

103 year old lady proves age is no bar in battle against COVID-19; receives COVID vaccine at Apollo Hospitals Bangalore

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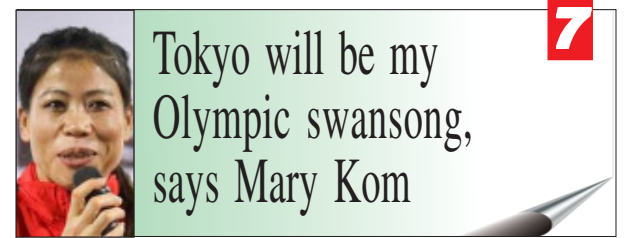
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'Amrit Mahotsav' will be celebrated to mark 75 yrs of India's Independence: PM



New Delhi, Mar 10: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday requested MPs and all public representatives to take part in 'Amrit Mahotsav' to mark India's 75 years of Independence, which will start from March 12 in Gujarat's Sabarmati Ashram, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi said. Addressing the BJP's parliamentary party meeting, which was held almost after a year, Modi informed that the grand festival to commemorate the 75th year of Independence will be held at 75 locations across the country

for 75 weeks, he said. The prime minister also gave a clarion call to the Members of Parliament that they should reach out to people and help in carrying out the COVID vaccination drive by the government, Joshi told reporters after the meeting. "Prime Minister Modiji told MPs that they should act as a facilitator in the ongoing vaccination drive like by arranging vehicles for citizens to take them to the vaccination centres, helping in making arrangements at the vaccination centres and through other possible

means," he said. Modi also asked all public representatives to take part in 'Amrit Mahotsav' to commemorate 75 years of Independence, Joshi said. "The grand festival will be celebrated at 75 locations across the country for 75 weeks and will start from Sabramati Ashram in Ahmedabad in Gujarat from March 12," he said. The BJP's parliamentary party also passed a resolution applauding the prime minister for his able and effective leadership during the COVID-19 pandemic. The resolution was moved by Parliamentary Affairs Minister Joshi. BJP president JP Nadda also addressed the party's parliamentary party meeting and said the party expanded its footprint and helped people during the pandemic, he said.

CM Naveen Inaugurates Slew Of Projects In Nuapada

Bhubaneswar, Mar 10: Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik on Wednesday visited Nuapada and laid foundation stones and inaugurated various projects worth Rs 4,000 crore for the people of the district. Addressing people of the district, he said, "Biju Babu had declared Nuapada a separate district in 1999. When asked by some people why he declared a small region as a district, Biju Babu had said that Nuapada is the youngest child of mother Odisha. He is also far away. As every parent love a child staying afar, he is also paying special attention to Nuapada." Citing the developmental changes in Nuapada, Patnaik said, "Nuapada has made the most of the Biju Expressway. 132 km of roads at a cost of Rs 680 crore has been constructed in Nuapada alone. The District Headquarter Hospital in Nuapada is no less than the hospitals in the cities of the State." He further mentioned that the Government was able to save the life of thousands of children in the last ten years. The infant mortality rate in Nuapada has dropped dramatically. Nuapada has also done a great job in saving the lives of mothers.

Acknowledging the role of the women from Vela village in the independence struggle, the Chief Minister announced that as the country will be celebrating 75 years of Independence in 2022, a beautiful memorial will be estab-

Minister. "Not only that, but one lakh families in Nuapada have also been provided with piped water. By 2022, all households in Nuapada will be provided with 100 per cent piped water. For this, 205 Pipe Water Supply projects and

vide water to more than 18,000 acres of land in Komna, Nuapada, Sinapali and Boden. The Lower Indra Project is based on underground Pipeline Technology. So I am announcing that steps will be taken to supply water to another 7,500

among children and also raise awareness for water conservation, he added. "Odisha has made great strides in sports today. Nuapada will be linked to Sports Activity in the state. There will also be two Indoor Stadiums in Nuapada and Khariar.



lished in Vela in honour of the freedom fighters. Patnaik said that presence of fluoride in the water of the district is a major problem for the people. Women had to walk miles and miles to get good drinking water. However, the State Government now has provided piped water to 55 percent of homes in Nuapada. More than 1,000 Fluoride Removal Plants have been installed. More than 900 villages have been 100 percent relieved of the fluoride problem, said the Chief

one Mega pipe water supply project worth Rs 400 crore are underway," he added. Stating that the Lower Indra project is an important project for the entire state, the Chief Minister thanked all those who donated land for this project and said that it was because of their sacrifice that 1,80,000 people from 200 villages were benefited. "As you know, the Rs 220 crore Mega Lift Irrigation Project in Nuapada will be completed by December this year. This will pro-

acres of land from this Project," he added. The Chief Minister further said that Nuapada which was a perpetual drought zone is writing a new history of development. Irrigation facilities in Nuapada have increased by 54 per cent. As a result rice production, cotton cultivation and maize cultivation have also increased. Patnaik also announced the establishment of a Science Park and Museum on the Lower Indra Dam site at a cost of Rs 3 crore. It will increase interest in science

The Sports Facility will be developed at Khariar Autonomous College. It will strengthen the sports infrastructure of the district and help develop the talents of young men and women," said Patnaik. "Biju Babu's youngest child, Nuapada, grew up today. It has created a unique identity for itself in the development journey of Odisha. I am very happy about it. This trend of development in Nuapada will continue even further," he added.

Hailstorm, Rain Lashes Parts Of Similipal National Park

Bhubaneswar, Mar 10: Bringing much-needed relief to wildlife and Forest officials engaged in dousing forest fire in Similipal national park, hailstones accompanied by rain lashed several parts of Similipal national park today afternoon. Rain accompanied by hailstorm was reported in different parts of the six ranges of the national



park including Pithabata, Thakurmunda, and Bangiriposi. Raining of hailstones has been reported from many places. It is expected

that the rains will go a long way in dousing the forest fire that has gripped the national park for over a fortnight.

Sandalwood Smuggler Held In Odisha, Logs Worth Rs 10 Lakh Seized

Cuttack, Mar 10: Commissionerate Police on Wednesday arrested a 45-year-old man on the charges smuggling sandalwood in Choudwar and other parts of the State. The smuggler has been identified as Rasanda Sahu of Tangi area. Senior police officials informed that sandalwood weighing 92 kgs worth Rs 10 lakh has been seized from his possession. Cuttack DCP Prateek Singh today said that the accused was nabbed basing on an intelligence input. "We had input that a person from Tangi was

involved in sandalwood smuggling. We had constituted a special team to nab the accused," said Singh. Singh said that the accused used to procure sandalwood from different parts including Shrekshetra forest. It is suspected that

the accused used to supply sandalwood to different parts of the State and outside, he added. "The Forest department officials were also after the accused and with their assistance, the team was able to nab him. We are trying to verify his criminal

antecedents and further investigation is on," Singh added. In another incident, Commissionerate Police arrested a mason for his alleged involvement in a series of burglary cases in CDA and Markatnagar areas. Cuttack DCP said that the

accused was involvement in around six burglary cases between February 18 and March 9, 2021. The accused has been identified as Krushna Chandra Moharana. The accused used to target those houses where the occupants were absent. He used to steal electronic gadgets including TV, mobile phones and other household articles. "As many as 10 mobile phones, 5 laptops, 3 LED TV, digital camera and wrist watches have been seized from his possession," said Singh.



Several Parts Of Odisha To Experience Rain, Thunderstorm After Maha Shivaratri



Bhubaneswar, Mar 10: Several parts of Odisha will experience rain and thunderstorm activity for a period of two days after Maha Shivaratri (March 11), predicted India Meteorological Department (IMD) on Wednesday. As per IMD, a cyclonic cir-

culation extending upto 0.9 km above mean sea level lies over Jharkhand and neighbourhood. Under its influence, light to moderate rain or thundershower likely to occur at one or two places over the districts of Bargarh, Jharsuguda,

Sundargarh, Keonjhar, and Mayurbhanj between March 12 and 13. The IMD has also predicted rain and thunderstorm activity for several parts over the districts of Sundargarh, Keonjhar, and Mayurbhanj.

103 year old lady proves age is no bar in battle against COVID-19; receives COVID vaccine at Apollo Hospitals Bangalore



New Delhi, Mar 10: 103-years-old Smt. J. Kameshwari received her first dose of the

COVID-19 vaccine at Apollo Hospitals, Bannerghatta road, Bangalore. So far She is the

oldest woman in India to have received the COVID19 vaccine as per available data. She

was accompanied by her 77 year old son Prasad Rao and other eligible family members to Apollo Hospitals for vaccination. Smt. Kameshwari co-operated well with the staff while getting vaccinated, and neither she, nor her family members reported any side-effects in the 30-minute post-vaccination observation. Official spokesperson at Apollo Hospitals Bannerghatta Road commented, "We appreciate the courage and

grit shown by Smt. J. Kameshwari & her family, especially at this age to fight against the pandemic by getting vaccinated. They deserves to be praised for setting an example for other senior citizens and helping to alleviate any fear and doubts in their minds regarding vaccination. At Apollo we recommend more people to come forward and take the COVID-19 vaccination, which is a strong weapon in our armoury to win the battle against the novel coronavirus."

Nearly 70,000 frontline railway staff vaccinated, 3.2 lakh waiting for jab

New Delhi, Mar 10: The national carrier lost 592 railway employees due to Covid-19 while 32,641 railway employees in total were affected. The ministry of railways on Wednesday informed Parliament that the vaccination of employees of Indian Railways against Covid-19 is being done in a phased manner adding that it has vaccinated nearly 70,000 of its staff in the first phase. The ministry indicated that more than 3.2 lakh frontline railway employees have been identified for vaccination in the next phase. So far in its first phase railways have



begun the vaccination of railway healthcare workers and Railway Protection Force (RPF) staff. "Vaccination of Railway employees is being done in a phased manner. In the first phase Railway health care and Railway Pro-

tection Force (RPF) staff are being vaccinated. Till now, 18,964 Railway healthcare staff and 48,994 RPF staff have been vaccinated. 3,22,322 front line, Railway employees have been identified for vaccination in the next

phase," Union railway minister Piyush Goyal said in a written reply in Lok Sabha on Wednesday. Railways have been operating its freight trains and special trains since March last year when the government had announced a

nationwide lockdown to curb the spread of the Coronavirus disease. Covaxin can now be taken off clinical trial mode, the subject expert committee has recommended. A medic prepares to administer a dose of an AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine marketed under the name CoviShield, to a Ukrainian serviceman at a military base near the front-line town of Krasnohorivka, eastern Ukraine, Friday, March 5, 2021. The national carrier lost 592 railway employees due to Covid-19 while 32,641 railway employees in total were affected.

