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Spadework For 'Cultural Corridor' Begins In Odisha Capital

Bhubaneswar, Mar 13: It is a step forward to go ahead with the preparatory work for setting up of cultural corridors in the Capital City. As a spadework, the squads under the leadership of Additional Commissioner Abanikanta Pattanaik evicted seven old shops despite protest by the vendors. Although the vendors have already been allotted kiosks in the Smart Janpath, they were unwilling to relocate and demanded their kiosks in the same place where the Bhubaneswar Municipi-



pal Corporation (BMC) has planned for the 'Cultural Corridor', a one-of-its-kind initiative, in the city to promote Odisha's rich and diverse art and culture

while boosting livelihoods of many people. The Cultural Corridor will provide a platform for the underprivileged people and some of the gifted artisans of the

State and give access to a larger market at the city level. The Additional Commissioner held a discussion with the agitating vendors on the spot. They were told

kiosks will be allotted to them in one area but not in the stretch where the cultural corridors will come up. Later the shops were evicted as the vendors understood the objectives of Cultural Corridors. Zonal Deputy Commissioner Ansuman Ratha, who was present during the eviction, said the stepping stone of the project was laid. Assistant Commissioner Enforcement Lilan Prasad Sahoo guided the Central Enforcement Squad and Zonal Enforcement squad along with the Commissionerate police for this eviction.

Classes I-VIII Students Likely To Get Promoted Without Appearing Exams: Minister

Bhubaneswar, Mar 13: The Odisha government is contemplating promoting all students from Classes I to VIII to the next higher class this year like it did last year in view of the situation arising out of the Covid-19 pandemic and its resurgence of the virus in some States. "Last year though students had attended classes there was no scope to hold examinations so we had promoted all. But this year scope for students to attend classes is yet to happen. In my opinion with the resurgence of the pandemic in some other States in the country, there is a remote chance of Classes I-VIII students coming to



schools to physically attend classes. So like last year discussions are underway on what can be done," said School & Mass Education Minister Samir Ranjan Dash. Dash stated that since last year all students were promoted and this year students haven't attended classes and it is not possible on our

part to conduct exams online, the issue is being discussed in the department. A formal decision in this regard will be taken soon, he added. Citing the rising summer heat in the State, Minister said there is no plan to start the academic session in April. The academic session will start from June as usual, he added.

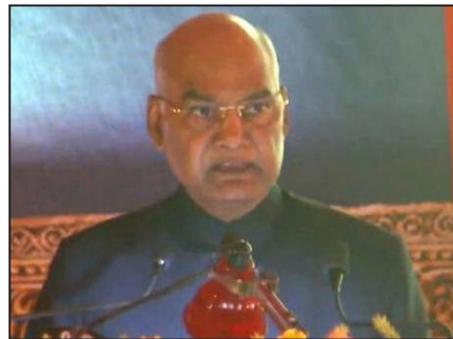
Rain, Lightning Alert For 11 Odisha Districts, Including Cuttack

Bhubaneswar, Mar 13: Thunderstorm accompanied with lightning is very likely to occur at one or two places in as many as 11 districts across the state, including Cuttack till tomorrow morning. The Regional Meteorological Centre here today informed that one or two places in districts like Sundargarh, Keonjhar, Mayurbhanj, Balasore, Jajpur, Bhadrak, Angul, D h e n k a n a l, Kendrapara Cuttack and Jagatsinghpur will experience thunder-

storm and lightning till 8.30 AM on March 14 (tomorrow). Besides, the weathermen predicted that light to moderate rain is very likely to occur at a few places over the districts of Sundargarh, Keonjhar, Mayurbhanj, Balasore, Jajpur, Bhadrak and at one or two places over the districts of Jharsuguda, Bargarh, Sambalpur, Deogarh, Angul, Dhenkanal, Kendrapara, Cuttack, Jagatsinghpur, Khurda, Puri and Ganjam during the period. However,

dry weather is very likely to prevail over the rest districts. The MeT centre also informed that the maximum temperature (day temperature) is likely to fall by 2-3 degree Celsius at many places over the districts of Odisha in the next 24 hours and it will gradually rise thereafter by three to four degree Celsius. However, there will be no large change in the minimum temperature (night temperature) during the next four to five days over the districts of Odisha, the weathermen added.

President Ram Nath Kovind To Visit Odisha Next Week



Rourkela, Mar 13: President Ram Nath Kovind will be on a two-day visit to Odisha next week. During his visit, he is scheduled to attend the annual convocation of National Institute of Technology (NIT) Rourkela on March 21 as the Chief Guest. He will deliver the convocation address and present certificates to students. The next day, the Presi-

dent is likely to visit Konark temple, sources said. Governor Prof Ganeshi Lal and Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik will also join the convocation. Besides, Union Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' and Petroleum and Natural Gas, Steel Minister Dharmendra Pradhan will remain present at the event, among others.

Forest Fire Situation Totally Under Control: Head Task Force On Forest Fire Management

Bhubaneswar, Mar 13: The forest fire situation in the State is totally under control, informed head of the State-level task force on forest fire management and former PCCF Sandeep Tripathy today. "Number of proactive steps taken by the State Government to check and control forest fire in the State has led to total control in the forest fire situation in the State," said Tripathy addressing a presser today. He added that the Similipal forest fire is now completely contained. "As per the latest National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC), Hyderabad report, the forest fire activities in Similipal are totally reduced. The

