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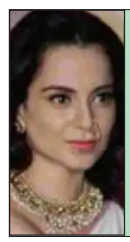
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## "Take COVID19 Jab, Else...": Odisha Govt To HCWs, FLWs



Bhubaneswar, Feb 23: In a strict warning to the health care workers (HCWs) and front line workers (FLWs) in Odisha, who have registered themselves for Covid vaccination, but are refusing to be vaccinated, the State government today said from now onwards they will not be allowed to avail some benefits. In a letter to District Collectors and Commissioners of five Municipal Corporations, Additional

Chief Secretary of Health and Family Welfare Department PK Mohapatra said the health care workers and front line workers, who have registered for the vaccination and now backtracking without any genuine reasons, will cease to enjoy privileges granted by the State government in case of Covid infection. The government has decided to disallow such health care workers and front line workers

to avail free treatment, period of isolation/treatment being counted as duty, financial and other benefits in case of death, the letter mentioned. The letter stated over 85% of health care workers have been vaccinated and the vaccination of front line workers is going on with good coverage. Odisha is in third position among states and UTs in terms of number of HCWs and FLWs vaccinated so far.

## Reopening Of Schools For Class 1-8 Students: Odisha Minister Clears Air



Bhubaneswar, Feb 23: Ending speculations regarding reopening of schools for students of Class 1 to 8 in Odisha, School and Mass Education Minister Samir Ranjan Dash today said physical classes for the said students will not resume for the time being. Addressing

mediapersons, the Minister said keeping in mind the resurgence of COVID-19 in Maharashtra and Gujarat, the decision regarding resumption of physical classes will be taken after review of the current situation in the state. Earlier, it was speculated that physical

classes of students from Class 1 to Class 8 will reopen on February 23 (today). It is pertinent to mention here that the state Government yesterday issued fresh guidelines for schools as part of the precautionary measures against possible resurgence of the deadly virus in the state.

## Odisha CM Naveen Patnaik Approves Design Of Odia Language University

Bhubaneswar, Feb 23: Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik today approved the design of Odia Language University to be established at the famous Vana Vidyalaya at Satyabadi in Puri district. The design of the University was approved by Patnaik following a presentation by the Works Department of the State government, said an official press release. The establishment of the University is expected to enhance the stature of the Vana Vidyalaya

objective is to deliver a superior academic experience in a peaceful, serene, and open environment. The University will have facilities for the students to conduct research in Odia language, literature, and culture. The detailed project report (DPR) for the construction of the University will be finalized at a meeting to be chaired by the Chief Secretary. U t k a l m a n i ' s Satyabadi Vana Vidyalaya was a famous educational in-



Odisha had studied here and had later brought to the glory to the State. It was an ideal school-a-man

Nilakantha Das, and Pandit Godavarish Mishra as an institution of patriotism, service, knowledge,

guage to have been accorded the classical language status. Odia language has a rich past. Several timeless literary works have been created in Odia language. Odia Language University to be set up at Satyabadi Vana Vidyalaya is a unique opportunity to establish Odia language at the global level. The meeting was coordinated by Secretary to CM(5T) V K Pandian. Satyabadi MLA U m a k a n t a Samantaray, Chief Secretary Suresh Chandra Mahapatra, Development Commissioner P K Jena, and Principal Secretaries and Secretaries of various departments were present in the meeting.



established by Utkalmani Pandit Gopabandhu Dash manifold. The design of the new university has been styled in the pattern of Satyabadi Vana Vidyalaya. The

stitution during India's freedom struggle. This school had come up under the shade of Bakul and Chhuriyana trees in an open environment. Several eminent persons of

manufacturing factory. The school had become famous under the able guidance of 'panchasakha'- Gopabandhu Das, Krupasindhu Mishra, Harihar Das, Pandit

and nationalism. The establishment of Odia Language University at the historic Vana Vidyalaya is certainly a unique effort. Odia language is the sixth Indian lan-

## Air Pollutants In Seven Cities, Towns Of Odisha At Alarming Level: Govt

Bhubaneswar, Feb 23: Air pollution in seven cities and towns in Odisha is in alarming state due to an increase in vehicular movement and other sources. While accepting the presence of dangerous air pollutants, PM10 and PM2.5, in the air of the seven cities and towns, the Odisha government informed these places have been termed as the non-attainment cities. Reply-

ing to a query in the State Assembly, Forest and Environment Minister Bikram Keshari Arukha said as the air pollution levels have been increasing in Bhubaneswar, Cuttack, Balasore, Angul, Talcher, Rourkela and Kalanganagar, these places have been categorised as the non-attainment city. He, however, stated the levels of SO2 and NOX in the air of

these towns and cities are within the limits. The Minister said the State government has chalked out plans to lessen the air pollution level in the seven

towns and cities and has been in touch with other departments in connection with this. BJD MLA from Salipur, Prasanta Behera wanted to

know at which places in the State the air pollution is increasing and what steps the government have taken to address the issue.



## Odisha's Sun Temple Among 12 Iconic Places Included In Centre's Clean-Up Campaign

New Delhi, Feb 23: The Sun Temple in Konark has been featured among the list of 12 iconic sites that would be covered under the Centre's special clean-up campaign under the Swachh Bharat Mission. The Centre released the list of the 12 iconic sites today to be covered in the

Phase IV of the Swachh Iconic Places (SIP). The Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation (DDWS), Ministry of Jal Shakti is coordinating to carry out the Swachh Iconic Places programme at the iconic places. Under the SIP, the activities which will

be carried out are solid and liquid waste management, beautification and landscaping of premises and approach areas, construction of sanitation and safe drinking water facilities, rooftop solar panels, battery operated sweeping machines, rejuvenation of water bodies, ban



on plastic use, installation of Sewage Treatment Plants, multi-level parking, illuminated boards, awareness campaigns and IEC interventions. The other iconic places which have been included in the list were Ajanta Caves, Maharashtra; Sachi Stupa, Madhya

P r a d e s h ; Kumbhalgarh Fort, Rajasthan; Jaisalmer Fort, Rajasthan; Ramdevra, Rajasthan; Dal Lake, J&K; Golconda Fort, Telangana; Rock Garden, Chandigarh; Banke Bihari Temple, Uttar Pradesh; Agra Fort, Uttar Pradesh; Kalighat Temple, West Bengal.



# India's hasn't changed its mind on Chinese investment, will make no exceptions Odisha warns healthcare and frontline workers



New Delhi, Feb 23: India will continue to closely watch China's next steps along the Line of Actual Control and will not rush to lift restrictions on investments from Beijing. India is not considering any proposal to allow any Chinese company to invest in India, people aware of the matter said on Tuesday, rebutting reports that New Delhi could clear 45 investment proposals from China. The report came against the backdrop of easing of tensions due to disengagement at

Pangong Tso, one of the many friction points between troops of the two countries over the last nine months. "This report is factually incorrect. The government has not cleared investment from China at any level. There is no such proposal either," the official said, pointing to a Reuters report that indicated that New Delhi was set to clear 45 investment proposals from China. The government has only cleared three foreign investment proposals from Hong Kong. Two

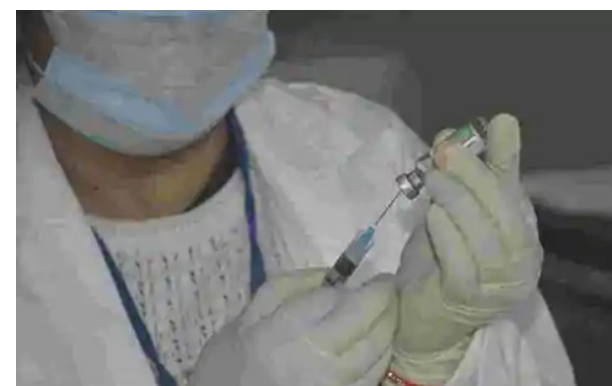
of these are investments from Japanese companies, the third is a Non-Resident Indian group, the official said. A foreign ministry official said any suggestion that New Delhi was ready to abruptly change its stand on foreign investment from China was grounded in an inadequate appreciation of New Delhi's position on the border friction in the Ladakh sector. India has always maintained that peace and tranquillity at the border is a prerequisite for developing bilateral relations.

The two countries have taken early steps to restore normalcy at the Ladakh border but they need to travel some distance between status quo ante is restored. New Delhi had last year responded to China's aggressive manoeuvres in Ladakh by erecting barriers to the flow of investment from countries that share land borders with India and made it mandatory for companies based in these countries to get special approvals to get government contracts. Of the three proposals of

companies based in Hong Kong that have been cleared includes Nippon paints headquartered in Japan. The foreign investors proposing investment, in this case, include Nippon Paint Holdings Co. Ltd, Japan, Nipsea International Limited, Hong Kong - it is a 100% subsidiary of Nipsea Holdings International Limited whose ultimate beneficial owners are, among others, the Goh family who are citizens of Singapore, Netherlands and Australia; and FraserHong Kong. Another FDI proposal, which is cleared is of Citizen Watches (India) Private Limited which is 100% held by Citizen Watches Company Limited, Japan. The third FDI proposal relates to Netplay Sports Private Limited, which is involved in sports, amusement and recreation activities. The foreign investors, in this case, include Allshores Capital Limited, Hong Kong owned by 2 NRIs, Sandeep Singh and Ashwin Mehta; and Rajeev Leekha, also an NRI.