PFC organizes 23rd "Inter CPSU Table Tennis Tournament" in collaboration with Power Sports Control Board

New Delhi, March 10: Power Finance Corporation Ltd. (PFC), the leading NBFC in the Power Sector, organised the 23rd Inter CPSU Table Tennis Tournament in collaboration with the Power Sports Control Board from 5th to 8th March 2021 at Thyagaraj Stadium, INA,

Shri P.K. Singh, Director (Commercial), PFC inaugurated the tournament on 5th March 2021 and Shri R.S. Dhillon, CMD, PFC graced the Closing Ceremony and awarded the shield and medals to the winning team members on 8th March 2021. PFC has always endeavored to pro-



New Delhi. Eleven teams from various entities of power sector including Ministry of Power, CEA, REC, Powergrid, NHPC, THDC, DVC, SJVN, BBMB, POSOCO and PFC participated in the tournament.

mote sports and health among its workforce and stakeholders. The 23rd Inter CPSU Table Tennis Tournament was another step towards its commitment for a healthier and brighter tomorrow.

Fadnavis moves privilege notice against Maharashtra Home Minister

Mumbai, Mar 10: Leader of Opposition in the Maharashtra Assembly Devendra Fadnavis on Wednesday moved a breach of privilege notice against state Home Minister Anil Deshmukh, accusing the latter of making a false allegation against him. Speaking in the Assembly, Fadnavis said

Deshmukh on Tuesday accused him in the House of a "cover up" in the Anvay Naik suicide case in 2018. Naik, an Alibaug-based interior designer, allegedly killed himself in 2018. Journalist Arnab Goswami had been arrested in connection with the case. Fadnavis said a Supreme Court ruling

clearly stated that the FIR filed by the state government under Indian Penal Code Section 306 regarding abetment to suicide was prima facie wrong. "What Deshmukh said was contempt of court and also amounted to preventing me from conducting my duties as a member of the Legislature," he said.

Jaish-e-Mohammed terror module busted, 4 held: J&K Police

Srinagar, Mar 10: Inspector General of Police (IGP), Kashmir zone, Vijay Kumar said the JeM had motivated Sahil Nazir, a BA first-year student, through Telegram and other mobile messaging applications to procure a second-hand car for carrying out the attack. Police on Wednesday claimed to have busted a module of terror outfit Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM) by arresting four men, who were allegedly planning to carry out a car-bomb attack on security forces in Kashmir's Pampore. "Jaish wanted to carry out a car-bomb

Nazir, a BA first-year student, through Telegram and other mobile messaging applications to procure a second-hand car for carrying out the attack. "Using technical as well as human intelligence, police nabbed Sahil, who revealed the plot about the car-bomb attack. Kaiser, Younis and Yasir Ahmad Wani, who were involved in hatching the plot, have also been arrested," Kumar said, adding that the car was seized from the house of Younis. The IGP said Sahil has confessed to his involvement in the plot and also admitted that he had thrown a

militant ranks last year, the LeT had planned to carry out a fidayeen (suicide) attack or an IED blast at the municipal committee building in Pampore," he added. On the killing of Al-Badr chief Abdul Gani Khawaja in Baramulla district on Tuesday, the IGP said it was a "clean" operation with no collateral damage. "It is a major success for security forces. Abdul Gani had joined militancy in 2001 and was arrested in 2007. He was released in 2008 and worked as an OGW till 2018. He became active again in 2018," he said. Kumar said the slain

Farmer unions issue call for Bharat bandh on March 26

New Delhi, Mar 10: Farmer unions on Wednesday issued a call for Bharat bandh on March 26, when their protest at Delhi's borders against the Centre's three new farm laws completes four months. Farmer leader Buta Singh Burjill said farmers along with trade unions will protest the hike in fuel prices and privatisation of railways on March 15. "We will observe a complete Bharat bandh on March 26, when our protest against the three farm laws completes four months. The peaceful bandh will remain effective

from morning till evening," he told reporters at the Singhu border. On March 19, the farmers will observe 'Mandi Bachao-Kheti Bachao' day, he said. The farmer unions have also decided to celebrate 'Shaheedi divas' of Bhagat Singh, Rajguru and Sukhdev, Burjill added. Farmers leaders also said that copies of the new farm laws will be burnt during 'Holika Dahan' on March 28. Thousands of farmers, mostly from Punjab, Haryana and western Uttar Pradesh, have been camping at the Delhi border points —



Singhu, Tikri and Ghaziapur — for over four months, demanding the repeal of farm laws and a legal guarantee on the minimum support price (MSP) for their crops.

The protesting farmers have expressed apprehension that these laws would pave the way for the dismantling of the MSP system, leaving them at the "mercy" of

big corporations. However, the government has maintained that the new laws will bring better opportunities to farmers and introduce new technologies in agriculture.



attack and the Awantipora police was tracking this module. We have arrested four persons in this regard and have also seized the car that was to be used in carrying out the attack," Inspector General of Police (IGP), Kashmir zone, Vijay Kumar told reporters in Srinagar. He said JeM had motivated Sahil

grenade at security forces in the Pampore area of Pulwama district on January 25. Kumar said the police have also arrested an underground worker (OGW) of terror outfit Lashkar-e-Toiba (LeT) and seized 25 kilograms of explosives from his house in Pampore. "On the instructions of Omar Khanday, who joined the

militant parted ways with Hizbul Mujahideen and worked to reactivate Al-Badr on instructions from Pakistan. "He was involved in recruiting new militants for Al-Badr in Kashmir while receiving groups from across the Line of Control (LoC). He was a very big commander," the officer said.

R-Day violence: Man who assaulted cop with spear among two arrested

New Delhi, Mar 10: Two persons, including a 21-year-old man who assaulted a policeman on duty at the Red Fort with a spear on January 26, has been arrested in connection with the violence at the historic monument, police said on Wednesday. With this, the total number of arrests made in connection with the case stands at 14, they said. The police said that various teams of the Crime Branch Unit probing the case have been conducting regular raids at different places in Delhi and Punjab. Maninderjit Singh, 23, and Khempreet Singh, 21, who were actively in-

involved in the violence, were arrested on Tuesday. According to police, Maninderjit Singh, a Dutch national, settled in Birmingham, UK, was arrested at the Delhi airport while trying to flee from India on forged travel documents as Jarmanjit Singh. He originally belongs to a village in Gurdaspur district of Punjab. He was planning to fly first to Nepal from Delhi and then head to the UK. A look out circular was also issued by the police against him in connection with the case and he is also previously involved in two criminal cases, they said. The other accused, a resi-



dent of northwest Delhi's Swaroop Nagar, who police said had assaulted a policeman on duty inside the well area of the Red Fort with a spear, was absconding and willfully evading his arrest. Deputy Commissioner of Police (Crime) Monika Bhardwaj said the presence of Maninderjit Singh at the Red Fort was established through electronic

evidence. There are video footage on record, which shows his presence alongside the unlawfully assembled unruly riotous mob at the Red Fort carrying a spear during farmers agitation on January 26. "During an investigation, an electronic map was drawn to figure out the possible route taken by the accused to reach the Red Fort on the date of

the incident, which transpired that Maninderjit alongside the mob, started moving from the Singhu Border, Sanjay Gandhi Transport Nagar, Burari, Majnu ka Tila and finally reached the Red Fort. "Electronic evidence further corroborates the fact that he had also visited the Singhu Border protest site on different dates and took an active part in the violence at the Red Fort," the DCP said. The officer said that during analysis of videos available on case record, Khempreet Singh, along with his associates, was seen carrying a spear in his hand and assaulting a policeman inside the Red Fort.

World women's day celebrated by Biju womens' Janta Dal



(A.O. Bureau)
Puri, Mar 10: on behalf of Puri Biju Mahila Janta Dal Women's day observed at Biju Janta Dal Office Puri

Presided by Biju Janta Dal Dist. Women's wing President Santilata Pradhan The function was inaugurated by Ex Speaker

Mr Maheswar Mohanty and told that Protection of women their Education & Health system and their income should be high-

lighted the organization working for last 20 year in this context the development and pride of women should be vital one amount others

Sand Artist Mr. Manas Kumar Sahoo's Unique Sand Art



(A.O. Bureau)
Puri, Mar 10: On the Divine Occasion of Maha Shivaratri, International Sand Artist Mr. Manas Kumar Sahoo of Odisha, has sculpted a beautiful Sand Art on the Golden Sea Beach ,Near the L i g h t House,Baliapanda of Puri, Odisha and shares his Shivaratri Wishes to one & all through his Unique Sand Art. In his Sand Art, Mr.Manas has sculpted the Im-

age of Lord Shiva in the Dhyana Mudra posture amidst the Great Kailash Hill. And people seeking the blessings from him to save them from the deadly Pandemic "Corona". The Sand Art con-

sumed about 15 tonnes of Sand & took him about 7 hours to complete this Art. The Art is 15 ft wide with a pleading message " Oh God ! Save Us from Corona" & "Happy Shivaratri " engraved in it.