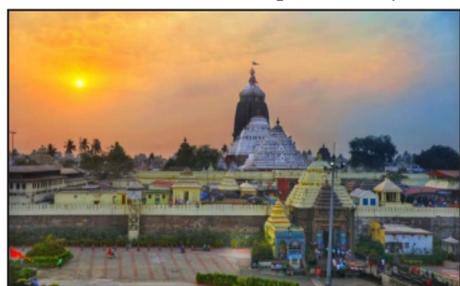


FSI Dehradun has indicated only 341 forest fire points in the State today as against 704 fire points yesterday. Only 4 fire points in Similipal have been reported against 3 forest points of yesterday. The forest fire situation in State is totally under control," stated Tripathy. He informed that District Collectors along with SPs, Sub-Collectors, Tahsildars, panchayati raj institutions, self help groups, Van

Sanrakshan Samitis and local communities have been activated and they are continuously assisting the Forest Department field officials in fire mitigation, who are on 24 X 7 alert to check and douse forest fire in the field. Patrolling, including night patrolling has been up-scaled & being monitored 24 X 7 on the Odisha Forest Management System (OFMS) of PCCF office, he added. Tripathy informed that Additional Chief Secretary Forest & Environment Department Mona Sharma had visited the fire-affected areas of Similipal on 10th and 11th March and had interacted with local community and forest officials.



NSG Team In Odisha To Inspect Security At Srimandir, Lingaraj Temple



Bhubaneswar, Mar 13: A five-member team of National Security Guard (NSG) has arrived in Odisha ahead of its inspection drive at Lingaraj temple and Puri Srimandir scheduled on March 16 and 18,

respectively. The team, including two senior officials, will review security and conduct mock drill along with Odisha police at the two famous shrines. Besides, Odisha police will update officials of

the elite counter-terrorism unit about the security system around the temples. Sources said IG (Operations) Amitabh Thakur has been appointed as the nodal officer to assist the NSG team. It will be the first reconnaissance of NSG at Puri Srimandir, which is stated to be on the radar of terrorists, after demolition of structures around the shrine under the Government's heritage and security corridor project.

Six Held In Odisha Capital In Drug-And-Loot Cases

Bhubaneswar, Mar 13: In a major success, the Commissionerate police cracked three loot cases lodged in police stations under the Bhubaneswar Urban Police District (UPD) and arrested six persons including a medicine shop owner for their alleged involvement. Two complaints were filed at Bharatpur Police Station and one at Capital Police Station in recent months accusing that some unknown persons befriended with the complainants and drugged them. When the complainants fell unconscious after taking the edible items laced with sedatives offered to

them, the unknown persons looted valuables. Narrating the modus operandi of the accused, the police official further said they used to travel to different destinations by train or bus from Bhubaneswar. During their return journey, the accused would befriend with commuters, who were mostly new to the Capital city, with a promise to help them get their work done or on pretext of providing lifts. Once the accused were sure they have won the confidence of the targeted person, they would offer tea, coffee, cold drinks or snacks laced with ATRIVAN 2MG, a strong



sedative. The police official added after the targeted person fell unconscious, they would steal the victim's belonging and leave the concerned person unattended in public places. The accused were staying at a rented place in Bhubaneswar. Three notorious criminals, two receivers of the stolen gold jewellery were among

the accused. Also, a medicine shop owner was arrested for selling ATRIVAN drug without prescriptions. The police official stated the medicine shop owner was aware that the looters would use the sedative for committing the crime. The accused are Simanchala Subuddhi alias Sima from Purusottampur, Ganjam;

Susanta Rout alias Jata from Odagaon, Nayagarh; Basanta Sahu from Jagannathprasad, Ganjam; Sanjay Mishra from Rajasunakhala, Khordha; Nalu Sahu from Banpur, Khordha and Kalia Nayak alias Tuna from Tangi, Khordha. The police seized three gold chains weighing 40 grams, 18 stripes of ATRIVAN 2 MG, one Hero motorcycle and six mobile phones from the possession of the accused. Investigation is on to find out complicity of more persons in the cases, the police official added.

'Pronounced guilty by TRP seekers, not by court': Disha Ravi on her arrest in 'toolkit' case

Bengaluru, Mar 13: In her first statement released since her bail, 22-year-old climate activist Disha Ravi said on Saturday that the events of last month violated her autonomy and she was pronounced guilty not by a court, but by "seekers of TRP". In a four-page statement, she said that her grandparents, who are farmers, indirectly inspired her climate activism. She also explained in detail why she has been supporting climate activism and backing the farmers' protest. "I had to bear witness to how the water crisis affected them, but my work was reduced to tree plantation drives and clean-ups which are important but not the same as struggling for survival," she said in the statement. Disha was picked up by the Delhi police on February 13 from her house in Chikkabanavara, which is 30km away from



Bengaluru city, in connection with an online document or toolkit tweeted by Swedish climate activist Greta Thunberg which supported the farmers' protest. She was granted bail 10 days later by a Delhi court. "I had coerced myself into believing that the only way I would be able to live through this was by tricking myself into thinking that this wasn't happening to me — the police did not knock on my door on 13 February, 2021; they did not take my phone and laptop, and arrest me; they did not present me at Patiala House Court;

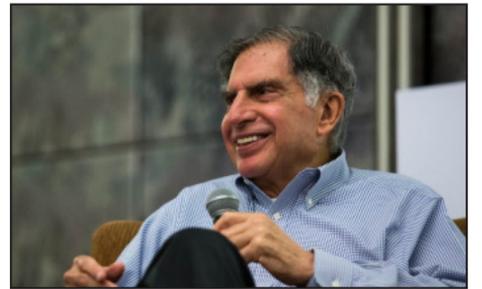
the media personnel were not trying to find a place inside the room," Disha said in her statement. "As I stood in that courtroom, desperately searching for my lawyers, I came to terms with the fact that I would have to defend myself. I had no idea whether there was legal assistance available so when the judge asked me if I have anything to say, I decided to speak my mind. Before I knew it, I was sent to 5 days in police custody," she added. Writing about her experience in Tihar Jail, Disha wrote, "At the end of the five days (19 February 2021), I was shifted to