Bhubaneswar, Feb 23: The government warned healthcare and frontline workers who are reluctant to take the vaccine that their privileges would be taken away if they do not comply with the vaccination drive. With around 90,000 healthcare and frontline workers of the targeted 5.43 lakh who registered for Covid-19 vaccination yet to be vaccinated, the Odisha government on Tuesday warned that those who are willfully refusing the same without any genuine ground, will no longer get the privileges granted to them. In a letter to all the Collectors and District Magistrates, and Commissioners of Bhubaneswar, Cuttack, Berhampur, Sambalpur and Rourkela Municipal Corporations, additional chief secretary of health and family welfare department, PK Mohapatra said despite repeated instructions and opportunities given, some registered healthcare workers and frontline workers have not taken the first dose of Covid vaccine. "Over 85% of healthcare

workers have been vaccinated and the vaccination of frontline workers is ongoing with good coverage. Odisha is in third position with reference to Covid-19 vaccination of HCWs and FLWs at the national level," said Mohapatra. He said all health care workers and front line workers who have been



registered for vaccination but are now willfully refusing the same without any genuine grounds (of a contra-indication condition) will henceforth cease to enjoy the privileges granted by the Government in case of Covid infection such as free treatment, the period of isolation/treatment being counted as duty, financial and other benefits in case of death. "Odisha has claimed Covid-19 vaccine doses

from Govt of India as per the numbers of health care workers and front line workers registered for vaccination. If the allocated vaccines are not fully utilised, then the state would be missing out on a critical opportunity to fight the pandemic. Further, those health care workers and front line work-

ers who remain unvaccinated put both their community and their workplace at risk of Covid transmission," the health secretary said, asking the district officials to take steps to ensure that all HCWs & FLWs take the Covid-19 vaccine within the timeline given by MoHFW. Earlier this month, the Cuttack district administration had threatened to withhold salaries of healthcare workers if they did not get vaccinated.

## MoD clears defence buys worth 13,700 cr, including 118 Arjun Mk-1A tanks

New Delhi, Feb 23: The defence ministry on Tuesday cleared domestic military purchases worth ₹13,700 crore, including the army's proposals to buy 118 Arjun Mk-1A main battle tanks and equipping armoured fighting vehicles (AFVs) with modern protection and countermeasure systems, officials familiar with the developments said. While the new tanks will cost ₹8,380 crore, the protection systems for the army's fleet of more than 3,000

tection systems to provide a push to the government's Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan (self-reliant India campaign). Defence minister Rajnath Singh chaired the DAC meeting. "Three AoNs for an overall cost of ₹13,700 crore were accorded. All these AoNs are in the highest priority category of defence acquisition... These (systems) will be indigenously designed, developed and manufactured," the ministry said in a statement, without

grades significantly improve the tank's lethality, mobility and survivability, he said. The improvements on the new tank include better firepower, auto target tracker, remote-controlled weapon system, explosive reactive armour, advanced laser warning and countermeasure systems, containerized ammunition bin, advanced land navigation systems and improved night vision capabilities. "The precise target tracking of the tank ensures accurate engagement during day and night in both static and dynamic conditions," the official said. The Defence Research and Development Organisation's Chennai-based Combat Vehicles Research and Development Establishment (CVRDE) has designed and developed the tank. The tanks will be manufactured at the OFB's Heavy Vehicles Factory at Avadi, outside Chennai. Prime Minister Narendra Modi handed over a prototype of the Arjun Mk-1A tank to army chief General Manoj Mukund Naravane in Chennai on February 14, in a clear indication that the order for the 118 tanks was in the pipeline. The prototype was tested for more than 6,000 km across the country's western sector, followed by another 1,500 km of rigorous testing, HT has learnt.



AFVs (tanks and infantry combat vehicles) will cost ₹5,300 crore, the officials said. The order for the tanks could be placed with the Ordnance Factory Board (OFB) this year, with five tanks to be delivered within 30 months of the signing of the contract, Hindustan Times has learnt. This will be followed by 30 tanks being delivered every year. The Defence Acquisition Council (DAC) - India's apex procurement body - on Tuesday accorded its acceptance of necessity (AoN) for buying the tanks and the AFV pro-

naming the proposals approved. The proposals cleared by the DAC include 293 Nag anti-tank missiles developed by DRDO, 13 modified ICBVs (called the Nag missile carrier or Namica), eight medium power radars called Arudra and practice ammunition for T-90 and T-72 tanks, officials said. The Arjun Mk-1A is an upgraded version of the Arjun Mk-1 currently in army service. The new tank will come with 71 upgrades over the existing variant including 14 major improvements, said one of the officials cited above. The up-

## BJP president J P Nadda addresses the concluding session of the party's national office-bearers meeting

New Delhi, Feb 23: Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) chief Jagat Prakash Nadda on Tuesday lashed out at Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, accusing him of dividing the country. Nadda was reacting to Gandhi's speech in Thiruvananthapuram where he was talking about the "type of politics". "A few days back he was in the Northeast, spewing venom against the western part of India. Today in the South he is spewing venom against the North. Divide and rule politics won't work, @RahulGandhi Ji! People have rejected this politics. See what happened in Gujarat

today!" Nadda said in his tweet, taking a jibe at the Congress party over the results in Gujarat civic polls. The BJP is set to retain power in six Gujarat municipal corporations where elections were held on February 21. The party has won 334 of the 576 seats where results were declared till 5 pm. While Congress has won 36 of the declared seats so far, the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), a new entrant in these elections, could win 12 seats. The AAP had fielded 470 candidates across the six corporations. Gandhi, meanwhile, is in Kerala on a two-day visit and took part in



a host of events. Nadda reacted to one of his statements made in Thiruvananthapuram today. "For the first 15 years, I was an MP in north. I had got used to a different type of politics. For me, coming to Kerala was very refreshing as suddenly I found that people are interested in issues & not just superficially but going into detail in issues," Gandhi was

quoted as saying by news agency ANI. Gandhi's visit comes ahead of the assembly elections in Kerala, set to take place in April-May. For Congress, Kerala is a crucial state. In the last Lok Sabha election, the Congress-led United Democratic Front (UDF) had won 19 out of 20 seats and going by the poll history of the state, where incumbents never get a

chance to continue in power, it may be the turn of the UDF but local body results really worry the party. Gandhi also took part in a programme to mark the culmination of padayatra being undertaken by state leader of opposition Ramesh Chennithala. A host of BJP national leaders will also visit Kerala to partake in the 'Vijaya Yatra' rally, which was flagged off by Uttar Pradesh chief minister Yogi Adityanath earlier this week. Union home minister Amit Shah will be present at the concluding session of the rally on March 7 in Thiruvananthapuram.

## Covid-19: Night curfew imposed in Maharashtra's Aurangabad till March 8

Aurangabad, Feb 23: It has been decided that curfew to remain imposed from 11 pm-6 am from February 23 to March 8. Essential services are exempted," said Nikhil Gupta, Aurangabad Police Commissioner. In wake of a continuous surge in Covid-19 cases, Maharashtra Police Commissioner Shailesh Naval on Tuesday announced a night curfew in Aurangabad from 11 pm to 6 am till March 8. The essential services are exempted from the



curfew. "Aurangabad has witnessed a rise in Covid-19 cases. There are reports of people gathering at places in large numbers and using masks very rarely.

It has been decided that curfew to remain imposed from 11 pm-6 am from February 23 to March 8. Essential services are exempted," said Nikhil Gupta,

Aurangabad Police Commissioner. "During this period, essential commodities, and industries, have been excluded and in the next phase, a decision will be taken

on the weekly and vegetable markets," he added. As many as 132 Covid-19 cases were detected in the district on Monday, while 111 people were recovered from the disease and one patient succumbed to the virus. At present, 941 patients are undergoing treatment in the district. The total number of patients in the district has reached 48,770, while so far 46,574 patients have been recovered. The cumulative death toll stood at 1,255.



# Voluntary Blood Donation Camp organized by Adani Foundation



(A.O. Bureau) Bhubaneswar, Feb 23: Adani Foundation, the CSR wing of Adani Dhamra Port has organized a voluntary Blood Donation Camp in the premises of Cy-

clone Shelter Home at Bijaypatna village of Karanpali GP in collaboration of Odisha Blood Bank, Bhadrak Branch yesterday. The camp was organised with the support and

coordination of Karanpali, Balimunda and Panchutikiri grampanchayat. 163 donors from the nearby community voluntarily donated their auspicious blood

in the camp. The collected 163 units were handed over to the Odisha Blood Bank, Bhadrak Branch for the use of general public through the blood bank based in district head quarter hospital, Bhadrak. The Sarpanch of all three GPs Babuli Sethi, Gangadhar Dhal and Gopal Sethi, Panchayat Samiti Sabhya such as Sudhanshu Sekhar Barik, Bipra Ranjan Nayak, Senior citizen and opinion makers Krushna Chandra Mandal, Amulya Mandal, Girija Shankar Nayak, Bidyadhar Barik, Shri

Sukadeb Biswal, Tapan Bhuiyan, Hrushikesh Jena, Pramod Das, Bhavesh Giri, Youth volunteers from the vicinity have contributed with their presence and involvement to make the camp a success. The camp was conducted with the medical support of Dr. Anadkalyani Jena, Sadhusudan Behera, Rabi Narayan Khuntia, Adikanda Das, Sudhanshu Sethi, Ratikanta Bal, Rupak Senapati, Shri Kailash Sahoo, Prakash Behera, S K Budhi and Babaji Sahoo of Odisha Blood Bank, Bhadrak Branch.

