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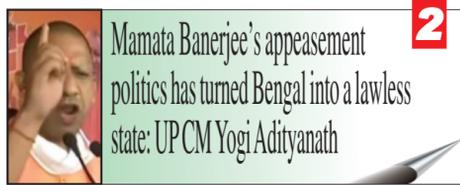
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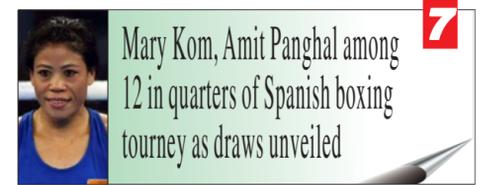
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Prime Minister inaugurates Maritime India Summit-2021 virtually

It is one of the biggest virtual summits in the world, with the participation of more than 1.7 lakh registered participants from more than 100 nations: Shri Mansukh Mandaviya

New Delhi, Mar 2: Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated 'Maritime India Summit 2021' through video conferencing today. Minister of Transport of Denmark Mr Benny Englebrecht, Chief Ministers of Gujarat and Andhra Pradesh, Union Ministers Shri Dharmendra Pradhan and Union

the sectors and investors from across the globe and said that Government of India is all geared up for facilitating and grounding the investments in the maritime sector and our role in the vision of 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat'. Prime Minister released e-book of 'Maritime India Vision-2030'. Maritime India Vision

of the world, he said. Prime Minister noted that instead of a piecemeal approach focus is on the entire sector as one. He informed that capacity of major ports have increased from 870 million tonnes in 2014 to 1550 million tonnes now. Indian ports now have measures such as: Direct port Delivery, Direct Port Entry



Minister of State (I/C) for Ports, Shipping And Waterways, Shri Mansukh Mandaviya, were present on the occasion. In his welcome address, Shri Mansukh Mandaviya said that the Maritime India Summit is one of the biggest virtual summits in the world, with the participation of more than 1.7 lakh registered participants from more than 100 nations. In this three-day summit, we will have ministers from 8 nations, more than 50 global CEOs and more than 160 speakers which includes 115 international speakers from 24 nations. Shri Mandaviya further assured all stakeholders in

2030 is aiming to make the Indian Maritime Industry at par with top global benchmarks in next 10 years. Prime Minister also unveiled the e-plaque of 'Sagar-Manthan': Mercantile Maritime Domain Awareness Centre (MM-DAC). It is an information system for enhancing maritime safety, search and rescue capabilities, security and marine environment protection. Speaking on the occasion, the Prime Minister invited the world to come to India and be a part of India's growth trajectory. India is very serious about growing in the maritime sector and emerging as a leading Blue Economy

and an upgraded Port Community System (PCS) for easy data flow. Our ports have reduced waiting time for inbound and outbound cargo. He also informed that mega ports with world class infrastructure are being developed in Vadhavan, Paradip and Deendayal Port in Kandla. The Prime Minister concluded while inviting the global investors, "India's long coastline awaits you. India's hardworking people await you. Invest in our ports. Invest in our people. Let India be your preferred trade destination. Let Indian ports be your port of call for trade and commerce."

CM Naveen Patnaik Sanctions Rs 101 Crore SC & ST Scholarships, 50,000 Students Get Benefits

Bhubaneswar: Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik today launched and inaugurated several development programmes for the benefit of SC and ST students. The CM sanctioned Rs 101 crore scholarships through which 50,000 students received the money in their bank accounts. Naveen inaugurated three Akanshya hostels and 68 hostels and gifted 5.75 lakh 'Mo Chhatrabas' (My Hostel) cards during the event which was held online. Education is the basis of reformation, said Naveen and added that literacy is crucial for the development of SCs and STs in Odisha. "The State Government has always focussed on edu-



cation for which our SC and ST brothers and sisters have been able to excel in different fields." Students can avail post-matric scholarships via Odisha State Scholar-

ship Portal directly. Skill development is also very important for the growth of the SC, STs, and OBCs. Odisha Skill Development Authority is working towards

programmes in this regard, the CM said. Secretary to CM (5T) moderated the programme while Principal Secretary SC/ST Development Department Ranjana

Chopra gave the inaugural speech. Chief Secretary Suresh Chandra Mahapatra, Development Commissioner PK Jena and senior officials were present.

Odisha Govt Mulls More Private COVID Vaccination Centers

Bhubaneswar, Mar 2: To expand the COVID-19 vaccination drive in Odisha, the state Government today sought recommendation from all district administrations for setting up of vaccination centers in private hospitals other than empaneled hospitals under Biju Swasthya Kalyan Yojana (BSKY) and Central Government Health Scheme (CGHS). In a letter to all Collectors



and Municipal Commissioners, Additional Chief Secretary to Government PK Mohapatra wrote, "COVID-19 vaccination of healthcare workers, frontline

workers and age appropriate group of citizens is going on smoothly in the state. Private hospitals empaneled under CGHS & BSKY have been designated as

COVID-19 Vaccination Centres (CVC) along with Government healthcare facilities. To expand the number of CVCs, you are requested to verify and recommend any of the private hospitals in your district not empaneled under BSKY and CGHS," the letter further reads. The criteria for setting up COVID-19 Vaccination Centres: Sufficient cold chain equipment and capacity, Sufficient

rooms / space for waiting area, vaccination and observation post vaccination. Sufficient number of trained vaccinators and verifiers. Ability to manage the Adverse Events Following Immunization (AEFI), as per the norms and guideline of the Ministry. The Government requested the officials to assess feasibility of such private hospitals in the district and submit proposal for establishment of CVCs.

Odisha Govt Appoints Secretaries For 10 Aspirational Districts

Bhubaneswar, Mar 2: Odisha Government has appointed Secretary-level officers in respect of 10 Aspirational Districts in the state for a period of three months with effect from April 1. Commerce and Transport Principal Secretary Madhu Sudan Padhi has been

kept in charge of Kandhamal district, MSME Principal Secretary Satyabrata Sahu is in-charge of Kalahandi, Energy Principal Secretary Nikunja Bihari Dhal for Rayagada and Steel and Mines Principal Secretary Surendra Kumar for Balangir. Similarly, Science &

Technology Principal Secretary Santosh Kumar Sarangi has been kept in-charge of Koraput, ST & SC Development Principal Secretary Ranjana Chopra of Dhenkanal, Revenue & Disaster Management Principal Secretary Bishnupada

Sethi of Nuapada and SSEPD Secretary Bhaskar Jyoti Sarma of Gajapati district. IPICOL MD Nitin B Jawale will be in charge of Malkangiri while Director of Social Welfare and W & CD MS Aravind Agrawal will look after the affairs of Nabarangpur.

School Timings Changed In Odisha; Teaching Hours Reduced By 1 Hr

Bhubaneswar, Mar 2: The School and Mass Education department today changed school timings for students of Class 9, 10, 11 and 12 in view of rise in maximum temperature in various places of Odisha in recent past. As per sources at the department, a decision has been taken to direct schools to hold physical classes of Class 9 and 11 students from 7 AM to 9



AM. Physical teaching for Class 10 and 12 students at the schools will be conducted from 8 AM to 12 PM, the

sources added. Earlier, the department had fixed schools timings from 7 AM to 1 PM. Members of

the Odisha Secondary School Teachers' Association (OSSTA) opposed the school timings from 7 AM to 1

PM. School and Mass Education Minister Samir Ranjan Dash had hinted there would be change in the timings after day temperature rose in many places of the State in past few days. The Office of the Special Relief Commissioner (SRC) issued advisories to the District Administrations following a heat wave forecast done by the India Meteorological Department.

RRB Exam 2021: Odisha Govt Waives Quarantine Norm For Candidates From Outside State

Bhubaneswar, Mar 2: Ahead of the Railway Recruitment Board (RRB) exam starting from March 3, 2021, the Odisha government today provided a relief to candidates from outside the state appearing for the competitive examination. Additional Chief Secretary of Health and Family Welfare Department, PK Mohapatra said a person establishing his/her identity with a copy of the RRB exam admit card will be exempted from the mandatory home quarantine. Worth mentioning, in view of the upsurge in Covid cases in some parts of the country, the State government earlier asked the district administrations and municipal corporation Commissioners to ensure people arriving from the five high-risk states

complete the seven-day home isolation upon their arrival. The asymptomatic passengers with RT-PCR negative report or a Covid vaccination final certificate were exempted from the home isolation. The Odisha government issued the precautionary measures to passengers from Maharashtra, Kerala, Punjab, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh states. Today, the Additional Chief Secretary of the Health and Family Welfare Department further stated, "But strict Covid appropriate behavior should be adhered to by all candidates appearing the RRB examination." The admit cards for the RRB examinations have already been issued to the candidates much earlier, the letter mentioned.

Talks on turning Odisha into a hotbed of steel - Dharmendra Pradhan



New Delhi, Mar 2: Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan on Tuesday held a meeting with ArcelorMittal Executive Chairman Laxminibas Mittal and CEO Aditya Mittal at his residence in New Delhi to discuss the development of steel and mining in Odisha. "Mr. Pradhan

said the meeting also discussed the role of ArcelorMittal in making Odisha a hotbed of steel, in particular. "During the meeting, Mr. Pradhan discussed with the Chief of ArcelorMittal, a leading steelmaking company, the oil, gas, steel, petrochemical and mining sectors. "In

particular, new innovations focused on how to make the oil, gas, steel, petrochemical and mining sectors stronger, more efficient and more competitive globally. "In particular, Mr. Pradhan emphasized the need to focus on new innovations, as well as ArcelorMittal's self-reliance journey. "The

country is targeted to produce 300 million tonnes of steel annually by 2030, while Odisha alone is expected to produce 100 million tonnes of steel. "In this context, the growth of mining and steel production in the state of Odisha, which has huge potential, was discussed. "The role of

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Eastern Mission and Self-Determination in India will play a role in the metals and mines sector in Odisha and the role of Odisha in the self-sufficiency of India. "During the meeting, both sides focused on increasing domestic steel production. "Similarly, more and more investors in the field of high-tech and steel" Mr. Pradhan emphasized on attracting and increasing domestic steel. "India is one of the largest steel producers in the world" Eager to expand. All kinds of cooperation for the expansion of the company and "Promised to support.