Judicial Custody for three days. In Tihar, I was aware of every second of every minute of every hour of every day. Locked in my cell, I wondered when it became a crime to think the most basic elements of sustenance on this planet were as much mine as theirs." Highlighting how the television media, in its quest for TRPs, pronounced her guilty, she said, "It's no surprise that in the days that followed, my autonomy was violated; my photographs were splashed all over the news; my actions were pronounced guilty — not in the court of law, but on flat screens by seekers of TRPs. I sat there, unaware of the many abstractions made of me in order to satiate their idea of me." She also thanked all who supported her when she was in jail and said that she was privileged and lucky to get pro

bono legal assistance. "But what of all those who do not? What of all those still in jail whose stories are not marketable? What of the marginalized that are not worthy of your screen time? What of those who face the world's brazen indifference? Although their physical forms are trapped behind bars because of our collective silence, their ideas continue to live on as will the united resistance of the people. Ideas do not die. And, truth, no matter how long it takes, always reveals itself," she added. Earlier after getting bail, in an exclusive interview to Indian Express, Disha's mother Manjula Nanjaiah had said, "This was difficult for anyone but when our children have not done anything wrong, why do we need to fear? We have to stand beside our children when they are fighting for truth and justice."

Ratan Tata Received Coronavirus Vaccine

New Delhi, Mar 13: Noted industrialist Ratan Tata has got vaccinated against Corona today. After taking the Corona vaccine, Ratan Tata said that I did not feel any pain while getting the vaccine, the whole process is very easy. He said, 'I hope that everyone in the country will get the Corona vaccine done'. On this special occasion, Ratan Tata



tweeted, "Today I have taken the first dose of vaccine, which I am thankful for. It is very

easy and there is no pain in it. I hope that every person will be vaccinated soon.

Fire Broke Out At Janashtabdi Express



New Delhi, Mar 13: A fire broke out on the Delhi-Dehradun Janashtabdi Express.

The train's C-5 bogie caught fire while traveling from Delhi to Dehradun. The fire was

believed to have been caused by a short circuit while all the passengers on the train were evacuated. According to reports, the C-5 bogie caught fire and completely burned the buggy. Loke pilot was able to stop the train with emergency brakes. As a result, other carriages could be separated from the carriages that caught fire.

Farmers Are Building Pucca House At Singhu Border



New Delhi, Mar 13: Farmers, who have been protesting against the agricultural laws for the last 108 days on the borders of Delhi are now building pucca houses of brick. Construction work of brick houses is going on at the Singhu border. A brick wall is built all around. Right now only a wall has been erected, on which a permanent roof will also be put. Walls are being erected on the outer walls of the structure of these pucca

houses with mud and concrete spices on the inner walls. 3 to 4 such pucca houses are being built on the Singhu border. Construction has started here on 10 March. At the moment, the walls of these houses are seen standing. Farmer leader Manjit Rai said that 'where will the farmer live in the hot summer, these pucca houses are being built. The legacy of the people of Punjab is that they eat well, dress well and live well.

Therefore, AC houses will be installed in it by building a permanent house. In which the elderly and the mother-in-law will remain in it. Manjit Rai further said that 'Yesterday the SHO of Kundali police station had come, who has stopped work. But we want to tell that this work will not stop. Pucca houses will be built here and they will remain until the government agrees to our demands. Even if we have to wait till 2024 for this.

DGCA To Take Action Against Passengers Who Don't Follow COVID Protocols

New Delhi, Mar 13: If you are going to do air travel in the coming days, then you have to take special care. If the passengers are negligent in this, then the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) can also take strict action against them. In fact, the DGCA has become tight-lipped about the increasing



cases of the Corona epidemic in the country. If passengers do

not wear masks in the aircraft and at the same time violate the

guidelines of the coronavirus epidemic, then strict action will be taken against them. If passengers repeat this mistake again and again, their air travel can be banned forever. In the circular issued by DCGA, it has been said that after entering the airport, it will be mandatory to wear masks till the time of

departure. The circular also states that passengers who do not follow the rules of social distancing and corona guidelines during air travel will be taken off the plane. With this, those who are found to be repeatedly violating the rules during their journey will be declared as 'unruly travelers'.

Former BJP Leader Yashwant Sinha Joins TMC

Kolkata, Mar 13: Former BJP leader Yashwant Sinha joined the Trinamool Congress (TMC) on Saturday. Sinha took Trinamool membership in TMC Bhawan, Kolkata, capital of West Bengal. Yashwant Sinha, who handled the finance and foreign ministry under Atal Bihari Vajpayee's government, said in a press conference during this time that people will be shocked by my decision. I was separated from party politics, but



today the values of our country are in danger

and they are not being complied with. Yashwant

Sinha said, 'The power of democracy lies in our

institutions, but today we have become weak. It also includes the judiciary of the country. Sinha said that there is no one left to curb the arbitrariness of the government. The former BJP leader said, 'There is no doubt that the Trinamool Congress will come back to power with a very large majority. A message should go from Bengal to the whole country that whatever Modi and Shah are running from Delhi, now the country will not tolerate it.