# Khordha Collector Issued Guidelines to Avoid Arise in COVID-19 Cases



(A.O. Bureau) Khordha, Feb 23: To control covid-19 pandemic Collector Khordha Sanat Kumar Mohanty hold a awareness meeting through videoconferencing in all the BDOs, Tahasildars and IIC of different police station under Khordha district except BMC. In view of fresh spike in the number of covid-19 cases in some States the Khordha Collector have review to ensure strict implementation of corona virus protocols. Public awareness through loud speakers announcement is to be made frequently in all market place, haat and other places. Concerned authorities of government and private offices, institutions including educational institutions shall be responsible for due compliance with the

covid-19 Safety protocols in their respective establishment. Collector advised the police authorities to check and ensure strict observance of covid-19 Safety protocols such as the mandatory wearing of masks, maintaining physical distancing in all public places. Large congregation must be avoided and concerned official should ensure that more than the permitted number of people are not there at the gathering. Any person found with covid-19 symptoms must be immediately reported to the nearest Hospital. Hotel, restaurants and dhabas must be closely monitored by the local police authorities. Strong penal action shall be taken against the persons violating the covid-19 guidelines. Commercial establish-

ment found violating such norms may be sealed and action as per law be taken against such violaters. In panchayat levels covid-19 management committee also activated and create awareness among the rural people about the covid-19 pandemic. In this awareness meeting CDMO, Khordha, Dr. Viswanarjan Pati, ADM, Khordha, Manoj Kumar Padhi, ADM(Revenue) Anuj Kumar Das Pattnaik, SP, Khordha, Raj Kishore Dora, PD, DRDA, Digant Routray, Sub-Collector Khordha, Ashok Kumar Behuria, ADMO, Dr. Dwirika Nath Satpathy, Health Officer, Dr. Prasanta Kumar Dash, Deputy Collector Balaram Bagh, District Social Welfare Officer, Khordha and other officers were remain present.

# Anjana Mishra Gang-Rape: CBI Team Meets Police Commissioner

(A.O. Bureau) Bhubaneswar, Feb 23: After Commissionerate Police with the help of Maharashtra counterpart nabbed prime accused Biban Biswal in the 22-year-old Anjana Mishra gang-rape case, a team of the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) today met Police Commissioner Sudhanshu Sarangi here today. A three-member team of the CBI, which was in-

vestigating the case, met the CP to collect more information regarding the case. After the meeting, the CBI team said this was only a courtesy visit and the discussion was confidential. Meanwhile, Biban's wife has refuted the allegation against her husband terming him as innocent. She said, "Biban had not kept any contact with the family for the last 22 years and never sent any money. I

struggled a lot for the upbringing of my children during the last 22 years." Yesterday, the CP at a presser, informed that Odisha police with the help of Maharashtra counterpart nabbed prime accused Vivekananda alias Biban Biswal from Aamby Valley in Lonavala near Mumbai. Sarangi said the accused had changed his name to Jalandar Swain and was working as a plumber there.



# Chintu's Dream To Meet Babushan Comes True: Hopes Rekindled!

(A.O. Bureau) Bhubaneswar, Feb 23: This is the story of a 10-year-old kid from Dhenkanal's Kamakhyanagar who lost his upper limbs and a leg following a tragedy, a few months back.

either of them would have ever wished, both the actor and Chintu were equally delighted. Babushan interacted with Chintu, rekindled his hopes and assured his family of help in

child sustained major burns and was admitted to a private hospital in Bhubaneswar. Later he was shifted to SCB Cuttack, where the doctors had to amputate his upper limbs and a leg.



The child, Chintu, is a big admirer of Ollywood actor Babushan Mohanty and has always dreamed of meeting him upfront at least once in his life. Chintu's dream came true on Tuesday when Babushan turned up at the plastic surgery ward of SCB Medical College and Hospital in Cuttack to meet this great fan. Though the circumstances of the meeting were not what

time of need. The star-fan affair did not end there. When Chintu expressed his inability to take a selfie with the actor, Babushan sat on his bed and clicked a snap for memory. He also blessed Chintu with a silent prayer and wished him a speedy recovery. Chintu faced a major accident a few months back in his native town when he came in contact with an 11 KV live wire. The

This was all necessary for his survival. Today, Chintu is recuperating well, the doctors said and added, "The visit of his favourite star has instilled hopes and smiles in the child." The event was possible because of the efforts of Chintu's brother. He knew about the child's love for Babushan and had approached the actor. Babushan graciously agreed to meet his kid Fan!

# Odisha CM Announces Projects Worth Rs 68 Crore For Pipili, Delanga

(A.O. Bureau) Bhubaneswar, Feb 23: Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik today interacted with the people of Pipili and Delanga through video conferencing from Lok Seva Bhawan here and announced projects worth Rs 68 crore for the area. The projects are related to roads, irriga-

tion, stadium, bridges, bus stand etc. He said that a Model School will be established by the State Government at Beraboi in Delanga, where Mahatma Gandhi had arrived in 1938. As a part of the celebration of 100 years of Mahatma Gandhi's first visit to Odisha in 1921, the memorial

at Beraboi will be developed, the CM said. On the occasion, Patnaik also remembered former Pipili MLA late Pradeep Maharathy and said the departed leader was associated with the development of Pipili-Delanga area for more than 30 years. Two separate public meetings were organised in Pipili and Delanga where min-



isters Samir Ranjan Dash and Tusharkanti Behera were present, respectively.

# Former Odisha MLA, Associate Held In Loot Case

(A.O. Bureau) Bhubaneswar, Feb 23: A former BJD MLA and his associate were arrested in connection with a loot case in Phulbani area of Kandhamal district today. The former BJD legislator from Phulbani, Debendra Kanhar along with his four associates allegedly beat up one Kamakhya Behera from Dhenkanal and his friends visiting Urmagarh in Kandhamal district and looted money from them on February 2. Based on a complaint

filed by Kamakhya, a case was registered at Phulbani Police Station under Sec 170/417/419/384/395 of IPC against Debendra and his associates on February 11. Acting on a reliable information, the Phulbani Town Police today arrested Debendra and one of his associates, Srinivas Kanhar, an IRB Jawan, from a place. The arrested persons were produced before the Phulbani court after a Covid test at the District Headquarter Hospital. Worth mentioning, in 2018, Debendra was arrested twice for allegedly torturing his wife over dowry demand and molesting a tribal girl.



# Odisha MLAs Ride Bicycle To Reach Assembly

(A.O. Bureau) Bhubaneswar, Feb 23: As a mark of protest against the rising fuel prices, several Congress MLAs today rode bicycle to reach the Odisha Legislative Assembly here. Congress legislators Suresh Kumar Routray, Taraprasad Bahinipati and Adhiraj Panigrahi were seen paddling the bicycles on Lok

Seva Marg (formerly known as Sachivalaya Marg). "The Central Government and Odisha Government are equally responsible for the fuel price hike. Both the governments lack humanity. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has created 'Bure Din' for the citizens instead of 'Acche Din' promised by him earlier. Pro-

testing it, the Congress MLAs today decided to reach the Assembly by riding bicycles," said Bahinipati. "We have moved an adjournment motion in the House over the issue. We will disrupt proceedings if discussions over the matter are not held," he added. In a related incident, many National Students' Union of India (NSUI) members smeared an Ujjwala Yojana poster featuring PM Narendra Modi, tore it, and raised slogans against him, Odisha CM Naveen Patnaik, and Petroleum Minister Dharmendra Pradhan at a fuel station in Bhubaneswar.





# EDITORIAL

## COVID returns?

Contrary to expectations, active cases are on the rise, especially in Kerala and Maharashtra. The new year had brought relief to India from the pandemic and, as late as February 11, the country had been consistently following a declining slope of COVID-19 active cases with the load dropping to 1.41 lakh and 33 States and Union Territories reporting less than 5,000 active cases. This, combined with the world's largest vaccination drive in the country, had given people the hope that we would soon be seeing the end of the outbreak that had crippled our ailing economy and resulted in major salary cuts, job and business losses and long periods of isolation and mental distress for millions of Indians. However, last week seems to have dashed all hopes of recovery from the contagion as we are seeing a surge in Coronavirus cases again. India has reported close to 87,000 infections in the last seven days, with the highest addition on Sunday when the country saw 14,264 fresh cases within a span of 24 hours. More worryingly, India now has all three Coronavirus variants that have caused a massive resurgence of cases globally, i.e. B.1.1.7 that was first discovered in the UK, B.1.351 which is dominant in South Africa and P.1 from Brazil. These have a unique collection of mutations, which make them spread more readily or cheat vaccine immunity. Even though there has been a spike in daily cases in Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab and Jammu & Kashmir, Kerala and Maharashtra are the major worrying factors as they are bearing the brunt of the new strains, with over 74 per cent of the nation's active cases in the two States. While in the last month, the average weekly cases in Kerala have fluctuated between 34,800 and 42,000, weekly positivity in the State has ranged from 13.9 per cent to 8.9 per cent. In Maharashtra, too, in the last four weeks the cases have increased from 18,200 to 21,300 and weekly positivity has increased from 4.7 per cent to eight per cent. The areas of concern are mainly in suburban Mumbai where the weekly cases have risen by 19 per cent. In Nagpur, Amravati, Nashik, Akola and Yavatmal, the weekly cases have increased by 33 per cent, 47 per cent, 23 per cent, 55 per cent and 48 per cent, respectively. This has led to experts warning that the new strains could be highly transmissible and dangerous and could even cause re-infections in people who have developed antibodies to the virus. In fact, AIIMS Director Randeep Guleria has warned that herd immunity is a "myth" in the country because at least 80 per cent people need to have antibodies for the whole of the population to be protected. So what it effectively means for a poor country like ours, which is highly populated and where a large part of the populace does not have medical insurance, is that we cannot let our guard down till we have seen the last of this pandemic. Either we follow the rules or suffer yet another surge of the dreaded pandemic. The choice is ours. While in the last month, the average weekly cases in Kerala have fluctuated between 34,800 and 42,000, weekly positivity in the State has ranged from 13.9 per cent to 8.9 per cent. In Maharashtra, too, in the last four weeks the cases have increased from 18,200 to 21,300 and weekly positivity has increased from 4.7 per cent to eight per cent. The areas of concern are mainly in suburban Mumbai where the weekly cases have risen by 19 per cent. In Nagpur, Amravati, Nashik, Akola and Yavatmal, the weekly cases have increased by 33 per cent, 47 per cent, 23 per cent, 55 per cent and 48 per cent, respectively. This has led to experts warning that the new strains could be highly transmissible and dangerous and could even cause re-infections in people who have developed antibodies to the virus. In fact, AIIMS Director Randeep Guleria has warned that herd immunity is a "myth" in the country because at least 80 per cent people need to have antibodies for the whole of the population to be protected. So what it effectively means for a poor country like ours, which is highly populated and where a large part of the populace does not have medical insurance, is that we cannot let our guard down till we have seen the last of this pandemic. Either we follow the rules or suffer yet another surge of the dreaded pandemic. The choice is ours.