STPI-Bhubaneswar celebrates International Women's day

(A.O. Bureau)
Bhubaneswar, Mar 10: Software Technology Parks of India (STPI), under Ministry of Electronics & IT, Government of India is working on distinct focus of promoting IT/ITES/ESDM Industries and boosting of Software exports from the country and state. IT sector being a greatest enabler for empowerment of Women, STPI Bhubaneswar celebrates International Women's Day 2021 #IWD 2021 on 8th March 2021 where Dr. Omkar Rai, Director General, STPI was Chief Guest and Smt. Susmita Bagchi, Chairperson Mo School, Odisha, Padma Sri Shanti Devi, Smt. Rekha Lohani, IPS, Addl.

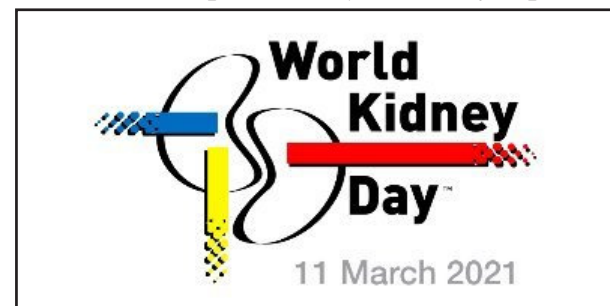
factor for continued growth of the industry which is a matter of celebration. Smt. Susmita Bagchi outlined the woman empowerment measures being taken by the State Govt. through the Mo School and other programs so that the girl children could be sensitized form a young age on their rights and privileges. Padmashri Shanti Devi lamented on increasing rate of crime and atrocities on women and sought for a paradigm shift in the thought process of man towards woman. She emphasized that the relationship between man and woman should be based mutual respect and understanding. She cited several incidents and anec-

tric outlook and attitude of the society and called for equitable norms and level playing fields for women in all walks of life. He said there cannot be double standards while dealing with women centric issues. In this occasion, Felicitation of Ms Purnima Giri & Ms Srimati Badra two National award winning women and children from Odisha who inspired with their hard work and resoluteness were felicitated. The Inaugural session was followed by Technical session which was addressed by Ms Sarita Mishra of TCS, Ms Prativa Mohapatra of IBM, Ms Sumona Karjee Mishra, Ms.Sumona Mitra and Dr Ruchi

World Kidney Day - CARE Hospitals committed on uninterrupted kidney care; urges patients not to delay treatment

(A.O. Bureau)
Bhubaneswar, Mar 10: On the occasion of World Kidney Day, CARE Hospitals commits to uninterrupted kidney care for Chronic Kidney diseases (CKD) and End-Stage Renal Diseases (ESRD) amid the ongoing pandemic; urging patients not to delay treatment due to the fear of catching the virus. In India, CKD is the fifth largest cause of death affecting around 10% of the adult population. Moreover, it is estimated that every year 2.2 lakh new patients with End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) get added to the country. Already one of the major health challenges, the pandemic and the resultant lockdown has made matters worse. Patients have faced difficulty in getting regular dialysis and have also

found it difficult to get access to life-saving medicines for CKD and ESRD. According to Kidney International, it is estimated that over 28% of kidney patients missed one or more dialysis sessions while 4.13% stopped reporting for dialysis. Adding to it, patients have delayed treatment due to the fear of catching the covid-19 virus. Panic resulting in the closing of some of the dialysis units temporarily had further increased the problems. Dr Ashok Panda, Senior Consultant, Nephrologist, CARE Hospitals,Bhubaneswar said, "Kidney patients need regular medical care. The disease is caused by a variety of symptoms and if not treated on time can lead to kidney failure." "We at CARE Hospitals commit to an uninterrupted



interdisciplinary care approach for patients with progressive kidney diseases include dietary counselling, medication and adherence review, dialysis access placement, transplant coordination, planning and treatment options education," he added. Dr Sucharita Chakraborty, Consultant, Nephrologist, CARE Hospitals,Bhubaneswar said, "The spread of COVID-19 has resulted in restricted patient visits to hospitals including those requiring chronic management. However, patients requiring regular medical

attention for any kind of kidney conditions should no longer delay treatment since they are at more risk of infection and some may have a serious impact on their health." According to data from NCBI, the prevalence of end-stage renal disease requiring transplantation in India is estimated to be between 151 and 232 per million population. If an average of these figures is taken, it is estimated that almost 220,000 people require kidney transplantation in India. Ms. Gurrit Kaur Sethi, Hospital Chief Operating Officer, CARE Hos-

pitals, Bhubaneswar said, "The Kidney Institute at CARE Hospitals offers comprehensive nephrology services under one roof and is a pioneer in renal transplantation in both live and cadaveric donor programs. "Patients with kidney disease need quality care, guidance and hope. As leaders in kidney disease management, we at CARE provide a full spectrum of services and take pride in our teamwork to achieve the best possible outcomes in a range of disorders from congenital to acquired and degenerative, he added." Worldwide, 850 million people are now estimated to have kidney diseases from various causes with chronic kidney disease (CKD) causes at least 2.4 million deaths worldwide per year.



Commissioner of Police, Bhubaneswar were joined as Guests of Honor to grace the Inaugural ceremony. Joining as Chief Guest Dr. Omkar Rai, DG, STPI said that the Indian IT industry has set high standard in gender inclusivity as the Women constitute 35% of total IT Workforce. Women are a key and vital part of our workforce, and their participation in the workforce is seen as a critical enabling

dotes form Indian Scriptures and Puranas to prove her points. Director STPI-Bhubaneswar Shri Manas Panda told that the faces of an Indian woman have been changed in the changing trend and the changing roles of Indian Women have been transformed from Bread Bakers to Bread Earners Smt. Rekha Lohani, Addl. Commissioner of P o l i c e , Bhubaneswar spoke about the man cen-

Mittal In this occasion some brightest woman entrepreneurs were shared their experience of handling challenging situation and success. Ms Puspita Mishra of Nrtutangana presented a scintillating Odissi performance. The was participated by more than hundred women lead tech Startups, lady entrepreneurs and working lady professionals and lady incubatees of Electropreneur Park (EP) Bhubaneswar.

Maha Shivaratri 2021: Shree Lingaraj Temple Decked Up

(A.O. Bureau)
Bhubaneswar, Mar 10: A day ahead of the auspicious 'Maha Shivaratri', Shree Lingaraj Temple in Bhubaneswar was all decked up today. The temple's entrance was lit up with decorative lights. Also, trees in front of the temple premises were decorated with lights. "Devotees visiting the temple are awestruck with the decorations. I get in touch with the inner soul while visiting the

Lingaaj Temple," said Manas Mohanty from Rourkela who has come to Lingaraj Temple to observe 'Maha Shivaratri' or 'Jagara' this year. Due to the pandemic devotees will not be allowed inside the sanctum sanctorum of the temple. But they can enter the 11th century temple till its 'Aada Katha'. Devotees will enter the temple from Singhdwara and exit through Dakshinadwara and Uttaradwara. Also,



they will be screened at the entrance of the temple. Those who found having symptoms will undergo antigen test at the spot. Meanwhile, the temple authorities issued the detailed schedule of the 'Maha Shivaratri' rituals today. As per the schedule, 'Sandhya Dhupa and Tirtha Jala Aanayana' ritual will be performed between 8.55PM and 10 PM on March 11, 2021 The 'Mahadeep Darshan' will be held at 10 PM tomorrow.

Odisha's Ronit Ranjan Nayak Tops NDA Exam



(A.O. Bureau)
Bhubaneswar, Mar 10: Odisha's Ronit Ranjan Nayak has emerged as the topper in the written examination and interview held for admission to the Army, Navy and Air Force wings of National Defence Academy (NDA) for the 145th course and Naval Academy for the 107th Indian Naval Academy Course (INAC).

Hailing from Bachada village in Jagannathpur area of Bhadrak district, Ronit was preparing for the exam at the Armed Forces Preparatory Institute (AFPI), Kolhapur, Maharashtra. His father Rashmi Ranjan Nayak is serving as a Master Chief Petty Officer at INS Hansa, Goa. Ronit has given the credit of his success to Lord Jagannath, his parents, and teachers at the AFPI. The written examination was held by the Union Public Service Commission on 6th September, 2020. The interview was conducted by the Services Selection Board of the Ministry of Defence. The results were declared on March 6, 2021.

Odisha Districts, Municipal Corporations Asked To Vaccinate 1 Lakh Elderly Persons Per Day

(A.O. Bureau)
Bhubaneswar, Mar 10: The Odisha government today directed district administrations and municipal corporations to vaccinate one lakh elderly persons per day against deadly Covid-19. Additional Chief Secretary of Health and Family Welfare Department, PK Mohapatra in a letter to the District Collectors, Municipal Corporation Commissioners and health officials including CDMOs directed them to accel-



erate the pace of vaccination of elderly persons in all districts and urban areas. The officials were asked to take steps to

enhance the pace of vaccination so that one lakh elderly persons can be vaccinated per day, it mentioned.

EDITORIAL

Back to nature

The country's first forest healing centre was inaugurated recently at Kalika in Ranikhet, Uttarakhand. The forest healing centre, spread over 13 acres, has been developed by the research wing of the Uttarakhand Forest Department after a comprehensive study on the healing properties of forests and their revitalising impact on the overall health and well-being of people. Though it's a step in the right direction, it is a sad reflection on humanity when we have to be taught how to commune with nature for our well-being. That we have forgotten how to feel the soil under our feet, smell the earth after the first rain, idly gaze at a spider spinning its web or at a star-filled sky or watch the canopy of trees swaying above us in awe, reveals that we live a poor life indeed, bereft of nature's bounty. Given our tenuous link with Mother Nature and obsession with a fast-paced materialistic life, this loss of touch with our inner self and realisation about what really matters, was bound to happen. It is no wonder then that even as we touch new heights in medical science, an increasing amount of people are falling prey to lifestyle diseases, stress and mental health issues. According to the World Health Organisation (WHO), close to one billion people are living with a mental disorder and one person dies every 40 seconds by suicide. Closer home, the WHO estimates that about 7.5 per cent of Indians suffer from some form of mental disorder, with 56 million suffering from depression and another 38 million from anxiety disorders. And now, COVID-19 has had further impact on mental health. However, every dark cloud has a silver lining and the pandemic, despite its crippling socio-economic impact, has taught us that we need to respect nature, live in harmony with it and that our mental and emotional well-being is as important as physical health. Consequently, we are going back to the basics with India's first forest healing centre that draws inspiration from the Japanese technique of forest bathing (shinrin-yoku) and ancient Indian traditions. It will involve activities like tree-hugging, meditation and sky gazing. Trained guides will help people engage in activities that help them experience nature with all their senses and relax as the therapy reduces cortisol, a stress hormone. Research shows that forest bathing has a positive impact on blood pressure and blood sugar levels. That all this communing with nature will generate employment in Uttarakhand is a bonus.