RLSP most likely to merge with JD(U) on Sunday; Bihar CM Nitish Kumar expected to be present on the occasion

Patna, Mar 13: Rashtriya Lok Samata Party (RLSP), which is holding its two-day meet beginning Saturday, looks all set to merge with Janata Dal (United) Sunday. The merger is likely to take place at JD(U) office here in the presence of Bihar CM Nitish Kumar and the party's national president, RCP Singh. RLSP president Upendra Kushwaha had formed the party in 2013 and successfully contested three seats in the 2014 Lok Sabha polls as an NDA constituent. The party won two Assembly seats in 2015

polls as NDA partner but drew a blank in 2019 Lok Sabha polls as Grand Alliance constituent and 2020 Assembly polls as partner of another front. Sources from JD(U) told The Indian Express that Upendra Kushwaha could earn a very important position in JD(U) organisation. Slots of party national general secretary, national vice-president or even a new position of parliamentary board chairman could be given to the Kushwaha leader. JD(U) and RLSP take it as "win-win" situation with both needing

each other to consolidate the core OBC constituency of Koer-Kurmi (known as Luv-Kush), forming about 10 per cent of the state population. Kushwaha, who had started off as Lok Dal leader under former CM Karpoori Thakur, had become a favourite of Nitish Kumar and started writing his name as Upendra Kushwaha in place of Upendra Singh on the suggestion of Nitish Kumar. An ambitious Kushwaha, who had replaced BJP leader Sushil Kumar Modi and leader of Opposition in Bihar Assem-



bly in 2004, fell out with Nitish in 2009, returned to JD(U) two years later, only to desert it in 2013. JD(U), which was relegated to the third spot with 43 seats behind RJD (75) and BJP (74) in the last Assembly polls, realises the importance of Upendra Kushwaha as a consolidator of

Kushwaha votes. Even in the face of electoral losses, RLSP got 5,000 to over 39,000 votes in at least 30 seats, denting JD(U)'s base votes in Magadh, Shahabad and North Bihar areas. Kushwaha is also being taken as future JD(U) leader even though RCP Singh is JD(U) national president.

Bus service between Maharashtra and Karnataka stopped, Sena asks Centre to intervene in dispute

Pune, Mar 13: The state transport bus service between Maharashtra and Karnataka was stopped on Saturday after stones were pelted at state buses in Belgaum district. The Shiv Sena has urged the Centre to intervene in the dispute between the two states. The bus service was stopped by the two states after a skirmish between activists of Kannad outfits and the Maharashtra Ekikaran Samiti in Belgaum on Friday. The Kannad activists allegedly damaged a vehicle belonging to a Shiv Sena leader after they saw that his

car's registration plate was in Marathi. They allegedly also smeared black paint on some names of shops written in Marathi. Some activists also pelted stones at buses coming to Belgaum from Maharashtra, after which the bus service was stopped. Members of MES and Shiv Sainiks later held protests in Belgaum city. Shiv Sena chief spokesperson and MP Sanjay Raut said, "A delegation from Maharashtra should visit Belgaum for on-the-spot fact-checking. I am ready to lead the delegation if the state

government allows it... Atrocities and injustice against Marathi-speaking people has been growing and in the last eight days, there have been frequent attacks on them," he said. "Belgaum is part of India and the Maharashtra-Karnataka dispute is a language dispute. The Centre should intervene in this dispute... If the situation goes out of hand, the Shiv Sena and the Maharashtra government shouldn't be blamed since the response would not be official, but political," he said.

Meeting of DCPC cum DTFCM held in Puri District

(A.O. Bureau) Puri, Mar 13: The District Child Protection Committee cum District Level Task Force on Prohibition of Child Marriage meeting was held in Conference Hall of Special Circuit House Puri on 12th March 2021 under the Chairmanship of Mr. Jyotirmaya Dalai Chairperson, Zillaparasad and Co chairmanship of Mr. Samarth Verma, Collector, Puri. Approximately 50 members comprising of line department officers, members and chairperson of Child Welfare Committee, Special Juvenile Police Unit, Juvenile Justice Board, Principal ITI & BIT, Secretary DLSA were participated in the meeting actively and they conferred their valuable suggestions for better care and protection of children in district. Mr. Pradip Kumar Sahoo, Addl District Magis-



trate, Puri facilitating the meeting said that District Child Protection Unit and District Administration along with other child protection bodies are 24*7 proactively addressing the issue of vulnerable children within the district. He expected from the members for preventive approaches and strategies for implementation in the district to reduce such kind of vulnerabilities. Members opined on various important subjects like; providing land and housing to Orphan, declaration

of child marriage free village, adhaar enrollment and trace out of whereabouts of missing and abandoned members, Mr. Jyotirmaya Dalai Chairperson, Zillaparasad declared to recognize 33 Gram Panchayats Child Marriage free after implementing certain plan of action in coordinating with Sarpanch of respective GPs. He appealed for every stakeholder's support in this regard which will be our first attempt to make the district child marriage free. The Mr. Samarth Verma, Co chairper-

son DCPC reviewed the activities undertaken by DCPU, CWC, JJB, SJPU, Childline in the district during 2020-21 and the committee approved the programme Implementation Plan for the year 2021-22. Mr. Manoj Kumar Tripathy, District Child Protection Officer, Puri presented district activity report and action plan thereby apprising to the committee. Mr. Santosh Kumar Sahu, Legal Officer, Ms Snidharani Sahu, PONIC along with counselor, Social worker of DCPU were present and provided necessary support in organizing the meeting. Mr. Subhanarayana Satapathy, POIC conveyed vote of thanks for the successful discussion, review and precious inputs given by members to strengthen child protection services.

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SUM Ultimate Medicare Installs Diagnostic Tool For Chronic Foot And Heel Pain

(A.O. Bureau) Bhubaneswar, Mar 13: SUM Ultimate Medicare, the one-stop, multi-super specialty quaternary care hospital here, has installed a diagnostic tool which can diagnose patients having chronic foot and heel pain, diabetic foot analysis and several

other diagnostic chores without exposing the patient to go through any harmful radiations. The baropodometric platform with camera can perform tasks like static and dynamic analysis of foot pressure, stabilometric, videographic and biomechanic analysis of gait cycle and posture.

The diagnostic tool, the first of its kind in eastern India, would help in preventing pressure ulcers, abnormal body posture, various gait deviations, lower limb length discrepancies, spinal and knee abnormalities and measurement of various angular deformities in children.



