast Railway. Launching of such a Bow String Girder at ROB was a challenge. The team of Chief Project Manager (CPM) of Construction Wing of East Coast Railway at Sambalpur completed this job with accurate planning and got the work executed successfully despite lots of constraints and difficulties.

Such type of Girder Launching is first time in the history of Odisha and East Coast Railway. Steel Girder of 60 meter span has been launched. ROB at Khetarajpur is being constructed in lieu of Special Class Level Crossing which is highly congested and has a Train Vehicle Unit (TVU) of 413708 units as per the census taken on Oct 2018. The construction of ROB is in high demand at this place. Out of 35 piers and 2 abutments, 04 numbers of piers (pier 21-24) belongs to Railway portion and the span above the Railway track is 60m whereas the approach spans are 24m on both sides. The launching of 60m Bow String Girder was a difficult proposition which has been successfully executed. State govt portion of rest spans are also under construction. Once this ROB gets functional there will be huge relief to the commuters at the Level Crossing of Khetarajpur area. This will facilitate movement of traffic from Remed Chowk of NH6 to Khetarajpur. The foundation stone of ROB was being laid by the then MOSR Shri Manoj Sinha in the Aug-2017.

## Central University of Odisha welcomes the new District Collector and Magistrate of Koraput

Prof. I Ramabrahmam, Vice-Chancellor, Central University of Odisha (CUO) conveyed his best wishes to the newly joined Koraput Collector & District Magistrate, Shri Md. Abdaal Akhtar, IAS, CUO Officials Prof. Asit Kumar Das, Prof. P. Durgaprasad, Visiting Professor and Dr. Phagunath Bhoi, Public Relations Officer made a courtesy visit to the Collectorate yesterday and offered a warm floral welcome. Prof. Das



wished him all success in his key assignment of developing the Koraput District. The developmental activities of the University and the challenges facing the University were discussed during the meeting. The Collector assured the University of his support to the academic and developmental activities. The CUO team has also bid farewell to



the outgoing District Collector of Koraput Shri Madhusudan Mishra and thanked him for his unstinted support to the University. While appreciating the educational and developmental endeavours of the University, Shri Mishra extended his support to the University in his new role as Additional Secretary, Govt. of Odisha.

## Celebrate this Valentine's Day with Senco Gold & Diamonds'



(A.O. Bureau) Kolkata, Feb 11: - Senco Gold & Diamonds, one of the largest jewellery retail chains of Eastern India, has announced an exciting Valentine's Day offer - 'Love 2021' for customers who can now choose from a wide range of intricately designed jewellery for their loved ones to celebrate this special moment together on this Valentine's Day. Featuring exquisite designs in diamonds and gold, the collections wrapped with special Valentine's Day offer will make this moment even more special. Speaking about Love 2021 offer, Mr. Suvankar Sen, CEO, Senco Gold & Diamonds, said, "Love & relationships that survived the ordeals of 2020 have emerged stronger, more enduring than ever. So love 2021 is a New & improved version, with added qualities that make it even more lasting & precious. This Valentine's Day gift a diamond to your

stronger than ever love." To celebrate this spirit of love this Valentine's Day, Senco Gold & Diamonds offers a wide range of intricate jewellery designs and is known for its exquisite craftsmanship. Ongoing Love 2021 offer will encourage customers to celebrate their special moments with exquisitely designed jewellery in gold, silver, platinum and Gossip collections and avail special discounts which makes it affordable for our valued customers." It is a celebration of love, and a special gift like jewellery this Valentine's Day will bring more joy and make the day memorable. A diamond always plays a special role in every kind of relationships and makes every moment auspicious. From the wide array of finest jewellery collections customers can buy the preferred one wrapped up with Love 2021 offer. Each jewellery from the brand showcases the

