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**2** Statehood will be given to J&K at an appropriate time: Amit Shah in Lok Sabha



**3** The launch of the country's first CNG tractor



**6** 5 Health Benefits of Avocados



**7** Why replacing Bumrah with Siraj for second Chepauk Test is not a bad idea

## PM Modi To Conclude 'Poriborton Yatra' In Bengal With Rally In Kolkata



New Delhi, Feb 13: Prime Minister Narendra Modi will conclude BJP's 'Poriborton Yatra' in poll-bound West Bengal by addressing a rally in Kolkata in the first week of March. BJP's national secretary and co-incharge for West Bengal, Arvind Menon, told IANS that a large number of people are expected to attend the Prime Minister's rally in Kolkata. Menon said that the fifth and last phase of Poriborton Yatra will be flagged off by Union Home Minister Amit Shah on February 18 from Kakdwip in the Diamond Harbour parliamentary constituency before culminating in Kolkata with the Prime Minister's rally.

"A large number of people are expected to attend the Prime Minister's rally in Kolkata's Brigade Parade Ground. The yatra will pass through 51 Assembly constituencies of West Bengal," Menon said. He added that the date for the Prime Minister's rally has not been finalised yet, but it will be fixed in the coming days. Menon pointed out that the yatra will pass through the strongholds of Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee and his nephew Abhishek Banerjee's parliamentary constituencies. Following the healthy turnout in the recent rallies held by the BJP leaders in the state, the saffron party is confident of uprooting the Mamata Banerjee-led

government in West Bengal. "The writing on the wall is clear that the Mamata Banerjee-led government is going and the BJP is coming to power in West Bengal," Menon said. The elections for the 294-seat West Bengal Assembly are likely to take place in April-May this year. Riding high on its impressive performance in the 2019 general elections in which the BJP won 18 of the state's 42 seats, the saffron party has set a target to win over 200 seats in the coming Assembly polls. "The voters want change, which is clearly visible across the state. If Mamata Banerjee can't understand the mood of the people, no one can help her," said Menon.

## Odisha Govt Plans To Introduce English From Class-I In CoE Schools

Bhubaneswar, Feb 13: If everything goes well as per plans, the Class-I students in government-run schools in Odisha will learn English from the next academic session. The School and Mass Education department has mulled to introduce the new subject for the class-I students. However, the course will be introduced in the centre of excellence schools in initial phase, informed School and Mass Education Minister Sameer Ranjan Dash. "As per the decision of the Chief Minister, we are going to introduce English course in class-I in all centre of excel-

lence schools from the next academic year," Dash said on the sidelines of a teachers-parents meeting at Rourkela. At present, children study English as a subject from Class III after it was introduced in the curriculum of Government schools. Sources said parents and guardians have favoured the English education from Class-I and are keen on teaching English to their wards from elementary level. The fresh decision would help break the stereotype and enable students converse well in foreign language at par with their counterparts in English me-



medium schools, sources added. Sources said around 72 per cent students fail to clear the English paper in HSC examination which prompted the government to stress on the need to improve standard of En-

glish in Odia medium schools. While speaking on the parents-teachers meeting, the Minister said "We have plans for four such similar meetings in a bid to enhance the quality of education in government

schools. All measures are being taken to make all the government schools at par with the private public schools," he said adding students will compete to get admission in the government schools in future.

## Anubhav-Aparajita In Twitter War Over Draft Heritage Bylaws

Bhubaneswar, Feb 13: A war of words erupted between BJD MP Anubhav Mohanty and his parliament colleague from BJD Aparajita Sarangi on twitter over the draft notification issued by the National Monument Authority (NMA) on heritage bylaws for Lingaraj Temple in Bhubaneswar. Mohanty, who represents Kendrapara Lok Sabha constituency tweeted that he requested Sarangi to meet Union Culture Minister over the heri-



itage bylaws matter. However, she turned down his request, Mohanty stated, adding that he feels sad over the non-cooperation of BJP MPs from Odisha in such an apolitical issue involving

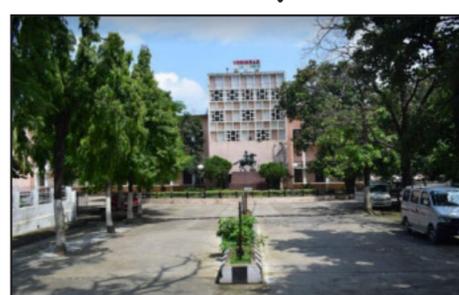
State honour. Replying to the BJD leader, Bhubaneswar MP Sarangi stated that she will open up at right time. She requested him to 'wait and watch'. Notably, a delegation of the

BJD MPs met Union Parliamentary Affairs Minister Prahlad Joshi in New Delhi today and placed demands for withdrawal of the bylaws relating to Lingaraj temple. Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has urged the union government to take back the notification for Lingaraj temple and Brahmeswar shrine here. Since Union Culture Minister Prahlad Singh Patel was not in the national capital, the BJD Parliamentarians met Prahlad Joshi and

apprised him about the Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik's demand. The proposed heritage rules, prohibit construction within a radius of 100 metre of any archaeological site, undermining the Odisha government's plan to develop the Lingaraj temple and its surroundings as a heritage site at the cost of Rs 700 crore. It is pertinent to mention that the Ministry of Culture had earlier withdrawn the draft on heritage bylaws for the Sri Jagannath Temple in Puri.

## 1st In Odisha, VIMSAR To Study Antibodies In COVID Vaccinated People

Sambalpur, Feb 13: In a first, Veer Surendra Sai Institute of Medical Sciences and Research (VIMSAR) in Burla here will conduct a study on antibodies being developed in persons administered with COVID-19 vaccines. Proposed by a team of VIMSAR doctors around a week back, the project received nod from the State government's Health Research Committee on Thursday. VIMSAR in collaboration with scientists of Regional Medical Research Cen-



tre (RMRC), Bhubaneswar will conduct the research for over a period of 12 months. A team of doctors will conduct the study among healthcare providers in VIMSAR who have already been vaccinated. Around 400

to 500 vaccines will be observed during the survey. The team of doctors, includes principal investigator, tutor of department of community medicine Dr Sanjeeb Mishra and co-investigators associate professors, community

medicine Dr Subrat Pradhan and Kulwant Lakra, professor, anaesthesiology Bimal Panda and assistant professor, Microbiology Dr Sumanta Sahu. The team will be assisted by four post graduate (PG) students besides two scientists and a laboratory assistant of Multidisciplinary Research Unit (MRU) of VIMSAR. During the survey, the team will observe seroconversion on people who have received the COVID-19

vaccine jab. Seroconversion is the time period during which a specific antibody develops and becomes detectable in the blood. The study will help calculate the number of people required to be vaccinated to achieve herd immunity, so that the pandemic can be controlled, said an official of VIMSAR, said Dr Mishra. Mishra further said the research will provide additional data in support of the vaccine, which will be essential in the long run.

## Weather Alert: Thunderstorm, Lightning Warning For 11 Odisha Districts



Bhubaneswar, Feb 13: The India Meteorological Department (IMD) Regional Centre here today predicted light to moderate rain for several districts in Odisha on February 16 and 17. The MeT Centre said light to moderate rain is likely to occur at one or two places over the districts of Nuapada, Bargarh, Sambalpur, Jharsuguda, Sundargarh and Deogarh between 8.30 AM on February 16 and 8.30 AM on February 17. However, dry weather is very likely to

prevail over the rest districts of the state during the period. The weathermen issued Yellow Warning for 11 districts in the state on February 17. "From 8.30 AM on February 17 till 8.30 AM on February 18, thunderstorm accompanied with lightning is likely to occur at one or two places over the districts of Rayagada, Gajapati, Ganjam, Kandhamal, Kalahandi, Boudh, Angul, Balangir, Mayurbhanj, Balasore and Keonjhar," said the

MeT Centre. Besides, light to moderate rain is likely to occur at one or two places over the districts of south interior Odisha: Gajapati, Ganjam, Angul, Keonjhar, Mayurbhanj, Jajpur, Balasore and Bhadrak on the day. "However, there will be no major change in minimum temperature over the districts of the state in the next three to four days. There will a little rise in the temperature after that," said Weather scientist HR Biswas.

## Govt Approves Rs 3,113 Cr Assistance To 5 Disaster-Hit States

New Delhi, Feb 13: The Central government on Saturday approved Rs 3,113.05 crore additional assistance to five states and Union Territories (UTs) which were affected by natural disasters during 2020, the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) said on Saturday. The assistance is being provided to Andhra

Pradesh, Bihar, Tamil Nadu, Madhya Pradesh and Puducherry, which were affected by floods, cyclones (Nivar and Burevi) and pest attack. Of the total assistance, Andhra Pradesh has been allocated Rs 280.78 crore while Bihar got Rs 1,255.27 crore. Both were allocated the money for the floods that hit the states dur-



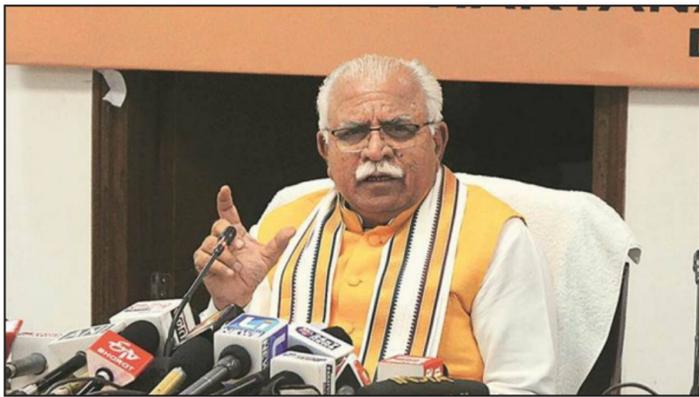
ing the Southwest Monsoon last year. Tamil Nadu has been provided Rs 63.14 crore for cyclone Nivar and Rs 223.77 crore for cyclone

Burevi, taking the total amount to Rs 286.91 crore. The Union Territory of Puducherry has been allotted Rs 9.91 crore for Cy-

clone Nivar, while Madhya Pradesh will get Rs 1,280.18 crore for pest-attack during Kharif 2020. A high-level committee under the chairmanship of Union Home Minister Amit Shah approved the additional Central assistance under the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) to these states.