Indian Navy Organised Community Interaction Programme with Fishermen Community of Odisha



(A.O. Bureau) Bhubaneswar, Mar 13: As part of a curtain-raiser campaign to commemorate the 75th Anniversary of India's Independence a special community interaction programme under the theme of "Azadi Ka Amrut Mahostav" was conducted for the fishermen community of 6 villages of Odisha coast by Naval Officer in-charge Odisha along with the Representatives from marine police, local fishing community

and fisheries department on 12 March -21. The teams inter acted with the fishermen community in the coastal villages of Odisha namely Nuagarh, Jhadling, Sahan, Sana, Bada and purunabandha. An interactive session was organized for the fishermen highlighting the significance of 12 March, as it was on this day in 1930 that Mahatma Gandhi started Dandi March as part of the civil disobedience movement against the British Salt

monopoly. The fishermen were also appreciated for their contributions as the "Eye and Ears" of the coastal security construct along the coast of Odisha. The locals also took the opportunity to appreciate the initiative taken by the Indian Navy to disseminate the various useful information concerning safety and security at sea to the fishermen community and displayed their gratitude towards the Indian Navy.

Jagar Mahotsav observed by org Sudha



(A.O. Bureau) Puri, Mar 13: On the auspicious occasion of Shivaratri The Literature and Cultural Dept. With Sudha jointly organised Jagar Mahotsav in Annapurna Theatre to Enchorage among the youth society Truth, Love, Peace,

Religion nonviolence etc. Quality should be developed One Nation One Country ,on untouchability ,violence should not be reflected in the youth .All should stay with interco-related, National unity shown through the Dance and Music ,

Folk Dance Siva Prayer and Ganesh prayer was staged the invited guest praised such tipe of innovative programs which will make aware in the mind of General public The Chairman of Sudha Sanjay ku Mishra coordinated the program

Grand road service is Appreciable

(A.O. Bureau) Puri, Mar 13: On every Saturday the Grand service Festival Organised by Dist, Administration. Puri is highly appreciated by Visitors and Pilgrims. The aim and objection of this program to create awareness to keep the Holy City of Lord Jagannath Puri clean and Environmental Sanctity today the Administration has arranged Odishai Dance Gotipua ,Sambal puri Dance and pala ware performed in five points

all the organization of Hotel ,Bus ,Truck , Auto Association and other social Organization had participate in this purpose a competition program has arranged at Muktakash Rangmanch Rangoli , Jhota and Art competition were held State Education Min ..Samir Ranjan Das Collector Samarth Barma Executive officer Vijaya ku Das Sub collector Bhabataran Sahu joined the function and distributed trofi among the winners



Breaking: Fire Breaks Out At Cuttack Sishu Bhawan

(A.O. Bureau) Cuttack, Mar 13: In a big development, the fire broke out in the ICU of Cuttack Sardar Vallabhbbhai Patel Post Graduate Institute of Paediatrics popularly known

as Sishu Bhawan in Cuttack. There were no immediate reports of injuries or severe damage. The reason for the fire breakout is still unknown. It is suspected that the fire

was caused by a short circuit in the ICU. Some electrical wires were reportedly burned at the Sishu Bhawan. The hospital's electricity service has been temporarily cut off.



Dav, Kalinga Nagar Felicitates Ojs 2nd Rank Holder And It's Alumna Sambedana Sandeep

(A.O. Bureau) Bhubaneswar, Mar 13: Forget your weakness, Bank on your strength, success will follow you said Miss Sambedana Sandeep, the 2nd rank holder in her debut appearance in the recently published OJS Examination and an alumna of DAV Public School, Kalinga Nagar during a felicitation in the school premises today. In a glittering function arranged for the purpose in the school auditorium Sambedana was felicitated with uttari, flower bouquet, Memento in presence of the Principal, Supervisors, teachers. Mr Bipin Kumar Sahoo, Principal con-



gratulated her for this splendid success and commended her for her grit and determination while making a special mention of her precision in unraveling her strength. Senior teacher & Supervisor Ms. Dipanjali Sahu narrated the old days of

Sambedana in school and blessed her for a bright future. In her comment after the felicitation Miss Sambedana expressed her gratefulness to her parents and the teachers for helping her out and guiding her properly during her school days for which

she could lay down a solid foundation for a scintillating career. During her interaction, she appealed the students to rely on their strength and work towards honing them properly in order to excel in life. While everybody now a days interested in Engineering,

'Bank on your strength, success will follow you'
- Sambedana Sandeep

Medical and a career in Science, she hopes her success in the Arts stream will definitely boost the moral of the youngsters. The Chairman of the School Managing Committee Shri Madan Mohan Panda, Regional Officer of DAV Institutions, Odisha Zone -1, Dr. K.C. Satapathy, Assistant Regional Officer, Madam Sujata, Parents, Intellectuals were congratulated Sambedana for this splendid success and wish her a bright future ahead.