Centre directs states to utilise private hospitals in full capacity for Covid-19 vaccination drive

New Delhi, Mar 2: The Ministry of Health directed the states that all private hospitals are not empanelled under central government schemes are now permitted to operate as vaccination sites. In a push to further increase the vaccination coverage among the general population, the Centre has directed the states to utilise 100 per cent capacity of private hospitals functioning as

for vaccination – only private hospitals empanelled under Ayushman Bharat, Central Government Health Scheme (CGHS), and State Health Insurance were designated as vaccination centres. However, the Centre Tuesday directed states to utilise all the private hospitals for the vaccination drive. "Private hospitals not empanelled under the above mentioned

The decision was communicated to the states on Tuesday in a high-level meeting chaired by Rajesh Bhushan, Union Health Secretary along with Dr Ram S Sharma, Chairman of Empowered Group on Vaccine Administration (Co-WIN). However, the states have directed to ensure that all the private hospitals that will operate as vaccination centres must have "an ad-



Covid-19 vaccination centres. In the first two days of the second phase of inoculation drive that began on Monday – where all citizens above the age of 60 years and those above 45 years with associated comorbidities are eligible

three categories have also been permitted to operate as COVID Vaccination Centers (CVCs)... States/UTs can proactively make efforts to use these private hospitals as CVCs," the Union Health Ministry said.

equate number of vaccinators, adequate space for observation of the vaccinated, adequate cold chain arrangement and adequate arrangement for the management of Adverse Event Following Immunisation".

Jammu: Demonstrations against and in support of Azad, both by Congress workers

Jammu, Mar 2: Two days after former leader of the Opposition in the Rajya Sabha, Ghulam Nabi Azad, praised Prime Minister Narendra Modi for "not hiding his true self", it was Congress versus Congress in Jammu on Tuesday with pro- and anti-Azad demonstrations by party workers. In the morning, Congress workers, led by Pradesh Congress Committee general secretary Shah Nawaz Choudhary, held a demonstration and burnt Azad's effigy outside the

Exhibition Ground here, in protest against him showering praises on PM Modi. Raising slogans against Azad, Shah Nawaz demanded the party high command initiate action against him, as his statement was aimed at "weakening the Congress in the Union Territory". Pointing out that the Congress, when in power, made Azad a Union minister for many years and thereafter chief minister and also the AICC general secretary, Shah Nawaz said he "turned a volte-face when the party came in crisis and needed him". "Had

he been so concerned about the party, he should have come to the Union Territory to campaign for Congress candidates during the recently held District Development Council elections," Shah Nawaz added. Soon after this group left, Azad loyalists in the Congress, including Gourav Chopra and Shoba Ali Choudhary, both corporators of the Jammu Municipal Corporation, reached the spot and raised slogans in favour of the leader.

"Azad Sahib is a senior party leader", the demonstrators said, demanding action against Shah Nawaz Choudhary. J&K Congress chief spokesperson Ravinder Sharma refused to comment over the two parallel demonstrations by party workers. He, however, admitted that Shah Nawaz had contested DDC elections as an Independent against the party's official nominee, and the matter was pending before the AICC.

Stop state-sponsored cross-border terrorism, India tells Pakistan at UNHRC

Geneva, Mar 2: India on Tuesday hit out at Pakistan, a country in dire economic situation but provided pensions to dreaded and listed terrorists out of state funds, and asked Islamabad to stop state-sponsored cross-border terrorism. Using its Right of Reply at the ongoing 46th Session of the Human Rights Council in response to a statement by Pakistan's representative, India said Pakistan should also end institutionalised violation of human rights of its minority and other communities in the country. India also slammed Pakistan for deliberately misusing the Council for its malicious propaganda against the country. "Pakistan, a country in dire economic situation, will be well advised to stop wasting time of the Council and its mechanisms, stop state-sponsored cross-border terrorism and end institutionalised violation of human rights of its minority and other communities," said Pawankumar Badhe, First Secretary of India's Permanent Mission in Geneva. "The members of this Council

are well aware that Pakistan has provided pensions to dreaded and listed terrorists out of State funds and has the dubious distinction of hosting the largest number of terrorists proscribed by the United Nations," Badhe said. The Indian diplomat recalled that Pakistani leaders have admitted the fact that "it has become a factory for producing terrorists." "Pakistan has ignored that terrorism is the worst form of human rights abuse and the supporters of terrorism are the worst abusers of human rights," the Indian diplomat said. Badhe said the Council should ask Pakistan why the size of its minority communities such as Christians, Hindus and Sikhs has drastically shrunk since independence and why they and other communities such as Ahmediyyas, Shias, Pashtuns, Sindhis and Baloch, have been subjected to draconian blasphemy laws, systemic persecution, blatant abuses and forced conversions. He said that holy and ancient sites of religious minorities in Pakistan have been attacked and

vandalised daily. "Enforced disappearances, extrajudicial killings and arbitrary detentions of those who try to speak against the establishment are rampant in Pakistan and have been carried out by the State's security agencies with impunity," the diplomat said. India also rejected the Organisation of Islamic Conference's statement on Jammu and Kashmir, saying the bloc has no locus standi to comment on such matters. "We reject the reference to the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir in the statement of the OIC. It has no locus standi to comment on matters related to Jammu and Kashmir, which is an integral and inalienable part of India," the Indian diplomat said. The Jeddah-headquartered 57-nation bloc, which is the second-largest intergovernmental body after the UN, has usually been supportive of Pakistan and often sided with Islamabad on the Kashmir issue. "It is regrettable that OIC continues to allow itself to be exploited by Pakistan to indulge in anti-India propaganda," Badhe added.

Mamata Banerjee's appeasement politics has turned Bengal into a lawless state: UP CM Yogi Adityanath



New Delhi, Mar 2: Campaigning for the BJP in West Bengal's Malda district, Uttar Pradesh chief minister Yogi Adityanath on Tuesday hit out at the Mamata Banerjee government for the "poor law and order situation" in the state. According to the UP CM, Bengal, which was once at the forefront of development, has turned into a lawless state be-

cause of the appeasement politics practised by the Mamata Banerjee-led Trinamool Congress government. "Love jihad is being executed here. We made a law in UP, but here things are different owing to appeasement politics. It is because of this that the state government is unable to stop cow smuggling and love jihad — dangerous activities

that will show results in times to come," Adityanath said. He added, "Bengal, which had once led the nation, is now facing a lawless situation because of the TMC government." "Love jihad" is being executed here. We made a law in UP. But there is appeasement politics here. As the saffron camp aims to make inroads in Bengal after its

success in the 2019 Lok Sabha elections, BJP leaders have been accusing the Mamata Banerjee government of appeasing minorities and rolling out sops to get their votes. "Durga puja gets prohibited in Bengal today, cow slaughter is forcefully started during Eid. People's sentiments are toyed with through cow smuggling. The state government remains silent on all of this. It is now attempting to ban the slogan Jai Sri Ram," the UP chief minister said. Adityanath also went on to remind the West Bengal chief minister of a government in Uttar Pradesh that "used to fire bullets at Ram devotees in Ayodhya". "I would like to tell the Bengal government and request Mamata didi that there

was a government in UP that used to fire bullets at Lord Ram's devotees in Ayodhya. You can see the condition of that government now. Now it's TMC's turn in Bengal," he added. Invoking the sentiments of the national anthem that has been penned by Rabindranath Tagore, Adityanath told the people of Malda that "the national leadership of BJP and every worker of the party has come here to connect to the Bengali brothers and sisters to re-establish the identity of Bengal and carry forward a new change through this". The eight-phase polls in Bengal between March 27 and April 29 has been pegged by many as a fierce contest between the TMC and a resurgent BJP.

Centre directs states to utilise private hospitals in full capacity for Covid-19 vaccination drive

New Delhi, Mar 2: In a push to further increase the vaccination coverage among the general population, the Centre has directed the states to utilise 100 per cent capacity of private hospitals functioning as Covid-19 vaccination centres. In the first two days of the second phase of inoculation drive that began on Monday – where all citizens above the age of 60 years and those above 45 years with associated comorbidities are eligible for vaccination – only private hospitals empanelled under Ayushman Bharat, Central Government Health

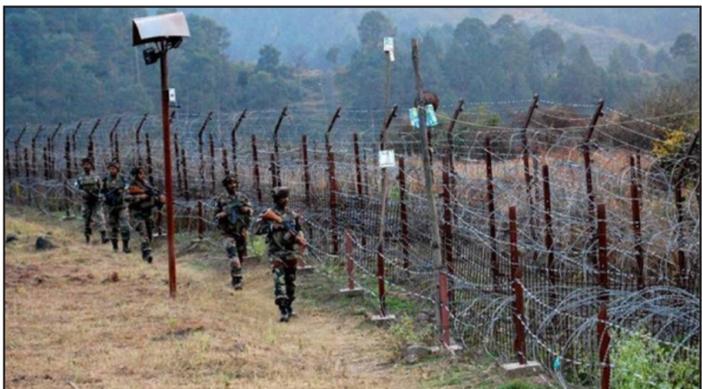
Scheme (CGHS), and State Health Insurance were designated as vaccination centres. However, the Centre Tuesday directed states to utilise all the private hospitals for the vaccination drive. "Private hospitals not empanelled under the above mentioned three categories have also been permitted to operate as COVID Vaccination Centers (CVCs)... States/UTs can proactively make efforts to use these private hospitals as CVCs," the Union Health Ministry said. The decision was communicated to the states on Tuesday in a



high-level meeting chaired by Rajesh Bhushan, Union Health Secretary along with Dr Ram S Sharma, Chairman of Empowered Group on Vaccine Administration (Co-WIN).

However, the states have directed to ensure that all the private hospitals that will operate as vaccination centres must have "an adequate number of vaccinators, adequate space

for observation of the vaccinated, adequate cold chain arrangement and adequate arrangement for the management of Adverse Event Following Immunisation".