## Amid farmers' stir, Haryana CM vows to bring law to recover damages to public property from protesters

New Delhi, Feb 13: Farmers, mostly from Punjab and Haryana, have been protesting at the doorstep of Delhi demanding the repeal of Centre's contentious farm laws. Haryana internet ban, mobile internet ban, Farmers protest, republic day violence, Manohar Lal Khattar, Haryana CM, Haryana government, Haryana news, Chandigarh news, Indian express news Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar. Even as Haryana continued to witness widespread agitation against Centre's new agriculture laws, Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar on Saturday said that a law to claim recovery of damages to



public property from protesters will be brought in soon. Following his meeting with Union Home Minister Amit Shah, Khattar told reporters that he discussed the farmers' agitation along with other issues. "We discussed the farmers' protest among other issues. We will be bringing a

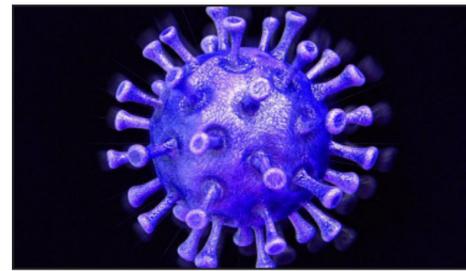
law for recovery of damages to public property from protesters," he was quoted as saying by news agency ANI. Farmers, mostly from Punjab and Haryana, have been protesting at the doorstep of Delhi demanding the repeal of Centre's contentious farm laws. Earlier this month, the govern-

ment, while replying to questions on January 26 violence, told the Lok Sabha that the protesting farmers "aggressively resorted to rioting, damage to Government property and used criminal force to deter public servants from the discharge of their duty, thereby inflicting injuries to the on-duty po-

lice personnel". It also stated that the peasant tried to "furiously force" their way into Delhi, "resorted to rioting" and did not follow Covid-19 protocols, because of which the police had to use teargas and batons. "As regards use of teargas and resorting to lathicharge against protesting farmers by Delhi Police, it has been reported by Delhi Police that at Delhi border, large convoys of protesting farmers in tractor trolleys tried to furiously force their way and go past police barricades to enter Delhi to mark their protest against the recently enacted 'Farm Laws'," MoS (Home) G Kishan Reddy had said in a written reply.

## China Refuses To Give Initial Coronacase Figures To WHO

(A.O. Bureau) China, Feb 13: The WHO team, which is searching for the causes of the epidemic, has refused to give detailed data of the initial Covid-19 infection to China. WHO team member and infectious diseases specialist Dominik Doer said the team investigating the spread of Covid-19 and the spread of the pandemic detailed details of other cases, including 174 cases of infection, from China to Wuhan city in December 2019. Dominik said that such raw data is called 'line listings'. He told that there is no name of the infected person in it. But there are all the questions and answers asked to him. The patient's re-



sponses are also analyzed. Dominik told all these things via video call from Sydney on Saturday. They are currently in Quarantine due to the investigation of the epidemic. Extremely important to get to the root of the epidemic According to a Reuters report, Dominik said, it is very important to get the details of the cases of early Kovid infection to get to the root of the epidemic. Of the initial

174 cases, only half the patients were exposed to the weight market. This market, which is a seafood center in Wuhan, is closed till today. For the first time, the presence of coronavirus was recorded in this market. We cannot say anything now but getting this data is very important for investigation. However, the WHO team said that China has given them a lot more figures than last year.

## TMC Will Win Over 250 Seats Says MP Abhishek Banerjee



Kolkata, Feb 13: The Trinamool Congress Party (TMC) leader said that his party will win over 250 seats in the upcoming West Bengal election. He also said 'outsider' BJP will struggle to cross double digits. Addressing a public meeting in the South 24 Parganas district,

Banerjee said that BJP's dream to rule West Bengal will not be completed. He said that BJP's double-engine government in West Bengal (same party in the Centre as well as state) will fall flat before the single-engine power of Mamata Banerjee. Abhishek Banerjee is

the nephew of the CM Mamata Banerjee. The TMC is going to form the government for the third consecutive term and the party will stay in power for 50 years, he said. "West Bengal will elect Mamata Banerjee as the chief minister for the third time," the MP from Bengal's Diamond Harbour said.

## Uttarakhand disaster: Rescue teams start widening hole in Tapovan tunnel to reach trapped people

Joshimath, Feb 13: Rescue teams on Saturday began widening a hole drilled into an approach tunnel on the way to the possible location of over 30 people trapped inside a sludge-choked tunnel of the NTPC's Tapovan-Vishnugad hydel project after a flash flood ravaged the area on Sunday. "We are working under a three-pronged strategy to reach to those trapped in the tunnel. The hole we drilled yesterday is being widened to one feet so as to reach a camera and a pipe inside the silt flushing tunnel where the trapped are said to be located, General Manager of the NTPC project, R P Ahirwal, told PTI. A hole with a diameter of one feet will help send in a camera to ascertain their location and a pipe to flush out accumulated water from the tunnel, Ahirwal said. The other two parts of the strategy are clearing the desilting basin of the NTPC barrage through which muck is constantly flowing into the tunnels and restoring the flow of the

Dhauliganga to the right which has tilted to the left after the flash flood hampering the sludge clearing operation, he said. Describing the rescue of people as a priority, he said the NTPC has put more than 100 of its scientists on the job. When asked whether an attempt could also be made to send rescue personnel to the possible location of those trapped inside the tunnel through the hole, the GM said it will need to be widened further for that and will be done if the need arises. "More than 100 of our scientists are on the job. They are devising strategies and having them implemented," Ahirwal said. He said all resources and mechanical equipment required for the operations are available at the project site. However, citing the conditions inside the tunnel, he said, "We can operate only with a few machines at a time. Rest of them have to be kept on standby because our strategy is to keep the operations underway round the clock." If for some reason an equip-

ment stops working, there are alternatives on the standby to ensure that the operations do not stop, he said. He said many experienced workers of the project went missing in the calamity and those put

coming into our tunnels through the desilting basin as it has tilted to the left after the avalanche." "Hence, restoring the flow of the Dhauliganga to the right is a big part of our

Anand Bhanu said 11 of the dead have been identified. Eighteen body parts had also been recovered from the flood-hit areas, of which 10 have been cremated after taking their DNA samples so



on the job are new people but still they are working with total dedication. Talking about the biggest challenge being faced by the rescue team, the NTPC official said, "The rescue personnel are going to the tunnel where the men are likely to be trapped via HCC Adit where muck is constantly coming down from the NTPC barrage and its desilting basin to hamper the rescue efforts. The water of Dhauliganga too is

strategy," Ahirwal said. The sludge choked contours and conduits of the barrage's desilting basin can also be removed more effectively only if the flow is restored back to its earlier position. The work on restoring the flow of Dhauliganga has begun already with the help of heavy machines, he said. So far, 38 bodies have been recovered from the affected areas while 166 are still missing. DIG Nilesh

far, he said. The State Emergency Operation Centre here said scientists of the Indian Institute of Remote Sensing during an aerial survey of the Rishiganga found that the glacial lake formed due to the avalanche over it has begun to release water which reduces chances of its breaching or causing a fresh flash flood. The lake which has formed over the Rishiganga after the flashflood had increased the concern of experts on Friday.

## Shri Ram Sene to counter Valentine's day with 'Mata-Pita' pooja

Bengaluru, Feb 13: Right wing outfit Shri Ram Sene on Saturday said it would counter Valentine's day by observing 'Mata-Pita' pooja on February 14. The organisation would deploy its members in various parts of Karnataka, where there would be chances of 'vulgarity' in public places, in the name of Valentine's day celebrations. "Every year we organise the 'Mata-Pita' pooja across the state. We would

organise the event at 50 to 60 places," the outfit chief Pramod Muthalik told PTI. The fringe outfit President said there will be volunteers of the organisations at the probable places such as pubs, bars, malls, ice cream parlours and parks to ensure that there is no vulgarity in public places. He, however, pointed out that the members of the outfit will not take law into their hands but would work in tandem with the police to prevent such incidents.

get statehood. Where are you drawing conclusion from?" "I have said in this House and I say it again that this Bill has got nothing to do with the statehood of Jammu & Kashmir. Statehood would be given to Jammu & Kashmir at an appropriate time," he added. Hitting out at the Congress, Shah said that while the current government is being asked what did it do about promises made during abrogation of Article 370, did the previous government give an account of what they

## Statehood will be given to J&K at an appropriate time: Amit Shah in Lok Sabha

New Delhi, Feb 13: Hitting out at Congress, Shah said while the current government is being asked what did it do about promises made during abrogation of Article 370, did the previous government give an account of what they did for 70 years. Union Home Minister Amit Shah Saturday said the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation (Amendment) Bill, 2021 means J&K won't get statehood. I am piloting the Bill, I brought it. I have clarified the intentions. Nowhere it's written that J&K won't

merge the J&K cadre of all-India services officers with the Arunachal Pradesh, Goa, Mizoram Union Territory (AGMUT) cadre was later passed by the Lok Sabha by a voice vote. Speaking in the lower house of the Parliament, today, Shah said, "Many MPs said that bringing Jammu & Kashmir Reorganisation (Amendment) Bill, 2021 means J&K won't get statehood. I am piloting the Bill, I brought it. I have clarified the intentions. Nowhere it's written that J&K won't

did for 70 years. "It has been 17 months since the abrogation & you what you did for 70 years? Had you worked properly, you need not ability from the BJP government, the home minister said, "I have no

are demanding an account for it. Did you bring the account of have asked us," he said. Questioning their position to ask for account-

objection, I will give an account for everything. But those who were

priority of the NDA government since it took power in 2014, he said. Responding to Congress MP Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury, Shah said opposition parties were free to visit the region. Chowdhury had claimed that foreign delegations were being taken there while no all-party delegation was sent. The home minister assured the people of J&K that "no one will lose their land". The government has sufficient land for development works, Shah stated.

