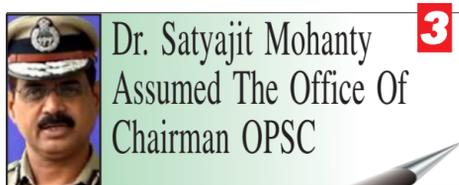
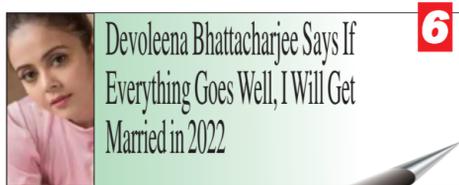




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## Odisha CM Naveen Patnaik Receives COVID Vaccine

Bhubaneswar, Mar 1: Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik today took his first dose of COVID-19 vaccine. Patnaik was administered COVAXIN at the State Assembly Dispensary here around 11 am. Happy to share that I took my first dose of #COVID19 vaccine today. Grateful to our scientists, health workers for their race against time to deliver the vaccines to people. The new phase of COVID-19 vaccination drive began in Odisha to-



day. Citizens who are aged, or will attain the age of, 60 years or more as on 1st January 2022 are eligible to register, in addition to all such citizens that are aged, or will attain the age of, 45 years to 59 years as on 1st January 2022, and

have specific comorbidities. The vaccine will be administered free of cost at all Government Health Facilities while Private Facilities cannot charge the beneficiary a sum above Rs 250 per person per dose (Rs 150 for vaccine and Rs 100 as operational charges). As many as 183 private hospitals empanelled under the Biju Swasthya Kalyan Yojana (BSKY) in Odisha have been authorised for COVID-19 vaccine administration.

## NCC DG Calls On Odisha Governor

Bhubaneswar, Mar 1: Director General of National Cadet Corps (NCC), Lt Gen Tarun Kumar Aich, called on Governor Prof Ganeshi Lal at the Raj Bhavan here today. He apprised Prof Lal about recent initiatives being taken by NCC to ensure better training including the introduction of simulators, powered aircraft VIRUS sanction from Army, Navy, Air force and the CAPE, for use of training facilities. The NCC DG informed the Governor that Odisha Directorate took an active part in the NCC coastal expansion drive initi-



ated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and fully subscribed to the vacancies allotted to it in a record time. Lt Gen Aich further apprised Prof Lal about the introduction of NCC as a General Elective Credit Course under the Choice Based Credit System in all Universities and Colleges in alignment with the NEP 2020. He appreciated the efforts made by the State Government for the furtherance of NCC activities in the state. The Governor complimented the Director General of NCC for the active contribution of NCC cadets during times of disaster especially during the ongoing COVID 19.

## School Timings In Odisha Likely To Change, Says Minister

Bhubaneswar, Mar 1: The timings for morning for class 9 to 12 students

Similarly, Class X and XII which were being held from 11.00 am to

School Teachers Association (OSSTA). On Saturday, OSSTA members had opposed the revised timings effected by the State government. In a release, the OSSTA had said that the revised class timings will create problems for students as already the maximum temperature has recorded a sharp rise in the past couple of days. The maximum temperature in Bhubaneswar had breached the 40 degree Celsius mark last week. Apart from OSSTA, Congress MLA Santosh Singh Saluja on Sunday had urged the State government to close schools before 11:30 am every day in order to ensure safety of students and teachers from the scourge of impending heat wave conditions.



are likely to change in view of the sudden rise in maximum temperature and possible heat wave conditions in the State, said Odisha School and Mass Education Minister Samir Dash on Tuesday. While talking to reporters in Bhadrak, Dash said that the government on Friday had revised the class timings of Standard IX and XI students from the earlier 8.30 am-10.00 AM to 7.00 am-9.00 am.

4.00 pm have been rescheduled to 9.00 am-1.00 pm. "We are considering a proposal to change the timings of the morning classes keeping in view the problems faced by the students in view of the rising temperature," said Dash. However, the revision of the class timings of students had not gone down well with the opposition parties as well as the Odisha Secondary

## Odisha To Sizzle Till May As Temperature Will Rise Above Normal: IMD

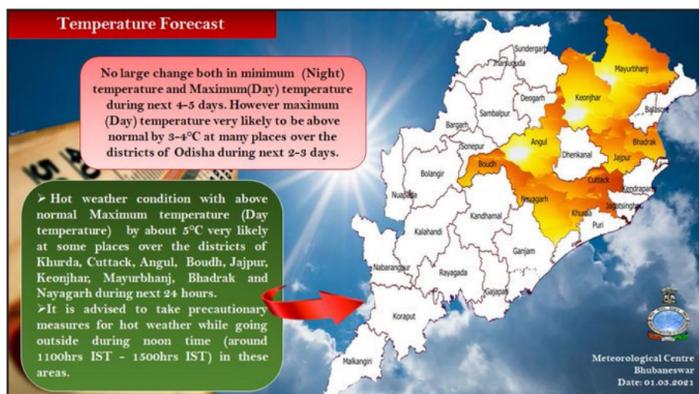
Bhubaneswar Mar 1: Get ready for harsh sultry days as the maximum temperature in Odisha will be above normal for a long period of three months till May, predicts the In-

sued by IMD indicates above normal maximum temperature in Odisha from March to May, 2021. Apart from Odisha, above normal maximum temperatures will also pre-

gion and Saurashtra and Kutch) parts of central India, and few coastal subdivisions (Konkan & Goa and Coastal Andhra Pradesh) of north peninsular India. Accord-

tween March-April-May this year. The models also indicate that above normal minimum temperature are likely over most of the subdivisions of north India along the foothills of Himalayas, northeast India, western part of central India and, southern parts of peninsular India. Similarly, most of the subdivisions of east and adjoining central India and few subdivisions of extreme northern part of the country are likely to experience below normal minimum temperatures. It is pertinent to mention here that already several parts of Odisha are experiencing a sudden rise in maximum temperature for the last one week. The maximum temperature in Bhubaneswar had al-

ready breached the 40 degree Celsius mark in February this year. IMD's regional centre in Bhubaneswar on Monday issued an alert regarding rise in temperature by 5 degree Celsius in several parts of Odisha in the next 24 hours. The alert has been issued for the districts of Khordha, Cuttack, Angul, Boudh, Jajpur, Keonjhar, Mayurbhanj, Bhadrak and Nayagarh. Talcher and Baripada today recorded highest maximum temperature of 39.8 degrees, followed by Angul (39.7) and Boudh 39.5 degree Celsius. The Twin cities of Cuttack and Bhubaneswar recorded maximum temperature of 38.0 and 39.0 degree Celsius, respectively.



dia Meteorological Department (IMD) on Monday. The probability forecast for maximum temperature issued for several subdivisions of India is-

vail in most of the subdivisions of north, northwest and northeast India, few subdivisions of eastern Chhattisgarh and western (Gujarat re-

gion to IMD, most of the subdivisions of south peninsular India and adjoining central India are likely to experience below normal maximum temperatures be-

## Sabyarchita: From Reel Life To Real Life Couple



Bhubaneswar, Mar 1: Ollywood reel life couple Sabyasachi Mishra and Archita Sahu has taken their

love to real life as the two are tying the nuptial knot in Rajasthan today. The couple, who successfully kept their rela-

tionship under wraps for years, made announcement about their wedding last evening. Ring ceremony of the two was held in Odisha few days back. In a statement on their social media handles, the two said, "With the blessings of Lord Jagannatha & our families it gives us immense happiness in sharing that our wedding is happening tomorrow. You all are integral part of our family. You have always showered your love during our good and bad times. How can we forget you on our big day! To start this new journey of togetherness, we will need your good wishes and blessings."

## Offline Registration For COVID Vaccination In Odisha

Bhubaneswar, Mar 1: Odisha Government has decided to allow offline registration of beneficiaries for COVID-19 vaccination in the state. In a letter to all Collectors, Municipal Commissioners, CDMOs and PHOs, Chief Secretary Suresh Chandra Mahapatra said, "In case the team faces any issues with Co-WIN portal, you can undertake COVID vaccination of age appropriate group of citizens in offline mode to prevent inconvenience to elderly persons in queue." However, once the Co-WIN portal functions normally, the data must be uploaded on the portal immediately. Documents

required for offline registration: 1. Mobile number, 2. ID proof: Aadhaar/ voter ID card, 3. ID number of ID proof, 4. Name, 5. Date of Birth, 6. Gender, 7. Comorbidity certificate from RMP (for 45 to 59 yrs). It is pertinent to mention here that the third phase of COVID-19 vaccination drive began in Odisha today. Citizens who are aged or will attain the age of 60 or more as on January 1, 2022 are eligible to for the vaccination. In addition, citizens aged above 45 years and below 59 years as on January 1, 2022 and have comorbidities are also eligible to get vaccinated in this phase.

## After Petrol, Consumers Now Feel Pinch Of LPG Cylinder Price Hike

Bhubaneswar, Mar 1: There seems to be no respite for consumers as the price of cooking gas has been hiked by Rs 25 across the country on Monday. The hike has now taken the price of a 14.2 kg household LPG cylinder to Rs 845.50. It is for the third consecutive time that the prices of LPG cylinder have been revised in the month of February. On February 25, cooking gas prices were hiked by Rs 25. Similarly, the prices were earlier increased on February 4 and February 14, respectively. It is pertinent to mention here that prices of cooking gas have been steadily



on the rise since December 2020. The price of a non-subsidised LPG cylinder was increased from Rs 594 to Rs 644 on December 1, official sources said. The LPG prices have now risen by nearly Rs 200 in the last three months. The hike in cooking gas will adversely impact the lives of people who are already facing the brunt due to the steep

rise in the prices of petrol and diesel for the past couple of months. "We are yet to revive from the COVID-19 induced lockdown and now the prices of cooking gas have been revised. It will hit our monthly household budget as already we are facing hardships due to price rise of petrol and diesel," said Gitanjali, a resident of Bhubaneswar.