Raid at Malud (Sabarmatisahi) and arrested 3 persons



(A.O. Bureau) Puri, Mar 2: As per the direction of the Puri Collector Sri Samarth Burma and the supervision of the Superintendent of Excise, Puri Sri Amarendra Kumar Jena, we conducted a raid at Malud (Sabarmatisahi) arrested 3 persons and one ab-

sconded namely:- 1. Pradeepta Kumar Nayak, At- Malud (Sabarmatisahi), 2. Narendra Pradhan (Absconded), At- Gilinasi, Seized 1600 ltrs of I.D liquor. 3. Gita Nayak, At- Malud (Sabarmatisahi), Seized 200 ltrs of I.D liquor. 4. Kausalya

Nayak, At- Malud (Sabarmatisahi), Seized 60 ltrs of I.D liquor. Arrested by Sri Laxmidhar Pradhan & raid was conducted by Sri Sanjaya Kumar Panda I/E of Dist. Mobile, Puri, Rankanidhi Mallick OIC of Pipili Excise Station & all Mobile team

Brushing Aside Pandemic, 85% Of Soa Engineering Graduates Land Excellent Job Offers

(A.O. Bureau) Bhubaneswar, Mar 2: The Institute of Technical Education and Research (ITER), faculty of engineering and technology of Siksha 'O' Anusandhan (SOA) and acknowledged as Numero Uno among institutions of higher education in Odisha, has staved off the huge worldwide impact of the Covid-19 pandemic to ensure placement of about 85 per cent of the total eligible students of the 2021 graduating batch in top-notch companies. Around 30 per cent of these students have received job offers during Day Zero dream campus drive involving reputed companies with Amazon proffering the highest package of Rs. 30 lakh per annum with the average annual salary received by the students being Rs. 6.3 lakh. The companies who have picked up these students include Microsoft, Amazon, Finastra, Robert Bosch, Dell, PWC, Kloudging, Deloitte, HP Inc, Temenos, Informatica, MAQ Software, NPCI, Salesforce and Rapyuta Robotics. In spite of the pandemic, most of the students have also received multiple job offers. The remaining around 55 per cent of the students have received offers from

reputed MNCs and Day-1 and Day-2 recruiters like Infosys, Wipro, Cognizant, DXC, Capgemini, Hexaware, HCL, NIIT Technologies, Infogain, Tudip Technologies, V-Construct, L&T Technologies, NCC, Global Edge and several others. Besides, reputed digital marketing corporate, Mediamint, has evinced interest in recruiting a sizeable number of talents from SOA this year based on their Centre of Excellence model which could lead to placement of approximately 95 per cent of the students by end of the campus recruitment season. More than 90 companies have participated in the campus recruitment drive in ITER this year. Besides, reputed corporates have shown their inclination towards SOA for setting up learning hubs in the campus based on the students' performance. This would result in the students receiving enormous exposure in the industry domain in the days ahead. Exposed to the excellent facility of training programs in coding, technology, soft skills, aptitude and intermittent counseling, students in SOA are expected to achieve their targets and recognized for their knowledge and

skill at all levels. A six-member team of ITER students, who participated in the Smart India Hackathon 2020 conducted by the Ministry of Education, emerged champions winning the problem statement RK57 (Digital Policing) winning a prize money of Rs. one lakh. Another significant achievement was the performance of the students in the TCS CodeVita Season 9 conducted by Tata Consultancy Services. Microsoft has extended career opportunity to nine

panies, Cognizant, Wipro and Infosys has received huge appreciation from the said corporates indicating the best conversion ratio in eastern India. SOA's focus being on investigation and scrutiny, it has set up 13 research centers and 42 research laboratories to boost such activities in 22 identified thrust areas. Work of SOA's faculty and research scholars get published regularly in reputed peer reviewed international journals. The university has 7261 Scopus Indexed publications to its

management, hospital administration, pharmaceutical sciences and biotechnology, law and agriculture. SOA was ranked 20th in the country by the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) in 2020 occupying the first place in Odisha. It has been re-accredited by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) with 'A' Grade. ITER has since emerged as a centre of quality engineering education in the east for its qualified faculty members, innovative



students from SOA which is the highest in eastern India for the second consecutive year while consulting major Deloitte, with offices in USA, has committed for premium category selection with a package of Rs. 7.6 lakh per annum for a significant number of talents. Besides, the joining conversion ratio in Day-1 com-

credit till now with an H-Index of 65. Researchers at SOA have so far filed 299 patents while the number of novel gene sequences submitted is 515. The socially inclusive university has nine institutes under it imparting education in engineering, medicine, dental sciences, management, nursing, hospitality and tourism

curriculum prepared in consultation with universities of repute in the world, impressive placement and industry interface. Its programs have been accredited by the prestigious Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET), an internationally reputed US-based accreditation agency.

BMC Gets Go Ahead To Carry Out Bio-Mining At Bhuasuni

(A.O. Bureau) Bhubaneswar, Mar 2: The Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation has been go ahead to invite proposal to undertake bio-mining activities at Bhuasuni. Just after receiving the green signal from its parent department on revised RFP (request for proposal), BMC Commissioner Prem Chandra Chaudhary stressed on finalising the preparatory activities to go for the selection of competent operating agency. Following the advertisement, the detailed RFP will be shared in the website soon. The Operator is expected to install plant and ma-



chinery of required capacity for bio-mining of the existing legacy solid waste and subsequently, reclaim the land as per MSW (management of solid waste) Rules 2016, CPCB (Central Pollution control Board) 2019 guidelines and other applicable rules and regulations. Broadly, the project

involves the reduction of the unprocessed legacy mixed waste, but is not limited to excavating compacted mixed solid waste which underwent biological degradation, by using a suitable Mechanical Sieving Machine or any other equipment and taking all the materials excavated, in the assigned

land areas and retrieving, recoverable materials and segregating, sorting, storing, diverting for recycling the excavated materials, said Suvendu Kumar Sahoo, Deputy Commissioner, Sanitation. As per the recent assessment by KIIT University about 16 lakh metric tonne waste will be processed that will take three years for 60 acres of land. Accordingly, the RFP has been designed for a competitive selection of bidders. The selected agency is expected to ensure a list of deliverables as per guidelines and main components include

screening, treatment, land fill, fire control and environmental safety measures etc. As shared by the BMC Deputy Commissioner, it is expected to do the processing of 2,000 metric ton on daily basis and a total estimated budget for the purpose is approximately Rs.100 core. Capital city is moving towards a go green initiative through its manifold initiatives like 'Mu Safaiwala' campaign, cycle day, functioning of MCC and MRF (micro composting centre and material recovery facilities) are gaining ground with active participation of communities and citizens at large.

Odisha Govt Provides Financial Aid To COVID Warrior Journalist Prabir Pradhan's Kin



(A.O. Bureau) Bhubaneswar, Mar 2: Prabir Kumar Pradhan was a popular and acknowledged Crime Reporter in Odisha. He passed away on November 5, 2020, of COVID-19 infection at

a private hospital in Bhubaneswar. Today, the State Government extended financial assistance of Rs 15 lakh to the kin of the COVID warrior journalist. Khurda Collector Sanat Mohanty handed over a cheque of

Rs 15 lakh to Prabir's wife Suchismita Swain at his office today. Prabir is survived by his wife and a three-year-old daughter. He was a senior crime reporter with an Odia news channel, posted in Bhubaneswar.

Again Massive Fire Breaks Out In Aviation Research Centre



(A.O. Bureau) Cuttack, Mar 2: Fire broke out again on the premises of the Aviation Research Centre

(ARC), Charbatia in Cuttack district for third time within one month. Thick smoke billowed out from the ARC pre-

mises after fire spread in a field. An onlooker said the intensity of the fire was so much that the sunlight was not clearly visible in the area. As the ARC premises are sensitive place, outsiders are not allowed in the area due to security reasons. A total of seven fire tenders were engaged to douse the flames, said sources. Reason behind the cause of fire is yet to be ascertained. Earlier, fire engulfed several trees on the ARC premises on February 27 and January 27 due to which the campus lost its greenery.

Kuakhai LHS Bridge To Be Closed For 2 Months



(A.O. Bureau) Bhubaneswar, Mar 2: The Kuakhai LHS bridge here will be closed for the movement of vehicles for 2 months (60 days) due to urgent repair works on the portion of NH-16. All vehicles coming from Bhubaneswar side towards Cuttack side shall not ply on the LHS bridge and shall be diverted towards the middle Kuakhai bridge from 02.03.2021 to 02.05.2021, informed Twin City

Commissionerate Police in a tweet. In order to facilitate the repair works for the benefit of the commuters, there is a need for diversion of the vehicles for smooth flow of traffic at aforesaid bridge on NH-16 and the approach roads for safety and security of commuters as per the feasibility report submitted by ACP Traffic, Cuttack, a public notice of the Commissionerate Police said.

False COVID-19 Reports Of VSSUT Students: 2 Firms Served Show-Cause Notice

(A.O. Bureau) Bhubaneswar, Mar 2: After COVID-19 test reports of 25 students of Veer Surendra Sai University Of Technology (VSSUT) were found to be erroneous owing to faulty testing kit, the Odisha Government served a show-cause notice to two suppliers of the medical equipment. In the notice, Odisha State Medical Corporation Ltd (OSMCL) asked the two firms—New Delhi-based M/s Oscar Medicare Pvt Ltd of and Haryana-based M/s Alpine Biomedicals Pvt Ltd—to show cause as to why action shall not be taken against them for sup-



plying defective/non-standard Rapid Antigen Detection Kits for COVID-19, within three days from issue of the notice. "The batch of Rapid Antigen Detection Kits for COVID-19 with batch number- CAG-D008 supplied to VIMSAR, Burla is show-

ing false positive results of COVID-19 suspects, which is a matter of serious concern," the notification reads. Earlier in the day, Health Secretary Pradipta Kumar Mohapatra said, "Not a single student of VSSUT has tested positive for the virus."

EDITORIAL

Overt bonhomie

By praising Modi, Azad is consolidating his position within the dissenter group. There is nothing unusual in leaders of rival parties having a cordial relationship despite serious political differences. But what makes such "friendships" different from the others is their public display. The bonhomie between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Congress leader Ghulam Nabi Azad is a case in point. Recently, the manner in which Azad heaped praises on Modi indicates that it is something more than just geniality. Everybody appreciated when the PM first displayed it while bidding an emotional farewell to the Congress stalwart on his retirement from the Rajya Sabha. Azad echoed the sentiments as the occasion called for it. However, Azad heaping praises on the PM in Jammu, that too, a day after a few senior Congress leaders reiterated their call for leadership change, has a political message. Being one of the most senior members of the group of 23 Congressmen — unofficially termed "G23" — Azad wants to carve a space for himself within this faction and also tell the party that it must go by the advice of its "elders". It seems that this group is sending a message that sidelining the old guard will only prove counterproductive to the party's interests. Azad is sending a clear message to the party high command that if tall leaders like former Union Ministers Kapil Sibal, Anand Sharma, Manish Tewari, former Haryana CM Bhupinder Singh Hooda and others can stand by his side even if he heaps praises on Modi, they can also go the extra mile and stand in complete defiance of the leadership. He is increasing his bargaining power within the Congress. By praising Modi, Azad is basically consolidating his position within the dissenter group. Modi, being an astute politician, must be aware of what Azad is up to. With the Congress old guard speaking out against the leadership, it is clear that all is not well within the "Grand Old Party". Moreover, the G23 leaders are trying to stay relevant by upping the ante against the party leadership. They don't want to loosen their hold on the party. The BJP has already parted ways with many of its tall leaders by creating a "Margdarshak Mandal" and these seniors are now just in an advisory role. The Congress old guard must be apprehensive of meeting the same fate. At least the restlessness shown by these Congress leaders points to this line of thought. On the other hand, it would not suffice to blame the Gandhis alone for the electoral losses that the Congress has suffered in the past few years. It was a failure on the part of these veteran leaders also. However, whether these veterans would be successful in bringing about reforms in the party, saving their positions, influencing party decisions, increasing their bargaining power or will Rahul Gandhi give an opportunity to the youngsters to lead the party and gradually do away with the "rusted bolts", only time will tell. Well, as we eagerly wait for what Modi or Azad say next on their bonhomie, we shall continue watching the high-voltage Congress drama.