EDITORIAL

Course correction

Biden defends Asian-Americans targeted by the Right-wingers since the start of the pandemic. Every once in a while in the history of mankind comes a leader who does irreparable damage to a country's social fabric; former US President Donald Trump falls in that category. The incumbent, Joe Biden, has been left to undo the damage that Trump's divisive politics did to American society. In his forthright, no-nonsense manner, Biden has stepped right up to the plate to set matters right. In his first primetime address, giving details of the progress made in the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic, Biden didn't mince words in condemning "vicious hate crimes" committed against Asian-Americans since the start of the outbreak. Terming such acts "un-American", he called for an immediate halt to these. The remarks come in the backdrop of China being accused globally of unleashing the virus upon the world, with Trump often referring to it as "the Chinese virus". This unleashed a spate of attacks on Asian-Americans who were harassed and blamed for the outbreak. If a research conducted by the California State University is to be believed, anti-Asian hate crimes more than doubled from 49 to 122 in 2020 across 16 major US cities even as overall hate crimes fell. According to another study by the Stop AAPI Hate advocacy group, more than 2,800 incidents of racism and discrimination against Asian-Americans were reported online across the country between March-December 2020. Though Biden's intentions are good, it remains to be seen whether he can heal the wounds inflicted by Trump's divisive narrative, which targeted not only Asian-Americans but set the Blacks and Whites against each other, too. His reign saw protracted race riots and 'Black Lives Matter' protests across America. Though Right-wing violence is a result of the Whites' anxiety about Barack Obama's presidency, it accelerated in the Trump era. This is because certain statements by Trump were perceived by White supremacists as the former President's tacit support for their cause. For instance, after the violence in Charlottesville, Trump asserted that "both sides" were equally to blame and that there were "some very fine people" among the far-Right demonstrators. Ironically, many of those "very fine people" were wearing 'Make America Great Again' caps while chanting racist and anti-Semitic slogans. Also, in the run-up to the November 6 mid-term polls, Trump rallied crowds with inflammatory rhetoric about Muslims and immigrants. So, with a country split nearly down the middle, Biden faces an uphill task of uniting hearts. In fact, even US citizens are doubtful if he can get the job done. While a CNN survey shows that 67 per cent Americans are confident of Biden's ability to guide the US out of the pandemic and a majority of the people surveyed by Pew researchers said they trusted the new President to make sound decisions on foreign policy and economy, there is less faith (52 per cent Doubting Thomases) in his ability to unite the country. Whether their fears are misplaced or not, only time will tell.

Incorrigible

It is a matter of serious concern, shame rather, when a few citizens of a country don't fight shy of targeting even their 'motherland' for settling petty scores with a competitor in the pursuit of upmanship. What's worse, to achieve this end, they rely on and quote reports released by foreign establishments debasing the State without realising that the nation can easily see through their game plan: After all, we all live in the world's oldest democracy and experience it every day! Why do we need foreign institutes to tell us the state of democracy in our very own country? However, this simple logic doesn't cut with frustrated politicians like Congress leader Rahul Gandhi and CPI(M) general secretary Sitaram Yechury who would seemingly go to any length in their attempts to embarrass the country's incumbent leadership. Days after quoting a report by 'Freedom House' — a US-based organisation that conducts research and advocacy on democracy — that downgraded India's status as a "free society" to "partly free", Rahul has now said India is no longer a democratic country. The research institute had said India was descending into "authoritarianism"; a claim sharply rebutted by the Centre point by point. This time round, he was citing a report by Sweden's V-Dem Institute that has downgraded India from the "world's largest democracy" to "electoral autocracy". Earlier in February, AAP MP Sushil Kumar Gupta had tried to raise the matter of the Sweden-based institute's report but Rajya Sabha Chairman Venkaiah Naidu ticked him off, curtly asking Gupta what the concern of Sweden's institute was in Indian democracy. But the simple point is this: Rather than citing foreign reports for gaining political mileage while simultaneously running down the democratic institutions of his own country, Rahul would be better advised to approach the judiciary if he has any just complaint or apprehension about any type of threat to our democracy. Better still, since he is a Member of Parliament and the erstwhile president of the country's oldest political party, he had better raise the matter in the august House where he has several means available: the Question Hour, notice for discussion, special mention, calling attention notice et al.

The Turkish angle in Sino-Pak dimension

Turkey's decision to lend disproportionate support to Pakistan is part realpolitik, part desperation as it wants to get closer to China. The Turkish imprint on the subcontinental psyche has been complex and divisive since the arrival of Taimurlane, Mahmud of Ghazni and, later, Muhammad of Ghor. Popular perception on either side of the Line of Control (LoC) dividing the modern-day Indo-Pak realm varies, shaped by politics and the insistence of "two-nation" necessities from the Pakistani standpoint, which conveniently overlooks the historical pillage by the invaders. That wounded legacy and memories of bigotry and plunder at places like the Somnath Temple auto-instinctively became the default trigger for deification of these Turkish invaders in modern Pakistan. Provocatively, the Pakistani military has named its missiles after these ruthless invaders i.e. Ghauri (medium-range ballistic missile), Ghaznavi (short-range ballistic missile) and so on. One of the 16 companies of the Pakistan Military Academy is called Ghaznavi, and the infamous and rogue Pakistani nuclear scientist, AQ Khan, personally built a mausoleum for Mohammad Ghor! Later, Pakistani dictators like Ayub Khan and Pervez Musharraf were particularly inspired by the Kemalist model and postured themselves on Turkish nationalist Kemal Ataturk. That historically the Turkish invaders ravaged the conjoined swathes of subcontinental land, that Mahatma Gandhi supported the Khilafat movement or that Kemal Ataturk was principally against religion in governance (hence antithetical to the two-nation idea) has been studiously ignored. In both the 1965 and 1971 Indo-Pak wars, Tur-