# PM's Gesture May Give Boost To Covaxin

Hyderabad, Mar 1: Covaxin, India's first indigenous vaccine for Covid-19, received a shot in the arm with Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik, among other senior politicians, choosing to take the jab on Monday. As the leaders opted for Covaxin on the first day of the third phase of vaccination, the number of its takers is now likely to go up. The vaccine developed by Hyderabad-based Bharat Biotech so far had few takers in the country though many countries are evincing interest in procuring Covaxin. Though the vaccination for healthcare workers began on January 16 and subsequently other frontline workers were also vaccinated, there were few takers for Covaxin compared to Covishield, the other vaccine which is part of the national immunisation programme for Covid-19. Bharat Biotech was obviously upbeat over Monday's development. "Inspired and humbled by PM's remarkable commitment to build an 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat'. Yes, we all shall fight Covid-19 together and emerge victorious," the company said. Bharat Biotech's Co-founder and Joint Managing Director, Suchitra Ella, also hailed Odisha Chief Minister's gesture. "Hon CM of Orissa Sri Naveen Patnaik ji, leading by example of getting vaccinated today. Covaxin's Team &

Bharat Biotech is thankful & honoured by the gesture," she tweeted. When the Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI) cleared Covaxin for emergency use along with



Covishield, developed by Oxford University and pharmaceuticals company AstraZeneca and manufactured by Serum Institute of India, Pune, questions were raised on the indigenous vaccine's efficacy. The move to include Covaxin for national rollout even before publication of data from its Phase 3 trials came under criticism from some quarters. However, the regulator defended the decision, saying both the vaccines are totally safe. Bharat Biotech has developed Covaxin in collaboration with the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) - National Institute of Virology (NIV). Doctors and other healthcare workers at various places, including Bharat Biotech's home Hyderabad, were reluctant to take the vaccine as the DCGI had authorised restricted use of Covaxin under the

clinical trial mode. Bharat Biotech also released a factsheet advising people not to take Covaxin if they have allergies, fever, bleeding disorder or are on blood thinners, if they are im-

mune-compromised or are on a medicine that affects immune system. It also said that pregnant and breastfeeding women should not take the vaccine. "As with any new medicine, this vaccine will be closely monitored to allow quick identification of any new safety information," Bharat Biotech had said. The company said in case of any Serious Adverse Events (SAV), vaccine recipients will be provided medically recognised standards of care in the government designated and authorised centres/hospitals. The compensation for Serious Adverse Events will be paid by Bharat Biotech International Limited and if SAV is proven to be casually related to the vaccine. The compensation will be determined by the ICMR Central Ethics Committee, as appropriate. In Phase 1 and Phase 2 clinical tri-

als, Covaxin demonstrated the ability to produce antibodies against Covid-19. However, the clinical efficacy of Covaxin is yet to be established and it is still being studied in phase 3

clinical trial. In ongoing clinical trial, Covaxin has been shown to generate immunity following two doses given four weeks apart, the firm said. According to data provided by the government in reply to a question in the Lok Sabha last month, only 16 of the 37 states and Union Territories had started to administer Covaxin as on February 9. Telangana had received 1,72,960 doses of Covaxin, second highest consignment among all states but it had the third lowest administration rate of the vaccine. Telangana's Director of Public Health Dr G. Srinivasa Rao was the first person in the state to take Covaxin shot on February 8. However, not many frontline workers came forward to take the vaccine. Experts also tried to dismiss talks of vaccine hesitancy. "Both vaccines are equally effective. There should not

be any doubts in the minds of people," eminent breast cancer surgeon Dr P. Raghu Ram told IANS "AIIMS director who is the main force leading the drive against the pandemic and all the staff in AIIMS have taken Covaxin. This speaks volumes," added Dr Raghu Ram. Riyaz M. Khan, CEO, Continental Hospitals believes that misinformation may be creating reluctance among some people. "Both the vaccines have gone through a robust testing programme and these are stable technologies. The inactivated technology used for Covaxin is the same technology used for almost all other vaccines. Covishield is based on vector-based technology. These technologies have gone through trials. To say that one is safe over the other may not be safe comparison," he said. The reluctance at home is in contrast to the orders Bharat Biotech is receiving from various countries. Last week it announced that the Brazilian government has signed a deal to procure 20 million doses of Covaxin. Several other countries have evinced interest in buying covaxin. Ukraine's health minister Dr Maksym Stepanov last week visited Bharat Biotech's facility in Hyderabad's Genome Valley and discussed with the company officials the plans to procure Covaxin. The Indian government has so far procured 5.5 million doses of Covaxin and issued a letter of comfort to company for another 4.5 million doses.

# Nitish Kumar Fulfills Poll Promises, Free Coronavirus Vaccine In Patna Even In Private Hospitals

Patna, Mar 1: A war-level vaccination campaign is on to eradicate Corona. After health workers and frontline workers, it is the turn of ordinary people to take the vaccine from today. In such a situation, Bihar's Nitish Kumar government has fulfilled its big election promise that it has decided that free Corona Vaccine will be given in all government and private hospitals. Bihar CM Nitish Kumar, after meeting with the officials of the health department has announced that vaccination will be done only on the basis of the decision taken in the cabinet meeting in which people will not have to pay any fee. According to the central government, according to the central

government, a fee of Rs 250 will have to be paid for vaccination in private hospitals, but in Bihar, the state government will pay for the vaccination fee, but not by the people themselves. In

the Corona vaccine in IGIMS on the occasion of his birthday. He also said that vaccination will start today at 700 centers in the state which include all PHCs. In Bihar, the number of vaccination



the third phase, in Bihar, 50 private hospitals have been selected, while a total of 1600 vaccination centers have been prepared to be vaccinated. CM Nitish Kumar himself will start vaccination today, taking

centers will be increased to 1000 from March 15 and 1200 centers will be vaccinated from March 16 to 31, while 1500 centers will be vaccinated from 1 to 15 April and 1600 centers from 16 to 30 April.

# Strive for seamless digital payments, lessons to be learnt from NSE's tech glitch: FM



New Delhi, Mar 1: Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Monday asked civil accounts officers to have a clear roadmap for seamless digital payments, saying there are lessons to be learnt from the "technology-driven glitch" that happened at National Stock Exchange. Addressing the 45th Civil Accounts Day she said the

Controller General of Accounts (CGA), who is the bookkeeper of government accounts, has adopted great systemic reforms. Sitharaman said that to keep government accounts transparent, the CGA will have to adapt and keep pace with changing technology to keep government account transparent. "Seamlessness of payments

is more important, I will bring it here as an example to say even where complete foolproof systems are laid, you find in NSE a couple of days ago when there was a glitch, a kind of technology-driven glitch, which nobody could have anticipated, but that glitch has caused us immensely and lessons are being learnt. "Maybe that was an issue of interoperability between the two exchanges, but that is the kind of thing where seamless digital payment is the goal that we have to aspire for. That was also an example that tells us about how seamless payment modes or technology-driven platforms can face.

# Highways construction touches record 33 km a day: Nitin Gadkari

New Delhi, Mar 1: Union Minister Nitin Gadkari on Monday said highway building has achieved a new feat, with the construction touching record 30 km a day. The feat could be achieved after the construction of 11,035 kilometres of national highways this fiscal so far, Road Transport, Highways and MSMEs Minister Nitin Gadkari said while talking to reporters here. "We have built 11,035 km of highways till date this year. This comes to 32.85 km a

stalled projects entailing an investment of Rs 3.85 lakh crore. Gadkari said massive initiatives to resolve the deadlocks and accelerate the pace of highway building, including termination of projects worth Rs 40,000 crore, resulted in fast-tracking of the road building. "Now, the ministry is targeting 40 km a day by March-end, given the pace of execution," he added. The government envisages building 34,800 km of highways at a cost of about Rs 5.35 lakh crore

concrete on a stretch of 2.54 km. NHA contractor Patel Infrastructure had created a world record by laying the highest quantity of concrete on a four-lane highway in 24 hours recently. The feat by contractor Patel Infrastructure Ltd was recognised by the India Book of Records and Golden Book of World Records. It had laid a four-lane highway of 2,580 metres length within 24 hours totalling about 10.32 lane km. The highway is part of the greenfield Delhi-Vadodara-Mumbai 8-lane Expressway project and was carried out by the world's largest fully automatic ultra-modern concrete paver machine. In total, projects of 8,948 km of roads were awarded in 2019-20, while 10,237 km of roads were constructed. The ministry has taken several initiatives to increase the pace of construction. The pace of construction is expected to increase further in the remaining months of the current financial year, which are conducive for construction activities.



day of highway building, which is a record," Gadkari said. The minister said that when he took over the charge of the ministry, the highway building pace was just 2 km a day, with 406

under the ambitious Bharatmala Pariyojna. The National Highways Authority of India (NHA), he said, has also made a world record by laying down 12,500 cubic metres of

# IIMC announces winners of 5th IFFCO IIMCAA Awards; Saroj Singh bags highest winning amount

New Delhi, Mar 1: The alumni association of the Indian Institute of Mass Communication Sunday announced the winners of the 5th IFFCO IIMCAA Awards during its annual meet, Connections 2021, held at the IIMC HQ in New Delhi. Nitendra Singh was declared 'Alumni of the Year' while IAS officers Rajender Kataria and Dr Saumitra Mohan were awarded the 'Public Service Award' for 2021. Parimal Kumar was adjudged the 'Journal-



ist of the Year (Broadcasting) and Utkarsh Kumar Singh the 'Journalist of the Year (Publishing)'. Haritha KP won Indian Language Reporter of the Year (Broadcasting) award, Pooja Kalbalia bagged Ad Person of the Year award and Siddhi Sehgal received

PR Person of the Year award. Saroj Singh was awarded the highest winning amount of Rs 1,00,000 for Agricultural Reporting while other winners received INR 50,000 each. Jharkhand unit of the association was awarded 'Connecting Chapter of the Year,'

while the batch of 2000-01 was awarded 'Connecting Batch of the Year'. Nishant Verma was awarded 'Connecting Alumni of the Year'. This year, the Alumni Association also felicitated the Golden Jubilee (1970-71) and Silver Jubilee (1995-96) batches.

IIMCAA President Prasad Sanyal chaired the event, which was addressed by Simrat Gulati. The national meet of Connections 2021 will be followed by chapter-level meets in other major cities in India and abroad over the next two-three months.

# Are you willing to marry her, SC asks man accused of raping girl, grants protection from arrest

New Delhi, Mar 1: "Are you willing to marry her," was the question posed to a public servant, who is accused of repeatedly raping a minor girl but when the Supreme Court — on Monday — was told that he is already married he was asked to seek regular bail from the concerned court. A bench headed by Chief Justice S A Bobde was hearing a plea filed by the accused who is serving as a technician in

Maharashtra State Electricity Production Company Ltd and has moved the apex court against the Bombay High Court February 5 order which had cancelled the anticipatory bail granted to him in the case. When the hearing commenced, the bench also comprising Justices A S Bopanna and V Ramasubramanian, asked the accused "Are you willing to marry her." "If you are willing to marry her then



we can consider it, otherwise you will go to jail," observed the bench adding "We are not forcing you to marry." After taking instructions on the query posed by the bench, the counsel appearing for the petitioner, said the accused

was initially willing to marry the girl but she had refused and now he was married to someone else. As the counsel said that the accused is a public servant, the bench said, "You should have thought this before seducing and raping the girl. You knew that you are a government servant." The counsel said that charges in the case are yet to be framed. "You apply for regular bail. We will stay arrest," the bench said.

The apex court granted the accused protection from arrest for four weeks. The top court was hearing a plea filed by the accused against the Bombay High Court's February 5 order cancelling the anticipatory bail granted to him by the trial court in January last year. He has also been accused of offences punishable under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act.