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## District BAR Association Welcome the new SP of Khordha



(A.O. Bureau) Khordha, Feb 13: Khordha District BAR Association today welcome and felicitated the new Superintendent of Police Raj Kishore Dora. The delegates led by Chairman Khordha District BAR Association Sisir Kumar Parida, Secretary Harsha Kumar

Pattnaik, Sanjaya Kumar Dash, Ajit Kumar Mishra, Manoj Kumar Pattnaik, Sanjaya Kumar Pattnaik, Susanta Kumar Ray and others advocates of Khordha district BAR Association were remain present and extended their moral support to peacefully maintain

law and order in the district and take strong action against the antisocial, criminal and drug peddlers. Also thanks to the SP Khordha taken immediate action against the criminals of Khordha Gurujanga firing case and arrest the culprit within 24 hours of the crime.

## The launch of the country's first CNG tractor

(A.O. Bureau) New Delhi, Feb 13: Farmers launch the country's first CNG tractor. Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan has said that in addition to increasing his income, rural employment will also increase and the amount of pollution in the country targeted by Prime Minister Narendra Modi can be reduced. On the occasion of the inauguration of the country's first CNG tractor by Union Minister for Roads and Transport Nitin Gadkari in the presence of Union Minister Shri Pradhan in New Delhi on Friday, Mr. Pradhan said that the use of CNG-powered tractors would save farmers Rs 1.5 lakh per annum. The old diesel

tractor has been converted to CNG through technology. The technology was developed in collaboration with India Company, with the launch of Romat Techno Solutions and Tomaset. The move will transform old diesel tractors into CNGs, which will reduce pollution by cleaner fuels. Engine maintenance costs will be lower. Farmers will benefit because CNG is cheaper. The tractor will also be safe due to CNG fuel. Straw is used for bio-CNG from the point of view of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's West to Wealth. As a result, farmers can make more money by selling straw without wasting it locally. Therefore, farmers will be encouraged to

sell the agricultural residues produced by CNG in bio-CNG units. India is the third largest consumer of energy after the United States and China. India has one-third of the world's energy consumption per capita. In the next budget, the Modi government will focus on roads, railways, pipelines and

energy infrastructure, which will increase energy use in the coming days. In such a country, India is expected to be the first country to become an energy consumer. Under Prime Minister Modi, India is working to reduce carbon dioxide consumption. Mr Pradhan said the Indian govern-

**Dharmendra Pradhan says employment in rural areas will increase as farmers' incomes rise**

ment was developing a new alternative energy model on renewable energy and biofuels.



## Aparajita Refused To Join Us For Meeting With Union Ministers Over NMA Bye-Laws: Anubhav

(A.O. Bureau) Bhubaneswar, Feb 13: Amid demand for withdrawal of heritage bye-laws for two ancient temples in Ekamra Kshetra, alleged non-cooperation of BJP MPs from Odisha raising the religious issue with the Union Government triggered a fresh row. While a delegation of the Biju Janata Dal (BJD) MPs met two Union Ministers of Parliamentary Affairs Pralhad Joshi and Arjun Ram Meghwal demanding withdrawal of the controversial bylaws framed by the National Monuments Authority (NMA) for Ananta Basudeba Temple and Brahmeswar Temple, the BJP MP Aparajita Sarangi, who represents Bhubaneswar



Lok Sabha Constituency, denied to join the delegation. The Lok Sabha member from Kendrapara Anubhav Mohanty had requested her personally to become part of the delegation, but she refused, said Anubhav in a tweet. On request of Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik, a delegation of BJD members from Odisha had met the

Union Ministers in New Delhi over the issue seeking withdrawal of the NMA bye-laws for two ancient temples in Bhubaneswar like Puri Srimandir. The Bhubaneswar MP Aparajita Sarangi could not be contacted for comments. However, such attitude of the parliamentarian in a non-political issue

for interest of the State dragged her in a controversy again. It is pertinent to mention here that the State Government and servitors of Lingaraj Temple have been demanding roll-back of the proposed draft notification that prohibits its construction work around Ananta Basudeba Temple and Brahmeswar Temple

in Ekamra Kshetra. Yesterday, CM Patnaik had put forth his demand before the Centre for withdrawal of the bylaws that would affect livelihoods of Lingaraj Temple servitors. Opposing the Centre's proposed heritage bye-laws, the protestors on Friday had lit up lakhs of diyas (lamps) as mark of mass protest in front of the Lingaraj Temple. Earlier, cutting across the partyline the parliamentarians from Odisha had raised their voice together before Union Minister of Culture Pralhad Singh Patel for withdrawal of bye-laws for Puri Srimandir following which the NMA rolled back the draft notification.

## 'Yamraj', 'Chitargupta' Board Mo Bus To Disseminate Road Safety Messages

(A.O. Bureau) Bhubaneswar, Feb 13: In a unique initiative to create awareness among people on the occasion of 32nd Road Safety Awareness Month, three crew members of Capital Region Urban Transport (CRUT) dressed up as mythological characters 'Yamraj' and 'Chitargupta' were seen disseminating various road safety messages among MoBus captains and commuters. The 'God of death' and his 'registrar of Karma' travelled in Mo Bus on various routes and sensitized the crew members to wear seat belt, halt at designated stops only and avoid drunken driving and talking over phone while on duty. The duo further requested the commuters to report if they notice any traffic violation by the crew while travelling in Mo Bus. Expressing satisfaction, a



commuters said, "It is a good attempt by CRUT to sensitise their own crew members to follow the traffic rules". "Obeying traffic rules should be a responsibility of all concerned. Everyday, a group of 10 captains are counselled about do's and don'ts of traffic rule before they start their duty,"

said CRUT General Manager Dipti Mahapatro. "As normalcy prevails, our ridership has also increased gradually. At present 169 buses are operating on 25 routes with around 85,000 footfalls daily. We are hopeful of having over one lakh commuters per day soon", she added.

## Odisha MP Demands Central Varsity Status For Ravenshaw University



(A.O. Bureau) Bhubaneswar, Feb 13: After Utkal University, the demand for central varsity status to the Ravenshaw University was raised in the Parliament yesterday. Lok Sabha member Bhartruhari Mahtab from Cuttack Parliamentary Constituency

demand the Centre to declare Odisha's premier educational institution Ravenshaw University as the Central University. "The Ravenshaw University is the youngest varsity in Odisha. But, it has a long history. Founded in 1868, the higher education insti-

tution has been a college for 147 years and a university for 15 years. It has been training students from Odisha and beyond. The academy has given birth to many scholars, scientists, freedom fighters and politicians. The university has 27 departments and 23 PG departments. It offers Ph.D., Doctor of literature or (D.Litt.) and Undergraduate honors courses in 28 departments," Mahtab told in the Parliament.

## Gang Selling 'Hanuman Coins' Busted In Odisha: Three Held

(A.O. Bureau) Chittrakonda, Feb 13: The police busted a racket allegedly involved in illegal trade of 'Hanuman coins' and deer skin when three persons were arrested in Chittrakonda Sadar area of Malkangiri district today. Acting on a tip-off, a team of Chittrakonda police station raided



a house at daily market in Chittrakonda Sadar. During the

search a gun, 50 antique copper coins, valuable stones, Rs 12, 310,

a two-wheeler, three mobile phones and ATM cards were recovered from the house. The police then arrested Mohan Trivedi from Odisha, Itham Shetty Venkata Ramana, Krupabharan Tripalli from Elmanchili village of Andhra Pradesh on charges of defrauding people by

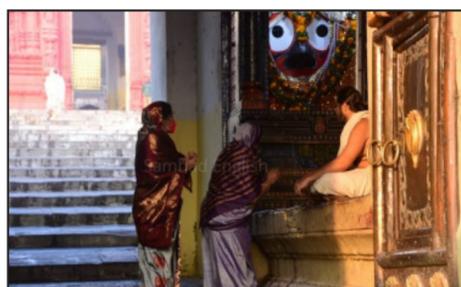
selling 'Hanuman Coins' and possessing gun and deer skin. The accused were forwarded to the court today. The case no-25 was registered at the Chittrakonda police station under Sections 417, 420 and 34 of IPC, Section 25 under Arms Act and Section 51 under the Wildlife Protection Act.

## Odisha Police Books Haryana Girl For Making Jagannath Temple's Inside Pics Viral

(A.O. Bureau) Puri, Feb 13: Acting quickly on viral pictures of Srimandir in Puri, Shree Jagannath Temple Administration (SJTA) filed a complaint seeking action against the social media user for violation of the temple rules. The FIR was lodged at the Singhadwar Police Station in Puri against Shalini Passi having Instagram account for

taking photographs inside the Jagannath Temple and uploading the same on the social media. The entry of mobile phone and camera to the premises of Shree Jagannath Temple, Puri, are strictly prohibited. It has come to notice that one Shalini Passi from Haryana has illegally taken a number of photographs inside the premises of Shree Jagannath Temple,

Puri and made it viral through social media i.e her Instagram, the SJTA said in the FIR. "This act is an offence under section 30-A(4)(c) of Shree Jagannath Temple Act, 1955. Besides that by publishing the photographs in social media, the culprit has endangered the security of the temple and such activities has hurt the sentiment of millions of devotees," the



FIR stated. The fresh incident had put the Srimandir security personnel in dock

for alleged poor frisking at the entrance points of the centuries old shrine.