Staying alive

It is the fear of punishment and not respect for the law that makes most of us abide by the rules. Further, the "Chalta hai" (it's okay) mindset towards a problem only aggravates the situation. Even the COVID-19 pandemic that halted the world in its tracks and took a toll on millions — physically, mentally, emotionally, financially and socially — has failed to dull our insouciance. However, when our ignorance and lackadaisical approach are no longer safe for society at large, the Government is left with no option but to intervene. The recent surge in COVID-19 cases has led to partial lockdown and restrictions in several States. We deserve these curbs which seem to be the best possible response to the fresh outbreak in the current situation. Umpteen requests made by the Prime Minister, health experts and celebrities to maintain "Do gay ki doori" (a distance of two yards) and "mask hai zaroori" (wearing a face mask is must) have literally fallen on deaf ears as many citizens can be seen socialising in close proximity while travelling in Metros, local trains, buses, e-rickshaws and other public transport. Many others wear their face masks loosely, only covering their mouth but not the nose. Yet others don't even cover their mouth and let the mask hang over their chin, pulling it up on seeing a policeman or civil volunteer to avoid paying the fine. We must keep in mind that wearing masks improperly defeats the very purpose of wearing them at all. When the Mumbai locals were thrown open to all categories of commuters, people thronged the platforms and social distancing went for a toss. Similarly, the situation in Delhi is no better as despite restrictions and limited seating arrangements in Metro trains, there are violations galore. Seeing people jostle with one another on the stations, one is reminded of the pre-COVID days. One may argue that it's the job of the authorities to control the crowds or restrict entry; however, they alone are not to be blamed. It is our despicable mindset of "Kuchh nahi hota" (nothing will happen) and "Sab chalta hai" (everything is okay) that should be held accountable for making us all vulnerable to the virus. With its indigenous vaccines, India certainly enjoys an edge in the war against COVID, and by undertaking the world's largest vaccination drive we have proved our capabilities, but the jabs are no panacea. Besides, with the virus mutating into new perilous strains, it is certainly not a one-shot solution. The world has already learnt lessons from how the outbreak's second wave has wreaked havoc. With our burgeoning population, we are certainly not ready for any such unfortunate situation. The Centre has already rushed high-level public health teams to Maharashtra and Punjab, among the worst hit in the second wave, to assist in COVID-19 control and containment measures. Lockdown has been re-imposed in 16 hot spots in Thane district and the Maharashtra Government is mulling the possibility of night curfew or partial lockdown in Mumbai. The Government will do whatever it takes to fight the contagion but we must stick by the mantra "Davaai bhi, kadaai bhi" (Yes to medicine and yes to caution).

Pact price less than cost of strained ties



Ashok K Mehta

China managed to get the strategic Chushul heights vacated on the cheap but India is portraying the partial disengagement as victory. With five State elections planned over the next few months by accident or design, India might have hit a strategic sweet spot: Defusing its two-front standoff against China and Pakistan. With a partial and selective disengagement secured on China's terms, India is portraying this as victory in sync with its policy of "resolute response" to force the Chinese withdrawal from heights astride the Pangong Tso, leaving other People's Liberation Army (PLA) intrusions from Depsang to Demchok intact. Last Thursday MEA spokesperson Anurag Shrivastava, sounding abundant caution, said it was India's expectation that China will work with it to complete disengagement in the remaining areas which will lead to de-escalation in East Ladakh. That alone will lead to peace and provide conditions for progress in bilateral relations. Last Sunday, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi was singing an old tune on the rights and wrongs of the standoff, blaming India and reiterating that neither country was a threat to the other. After the standoff, China has adopted a substantially different position by not placing the border dispute as central to bilateral relations. On February 25, Wang informed Foreign Minister S Jaishankar of "some wavering and back-peddalling" affecting "practical cooperation between the countries". This is reason enough to delay future meetings to defuse other friction points. It is fair to assume that for China, the dis-

engagement process is over with Beijing managing to get the strategic Chushul heights vacated on the cheap. The reference to "difficulty in practical cooperation" will make future military and civilian dialogue on restoration of status quo ante April 2020 highly unlikely — certainly not before July 1, the Chinese Communist Party's centenary conclave. India's readiness to make concessions to China comes straight out of Jaishankar's book 'The India Way: Strategies For An Uncertain World'. No one knows the numbers involved but approximately 2,000-3,000 troops (a brigade) from each side have pulled back, not pulled out. Both sides have 50,000-70,000 soldiers posted on the front lines. The additional deployments and capital costs as well as maintenance and logistics put together for one year are estimated to be nearly Rs 30,000 crore (Rs 21,000 crore in capital expenditure alone). Then there is the cost of re-posturing troops from Pakistan to China's front which is work in progress. This level of additional

strategic prowess — Uri (2016), Doklam (2017), Balakot (2019) and now Ladakh (2021) — as political success stories against China and Pakistan. The backchannel talks with Pakistan's NSA Moef Yusuf, which India has denied, took place after the Galwan clash because the two-front situation began to hot up. It was a wise move, coming as it did after Indian security planners decided to switch four divisions facing Pakistan towards the North. The ceasefire could lead to a new India-Pakistan normal. Suddenly, pieces of the two-front puzzle are seen coming together despite the absence of a national security strategy. That says something. New Delhi is on the threshold of major defence reforms: 'The India Way without an Integrated Review' or 'Strategic Defence and Security Review'. Military commanders in charge of these reforms must not trivialise the process by allowing symbolism and politicisation to creep in to please the political elite. Last week the tri-service commanders were lined up in Gujarat for their review meeting in front of the towering statue of "Iron Man Sardar Patel", when that photo-op should have been with the images of military icons like Field Marshal Sam Manekshaw and Air Chief Marshal Arjan Singh, because the PMO wanted it. Regrettably, military ethos and traditions are alien to most Indian politicians and civil servants. But the partial disengagement deal, achieved by the Foreign Ministers under conditions of power asymmetry, reflects India's willingness to accept that the "price of a pragmatic settlement (with China) will be less than the cost of a difficult relationship".

Shiva theory in Vedic culture



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In Vedic culture, Shiva is called Mangalamaya Sachchidananda Parambrahma. In fact, the Shaivite tradition of Vedic literature has been around for a long time. Historians have suggested that animal worship was prevalent during the development of the Indus Valley Civilization in 3000 BC. According to the Kurma Puranas and the Vayu Puranas, Shiva was born as an Agnihotri Brahmin in the village of Karban on the banks of the Narmada River in the Kali Yuga. Patanjali's Yoga Sutra describes the Shiva Bhagavats. The historical account of Meghastinis mentions the worship of Mum Shiva. In the Kushan coins, Mum is seen holding Shiva Trishula on one side and Taurus on the other. The development of Shaivism in the Gupta period is known from the Mathura inscription of Chandragupta II. Shiva's glory and philosophical mysteries are described in the Mahabharata, the Shiva Purana, the Skanda Purana, the Kurma Purana, the Matsya Purana, the Ling Purana, and the

Purana. The Tantra is called Agam because all the visions were first taken out of Shiva's mouth and entered the ears of Girija. In Shantra, Shiva is worshiped wholeheartedly. Shiva is considered meditative in all its forms. That question is - Sadyojat, Bamdev, Aghor, Tatpurush and Ishan. Absolutely, he is worshiped in the form of the formless, pure God. In the eighth century, A d i S a k a g a e s -

established the sovereignty of Shaiva philosophy by propagating the idea of co-ordination by arranging the Pachayatan Puja. So in his opinion—"Neither Shaiva nor Shakto nor Vaishnava, Chidananda Rupang Shivo hang Shivo hamh". Upamanyu was one of the greatest devotees of Shiva. He lost his sight after eating orchids while refusing to eat calf's milk while grazing cows at the behest of the Guru. After meditating on Shiva again, he rolled his eyes. H i s S h a t i i s

a unique composition. Rusi Markandeya was immortalized by the full knowledge of the Shiva theory and by chanting the Trinitarian mantra. The Ishan Code justifies the Shivratri vows - the Shivratri vows are virtues and omnipotent. Achandal is human liberation, liberating. Shivaratri is celebrated on Elgun Krishna Chaturdashi. At the root of this vow is a popular saying. Once in Varanasi a hunter named Suswar hunted a deer and went home in the forest. When he got up, he stayed overnight on a tree to spend the night because of the arrival of the night. Tears welled up in her eyes as she struggled with hunger and anxiety over her relatives. He was tearing down the leaves of the tree. The tree on which he took refuge was the Bell Tree. He tore off the leaves and threw them down, but there was a shibboleth. Therefore, after the death of the hunter, the Shiva people gained influence under the influence of the Shiva Puja performed by Alaksha. The glory of the real Shivratri is indescribable. At four o'clock on the fourteenth day, devotees anoint Shivalinga with milk, butter, ghee and honey and offer various flowers, incense, and offerings.