Taming the virus

With Prime Minister Narendra Modi leading the way, a battery of eminent political leaders on Monday took the anti-COVID shot as the country saw the launch of the second phase of vaccination drive and reports of a successful start to the campaign coming in from across India. Prominent among those who took the first dose on the first day of the second phase were Vice-President M Venkaiah Naidu, Union Ministers Amit Shah, Jitendra Singh, S Jaishankar, Som Prakash, Rajasthan Governor Kalraj Mishra, Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar and NCP president Sharad Pawar. Kickstarting the second phase of the immunisation programme, the Prime Minister received his first dose of Covaxin at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Delhi. In a light vein and seeking to put them at ease, the Prime Minister asked the nurses administering him the vaccine whether they planned to use "some special thick needle" as politicians are known to be "very thick-skinned". People above 60 years of age and those above 45 with comorbidities are eligible to get the jabs in this phase. The second phase of the vaccination drive will cover 10 crore people across the country. So far, 1.45 crore people in two priority groups, healthcare and frontline workers, have received the shots of Covishield and Covaxin in the first phase. The second phase of vaccination comes at a time when India's active COVID cases are largely under control, but eight States — Kerala, Maharashtra, Punjab, Gujarat, Chhattisgarh, West Bengal, Jammu & Kashmir and Madhya Pradesh — have been a cause of concern, reporting an upswing in daily cases in the last two weeks. India's COVID-19 tally rose above the 11 million-mark on Monday as the country logged in 15,510 new cases in a span of 24 hours. A total of 106 fatalities were reported on Sunday, taking the death toll to over 1.57 lakh. The number of active cases currently stands at 1,68,627, a level last seen at the end of January and pointing to the re-emergence of the virus after a period of containment of the COVID outbreak. After months of staying indoors and strictly practising social distancing and hygiene norms, the number of cases had finally come under control but suddenly the pandemic outbreak has spiralled out of hand. Perhaps, the eagerness to get back into action or the reports of a declining caseload are offering a false sense of security and pushing an increasing number of Indians into vulnerability, which shouldn't be the case. If we let down our guard now, India with its population may find it nigh impossible to break free from the clutches of this virus.

Beware of Pak's softening stand

It is a temporary move to tide over the crises Pakistan is facing. The moment its rulers find some relief, the agreement will turn into a mere piece of paper. One mistake Indians must not make is to read Pakistan through Indian eyes. Normally, anything that leads to peace should be welcome. Similarly, we should welcome the fact that Pakistan has agreed to cessation of the ongoing hostilities with us and honour the ceasefire pact of 2003. Yet, one must interject a note of caution here. This is because quite a few Indians, including expert observers, have interpreted the venom from Islamabad on Kashmir for years as revenge for India dismembering their country in 1971. In actual fact, as soon as the anger of the defeat was forgotten, the Pakistanis were relieved that the "dark short people" — as the Bengalis are contemptuously referred to by Pakistanis — who were a majority of their population, were finally gotten rid of. Poet Mohammad Iqbal, who was also a leading light of the Muslim League, as its president had in 1930 at Prayagraj (then Allahabad) proposed a separate Muslim homeland which comprised only the north western provinces. He made no mention of Bengal or any part thereof. The larger Pakistan was for MA Jinnah's glorification; he began by dreaming of six provinces, four in the west and two in the east, including Assam. Through his League colleague who was the Premier of Assam for several years after 1939, Mohd Saad Ali, he had nearly succeeded in recording that the adivasis were not Hindu but animists. This was to bring down the Hindu percentage of population and draw



Prafull Goradia

Assam into Pakistan when the moment of decision came. When Jinnah could not get Assam, except the district of Sylhet, Bengal and Punjab were divided by Sir Cyril Radcliffe, the lawyer dispatched by London. Jinnah was sorely disappointed at getting what he called "a moth-eaten Pakistan". Here, it has to be iterated that Jinnah did not represent the ultimate choice of any Pakistani except the Gujarati-speaking businessmen like the Khojas and Memons who wanted to get rich quickly by avoiding competition against Indian business communities and crossing over to the new State, where they would have to compete only against the Punjabi and Sindhi farmers. For the rest, Jinnah pleaded brilliantly for those Muslims who wanted or half-wished a separate homeland. This was Jinnah's role in actuality; his fee was his place in history's hall of fame. Fortunately for him, he died within 13 months of Independence. The word mohajir, a term for Muslims from Uttar Pradesh (UP) and Bihar migrating to Pakistan, came into circulation soon thereafter. But mohajirs

soon found themselves not only unwelcome but also the target of ethnic hostility in the newly carved out Muslim homeland. Jinnah's deputy Liaquat Ali Khan, from UP, was assassinated a mere four years after Pakistan had been carved out. What prevails in Pakistan now is the will of the West Punjabis who are two-thirds of the country's population. Their need for Kashmir has been to keep the country together and paper over their dominance of everything, which is now a bone of contention. Plus, they portray India as a great threat to the survival of Pakistan and thus justify the indispensability of the Army as the country's guardian. If one looks at the latest ceasefire agreement, one would conclude that for Islamabad, it is a temporary move to hopefully tide over the crises the country is facing. The moment Pakistan's rulers are able to find some way of relief for these crises, the current agreement will turn into a mere piece of paper. One reason for Pakistan's softening could be that its rulers realise that China has overplayed its hand, whether with

India, Taiwan or the South China Sea, and that the US has reacted strongly, though so far only in words. Otherwise, there is no explanation for Beijing to kick off a confrontation in Ladakh during the winter. It could have waited until after the spring to exercise its options which were three: To try and grab some strategically useful land points, to ease off by extracting some other concessions or by continuing to harass the Indian forces by creating local points that would pose a threat. Similarly, Islamabad wants to cool off vis-à-vis New Delhi until China warms up again after, say, arriving at some settlement with the US. If not, the rulers would wait for circumstances to change; for a true momin, his faith in Allah the Merciful is infinite. We must not compare it with the mind of a thinking or reticent Hindu. Another possibility might be that Pakistan's real ruler, General Bajwa, wants to ease India's pressure on his eastern Indian front and use it to settle his scores with Baluchistan, like General Tikka had tried to do in East Pakistan in 1971. Bajwa may have been advised that the Baloch province is so rich in resources that it could greatly help in solving Pakistan's economic problems. But to exploit these resources would take time, peace and complete control. I concede that this possibility may sound too farfetched, but unless Islamabad takes some drastic steps, how can it keep the economic wheels of Pakistan rolling? If it depends on Chinese loans, Pakistan could become a Beijing protectorate inch by inch, as one has already begun to see with the China Pakistan Economic Corridor coming into play.

India, Pak, China must build on de-escalation, resist hubris that exults in unilateral triumphalism

The announcement by India and Pakistan of "strict observance of all agreements, understandings and cease firing" along the Line of Control is a welcome step. Combined with the de-escalation on the LAC with China, it provides a sense of relief. In the case of India and Pakistan, the protracted history of the conflict, punctuated by fleeting moments of hope that are frittered away, always imposes a caution on reading too much into developments. With China, there is still a tense standoff. It is also the case in international relations that intentions, doctrines and capabilities can be subverted by a conjunction of events. So it is premature to conclude what all this will amount to in the long term. But if all three powers, China, Pakistan and India, can draw the appropriate lessons in humility, there is hope for regional politics to turn over a new leaf. In the case of India, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has immense political capital to make bold foreign

Pratap Bhanu Mehta

policy moves. Many of these, including the strike on Balakot, were milked for domestic political use. They were also an attempt to signal a change in status quo. But two years later, a few things have become palpably clear to India. First, the belligerent use of foreign policy in domestic politics has unintended effects on your international standing. In 2019, the official rhetoric was promising India retaking PoK and putting more military pressure on Pakistan. In contrast, the discourse on foreign policy since the Chinese pressure on the LAC has been one of marked sobriety scaling back all expectations of a flippant militarism. Second, the standoff with China has brought home some stark realities. We can speculate on Chinese motives. It is unlikely that our moves with Pakistan are a result of some package deal with China. But there is no denying that the LAC standoff considerably released the pressure on Pakistan. It

cut out all of India's loose talk on cross-border adventurism. China may have not particularly cared about Article 370; it did care about casual signalling that India might want to alter the status quo on borders with Pakistan. We were reminded that the LAC and LoC can be linked; that the zone around Kashmir was a trilateral and not a bilateral contest, and that India will need significant resources to deal with China. The fact of the matter is that status quo ante has not been restored on the LAC with China, and costs can be imposed on India. And there is a seemingly unrelated matter of the CAA. Again, no one is against granting citizenship to minority refugees from neighbouring states. But the belligerent rhetoric of evicting Bangladeshis has been starkly checkmated by the need to placate Bangladesh, which is vital to our strategic interests. The chest-thumping bravado of 2019 has been

replaced by the sober realities of international power politics. But equally, there are humbling lessons for Pakistan as well. India now has enough weight in the international system that any attempts to internationalise Kashmir are a non-starter. Second, even Modi's critics will have to acknowledge that the revocation of Article 370 did not unleash the kinds of fissures and cycle of violence within the Valley that Pakistan might have been hoping to exploit. There are important questions about Indian democracy, and the rights of Kashmiris. But Pakistan can hardly show a candle on these issues. Pakistan's infrastructure of terrorism has been a net liability to Pakistan itself, and its vulnerability in FATF is a constant reminder of that fact. So this moment can be a constructive one if everyone understands the one lesson of this conjuncture in world politics: There are diminishing returns to belligerence. Three things can derail this moment of de-escalation.