WORLD RADIO DAY CELEBRATED BY VOICE OF SOA COMMUNITY RADIO, 90.4

## EDITORIAL

## Redemption time

India go into the second match with everything at stake for the World Test Championship final. By the time you read this, the players of India and England must have boarded their team buses and would be travelling from their hotels to the MA Chidambaram Stadium in Chennai to begin the first day of the second Test. Also, around the same time, 14,000 fans would be queuing up at the stadium's 17 gates to gain entry for what would mark the return of spectators for an international match in India; though the in-person attendance is limited to 50 per cent of the stadium's total capacity owing to social distancing norms as a consequence of the COVID-19 pandemic. However, according to the Test match managers, the stadium's belly would this time be bereft of the sounds of the usual drum-beating, whistling and waving of national flags — as the spectators will not be allowed to carry anything inside the stadium except mobile phones — though who can put a stop to the enthusiastic cheer, banter, singing, dancing and the loud "Indiaaah, Indiaaah" cries of the Indian cricket fan at a live match? That's what not only lifts the mood of the match several notches but in fact electrifies it. As lawyer-activist and author Kanhaiyalal Mishra 'Prabhakar' put it beautifully: "Yudhh mein jai bolne waalo ka bhi bahut mahatv hota hai (Even the spectators who cheer and encourage the warriors or gladiators carry a lot of importance)." Coming to the contest at hand, the Virat Kohli-led team would surely seek redemption, much in the same way it did after the first loss in the recently-concluded Border-Gavaskar Trophy in Australia. The hosts will be near-unstoppable especially if they win the toss on Saturday. Team India is likely to go for the jugular after having lost the first Test at the same venue by 227 runs — as England handed the hosts their first Test loss in Chennai in 22 years — on a pitch that didn't have anything to offer to the bowlers. But the fresh surface, with a drier and darker look, promises to be a happy hunting ground for the spinners. Ajinkya Rahane and English keeper Ben Foakes even let it be known openly that the new pitch is nothing like what the teams played on in the first match and the surface is expected to have more bounce and carry. "I am sure it'll turn from Day 1," Rahane said. The wicket's turning nature will surely influence the final XI for India, who face difficult questions regarding their second line of spinners to assist seasoned off-spinner Ravichandran Ashwin. Axar Patel, having recovered from the knee injury he picked on the eve of the first Test, is likely to make his Test debut. In case Patel plays, the team management will need to figure out whether to go with Washington Sundar or Kuldeep Yadav as the third spinner. Meanwhile, England have made four changes to their winning team. Also, don't forget, at stake is a place in the World Test Championship final in England this summer. While New Zealand have already claimed one slot, India need to win the series 2-0 or 2-1 to secure a place in the final. Axar Patel, having recovered from the knee injury he picked on the eve of the first Test, is likely to make his Test debut. In case Patel plays, the team management will need to figure out whether to go with Washington Sundar or Kuldeep Yadav as the third spinner. Meanwhile, England have made four changes to their winning team. Also, don't forget, at stake is a place in the World Test Championship final in England this summer. While New Zealand have already claimed one slot, India need to win the series 2-0 or 2-1 to secure a place in the final.

## PM gets vocal for wealth creators

It's time to abandon the socialist mindset of the 1970s and take pride in wealth creation though the Govt must continue to improve conditions. It was heartening to hear Prime Minister Narendra Modi speak up in Parliament in defence of wealth creators. This must be as motivational in boosting the confidence of India Inc as was the PM's catchphrase of being "Vocal for local" for domestic manufacturers. "The culture of abusing the private sector is not acceptable any longer," Modi said in his reply on the motion of thanks to the President's address. This was indeed a bold rebuttal to the "andolan-jeevis" (professional protesters) who continue to criticise pro-corporate reforms and resist agri reforms, which even the US and Canada officially asked for through the WTO fora. The Opposition's objections? That "this Government works only to benefit the Big Boys". Let's put it in perspective: It's the Big Boys of India Inc, just like the Big Boys who comprise the Internet Giants of the US, who have had a multiplier effect in creating jobs, contributing towards the GDP and paying taxes. Isn't this the Modi we all voted for in 2014? As a contender, he promised transformation and more employment avenues for the aspirational youth. While Modi combined Hindu cultural nationalism with economic growth, he never built his campaign on a limited and sectarian ideology, but promised universal prosperity. Flashback to 2013 when Chief Minister Modi hit the campaign trail to become the Prime Minister. What was the key differentiator between him and the incumbent Congress-led UPA? That Modi was an able administrator, a



business-friendly CM whose Gujarat model sparked hopes of replicating a similar paradigm at the Centre; that Modi came unencumbered from the baggage of family, dynasty or corruption and that he vowed to shake off the decision-making inertia UPA2 had sunk to as it was steeped in charges of corruption and cronyism. Cut to 2021. It's time to abandon the socialist mindset of the 1970s and take pride in wealth creation. For the "bad capitalists", the tax evaders and wilful defaulters of the UPA2 era who continued to ever-green their loans, the Government has put in place punitive measures as also succeeded in recovering Rs 1,05,773 crore of the total Rs 1,72,565 crore through the IBC route. However, it is imperative that the Government continues to improve the "ease of doing business" (EoDB) for the "good capitalists". Budgets 2020 and 2021 have, through financial and administrative reforms, shown the intent to walk the talk on eradicating tax terrorism by implementing faceless assessment and appeals, dispensing with retrospective taxation, decriminalising certain Sections under the Companies Act, improving the ease of

filing returns and reducing from six years to three years the period when tax cases can be reopened. Besides improving the EoDB parameters, it is equally important to lower the cost of doing business. This is achievable by not only keeping the cost of credit low but also by lowering electricity and land rates, and by minimalising compliance procedures. As the PM said: "Wealth creators are most needed to redistribute wealth or how else will we give jobs?" India has only 10 crore labourers in the organised sector as against 40 crore in the unorganised sector where they don't have access to any social safety net. The Government has stretched its limits of generating employment through schemes like PMEGP, MNREGA, DDU-GKY and the PM-Mudra Yojna. Budget 2021 is infrastructure-led rather than consumption stimulating as "it is estimated that of the Government spend of Rs 1 on infrastructure, Rs 2.5 are generated in real economy". To fund expenditure instead of raising taxes, the Centre will rely on off-revenue sources like asset monetisation and setting a realistic target for disinvestment of Rs 1,75,000 crore. Therefore, it

needs to incentivise the private sector to bid for loss-making Public Sector Units and encourage its participation in infrastructure, for which the Government has raised capital expenditure outlays by 34.5 per cent. As global financial markets are flush with liquidity, or "helicopter money", and interest rates are at their lowest, money looks for a place for profitable and risk-free deployment. So this is the right time to focus on attracting long-term debt capital by forming a Development Finance Institution, much needed for long gestation projects like infrastructure. Besides, private growth multipliers will come from increased allocations towards Productivity-Linked Incentive (PLI) schemes in sunrise sectors, while allocations towards Fintech Hubs and Textile Parks will bolster job creation. But the key lies in speedy implementation and ensuring that the funds are released and fully utilised in time. Lastly, with formal jobs shrinking, net new job growth has been created by startups. India needs 10 million jobs annually, and current estimates project that it will have 60,000 startups and 100 unicorns by 2025. The exponential growth of startups can be seen by how India scaled up on substituting imports with manufacturing: From ventilators, PPE kits, masks, sanitisers and testing kits, to becoming the vaccine supplier to the world. With multiple reasons for economic optimism, we must get the "Vocal for local" industry to thrive. And when we do bag windfall profits, or are jolted by shocks, the Government must continue with its supportive policy and monetary recalibrations as it has been doing through 2020 by introducing mini-budgets.

Bindu Dalmia

## Decreased allocations for education, reluctance to recognise pandemic fallout will sharpen educational divide

It's strange that this year's budget makes no reference to the pandemic and the multiple challenges it has thrown up for the poor. Our national policies and budgetary provisions, it seems, regard education in the esoteric domain, which is not/will not be constrained by financial resources. How else does one explain the contradiction between enacting the Right to Education Act, making education a fundamental right, the implementation of which will certainly require more resources than ever before, and the gradual shrinking of state funds for education? Added to this is the new National Education Policy, 2020 (NEP) where the state's commitment to strengthening the Public Education System (PES) is reiterated and yet the government allocates Rs 6,000 crore less on education in Budget 2021 as compared to last year. Before examining the ways in which the state has been wriggling out of this impasse, one must acknowledge that it was the "inadequacy of funds" and "legal implications of making education a fundamental right", which forced the Constitution makers to place education under Part IV, the non-justiciable directive principles of state policy — not Part III, the justiciable fundamental rights. In alignment with this legacy, education policies over the years have exacerbated differential educational provisioning for different groups of people. That explains measures like allocation of more funds for a particular kind of a school — the budget talks of setting up 15,000

exemplar schools — or making just a few seats available to the dispossessed in supposedly good private schools. More recently, the state's position with regard to the provision of education in general and budgetary allocations to education in particular hinges on two paradoxical axes. On one axis, is its appreciation of the commitment and passion of the community volunteers to reach out to children who may not be learning for multiple reasons. They are intrinsically motivated, driven by passion and selfless service. Acknowledging the contribution of such people, the NEP proposes ideas of "peer-tutoring and trained volunteers" as "voluntary and joyful activity" to support teachers to impart foundational literacy and numeracy skills to children in need of such skills. It also proposes tapping of active and healthy senior citizens, school alumni, local community members and maintaining databases of literate volunteers, retired scientists, alumni, and educators for the same. None of these measures have any cost implications. While such efforts need to be applauded, they cannot be regarded as substitutes of the formal state apparatus. Such a view also de-legitimises the teaching profession-associated qualifications and the training mandated by the state for people to become teachers. In the name of passion and commitment, salaries and working conditions of the local community, most of whom are unemployed youth and women, are often compromised. This is exploitation and needless to say, it also impacts the quality of education for the poor. On the

other axis, is the position advocating partnerships between public and private bodies which rests on the belief that the dysfunctionality of PES can be tackled by infusing them with managerial principles of choice, efficiency and accountability. Not that the involvement of private individuals/organisations/schools in education is anything new in India. However, in the past, private schools catered to the relatively better-off but now the poor are being targeted for profit. This narrative draws its support from two sources: Poor learning outcomes of children, particularly those studying in government schools as reported by large scale assessment surveys, and large-scale absenteeism/deliction of duty on the part of government school teachers. Reasons for these are attributed to government school teachers having no accountability. NEP 2020 also states that the non-governmental philanthropic organisations will be supported to build schools and alternative models of education will be encouraged by making their requirements for schools as mandated in the RTE less restrictive. This is clearly problematic but convenient as the justification underlying this position is that one needs to shift focus from inputs to outputs, clearly indicating that schools can do with lesser financial resources, and compromised inputs may not necessarily lead to compromised outputs. The nature of the partnership between public and private has also changed from the private supporting the public to private

jostling for space with the public, even replacing them. It's a win-win situation for both — the state gets to spend less and private players make profit. It's strange that this year's budget makes no reference to the pandemic and the multiple challenges it has thrown up for the poor. Parents who depend on the lowest rung of free government schools are the ones who need maximum state support and they are the ones who will be short-changed by further reduction of state expenditure on education. The pandemic has worsened the misery of this group and the state need not be reminded of its responsibility. With poor parents being economically constrained with means of livelihood being snatched away from, with neither cultural capital to support their children's online learning, nor money to buy gadgets, nor food to replace mid-day-meals given in schools, nor provision of a stable, secure, stress-free environment to grow up in, more financial resources are required. Additional resources would perhaps have helped in drop-out children returning to school, maintaining infrastructure, which out of disuse may have got spoilt, open schools with a secure and hygienic environment, ensure that teachers work with children either in or outside schools, conduct surveys etc. While money may not ensure quality education, lack of adequate resources will only deepen the social divide between people.