# Questioning pullback from Afghanistan

Personal experience should guide Biden while deciding on US troop withdrawal commitments and imperatives in Afghanistan. On January 3, 1973, 30-year-old Joe Biden got elected for the first time to the United States (US) Senate. On January 27, 1973, just 24 days later, a face-saving "Agreement on Ending the War and restoring Peace in Vietnam" was signed with full knowledge among the belligerent parties of what was inevitable. This sham "peace accord" enabled the battle-weary US troops to withdraw and the last troops were airlifted on April 30, 1975 — later that day, the US ally in southern Vietnam capitulated and its leader Thieu was left fuming: "The US did not keep its promise to help us fight for freedom. It was in the same fight that the US lost 50,000 of its young men." Then US President Gerald Ford argued about opening the doors to South Vietnamese who had fought on the US side. However, the young Biden insisted that the US had "no obligation, moral or otherwise, to evacuate foreign nationals". Biden's youthful bravado aside, the US troops' withdrawal from the unpopular war did not end as scripted in the purported "peace accord". In 1995, the US troops escorted out the final remnant of the UN peacekeeping force from Somalia even as local militiamen were firing upon the withdrawing force. Banalities from the UN Secretary General, that efforts to bring peace and aid to Somalia would continue, flew in the face of the ground reality of advancing militias. Over 100 UN peacekeepers and 42 US troops had died before the final withdrawal. Importantly, the nemesis of the UN/US force i.e. ruthless warlord General Aidid



Bhopinder Singh

was still alive, and gaining ground. Expectedly, General Aidid soon declared himself the President of Somalia and a full-fledged civil war broke out. By now, Biden was no longer a wet-behind-the-ears Senator and had already run for the 1988 Democratic presidential nomination. Also, as a longtime member of the US Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, the immediate impact of troop withdrawal from Somalia would not have been lost on Biden. Cut to 2011. By now the Vice-President, Biden was personally entrusted the task of yet another troop pull-out, this time from Iraq (Biden had earlier voted for authorising military force in 2002, then as the Chairman of Senate Committee on Foreign Relations). This withdrawal of 1,50,000 troops when the "enemy" was clearly not defeated, was to prove fatal. It created a sudden vacuum and the Al-Qaida metastasized into ISIS and, within a couple of months, the "caliphate" had emerged over most of the Syrian-Iraqi swathes. A new dimension of global terror, regional upheaval and religious extremism

was born — all fingers pointed towards a premature withdrawal of US troops, among other factors. Importantly, Biden had then personally punted on one of the most controversial, sectarian and irresponsible locals, Nouri al-Maliki, to manage the show in the absence of US troops. The troops had to return to Iraq in 2014 to undo the damage of what was clearly a wrong decision to withdraw. Around the same time, Biden was pushing hard for a similar scale-down of the US troops in Afghanistan with a limited mandate of counterterrorism, like proposed in Iraq — however, President Barack Obama heeded the counsel of his Generals, who suggested otherwise. In 2021, President Biden has inherited Donald Trump's decisions for complete withdrawal of US troops from Afghanistan and Somalia where, yet again, the "enemy" in the form of Taliban (and affiliates) and Al-Shabab, respectively, is waiting menacingly. Somalia withdrawal has already happened and the ravaged territory is again left precariously poised. Afghanistan as the hub of re-

gional/global terror has an altogether different portent at stake. Clearly the deadline for complete withdrawal of the troops by May 1, 2021, is staring in the face for the force of about 2,500 troops (down from 1,00,000 in 2011) and the conflated "peace agreement" with the Taliban that underwrites such a withdrawal, remains routinely and supremely violated. The surge of marauding Taliban towards an embattled Kabul continues and herein to assume that 2,500 US troops would be able to withstand pressures that a one-time composition of 1,00,000 could not — let alone the situation when even this miniscule element departs as planned — is disastrous. The practical logic of "counterterrorism level" presence does not hold good, as vetted by history. Blind adherence to commitments without assuming inevitabilities will deligitimise the cost in terms of lives lost, resources and rationales invested in the last 20 years, besides affording a terror-based sovereign. A recent bipartisan US Congress-appointed Afghan Study Group has concluded a damning assessment of the Taliban's own commitments towards conditionalities so far, and forewarned of impending bloody civil war, therefore suggesting the abandonment/extension of the May 1 timeline. Biden must be guided by his memory and experiences of the earlier US withdrawals and the subsequent costs to the US. Its global interventions have rarely succeeded, however, leaving mid-course has always made situations worse. Timing is everything and, as things stand in Afghanistan, currently it looks ominous. Biden must rethink withdrawal commitments and imperatives in Afghanistan — personal experience should advise him so.

# In polarised times, mob impunity and police helplessness

A new unwritten Madhya Pradesh Police manual has emerged, where the police are not supposed to resist the lawbreakers. Rather, it facilitates the thugs by making sufferers leave their houses to take refuge. In Alirajpur, Christians from many villages told us that on Sundays hooligans come to disturb their prayers and on Saturdays police visit them to advise them to hide in jungles and fields when goons come. If you happen to see an unusual visual of a police inspector, his head hung in shame with two Hindutva zealots carrying saffron flags and a trident, you may not overcome the shock. More so if you have spent several years in khaki. This happened to me. When I reached village Chandan Khedi with a group of human right activists — where more than a dozen Muslim houses were ransacked by a mob of volunteers with the pious intention of collecting contributions for the grand Ram Mandir at Ayodhya — everybody was eager to recount their horrifying experience. Thanks to smartphones, some of them recorded visuals and frightening sounds during the more than three hours of this spirited "volunteer" activity. One image of the many on these phones caught my attention — of that head hung in shame. From the three stars with the red-blue ribbon on the shoulders, I could identify the police inspector carrying the burden of shame for his inability to do something he has been



Vibhuti Narain Rai

trained and equipped for. To his helplessness, we will have to revisit the sequence of events. Like many parts of the country, two villages — Muslim Chandankhedi and Hindu Kanvasa — are not only located side-by-side but are economically interdependent. The inhabitants are largely farmers and their fields are spread across both the villages. The whole of the Malwa region was likely visited by processions of various sizes and these two villages were no exception. The only difference was that Kanvasa contributed enthusiastic volunteers to the slogan-shouting and flag-waving procession and Chandankhedi waited anxiously for the day to pass peacefully. Initially, the procession was small and its provocative slogans met with resistance. A small police contingent helplessly watched and waited for them to disperse. Not expecting resistance, they re-

treated hastily but soon regrouped outside the village. Phone calls were made, messengers were sent out and reinforcements were organised. One huge difference this time was that the local police station sent feelers to Muslims, suggesting that they leave their houses — which fell on the procession's route — and take refuge in nearby fields. Barring a few Muslim youths who kept watch, everybody avoided contact with highly-charged zealots. This did not help. Meanwhile, a sufficient force was mobilised with many senior police officers and magistrates along with an ambulance and fire tender. The image that haunts me is of the expression of one of these officers. Each member of his group has been trained to react in a particular manner when a large body of hooligans is violating the law brazenly and the life and property of another

group are in extreme danger. I had never met the inspector whose head hung in shame and I had no intention of meeting him except as an old comrade-in-arms. I can feel the pain in his eyes. He was ashamed that he was not allowed to react in the manner he was supposed, he had been taught to. He and his colleagues were forced to watch hooligans plundering houses, beating hapless men and women and flaunting flags — all before the ashen faces of a large contingent of policemen. During my extensive three-day tour of the Malwa region with a group of human right activists, I found the same story repeated everywhere. Places in Indore, Ujjain and Alirajpur have witnessed a new avatar of Madhya Pradesh Police. Everywhere, there were prior inputs that something serious is going to happen and the police were well-prepared in terms of manpower and logistics. But nowhere did they do what they were supposed to. They advised Muslims not to come in the path of the communal tornado. In Alirajpur, Christians from many villages told us that on Sundays hooligans come to disturb their prayers and on Saturdays police visit them to advise them to hide in jungles and fields when goons come. A new unwritten Madhya Pradesh Police manual has emerged, where the police are not supposed to resist the lawbreakers. Rather, it facilitates the thugs by making sufferers leave their houses to take refuge.