## Panchayat Sawmill Organized Blood Donation Camp



(A.O. Bureau) Khordha, Mar 1: Jatni Panchayat Sawmill in collaboration of Mahavir Jeam and Jatni Surakhya Mancha Organized Blood Donation Camp in the memory of eminent social worker and former President of Goda Dharma Sagar Kumar Khatiya Village Committee Late Nimai Charana Paikaraya in the premises of Jatni Ramachandrapur Panchayat Sawmill in association with Capital

Hospital, Bhubaneswar Blood Bank here. Volunteer donated blood at the camp. A total of 55 unit of blood was collected in this camp under the strict observance of Dr. Kalyan Kumar Sarkar. The blood donation camp was Co-ordinated by owner of Mahavir Jeam Keshab Chandra Paikaraya. The camp began with a short inaugural function where Ramachandrapur Panchayat Industry Officer Tapan Kumar Basa

was given a floral welcome. In this blood donation camp Jatni Surakhya Mancha President Siba Narayan Joshi, Secretary Chittaranjan Pradhan, Chittaranjan Swain, Dhira Jena, Social worker Adi Narayan Khanduala, Former Vice-Chairman Jatni Municipality Prafulla Biswal, Rashik Patel, Journalist Prasanna Kumar Paikaraya, Pandab Jena, Social Worker Santosh Jena were actively participated in this programme. Late Nimai Charana Paikaraya younger brother Kelu Charana Paikaraya, Banka Nidhi Jena, Sarata Parida, Antoni Hari, Rama Chandra Mishra, Bala Martha were assist the programme.

## Prachi Sahitya Samaj Sahitya Sabha is held

(A.O. Bureau) Cuttack, Mar 1: A program was held at the Kali Bhavan in Cuttack, Khan Nagar at 10 a.m. today at the Prachi Sahitya Samaj's Sahitya Sabha and a poetry reading. Joining as the chief guest, he highlighted the need for literature to improve society today. Dr. Nirod Kumar was the keynote speaker and Sangram Keshari Samantaraiah was the guest of honor. Sveta Mishra, Bismay Sahu and



Kavita Mulia were felicitated at the meeting. Basant Kumari Nanda coordinated the poetry reading. A poetry reading was held with many poet friends. Comedians Laxmichhada, Arun Prabha Mishra, Dr.

Ranjan Kumar Jati, Maitri Bhushan Khuntia, Bindu Sagar Ojha and Kuntala Behera were the prominent participants in the poetry reading. Finally Santos Kumar Pal offered his thanks.

## Temporary Stoppage For Rourkela - Bhubaneswar Special At Bamra Extended Up To March End

(A.O. Bureau) Bhubaneswar, Mar 1: It has been decided to extend the services of Bhubaneswar - Bangiriposi - Bhubaneswar Special till further advice w.e.f. 1st March, 2021. 02892/02891 Bhubaneswar - Bangiriposi - Bhubaneswar Special from Bhubaneswar w.e.f. 1st March and from Bangiriposi w.e.f. 2nd March, 2021 will run till further advice. This train from Bhubaneswar will leave at 1730hrs and will arrive at Bangiriposi at

2305hrs. In the return direction, this train from Bangiriposi will leave at 0420hrs and will arrive at Bhubaneswar at 1000hrs. This train has One Second Class Chair Car, Nine Second Class Seating and Two Guard cum Second Class Seating in its composition having stoppages at Cuttack, Jajpur Keonjhar Road, Bhadrak, Markona, Soro, Balasore, Rupsa, Thakurtota, Jugpura, Jogal, Betonati, Krishnachandrapur, Baripada and Rajaluka between Bhubaneswar and Bangiriposi from



both the directions. It has also been decided to continue the stoppage of 02861/02862

Rourkela - Bhubaneswar - Rourkela Special at Bamra from 1st March

to 31st March, 2021. Stoppages for this train at scheduled Stations will remain unchanged.

## Community Centre & Kalyan Mandap inaugurated by Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan



(A.O. Bureau) Puri, Mar 1: With an objective to facilitate the basic amenities & improve the lifestyle of the residents in Puri, a CSR initiative of GAIL Gas Limited, Community Centre, Jhadeswari Club

and Kalyan Mandap, Baseli sahi was inaugurated today by Hon'ble Union Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas & Steel Shri Dharmendra Pradhan. Hon'ble MLA of Puri, Shri Jayanta Kumar Sarangi was also

present at the occasion. The construction of Community Centre, Jhadeswari Club and renovation and development Kalyan Mandap, Baseli Sahi was done by GAIL Gas Limited under its Corporate Social Re-

sponsibility (CSR) initiative at an investment of Rs. 40.4 lakh. The other projects are Construction of 20 seated Community Toilet at Paranolia Sahi, Renovation and Development of public water bodies at Mangala Ghat, Construction of Community Centre at Jagannath Basti. The total cost of the CSR projects is around Rs 92 lakhs. These projects are undertaken through an NGO M/s Gramya Prava. The company aims to contribute towards uplifting of the socially and economically weaker sections of the community in and around its area of operation. The

objective of CSR is to facilitate local people in their health/sanitation, drinking water, community gatherings and celebration. It will facilitate the floating pilgrims in the religious city. It will also encourage the state level sport competitions held every year in Jhadeswari, Puri. It will help in preserving the culture by the celebration of the ceremonies. Company is driven with strong passion, vigour and enthusiasm based upon the axiom of the responsible business i.e. people, planet and profit and goes beyond mere duty. Being a socially responsible and environment friendly

## Prime Minister praises Odisha's Silu Sardh and shows the strong will of the Oriya people to the country and the world - Dharmendra Pradhan

- Congratulations to Silu Sir for training the youth for free to join the army.
- Silu Sir's desire to train young people will inspire young people
- It will boost the morale of the youth to enlist in the Indian Army

(A.O. Bureau) Bhubaneswar, Feb 28: Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan on Sunday heard Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 'Mann Ki Baat' program at a party function in Bhubaneswar. "Mr. Pradhan said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi today praised the work of Silu Nayak or Nayak Sir of Jagatsinghpur district,

who is training the youth of Odisha to join the army in the 'Mann Ki Baat' program. "The protagonist, Sir Mahaguru, failed after many attempts to get a job in the police force" "His desire to train more than 300 young men in the battalion for free and enlist them in the army will not only inspire the youth but also boost the morale of the youth to join



the Indian Army. "Notably, Prime Minister Modi's 'Man Ki Baat' in Jagatsinghpur in Naugaon block of Odisha" "Arakkudar

praised Silu Nayak for joining the army and giving free training to the youth" "Did." "In his inaugural address, the Prime Minister called

on the people of the country to take up the training of Silu Sar and join the army and create a hero for the whole country.

## The final rounds of the First Odisha Naval Tata Hockey Grassroot League 2021 commences at Bhubaneswar

(A.O. Bureau) Bhubaneswar, Mar 1: The Odisha Naval Tata Hockey High Performance Centre (HPC), set-up in Bhubaneswar with a vision to groom the upcoming sporting talent in hockey and produce world-class sportspersons, is conducting the first Odisha Naval Tata Hockey Grassroot League at the Kalinga Hockey Complex. Currently the tournament is being conducted to encourage young kids who are re-

conducted from 1st March to 6th March 2021 at the iconic International Kalinga Hockey Stadium at Bhubaneswar to be played amongst 8 shortlisted teams from phase 1 - 4 Boys and 4 Girls Teams. The Selected Boys Teams are Subdega, Purnapani, Kadobahal and Majhapara, while the Selected Girls Teams are Nuagaon, Alanda, Majhapara and Kadobahal. The Girls' matches will be played

3:45 pm and the Boys' finals will be played at 5:15 pm followed by the award ceremony. The HPC, established by the Department of Sports & Youth Services, Govt. of Odisha, in partnership with HAF (Hockey Ace Foundation) and under the aegis of Tata Trusts and Tata Steel, was launched on August 13, 2019, by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Odisha, Shri Naveen Patnaik, along with Mr. T. V. Narendran, CEO &

## Mahashivaratri: Darshan Of Lord Lingaraj To Be Allowed This Year



(A.O. Bureau) Bhubaneswar, Mar 1: Devotees will be allowed to have darshan of Lord Lingaraj at the Lingaraj Temple in Odisha capital on the occasion of Mahashivaratri this year,

informed Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC) Commissioner Prem Chandra Chaudhary today. The darshan will be allowed from Ada Katha while the devotees will not be allowed to the

Garbhagriha of the temple. Barricades will be created for this purpose, the official said. However, those above 60 years of age and children below 10 years of age will not be allowed to visit the temple. The Jagara Jatra will be held with strict adherence to Covid-19 guidelines, said Chaudhary. Decision in this regard was today taken a meeting chaired by the commissioner in the presence of temple servitors and officials of the temple administration.

## Dr. Satyajit Mohanty Assumed The Office Of Chairman OPSC



(A.O. Bureau) Cuttack, Mar 1: In a major development, Senior IPS Dr. Satyajit Mohanty was appointed as the chairman of the

Odisha Public Service Commission (OPSC) by Governor Professor Ganeshi Lal. Dr Mohanty is currently working as the Director-General of Fire Services, Commandant General of Home Guards and Director of Civil Defence, Odisha. According to the notification released by the General Administration and Public Grievance Department, he will serve as chairman of OPSC till he attains the age of 62.



ceiving daily hockey training at its Grassroots Centres spread across Odisha. In the tournament cadets of 10 out of the operational 12 Grassroots Centres are participating. The first phase of the Tournament was conducted from 15th February till 21st February 2021 and the final Phase will be

from 2nd March till 4th March starting at 9:30 am and the Boys' matches will be played from 2nd March till 4th March starting at 2:00 pm. The matches between the third and fourth placed teams will be played on 6th March starting at 9:00 am. On the same day, the Girls' finals will be played at

MD, Tata Steel. This elite HPC has been opened in Bhubaneswar as part of the three-pronged Tata Odisha Hockey Programme, a joint initiative of Tata Steel, Tata Trusts and Government of Odisha to nurture sports talent in the State, which is already being hailed as a cradle for the sport.

## EDITORIAL

## Uneasy truce

The US is firmly back in the saddle as the global cop, if the happenings in the Asia-Pacific region are anything to go by. What else can explain the fact that, in a little over a month since US President Joe Biden took office, the three neighbours — India, China and Pakistan — are suddenly talking peace as they wait to see how Biden will shift the US policy in the region. Not only did India's and China's top diplomats on Thursday discuss plans to disengage troops from their Himalayan border, which last year saw the deadliest clashes since the 1970s, the External Affairs Ministers of the two hostile neighbours had an hour-long phone call and decided to set up a hotline to ensure "real-time communication" in the wake of the months-long border crisis. On the other hand, India and Pakistan on Friday issued a joint statement that they would strictly observe all ceasefire agreements along the Line of Control (LoC) and in other sectors. This goes to show that the space of the world leader, which former US President Donald Trump had all but ceded to an increasingly aggressive and expansionist Xi Jinping, is now under the US control again. It was the Chinese dream to be at the centre of the Earth, or 'tianxia', and over the years, Xi embarked on his goal of achieving greatness for China by 2049. However, what until a few years ago was a covert plan became extremely overt during the Trump regime. Consequently, not only was 2020 the year of the pandemic, it was also a year that saw one of the most deadly fightings on India's frontiers with China. In all this, the Dragon was abetted by a more-than-willing Pakistan and there was a point when the danger of a two-pronged war became very real in India. Now, the easing of pressure and hostilities among the three nuclear-armed nations is good news, coming as it does when the COVID-ravaged global economy needs to be the focus of attention. The detente shows that the neighbours are responding to initiatives from the Biden Administration, which is formulating a policy towards the region. While Islamabad wants to show Biden that it's not too close to Beijing, China wants to lower the hostilities it had ramped up as the US woos India to be its partner in trade and policing in the region. One can only hope that this uneasy peace will not be shattered anytime soon.