How To Beat With Stress At Workplace

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Workplace stress as you might know is facing stress in the workplace, it could be because of a lot of reasons, like I mentioned in my previous article. You could check it out to find out if you are facing stress at your work place. But just by knowing you have stress, won't be at any use. Stress is like a poisonous drug, the more you let it go and don't take a step to remove or reduce it the more it will try to harm you. So something needs to be done to eliminate stress or reduce it in

your workplace. Below are few tips you could use to have a happy and comfortable workplace: Start by reaching out: Talk about your concerns and issues with another employee or the HR of your company, having conversations face to face can solve issues faster and will make you feel lighter. Look for support at home: It is very important to have a strong support system especially out of the workplace to manage stress in all areas. If you are facing issues or problems in your workplace and cannot talk it out to anyone there, your family and friends will always be there. Share the issue with them, the main solution is to let it out. Review your diet: Your food choice can have an impact on how you feel at work,

as well as have an impact on our body. So if you do not eat healthy or skip meals when we are of to work, it might result in weakness and sick feeling. Eating small frequent and healthy meals can help your body maintain an even of blood sugar and also keeping your energy and focus level high. Get active: One of the major reason for stress in the workplace is weakness or laziness which could step from lack of activity. So try to add sometime in your working day to exercise or some form of physical activity. Physical activity produces hormones which creates a chemical reaction in the brain that acts as a natural pain killer and also improves sleep ability. Rest: You need to get the full amount of sleep to feel your

best at work. When you happened to work extra over your limits you are less patient and become easily anxious which causes stress. So work according to your energy level and give your body the rest it needs. Prioritize and organize: To reduce stress you need to de-clutter your work desk as well do your in an organized manner, so that you are less irritated. Also plan and prioritize what you have to do and how you are going to do it. Apply positive thinking: If you focus on the downside of any situation you will be drained of energy and motivation. Positive thinking helps with stress management and also improves health. You need to practice positive self-talk and keep motivating yourself to do your best.

Satiguda Eco Park modernization, 4 air-conditioned art cottages, restaurants, fauna inaugurated

(A.O. Bureau) Malkangiri, Mar 2: The Department of Forests has taken steps to modernize the Eco Park near the Satiguda Reservoir in Malkangiri District. Nabarangpur MP Ramesh Chandra Majhi was the chief guest at the meeting, which was presided over by Divisional Forest Officer Pradeep Devdas Mirse at the Eco Park premises.



Among others on the occasion were Zilla Parishad Chairman Dashrath Padami, Chitrakonda MLA Purna Chandra Baka, Zilla Special Development Council Sri Manas Madkami, District Magistrate Dr Y Vijay, Additional District Magistrate Biresen Pradhan, PD DRDA Bala mukunda bhunya ACF Srikanta Nayak were Present

Looting in film style; Lakhs of Rupees and gold jewellery were looted

(A.O. Bureau) Malkangiri, Mar 2: The house of a goldsmith in Bandabakili guda Colony, the district headquarters subdivision, was looted in film style. It is learned that Rs 35 lakh worth of gold jewellery and Rs 2 lakh in cash were easily looted from the goldsmith's house after he was fed with sweets. Looting in film style; Lakhs of rupees in cash and jewelry were looted. The blueprint was made 3

months ago for the robbery. The robbers rented Goldsmith's house less than three months ago. The robbery was planned because of the movement. Goldsmith's family

said he had a job at 8pm on Monday and gave sweets to 7 to 8 nearby families. 2 hours after eating the sweets, everyone fainted. In the after noon in front of a house with gas cutters,

breaking into a house and knocking on a door. The family did not even know he was sleeping near the cupboard. And almirah Everyone who eats sweets is still intoxicated. Upon learning of the incident, police from the Sadar sub-division Adarsh police station reached the spot and started investigation. Police are investigating. The robbers reportedly cut off CCTV.

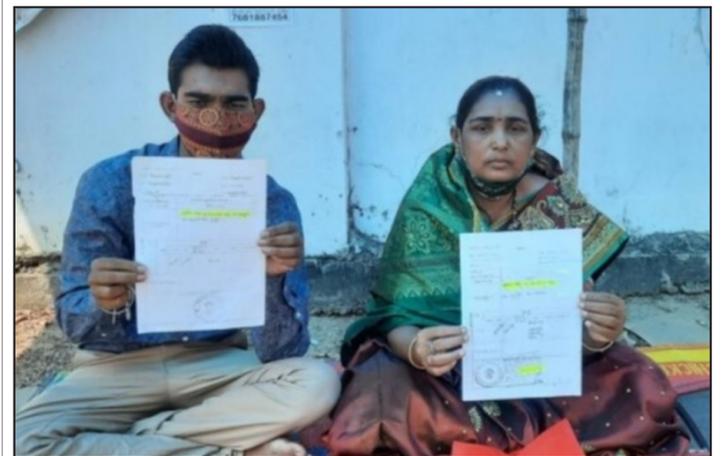


Demanding Justice to get back their land and houses; Due to the mistake of the tehsil department

(A.O. Bureau) Malkangiri, Mar 2: A helpless woman ran from one office to another for her land and home. Finally gave the idea in front of the district attorney's office. Lalita Panda, wife of Vidyadhar Panda, who lives in butiguda Malkangiri, has been running for office since 2008 over her land dispute. He asserted that

The treasury fee also pays 13.30 paise. However, in the tehsildar's office, 5343 sites were listed instead of plot number 5303. He also complained of harassment and misconduct at his home. His house has a lease number of 1062/994 and a lease of 1821/6932 on account number 1822/6933. Its treasury has also been paying Rs 6.40. However,

built houses. He asserted that his confession had been obtained through torture. Lalita had appealed to the Malkangiri tehsildar to demarcate her land, but since 2014, she has not been demarcated. In order to get his land, he went to all places like Revenue Inspector, Tahsildar, Sub Divisional Magistrate Additional District Magis-



his confession had been obtained through torture. To this day he has not received justice. Meanwhile, Lalita's husband Vidyadhar has also passed away. She has been fighting for her rights with her son. Lalita Panda's farm land in Butiguda has received a residential lease of khata no.638 plot No 5303 and 5307 in 1997

the plot number 1622/933 of the lease is listed on the website as 1822/6933. The district collector also said he could build a house on Plot No. 1818. But with the help of RTI, Lalita found out that the plot had been leased to someone else's name. The tehsildar and the revenue inspector have allotted land on Lalit's land and

trate, District Magistrate, Jeypore Settlement, Berhampur Settlement, Berhampur RDC, Cuttack Revenue Board Home Department (Secretariat). In the end, Lalita and her son went on a hunger strike. The district magistrate and the tehsildar were contacted but could not be reached for comment.

Corruption in the Prime Minister's Rural Roads Scheme



(A.O. Bureau) Malkangiri, Mar 2: MPV-56 Village in Padia block of Malkangiri district: 56 villages have witnessed such an unfortunate incident. Where there is dissatisfaction with the village road work. The villagers have rallied and stopped the work as the road works under the Prime Minister's Rural Roads Scheme are of very low quality

and poor quality. Locals have complained that road work is deteriorating as well as low-quality mortar and pitching, while roaming is also not done properly. Small and thin pitches are seen here. The contractor or company has hired a large number of child laborers, prompting locals to protest. People are complaining about how this is happening de-

spite so much speculation from the government. Locals have complained that if the government has so much money in its project, in whose interest? If it is in the interest of the people, why do people not get it right? Is it for contractors and grandparents? If it doesn't work out, who cares? Finally, locals demanded that the administration to be made aware of the matter.

Great scandal in Baro Panchayat Ideas in the demand for the arrest of government money embezzlers

(A.O. Bureau) Kendrapara, Mar 2: Baro Panchayat in Kendrapara block has been accused of embezzlement. The Sarpanch, the GR.S and the Panchayat Executive Officer have jointly embezzled about Rs 50 lakh. It is alleged that provided the information to the complainant in a bid to build a playground in Central government Nabodaya Vidyalaya, a central government school, and looted Rs 1,33,000. Ward mem-

bers and villagers of Baro Panchayat staged a Public rally in front of the Kendrapara District Collector's office on Monday. They allege that the panchayat officials, together with the Baro village playground, have embezzled Rs 6 lakh from the construction of the Tarando village school park. In addition, about Rs 50 lakh has been misappropriated for panchayat lighting, tree planting, management of Covid Centers, excavation of



Etipur pond, Nilikana Anganwadi Center, Tarando school wall, road construction.

Panchayat members have demanded that the administration take action against individuals

who embezzle government funds in the greater interest of the public by using taxpayer money.

Hearing-Impaired Students Of Rourkela School Taken On Helicopter Rides



(A.O. Bureau) Rourkela, Mar 2: Who doesn't like to fly in an aeroplane or a helicopter. People especially, young children love to fly. Those

who are not able to fly by a plane or helicopter are happier to get this facility. Happiness of the students of the 'School For Deaf' in Sector -7 of Rourkela

knew no bounds when they were taken for helicopter rides today. In the first phase, 20 students and more than five teachers of the school adopted by the Rourkela Rotary Club Mid Town since 10 years were taken for helicopter rides. Rotarian and Eminent Industrialist Deepti Ranjan Patnaik made all the arrangements for the children to ride in helicopters.

Fake Currency Notes Of Rs 7.90 Crore Face Value Seized In Odisha

(A.O. Bureau) Koraput: The district police have seized fake currency notes of Rs 7.90 crore face value and arrested three persons in this connection. According to reports, the accused were carrying the counterfeit currency notes in a Ford Figo car. A team of Pottangi police inter-

cepted the vehicle and recovered the fake notes while searching the car. The vehicle was heading towards Visakhapatnam from Raipur, reports said. The accused are from Chattisgarh. Further investigation by police was underway to ascertain the source of the notes and involvement of others in the offence.