# Govt. of Odisha is committed to Eliminate Filariasis from state - Dr. Uma Sankar Misra

## Maoist plan foils: 3 bombs difused by BSF youth

(A.O. Bureau) Berhampur, Feb 23: The Department of Health and Family Welfare, Government of Odisha, will organize Mass Drug Administration (MDA) for Elimination of Lymphatic Filariasis in the districts from 25th February to 6th March 2021. In this regards, a media sensitization workshop was organized in the district by the Health department in collaboration with WHO and Global Health Strategies on February 23, 2021. The objective of this workshop was to ensure dissemination of information highlighting the debility caused by Lymphatic Filariasis, so that people can get accurate information about this serious disease. Through a video appeal message, Sri. Naba Kishore Das, Hon'ble Minister, Department of Health and Family Welfare, Government of Odisha, appealed to the public to consume anti-filaria drugs administered during MDA program in the districts in the presence of the drug administrator. During the workshop, Dr. Uma Sankar Misra, Chief District Medical

& Public Health Officer-cum-District Mission Director, Ganjam said, "Keeping in mind India's commitment to eliminate filariasis by 2021 and acknowledging the importance of continuing important public health initiatives, the Government of Odisha Under the National Lymphatic Filariasis Elimination Program, is undertaking MDA rounds in the districts from 25th February to 6th March 2021. Dr. Santosh Kumar Padhi, ADPHO (VBD), Ganjam stated through a presentation that "Filariasis or Hathiyaon disease" is a serious public health problem which is spread by mosquito bites. Filariasis is one of the leading causes of long-term disability worldwide. Commonly acquired in childhood, this infection damages the lymphatic system and if left untreated, it causes abnormal swelling of the body parts. People with Filariasis often suffer from manifestations such as Hydrocele (inflammation of the scrotum), lymphoedema (swelling in the



limbs) and Chyluria (milky white urine). The condition affects livelihoods, opportunities and working capacity of those suffering from LF and they often become a subject of stigma. Filariasis is a disabling disease which can be prevented by consuming anti-filaria drugs administered by trained health workers." Dr. Padhi further spoke about the minor side-effects which are usually followed with consuming anti-filaria drugs. He stated that "the antigen produced from killed parasites can lead to symptoms like itching, nausea etc. However, small side-effects must not outweigh the importance of consuming the anti-filaria drugs. This discomfort is

also an indicator that the programme is working". India's National Programme for Elimination of Lymphatic Filariasis has a two-pillar strategy: 1. Mass Drug Administration (MDA): Anti-filarial drugs are administered to prevent transmission of Filariasis in the endemic areas. 2. Morbidity Management and Disability Prevention (MMDP): Caring for patients through home-based morbidity management for lymphoedema and surgical correction for hydrocele cases. Dr. R Jagadees Patnaik, District Public Health Officer, Ganjam spoke about the benefits of deworming. He said that "the preventive drugs administered during MDA such as

Albendazole have additional benefits like de-worming, which increases absorption of nutrients in children and helps in their physical and cognitive development. Dr. Sambit Pradhan, Zonal Coordinator (NTD), said, "During MDA rounds, all safety precautions (hand hygiene, mask and physical distancing) will be followed to prevent the spread of COVID-19. It will further be ensured that eligible beneficiaries in the endemic blocks to consume anti-filarial drugs in the presence of ASHA, AWW and trained volunteers. Everyone except children below 2 years, pregnant women and seriously ill people must consume the prescribed

dosage during the rounds in the presence of trained health workers". He also stressed that, "Under this programme, the participation of community is extremely crucial. With the commitment towards elimination of Filariasis, it is very important for public representatives, officials, health workers and the community to make the filariasis elimination Programme a public movement". The social mobilization activities in the district involving PRI members, religious leaders, school children, ICDS staffs is also playing key role for better compliance in the district. During this campaign around 7,050 trained Drug Administrators, 705 Supervisors, 132 RRTs will be engaged in all 22 blocks, 1 BeMC and 16 NACs. Total targeted beneficiaries in the district is 35,52,226. Lastly, Mr. Anuj Ghosh, Director, Global Health Strategies, thanked all participants and emphasized that with the combined efforts of all, we can eliminate the debilitating disease like Lymphatic Filariasis from the state.



(A.O. Bureau) Malkangiri, Feb 23: The Maoists' plan has again thwarted the Chitrakonda Swabhimana area of Malkangiri district. According to intelligence sources, the BSF Battalion No.9, Hantalaguda, conducted a search operation. At this point, Kadalibandha found a bag near the village hill. Two pressurized bombs, a tiffin bomb and various Maoist items were seized. It was one of the great achievement by BSF.

## The Youth for Action team extended a helping hand to cancer survivors



(A.O. Bureau) Malkangiri, Feb 23: Dhan Mati Jani, a minor daughter of Chakra Jani of Lithia Guda in the Malkangiri Sadar sub-division, is suffering from lung cancer and is being treated at AIMS Medical in Bhubaneswar. He was informed by the medical that he needed about 2 lakhs for his treatment. Got the news yesterday Members of the Malkangiri YOUTH FOR ACTION team, who learned of lung cancer from the family of Dhanmati Jani, a resident of Lithia Guda, immediately donated Rs 21,000 to her mother for treatment and appealed to others to help as much as possible.

## Awareness camp to stop wildfires and wildlife hunting



(A.O. Bureau) Malkangiri, Feb 23: Today, a forest protection awareness meeting was organized on behalf of Mathili Forest Range in Salimi village. The meeting was attended by Salimi Forester Mrs Khiralata Nayak, Forest Guard Sebati Majhi Kailash

Maharana, Team Leader, Development Officer of Aam Jangal Yojana Banshi Anugulia and officials of Srusti Organisation along with Forest Protection Committee President Shri Khageshwar Samarth. Animator Gajendra Majhi The meeting was attended by forest

para staff and villagers and SHG members..for encouragement 10 plastic chairs were given to the VSS members. In the end, the villagers took the oath of allegiance to the forest goddess and vowed to protect the forest, not to set fire to the forest or to hunt wild life.

## Baripada Ex-MLA Passes Away Following Heart Attack

(A.O. Bureau) Baripada, Feb 23: Former MLA of Baripada Assembly Constituency Bimal Lochan Das today passed away at his residence here following a heart attack. He was 81. He was the MLA of Baripada from 2004 to 2009 after winning the Assembly elections on Jharkhand Mukti

Morcha (JMM) ticket. Soon after reports of his demise surfaced, condolences poured in from different quarters for the departed soul. Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan took to Twitter and expressed grief over his death. "Das will always be remembered for his good works as a people's representative," he tweeted.



## Bears Spotted Roaming In Sindhiguda Village



(A.O. Bureau) Nabarangpur, Feb 23: Four bears were spotted together on the main road during daytime around Sindhiguda village in Nabarangpur district. Though the bears did not cause any harm to any villagers or passerby, locals are in a state of panic. A local said as the village for-

est is located close to Sindhiguda village, bears used to venture into human habitation in search of food. But this time, four bears together roaming on the main road during daytime has caused a fear among the villagers. Even though the bears did not attack any villager, the human-animal conflict

cannot be ruled out in future. The Forest personnel should look into the matter and ensure any instance of human-animal conflict does not occur in the area, another villager stated. Last year around this time, an elderly woman died in a bear attack when she went to the village forest to collect firewood.

## Woman Held For Duping 3rd Husband, Multiple Aadhaar Cards Seized

(A.O. Bureau) Bhawanipatna, Feb 23: The Kalahandi Police have arrested a woman possessing four fake Aadhaar cards for allegedly duping her third husband. Three associates of the woman have also been apprehended. According to reports, accused Ellee Mahanta (32), who hails from Sundargarh district, had initially married one Kumudabandhu Patel. After his death, she tied the nuptial knot with one Rajendra Das in 2013. On getting separated from Rajendra, she was staying with her relatives in Chhattisgarh. In June, 2020, she got married to one Bikash Jain of Risida



in Kalahandi. Her associate Birbal Sharma (60) played the role of mediator in the marriage and took Rs 4 lakh from the family members of Bikash as his fees for mediation. Later, Ellee's in-laws found her fake Aadhaar cards and suspected foul play. The woman then demanded Rs 5 lakh from them to live separately. On

the basis of a complaint lodged by the Jain family, police carried out an investigation and came to know that the woman with the help of her associates used to dupe men after marrying them with different identities. She had prepared fake Aadhaar cards in the name of Sindhumati Munda, Mamta Jain and Mamta Agrawal, police said.

## Woman's Charred Body Without Legs Found In Sonepur

(A.O. Bureau) Sonepur, Feb 23: Charred body of a woman with legs missing was found at Tulundupali village under Binika police limits in Odisha's Sonepur district, today. Till last reports came in, the identity of the

deceased was yet to be established. A bag, footwear, an utensil were found 100 meters away from the body. Police have recovered the body for post-mortem and initiated an investigation to ascertain the reason behind the death.



## The new welfare mandapa in Kasipali has been inaugurated



(A.O. Bureau) Rengali, Feb 23: A new welfare mandapa has been inaugurated at Kasipali in Rengali block of Sambalpur district. Sambalpur

DRDA project director Sukant Tripathi inaugurated the welfare mandapa on Tuesday as the chief guest. Rengali Video Shankar

Prasad Sahu, Salad Sarpanch Malati Padhan, EE Srikant Majhi, among others, joined as guests. Many villagers were present at the opening ceremony.