Disha Nawani

## A mega blood donation camp is being held at the Jindal factory premises

(A.O. Bureau) Kalinga Nagar, Feb 13: A mega blood donation camp has been organized in the premises of Jindal Stainless Limited, Kalinganagar in collaboration with "Odisha My Family Life Point". As the chief guest, Mr. RS Vaidya, the factory's chief guest, inaugurated the blood donation camp at the factory's graduate engineering training hostel. He spoke in support of the US Alliance, but said that



maintaining some independence was not the answer. The camp was attended by 130 male and female employees of Jindal Stainless Steel, as well as contract workers. Senior factory officials also donated blood to the event and encouraged blood do-

nors. The event was organized by Jindal Stainless to meet the shortage of blood in times of adversity, such as the Corona epidemic. Biplab Vijay Panda was present on the occasion along with Bimal Chandra Das, Jajpur District Coordinator of Odisha My Family Life Point Program. The event was moderated by the Department of Human Resources, Administrative, CSR, OHC and External Relations.

## Road Safety Awareness Campaign by Police and Darwin Colleges



(A.O. Bureau) Malkangiri, Feb 13: A road safety awareness campaign has been launched by students

of Darwin Degree College in Kudumulugumma, Malkangiri district. Mr. Souendra Shekhar Tripathi, Police Officer, Orkel Police station, Mr. Girish Chandra Maharana, Officer in charge,

Kudumulugumma out post and Mr. Ashok Kumar Pradhan Principal of Kudumulugumma Darwin Degree college were present on the occasion. Mr. Tripathi told the audience that the application process would be simplified and that he would provide details on how to apply online. All the students then marched around the city chanting slogans carrying various awareness messages through poster banners, start-

ing with the Degree College and ending at the Kudumulugumma Police station. During the campaign, drivers wearing helmets and seatbelts were greeted by police with roses and chocolates. Local Social worker Mr Prabhakar Suna, Balakrishna Pradhan, Divakar Suna, Bhagwan Sahu, Hrishikesh Sethi, Babuji Swain, Jyoti Ranjan Behera and Ashok Adya were present on the occasion along with all the faculty and staff of the college.

## Another Elephant Found Dead In Odisha's Karlapat Sanctuary; Fifth In 13 Days



(A.O. Bureau) Bhawanipatna, Feb 13: The carcass of another elephant found in Karlapat sanctuary of Kalahandi district today. Forest Department sources said with the death of one more elephant in Karlapat, a total number of five jumbos have died in the sanctuary in last 13 days. The department sources said the elephant carcass was recovered near Ghusuriguda nullah in the sanctuary. Though the exact reason behind the elephant death is yet to be known, the

department sources informed the jumbo might have died due to septicemia. In Friday, a female elephant was found dead near Ghusuriguda nullah. After receiving information, the Forest personnel reached the spot and sent the carcass for post mortem. Following the incident, wildlife wing has started immunisation of cattle in several villages, closer to the two forest beats where the elephants' deaths were reported. Besides, various water bodies

## BJD Wins Zila Parishad Bypolls In Parjang, Saraskana

(A.O. Bureau) Parjang, Feb 13: The winning streak of the ruling Biju Janata Dal (BJD) continues in Odisha as the party emerged victorious in the Zila Parishad bypolls in Parjang in Dhenkanal district and Saraskana in Mayurbhanj

district. The BJD won by 6308 votes in Parjang and 10423 votes in Saraskana. The party also secured victory in other bypolls for election of sarpanches and panchayat samiti members in various districts, the results of which were declared today

## Andhra Holds 'Peaceful' Polls In Odisha Villages

(A.O. Bureau) Kotia, Feb 13: Despite the Supreme Court's directive to the Andhra Pradesh government to file a reply after the Odisha government moved the apex court alleging that the neighbouring state is holding panchayat polls in some villages under Kotia panchayat of Koraput district, the Andhra Pradesh State authorities remained defiant and organized the rural polls in the three villages of Odisha as per their plan. The Vizianagaram district administration officials termed the rural polls in the villages under Kotia

panchayat as 'peaceful'. Worth mentioning, Andhra Pradesh State renamed the three villages under Kotia panchayat of Pottangi block in Koraput district and claimed stake over them. Above all, the neighbouring state notified to hold panchayat polls in Talaganjeipadar, Phatuseneri and Phagunaseneri villages and projected them to be under its Salur block in Vizianagaram district. Following this, the Odisha government moved the apex court seeking its intervention into the matter. But the Andhra Pradesh Ad-

## Awareness programs to become entrepreneurs at Malkangiri



(A.O. Bureau) Malkangiri, Feb 13: A fourteen-day awareness program has been held at the Malkangiri Local Government Poly Technical School premises. Mr Abhiram Behera principal of poly technical school

joined as the chief guest. Dr Ranjan Kumar Swain, Professor, attended the college program as a chief speaker and gave a detailed account of the marketing. The event was organized at District Industrial Center

Malkangiri and was assisted by the Director of Industries, Odisha Cuttack. The meeting was chaired by Rabintra Nath Kundu IPO. The event was attended by polytechnic students, Malkangiri College students and surrounding 25 youth.

## Parent-teacher Meeting held at Govt Girls High school Malkangiri



(A.O. Bureau) Malkangiri, Feb 13: A Parent Teacher meeting was held today at a local government girls' high school in Malkangiri, attended by District Magistrate Y Vijay. He urged parents to follow Covid 19 guidelines, use

mask sanitise hand also requested to send their children to school, take care of them, provide them with good food and clothing, and encourage them to learn good education. Also adviced to take all compitative examination not only in education

but also in athelatic singing dancing indoor games so that mentally and physically they will get improved. Many parents and teachers from the school attended the meeting and discussed the development and improvement of the students.

## Sex Racket Busted In Odisha's Nayagarh; Two Women Rescued

(A.O. Bureau) Odagaon, Feb 13: The police busted a sex racket following raid on a house in a village under Odagaon block of Nayagarh district today afternoon. Two women engaged in flesh trade were res-



cued from the house and one middleman was arrested. For past few days, residents of Akharia village under Odagaon block have been alleging that sex trade had been operating from the house. On basis of these allega-

tions, a team of Odagaon police today raided the house and rescued the two women. A police official said the two women have been kept at a short stay home and investigation into the case is on.

## 1800 Kg Ganja Worth Rs 3.5 Cr Smuggled From Odisha Seized In Mumbai

(A.O. Bureau) Bhubaneswar, Feb 13: The Anti Narcotics Cell today seized a huge cache of ganja worth Rs 3.5 crore from Mumbai when the cannabis were being smuggled in an auto-rickshaw. The cops also arrested two persons in this connection. However, prime accused Lakshmi Pradhan, who is from Odisha, and owner of the godown are absconding. Search operation is un-

derway to nab them. Reportedly, the contraband item weighing 1800 kg smuggled from Odisha was taken to a godown at Vikhroli. Cannabis used to be smuggled from Odisha and stored in the godown frequently. Sources said around five to six tonnes of ganja are smuggled to Maharashtra from Odisha every month. The Mumbai police is in contact with Odisha police to nab Lakshmi Pradhan.

## Deepika Padukone Shuts Down Abusive Troll With a Classy Reply



New Delhi, Feb 13: Actress Deepika Padukone became the most valued Indian female celebrity. She is down from the third slot in 2019 but is currently the fifth most valued celebrity with a valuation of \$50.4 million. Deepika Padukone found a user sending her abusing

messages on social media and the actress decided to call him out by sharing a screenshot of his texts. Bollywood actors are not new to social media abuse, however, only a handful of them choose to shut down trolls. Actress Deepika

Padukone became the most valued Indian female celebrity. She is down from the third slot in 2019 but is currently the fifth most valued celebrity with a valuation of \$50.4 million. Deepika Padukone found a user sending her abusing

Padukone is one of them. She found a user sending her abusing messages on social media and the actress decided to call him out by sharing a screenshot of his texts. Taking to Instagram stories, Deepika encircled his messages and wrote, "Wow! Your family & friends must be so proud of you." On the work front, the actress has a busy year ahead. She will be seen in Shakun Batra's upcoming yet-untitled film that also stars Siddhant Chaturvedi and Ananya Panday. Deepika will also be seen in an untitled film with Amitabh Bachchan and Prabhas, and she has "83" in line where she stars opposite husband

Ranveer Singh. She will also unite with Bollywood star Hrithik Roshan for the first time for an action adventure, "Fighter", directed by Siddharth Anand. Apart from these, she also joins Shah Rukh Khan for the much anticipated project Pathan, which also stars John Abraham. Pathan is Shah Rukh's first starring role after the 2018 movie Zero. He is said to be essaying a negative character in the film. In a recent interview, Deepika had spilled the beans on her upcoming projects and in the process, confirmed that SRK will indeed be returning to the big screen with Pathan.