superior quality of craftsmanship that Senco Gold & Diamonds' karigars possess," he added. The exquisite designs of jewellery combined with exciting offers give Senco Gold and Diamonds' customers an unmatched retail experience across diamonds, gold, platinum and silver jewellery. The company has a wide range of collections under one umbrella like, the Everlite collection for gifting in every occasion or Aham collection for men of fashion & style and the Gossip Silver and Fashion jewellery collection for party occasions and Perfect Love collection for solitaire diamonds. To mark this special occasion, Senco Gold and Diamonds has announced an array of offers on its jewellery collections. The brand is offering up to 20% + 21%\* off on gold and diamond jewellery and up to 15% + 21%\* off on platinum, silver and Gossip jewellery. Customers can also buy diamond jewellery on easy monthly instalments after completing the required documentations. Love 2021 Offers are available across all 100+ Senco Gold & Diamonds stores nationally and online.

## Adani Dhamra Port organises two days progressive farmers exposure visit

(A.O. Bureau) Dhamra, Feb 11: To enhance the knowledge and skills for adoption of organic farming and improvement of soil management practice in crop production, Adani Foundation the CSR wing of Adani Dhamra Port has organized a two day long exposure visit for 45 marginal & small farmers from its 8 periphery GPs to Naichhanpur village, Near Betada of BasudevPur block & Maa Mati training center at Kothabada, Dandamakundapur of Pipili block on 7th and 8th February 2021. On 7th February, the farmers got exposed to the organic farming orchard of



commercial & exotic vegetables developed by Mr. Ratikanta Sahoo with the support of Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Bhadrak in 7 acre of land at Naichhanpur near Betada village of Basudevpur block, Bhadrak. They have interacted with Mr. Sahoo on the package of practices for cultivation of elephant foot yam with live demonstration of organic

seed treatment by trico derma viridi seed treating materials. On 8th February 2021, the farmers were taken to Maa Mati training center, which is concentrating on organic farming at Kothabada, near Dandamakundapur of Pipili Block. The farmers were oriented by various subject specific experts on the concept of organic farming and the process to take it up as a business model. During the visit, the Managing Director of Maa Mati Mr. Prabodh Kumar Mohanty deliberated on the organic farming and lead the farmers to various demonstration sites of the training center, focusing on high value crop, green manure, commercial fish pond, vermi compost, low cost farm mechaniza-

tion, exotic vegetable and also the models developed by his institute and local farmers. The exposure visit has brought a skill and knowledge enhancement opportunity for the participating farmers and we are thankful to Adani Dhamra Port for this initiative said Mr. Balabhadra Lenka, one of the participant of the exposure visit from Jagula Gram Panchayat.

## Affidavit on arms licence: Court rejects plea against actor Salman Khan

(A.O. Bureau) New Delhi, Feb 11: District and Sessions Judge Raghvendra Kachhwal pronounced the order, which had been reserved for three after completion of the arguments on February 9. Khan was present in the court through video conferencing. Facing allegations of submission of a false affidavit regarding his arms licence, Salman Khan had a major reprieve on Thursday when a court here rejected the Rajasthan government's plea against the actor and acquitted him of the charge. District

and Sessions Judge Raghvendra Kachhwal pronounced the order, which had been reserved for three after completion of the arguments on February 9. Khan was present in the court through video conferencing. The matter is linked to a case against Khan under the Arms Act, in which the actor had been accused of keeping arms with an expired licence and using these for poaching. Khan's counsel H M Saraswat said, "We are happy that the court rejected the application of the state and absolved



Khan of the allegation of false affidavit. There was not much substance in the matter and the allegation had been made against him just for the purpose of harassment." This is the second time that the actor has been freed from the allegation. Earlier, the court

of the chief judicial magistrate had also absolved him of the charge, after which the state had challenged the decision in the district and sessions court. Khan had filed the affidavit in the court in 2003 stating that he had lost his arms licence. The

prosecution had argued that he had submitted a false affidavit as his licence was not lost but submitted for renewal. "We argued that it was not intentional to submit this affidavit as Khan was a busy actor and had no exact idea about his licence at that time," said Khan's counsel H M Saraswat. He argued that if the accused has submitted a false affidavit by mistake and he has no advantage of such an act, he should be forgiven and absolved from the allegations.