# Kangana says she turned down 'item songs' by Bhansali, Farah Khan



Mumbai, Feb 23: Kangana Ranaut, lashing out at 'B-grade hyenas', wrote in a tweet that she has turned down 'item numbers' in Sanjay Leela Bhansali and Farah Khan's films. Actor Kangana Ranaut has said that

she turned down 'item numbers' in films by Sanjay Leela Bhansali and Farah Khan. Kangana was responding to Swara Bhasker's pointed tweet, in which she'd shared a video of a dance number from Kangana's

2013 film, Rajjo. Kangana, in a recent tweet, had attacked actors Deepika Padukone, Alia Bhatt, and Katrina Kaif for doing 'item numbers', and had said that, as a rule, she doesn't do them. Seemingly in re-

sponse to Swara's tweet, Kangana wrote, "These B grades won't understand but I said no to item songs of Sanjay Bhansali and Farah Khan also, which made few A listers over night sensations, I sacrificed a lot to be who I am today, back off B grade hyenas if these directors offer you even a passing you will go crawling." In her original tweet last week, Kangana had slammed a politician for calling her a 'naachne gaane waali (item girl)'. She'd written, "Whoever this fool is does he know I am no Deepika Katrina or Alia.... I am the only one who re-

fused to do item numbers, refused to do big hero (Khan /Kumar) films which made entire Bollywoodiya gang men +women against me. I am a Rajput woman I don't shake a\*\* I break bones." Swara slammed the politician's comments, calling them 'stupid, sexist and totally condemnable', but added that Kangana had 'made it worse'. Sharing the Rajjo song, Swara wrote, "Loved your dancing in this 'item number' in the film Rajjo.. you are a great performer and great dancer Kangana.. looking forward to your next."

# Aishwarya Rai-Abhishek Bachchan dance to Desi Girl with daughter Aaradhya at family wedding



Mumbaim Feb 23: Bollywood couple Aishwarya Rai Bachchan and Abhishek Bachchan have been dancing together, on-screen and off, for many years now and it looks like their daughter Aaradhya is following in their footsteps. At a recent wedding function, Aaradhya gave her parents some stiff competition as the trio danced to Abhishek's popular number "Desi Girl". A video from the function has landed online and it appears that the nine-year-old's dancing skills have taken after her mother. Dressed in gorgeous tra-

ditional wear, the three of them are performing the hook step of Dostana song. The original track also featured Priyanka Chopra and John Abraham alongside Abhishek. Photos from Aishwarya's cousin Shloka Shetty's wed-

ding surfaced online Monday evening, featuring the actor, Aaradhya and her mother Vrinda Rai. On the work front, Abhishek recently announced his upcoming social-comedy, Dasvi, co-starring Yami Gautam and Nimrat Kaur.

# 5 Ways to Keep Your Body Hydrated

New Delhi, Feb 23: Our body is composed of about 60 per cent water, which is vital for the functioning of our organs. Loss of water, through excessive sweat, vomit, diarrhoea, or not drinking enough water, can cause fatigue, dizziness, headaches, seizures, rise in heart rate and temperature, fall of blood pressure, damage kidneys, brain functions and cause death. Shared below are five simple ways to stay hydrated.

1. Water - An average adult should drink around 2-3 litres of water every day to stay hydrated. The amount will rise in hotter temperatures and during periods of intense physical activities.
2. Coconut water - Co-

conuts that are not fully matured are filled with water inside. It has a sweet and mildly salty taste. Apart from electrolytes, coconut water is rich in potassium and also contains sodium, calcium, carbohydrates, fibre and sugars.

3. Tea and coffee - Tea and coffee are ideal beverages to keep one hydrated. Tea is also antioxidant-rich and may help protect us against cardiovascular diseases (CVD), high blood pressure, diabetes and cancer. Coffee consumption was also

found to be beneficial in CVD and related ailments, diseases of the liver and kidneys.

4. Fruits and vegetables - Fruits such as watermelon, orange, pineapple, grapes, strawberry and vegetables like cucumber, tomatoes, iceberg lettuce and spinach among others, have high water content.
5. Health drinks - Drinks made primarily of malt, with added protein and vitamins and usually in chocolate or vanilla flavours, are quite popular around the world.



# Amrita Rao Joins 'Pawri Ho Rahi Hai' Trend With Her Baby Boy, Calls It 'Potty Ho Rahi Hai'



New Delhi, Feb 23: Amrita Rao took to Instagram to join the 'Pawri Ho Rahi Hai' trend with her baby boy Veer. She welcomed Veer with husband RJ Anmol in November 2020. Every day, there is a new trend that becomes viral on social media platforms and is being joined and shared by everyone. Currently, the 'Pawri ho rahi hai' video has set social media on fire with every celebrity trying to bring their own version of it. Now, joining the list, actress Amrita Rao has shared a hilarious video with her newborn son on Instagram account by adding a twist and changing 'pawri ho rahi hai' to 'potty ho rahi hai'.

Amrita is very active on social media with a fan following of 1 million and keeps on sharing her pictures and videos with fans to keep them updated. In the recent video, the Main Hoon Na actress can be seen introducing herself and her son

exactly in the way shown in the 'pawri ho rahi hai' video and then she adds on the twist and talks about "potty" instead of "pawri" while holding a diaper in her hand and some flying at her face. The actress captioned the post by

writing, "AajKal EKe Pawri ho rahi hai." However, the baby boy did not make an appearance in the video; his voice can be heard in the background. She was blessed with a baby boy with RJ Anmol in November 2020 and

has named him Veer. Amrita often shares photos of her family and friends on her Insta handle and just a few days back, she posted a throwback photo with her husband, Anmol by captioning it as "sweetheart numero uno lazy". She started her acting career with Ab Ke Baras in the year 2002 and was even nominated for the Filmfare Best Female Debut Award in 2003 for the same. However, the actress became popular with her role in Main Hoon Na starring Shahrukh Khan, Sushmita Sen, Zaid Khan and Sunil Shetty in lead roles. She became an instant hit after the romance film Vivah opposite Shahid Kapoor.

# Makers of 'Pogaru' Movie Agree to Delete Scenes After Objections From Brahmin community



New Delhi, Feb 23: After a meeting with Karnataka Brahmin Development Board and Karnataka Film Chamber of Commerce, the makers of Pogaru agreed to delete certain scenes after members of the Brahmin community raised objections against them. The makers of the Kannada film Pogaru have agreed to delete certain scenes from the movie after members of the Brahmin community raised objections. The decision was taken after a meeting with Karnataka Brahmin Development Board and Karnataka Film Chamber of Commerce. Pogaru was the first big budget Kannada film to release post the Covid-19 induced lockdown. "Do not target any community in cinemas. Consider the emotions of that community. Everybody is hurt by this incident which is why we decided to

protest. They have now agreed to remove the said scenes. We welcome their decision," Sreekanth, member of the community said. The community members had given a deadline until Wednesday evening failing which they were set to protest. "There has been an unintentional mistake. I apologise to the Brahmin community. Our intent was not to hurt anyone. 12 controversial scenes in the movie will be removed. It will be done in such

a way that viewers wouldn't know the difference. This movie is my four year old child. We will ensure the edit is done in a way that it doesn't affect the film," said film director Nanda Kishore. The scenes included one where the protagonist of the movie is seen keeping his foot on the shoulder of a priest. The community members objected to several scenes and dialogues that they said hurt the sentiments of Brahmins.

"Twelve scenes have come to our notice that the community members have raised objections to. We have spoken to both parties and have arrived at a solution. The scenes will be cut at 9am tomorrow," said Jayaraj, president, Kannada film chamber of commerce. BJP leader Shobha Karandlaje took to Twitter to raise objection to the scenes in the movies. "It has become a fashion to humiliate Hindus & take a ride on our

sentiments. Whether they have guts to portray other religions in this manner? Screening of #Pogaru film has to be stopped until such objectionable scenes are censored. Hurting Hindu emotions can't be ignored." It has become a fashion to humiliate Hindus & take a ride on our sentiments. Whether they have guts to portray other religions in this manner? Screening of #Pogaru film has to be stopped until such objectionable scenes are censored. Hurting Hindu emotions can't be ignored. pic.twitter.com/H6RYijonoK — Shobha Karandlaje (@ShobhaBJP) February 23, 2021 Pogaru has been written and directed by Nanda Kishore, and produced by B. K. Gangadhar. It stars Dhruva Sarja and Rashmika Mandanna in the lead roles.

# Shekhar Suman Hits Back at Troll Who Questioned His Source of Income to Afford a Lavish Home

New Delhi, Feb 23: Shekhar Suman had a befitting reply for a troll who questioned his source of income. The actor went on to say that he has worked hard in films, TV, and theatre. Celebs getting trolled by netizens on social media have become very common these days. They get trolled for no reason. A couple of days ago, Bollywood actor Shekhar Suman got trolled over his luxurious house. The actor, who is quite active on social media, shared a glimpse of his lavish abode. While many were left awestruck, a user asked him about his source of income, as he commented, "Itne paise aaya kahaan se." Shekhar too hit back at him and replied, "Mehnat se. imaandaari se. lagan se." The senior actor didn't stop there and even went on sharing the pictures of a few ar-

ticles published about his journey. The actor also opened up about the same in a recent conversation where he said that he thought to ignore the guy at first but then he chose not to remain silent as he had nothing to hide. The actor went on saying that he wants people to know about his hard work as he had worked in films, TV, theatre. He is also quoted by the portal as saying, "It's possible to have a lavish home if you are talented, work hard and have God's blessings." The actor also revealed that the interiors of the house are done by him and his wife as all the aesthetics inside the house were specially planned by them. "I believe that anyone who has followed their dreams and fulfilled them, should not fear negativity or such nasty comments from anyone," he said.