## Bengal conundrum

Winning elections is not an easy business, certainly not in a State like West Bengal. It needs meticulous planning and a balanced application of differential and integral calculus for harvesting votes. Every political party in the fray knows this formula but who is in a position to apply it and to what extent, are the factors that can make the difference. No sooner had the Election Commission (EC) announced an unprecedented eight-phase poll for the State than TMC chief Mamata Banerjee accused it of playing a prejudiced role to the advantage of the BJP. According to some poll experts, often in phase-wise elections, the voting trends in the initial stages have an impact on the polling pattern in the subsequent phases. Generally, people exercising their franchise in the later phases have an inclination towards the party or coalition that leads in the initial stages. It is also seen that oftentimes, voters in the last and the penultimate phases lose enthusiasm and this proves helpful to a party in segments that are traditionally not its strongholds. That said, there are various other intricacies and angles to the micro-management of elections. However, if we go by what Mamata says, the question that crosses one's mind is: Is this the multiplier effect that the BJP is trying to bank upon? Now, Mamata is a seasoned politician who knows that the BJP is no more riding the "Modi wave" or is in the saddle of "nationalism". Moreover, the reduction in the tax per litre on petrol and diesel by a meagre rupee shows that she is aware that the recent surge in fuel and LPG prices will have a bearing on the BJP's votes and that she herself ought to counter anti-incumbency. Still, Mamata is apprehensive that the surging BJP might unseat the ruling TMC by changing the "numerators and denominators with the EC's help". Meanwhile, the saffron party — which is banking on the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA), Hindu mobilisation, the Centre's welfare schemes floated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and corruption charges against the TMC leaders — seems to have played its cards carefully. Mamata has alleged that the EC is working on the orders of the Prime Minister and the Home Minister, and claimed she is in the know of reports that a list of phase-wise elections found in the BJP's office completely matches with the EC's announcement. On the other hand, the EC's argument seems to be more justifiable: It said that it has to consider the movement of forces as well as the current spell of charges and counter-charges. Well, Bengal is a fragile State and elections here are synonymous with violence. Conducting polls in the State is not quite similar to other States. To be fair to it, the EC explanation does have a point. Even the elections to the State Assembly in 2016 were held in seven phases and the Lok Sabha polls in 2019 also saw the same number of voting rounds in the State. Well, if Mamata has any concrete evidence of her claims, it's time for her to move the court rather than levelling allegations based on assumptions. Merely crying foul without any solid evidence to back her claims is futile. Isn't it?

The jokes made by stand-ups are rarely personal; they are about the hypocrisy in the system, religion and society, and that offends religious gurus and netas. Now that the intolerance debate is over and it has been established beyond reasonable doubt that we are a tolerant nation, we can safely discuss the limits of freedom of speech. Back in the bad old days when there was presumed intolerance, people had to be silenced by mob lynching or guns. Not such uncivilised behaviour anymore. We can take revenge in a non-violent civilised way by filing FIRs and slapping defamation cases. That is a massive upgrade. Had it not been for those in the bad habit of speaking out about anything, including their elected Government, it wouldn't be required. Earlier it was journalists, writers, authors and thespians. Now, another breed of the so-called champions of free speech, comedians, have joined the gang, especially the stand-up comedians. The freedom to speak, laugh or breathe has to be balanced with the other person's right to get offended. Sure thing. If you are breathing air reserved for someone else, you are choking him. If your deafening laughter hurts and jokes make me throw up, you had better watch out. Now that is a joke but no laughing matter. Indeed, offending anyone is not a good idea, especially when you laugh at someone's looks or body size. The person has indeed the right to get offended. Ironically, that is often tolerated by the society. Kapil Sharma's blatant humour at the expense of his co-stars is ignored. No one files an FIR against him. The problem starts when the jokes, laced with truth, blast the hypocrisy of those in power. The jokes cracked by the



Gyaneshwar Dayal

stand-up are rarely personal. Her/his jokes are about the hypocrisy in the system, religion and society, and that offends people. In fact, the two most offended sets of people are religious gurus and politicians. To say you belong to a religion is one thing but to presume that the religion belongs to you, quite another. In 2015, the self-appointed defenders of Islam shot Charlie Hebdo employees in Paris. For what? For a few lines they had used to depict the Prophet! But the Quran does not explicitly forbid images of the Prophet. Back home, Munawar Faruqi spent a few nights in the Indore Jail for allegedly cracking anti-Hindu jokes. Now, who gave these people — Hindus and Muslims — the proprietary of the religion they were accidentally born into? When did the gods ask you to defend them? Be offended if a priest of your shrine rapes. Be outraged when your co-religionist kills in the name of your religion. But that doesn't happen. You prove your bravado by heckling and harassing a comic whose words were too offending for you. Religion is not someone's

personal turf that he ought to defend. A person has the right to get offended if he is body shamed. A guy may take offence to being called fat but it would be rather absurd that he becomes the spokesperson for all fat people on the planet. A self-appointed policeman to protect all people overweight! The other group of most offended types is the politicians. These are the people who make a joke of the system but, when ridiculed, act sacrosanct. They must not be laughed at. That is the exaggerated sense of entitlement. Napoleon Bonaparte once said: "In politics, absurdity is not a handicap." Exactly, they are kind of necessary evil but don't risk telling them that. You could end up in jail. Indian politicians are known for many things but humour isn't one of them, though we have had a few exceptions. Mahatma Gandhi was never offended when Sarojini Naidu called him Mickey Mouse. Pilo Mody often took jibes at Indira Gandhi. Laloo's humour is infectious. The incumbent Prime Minister, too, has a good sense of humour. He pokes fun at his oppo-

nents with élan, though how much he enjoys jokes on himself is not clear. We have had the tradition of court jesters, or vidushaks. Haasya kavis kept the joke alive and roasted the politicians to their face. Today, the mantle has passed on to stand-up comics. Political humour and satire are well established in the US. At the President's dinner, people roast the very President who hosts them. The fearless stand-up, George Carlin, never compromised his right to free speech. Today's comedians in the US owe much to Carlin. In India, stand-up comedy started rather late, but the comedians have caught up with the rest. Their fearless rendering has made many people uncomfortable but, at the same time, won them the respect and following they well deserve. In the US, comics can get away with a lot. It's different here. Cases of sedition have been filed against cartoonists, satirists and artists. That is the price for calling the Government's bluff. We live in a country where the political system itself is a big joke. In the House, you have a Speaker who won't let you speak. We have lawbreakers making laws for us. The judiciary judges everything except itself. It is a system in which the Treasury benches become rich and the Opposition gives walkovers to the opponent by walking out. Is this not a joke worth laughing at? Comic relief is what the people in power need. It is a safety valve. So here is my unsolicited advice to those politicians who don't laugh at jokes. Join a laughter yoga club in your vicinity. It is good for your health. It lowers blood pressure and increases your longevity. It might also increase the longevity of your political career.

## A Big Step For India

Uma Shankar Prasad  
Columnist & Editor,  
Margadarshi  
Mob. 6370675562

That Pakistan has agreed to follow all cease-fire norms and honour all pacts with India, is a very big step in the direction of establishing "mutually beneficial and sustainable peace" along the line of control (LoC) between the two countries. In fact, to common Indian people, the decision taken by the Directors General of Military Operations (DGMOs) of the two countries might have come as a surprise development. Nevertheless, it marks evolution of certain maturity on part of Pakistan whose forces were habitually violating all cease-fire norms for years with no obvious provocation. On many of those occasions when the cease-fire violations took place, innocent Indian civilians suffered unnecessary loss of life and property. The new development may save India from that suffering. The two Directors General of Military

Operations have agreed to use all the existing mechanisms such as hotline connect and flag-meetings along the border to resolve whatever the issues ranking both sides. Unfortunately, Pakistan forces never made use of those mechanisms and indulged in wanton violations of cease-fire norms, creating a lot of bad blood between the two countries. All that could have been avoided easily if Islamabad had behaved with a greater sense of maturity. Of course the other party being Pakistan, India will have to be very cautious and keep its fingers crossed whether the new agreement, would be honoured in full measure. Time and again, it has been seen that Pakistan forces kept needling India through minor or major cease-fire violations, no matter the consequences. Now, however, Islamabad appears to have realised that it is in its better interest to avoid uncalled for confrontation with as strong a neighbour as India. The motivation to do so might have come from the fact that India has proved itself stronger in military diplomacy vis-à-vis China, leading to generation of certain

scare in Islamabad's mind about India's propensity to hit back harder than ever if some nonsense takes place. In fact, over time without making any fuss, the Indian troops had been responding very strongly to Pakistan overtures. That too might have been one of the reasons why the Pakistanis agreed to start following cease-fire norms more strictly. May there be no doubt that India is fully aware that Pakistan is not a reliable neighbour. Even if it agrees to follow cease-fire norms more strictly, Islamabad will always have various terror modules to assist in its dirty designs as non-state players. Over time, Islamabad has earned for itself the dubious distinction of the world's biggest sponsor of terrorism. It is common knowledge that it will never stop indulging in that dirty activity, no matter international pressure or sanctions, since supporting and sponsoring terrorism is an integral part of Pakistan's official state policy. Even if signs a fresh agreement with Pakistan about upholding cease-fire norms, India is conscious that Pakistan will keep returning to its dirty ways

time and again. It is not without reason that Minister of External Affairs Dr. S. Jaishankar stated once again a couple of days ago that terrorism continues to be one of the gravest threats to humanity. When he made that statement, Dr. Jaishankar was conscious that he was making clear reference to Pakistan. Yet, entering such agreements with neighbours is a normal activity of a gentleman State such as India. It has been New Delhi's stated policy to keep open the doors to establish connect with all neighbours, no matter how vile they may be in their overall conduct. Over time, India has had countless pacts about cease-fire and having peace and tranquillity along the International Border or Line of Control — not just with Pakistan but also with other countries such as China. On its part, New Delhi has been absolutely gentlemanly in following all the agreements to the hilt. But it has also not shield away from acting sternly if anybody indulges in overtures beyond sovereign word. In the latest agreement with Pakistan, too, India will following the same practice.