Awarness program DSSO, Kendrapara for the differently abled has been held at the Town Hall of Kendrapara District Municipality

(A.O. Bureau)
Kendrapara, Mar 10: The government enacted a special law in 2016 for the benefit of the differently abled. It includes 21 types of physical disabilities in place of the previous 7 types of disabilities. "The government is committed to identifying and providing all kinds of government facilities for them." The law provides for differentiated allowances for the differently abled, as well as the provision of free equipment for their daily movement, walking, hearing, seen, etc. In many cases, however, the law does not apply to people with disabilities. Even differently



abled people are not aware of the laws that the government has enacted for them. "People with disabilities are being harassed without access to government services." On Tuesday, Srimati Sulochana Das

of the State Commissioner for person with disabilities, Odisha arrived in Kendrapara district and alerted both the differently abled brothers and sisters and the district administration. He encouraged ordinary

people as well to take part in solving this great task: "One of the things you and other people can do is keep up the pressure ... there are going to be some difficult decisions for government". Kendrapara

Additional District Magistrate Basant Kumar Raut, District Social Security Officer Prabhas Chandra Das and Kendrapara District Medical Officer Dr Anita Pattnaik were also present on the occasion. Kinnar Sabera Begum, a second-year student of S.N College, Rajaknika Block, was given a check for Rs 15 thousand for her annual education. Employees of the employment agency, staff of special schools were present and assisted. Mr. Swapnanshu Kumar Das, Principal, Nimai Charan Mental Retarded Special School, offered his thanks.

Congratulations to the Chief Minister on the MOU for the steel plant in Kendrapara

(A.O. Bureau)
Kendrapara, Mar 10: ArcelorMittal on signed an agreement (MoU) with the state government to set up a 12-million-capacity steel plant in Kendrapara, a non-industrial Kendrapara district. The MoU was signed in the presence of Chief Minister Naveen Pattnaik and Mittal Chairman LN Mittal. The center will have a steel plant with a capacity of 12 million tonnes. This will cost Rs 50,000 crore. It aims to produce 12 million tonnes of steel a year. He is grateful to the Chief Minister Naveen Pattnaik for signing a partnership



agreement with Arcel Mittal Company to set up a steel plant in the non-industrial Kendrapara district. "We are very happy that a memorandum of understanding has been signed between the state government and the Mittal company at the state secretariat," said Sanjay Kumar Jena, a government lawyer and BJD le-

gal cell. Along with Mr. Jena, Lawyers Hadibandhu Singh, Itihas Lenka, Ramakant Swain, Arun Prasad Das were the Chief Minister, 5T Secretaries and the Chief Minister's Secretary V.K. Pandian and all the MLA of Kendrapara and the MPs of Kendrapara thanked him.

Plc Holds International Women's Day

(A.O. Bureau)
Paradip, Mar 10: Paradip Ladies Club (PLC) organised International Women's Day at his office premises in Paradip on Monday. A seminar topic with "Balancing Psychological and Physical Health of a Modern Woman and

General Awareness" was held. On the occasion, renowned doctor Dr. Ranjita Pattnaik has joined as the chief guest and gave few practical tips to keep the balance between physical and mental health. The members of PLC and working

woman cell of PPT participated in a huge manner. The program was conducted in guidance of Mrs. Suchismita Bose, vice president, PLC and Mrs. Sabita Panda, working president, PLC. Lastly the vote of thanks offered by Seemashree Nayak.

52nd CISF Raising Day observed by CISF Unit, PPT

(A.O. Bureau)
Paradip, Mar 10: Like previous years, the Central Industrial Security Forces (CISF) Unit of Paradip Port Trust observed 52nd raising day in its local complex this morning. Gracing the occasion as Chief Guest, Shri A.K. Bose, Dy. Chairman, PPT took salute from the marching contingents. Addressing the gathering, he said that the CISF is created for the better protection and security of industrial undertakings in the country. It is no longer a PSU-centric force. With the number of



personnel has reached over 1,63,000, it has transformed into a multi-skill security agency of the country mandated to provide security to the major installations across the

country. Speaking on the occasion, Shri Madhabananda Biswal, Commandant, CISF Unit, PPT told about the importance of security required by the critical indus-

trial undertakings and sectors. Industrial places like nuclear installations, airports, power plants, heritage monuments, Delhi Metro Rail Corporation and many more

require CISF in order to maintain easy workflow and secure surroundings for citizens. Shri Dhyansingh, Dy. Commandant, CISF Unit, PPT offered vote of thanks.

Mega awareness program on Forest fire prevention by FD, MalKangiri



(A.O. Bureau)
Malkangiri, Mar 10: A public awareness camp for forest, wild life protection has been organized by the Malkangiri Forest Department at Chalanguda Gram Panchayat in Malkangiri district today to protect wildlife and not to set fire to the forest or to raise awareness among the villagers through forest rallies first. After reaching Chalanguda Chowk, the forest workers gathered the villagers and then organized an awareness road side drama by the forest department. Awareness

camp was organized at the Forester office chalanguda, As a chief guest sri Manas Madkami, chairman of the Special Development Council, Mr Pradeep Devidas Mirase IFS, Divisional forest officer, ACF Srikant Nayak, ACF, Lily Amanatya, Chalanguda sarpanch, Pushpa Padiami. Smt Bishwal HM joined in the mega awareness program and delivered his own address, raising awareness among the local people about the local language and swearing in by the local

youth, women, forest department staff and chief guests and women's unions at the end of the meeting. DFO Mirase said that when he took charge of the district, he identified about 1,100 fire points, but now it has dropped to 600, adding that the number will be reduced by raising public awareness. It was a great achievement for the Malkangiri Forest Department. By the Order and instructions of DFO, the Forest staffs always on duty to serve forest dependant people and save wildlife, and Forest

'Ethics and Compliance' week observed at JSW Odisha mines

(A.O. Bureau)
Barbil, Mar 10 March 2021: JSW Steel limited Odisha mining division observed 'ethics and compliance' week from 04th March to 10th March 2021. With the aim to educate and sensitize employees & partner companies regarding Code of Conduct, Ethics, Anti-Bribery and related matters, a number of awareness sessions and employee engagement activities were conducted throughout the week by the unit. Reiterating the effort, Mr. Ranjan Nayak, Chief Operating Officer, JSW Steel Limited (Odisha) said, "It is abso-

lutely important for an organisation to have a system of governance that lays down the guiding principles, expected behavior and actions from all employees both individually and collectively. As employees, we have always been complying with the Code of conduct and statutory laws/regulations that apply to our business. We at JSW Steel, have had a strong footing with values and continue to uphold them with utmost sincerity and diligence." The efforts made in these directions have been praiseworthy with motivated employees at times immediately reporting cases of malpractices etc with man-

agement. In a recent incidence, as per sources, two of the customers tried to bribe one of the officials from the company. The employee immediately reported the same and the unit took stringent action against the customers and cut off all business transaction with the said parties with immediate effect. It is noteworthy that as an organization, JSW Steel is focused on creation of an environment where employees are educated and made aware of elements of good governance, transparency and integrity and have a zero-tolerance policy towards unethical behaviour and malpractices.

trial undertakings and sectors. Industrial places like nuclear installations, airports, power plants, heritage monuments, Delhi Metro Rail Corporation and many more

require CISF in order to maintain easy workflow and secure surroundings for citizens. Shri Dhyansingh, Dy. Commandant, CISF Unit, PPT offered vote of thanks.

Forest fire in Similipal has totally been contained: Task Force

(A.O. Bureau)
Bhubaneswar, Mar 10: Forest fire in Similipal has totally been contained and only 24 points are detected on Wednesday,

which are being attended in the field, officials said. The Similipal Tiger Reserve is spread over 2750 sq.km and includes 2306.6 sq.km of sanctuary.

4 students missed the standard exam due to negligence of headmaster

(A.O. Bureau)
Malkangiri, 10/03:- While the new fifth-grade students at Adarsh ??Vidyalaya across Odisha have been excited to take the regular Adarsh ??Vidyalaya entrance exams on the 8th of this month, an unfortunate incident is now coming to the notice of the headmaster. This is about 4 small kids students. An unfortunate incident took place at the Odisha Adarsh ??Vidyalaya in the Padia block of Malkangiri district. Four students were reportedly denied entrance exams for sixth grade. Parents have reacted to the disappointment of four small kids in the area who have returned from the examination center due to non-completion of admis-



sion forms for admission to the Adarsh ??Vidyalaya in Bapanpalli under the Padia block. According to the incident, the parents of MV 97 Papiya, sarkar Subham Sarkar, Mohim Tarpadar and Sasmita Mandal of MV 97 School under Kalimela block had submitted the required fees and certificates to the school Headmaster to fill out the form for the entrance examination. The headmaster promised to fill out the form when he contacted the HM by phone.

But at the same time, the students arrived at the test center and found that their forms had not been filled. Sadly, the student parents were seen returning home crying, but the Headmaster did not respond to a request for comment. "The family told the Associated Press. Parents and the general public are calling for exemplary action against those who play with the lives of these young kids future they meet with BEO kalimela and he assured to make an inquiry.

Hotelier Murder Case Cracked; 5 Held

(A.O. Bureau)
Rourkela, Mar 10: In a breakthrough in the murder of

police arrested five persons including the prime accused today. Also, the po-



'Basera' hotel owner in Rourkela city last month, the

lice seized two country-made guns and a stolen Pulsar

motorcycle from the possession of the five accused. As per reports, owner of Hotel Deluxe Lane, Dilip Kumar Sharma hired contract killers to eliminate the owner of 'Basera' hotel, Sajjan Mittal as the hotelier was not ready to vacate the market complex. The deal was finalized for Rs 2.5 lakh and an advance payment of Rs 40,000 was paid to the ac-

cused. On February 9, 2021, when Sajjan was entering his house, the accused attacked him at around 10:45 PM. In the meantime, two bike borne miscreants attacked the hotelier with an iron rod. He wretched in pain while the attackers fled the spot. His family members rushed him to the spot after hearing screams for help.

He was declared dead while undergoing treatment at the IGH. The accused were identified as Rajat Biswakarma from Gandhi Road, Deluxe hotel owner Dilip Kumar Sharma, Rajesh Singh alias Raju, Aman Prasad from Bihar and Nil Paul alias Sarada from Koelnagar. One associate of the prime accused is still at large.