## Saumya Tandon Posts Cute Video with Her Son, Fans Shower Love

New Delhi, Feb 13: The actress, who has a fan following of 987k on her Insta handle, can be seen cuddling her son and showering each other with kisses in the video. Popularly known as Anita Bhabhi from the tele-

sweater tuning it with a white skirt while the little one is in a blue superman shirt. The song Just The Two of Us can be heard in the background. The Jab We Met actress captioned the post by writing just the two of us

busy exercising. She wrote that at first the kid copied her, then intrigued by her rising high postures he started helping her and even kissed her while she was crying doing Kapalbhathi. The actress was last seen in



vision show Bhabiji Ghar Par Hain, actress Saumya Tandon has recently shared a cute and adorable video of her and her son Miraan on Instagram. Saumya is very active on social media platforms and keeps on sharing photos and videos with fans. The actor, who has a fan following of 987k on her Insta handle, can be seen cuddling her son and showering each other with kisses in the video. In the clip, the actor can be seen sporting a yellow

in my world. Fans loved the post and have filled the comment box praising the kid and by posting heart and emojis. The actress married her boyfriend, Saurabh Devendra in December 2016 and on January 14, 2019, the duo was blessed with a baby boy. In June 2020, she took to Instagram to post a few pictures with her son doing Yoga. Sharing the glimpses she informed how supportive and cute Miraan was while she was

comedy serial Bhabiji Ghar Par Hain playing the role of Anita Vibhuti Narayan Mishra aka Anita Bhabhi aka gori mem. She has been portraying the character for 5 years before she quit the show in August 2020 for taking care of her child Miraan. However, now the character is being played by Nehha Pendse. Saumya has also hosted the Indian reality shows Dance India Dance, Bournvita Quiz Contest, Zor Ka Jhatka: Total Wipeout, etc.

## Streaming Guide: Parineeti Chopra movies



New Delhi, Feb 13: In our series Streaming Guide, we list the works of a filmmaker or actor which are available on streaming platforms like ZEE5, Netflix, Amazon Prime Video, Disney Plus Hotstar, Eros Now and

charming Ranveer conning women till he is done in by his heart. Ishaqzaade: ishaqzaade watch online Arjun Kapoor and Parineeti Chopra in Ishaqzaade. Habib Faisal's romantic drama Ishaqzaade looks very similar to

Shubra Gupta wrote, "The nicest part of this romcom, which triangulates girl-boy-girl in a manner Bollywood is just waking up to, is that it lets its characters talk. Like, you know, real conversations, where faces are turned to each other, where the baat-cheet between a girl and guy moves from checking-each-other-for-size-banter to will-our-noses-fit-if-we-kiss to can't-keep-our-hands-off-each-other level. Yes, that kind of locked-eyed, quickening breaths, leaping-libidos chat. Writer Jaideep Sahni, the man behind a bunch of excellent films, including one of my all-time favourites, Rocket Singh, lifts Shuddh Desi Romance: his characters talk, and they make us listen." Hasee Toh Phasee: Hasee Toh Phasee watch online A poster

of Parineeti Chopra and Sidharth Malhotra's Hasee Toh Phasee. Nikhil (Sidharth Malhotra) is assigned the task of keeping a check on his fiancée's troublemaker sister Meeta (Parineeti Chopra) at his wedding. While doing so, he falls in love with her but doesn't profess his love because of his guilt. The Vinil Mathew directorial suf-



fers a great deal because of a wobbly plot. It only deserves a viewing if you are really bored. Meri Pyaari Bindu: Meri Pyaari Bindu movie watch online Ayushmann Khurrana and Parineeti Chopra in Meri Pyaari Bindu. Abhi (Ayushmann Khurrana) and Bindu (Parineeti Chopra) are childhood friends. As they grow older, they fall in love, but Bindu is a bit selfish and whimsical. She falls out of love as soon as she falls into it. Abhi is a simple boy and believes in old-school romance. Watch the film

Tusshar Kapoor, Neil Nitin Mukesh, Prakash Raj, Kunal Kemmu and Arshad Warsi among others. It is the fourth movie in Shetty's

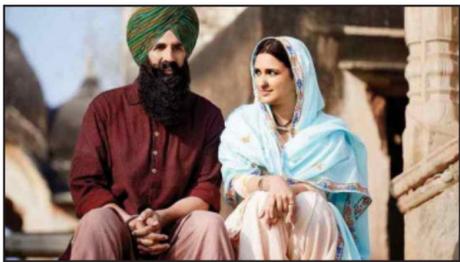
Golmaal franchise. Kesari: Kesari watch online Akshay Kumar and Parineeti Chopra in a still from Kesari. The official description of the Akshay Kumar and Parineeti Chopra-starrer Kesari reads, "Kesari is an unbelievable true story based on the Battle of Saragarhi, 1891. Touted as one of the bravest battle ever fought, 21 courageous Sikhs countered 10,000 invaders. These saffron-clad warriors fought valiantly against all odds and changed the meaning of bravery."

Jabariya Jodi: Jabariya Jodi watch online Parineeti Chopra and Sidharth Malhotra in a still from Jabariya Jodi. The Prashant Singh film revolves around the concept of "Pakadwah Shaadi" in which the groom is kidnapped in order to avoid giving dowry. In the movie, Sidharth Malhotra plays a thug, who helps kidnap grooms and Parineeti is seen as his love interest. The Indian Express film critic Shubra Gupta called Jabariya Jodi a "confused, long-drawn mess". In her one-star review, she wrote, "From start to finish, there's isn't a single shred of conviction on display. The result is a confused, unpleasing, long-drawn mess, which the viewers will 'jabariya' have to sit through."



YouTube. This edition features Bollywood actor Parineeti Chopra who has movies like Ishaqzaade, Shuddh Desi Romance, Meri Pyaari Bindu and Jabariya Jodi among others to her credit. The actor will be seen in The Girl on the Train soon, which is directed by Ribhu Dasgupta. Ladies vs Ricky Bahl: It's the three pretty ladies, played by

Aamir Khan and Juhi Chawla's Qayamat Se Qayamat Tak. Chauhans and Qureshis are rivals. Parma Desi Romance, Meri Pyaari Bindu and Jabariya Jodi among others to her credit. The actor will be seen in The Girl on the Train soon, which is directed by Ribhu Dasgupta. Ladies vs Ricky Bahl: It's the three pretty ladies, played by



Parineeti Chopra, Dippanita Sharma and Aditi Sharma, along with street smart Ishika Desai (Anushka Sharma) versus con-man Ricky Bahl (Ranveer Singh) in Maneesh Sharma's Ladies vs Ricky Bahl. Though the film got a mixed response from critics, watch it for a

Shuddh Desi Romance: Shuddh Desi Romance watch online Parineeti Chopra and Sushant Singh Rajput in a still from Shuddh Desi Romance. The rom-com, directed by Maneesh Sharma, is a decent watch for lovers of the genre. In her review, The Indian Express film critic



of Parineeti Chopra and Sidharth Malhotra's Hasee Toh Phasee. Nikhil (Sidharth Malhotra) is assigned the task of keeping a check on his fiancée's troublemaker sister Meeta (Parineeti Chopra) at his wedding. While doing so, he falls in love with her but doesn't profess his love because of his guilt. The Vinil Mathew directorial suf-

for its nostalgic vibe, Khurrana's performance, and its soothing music. Golmaal Again: golmaal again watch online Golmaal Again is the fourth film in Rohit Shetty's Golmaal franchise. Looking for a fun watch? Golmaal Again is a good pick. Helmed by Rohit Shetty, the film stars Ajay Devgn, Tabu, Parineeti Chopra,



## 5 Health Benefits of Avocados

New Delhi, Feb 13: Avocados are helpful for patients suffering from elevated cholesterol levels. The fruit contains oleic acid, a monosaturated fatty acid that can help reduce LDL or "bad" cholesterol. While avocados have a mild, earthen taste, somewhat like raw vegetables, they have a rich, creamy texture and contain essential vitamins, minerals and other micronutrients. The fruit is mostly eaten raw with salt, pepper and a bit of lemon juice. It is also used to make pickles, dips like guacamole, used with milkshakes and ice-creams among others. Avocados offer many health benefits to its consumers. Mentioned below are five such benefits of this pear-shaped fruit.



1. Goodness of vitamins: Avocados are rich in vitamins A (retinol), C (ascorbic acid), E (d-alpha-tocopherol), K1 (Phytonadione), B6 (pyridoxine) and B9 (folate). These molecular micronutrients provide several health benefits. They jointly help maintain skin elasticity by protecting collagen, retain water in the skin, repair body tissues, maintain bone

health and enhance our immunity. These vitamins also act as antioxidants and protect our brain, eyes, heart and blood vessels. They improve insulin sensitivity in male diabetic patients, protect our DNA and prevent certain cancers. 2. Weight loss: Weight gain occurs due to excess calorie intake. Avocados have a high amount of dietary fibre which slows down the digestive process and keeps a person satiated for longer durations, reducing hunger and thus, excess calorie intake. Avocados are rich in monosaturated fatty acids or MUFAs, which prevent weight gain, studies have found. Hass avocado, in particular, was found to aid in weight loss. 3. Blood pressure & cardiac health benefits: Avocados contain a high quantity of oleic acid, which may significantly lower

blood pressure, as per studies. Since high blood pressure can cause heart attacks, avocado consumption may reduce such risks associated with cardiovascular disease (CVD). 4. Sugar & cholesterol control: Avocados are good for diabetic patients as they are low in sugar. The high fibre content in avocados slow down the absorption of sugar in the bloodstream and prevents a spike in blood glucose levels. Avocados are helpful for patients suffering from elevated cholesterol levels. The fruit contains oleic acid, a monosaturated fatty acid that can help reduce LDL or "bad" cholesterol. 5. Anti-cancer properties: Avocados show a promise in the treatment and prevention or reduction of cancer. Studies have found that phytochemicals in the fruit stop the growth of cancer cells.

## 2nd Test: Rohit Sharma's unbeaten 80 takes India to 106/3 at lunch



Chennai, Feb 13: Rohit Sharma scored a rapid 80 off 78 deliveries (13x4s, 1x6) to take India to 106 for three wickets at lunch on the first day of the second Test, on Saturday. On a pitch that aided turn from very early and on

which left-arm spinner Jack Leach was introduced as early as the eighth over of the match, Sharma looked in control and took on the England attack to put India in the driver's seat before a couple of wickets late in the first

session gave Joe Root's side some relief. India had lost Shubman Gill early with the team total at zero. But then Sharma and No. 3 Cheteshwar Pujara shared an 85-run partnership for the second wicket to help

India move into commanding position. The partnership was dominated by Sharma as he unleashed his strokes. However, just as they looked like they were taking the game away from England, the spinners got into action. Leach got rid of Pujara having him caught at slip by Ben Stokes. Soon after, off-spinner Moeen Ali, who was proving expensive, spun one back in through the gap between skipper Virat Kohli's (0) bat and pad to reduce India to 86 for three. Sharma and Ajinkya Rahane (5) were batting at the crease at the end of the first session. India had won the toss and elected to bat. The hosts made three changes to the side that lost the first Test by 227 runs. They rested

pace bowler Jasprit Bumrah and brought in Mohammed Siraj. Left-arm spinner Axar Patel, who is making his Test debut, and Chinaman Kuldeep Yadav replaced left-arm spinner Shahbaz Nadeem and off-spinner Washington Sundar, respectively. For England, pace bowler Stuart Broad came in for James Anderson, Olly Stone replaced the injured Jofra Archer and picked the wicket of Gill. Off-spin bowling all-rounder Moeen Ali replaced Dom Bess while Ben Foakes replaced Jos Buttler who has gone back to England. Brief scores (lunch, day 1): India 106/3 (R Sharma batting 80, C Pujara 21; O Stone 1/14, J Leach 1/23, M Ali 1/32) vs England.