## Accountability Sans University?

Janakiballav Dash  
National Fellow  
Mob. 9861470011

The recent disclosure of huge draining of govt. public funds on a cluster University of state that despite its own building it's running in a rented kalyan mandap by spending in lakhs and that it has a student strength of below 100 while the govt has stated to be spent around 25 crores over last five years shows the uncanniness of a public university running irresponsibly while the higher education department has no remedial taken as yet! A university stand for inculcating values but when the same is itself found in the imbroglia sans value than whom to look for value? The govt is spending in huge crores for the upliftment of our higher educational institutions as if with out mapping the benefits

it is accruing to society and these become hot bed of politicking by few in govt like the recent demands by few of our honorable public representatives to make such & such to such status. Where there are universities running autonomously they demand it for central status', where the students are not enrolling themselves in adequate number they demand it for such & such department etc. Such politicking may give mileage to certain but on the whole it has failed to give any benefit to academic as a whole. There are universities where students strength has all time falling but our govt is pumping huge funds, there are universities having non-working department minus faculties but our govt is graciously pumping huge public funds to improve these, but for whom? During last two decades none of our public universities have been able to present any audited accounts statement in the assembly which speaks

the large unaccountable manner of their workings but the govt is spending further on these, whose benefits are largely eloped by a group of politicians officials suppliers and contractors nexus instead of students, teacher faculties Researcher in the state. Academic development programme like higher education excellency and equity to RUSA to infrastructure building, research innovation etc program cost dearly from the public funds but one look to these one may amazed to find the large scale irregularities in all these. Despite its own building if an University runs in a kalyan mandap restaurant with less than hundred of students than isn't it the time to mop up the entire Education structure before making further funds to it? Similarly there are colleges running with 30 or 45 students but our govt is magnanimous enough in giving largesse in lakhs towards the salaries of handful of staffs every

month. The govt, the higher education department it's team of official, like Dist level consultant needs to make an inventory mapping of all such educational institutions but are yet to be serious about such calamity! It is as if the higher education institutions establishment have every right to work as per their whims, over and above all the existing norms of govt, which may prove fatal in coming days. Being higher education institutions these needed to set example of ethical integrity but when these works sans any accountability than who to look for guidance and advice? It's high time that the govt get serious by deploying committed, passionate person to make an inventory of all these University, educational institutions so as to put them in proper toe towards instilling greater transparency and accountability in public funds spending in days to come.

## Community support a must to fight Filariasis, says Purnachandra Swain, MLA Soroda



(A.O. Bureau) Soroda, Mar 1: Reiterating Odisha's commitment to eliminate Lymphatic Filariasis, MLA Soroda Purnachandra Swain visited his constituency and urged community members to take the drugs being administered by trained healthcare workers. This, as the second phase of Mass Drug Administration (MDA) rounds are being conducted in select districts of Odisha by the Department of Health and Family Welfare under the National Lymphatic Filariasis Elimination Program. Over 35,000 people in Ganjam district will be administered these drugs by healthcare workers following Covid-19 safety guidelines including masks, hand hygiene and physical distancing. "Just like the community came together to eradicate polio, they must do the same for Filariasis," said Mr Swain. Filariasis or Hathipaon is a serious public health problem which is spread by mosquito bites and 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, can cause abnormal swelling of the body parts. When lymphatic filariasis develops into chronic conditions it leads to lymphoedema (tissue swelling) or elephantiasis (skin/tissue thickening) of limbs and hydrocele (scrotal swelling). This often leads to social stigma and sub-optimal mental health, loss of income-earning opportunities and increased medical expenses for patients and their caretakers. After accompanying drug administrators on their door-to-door visits in the Korodabari village of Soroda block, the MLA himself along with Saibani Mallik, Block Chairwoman also consumed anti-filariasis drugs in the presence of health workers, so that people in the community would come forward and do the same. "It is important to understand that these drugs do not have side

effects and can be taken by everyone, except children under 2 years, pregnant women and those that are seriously ill," said Mrs Saibani Mallik, Block Chairwoman. These Mass Drug Administration (MDA) rounds started in Odisha on February 25th and will continue right up to March 6th, 2021. These drugs are administered by trained health workers and must be consumed in their presence. Addressing the issue of drug hesitancy and coaxing people to take the dose, the MLA spoke of other benefits of consuming these medicines. "The drugs not only fight filariasis, but also treat parasitic infections caused by intestinal worms. They also help in increasing appetite and aid children's physical and intellectual development." The Block Program Manager, members from the National Health Mission, and representatives of Global Health Strategies (GHS) were also present during this field visit.

## Reunion of PPT High School's 1984 batch held

(A.O. Bureau) Paradip, Mar 1: The fifth reunion of 1984 batch of Paradip Port Trust (PPT) High School was held on February 28, 2021 at Hotel Golden Anchor in Paradip. The batch mates of the class of 1984 met after a long years and decided to continue the reunion every year. More than 50 members of the batch including men and women attended the re-



union. The event was coordinated by Nrusingha Satpathy, Prakash Mohanty,

Manoj Behera, Nalini Sahoo, Sasanka Acharya, Ashok Mohapatra, Mirza Baig,

Sanjeev Sahu, Aditya Routray, Rabindra Jena, Smruti Rekha Panda, Sanjay Malla, Tusarkant

Bhoi, Jyostna Nayak, Sushant Berman, Pramod Sahoo, Dillip Samal and others.

## Tribute to the hero Surendra Sai on behalf of Bhushan

(A.O. Bureau) Rengali, Mar 1: Veer Surendra Sai was paid homage by Bhushan Factory at Khinda Chowk, Rengali Block, Sambalpur District. On Sunday, the 138th Shradha anniversary of the hero Surendra Sai was celebrated. He was born in the village of

Khinda in his hometown. He was greeted by Dinesh Yadav, director of the jewelry factory, at Khinda Square. Later, the hero laid a wreath at the statue of Surendra Sai. Prasanna Kumar Panda of Adani Company, T.K. Suman and Bhushan factory employees were present.

## Poetry recitation titled 'BAPA'

(A.O. Bureau) Kendrapara, Mar 1: Poetry recitation titled 'BAPA' on Sunday. On the occasion of the third anniversary of the death of the late Shri Sridhar Rout, a well-known social worker from Kendrapara Madhapur, Retired Administrator, a poetry reading titled 'BAPA' was held at the Amar Udyan premises. The ceremony was presided over by Mrs. Annapurna Mohanty and ama gaon sahitya parishad Kendrapara Adviser Mr. Major Bharat chandra jena, satirtha President Amar Kumar Rout, Manmath Nath Baral, secretary discussed the multifaceted work of

Mr. Sridhar Rout. This Program organized by stage senior journalist and K.E.M President Akshaya Kumar Pani. Poet Ranjan Bai, Nirupama Das, Swapnashu Kumar Das, Narsingh Prasad Tripathy, Ajay Kumar Patra, Gagan Bihari Singh, Kshirod Nath, Golak Sethi, Batakrisna Barik, Dr. Ratnakar Mallick, Subhanshu Kumar Das, Arun Behera, Alekh Jena, recited the poem with the chief addition. Biraja Routray, son-in-law of the late Sridhar Rout for Thank you for all cooperation. All members of the Punarbasa be cooperate this program.

## In Jharkhand the minimum monthly electric bill is 42/

(A.O. Bureau) Mayurbhanj, Mar 1: Jharkhand's minimum monthly electric bill is 42- BJs state level functionaries recently visited the Odisha jharkhand border adjacent to Sukruli in Mayurbhanj led by

Samir Mohanty found a village whose half come in Odisha while the other half in Jharkhand. The portion comes with in Jharkhand pays a electricity bills 42 per month while the village part comes under

Odisha pay around 24 times higher than the Jharkhand electricity tariffs a fact the BJP's committee seen but it is amazing that it's keeping silence instead of making it a major issues, stated many in this bordering region.

## The work is going on without a work order

(A.O. Bureau) Kendrapara, Mar 1: A village concrete Road work is underway in Kankadia village under Kendrapara Block, Kansar Panchayat without work order. Asked by the contractor, he said the work was going well and that J.E Swarup Das had seen the work. The question is, how did

go to work without a work order, and why is so eager to work without an order? So Kendrapara Block B.D.O of the saying that the work has not been ordered and will not get the bill if the work is done. However, the District Administration has already stopped the construction of a Rs

21 lakh D.R.D. A wall without Tender for a work. "It simply came to our notice then. While Chief Minister Sri Naveen Pattnaik is dreaming of bringing Kendrapara into the Mainstream of Development, it is widely believed that this may not be possible for some self-interested people."



## Friendly Cricket Match held between OSPCB vs PPT

(A.O. Bureau) Paradip, Mar 1: One friendly cricket match was organised by Paradip Port Sports Council on February 28, 2021 at Gopabandhu stadium between Odisha State Pollution Control Board (OSPCB) and Paradip Port Trust (PPT). The match was inaugurated by Assish Kumar Bose, Dy. Chairman, PPT. In the limited 20 over



match, OSPCB own the toss and selected to bat first and scored 162 runs. Against which, PPT

team scored 121 runs in the 20 overs. During the prize distribution ceremony, Dy chairman sri

Bose gave away the champions trophy to OSPCB team and runners-up trophy to PPT

team. Entire match was coordinated by Rabi das advisor sports & jamini mohantye PPT.

## The 138th Shradha anniversary of the hero Surendra Sai at his birthplace

(A.O. Bureau) Rengali, Mar 1: The 138th birth anniversary of Vir Surendra Sai was celebrated at Khinda in Rengali block of Sambalpur district. The Shradha Anniversary was held on Sunday near the statue of Bir Surendra Sai at Khinda Chowk on behalf of the Bir Surendra Sai Aware Citizens Association. Padma Shri Haldhar Nag was the chief guest. Sambalpur University Chancellor Sanjeev Mittal was the keynote speaker, Bhakta Prasad Nand, Deben Pati, Pragma Patnaik, Subrata Bishwal, Manoj Panda,

Prashant Meher, Bishwanath Agrawal, Pradeep Das, Dayad Shashibhushan Sai, Bishwanath Rath were the chief guests. At first, a spice pilgrimage was brought to Khinda Chowk from the birthplace of hero Surendra Sai on behalf of the organization and wreaths were laid at his statue. Later in the meeting, a lamp was lit on a photo of Ma Samaleswari and the hero Surendra Sai. The meeting was chaired by Yadumani Patel, president of the organization. Durga Prasad Sahu delivered the welcome address while

Motilala Tanti introduced the guests. Gauridash presided over the main stage. Among others, Keshab Rohidash, editor of the organization, and Padmalochan Dhar were present. "The Rengali Senior Citizens' Council also paid homage to the hero Surendra Sai. It includes Council Vice President Duryodhan Gardia, Editor Interim Water, Dr. Arjun Nayak, Uday Sahu, Lakshmi Sahu, Shashibhushan Sahu, Binod Bihari Nand, Subash Singh, Rajaram Mahana, Balakrishna Sahu were the chief guests.