One Arrested For Attempting To Rape Lady Doc At Gunpoint, Loot Valuables

(A.O. Bureau) Bhawanipatna, Mar 2: Kesinga police today arrested one person for allegedly attempting to rape a lady doctor and rob her of her valuables at gunpoint. Police have recovered the gold ornaments looted from the lady doctor from the accused. A motorcycle looted by him from another person at gunpoint has also been recovered. The arrestee has been identified as one Baikuntha Dora of Behera Pada, Utkela under Kesinga police limits in Kalahandi district, police said. Police said that accused Baikuntha visited the rented house of a lady doctor working as a Medical Officer at a local healthcare facility at around 4.45 PM on Saturday posing as a patient. He requested the lady doctor to check his blood pressure. The lady doctor advised him to visit some other doctor as she



didn't have the equipment to measure blood pressure. The accused asked for a glass of water which the lady doctor obliged and left for the kitchen to cook food. The accused followed her clandestinely into the kitchen and put a gun on her head asking her to part with her gold ornaments, ATM card, etc. He then forcibly attempted to rape her and threatened to kill her family members if she disclosed the incident to anyone and fled away. While fleeing the accused stopped one motorcyclist and snatched his vehicle at gunpoint. Police said the accused

has been booked in two cases. In the case pertaining to the lady doctor he has been booked under sections 452/394/376/511 IPC and section 25 of Arms Act. In the case pertaining to the snatching of the motorcycle from a biker, he has been booked under section 394 IPC and 25 Arms Act. Police have seized one gold necklace, one gold earring, one pair of silver payal, one toy revolver, one Bajaj Discover motorcycle, one mobile phone, and one pair of dress used during the commission of the crime from the possession of the accused.

Disha Patani in a Never Seen Before Avatar for Ek Villain Returns



New Delhi, Mar 2: The cast of 'Ek Villain 2' is ready to dive into the shoot! The movie was announced in 2020 and the fans were excited. The new installment has Disha Patani, John Abraham, Tara Sutaria and Arjun Kapoor in the

lead. Directed by Mohit Suri, the thriller has now gone on the floors. Disha and John were recently spotted by the paparazzi as they headed to shoot for the film. Disha was seen in a sparkly pink kurta paired with a pair of blue jeans. There are

also snaps of the 28-year-old beauty of playing with a dog named Bella. On the other hand, John was seen in a blue outfit, all set to get into the skin of the lead character. Earlier, a report in DNA informed that Disha has been prepping

a lot for the film. She attended multiple workshops for the role. She also immersed herself in the prep of it all this while. Not just that but she also attended a lot of reading sessions before kickstarting the project. She also took some vir-

tual narrations during the lockdown phase. Speaking of the film, it is the sequel to the 'Ek Villain' which was liked by the fans. It starred Sidharth Malhotra, Shraddha Kapoor and Ritesh Deshmukh in the lead. Not just the film, but the music album of the flick also grabbed some attention of the fans. Meanwhile, it will be for the first time that the audience will see actors like Disha, John, Tara and Arjun sharing the screen space. With an entirely new cast, doubles the responsibility of making the installment as likeable as the original flick. However, as the interesting young brigade start their 'Ek Villain 2' journey, the fans are hyped. The tagline of the new film says, "Iss Kahani Ka Hero hi Villain Hai." The film is slated to hit the screens on 11 February 2022 and is said to be based on Korean thriller I Saw The Devil.

Divya Dutta to Media: Don't Try Branding Me with a Tag of Supporting Actor



Mumbai, Mar 2: Actress Divya Dutta has said that she doesn't like the fact that media often places her into supporting actor category. Actress Divya Dutta, in a series of tweets, has taken a potshot at media for labelling her as "a supporting actor," a term she doesn't like to be associated with. Divya on Tuesday posted a bunch of tweets, stating that she understands the fact that her well-wishers and admirers think she deserves better but she doesn't like it when they brand her with a tag of supporting actor. Divya tweeted, "Kuch jumo dosto yun hain ki I understand u feel I deserve better, but pls don't try branding me with a tag of supporting actor. Am not. I am an actor. A complete one at that where I play all sorts of roles. Even leads. U understand? U better understand." (sic) In another tweet, she called out the fact that the male actors

who play all sorts of roles, aren't called 'supporting actors' and are instead dubbed as 'versatile'. "It amuses me that male actors who do the same I.e play every kind of roles are not given this term. They are called versatile. but this tag is bestowed upon me because in ur opinion I de-

How a Commercial During Golden Globes Raised All the Right Issues About Breastfeeding

New Delhi, Mar 2: This commercial showed the realities of what new mothers undergo while breastfeeding. The commercial was aimed at normalising breastfeeding, which is normal but not fully understood. The Golden Globes this year trended on the social media for a very unique reason. The "honesty" of a breastfeeding commercial has touched the hearts of women across the globe. On Sunday, Frida Mom aired a stream of lactation commercial during the awards. This commercial showed the realities of what new mothers undergo while breastfeeding. The commercial was aimed at normalising breastfeeding, which is normal but not fully understood. In the commercial, issues around breastfeeding are discussed by the characters. Right from, how "a good

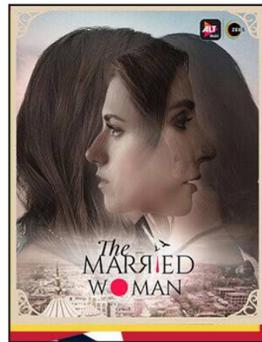
questions the new mothers in the commercial ask themselves. Frida Mom's CEO Chelsea Hirschhorn said: "The reality is that women are blindsided by the physicality of breastfeeding—raw nipples, uterine contractions, painful clogs, no one tells you that it can be as painful as your vaginal recovery. It's all part of the postpartum physical experience—but it never gets any air time because the end supposedly justifies the means. The two don't have to be mutually exclusive." The ad showed the very real struggle of new mothers like the lack of sleep, little understanding of the physiological effects of breastfeeding, emotional weight it carries and the irreversible changes that a mother's body goes through after child birth. Although the commercial was edited down to air during the Golden Globes, its makers believe the context re-



mother" is supposed to "know" everything about breastfeeding to getting their babies to latch on to their breasts and even to fear that they are not producing enough milk. "Do I love my baby?" and "Am I a bad mom if I stop now?" were the

maintained unaffected. A previous ad by Frida Mom, which showed a mother going to the bathroom, was banned by the Oscars last year citing graphic visuals as the reason. Then again, it was duly celebrated by the twiterati.

Streaming in March 2021: Bombay Begums, The Married Woman, The Falcon and the Winter Soldier



New Delhi, Mar 2: The Married Woman, Bombay Begums and The Falcon and the Winter Soldier will stream in March. With the pandemic still going on, OTT platforms like Netflix, Amazon Prime Video, ZEE5, AltBalaji, Disney Plus Hotstar and SonyLIV are making sure to keep entertaining their viewers. Cinema halls might have reopened but many are still

Eddie Murphy's Akeem Joffer, the crown prince of the fictional African nation of Zamunda. If the trailer of the movie is anything to go by, the sequel might be even funnier than the original. The film is scheduled to release on March 5, 2021. XXX: The Return of Xander Cage: The film which marked Deepika Padukone's debut in Hollywood will soon

maintained her Indian accent and aced the action sequences. Directed by DJ Caruso, the film is the third instalment of the XXX franchise and also stars Samuel L Jackson in a pivotal role. Baywatch: Baywatch revolves around the leader of an elite group of lifeguards (Dwayne Johnson), who is forced to team up with a young, hotshot former Olympian (Zac Efron) to save their beloved bay. Priyanka plays the villainous Victoria Deeds in the movie. Qubool Hai 2.0: Karan Singh Grover and Surbhi Jyoti are back as their popular characters Asad Ahmed Khan and Zoya in ZEE's Qubool Hai 2.0. The 10 episode series is a spin-off to the popular TV show Qubool Hai. Though the makers didn't reveal much about the web show, Surbhi had earlier promised, "more romance, more drama and

more action" in Qubool Hai 2.0. The romantic drama aims at challenging the stereotypes of



apprehensive about stepping inside. For those planning to stay indoors, there is a lot to choose from the streaming roster. The Married Woman on ZEE5 and AltBalaji explores a same-sex love story, Bombay Begums on Netflix centres on the struggle of five women and Marvel's Assembled gives a sneak peek into what goes into the making of MCU films and web series. Here's the list of films and web series releasing this month. Mark your calendars. Coming 2 America (Movie): The sequel to 1988's Coming to America, Coming 2 America brings back

start streaming on Amazon Prime Video. It stars Vin Diesel as the eponymous Xander Cage, and Deepika plays the role of Serena Unger, a girl who looks as deadly as the punches she delivers. The best thing about the movie is Deepika who



society. Directed by Ankush Mohla and Glen Barretto, it also stars Mandira Bedi, Arif Zakaria, Kavita Ghai and Gulfam Khan. Silence... Can You Hear It?: Directed by Aban Bharucha Deohans, the murder mystery is about a woman's mysterious disappearance. Manoj Bajpayee plays an investigating cop and Prachi Desai makes her digital debut with the movie. It also features actors Arjun Mathur, Sahil Vaid, Vaquar, Barkha Singh, Shirish Sharma, Sohaila Kapoor, Amit Thakkar and Garima Yagnik. AltBalaji The Married Woman: Ridhi Dogra and Monica Dogra play a couple in Sahir Raza directorial The Married Woman. It is based on the novel of the same name penned by Manju Kapur. Ridhi plays the role of a married woman Astha, a good wife, decent mother and dutiful daughter whose life is

upended after crossing path with Peeplika (Monica Dogra), an unconventional artist. The Married Woman will also stream on ZEE5. Marvel Studios Assembled: Assembled is a comprehensive documentary series that chronicles the creation of Marvel Studios' thrilling shows and movies. The series will offer a sneak-peek into the making of WandaVision, The Falcon and the Winter Sol-

dios' The Falcon and the Winter Soldier. The all-new series is directed by Kari Skogland and created by Malcolm Spellman. Bombay Begums: Directed by Alankrita Shrivastava and Bornila Chatterjee, Bombay Begums stars Pooja Bhatt, Shahana Goswami, Amruta Subhash, Manish Choudhary, Plabita Borthakur, Rituraj Singh and Ivanka Das. It revolves around five women from Mumbai, who are connected by "ambition, desire, struggle for power and vulnerability". It traces their journey as they fight obstacles in their careers and relationships while challenging societal norms. Talking about the series, Alankrita had said, "It's the story of glass ceilings shattered, and also of the hearts broken in the process." Love J Action: Anuj Singh Dhaka, Kangan Baruah Nangia, Puru Chibber, Rohit Choudhary, Priyank Tiwari play the lead roles in Love J Action. Nothing much has been revealed about the thriller web series but its short teaser looks intriguing. In it, we see a young man, covered in mud, walking on the road before fainting at the police check post. Soon the cops announce that he is the same man the UP police has been searching for.



dier, Black Widow and Loki via exclusive on-set footage. It will also feature interviews with the cast and crew members of the shows and films. The official description of the docu-series reads, "Assembled is an immersive, and in-depth examination of the next phase of the Marvel Cinematic Universe." The Falcon and the Winter Soldier: Season 1: Following the events of Avengers: Endgame, Sam Wilson/Falcon (Anthony Mackie) and Bucky Barnes/Winter Soldier (Sebastian Stan) team up in a global adventure that tests their abilities—and their patience—in Marvel Stu-



Sania Mirza returns to WTA circuit with win in Doha



Doha, Mar 2: Sania Mirza made a winning return to the WTA circuit as she and her Slovenian partner Andreja Klepac beat Ukrainians Nadiia Kichenok and Lyudmyla Kichenok to reach the doubles quarterfinals of the Qatar Total Open here. The Indo-Slovenian pair won 6-4 6-7(5) 10-5 against the duo of Kichenok and Kichenok in the opening round of the WTA 500 tournament Monday night. It was Sania's first match in 12 months and incidentally it was at the Doha Open where she

played last in February 2020 before pandemic halted the tennis competitions across the world. Sania herself had recovered from COVID-19 in January this year. It was Nadiia with whom Sania had paired when she returned to competitive tennis after maternity leave and won the Hobart Open in January last year. An early break put Sania and Klepac down 0-3 and struggling at deuce in the fourth game but they managed to hold on, getting on board. The Indo-Slovenian pair needed just one break to get

back on serve and they got that in the seventh game, breaking the Kichenok sisters at love in the seventh. With an easy hold, they were 4-1 and pocketed the set with another break. The Ukrainians again drew the first blood in the second set for a 3-1 lead but Sania and Klepac fought hard to drag it to the tie-breaker but could not stop the rivals from pushing the contest to super tie-breaker. The Indo-Slovenian pair raced to a 5-1 lead in a jiffy and closed the match, converting the second match point.