## Serena, Sabalenka, Osaka-Muguruza set up blockbuster clashes

Melbourne, Feb 13: Serena Williams overcame an error-strewn start on Friday to thwart Anastasia Potapova and set up a blockbuster fourth-round clash with seventh seed Aryna Sabalenka who thrashed American Ann Li 6-3, 6-1, while 2019 champion Naomi Osaka was set for a showdown with last year's runner up Garbine Muguruza at the Australian Open.

Slam for the first time, beat France's Fiona Ferro 6-4, 6-3 to set up a meeting with Simona Halep, a 6-1, 6-3 winner over Russia's Veronika Kudermetova. Ice-cool Dominic Thiem rallied from two sets down to tame flamboyant Nick Kyrgios in front of a raucous crowd hours before Melbourne goes into coronavirus lockdown while an injured Novak Djokovic survived a massive

a boisterous John Cain Arena, his favourite court. But he couldn't sustain the intensity as US Open champion Thiem, last year's runner-up, found his groove with some dominant serving to fight back and outlast the 25-year-old 4-6, 4-6, 6-3, 6-4, 6-4. He will now play 18th seed Grigor Dimitrov for a place in the quarter-finals, with the Bulgarian through after Pablo Carreno Busta retired



Williams had 31 unforced errors but wore down the Russian 7-6 (7/5), 6-2 in 97 minutes on Rod Laver Arena. Naomi Osaka had to deal with a butterfly landing on her but was otherwise little bothered as she breezed into the last 16 with 6-3, 6-2 victory over Tunisian 27th seed Ons Jabeur in 1hr 18min to set up a showdown with Muguruza, who beat Zarina Diyas 6-1, 6-1 in just 56 minutes. French Open champion Iga Swiatek, 19, seeded at a Grand

scare against Taylor Fritz in the third round. The defending champion said he had a tear but fought hard to beat America's Taylor Fritz 7-6(1), 6-4, 3-6, 4-6, 6-2 past midnight. Djokovic set-up a fourth-round clash with big-serving Raonic after the 14th seed beat Hungary's Marton Fucsovics in four sets. Kyrgios produced a virtuoso performance in the first two sets, using every trick in the book, including underarm serves and tweeners, as he fed off the energy at

injured in the second set. Earlier, Russian qualifier Aslan Karatsev pulled off a big upset when the world No 114 blitzed eighth seed Diego Schwartzmann into submission 6-3, 6-3, 6-3 with a barrage of winners. Karatsev is making his Grand Slam debut at Melbourne Park and is incredibly yet to drop a set as he set up a fourth-round meeting with Felix Auger-Aliassime, who beat 11th seed Denis Shapovalov 7-5, 7-5, 6-3 in an all-Canadian battle.

## Don't infect cricket, please

New Delhi, Feb 13: The other day I got a call from Bhuwan Chandra Harbola, an old friend from my days at Kanpur Sports Hostel and my teammate in the 1996 U-15 world cup that we won. Happy flashbacks weren't on his mind now. "Wasim Jaffer ka news, padha?" It was a painful conversation that made me sad. As I put the phone down, my mind went back to hostel days. Five of us lived in small rooms around a corridor. Harbola's room was opposite mine, just



enough space to squeeze in a bed and a cupboard. Every morning, the agarbatti's aroma would waft in from his room and I could hear chants of the Hanuman Chalisa. In my room, I would start my namaaz. Praise and gratitude to god on wintry Kanpur

mornings remains a fond memory from those teenage days. We grew up, I became a professional cricketer, he became a cop, and our friendship endures. When did religion come in the way of sport? I have played for teams in UP, different zones across the

country, India, clubs and counties in England, and never have I been made conscious of my faith. I have worried about lack of runs, motivated my teammates in bad form, wondered about how to win games. Never have I gone to sleep wondering what a team-mate might think of my religion. I come from Allahabad, my home was very close to a colony of pandits, where I fell in love with this great game. We played together and our lives were held by this common thread of sport. I am not even

talking about the Indian team — just a local team in the neighbourhood where kids from all faiths would mingle and play towards a common goal. In hindsight, I feel my character was shaped there. This beautiful game is inclusive, brings together people of different temperaments, castes, economic backgrounds and faiths. I remember Sachin Tendulkar's cricket kit bag and the picture of Sai Baba, whom he revered. By his side, VVS Laxman would have his gods.

## WWE SmackDown: The field is set for Elimination Chamber Match

New Delhi, Feb 13: On SmackDown, Roman Reigns announced the easiest path to a title defense at the upcoming elimination chamber match. After Roman Reigns revealed that he would defend his Universal Title against the winner of the Elimination Chamber Match rather than inside the structure, six Chamber combatants were established and ended up in a brawl as SmackDown went off the air. Plus, Apollo Crews ruined an Intercontinental Championship Open Challenge Match between Big E and Shinsuke Nakamura, and Seth Rollins returned to the blue brand in a chaotic fashion.

Roman Reigns to face the winner of SmackDown's Elimination Chamber Match on the same night After Edge humiliated Universal Champion Roman Reigns last Friday by not declaring him the main event of WrestleMania, The Rated-R Superstar traveled to Raw and explained that he will wait until after WWE Elimination Chamber to pick which World Champion he will challenge at WrestleMania. Although WWE Official Adam Pearce initially planned for The Head of the Table to defend the Universal Title inside the Elimination Chamber the same way that WWE Champion Drew McIntyre would,

Special Council Paul Heyman used a technicality to explain that Reigns would not complete in the Chamber. Instead, Reigns will face the winner of the SmackDown Elimination Chamber Match on the spot at the Feb. 21 pay-per-view. Seth Rollins returned to SmackDown with a brutal assault on Cesaro. Returning to SmackDown for the first time since Survivor Series, Seth Rollins claimed that having a baby had changed him. Before long, he once again declared himself the leader of the locker room in true SmackDown Savior fashion, causing the gathered Superstars to take their leave.



## Why replacing Bumrah with Siraj for second Chepauk Test is not a bad idea

New Delhi, Feb 13: By selecting a rank rookie over the world's leading new ball bowler, India followed cricket's global trend of resting and rotating players keeping in mind their workload. Here's understanding the Indian pace department's big switch. Trailing 0-1 in the four-Test series, India picked pacer Mohammad Siraj over Jasprit Bumrah for the second Test at Chepauk. By selecting a rank rookie over the world's leading new ball bowler, India followed cricket's global trend of resting and rotating players keeping in mind their workload. Here's understanding the Indian pace department's big switch. What was the team management's explanation? After winning the toss, Indian captain Virat Kohli clarified that Bumrah wasn't in the playing XI because of some injury or niggle. "Jasprit Bumrah has

been rested for this game. We need to manage his workload. Mohammad Siraj comes in for him and he brings good variety," he said. England too stuck to the rotation policy — they have been the pioneers — by disturbing their winning combination. Last Test's hero James Anderson sat out, making way for his long-time new ball partner Stuart Broad. Was it wise to exclude the pace spearhead Bumrah for this crucial Test? The decision was made keeping in mind the bigger picture. Coach, captain and selectors are of the view that Bumrah, along with Hardik Pandya, is a one-of-a-kind player for whom there is no like-for-like replacement. Bumrah, the leader of the Indian fast-bowling attack, with his unique action, pace, accuracy, and variations is arguably the best across formats in contemporary cricket. Since the team



management is keen that Bumrah remains fit for the T20 World Cup that India hosts later this year, they have decided to keep him in cotton wool. A key member of IPL champion side Mumbai Indians, there isn't any T20 pacer around the world who can match Bumrah's ability to take early wickets and bowl efficiently at the death. So will the Indian Test

team miss Bumrah? Yes, it will but Siraj too has proved during the Australia tour that he has the skills to succeed in Test cricket. While he is an effective new ball bowler, he can also bowl reverse-swing. In his short international career, the Hyderabad bowler has shown that he can outfox batsmen with the semi-old ball. India's second innings in the first Test showed

that it is the "25 to 40 overs" period that is most difficult to bat. It was during this period, James Anderson broke India's batting spine by taking the wickets of Shubman Gill and Ajinkya Rahane with his reverse swing. Though, the second Test pitch could be more spin-friendly, Siraj can be expected to partner a spinner when the ball starts to lose shine.