## Dakrajodi Water Falls of Malkangiri, which is rich in natural beauty



(A.O. Bureau) Malkangiri, Mar 1: Malkangiri district is one of nature's most important tourist destinations. The environment here always attracts tourists. One of the most scenic spots in the district is the Dakrajodi waterfalls. The waterfall is located about 55 km from the Malkangiri Sadar subdivision. The Dakrajodi waterfall is located in the Bejangibada village panchayat under the

Kalimela block of Malkangiri district. Surrounding the waterfall are many high-altitude surrounded by dense forests. Whether it's dry, rainy or winter, there is always a huge crowd of tourists to enjoy the picnic at the Dakrajodi Falls and enjoy the natural beauty of the place. People from our state and out of state, including the people of the district, come here to enjoy this natural beauty

and enjoy the waterfalls, where people enjoy the forest and the natural beauty of the place. To get to the waterfall, you have to walk a short distance on a hilly road and fall into a dockrajodi waterfall. However, the road is paved and the road is crooked, so you have to be careful. The roaring sound of the waterfall flowing through the rocks makes its environment quite attractive.

## Hollywood Golden Globes 2021 Highlights: Nomadland is best film, The Crown wins big



New Delhi, Mar 1: The Golden Globes 2021 ceremony was held on Monday, March 1. Like everything else, the coronavirus pandemic

also affected the awards season. The ceremony took place from both Los Angeles and New York, with nominees taking part from loca-

tions around the world. Tina Fey and Amy Poehler hosted the event from Rainbow Room in New York and Beverly Hilton in Beverly Hills, Los Angeles, respectively. The nominees for the Golden Globes were revealed on February 3. This time, the Hollywood Foreign Press Association or HFPA, the organisation behind the awards, honoured films and TV shows released in 2020 and early 2021. When it comes to films, David Fincher's gorgeous, black-and-white ode to Old Hollywood Mank had the most nominations — six. However, it was unable to clinch the trophy in any major category. One of the biggest wins of the night belonged to Netflix's controversial show The Crown. It won awards in four major categories, including one for Best Television Series (Drama). Emma

Corin, Josh O'Connor and Gillian Anderson bagged the awards as well for their stellar performances on the show. Schitt's Creek had five nominations; it won in the Best Television Series (musical or comedy) category. Ozark and The Undoing both had 4 nominations each. However, they were unable to convert it into any win. Riz Ahmed, who was nominated for his performance in Sound of Metal, earlier spoke about the honour. He said while speaking to Associated Press, "I feel like there are some hidden gifts in this difficult time. With the awards this year, I think some of the bigger films that might have been released this year or taken up a lot of an audience's bandwidth got pushed so I think it's an opportunity to shine a light on some smaller movies. I think you can

always find the opportunity in the obstacle." Maria Bakalova, the young Bulgarian actor who broke out with Borat Subsequent Moviefilm, had also spoken to Associated Press. She said, "We've been praying, we've been hoping, we've been dreaming, but even in our wildest dreams we didn't think something like this could happen to people from Eastern Europe." Golden Globes can be pretty predictable, and most awards are given to firm favourites — films and shows that have excelled in prestigious film festivals. But sometimes, The Hollywood Foreign Press Association manages to pull off surprises. Golden Globes 2021 award ceremony streamed on VH1, VH1 HD Comedy Central, Comedy Central HD, Colors Infinity and Colors Infinity HD.

## After being flooded with Drishyam 3 stories, Jeethu Joseph has a request

Bengaluru, Mar 1: Jeethu Joseph earlier revealed that he has already conceived the climax of Drishyam 3. However, he said it will take a few more years before he could start working again on the next sequel. Director Jeethu Joseph has requested people to stop flooding his email account with plot ideas for Drishyam 3. His email address, which has been doing the rounds on social media, has received an overwhelming response on the account of a rumour that the director had invited story ideas. It forced the filmmaker to issue a clarification on Monday. "For the last few days, my email address is being circulated on social media along with a rumour that I have invited stories for Drishyam 3. And if I like a story, I might turn it into a film. It is fake news and



I have no intention to seek out story ideas from other people," he told in a video message that he posted on his Facebook page. "I used that email address to discuss other stories and to talk with those interested in acting in films. I had mentioned that email address during a radio interview. But, now the problem is my inbox is overloaded and all new emails are getting bounced. So please don't send stories for Drishyam 3. I am not thinking about this project at the moment. I

will delete such email even without reading them," he clarified. The sequel to the 2013 crime thriller Drishyam, starring Mohanlal in the lead role, garnered a lot of appreciation when it released earlier this month on Amazon Prime Video. And it has also created a lot of interests in the possibility of Drishyam 3. Jeethu Joseph earlier revealed that he has already conceived the climax of Drishyam 3. However, he said it will take a few more years before he could start working again on the sequel.

## Devoleena Bhattacharjee Says If Everything Goes Well, I Will Get Married in 2022

New Delhi, Mar 1: Actress Devoleena Bhattacharjee said in a recent interview that her relationship with her boyfriend, who is Mumbai-based and not from TV industry, got serious just before entering the Bigg Boss 14 house as a proxy of Eijaz Khan. Actress and Bigg Boss 13 contestant Devoleena Bhattacharjee said in a recent interview that her relationship with her boyfriend, who is Mumbai-based and not from TV industry, got serious just before entering the Bigg Boss 14 house as a proxy of Eijaz Khan, who had to leave the show mid-way to fulfill his prior work commitments. In an interview with Times Of India, the actress, who



has been tight-lipped about her love life, divulged some details. She said, "Just a few days before I was about to enter the Bigg Boss house, we both realised that we wanted to take this relationship ahead. Somewhere, we feared that we might lose each other and that's when we started talking about this. Soon, we decided to take our friendship to the next level." She further said, "I'm certainly

not getting married this year. However, we have started to think about our marriage plans. And if everything goes well, we will get married in 2022," says the actor." Meanwhile, Devoleena had got evicted from the reality show a week before finale. Before Bigg Boss 14, she was seen in Saath Nibhaana Saathiya's second season. She reprised her role of Gopi bahu in initial few episodes.

## Rubina Dilaik Reacts to Abhinav Shukla's Claim of Her Wanting a Divorce Because of 'Coffee'

New Delhi, Mar 1: Rubina Dilaik and Abhinav Shukla entered the 14th season of Bigg Boss together. Their relationship was often under the spotlight due to their personal equation. Bigg Boss 14 winner Rubina Dilaik is soaking in the victory bliss. However, the path to the winners' trophy was not that easy. Apart from her controversial fights with the housemates, she also had a testing time with her marriage with Abhinav Shukla. In one of the episodes, Rubina had revealed how they had decided to give each other one more chance while they were on the show before filing for divorce. But as the couple is now together and stronger than ever, they finally spoke on the

subject. In fact, Rubina also laughed over Abhinav's statement that she wanted a divorce because of a cup of coffee. In her interview with radio host Siddhath Kanan, she reacted to Abhinav's funny claim on how she wanted to get a divorce because he did not get her coffee. She said, "One of the many thousand examples that he conveniently said. We are two strong individuals, as they say in our contemporary times — alpha male and alpha female." There is No Filter in My Heart or My Mouth, Says Rakhi Sawant. Earlier, when Abhinav attended Siddharth's interview, he had made fun of the whole situation on a lighter note. He later elaborated how they are



two individuals with entirely different thoughts. Further, he added that the audience had already seen the clash in their opinions on the reality show. Lockdown was a difficult phase for them just like anyone else, the actor opined. For the uninitiated,

Rubina and Abhinav entered the fourteenth season of Salman Khan-led reality show together. Their relationship was often under the spotlight due to their personal equation. Their marriage talks and fights inside the house also often got the fans rooting for their

patch-up. The couple also ended up having a huge fanbase on social media platforms due to this show. Even though Abhinav got evicted mid-way, he kept supporting his wife from outside and was proud of her as she bagged the trophy.

## Did You Know Eggplant Can Help You Lose Weight, Cure Anemia?

New Delhi, Mar 1: Eggplant or brinjal or aubergine- known by various names, this purple, tear-drop structured vegetable is loaded with nature's goodness. Frequenting our meals, this flavoured vegetable which is technically a fruit, scores high on nutritional value. It has innumerable health benefits. Even the leaves and roots of this plant are beneficial for treating infections and wounds. Let's take a look at eggplant's health benefits: Natural laxative- Eggplants are brimming with fibre besides water, antioxidants which help reduce gut inflammation, relieve constipation by acting as a laxative; and improve the overall digestive health. Promotes cardiac

health - Anthocyanins, a pigment present in eggplants, aids in strengthening the functions of the heart. It is known to reduce the 'bad' LDL cholesterol and promote the 'good' HDL cholesterol. Aids in weight loss - Eggplants being low on carbohydrate and calorie, feature high on weight loss diet plan. Also, the saponin in the eggplant obstructs fat accumulation and absorption in the body, thereby making it a great addition to your diet. Elevates haemoglobin levels - Have eggplants to treat anemia. Eggplants are loaded with iron in addition to a series of nutrients such as thiamine, niacin, copper, fiber, folic acid, vitamin C, K, B6, and potassium, manganese.



This nutrient-rich vegetable will keep you energized and healthy. Boosts bone health - Eggplant have phenolic compounds which are amazing to combat osteoporosis, strengthen bones, and enhance bone mineral density. Also, the presence of iron and calcium in it is great for bone health.

Better Brain health - Eggplants boosts cognitive health. The phytonutrients and potassium in eggplants ensure oxygen supply to the brain. They obstruct the free radicals, and function as vasodilators aiding in broadening blood vessels. Also, they stimulate the neural pathways which boosts

memory as a result. Prevents cancer - Being rich in antioxidants, anthocyanins, eggplants reduce the risks of cancer. They prevent the growth of cancer cells, and have healing properties. Even the solasodine rhamnosyl glycosides, an extract found in eggplant peel is known to eradicate cancer cells.

## Disha Patani Begins Shooting for Ek Villain Returns

New Delhi, Mar 1: Disha Patani has begun shooting for director Mohit Suri's Ek Villain Returns. Taking to Instagram, the actress shared a photo of herself where she is seen posing in a black hoodie that has the name of the film written on it. She has teamed up the hoodie with a pair of black shorts. The snap that has been clicked in her vanity van has been captioned as, "And here we go #EkVillainReturns". As expected, her fans and Insta-fam have shown their excitement in the comments section. Many people dropped heart and fire emojis while some of them wrote things like, "can't wait" and "OH MY GOD". Her friends from the industry including Krishna Shroff and Elli Avram have also reacted to the post. Krishna wrote, "Woohoo! All the best, my D. Kill it like you

always do." Elli on the other hand said, "All the best Disha". Mohit Suri and John Abraham too have shared photos from Day 1 of shooting on their social media handles. In the pictures, one can see John, Disha, Mohit and others involved with the film pose happily. Audiences have also shared their excitement on the photos shared by the two of them. The film is the sequel of Ek Villain which was also directed by Mohit. The upcoming movie also stars Arjun Kapoor, and Tara Sutaria

in pivotal roles. If all goes well, the movie which is being bankrolled by T-Series and Balaji Motion Pictures will hit the screens on February 11 next year. Ek Villain starred Sidharth Malhotra, Shraddha Kapoor and Riteish Deshmukh in lead roles and was a great hit. The action-thriller film written by Tushar Hiranandani and Milap Milan Zaveri was about a criminal whose terminally ill wife is killed by a sadistic serial killer. The 2014 film also featured Aamna Shariff, Prachi Desai, Asif Basra in pivotal roles.