Ahead of Roohi, 9 Bollywood classics which will spook you out even today

New Delhi, Mar 10: One of Bollywood's most favourite themes – horror, has gone through many iterations and experiments in the last few decades. Be it the woman in a white saree who walks around with a candlestick in her hand singing in a haunting voice, the creaking doors, the abandoned mansions, the fear of the unknown, or even the loud, campy style of the Ramsay Brothers – the genre has been through enough facelifts, sometimes literally. From Darna Mana Hai to Darna Zaroori Hai, and Urmila Matondkar starrer Bhoot to Vicky Kaushal starrer Bhoot: The Haunted Ship, the audience continues to be on the lookout for something different, even if the titles remain the same. But a section of loyal viewers still believes that this genre is ruled by classic films, even after many repeat viewings. In the recent past, the horror genre has incorporated comedy, romance and even erotica in the mix. With recent movies like Pari, Bulbbul and Ghost Stories, we know the genre has expanded, the current flavour being 'horror-comedy'. Producer Dinesh Vujan can be credited for making the genre popular with

his 2018 film Stree and is now all set to expand the universe with his next film, Roohi. But before you head out to watch Roohi in theatres this week, here's a list of some old classics which can be revisited ahead of the release of the Janhvi Kapoor-Rajkummar Rao-Varun Sharma starrer.



starred Ashok Kumar and Madhubala. One of Bollywood's first experiments with horror, Mahal had Ashok Kumar's character having visions of a woman who claims to be his lover, soon after he shifts into a new mansion. Soon we realise it's the plot of reincarnation, a tragic love story and a haunted bungalow, with Kumar's resemblance with the previous owner being the reason. But imagine Madhubala

haunting your dreams. This one was scary! Madhumati (1958): Madhumati starring Dilip Kumar and Vyjayanthimala was one of the first films in genre in Bollywood. Dilip Kumar and Vyjayanthimala starred in this Bimal Roy classic. It begins on a stormy night, inside a creepy mansion, a mys-



terious caretaker and a tale of memories from the past life, ignited by a spooky painting. It became a benchmark for several horror films that eventually followed in the 1950s. Bees Saal Baad (1962): Waheeda Rehman and Biswajit starred in Bees Saal Baad. Based on Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's The Hound Of Baskerville, this Waheeda Rehman and Biswajit film frightened the nation whenever its

mysterious woman walked around a field in the middle of the night, singing "Kahin Deep Jale Kahin Dil" in Lata Mangeshkar's voice. The way it utilised camera, shadows, lights and silhouettes to build the tension remains one of the finest in Bollywood, till date. Let's just say Bees Saal Baad will spook us even after sau



marriage only to realise his bride is a spitting image of the ghost he saw. There's much more than what meets the eye, here. Post Woh Kaun Thi, Sadhana's onscreen image flipped completely. Kohraa (1964): Kohraa had actors Waheeda Rehman and Biswajit. Based on the novel Rebecca by Daphne du Maurier, Kohraa revolves around Rajeshwari who gets married to Amit and moves into his house, only to realise it is haunted by the spirit of his first wife, Poonam, who won't let the new couple live happily ever after. Gumnaam (1965): genre in Bollywood. Raat (1992): Raat starred Revathi in the lead role. Revathi, in a never-seen-before avatar, when she gets possessed by the spirit of a kitten and she goes on a rampage of killing people, some by twisting their necks. Who remembers Mini's eyes turning blue? One of the scariest films from the stable of Ram Gopal Varma, it fell more under the psychological thriller genre, but enough to give you many sleepless nights. This cult classic will change how you look at cats, forever.

back from their roles as senior royals. Meghan also spoke about her suicidal thoughts and how she was denied professional help in the name of the institution. In addition to these, she also revealed about the "concerns and conversations" of the senior royal members about the color of their son Archie's skin. On the other hand, the Buckingham Palace has responded to Meghan and Prince Harry's claims about the royal family. Stating that the allegations about racism are being taken seriously, the statement was issued in the name of the Queen.

Alia Bhatt's Birthday Bash Gets Postponed After Ranbir Kapoor Tests Positive for COVID-19



New Delhi, Mar 10: Ranbir Kapoor had reportedly planned a birthday bash for his lady love on March 15. However, now that he has contracted the deadly virus, the celebrations will take place on a later date. Actor Ranbir Kapoor apparently made plans to make his lady love Alia Bhatt's birthday feel special this year. However, now that he has contracted the virus all his personal and professional commitments have been pushed further. The news about him testing positive was shared by his mom Neetu Kapoor on Instagram. In the post, Neetu thanked Ranbir's well-wishers and informed that he is undergoing treatment and is currently in quarantine at home. According to a report published in The

Times of India, Ranbir had planned a birthday bash for his lady love on March 15. However, now that he has contracted the deadly virus, the celebrations will take place on a later date. Ranbir and Alia have also been working together for their upcoming movie titled Brahmastra. Recently, Alia had also shared a post on social media from the sets of the film. In the pictures that she had shared, the actress was seen happily posing with Ranbir and director of the movie, Ayan Mukerji. The makers of the film have informed that they will not proceed with the shooting till the time Ranbir recovers fully. They also added that for them the well-being of their crew is of utmost importance. Brahmastra is a fantasy action adventure

film which also stars, Amitabh Bachchan, Mouni Roy and Nagarjuna Akkineni in pivotal roles. Meanwhile, Alia has tested negative for COVID-19. A source close to her mentioned that the actress nearly undergoes the test every day. Director Sanjay Leela Bhansali who has been working with Alia closely for the movie Gangubai Kathiawadi has also test positive for coronavirus. Gangubai Kathiawadi is a biographical crime film based on a chapter of Hussain Zaidi's book Mafia Queens of Mumbai. In the movie Alia plays the titular role while other crucial roles are being played by Shantanu Maheshwari, Vijay Raaz, Indira Tiwari and Seema Pahwa.

Beyonce Shows Support to Meghan Markle After Interview, Thanks Her for 'Courage and Leadership'



New Delhi, Mar 10: Britain's Royal Family members Meghan Markle and Prince Harry have revealed about their life as the royals and the aftermath of exiting the institution to live a normal life. In their interview to Oprah Winfrey, the expecting couple talked about the

treatment they received when they decided to move away from their royal lives. After her shattering interview, Meghan has been receiving support from celebrities from all over the world. The latest to stand by Meghan's words is pop-star Beyoncé, who showed

her love for Meghan, Duchess of Sussex, in a powerful message posted on her website. The superstar singer displayed her support through a message on Tuesday. Thanking the former actress for her "courage and leadership", Beyonce wrote, "We are all strengthened and inspired by you." Marijuana THC Can Stay in Breast Milk for Six Weeks Even After New Moms Quit Using it Early Marriages, Teenage Pregnancies?: How to Remove the Roadblocks in the Way of Harnessing India's Demographic Dividend She posted

the message along with the picture of the Duchess, which was clicked when she and Jay-Z met the royal couple during the premier of Lion King. Not just Beyonce, but Serena Williams, Sophie Turner, Patrick J Adams and Abigail Spencer have also showed their support to Meghan in recent days. While Patrick and Abigail supported her over allegations by the royal staff, Sophie and Serena stood by her after the interview. The interview was the first time when Prince Harry and Meghan addressed media since stepping

back from their roles as senior royals. Meghan also spoke about her suicidal thoughts and how she was denied professional help in the name of the institution. In addition to these, she also revealed about the "concerns and conversations" of the senior royal members about the color of their son Archie's skin. On the other hand, the Buckingham Palace has responded to Meghan and Prince Harry's claims about the royal family. Stating that the allegations about racism are being taken seriously, the statement was issued in the name of the Queen.

Rajkummar Rao on Dinesh Vujan's horror-comedy universe: Roohi's Bhawra and Stree's Vicky might come together

Mumbai, After many of his films took the OTT route in the past year, Rajkummar Rao is excited to be back on the silver screen with Roohi. Also starring Varun Sharma and Janhvi Kapoor, Roohi is set to release in theatres on March 11. Here, Rao plays a village simpleton named Bhawra who falls in love with a woman possessed by a spirit. Rao has earlier had success with this genre in 2018's Stree and hopes to strike gold one more



time. In a conversation with indianexpress.com, Rao spoke about Dinesh Vujan's horror-comedy universe that started with Stree, working with Janhvi Kapoor and the global success of The White Tiger. Raj shared

how he made sure that Bhawra and Vicky (Stree) did not appear similar. "It was fun working on Stree back then, a horror-comedy, first of its kind, and then to get back to that world and play a different character.

From Shahid Kapoor to Sonakshi Sinha, Bollywood Stars Gear Up for OTT Debut This Year

New Delhi, Mar 10: The OTT space is revolutionising the way we enjoy visual entertainment, and it is reorganising a lot of things in Bollywood, too. Among things in Bollywood that seem to be changing is the concept of stardom. Gone are the days when being a star was about



big screen glory. In this context, what is currently going on has been unprecedented. Several top Bollywood stars are headed towards OTT as never before. These are not character artists or budding stars, but established names such as Shahid Kapoor, Sonakshi Sinha, Madhuri Dixit, Raveena Tandon and Juhi Chawla. It is something that Television never managed. At the height of superstardom, even though Amitabh Bachchan, Salman

Khan or Shah Rukh Khan have appeared on TV, they came as themselves, and not to essay fictional roles. On OTT, it is the roles that seem to be attracting big Bollywood stars. Many feel it is an outcome of a star's innate urge to find an audience. Even though the theatres have opened up, it seems OTT platforms have an edge. With Covid cases showing no sign of receding, there is no guarantee when the big screen business will be back in full swing. While Bollywood stars like Kajol and Emraan