ICC ODI Players' Ranking: Smriti Mandhana slips two places to 6th among batters

New Delhi, Mar 2: Smriti Mandhana slipped two places to sixth among batters but Jhulan Goswami retained her fifth spot among bowlers in the latest ICC women's ODI Players' rankings issued on Tuesday. Indian opener Smriti Mandhana slipped two places to sixth among batters but Jhulan Goswami retained her fifth spot among bowlers in the latest ICC women's ODI Players' rankings issued on Tuesday. Another veteran Mithali Raji — with 687 points — remained at 9th to be the second Indian batswoman in the top 10. Mandhana has 732 points. England opener Tammy Beaumont has rocketed five places to grab the top position af-



ter an excellent display in the three-match series against New Zealand which her team won 2-1. Beaumont has overtaken the likes of West Indian Stafanie Taylor and New Zealand's Amy

Satterthwaite to top the list and now leads Australia captain Meg Lanning by 16 points. Besides Goswami (691), Poonam Yadav (679), Shikha Pandey (675) and Deepti

Sharma (639) are the other Indian bowlers in the top-10. All of them retained their previous ranking spots. Jess Jonassen of Australia continued to top the bowling chart with 804

points, followed by compatriot Megan Schutt (735). Among the all-rounders, Deepti Sharma retained her fourth spot with 359 points in the list headed by Ellyse Perry of Australia with 460 points.

Poms appoint Trescothick as batting coach

London, Mar 2: England on Monday appointed former opener Marcus Trescothick as the new batting coach of the national team, besides roping in Jon Lewis and New Zealand's Jeetan Patel as bowling and spin bowling coaches on permanent basis. These three are part of the four new appointments to England's coaching set-up, which is being headed by chief coach Chris Silverwood. Trescothick will take over from Jonathan Trott, who replaced South African Jacques Kallis in the ongoing tour. Kallis had played the role of a batting consultant for England in Sri Lanka.

India's top guns go full throttle at nets



Ahmedabad, Mar 2: Big guns Virat Kohli, Rohit Sharma and Ajinkya Rahane went full throttle at the nets as the Indian cricket on Monday trained in earnest for the upcoming fourth and final Test against England. The fourth Test starts here on Thursday. Captain Kohli, his deputy Rahane and senior opener Rohit were seen

batting at the nets in a video posted by the BCCI on Twitter. The three senior players drove, pulled and flicked against the fast bowlers and spinners at the Narendra Modi Stadium here. Head coach Ravi Shastri was seen interacting with Rohit and Kohli before the two star batsmen sat together for a discussion. Left-arm spin-

ner Axar Patel, who bagged 11 wickets in India's thumping win in the pink ball third Test at the same venue, was seen rolling his arms over at the nets against some of the world's best batsmen. They were also seen fielding with Rahane, standing next to Rohit in the second slip position, taking a one-handed diving catch to his right.

Mary Kom, Amit Panghal among 12 in quarters of Spanish boxing tourney as draws unveiled

New Delhi, Mar 2: Mary Kom (51kg), competing for the first time since qualifying for the Olympics last year, will take on Italian Giordana Sorrentino in her opening bout on Wednesday. Six-time world champion MC Mary Kom and Asian Games gold-medallist Amit Panghal are among 12 Indian boxers who stand just a win away from securing medals at the Boxam International Tournament in Castellon, Spain after finding themselves in quarterfinals when draws for the event were unveiled. The tour-

nament features all of India's nine Tokyo Olympics-bound boxers along with five others. Mary Kom (51kg), competing for the first time since qualifying for the Olympics last year, will take on Italian Giordana Sorrentino in her opening bout on Wednesday. Panghal (52kg), who won a gold medal at the Cologne World Cup in Germany in December last year, will be facing local favourite Gabriel Escobar in his quarterfinal clash after getting an opening-round bye. Vikas Krishan (69kg), another



strong medal contender for Tokyo, is also in the quarters after getting a bye and will take on Vincenzo Mangiacapre of Italy. Also through to quarters due to the relatively small size of the draw were Asian silver-medallist Ashish Kumar (75kg), and Sumit Sangwan

(81kg), who is returning to competition after enduring a period of turmoil due to a doping suspension that was later lifted after he was cleared of any wrongdoing. Of the two, Ashish is bound for Tokyo along with Satish Kumar (+91kg), the first super heavyweight from the

country to qualify for the quadrennial showpiece. Satish is also in quarters at this tournament. Joining them in the last-eight stage is Sanjeet (91kg), a promising name coming up who found spotlight with his India Open gold in 2019. Among the women, Jasmine and Manisha, in the 57kg category, are also through to the quarters after getting byes. The Olympic-bound trio of Simranjit Kaur (60kg), Lovlina Borgohain (69kg) and Pooja Rani (75kg) will also be competing in the quarterfinal stage on Wednesday.

Mumbai trounce HP by 200 runs

Jaipur, Mar 2: Domestic giants Mumbai trounced Himachal Pradesh by 200 runs in their final Elite Group D game here on Monday to remain unbeaten in the league stage of the Vijay Hazare Trophy. Mumbai had won their first four matches against Delhi, Maharashtra, Puducherry and Rajasthan. Opting to bat at the Sawai Mansingh Stadium, Mumbai posted an imposing 321/9, courtesy Shardul Thakur's 92, Suryakumar Yadav's 91 and Aditya Tare's 83 after a top-order failure. Himachal were then bundled out for a meagre 121, with leg-spinner Prashant Solanki (4/31) shining with the ball. After losing four for 49, Suryakumar began the rescue act and toyed with the Himachal attack, striking 15 boundaries on his way to a 75-ball 91. He found an able ally in

the experienced Tare (83 off 98 balls; 6x4; 1x6) who played the perfect second fiddle as the duo forged a 99-run fifth wicket stand to rally the innings. After Suryakumar fell in the 31st over, Tare and Shardul added 112 runs for the sixth wicket, as they tackled the Himachal attack with ease. Shardul, one of the heroes of the Brisbane Test against Australia, hammered six boundaries and as many sixes, as he cantered to 92 in just 57 balls. Thanks to Shardul's hitting, Mumbai crossed the 300-run mark, but Tare's patient knock was equally important as he anchored the innings and supported the aggressors. In the other two Elite Group D league games, Maharashtra thrashed Puducherry by 137 runs, while Delhi defeated Rajasthan by eight wickets.

Igor Stimac names 35 probables for matches against Oman and UAE, to prune list to 28

New Delhi, Mar 2: The final list of 28 players will be announced after the Indian Super League final on March 13. The players will then assemble for a preparatory camp in Dubai from March 15. National football coach Igor Stimac on Tuesday named 10 new players in his 35-member list of probables for India's back-to-back international friendlies against Oman and the UAE to be played in Dubai on March 25 and 29 respectively. The final list of 28 players will be announced after the Indian Super League final on March 13. The players will then assemble for a preparatory camp in Dubai from March 15. "We have kept 35 players in the list as a cushion in case any player picks up an injury during the ISL playoffs," Stimac said in a release. Speaking about the new

faces, Stimac said: "It's been a difficult year for all of us and finally, we are all getting together. It will be great to meet some new young guns and to check how bright our future is with them." The Croatian World Cupper said the two matches against Oman and the UAE would be crucial as the team has not played any international match for more than a year. With the #BlueTigers camp coming up, which players do you

think will make the cut? "It's been a while since we last played and this is a great opportunity to check where we stand at the moment," the coach said. "I know the season was a tough one and players might be overloaded. But, we have enough time to refresh their legs and brains. However, many of them will have a break of two weeks without any organised training sessions prior to joining the camp. Hopefully, they will ex-

ecute their individual working plans," he said. Stimac said Brandon Fernandes, Rahul Bheke, Sahal Abdul Samad and Asish Rai did not feature in the list as they are nursing injuries at the moment. It was in November 2019 that India last played at the international arena — in the 2022 FIFA World Cup Qualifiers against Afghanistan (in Tajikistan) and Oman (in Muscat). India have garnered three points from the five matches they

have played so far in the qualifiers, with two home games against Asian champions Qatar and Afghanistan and an away tie against Bangladesh yet to be played. The international friendlies against Oman and the UAE form a part of India's preparations for the 2022 FIFA World Cup and 2023 Asian Cup Qualifiers to be played in June. India are out of reckoning for a 2022 World Cup berth but are still in contention for

qualification in the 2023 Asian Cup. The Probables: Goalkeepers: Gurpreet Singh Sandhu, Amrinder Singh, Subhashish Roy Chowdhury, Dheeraj Singh, Vishal Kaith. Defenders: Seriton Fernandes, Ashutosh Mehta, Akash Mishra, Pritam Kotal, Sandesh Jhingan, Chinglensana Singh, Sarthak Golui, Adil Khan, Mandar Rao Dessai, Prabir Das, Mashoor Shereef. Midfielders: Udanta Singh, Rowlin Borges, Lalengmawia, Jeakson Singh, Raynier Fernandes, Anirudh Thapa, Bipin Singh, Yasir Mohammad, Suresh Singh, Liston Colaco, Halicharan Narzary, Lallianzuala Chhangte, Ashique Kuruniyan, Rahul KP, Hitesh Sharma, Farukh Choudhary.