# Maxwell eager to learn from 'pinnacle of the game' Kohli at RCB

Wellington, Mar 1: Australian all-rounder Glenn Maxwell is chuffed about playing alongside and learning from Virat Kohli in the upcoming IPL, calling the Indian captain "the pinnacle of the game" for his dominance across formats. The Kohli-led Royal Challengers Bangalore bought Maxwell, who was released by Punjab Kings after an ordinary IPL in 2020, for a whopping Rs 14.25 crore at the auctions last month. "It's (RCB stint) going to be next level," Maxwell told Australian Associated Press (AAP). "He's (Kohli) been the pinnacle of the game for a while as a multi-format player from Tests all the way to T20s. "He's been able to adapt his game,



dominate for a long period of time and deal with the Indian pressure of being their captain and their best player," Maxwell added. The In-

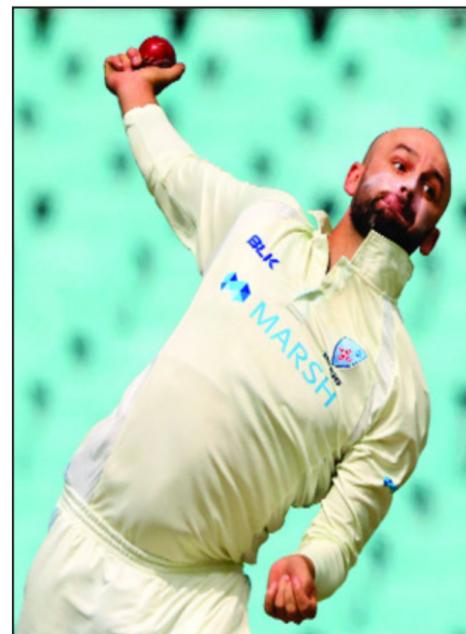
dian Premier League is scheduled to start in the second week of April and the swashbuckling all-rounder hopes to pick up some leadership

qualities from the Indian skipper, who will also be Maxwell's captain at RCB. "I'm looking forward to watching him go about his work, not just

in games but in training, and hopefully tapping into some of the leadership stuff and try and learn off him." The 32-year-old said that he has developed a "good friendship" with Kohli over the years, adding that the Indian maestro backed him when he took a mental health break in 2019. "He's been a solid backer of my stance," Maxwell said. "In a way he probably understood a lot of the things that I was going through... A lot of expectation and pressure, which I'm sure he can relate to." Kohli, who recently opened up about his own battle with depression during a harrowing tour of England in 2014, had lauded Maxwell's decision to take a break.

# Lyon slams critics of Motera wicket'

Melbourne, Mar 1: Nathan Lyon would love India's chief curator to be put in charge of the SCG, declaring the much-maligned pitch in Ahmedabad was brilliant and he is perplexed by those "crying" about spin-friendly surfaces. India crushed England by 10 wickets in a pink-ball match that spanned just 842 balls, making it the shortest completed Test since 1934. The result has reignited debate about home-ground advantage. Former England captains Andrew Strauss, Alastair Cook and Michael Vaughan criticised the pitch prepared by the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI)'s chief groundsman Ashish Bhowmik, while the tourists are considering whether to lodge a formal complaint to the International Cricket Council. Lyon pointed to the fact that Jack Leach was the visitors' sole frontline spinner when asked about the reaction to the pitch. "The best thing about this Test match that just passed is that England went in with four seamers,"



Lyon said. "That will do me. I don't need to say any more." Lyon, who worked as a curator before starting his 100-Test career, was captivated by the carnage created by fellow offspinner Ravichandran Ashwin and left-arm tweaker Axar Patel. "I was up all night watching it," he said. "It was absolutely brilliant. I'm thinking about bringing that curator out to the SCG. "We play on seaming wickets around the world and get

bowled out for 47, 60. Nobody ever says a thing (about the pitch). "But as soon as it starts spinning, everyone in the world seems to start crying about it. "I don't get it. I'm all for it, it was entertaining." The result was a major blow to Australia's hopes of sneaking into the Test championship final. Tim Paine's team will contest the mid-year final at Lord's if England win their fourth Test against India, which starts at the same venue on Thursday.

# Vinesh Phogat returns to mat with gold in Kiev tournament, pins rival in final

Kiev, Mar 1: Vinesh opened up a 4-0 lead in the 53kg final with a throw which she initiated with a left-leg attack but Kaladzinsky made it 4-4 with her brilliant move. Vinesh took the break leading 6-4, adding to her score with a take down, 10 seconds be-

fore the break. The Belarusian put pressure on the Indian with another four-point throw but with 25 seconds to go, Vinesh's move fetched her four more points for a 10-8 lead. She got into a position from where she pinned Kaladzinsky to ensure



herself a gold. Since the coronavirus halted all competitions last year, it was the first competition for Vinesh, who is the only Indian woman wrestler to have qualified for the Tokyo Games. Asked about her defence, Vinesh's Belgian coach Woller Akos said

he would speak only after he discusses the bout with his ward. The next tournament for Vinesh is UWW ranking series event—Matteo Pellicone in Italy, where fellow Tokyo Qualifiers Bajrang Punia and Ravi Dahiya will also be seen in action from March 4-7.

# Antony Yaich preparing India's next crop of track-and-field contenders

New Delhi, Mar 1: This month alone, track-and-field coach Antony Yaich has seen five of his wards break junior national marks. The latest entrant into the record books has been 19-year-old long jumper Jeswin Aldrin who leapt 7.97m to erase Kumaravel Premkumar's U-20 mark of 7.94m at the South Zone Nationals in Kozhikode on Friday. But despite the recent bounty, Frenchman Yaich, head of track-and-field at JSW's Inspire Institute of Sport (IIS), isn't satisfied as he has set his sights on bigger and long-term targets. The hard taskmaster was, in fact, infuriated with Aldrin's record-breaking attempt because he felt technical flaws "cost him a jump in excess of 8 metres". "He left his left leg dangling and that touched the sand behind while landing. An 8.15m jump is different from a 7.97m jump. It was a stupid and lazy mistake," said Yaich, who has been training Aldrin for the last two years. The Trichy-born athlete was roped in by Yaich, despite not having a great record as a

110m Hurdles) rewrote the national records. "Well, it is only the beginning and I am not satisfied. There is no secret but hard work. I am a perfectionist and won't be happy until the right technique is attained," said Yaich. When Yaich first saw Aldrin jump, he wasn't really pleased with his hang-technique and wanted him to adopt a more efficient method — hitch-hike technique — where the jumper completes a cyclic kick motion while airborne. The latter is a more widely used technique employed by most elite jumpers across the globe. Current senior national record-holder Sreeshankar (8.20m) credits his switch from the hang to hitch-hike method for the added zing to his jumps. "It is the fifth competition that he has tried this new technique and that is why there are so many errors. He will probably need 10 more jumps before he gets it right. My target for Aldrin is Paris 2024 and if he does qualify for Tokyo that will be a bonus," the coach said. Yaich is not only a strict coach but also very protective of his young



jumper, primarily for his elasticity. "It is one of the most essential qualities to become a top-level athlete. A lot of people are mistaken that strength alone is enough," explained the Frenchman, who has a PhD in Statistics and Econometrics from the University of Cergy-Pontoise in his native country. At the junior nationals held in Guwahati earlier this month, his wards bagged nine medals, including seven gold. Four national marks were also erased in the process: Unnathi Aiyappa (U-16, 80m hurdles and 300m hurdles), Pavana Nagraj (U-16, High Jump) and Yashwanth Kumar (U-20,

wards. He has a strict no-mobile-phone-on-the-ground policy and doesn't encourage interaction with the media. "Aldrin is 19 but still a baby. I know what happens when some kids see their pictures and nice pieces about them in the newspapers. They think they have arrived and become complacent. I am just protecting my kids," he said. Yaich believes breaking a junior record is insignificant if the youngsters don't transition into world-class senior athletes. Yaich, who has mentored several Olympians, has seen many promising youngsters fade away.

# Meet Monchi: The master strategist behind Sevilla's continued success in Europe

New Delhi, Mar 1: Ramon Rodriguez Verdejo, more popularly known as Monchi, has revolutionised what it means to be a sporting director ever since he swapped his goalkeeping kit for a suit two decades ago. Monchi has helped Sevilla win ten trophies during his time as the club's sporting director. In a world where each and every passage of play gets decoded into small bits of numerical information, scoping the lay of the land as a scout has become overly reliant on data. Or at least, that's what a football scouting mastermind thinks. Ramon Rodriguez Verdejo, more popularly known as Monchi, has revolutionised what it means to be a sporting director ever since he swapped his kit for a suit two decades ago. Through his reinvented approach of securing cost-effective deals, Monchi has built a system that has become an obligatory blueprint for most clubs. Before his arrival in 2000, Sevilla hadn't won a major trophy since 1948. Following his involvement, the red-and-whites now have ten — six UEFA Europa League crowns in 2006, 2007, 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2020, one UEFA Super Cup in 2006, two Copa del Rey trophies in 2007 and 2010, and lastly, one Supercopa de Espana in 2007. Apart from the silverware, Sevilla have also made it to ten other finals. "At Sevilla, we work with a specific combination — the subjective and the objective. The scouting pro-



cess gives us a subjective report of the players and in parallel, we procure the objective data through things like Big Data, Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning. If you don't take data into account, it's really not a good thing," the 52-year-old told indianexpress.com in a recent online interaction. "Statistics and data are increasingly getting more important. But not just expected goals or expected assists; accurate passes, duels won, successful one-on-ones; everything is a measure now. A singular match generates eight million data and our job is to identify the exact numbers for our player profile," he continued. Through his process of assessing relatively unknown players and then buying them on the cheap, Monchi has continuously strengthened the foundations of the club. Over the course of his two spells as the sporting director, he has brought players like Dani Alves, Seydou Keita, Ivan Rakitic and Jules Kounde to Andalusia on low-risk deals and, unsurprisingly, all of them have helped Sevilla reach newer