Hani have a 1- ready

made their OTT debut, the year 2021 will see a major influx of well-known names into the world of OTT. Says casting director and filmmaker Mukesh Chhabra: "I remember I used to approach actors earlier and they weren't too keen when I said the film would release on an online platform. But now, everything has changed in a span of a year's time. More and more films and shows are being bought by OTT giants. Actors are more willing to do these shows and films." He adds: "Actors always want an audience, the bigger the better. So, while many of them are already well established, they can

now have a bigger audience from every part of the country or world, so to say." With new announcements coming everyday, it is clear that mainstream film actors are looking directly at OTT platforms for some breath of fresh air. Actress Kajal Aggarwal, who made her OTT debut in February with the series "Live Telecast", says doing an OTT project felt like a natural step for her. "I think it's a very natural progression for actors to venture into different platforms. Making your mark in the digital world is very important, especially to connect with the millennial," she says. Here's a latest list of Bollywood's top stars who

are lined up for OTT debut in the months to come: The actor announced his digital debut with filmmakers Raj Nidimoru and Krishna DK's action thriller series, which has not been titled yet. Shahid is expected to do some heavy duty action scenes on the show. Actress Sonakshi Sinha, who has been a part of big productions in Bollywood, will play a fearless lady cop in an untitled series. The series will be directed by Reema Kagti and also star Vijay Varma, Gulshan Devaiah and Sohumi Shah. The actress recently announced her upcoming digital debut in the series "Finding Anamika". While details

are awaited, it is known that Madhuri plays the role of a global superstar, who suddenly goes missing. The series is directed by Karishma Kohli and Bejoy Nambiar. The actress will make her digital debut with a web series tentatively titled "Hush Hush". The series has a female-led cast and crew, with director, producers, writers being women. Actress Ayesha Jhulka will also be making her digital debut in the series. The actress will be seen on OTT platform in the series "Aranyak". Raveena will play a cop named Kasturi Durga. The series is directed by Vinay Vyakul.

IND vs NZ WTC final: ICC confirms Southampton as venue for World Test Championship final

New Delhi, Mar 10: Initially, the final was supposed to be held at the Lord's but the ICC Board and the ECB decided to change the venue to ensure that the fixture could be staged safely with the potential impact of COVID-19 minimised for all involved. India will take on New Zealand in the final of the inaugural World Test Championship in a bio-secure bubble at the Hampshire Bowl in Southampton from June 18-22, the game's governing body ICC said on Wednesday. Initially, the final was supposed to be held at the Lord's but the ICC Board and the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) decided to change the venue to ensure that the fixture could be staged safely



with the potential impact of COVID-19 minimised for all involved. "The decision, taken by the ICC Board, follows discussions with the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) where a range of options were considered to ensure the inaugural final could be staged safely with the potential impact of COVID-19 minimised for all involved," the ICC said in an official statement. The governing body added "should

the UK government's phased easing of COVID-19 lockdown measures proceed as planned, it is anticipated that a limited number of fans will be allowed into the Hampshire Bowl to watch the final." New Zealand were the first team to qualify for the final and they were joined by India following their 3-1 series win over England which concluded on Saturday. According to the ICC, "Southampton provides world-class playing and

training facilities, giving both teams the best possible environment in which to prepare. Whilst the on-site accommodation will significantly reduce the risk around COVID-19 transmission and better protect the health and safety of everyone involved in delivering the final." "We are delighted that the ICC has chosen to host the inaugural World Test Championship Final at The Hampshire Bowl. As the world's first fully bio-secure cricket

venue, it has shown itself capable of delivering international matches to the highest of standards, even against the backdrop of a global pandemic. I am sure the finale of the ICC World Test Championship will be a wonderful occasion," Tom Harrison, ECB chief executive said. New Zealand were the first team to qualify for the final and they were joined by India following their 3-1 series win over England which concluded on Saturday.

Buttler picks hosts India as favourites for T20 World Cup

Ahmdabad, Mar 10: England white-ball vice-captain Jos Buttler feels hosts India, who are strong in every format of the game, are favourites for this year's T20 World Cup. India, who won the inaugural T20 World Cup in 2007, will host the tournament in October and November. "Going into World Cups, you probably look at hosts nations one specially as strong as India who are going to be favourites for that tournament," Buttler, in an interaction with British media on Tuesday, said. "There are many excellent teams, in the last few World Cups hosts nations have performed very well. India is of course strong in every format and T20 is no different and especially playing at home I see India as the favourites,"

Buttler added. England and India are slated to play in a five-match T20 series, starting here on Friday and the Buttler feels it is the perfect opportunity for his side to

the World Cup. "So, it's a fantastic opportunity for us as a side to be playing against India in World Cup conditions," he added. "This is a great benefit for us. Being here



get acclimatised to the World Cup conditions. "It's vital for us to play and hopefully you wanna win that series and take that confidence and gel together as a group and have that clarity ahead of

and to play in Ahmedabad in the brand new stadium which may play a big part in the World Cup and no one has played here before. So it's a big advantage for us to learn about conditions," Buttler said.

Tokyo will be my Olympic swansong, says Mary Kom

New Delhi, Mar 10: Indian boxer Mary Kom has said the Tokyo Games will be her final appearance at the Olympics but she takes solace from the fact that her bronze medal in 2012 has inspired young girls in the country to take up the sport. Six-times world champion

age matters here. I'm 38 now, going on 39," Kom told the Olympic Channel. "Four (three) more years is a long time. Pretty sure I won't be allowed to even if I'm willing to carry on till Paris 2024. The age limit for boxers is set at 40 but was extended to 41 for the Tokyo

beating a younger challenger in a trial in 2019. "Olympics is huge. For any sportsperson, participating and winning a medal at the Games is a dream, it changes lives," she added. "Becoming an Olympian and winning the bronze changed my life too. It also inspired many



Kom, 38, has been boxing for 20 years but had to wait for the London Games in 2012 for a shot at an Olympic medal when women were allowed to compete for the first time. "Tokyo will be my last Olympics,

Games which were pushed back by a year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Kom, who failed to make the cut for the Rio Games in 2016, won the opportunity to qualify for Tokyo 2020 after

women to take up sport, especially boxing. "I feel proud. I want more girls to come out and fight. I hope there are no restrictions on them to come out and fight for themselves and their country."

Hardik bowls with tweaked action

Ahmedabad, Mar 10: All-rounder Hardik Pandya has started bowling full tilt at the nets with a slightly tweaked action ahead of the five-match T20 series against England, giving the Indian team an additional bowling option in white-ball format that they have missed for some time. Hardik uploaded a video of his net session on his Twitter page, which mainly was a collage of his booming hits including his customised version of helicopter shot as head coach Ravi Shastri, batting coach Vikram Rathour and skipper Virat Kohli looked intently. However, it was the last 10 seconds of footage that really caught the attention when he strode into bowl. Since suffering stress fractures in his back in 2019, Hardik has rarely bowled. He was forced to bowl during the Australia ODIs at a time when his action was undergoing a change. Former national selector and Test bats-



man Devang Gandhi has noted the change in his action. "It seems that he has reduced the length of his jump and in turn the stride is shorter. If you have a big jump, automatically, your stride will be longer and there will be more pounding on landing," Gandhi said. The economy of action will put lesser stress on his back as Pandya could be an important cog not only during the T20 World Cup in October

but also the seamer all-rounder that India will desperately need in England where they are scheduled to play six Test matches, beginning with World Test Championship final in Southampton. Veteran opener Shikhar Dhawan is unlikely to get any game in the five-match T20 series unless one among KL Rahul and Rohit Sharma is either injured or rested. It has been learnt that as of

now, Dhawan has no chance of making it to the playing XI in the T20 format although he will remain the first choice back-up opener. Dhawan, who was second-highest scorer behind KL Rahul in last year's IPL, will find it difficult to get a look in, in this shortest format with Rohit, who was injured during the white ball leg, is back in the thick of things. "KL and Rohit are your opening

pair in T20s going into the World T20. Shikhar will be the reserve opener and will have to wait for his turn. May be during the ODIs, he can be given a chance if the ODIs are also treated as an extension of T20 preparation," Gandhi, who till recently was in selection panel commented. Gandhi feels that Rishabh Pant should bat at number 4 which will give him a lot of time to play his destructive game and he would like to see Suryakumar Yadav being tried out at number five in the line-up. The toss-up for one specialist middle-order slot is between Surya and Shreyas Iyer and Gandhi's vote is with the Mumbai Indians man. "Surya has had tremendous success for Mumbai Indians in the IPL batting at that particular slot. If you are looking at him going into the World T20, give him as many games as possible in the lead up. He should also be kept in the ODI squad."

Indian hockey teams to get allowance under TOPS till Olympics: SAI

New Delhi, Mar 10: The core group players of both the Indian men's and women's hockey teams will be entitled to a monthly allowance of Rs 50,000 under the government's Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS) till the Tokyo Games in July-August this year. "... the Mission Olympic Cell has sanctioned Rs. 50,000 per athlete as out-of-pocket allowance for the members of the Indian men's and women's hockey team under the Target Olympic Podium scheme," the Sports Authority of India said in a statement. A total of 58 hockey players, 33 men and 25 women, will benefit from this decision. Indian men's hockey team captain Manpreet Singh welcomed the decision. "This is a big in-



centive for all the players in the Men's Core Group who are preparing for the Tokyo Olympic Games. We are very elated on hearing about this news, and would like to thank the government," he said. "We have many play-

ers who come from very difficult economic backgrounds and an allowance of this accord will definitely help them pursue the sport through to the Olympic Games without any hindrance," he added. This will be the first time that

the women's team will be considered under TOPS for OPA. "This is the first time the entire Women's Hockey Core Group has been included in the TOPS Scheme and we are very thankful to the govern-

ment," captain Rani Rampal said. "This decision taken today really goes to show that women's hockey is equally important, and we are being given equal benefits which is a big encouragement for us."