16.98% Increase In Outward Parcel Handled At Bhubaneswar Station In February, 2021



(A.O. Bureau) Bhubaneswar, Mar 2: Bhubaneswar Railway Station has carried 1358.4 tonnes of outward parcel in the month of February, 2021 which is 197.2 tonne more than the outward parcel carried in February, 2020 registering a growth of 16.98%. In February, 2020; Bhubaneswar

Station had carried 1161.2 tonne of outward parcel. Similarly, from the earning front in the month of February, 2021; Bhubaneswar Station has registered a growth of 7.33% more than the parcel carried in February, 2020. This revenue is from exclusive Bhubaneswar Originating revenue. Number of parcel vans

has also increased this year. In February, 2021, five Parcel Special Trains were handled by Bhubaneswar Station. It is mentioned here that, Bhubaneswar Railway Station handles major share of perishable items like Fish, Egg and bottle leaves towards different destinations of the country.

PFC extends financial support for construction of Extension Building at Dr K.B. Hegdewar School, Bambolim, Goa



(A.O. Bureau) New Delhi, Mar 2: Power Finance Corporation Ltd (PFC), the leading NBFC in the power sector, has extended its financial support for the construction of stilt plus two-storied School Building at Dr K.B. Hegdewar School premises, in Bambolim, Goa as part of its CSR activities. PFC has provided CSR fund of Rs 3 crores for the construction of the school, which was inaugurated by Dr. Pramod Sawant, Chief Minister of Goa along with Shri Ravinder Singh Dhillon, CMD, PFC. The building block comprises of classrooms, laboratories, a multi-purpose hall, faculty rooms and toilets for children.

The beneficiaries of the project are the school children of the local populace. Significant number of children studying in this school is from the economically weaker sections of society and majority is from SC/ST/OBC category. The present CSR project of constructing a school building with all necessary facilities for the benefit of school children in Dr K.B. Hegdewar School is also aimed to cater to the needs of educational infra development in the State of Goa. PFC hopes that this school building will encourage more parents from marginal sections of the local community to come forward and enroll their

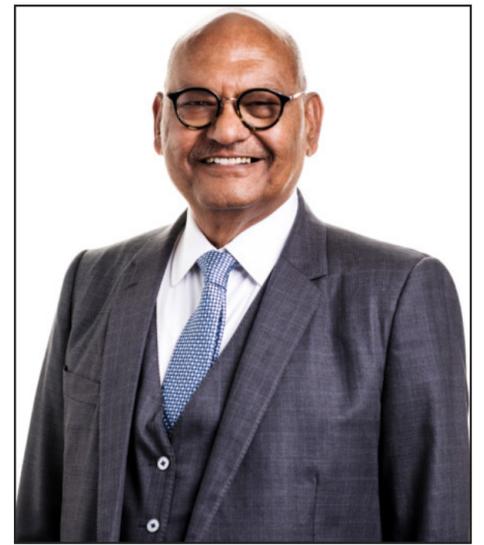
children into schools providing quality education. During the last six years, as part of its CSR responsibility, PFC has also supported many unemployed youth of Goa by training them and helping them gain employment. The inauguration event was also attended by Shri Antonio Fernandes (MLA, St. Cruz Constituency, Goa), Shri Rajeev Sharma, Chairman, EESL & former CMD, PFC, Shri Kunal, IAS, Secretary (Energy), Govt. of Goa, Shri Praveen Kumar Singh, Director (Commercial), PFC and Shri R. Murahari, Executive Director (CSR), PFC along with other dignitaries.

Eradicating poverty rests on you, says Vedanta Chairman Anil Agarwal at IMI Bhubaneswar's convocation ceremony

(A.O. Bureau) Bhubaneswar, Mar 2: Mr. Anil Agarwal, Chairman of Vedanta Resources, was the Chief Guest at the convocation ceremony of The International Management Institute (IMI) Bhubaneswar. The International Management Institute Bhubaneswar held its 8th Convocation and in attendance were over 500 dignitaries from academia, government, corporate world as well as members of the Board of Governors of IMI Bhubaneswar and of RPSG Group. Vedanta Resources Limited, is one of the world's leading Oil & Gas and Metals company with significant operations in Oil & Gas, Zinc, Lead, Silver, Copper, Iron Ore, Steel, and Aluminium & Power across India, South Africa, Namibia, and Australia. Mr. Anil Agarwal, who joined virtually, delivered a captivating convocation address and left the students enthralled by his inspiring speech. He told the graduating students that they are the "torch bearers of modern India" urging them to join companies that pride themselves in running their operations on the foundation of technology and innovation and which have the potential to create great value. He emphasized the importance of start-ups and

entrepreneurship in building a new India. "Start-up is the new mantra for you. There are unprecedented opportunities in start-ups now that I have never seen in my life before. There are private investors, government support and ample opportunities available for you to become employment givers instead of employment takers", he said. Mr. Agarwal stressed on the need for education and offered his full support to IMI Bhubaneswar. His advice to stay humble, stay honest and stay hungry resonated greatly with the graduating students. Mr. Agarwal spoke of his humble beginnings and his early struggles. He encouraged the students to never be afraid but to follow their heart while staying grounded. He mentioned that with the rapid advancement of technology and with the inherent ability of Indian students, the future of India was bright. He went on to say that "The Government of India is keen to push the digital agenda. Keeping this in mind, there is no reason why people like you cannot create the next large technological global giant." Mr. Agarwal lauded the recent Government policies that improved the ease of doing business and helped in building the MSME eco-

system in the country. He highlighted how an ecosystem for new businesses is being developed in India and said, "If you have a great idea, there are multiple avenues and support systems available now to make you succeed. The government is on the right track with regards to the privatization of many industries to bring about accelerated growth and work towards fulfilling the vision of Hon'ble Prime Minister of making India a \$5 trillion economy." He also highlighted how smart businesses run by young minds can help India fight the issue of imports by driving technological advancements to the fullest. In reference to the subject, Mr. Agarwal went on to say, "We have some of the largest mineral deposits in the world, yet natural resources are being imported. India is being looked at by most developed countries as a dumping ground and it is now up to the future generation to create a market for the country's economy using the power of technology to change how the world sees our country." Believing in the potential of the state and the people of Odisha, Vedanta is one of the largest investors in the state having made investment over of Rs. 50,000 crores. This has resulted in unprecedented impetus to the



socio-economic development to the districts of Jharsuguda and Kalahandi where the company has operations. The setting up one of the world's largest aluminium complexes, alumina refinery and power plants has been instrumental in the creation of over 4 lakh direct and indirect jobs along with multiple large-scale business opportunities for the local populace. Mr. Agarwal went on to talk passionately about how important it was for fresh graduates across our country to look at becoming job creators, especially in the MSME sector of our country. To showcase belief in MSMEs being the driving force for a New India, Vedanta is investing another Rs. 10,000 crores to set up a downstream Aluminium Park in Odisha

which will result in the widespread development of over 100 more MSMEs leading to even greater economic development for the state. As a company that cares and looks to give back to society, Vedanta has invested in social welfare schemes around healthcare, education, providing livelihoods and infrastructure development in Odisha benefiting lakhs of people across hundreds of remote villages every year. With operations in the remote hinterlands of the country, Vedanta has been instrumental in alleviating poverty by triggering holistic development through its community development practices introducing amenities like clean water, sanitation, electricity, education, emergency medical services, ambulances, roads and much more.

Public Hearing of PX-PTA Project of IndianOil at Paradip Refinery

(A.O. Bureau) Paradip, Mar 2: State Pollution Control Board (SPCB), Odisha & District Administration, Jagatsinghpur organized a public hearing for the proposed 1.2 Million Metric Tonnes per Annum (MMTPA) Paraxylene & Purified Terephthalic Acid (PX-PTA) Project at Paradip Refinery of IOCL on 2nd March 2021 at Municipality Kalyan Mandap, Paradip. Public hearing is a part of statutory Environment Clearance process from Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC)



for new projects. The petrochemical complex will have a PX production capacity of 800,000 tonnes per annum, which would be the feedstock for production of PTA. The production

capacity of PTA would be 1,200,000 tonnes per annum. PTA is the raw material for the production of polyester along with MEG. IndianOil's MEG production facility is already

under implementation at Paradip. The availability of both PTA and MEG at Paradip will give a boost to polyester manufacturing facilities in the vicinity. Shri Kanhu Charan Dhir, ADM, Paradip, Shri Dilip

Das, Regional Officer, SPCB started the proceeding. Shri AK Bhagawati, CGM (HR), Shri Mukesh Mohan, CGM (TS), Shri BR Malik, CGM (HSE) along with their team were present during the public hearing program from IOCL side. A brief on the project was presented by IOCL team. Queries from public were addressed both by IOCL & district administration. In general, public supported the project. However they demanded more social development around the neighbourhood, to which IOCL responded positively.

JSW Steel Observed 23rd Mines Environment And Mineral Conservation Week

(A.O. Bureau) Barbil, Mar 2: JSW Steel limited has observed 23rd Mines Environment and Mineral Conservation week in its mines in the region from 22nd February to 28th February, 2021. In line with creating awareness on conserving mineral resources and protecting environment associated with mining, the company observed this weeklong awareness

campaign in Jajang, Gonua, Nuagaon and Narayanposhi Mines. Speaking on the company's efforts towards sustainability, Mr. Ranjan Nayak, COO, JSW Steel Limited (Odisha) has said that a sincere commitment to greener and sustainable future is core to JSW's operations. It is a continuous endeavour to maximise the company's efforts towards creating a sustainable future.



JSW is committed to conduct its business in a socially responsible, ethical and environment-friendly manner and to work towards improving the quality of life of the communities in its operational areas and beyond. This week marks another event for us to increase our efforts to augment and enhance the green cover and encourage a culture of sustainability among our stakeholders, he added"

During the Week, the mines were inspected by mining fraternity involving mining engineers, environment officers, mineral processing engineers and geologists from various mining companies who evaluated the mine wise performance based on systematic mining, environment protection and mineral conservation formed by the Organising committee with consent of Indian

Bureau of Mines (IBM). The public representatives from villages lying in core and buffer zone of mines were also invited to the programme. In order to sensitize the employees, workers and nearby local people, various awareness activities were conducted such as drawing, Slogan and quiz competition in school as well as in mines. A plantation drive was also conducted during the week.