# Adelaide 36 all out won't affect us in Motera day-night Test: Kohli

Ahmedabad, Feb 23: India's capitulation for 36 in the second innings of the first Test in Australia, a day-night game played with a pink ball in December, will not have an impact on the third Test against England that begins under lights here on Wednesday at the reconstructed Motera Stadium, said India captain Virat Kohli. Kohli added that England, who too capitulated for 58 in their last pink ball Test against New Zealand in Auckland, also won't be affected by a one-off dismal show. "Both are bizarre experiences for two quality sides. If you ask England the same question -- do you think you can be bowled out for 50-odd, their answer would probably be no. You understand that on a particular day, things are supposed to happen in a certain way," said Kohli while speaking to the media on Tuesday ahead of the first pink ball Test since the Adelaide thrashing. "Whatever you try to do, it seems to be out of control and nothing seems to go right. That happened to us in Adelaide. Barring those 45 minutes of bad cricket,



we dominated that Test match. We are very confident in how we play the pink ball, even in Australia where the pitches were assisting their seamers. We brushed it aside and won in Melbourne. That (36 all out) is not a hindrance or mental scar," he said. Kohli said that even if the wicket is spinner-friendly, the pink ball is likely to assist seam and pace bowlers. "The pink ball tends to swing a lot more than the normal red ball that we play with. We experienced that when we played the one match in 2019 with Bangladesh. It is much more challenging to play with the pink ball regardless of

what pitch you are playing on especially in the evening. As a batting team if you are starting your innings under lights then that one and a half hours is very challenging," said Kohli. Opener Rohit Sharma had, on Sunday, said that the pitch for the third Test won't be any different from the one used for the second Test at the MA Chidambaram Stadium in Chennai. That wicket started to help spinners from the first session of the first day itself. Kohli felt that spinners will have a role but the fast bowlers won't be ignored. "Spin will come into play for sure. But I don't think the new ball and the fast bowlers can be ig-

nored. The pink ball does bring them into the game till the ball is nice and shiny. It is something that we are very well aware of and are preparing accordingly," said Kohli. "Last time we experienced that the first session is the nicest to bat when the sun is out and the ball doesn't do that much. But when it starts to get dark especially during the twilight period, it gets very tricky. The light changes. It is very difficult to sight the ball and under lights, the ball tends to swing much. I think it is reversal of roles and you have to adjust quite quickly as batsman," he said. Kohli said that batsmen have to start from

scratch once it becomes dark regardless of how well they have played throughout the day. "Even if you might be batting since the afternoon, but you have to take guard again (with lights on) and start from scratch. You probably have to be a bit more disciplined than in the day. Similarly with bowlers, plan in afternoon to bowl consistent length and then in afternoon to attack more," he added. Kohli said that movement doesn't bother the Indians too much as "we have beaten England in their own home where the ball does way more". He also said that his immediate focus is not on the World Test Championship final to qualify for which India need to win the final two Tests of the four-match series. The team's focus is to win both Tests, he said. "You can't play for reasons (like WTC). We are looking to win both. For us, these are two games of cricket, that is a reality. At the present moment, we are preparing for tomorrow. We are ready to grind for five days and move onto the next. No point running into the future too far ahead," he said.

New Delhi, Feb 23: Delighted to join last edition's runners up Delhi Capitals, star Australian batsman Steve Smith is hopeful of guiding the side to its maiden title triumph in the upcoming season of the Indian Premier League. The 31-year-old, who was released by Rajasthan Royals, was acquired by Delhi Capitals for Rs 2.2 crore at the IPL auctions last week. "I am really excited about joining the team this year. I think the

squad has a great set of players and has a great coach and I look forward to getting over there and creating some amazing memories, and hopefully, help the team go one better than last year. Can't wait guys," Smith said. The prolific right-hand batsman, who joined the Rajasthan Royals franchise in 2019, captained the side in the 2020 edition in the UAE, where they finished last. Smith has scored 2,333 runs in 95 matches at an average of 35.34 in the IPL.

The batsman had a fantastic season for the now-defunct Rising Pune Supergiant in IPL 2017 when he amassed 472 runs in 15 matches. At Delhi Capitals, Smith will reunite with his 2011 World Cup captain Ricky Ponting, who is the head coach of the side. The Capitals boast of a strong batting line-up with the likes of Rishabh Pant, Shikhar Dhawan, Marnus Stoinis and Shimron Hetmyer in the side, and the former Australian skipper may not be a sure-shot starter in all 14 matches.



## AIFF to conduct trials to select Indian team for FIFA 21 world tournament

New Delhi, Feb 23: The All India Football Federation (AIFF) on Tuesday announced it will conduct a national tournament from March 20 to April 4 to select the Indian team for its maiden appearance in the FIFAe Nations Series. The FIFAe Nations Series is the world body's flagship tournament for the member associations and is contested by eNational teams using the EA Sports FIFA 21 game. An Indian team will be part of the global tournament for the very first time, with the

2021 (FeNS21). To facilitate the selection process, the AIFF will host a national tournament 'AIFF eFootball Challenge' wherein the top 16 eligible PlayStation gamers of the country will contest to decide the winner. The FIFAe Global Series Rankings (West Asia Region) as of February 25 shall be used to determine the qualification and seeding. The two finalists will represent India in the next stage of the global competition. The FeNS21 will feature a multi-phase structure

from the Middle East and Africa server region. "Gaming has always been a great engagement tool for football fans across the world. Owing to the current pandemic situation the interest in eSports has increased manifold globally," AIFF general secretary Kushal Das said. "The opportunity to nominate eAthletes from India for the event is a unique opportunity to engage with the gaming community in the country and open a new avenue for fans to connect with the 'Beautiful

## G Sathiyam ends long wait for national title with win over veteran Sharath Kamal



Panchkula, Feb 23: On Tuesday, it was a different Sathiyam. G Sathiyam ended his long wait for a national title with a convincing 4-2 win over nine-time champion Sharath Kamal in the 82nd National Table Tennis Championships on Tuesday. Sathiyam had rued his missed chances against Sharath in the final at Cuttack a

couple of years ago. That win had put Sharath, the current world No. 32, on a high pedestal. On Tuesday, it was a different Sathiyam. So was Sharath, who was not at his usual self as he lost momentum in the fifth game of the men's singles final. "Third time I was lucky, no more jinx. A huge burden off my shoulder," said

Sathiyam. Before Cuttack, he had missed out at Pondicherry (2014) and Hyderabad (2015). The win on Tuesday also helped him carry home Rs. 2.50 lakh as prize money. Taking a 2-0 lead, Sathiyam made his intentions loud and clear. But he knows his experienced opponent can change the flow of the match in a

matter of minutes. And Sharath did strike, taking the next two games. But, as has been seen very often, Sharath had his problems unable to land the ball. Converting those moments to his advantage, Sathiyam nailed it again and went 3-2 up. As if on cue, Sathiyam kept his backhand blocks and forehand scorers going, pushing Sharath on the backfoot as hard as possible. Sharath allowed Sathiyam to take control of the match slowly but surely. It's equally important to give full credit to Sathiyam, the new champion, who punched his way up the ladder with a lot of hard work. "In the end, it was a good match, and he deserved to

win," said the genial Sharath. He attributed the loss to the lack of concentration in the fifth game after leading 8-6. Two crucial mistakes cost me dearly at that stage. But Sathiyam let me off the hook in the third to come back. These are part of the game. I am happy for him," he added. With age catching up with Sharath, he is not yet giving up chasing his tenth title. "I will certainly come back strong and aim for it," he said. Results: Final: G Sathiyam (PSPB) bt A Sharath Kamal (PSPB) 11-6, 11-7, 10-12, 7-11, 11-8, 11-8. Semi-finals: A Sharath Kamal bt Manav Thakkar (PSPB) 11-8, 5-11, 14-12, 11-9, 9-11, 17-15; G Sathiyam bt SFR Snehit (Telg) 13-11, 11-5, 11-9, 11-5.



AIFF building an eNational Squad, constituting the country's top FIFA gamers, who will represent it at the FIFAe Nations Series

including online qualifier stages which will eventually culminate in the FIFAe Nations Cup — the final event. India will participate

Game'. "At the same time, it will help promote the concept of eSports as a career and provide global exposure to Indian eAthletes," he added.

## Sport doesn't recognise anything other than on-field show: Sachin Tendulkar

Mumbai, Feb 23: Sachin Tendulkar firmly believes that sport only recognises performance on the field and not the background of an athlete. One of the game's all-time greats, Tendulkar retired in 2013 after breaking a plethora of records during a glorious career. "Every time we enter the

dressing room, it really didn't matter where you came from, which part of the country and where you belong. It was a level field for everyone. "Sport doesn't recognise anything other than your performance on field," Tendulkar told PTI during a virtual interaction after being named as the brand ambassador of e-

learning platform 'Unacademy'. He spoke about sports unifying people through the new initiative. "You are out there as an individual who wants to contribute towards the team," added the 47-year-old legendary batsman, who will connect with students and share his experiences.