Mohun Bagan pip NorthEast United 2-1 to set up ISL final against Mumbai City

Margao, Mar 10: ATK Mohun Bagan, in its first year as a joint entity, reached the Indian Super League final with a 2-1 victory over NorthEast United in the second leg of the play-offs, here on Tuesday. With this win, the Mariners have set up a blockbuster title clash against League Shield Winners Mumbai City FC. The green and maroon brigade won the two-leg play-offs by 3-2 aggregate. The result also means that Bagan have qualified for the AFC Cup Group Stages after finishing second in the league and qualifying for the final. Their opponents in the final, Mumbai City FC, have sealed the Asian Champi-

ons League spot. David Williams (38') continued his fine form in the play-offs by scoring yet again while Manvir Singh (68') added the second before VP Suhair (74') pulled a goal back for the Highlanders. Bagan adopted a completely different approach from the first leg. They had 16 shots in the first half but just three on

target. It took them just three minutes to sound a warning. However, the Kolkata side deservingly took the lead in the 38th minute and when Roy Krishna set up Williams upfront, who was quick enough to beat the Highlanders' defenders with pace. After entering the box, the Australian slotted home.



Irshita OJS Topper, a former student of Vikas High School



Bargarh, Jan 10: Irshita Kesharwani, a combined two science students who studied in the Odisha Judicial Service (OJS) examinations organized by the OPSC this year in the 2011-13

batch at the Vikash Junior College (now Vikash High School), topped the list. Irshita is the daughter of Sanjay Kumar Kesharwani and Manorama Kesharwani of Gadposh village in

Sambalpur district. In two science exams, Irshita passed the first grade. A few days ago, Nihar Ranjan Pradhan, a former science student at Vikas Junior College, was hired as a scientist at ISRO. Mr. Murali Krishna, Chairman, Vikash Institute, congratulated Ershita and her parents on the success of high quality development teaching, student board, entrance exams and other competitive exams. Director Dr. Samrendra Nath Panda, Director Academics Shri G. Ramakrishna, Director of Administration Mr. D. Bibek Kumar, Principal Shri Murari Prasad Sahu and the teachers of the school congratulated Ershita.

9 Students of KIIT School of Law Qualify Odisha Judicial Service Exam

(A.O. Bureau) Bhubaneswar, Mar 10: Students of KIIT School of Law have excelled in the Odisha Judicial Service (OJS) Examination 2019, result of which was declared by the Odisha Public Service Commission (OPSC) on 9th March 2021. Total 47 candidates cleared the examination for appointment to the posts of Civil Judges in the Odisha Judicial Service. Out of the 47 successful candidates, 9 are students of KIIT School of Law. Three students from

the School figure in the top 10 merit list- Krushna Mishra (Rank 3), Subhajit Behera (Rank 5) and Deban Satyadarshi Nanda (Rank 7). Other successful students of KIIT School of Law are Chandan D e h u r y , D a b a m a l i n e e Aishworya, Jaya Ray, Mandira Mahanta, Sharon Bastia and Veeyenna Nayak. Among the successful students, seven are from different batches of Bachelor of Law (LL.B), while two are pursuing Master of Law (LL.M) in KIIT

School of Law. As the results were published, parents and students have been expressing gratitude to the

nation. Expressing happiness over the excellent performance of the School, Dr. Achyuta Samanta, Founder,

students have been excelling every year and getting success in various competitive exams and campus placement due



KIIT School of Law for the success of their wards in this prestigious exami-

KIIT & KISS congratulates all the successful students. KIIT School of Law

to its quality education, innovative teaching learning process and efforts of faculty members.

International Women's Day Celebrations at Vedanta's Odisha Operations

(A.O. Bureau) Bhubaneswar, Mar 9: Vedanta Aluminium, India's largest producer of aluminium and value-added products, celebrated International Women's Day at its alumina refinery at Lanjigarh, and aluminium & power operations at Jharsuguda, in Odisha. As a part of the celebration, various interactive sessions, awareness drives and community engagement activities like mass plantation, week-long menstrual hygiene awareness campaign, etc. were conducted. The commemoration started with Smt. Smriti Zubin Irani, Hon'ble Minister of Women and Child Development, and Textiles, virtually addressing the Vedanta employees on 8th March in the presence of Mr. Anil Agarwal, Executive Chairman - Vedanta Resources Limited, and his daughter, Ms. Priya Agarwal Hebbur, Non-Executive Director. In a separate session, Mr. Anil Agarwal and Ms. Priya Agarwal Hebbur also had a candid virtual conversation with all employees of Vedanta and their spouses, on the focus of the organization to ensure gender parity and greater inclusivity of women at all levels of decision making. Marking the occasion, Mr. Rahul Sharma, Dy. CEO - Aluminium Business, Vedanta Ltd., said, "The manufacturing industry



has traditionally been male dominated. But, for us at Vedanta, to be a metals' giant with one of the highest gender diversity ratios in the country, is something we take great pride in. We treat every role as absolutely gender-neutral, which has led to women leading all facets of core functions, from Operations & Maintenance, Security, R&D, Marketing, Finance and HR, right up to operating cranes. As India's largest aluminium producer, we strive to build a culture that fosters meritocracy and excellence. This enables us to build a vibrant and inclusive environment that allows our greatest asset - our people - to thrive." Celebrating the occasion with beneficiaries of 'Sakhi', its women empowerment project in Lanjigarh, Vedanta organized various engaging activities themed on 'Choose to Challenge'. At Jharsuguda, the com-

pany collaborated with the all-women Subhalaxmi Co-operative to felicitated top-performing women entrepreneurs and Self-Help Groups (SHGs). It also conducted weeklong menstrual hygiene awareness sessions in many villages, reaching out to more than 200 adolescent girls and women members of Subhalaxmi Co-op. Speaking at the event, Mr. Sukanta Majhi, Additional Project Director, District Rural Development Agency (PD, DRDA), Jharsuguda, said, "Vedanta's efforts and commitment towards empowering the community women is appreciable. I am certain that the company will continue to provide its support in the further development of women." An equal opportunity employer, Vedanta's value system epitomizes the two fundamental pillars - diversity and inclu-

sion. Some of its best practices, highlights and notable initiatives which enable women to deliver their best are: * All job roles across the aluminium and power value-chain are gender-agnostic. * Currently, Vedanta's Odisha operations employee more than 1,200 women professionals, leading core functions like Smelter and Power operations, Safety, Security, Infrastructure, Commercial, Marketing, Innovation, Logistics, and many more. * In its latest initiative to build a pipeline of future women leaders, Vedanta has launched V-LEAD (Diversity Development Programme) to identify highly potential women candidates early on and groom them into leadership roles. The company has also launched V-REACH, a programme that seeks to identify and develop young leaders from the g r a d u a t e

employees' cadre and map them to significantly elevated roles. * At Jharsuguda, the company has formed an all-women fire-fighting team 'Agnivahini', who have been meticulously trained to act effectively and efficiently in emergency situations. * At Lanjigarh, the Central Control Room (CCR) is entirely managed by women engineers and operators. The CCR manages the alumina refinery's key operational and technical processes with advanced control systems. * Subhalaxmi Co-operative, Vedanta's marquee project in sustainable livelihood and women empowerment at Jharsuguda, is one of India's largest women co-operatives with a membership base of more than 4100 women. It promotes sustainable livelihood opportunities among rural women, creating avenues for entrepreneurship through skill development and microfinance support. Vedanta is one of the largest investors in Odisha, with investment of approx. INR 50,000 crores over the years, with deep interventions in the areas of women's financial literacy and empowerment, sustainable livelihood, education, healthcare, and infrastructure development. Vedanta continues to be a transformative force in the state's socio-economic landscape.

Premium Indent Policy To Boost Freight Traffic

New Delhi, Mar 10: In a bid to facilitate freight customers for timely delivery of goods through freight trains, Minis-

try of Railways has launched the premium indent policy. Freight customers will get priority for allocation of rake under the premium indent policy. Freight customers will be required to pay five per cent premium on the normal freight charges which will be deposited in advance. If the rake is supplied later than the indicated date on the indent, the premium paid will be adjusted against the normal freight charges. Guidelines regarding the Premium Indent Policy

customer will be permitted to place premium indent. Customers will priority for allocation on two days as no-



can indicate a date of supply of rakes and also indicate whether he/she will load if the rake is supplied after the due date on normal tariff rate. • Five percent premium shall be required to be paid by the customer on normal freight. This will be deposited in advance. • The premium will be adjusted against the normal freight charges, in case the supply of the rake to the customer is done later than the indicated date on the indent. • In the goods shed, freight

ified under the preferential traffic issued by Traffic Transportation Directorate of the Railway Board from time to time. On other days normal order of priority of indents will be followed. • The Premium Indent that has been placed once cannot be withdrawn. The premium indent withdrawal will invite forfeiture of the premium paid. • The Premium Indent Policy will not be applicable to restricted destinations and destinations regulated by quota.

PMLA case: Won't insist on Mehbooba Mufti's personal appearance, ED tells Delhi HC

New Delhi, Mar 10: The Delhi High Court Wednesday directed the Enforcement Directorate not to insist on the personal appearance of former Jammu & Kashmir chief minister Mehbooba Mufti in a case under the PMLA Act, until the next date of hearing - March 19. The matter came up for hearing be-

fore a division bench of Justices Siddharth Mridul and Jairam Bhambhani. According to Mufti's lawyer Advocate Prasanna S, during the hearing, the Enforcement Directorate told the court that the summons to Mufti to appear before it would not be insisted upon, until the next date of hearing.

Induction and Orientation Program titled "Emergence" for first year students

(A.O. Bureau) Bargarh, Mar: The B.Sc. (Nursing) and A.N.M. A five-day induction and orientation program "Emergence" has been inaugurated for the students of the course from March 9 to March 13. The event was attended by Mr. G Vaskar

Rao, Managing Director, Vikash Group, Mr. D. Nageshwar Rao, Executive Director. Director Dr. Samrendra Nath Panda opined that the course of the Vikash Institute would be a gift to the whole of Western Odisha in the coming days. The event

was attended by the Vice-Presidents of Vikash Nursing College Bargarh and Bhawanipatna branches, including the Nursing Divisional Heads of Vikash Multi-Specialty Hospitals and Vikash Group, all the branches, vice-presidents and administrators of



Bargarh branch. The first phase of the program will feature a professional session for students in the first phase, as

well as a visit to various departments of the Vikash Multi-Specialty Hospital in the second phase.