heights. Monchi did leave Sevilla once back in 2017 when he packed his bags for Italy. He lasted less than two years at AS Roma, but upon returning to his hometown club, he was once again amidst silverware. Along with new head coach Julen Lopetegui, he started another "transformation process"; one that saw the arrivals of Lucas Ocampos, Luuk de Jong, Youssef En-Nesyri and Diego Carlos. Since then, Sevilla have won a UEFA Europa League, qualified for UEFA Champions League, and are now on course to a Copa del Rey final and consecutive top-four finishes in La Liga. "The obligation to win the domestic league title each year belongs to Real Madrid, Barcelona and Atletico Madrid, but we're quite close to them. Although we have played one more, we are still just seven points behind from the top," said Monchi. "Sevilla as a club aims to close the gap with them and that's why we brought in experienced players like Rakitic and Papu Gomez from Barcelona and Atalanta respectively this

season. We are certainly going to compete more in the future." Monchi, a former goalkeeper, played 126 matches for Sevilla until his retirement in 1999. "Achieving regular UEFA Champions League qualification is essential for us because that generates more income. Then and only then, we can build an even more competitive squad. But obviously, the transfer market still needs to go back to normal, back to the days before the pandemic and that's going to take some time." Although the virus outbreak temporarily threw a wrench in the works last year, Monchi and his team didn't have the opportunity to take a rest bite. Because of the lockdown, his team of 12 full-time scouts had to rely on thousands of video footages to keep an eye on the different leagues in France, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Portugal, Croatia etc. On the other hand, the data-driven research department consists of just nine people. "Mostly mathematicians, engineers and statisticians," he added. The "Monchi Method"

involves four steps — firstly, the scouts from all around the globe provide their detailed player files, then the information gets filtered for each different position. After making a comprehensive list, the reports are given to the data department for final scrutiny. Lastly, the scouting team sits down with the head coach to pinpoint the exact profile and then the signing process starts. When asked about his favourite signing during his time at the club, Monchi beamed, saying, "The player who I am proudest of? Possibly, Dani Alves. He fulfilled all the steps: young and unknown, successful with the club, and also sold for profit." From managing club transfers to keeping an eye on the squad development and the youth academy setup to even selecting new coaches, Monchi does it all. "A sporting director now has the most responsibility in a club. If we are talking about his functions, it's his job to bring in new players and handle the budget. This position is increasingly gaining importance and now it has a lot more training," he said. "I am really happy in Spain and especially in Sevilla. I have been with the club for 32 years. To work for Sevilla is a true privilege. I don't see any other future because I have absolutely everything; trust, freedom, relations. Plus, I am a Sevilla supporter," he concluded answering a question about his future.

## Shri V S Jain, assumes charge as Executive Director & Refinery Head of Paradip Refinery, IndianOil

(A.O. Bureau) Paradip, Mar 1: Shri V S Jain, Executive Director, has taken over charge as Executive Director & Refinery Head of Paradip Refinery with effect from 01.03.2021. Shri V S Jain joined IndianOil in 1986 after completing his Mechanical Engineering from LD College of Engg., Gujarat University. With over 35 years of rich experience, he has



worked in various units of IndianOil Refineries Division like Gujarat, Panipat, Refinery Headquarters, New Delhi and Paradip Refinery. Shri V S Jain has headed various functions like Engineering Services, Maintenance and

Project. He has made significant contributions in maintenance of Refineries as well as in the field of Design, Engineering, Project planning & monitoring and Project execution. Prior to his taking over charge as Refinery Head, Shri V S Jain was heading the Project Dept. at Paradip Refinery with projects like Mono Ethylene Glycol (MEG), Para Xylene - Purified

Terephthalic Acid (PX-PTA), Fuel Quality Upgradation (FQUP). Known for his participative management style, he believes in building close-knit team. With a strong technical prowess, business acumen and people-centric leadership style, Shri Jain nurtures a strong vision of leveraging technology & innovation for progress of Paradip Refinery.

## Husband arrested for murdering wife



(A.O. Bureau) Malkangiri, Mar 1: An unfortunate incident has been reported in Rajulguda village under MV 79 police station in Kalimela block of Malkangiri district,

where the husband was brutally murdered by his wife and returned home. Created. At around 7 a.m. yesterday, Soma Kabasi fatally attacked his wife, Irme Kabashi, with a stick, causing

Irme to die of a serious head injury and bleeding to death on the spot. After the incident, her husband, Soma Kabasi, returned from the scene. Upon hearing the news, Irme's brother lodged a written complaint with the local MV: -79 police station. This place inaccessible because Maoist area well as regionally known as a police alert means the same village is also going to investigate the defendant's husband Soma kabasi arrested for using a case by case today with the prosecution of: -19/21 U / S 498 (A) / 302 IPC Sections The accused husband was taken to court on record, police officer John Kujur said.

## Corona cutbacks continue in Malkangiri, with fines of Rs 26,200 levied on 33 people who do not wear masks



(A.O. Bureau) Malkangiri, Mar 1: The Malkangiri district administration has tightened the social protection rules on wearing masks and the corona cut-off as the corona disease infection has returned. Yesterday, at the Malkangiri district headquarters sub-division, Subash Bose

Chowk, the tehsildar Dr. Gunanidhu Nayak, Malkangiri police station IIC Ramprasad Nag and other officials have been keeping vigil on the main road and levying fines on rule breakers who do not wear masks. In the meantime, fines of Rs 6,200 have been levied on 33 rule break-

ers, raising public awareness about the rules of the Kerona cut-off. so far 20 thousand fine has been earning money from yesterday from other intersection and chocks of Malkangiri Municipality and elsewhere on behalf of cop praised to the mask and helmets user.

## Finance ministry considers cutting taxes on petrol, diesel: Report

(A.O. Bureau) New Delhi, Mar 1: Finance ministry is considering cutting excise duties on petrol and diesel to cushion the impact of record high domestic prices, three government officials close to the discussions said. A doubling in the price of crude oil over the past 10 months has contributed to record fuel prices at gas stations

economic activity, Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government twice raised taxes on petrol and diesel in the last 12 months to boost sagging tax revenues instead of passing on the benefits of low oil prices last year to consumers. India's Finance Ministry has now started consultations with some states, oil companies and the oil ministry to find the



in India. But taxes and duties account for roughly 60% of the retail price of petrol and diesel in the country, the world's third biggest consumer of crude oil. As the coronavirus pandemic hit

most effective way to lower the tax burden on consumers without federal finances taking a big hit, the sources said.

## IMA requests Centre for free Covid-19 vaccines, making online vaccination portal more people friendly

(A.O. Bureau) New Delhi, Mar 1: "We request the Government of India to make the online vaccination portal more people friendly. We also request to provide the Covid-19 vaccination free of cost to the HCWs and people of the country," the IMA said. The Indian Medical Association (IMA) on Monday requested the Central government to provide Covid-19 vaccination free of cost to healthcare workers (HCWs) and people of the country. In an official release, the IMA said: "Vaccination is an effective way of protecting people against harmful diseases. We request the Government of India to make the online vaccination portal more people friendly. We also request to provide the Covid-19 vaccination free of cost to the HCWs and people of the country." The IMA also congratulated

Prime Minister Narendra Modi for taking the first jab of coronavirus vaccine today. "Indian Medical Association stands with our Prime Minister and the government for this mass Covid-19 vaccination drive," the association further said.

Ministry calling out eligible people to get an appointment at respective hospitals in the country. Earlier on Monday morning, Prime Minister Modi took the first dose of Covaxin, India's home-grown coronavirus vaccine developed by bio-



The second phase of the nationwide Covid-19 vaccination drive for age-appropriate population groups (people above 60 and those with comorbidities above 45) began on Monday with the Union Health

technology firm Bharat Biotech and the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR). Soon after receiving the first dose of the vaccine at AIIMS Delhi, he tweeted, "Took my first dose of the Covid-19 vaccine at AIIMS."

## Bedaprakash Agrawal Memorial Badminton Competition

(A.O. Bureau) Kendrapara, Mar 1: Kendrapara District Garapur Kapaleswar Mahadev Mandir nearest has been inaugurated this Saturday in collaboration with Bedaprakash Agrawal Memorial Council and Odisha Heart Beat in collaboration with Bedaprakash Agrawal Memorial State Level Badminton. Joining him as the chief guest Odisha government department of Lift irrigation chairman



Amresh Patri, Lord Baldebjew inaugurated the by lighting a lamp, next to handing out flowers to Bedaprakash Agrawal's photo and

cutting ribbons. Kendrapara Zilla Parishad Chairman Manas Parida, Kapaleswar Panchayat Women's Sarpanch

Gayatri Mohanty, Kendrapara Panchayat Samiti Vice President Snehalta Pradhan and Kendrapara District Youth President Rajesh

Das were the chief guests at inauguration ceremony. Prior to the start of the game, Kapaleswar Panchayat Gayatri Mohanty, Rajesh Das, Amaresh Patri and Manas Parida were happy to play badminton for some time. Odisha Heartbeat president Lelin Mohanty said the competition would last for two days with players from many districts from across the state taking part in the badminton tournament.

## Heat wave, hot days and warm nights over Delhi, Chandigarh, Haryana, UP: IMD



(A.O. Bureau) Pune, Mar 1: The MET department has said day temperatures over a majority of regions in the North, East, North-west and central India would remain above normal during the summer. In its 'Seasonal outlook for temperatures during March to May 2021' statement

released on Monday, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) has said above normal maximum temperatures are expected mainly over Odisha and Jharkhand — more than 0.5 degree in comparison to the long period average (LPA). "Haryana, Chandigarh, Delhi and Uttar

Pradesh should particularly brace for events of heat waves, hotter days and warmer nights during March to May period, this year," said Mrutyunjay Mohapatra, director general, IMD. Besides, a hotter season is likely over Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Kutch, Saurashtra, East Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Assam, Sikkim, Nagaland, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh, along with Konkan and coastal Andhra Pradesh sub-divisions.

## BJP vs Trinamool, now over attack on 82-year-old woman in Bengal

(A.O. Bureau) Kolkata, Mar 1: The BJP said the woman is the mother of Gopal Majumdar, a local party worker, who was attacked by TMC supporters. The TMC termed it "fake news". A BJP worker in Bengal and his octogenarian mother were attacked by Trinamool supporters in Nimta area of North 24 Parganas district late on Saturday night, the party alleged in its latest attack on the ruling state party ahead of the elections that begin on March 27. The Trinamool, on

its part, termed it "fake news". The BJP said the woman is the mother of Gopal Majumdar, a local party worker, who was attacked by TMC supporters. The woman, who lives with her son, was also assaulted, the BJP alleged and posted her photographs and videos on social media. In the video, the woman could be heard telling a news channel that TMC supporters barged into her house around 4:30 am and assaulted her and her son. She also said that she could



not identify the assaulters. "They told me not to disclose who did this," the 82-year-old woman said. Agnimitra Paul,

president of the women's front of the Bengal BJP, visited Majumdar on Monday afternoon and demanded that the alleged assaulters be

arrested. "Chief minister Mamata Banerjee claims to be the daughter of Bengal but there is no respect for a mother in her state," said Paul.