## Memorial Lecture "Papa Kehte Hain" in memory of Late Gunnam Ramchandra Rao in Vikash Technical Campus

(A.O. Bureau) Bargarh, Feb 13, 2021: A memorial lecture titled "Papa Kehte Hain" has been held at the Vikas Technical Campus under the Local Development Group. The function, which was held on the occasion of the 25th birth anniversary of Late Gunnam Ramchandra Rao, was graced by Mr. D. Murli Krishna, Chairman, Development Group, Mr. G. Vaskar Rao, Managing Director, Mr. D. Nageshwar Rao, Executive Director, Mr. Director, Academic Director, Ajay Mohapatra, President, Vikas Institute of Technology, Dr. Kshirod Pradhan, President, Vikas School of Business Management, Dr. Bikram Das, President, Vikas Law School, Shri Shishir Prasad Raul, President, Vikas Boarding School, Vikas High School Sahu, Manager of Development Group H.R. And Mr. P.K., Legal Adviser. Das, Vice-Chancellor (Senior Secondary) of Vikas Residential



School, Mr. Chitaranjan Pati, and Mr. S. Kanta Rao, Administrative Officer, Vikas High School, presented flowers to Late Gunnam Ramchandra Rao and late Dashari Vir Raju. In his welcome address, Dr. Samrendra Nath Panda, Director, Development Group of Institutions, presented the approach of the memorial lecture series, while Mr. G. Ramakrishna was the keynote speaker of the lecture series. She was devastated

by the example of her parents' love and affection. Mr. G. Ramakrishna's father and Mr. G. Vaskar Rao, Managing Director of Vikas Group, Mrs. G. Satyabeni, mother and other members of the family were present on the occasion. A speech contest titled "Papa Kehte Hain" was held at the Development Technical Campus, which included the Development School of Business Management, the Develop-

ment Degree College, the Development Institute of Technology and the Development Polytechnic. Was done. Professor Mandardhar Nayak, Sivananda Sahu, Ramchandra Barik and Professor Swagatika Nanda joined as judges and awarded the best students. The best-known church leaders (first), Bindia Patel (second) and Jagruti Zipsa Jena (third) were awarded. Mr. D. Murali Krishna said that sense of respon-

sibility is the foundation of the relationship and the main reason for the development of the relationship, so every student can feel that his life can be beautiful if he can feel his responsibility towards his parents. Mr. D. Nageshwar Rao advised all the students on behalf of the Vikas family to be diligent and to respect the hopes and beliefs of their parents. Mr. G. Vaskar Rao shared his emotional experience with his late father about his affiliation with everyone. The event was attended by more than 200 students and 70 teachers. The Vice-Chancellor of the Development Degree College, Shri R.S. The program was conducted under the supervision of Eng. Purnendu Mishra, Administrator, Krishna and Development Institute of Technology, while Dr. Kshirod, President, Development School of Business Management, made the concluding remarks and thanked everyone for their cooperation.

## DCB Bank to focus on tractor loans for the rural market

(A.O. Bureau) New Delhi, Feb 13: DCB Bank's Head of Agri and Inclusive Banking Narendranath Mishra said, "The sale of tractors shows a heartening trend, it has posted positive growth in key markets. The tractor market is expected to remain buoyant in the months to come. Demand for our tractor loans is particularly encouraging from the farming community in states such as Odisha, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and others. The government's agri initiatives, in particular the direct benefit mechanism, schemes such as Swamitva for property cards, innovative farming solutions and infrastructure building, will continue to boost the farm sector. Going forward, DCB Bank will focus on tractor loans in addition to other loan products such as Kisaan Credit Card (KCC) and Gold Loan for semi-urban and rural customers." The Bank is positive about rural



Narendranath Mishra

prospects, as evident from sales in Q2 FY21, and is expecting incremental growth in business. Typically, fortunes of the tractor loan business depend on the vagaries of the weather and the harvest season among other macro and micro variables. As a recent Crisil report points out, in spite of the pandemic, tractor sales are up 12% in the first half of FY21. Good monsoon and higher crop production generally support farm incomes and this in turn provides a fillip to tractor demand. DCB Bank tractor loans come with unique features: For example, a farmer availing of the loan can

promise loan repayments based on his or her cash flow. The borrower can plan repayments in advance depending on the use of the asset (tractor, in case) and agricultural season (when he expects to sell the harvested crop and receive a higher income). This is significant as a farmer's income is variable and moves in tandem with the harvest season. Once the loan is approved, the Bank's free SMS service reminds the customer about the due dates for loan repayment. Even farmers with one acre of agriculture landholding are eligible to apply for a tractor loan provided they have all the relevant documents. DCB Bank also provides Tatkal service for customers who offer a higher margin, or the initial down-payment. Here, the loan is disbursed to the eligible customer within just three working days.

## Delhi Police takes Deep Sidhu to Red Fort to recreate vandalism scene on Republic Day



(A.O. Bureau) New Delhi, Feb 13: Sidhu, according to police, was a "prominent player" behind the January 26 violence and vandalism at the Red Fort. He was arrested from Karnal bypass in Haryana on Monday night by a team of Delhi Police's Special Cell. The Delhi Police's Crime Branch on Saturday took actor-activist Deep Sidhu and another accused Iqbal Singh to Red Fort to recreate the scene of events that unfolded at the historic monument on Republic Day during the farmer's tractor parade, a police officer said. Sidhu, according to police, was a "prominent player" behind the January 26 violence and vandalism at the Red Fort. He was arrested from Karnal bypass in Haryana on Monday night by a team

of Delhi Police's Special Cell. On Tuesday, Sidhu was sent to seven-day police custody by a city court here. A senior police officer said Sidhu and another accused arrested in the case Iqbal Singh were taken to the Red Fort by a crime branch team to recreate the scene of events that unfolded on Republic Day at the monument. The team probing the case will inspect the spot to ascertain and corroborate the route taken by them, their activities at the Red Fort and how things unfolded at the monument on Republic Day when the violence broke out, the officer added. Iqbal Singh, who was carrying a reward of Rs 50,000 on his arrest, was nabbed from Hoshiarpur in Punjab on Tuesday night by the northern range of Delhi Police's Special

Cell. The Delhi police had announced a cash reward of Rs 1 lakh for information that can lead to the arrest of actor Sidhu, Jugraj Singh, Gurjot Singh and Gurjant Singh who hoisted flags at the Red Fort or were involved in the act. A cash reward of Rs 50,000 each was also announced for Buta Singh, Sukhdev Singh, Jajbir Singh and Iqbal Singh for allegedly instigating protesters. Of them, Sidhu, Iqbal Singh and Sukhdev Singh have been arrested. Police said raids are being conducted to nab the other accused. Thousands of farmers protesting the Centre's new agriculture laws had clashed with the police during their tractor parade on January 26. Many of the protesters, driving tractors, reached the Red Fort and entered the monument. Some protesters even hoisted religious flags on its domes and a flag-staff at the ramparts, where the national flag is unfurled on Independence Day.

## ECoR Plans To Reduce 50% Untoward Deaths On Train Line

- Vulnerable Spots, in different Sections identified.
- Sharp vigil on unauthorized trespassing on train line.
- Boundary Walls and fencing to be constructed.
- Action will be taken against unauthorized crossing on train line.

(A.O. Bureau) New Delhi, Feb 13: East Coast Railway has taken various steps to minimize the untoward incidents on Railway Track. Trespassing is the prime contributory factor nowadays to unusual incidents in ECoR jurisdiction leading to so many lives. Apart from this, many death cases have been reported and many are being injured after falling down from running train and dashing with trains apart from suicide knock down and ran over. East Coast Railway has identified vulnerable sections of untoward incidents near Bhubaneswar, Cuttack, Jajpur Keonjhar Road, Brahmapur areas. Apart from this most affected areas are between Jagannathpur & Brahmapur, Brahmapur and Golanthara, Retang

and Bhubaneswar, Bhubaneswar and Mancheswar, Jajpur Keonjhar Yard and Mancheswar Yard in Khurda Road Division. Visakhapatnam, Srikakulam, Vizianagaram & Murrupalem including sections between Visakhapatnam and Gopalapatnam, Vizianagaram & Korukonda, Dusi & Srikakulam and Simhachalam and Gopalapatnam in Waltair Division. Sambalpur, Titilagarh & Balangir Station areas including sections between Deogaon Road & Sainthala, Sambalpur & Hirakud and Balangir & Loisinga Stations over Sambalpur Division. PROVISION OF BOUNDARY WALLS/FENCING



To minimise the trespassing, East Coast Railway has planned to provide boundary walls or may make fencing works near sensitive locations between Bhubaneswar-Mancheswar, Brahmapur-Jagannathpur, Jajpur Keonjhar Road Yard, Murrupalem between Gopalapatnam-Visakhapatnam and between Simhachalam North-Gopalapatnam, Srikakulam-Urlam, Tilaru-Urlam, Vizianagaram-Nellimarla, Vizianagaram-Korukonda, Chippurupalli Yard and Sambalpur-sambalpur Road Stations. Construc-

tion of boundary walls/fencing or provision of obstructing paths by placing unused concrete sleepers have been sanctioned between Ranital and Baudpur in Bhadrak area, between Vizianagaram and Gotlam stations, near Bobbili Station and Parvatipuram Station areas at the locations identified. Apart from this, new proposal has been given for similar works at vulnerable locations between Bhubaneswar and Retang, Vizianagaram & Nellimarla, Gopalapatnam & Visakhapatnam and between Kottavalasa & Pendurti Stations. About 110 new vulnerable places have also been identified over ECoR ju-

risdiction. To reduce these activities, wide trench will be constructed parallel to track to stop trespassing of animals, pedestrians and bikers. Barricade by Rail Sleeper and rail posts to be erected to stop two wheelers from crossings. Released rails and sleepers are placed thereby obstructing the pathway, which reduces the trespassing. Unauthorised trespassing will be monitored through CCTV, if possible at Nirakarapur Yard, between Tilaru & Urlam, Deogaon Road-Sainthala and between Balangir & Loisinga Stations. To reduce unauthorised crossing on railway track, ECoR has closed crossings by erecting rail posts and deep trenching parallel to track to obstruct the path ways at some of the places over its jurisdiction. To prevent unauthorised trespassing, Limited Height Sub-ways will be constructed at some of the places and consent has been received from State Government.

## Centre Orders Removal Of Encroachments From 3,693 Monuments Protected By ASI

New Delhi, Feb 13: The Centre has ordered the removal of encroachments from the monuments and sites protected by the Archeological Survey of India (ASI) across the country. Currently, there are 3,693 monuments of national importance under ASI's protection. The removal of encroachments from the premises of the protected monuments was recently ordered as

per the provisions contained in the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958. The superintending archaeologists who have been given the charge of the circles are also vested with the powers of an estate officer (EO) to issue eviction notices and orders to the encroachers under the Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants)

Act, 1971. Assistance from the respective state governments and police force have also been sought in containing and removing the encroachments and where there are no fruitful results, actions could be initiated against the encroachers after filing cases in the court. Regular watch and ward staff, private security personnel, state police guards and the CISF will also be deployed for the



safety and security of the monuments. Besides, the ASI has made efforts to locate and identify untraceable monu-

ments through field offices based on inspections, old records, revenue maps and published reports.