Bhopinder Singh

key was an odd supporter of Pakistan, even though there was no apparent dissonance with India. Today, both Pakistan and Turkey are in the throes of political and societal revisionism, where they make even more common cause with each other. Both the Cold War US allies find themselves at odds in a recalibrated order that broadly splits the world into "democracies" and various shades of expansionist "autocracies" such as China, North Korea and Turkey. Pakistan, too, has failed to extricate itself from the Cold War sensibilities of nursing foreign insurgents on its soil and, therefore, the elements of its establishment (military, politicians and clergy) harbour stakes in the terror industry that militates against the interests of one-time allies, like the US. Similarly, Turkey under religio-conservative Recep Erdogan senses an opportunity to seize leadership within the Ummah by challenging the control of Saudi-led sheikhdoms, who have relatively nuanced their outlook by "opening up" and having warm relations

with countries like India and Israel, to the discomfort of Pakistan. The reciprocal and asymmetrical support plays out with Islamabad aligning itself to Ankara's position in the Nagorno-Karabakh war, just as Ankara emerges as the only other (besides China) supporter of Islamabad on Kashmir. Washington DC faces a difficult challenge to control and balance conflicting interest with Pakistan, which it needs irreplaceably for securing American interests in Afghanistan and, with Turkey, where it has the strategic Incirlik Air Base that houses nuclear warheads. This leads to a constant tussle of pull and push which brings the Pakistani-Turkish relationship even closer. Recently, the US put a spoke in the burgeoning military trade between Turkey and Pakistan when it blocked Turkey from supplying 30 Turkish ATAK T-129 attack helicopters (based on the US Agusta A129 Mangusta platform, with US-made engines) to Pakistan. Interestingly, the US had

recently supplied India with 22 Apache attack helicopters. Importantly, this blockade was triggered by the Trump Administration and has now been reiterated by the Biden Administration — leaving Pakistan with no choice but to look at China for its Z-10 attack helicopters. This move will accelerate the looping of the triad entailing Turkey, Pakistan and China, wherein the Turkish jointmanship with Pakistan in developing the Siper long-range missiles and the TF-X fighter jets could get access to Chinese technology. Turkey has already signed a manufacture-and-technology-transfer contract with Pakistan for four Turkish-built MILGEM corvettes, whereas the air forces collaborate with the project of modernising Pakistan's F-16 fleet as also Pakistan sparing its pilots to fly Turkish F-16s (following a Turkish purge of its fighter pilots suspected to be behind a botched coup attempt) to fly "mercenary missions". For Turkey to lend disproportionate support to Pakistan is part realpolitik, part desperation — as the two nations have the most powerful militaries in the Islamic world and the alliance facilitates the "China opportunity" for Turkey. In return, Turkey saves Pakistan from near-pariah status and parrots the tired "Kashmir" line that has lost its resonance in most countries within the Ummah. The dangers of acceding to the basic instincts of both Turkey and Pakistan have started outweighing the benefits of tactically "overlooking" their repeated misdemeanours. Irrespective of the partisan administration in Washington, the US actions and reactions are following a set pattern, and Delhi is stitching its own alliances to counter the unholy nexus among the triad of Turkey, China and Pakistan.

Malati Chaudhury: A Resplendent Freedom Fighter

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Malati Chaudhury was a resplendent Social -Political leader among the Women freedom fighters of modern Orissa, who became a legend in her life time. She responded to the clarion call given by Gandhiji to struggle for justice and not to become submissive before injustice. After independence her struggle continued for the rights of tribal and socially under privileged. She was born and brought up a Royal family. Her father KumudNath Sen was a barrister and mother Snehalata Sen was a good writer. In 1921 at the age of 16, she was admitted to VisvaBharati in Shantiniketan. In early stage she was influenced by her mother's literary impact. Her mother who wrote "JUGALANJALI" and also translated some works of Rabindranath Tagore. Malati had a good back ground. Her both Cousin brothers Ranjit Gupta was a former ChiefSecretary of West Bengal and Indrajit Gupta was former Home Minister. Her two own brothers also in good position. She was very lucky that she got the chance to acquire knowledge directly from Rabindranath Tagore at Shantiniketan. The

Personal influence of Gurudev and his teachings, his patriotism and idealism, have influence and guided Malati through-out her life. She was a good singer and

settled down in Orissa and started various types of social activities regarding rural development. They helped poor farmers to improve Sugarcane



that quality enchanted Gurudev. In Shantiniketan Malati not only obtained degree but also acquired huge knowledge in various types of art and culture. Malti Choudhury was immensely influenced by Tagore's Principles of life, views on education and development of Patriotism. Gurudev affectionately called her 'Minu'. In her student carrier at Shantiniketan she came in close contact with Nabakrishna Chaudhury who came from Sabaramati Ashram to study at Shantiniketan and lastly both of them got married in the year 1927. After marriage they

cultivations. They also started adult education in the surrounding villages. In the Salt Satyagraha of Mahatma Gandhi both Malati and her husband plunged in to satyagraha and joined in Indian National Congress. They were arrested and imprisoned. In the jail they taught fellow prisoners and propagated Gandhiji's thought and views. In 1933 she formed Utkal Congress SamajvadiKarmi Sangha along with her husband. Later this organisation came to be known as Orissa Provincial Branch of the All India Congress Socialistic party. In 1934 she

joined Gandhiji's historic Padyatra in Orissa. In 1946 Malati setup the BajirautChhatrabas at Angul and UtkalNavajeevan Mandal in 1948 at Angul in Orissa. BajirautChhatrabas was formed to spread education among the Children of Freedom Fighters, Schedule castes, Schedule tribes, other backward classes and Under-privileged Sections of the society and Utkalnavjeevan Mandal mainly worked for the rural development and tribal welfare in Orissa. Apart from her great role in spreading education and rural welfare she established herself as a dedicated Freedom fighter. She accompanied Acharya VinobaBhave during bhodan movement. She also joined with Gandhiji during his Noakhali visit and Gandhiji affectionately called her Tofani. She led the KrisakAndolan to rescue the poor farmers from the grasp of land owners and Money lenders. In 1946 MalatiChaudhury was selected as the member of Constituent Assembly of India. She was also elected as the President of Utkal Pradesh Congress Committee. Even after Independence She continued to fight for the cause of backward classes. Her glorious Achievement for the poor section was noteworthy. After her demise she remained in the heart of the Orissa people. I salute this glorious lady in her 23rd death anniversary.