## Ethisphere announces TataSteel as one of the 2021 world's most ethical companies for the 10th time

(A.O. Bureau) Mumbai, February 23, 2021: Tata Steel, one of the world's leading steel makers, has been recognised by Ethisphere, a global leader in defining and advancing the standards of ethical business practices, as one of the 2021 World's Most Ethical Companies. Tata Steel has received this recognition for the 10th time and is one of the only three honourees in the Metals, Minerals & Mining industry. In 2021, 135 honourees spanning 22 countries and 47 industries have been recognised. This honour is reserved for a select number of companies with exceptional programmes and a commitment to advancing business integrity. T. V. Narendran, CEO & MD, Tata Steel, said: "It is indeed an honour to be recognised by

Ethisphere as one of the most ethical companies in the world. Today, for companies like Tata Steel that have a global footprint, there is a large societal responsibility and therefore following highest level of ethical standards receives top-most priority. The robust internal systems that we have created including various policies and initiatives ensure that understanding and maintaining global and regional standards for ethical way of doing business is embraced across the company and around the world. The recognition encourages us to further our journey towards sustainable development by reemphasising our focus on highest ethical values, environment and well-being of our people and community." Soni, Chief Ethics Counsellor, Tata Steel, said: "We are de-

lighted to be recognised by Ethisphere Institute as one of the World's Most Ethical Companies for the tenth time. Tata Steel's code on ethics represents the Company's philosophy, belief and values which is the most important reason for the trust our stakeholders have on us. We at Tata Steel are committed to live by the ethical code of conduct by demonstrating the same through our decisions and conduct on a day-to-day basis." "While addressing the tough challenges of 2020, we saw companies take the lead in building the trust of stakeholders through their resilience and a commitment to ethics and integrity," said Ethisphere CEO, Timothy Erlich. "The World's Most Ethical Companies honourees continue to demonstrate an unwavering

commitment to the highest values and positively impacting the communities they serve. Congratulations to everyone at Tata Steel for earning the World's Most Ethical Companies designation consistently over the last decade. This milestone is a true reflection of Tata Steel's ethos and continued efforts towards fostering a culture of excellence." Ethical behaviour is intrinsic to Tata Steel's business philosophy and has been part of its legacy since inception, as envisioned by the Founder Jamsetji Tata, who believed that a business must operate in a manner such that it respects the rights of all its stakeholders and creates overall value for the society. Each year, Tata Steel observes the month of July as 'Ethics Month' across the organisation to reinforce its ethical

culture. Methodology & Scoring: Grounded in Ethisphere's proprietary Ethics Quotient®, the World's Most Ethical Companies assessment process includes more than 200 questions on culture, environmental and social practices, ethics and compliance activities, governance, diversity and initiatives to support a strong value chain. The process serves as an operating framework to capture and codify the leading practices of organisations across industries and around the globe. This year, the process was streamlined and question set expanded to gauge how applicants are adapting and responding to the global health pandemic, environmental, social, and governance factors, safety, equity, and inclusion and social justice.

## CBNAAT Has Strengthened The Fight Against Tb As India AIMS To Eradicate Disease By 2025

(A.O. Bureau) Bhubaneswar, Feb. 23: Use of Catridge-based Nuclei Acid Amplification Test (CBNAAT) machines have greatly strengthened the battle against tuberculosis (TB) in India as the country aims to eradicate the killer disease

completely by 2025. "CBNAAT has come as a boon for treatment of tuberculosis and all the districts of Odisha have at least one such machine in place which can diagnose drug resistant TB within a few hours," Dr. Paresh Mohanty, Senior Consultant Microbiologist, Integrated Reference Laboratory (IRL) at the S.C.B. Medical College and Hospital at Cuttack, said on Tuesday. While the World Health Organisation (WHO) had fixed a target to eradicate TB from the face of the earth by 2030, the central government was taking steps to wipe out the disease from the country five years earlier, Dr. Mohanty said while speaking at

a Continuing Medical Education (CME) program organised at the Institute of Medical Sciences and SUM Hospital here. The central government was implementing the National Tuberculosis Elimination Programme (NTEP) consolidating a series of rapid and progressive advancements taken up under the earlier Revised National Tuberculosis Control Programme (RNTCP) since January 1, 2020, he said. Dr. Mohanty said that 2.7 million of the world's 10 million patients lived in India of whom 64 per cent received treatment in hospitals and wellness centres in the private sector which significantly contributed to the health care service delivery system in the country. "But very little information about TB patients from the private sector facilities were percolating down to the NTEP and the government was unable to notify those patients. It makes detection of cases at the na-



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greatly assist in the ongoing battle against the disease. Medical practitioners were battling the disease as delay in diagnosis of drug resistant tuberculosis could result in death. Various forms of drug resistant TB had emerged over the years though several newer drugs like Bedaquiline and Delamanid had been introduced to counter the same, he said. The program was also addressed by Dr. Sarada Prasanna Mishra, Medical Officer, NTEP, Prof. P. S. Samantashin, Medical Superintendent of IMS and SUM Hospital, Prof. Banani Jena, Head of department of Pulmonary Medicine and Prof. Rakhi Ludam, Professor in the department.

## NTPC bags four awards at Public Relations Society of India (PRSI) National Awards 2020

(A.O. Bureau) New Delhi, Feb 22: NTPC Ltd, India's largest energy integrated company bagged four awards at the Public Relations Society of India (PRSI) National Awards 2020 in a virtual award ceremony. NTPC corporate communications team was awarded for the exemplary work done by team throughout the year. The Chief Guests Smt. Baby Rani Maurya, Honorable Governor Uttarakhand and Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal, Honorable Union Education



Minister, presented the awards to the winners. NTPC Scope won the first prize for the comic book 'Meet The Bijlees' in the

special/prestigious publication category. NTPC Scope also bagged the second prize for the best Corporate Film category in En-

glish. NTPC Mouda received the third prize for its E-newsletter while NTPC Unchahar and NTPC Simhadri were also

awarded for their work in CSR categories. The jury members included Mr. Sarthak Behuria, Ex-Chairman, SCOPE & IOCL, Dr. K. K. Agarwal, Ex-President, Indian Medical Association, Ms. Stuti Kakkar, Ex-Chairman, National Commission for Protection of Child Rights, Ms. Yeshi Seli, Associate Editor, Business India, Mr. Shishir Sinha, Associate Editor, The Hindu, Mr. Y. Babji, Secretary-General, PRSI and Dr. Ajit Pathak, National President, PRSI.

## Pecial Train Between Dibrugarh & Kanyakumari Through Ecor Jurisdiction



(A.O. Bureau) New Delhi, Feb 23: It has been decided to run a pair of special train between Dibrugarh & Kanyakumari w.e.f.

27th February, 2021 from Dibrugarh and w.e.f. 4th March, 2021 from Kanyakumari. 0 5 9 0 6 / 0 5 9 0 5 Dibrugarh - Kanyakumari

Dibrugarh Special will leave from Dibrugarh on every Saturday at 1925hrs and will leave from Kanyakumari on every Thursday at 1730hrs. This train will provide stoppage at Bhadrak, Cuttack, Bhubaneswar, Khurda Road, Brahmapur, Palasa, Srikakulam Road, Vizianagaram, Visakhapatnam and Duvvada in ECoR jurisdiction and at important stations between Dibrugarh & Kanyakumari from both the directions.

## Vedanta organizes bike rally in Lanjigarh to spread awareness on Road Safety



(A.O. Bureau) Lanjigarh, Feb 23: Vedanta Limited, Lanjigarh, India's premier producer of metallurgical grade alumina, organized a bike rally on 19th February 2021, as part of the Road Safety Month observation, to sensitize the people about the road safety standards and regulations. Around 50 employees of Vedanta participated in the rally. The rally was conducted adhering to all the road safety norms and COVID restrictions. Talking about the successful organization of the rally, Mr. Rakesh Mohan,

Chief Operating Officer, Vedanta Limited, Lanjigarh unit said, "Safety is one of the key priorities of all the operations at Vedanta Lanjigarh. Within our plant premises and township, adherence to road safety is being taken very seriously and all the employees are encouraged to comply with the safety standards. The bike rally organized as part of the Road Safety Month is yet another example the unit's responsibility towards sensitizing the employees and the locals about the importance of road safety

standards." Prior to the rally, Mr. Harshvardhan Pande, Head-HSE, Vedanta limited, Lanjigarh, motivated and instructed the riders and the pillars on responsible riding. He, along with Col. K.J.K. Choudhary, Chief Security Officer-Vedanta Limited, Lanjigarh flagged off the rally. The rally got started from the Material Gate of the unit and was culminated at the Plant Main Gate. The riders also took a road safety oath. During the rally, the participants sensitized the onlookers through public announcement system

and placards with messages on road safety. Appreciating the initiative, Mr. Satyananda Patra, Inspector In-charge (IIC), Lanjigarh said: "Vedanta has always demonstrated its responsibility towards the safety of its employees and the community. The rally organized by Vedanta was an effective means to educate and sensitize the locals about the crucial importance of road safety." As part of the Road Safety Month, Vedanta has organized multiple activities including slogan writing competition, poster making competition, spot quizzes on road safety and workshops among its employees. Vedanta Lanjigarh not only believes in the ethos of 'zero harm, zero waste and zero discharge' but also practices it in letter and spirit. Regular safety interactions, trainings, awareness campaigns and emergency preparedness are integral to the unit's operations. Towards ensuring a safe

and healthy environment, Vedanta Lanjigarh has robust air quality management, solid waste management, hazardous waste management and water and wastewater management systems in place. The plant is the lowest Green House Gas emitting plant, among similar coal-fired alumina refineries in the world. In the field of occupational health, the company accords significant importance to regular health check-ups and preventive measures to safeguard its employees against potential health hazards. Vedanta is the largest producer of alumina in India and remains the premier manufacturer of metallurgical grade alumina. The company operates a 2 MTPA (million tonnes per annum) capacity alumina refinery in Lanjigarh (Kalahandi district, Odisha), India since 2007 and an associated 90 MW captive power plant.

## Climate activist Disha Ravi released from Tihar jail

(A.O. Bureau) New Delhi, Feb 23: Climate activist Disha Ravi, who was arrested in connection with the toolkit case, was released from Tihar jail on Tuesday night after a city court granted her bail. "Disha was released after jail au-

thorities completed all formalities regarding her release," official said. Earlier in the day, a city court granted bail to 22-year-old Ravi, terming the evidence produced by police as "scanty and sketchy". Ravi had been arrested by the Delhi

Police's Cyber Cell from Bengaluru on February 13. The Cyber Cell had lodged an FIR against "pro-Khalistan" creators of the "toolkit" for waging a "social, cultural and economic war against the Government of India".

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