A district BJP functionary meeting was held at Nagar Bhavan Mkg MV: -96 Adarsha Vidyalay HM suspended by Padia BEO



(A.O. Bureau) Malkangiri, Mar 13: Today at 10:00 am on Saturday, at the Malkangiri Nagar Bhavan, the * Bharatiya Janata Party *, Malkangiri District, Executive Meeting was held. The meeting was chaired by BJP district president and MLA Shri Aditya Madiji and under

the supervision of Executive President Shri Nimai Chandra Palji. At the meeting, the district general secretary, Mr. Shuvrangshu Sahu Bhai, proposed the following political letter: 1. In the case of large-scale land corruption in Kalimela tehsil, the Hon'ble District Magistrate, who has not taken action

against the culprits till date? 2. When will justice be done for depositors affected by the Vejangiwada post office scam? 3. The issue's end has the recaptured Doomsday in the control of the KGB 4. When will the district headquarters and all hospitals in the district be filled with doctors, when will

the establishment of medical colleges be resolved? 5. Once the industrial problems in the district are resolved, the Dadan workers going out of the district will be stopped, when will the district administration take action to do so? 6. Even though the central government has been sanctioning regular fund-

ing for the railway line for two years, is the state government unable to acquire land? 7. Landless people should be identified and given permanent leases to the beneficiaries as soon as possible. 8. The airline system should be implemented as soon as possible. 9. Peanuts should be planted in the district and 12 quintals per acre. 10. Strong action should be taken against corrupt employees who have committed widespread irregularities in the Prime Minister's Housing and Toilet Scheme? Today's meeting was attended by district executive members, all Zilla Parishad members, legislators, 17 Mandal presidents and 8 front presidents.

(A.O. Bureau) Malkangiri, Mar 13: Sarada Prasad Singh, the headmaster of Adarsha Vidyalay MV 96 in the Kalimela block of Malkangiri district, has made the future of four students bleak. This year, the Adarsh Vidyalaya has passed the entrance examination for the sixth grade. This includes the fact that the entrance examination form for admission to Adarsh Vidyalaya in Bapanpalli under the Border Padia block has not been filled. The incident of four talented students from a school in the village returning home from the examination center in despair has left a deep impression on the family. According to sources, the parents of Papiasarkar, Subham Sarkar, Mohim Tarpadar and Sasmita Mandal of MV 96 Primary School in Kalimela block have submitted their dues and



certificates to the school principal for filling out the forms for the entrance examination. The day before the exam, parents contacted the principal by phone and promised to fill out the principal's form and allow the student to enter the examination center. But at the scheduled time of the exam, the students arrived at the examination center and found that their form had not been filled. Four students and parents were devastated by the incident. Chittaranjan Pandey, the BEO of Padia block has sus-

pending headmaster of the concerned MV 96, after the news broke that the students were finally disappointed that they were not allowed to enter even after filling out the form. Sarada Prasad Singh, the headmaster of MV 96 Primary School, was suspended in a letter No. 516/10321 of the Padia BEO office after the incident. Block Education Officer Chittaranjan Pandey said that a proper investigation into the incident and firm action would be taken against Headmaster Sharda Prasad Singh.

Awareness programs organised by the District Legal Services Authority

(A.O. Bureau) Malkangiri, Mar 13: On the occasion of the 75th anniversary of India's independence, the District Legal Services Authority has organized a non-violent awareness campaign for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of India's Amrit Mahotsav. Authority Secretary Amaresh Nayak, Assistant Con-

servator of forest Srikant Nayak, BDO Ajay Kumar Pradhan, Tahsildar Dr. Gunanidhu Nayak, District Labor Officer Madan Mohan Pike, Deputy Police Officer Balbhadr Deep, Utkal Sammilani Committee members Deenbandhu Das, Sarpanch Sujata Nayak, Panchayat Executive Officer Vishnu Tripathi joined in on the role of the District Legal Ser-

vices Authority and the role of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, India's heritage and traditions in the freedom struggle, labor welfare schemes, tribalism, etc. The Role of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes He highlighted the various welfare schemes, old age and widow allowances, forest rules and the role of citizens.

Senior Citizens Vaccinated At PPT Hospital



(A.O. Bureau) Paradip, Mar 13: After the vaccination of Covid warriors, medical staffs, the vaccination of retired employees of Paradip Port Trust (PPT) and local senior citizens (above 60 years of age) is on underway since

from March 4. As on 12th March, 753 elderly persons were been vaccinated, informed by PPT Chief Medical Officer (CMO), Dr. Prahlad Chandra Panda. However, till date no side effects have reported so far after the vaccination.

The Kendrapara District Congress met District Collector to demand farmers paddy procurement

(A.O. Bureau) Kendrapara, Mar 13: A delegation led by Kendrapara District Congress President Ansuman Mohanty met District Collector Amrit Raturaj and briefed him on the problems of Kendrapara farmers' paddy procurement. They said farmers' paddy could not be bought in about 118 mandis in the district. Second, the government has not even bought their paddy as hundreds of farmers have had their tokens expired. Farmers arrived at the mandi on time as scheduled, but their paddy was not purchased due to lack of targets. The farm-

ers were not at fault but did not buy paddy from them. As a result, those farmers are sitting helplessly with their hands over their heads. On February 28, the Food Minister announced in the Odisha Legislative Assembly that paddy would be procured from expired token holders. Unfortunately, that has not happened yet. "Everywhere you look today, the tide of protectionist sentiment is flowing. Therefore, the government should increase the target of the district and buy all the paddy from the farmers who are waiting. Also buy the paddy by resuming the expiration date of the token.

A delegation from the district congress committee told the District Collector to meet the two demands on a war-time basis. The delegation of the District Congress includes former ministers Ganeswar Behera, Mohammad Akbar Alli, Fakir Charan Khatua, Prafulla Kumar Das, Sarat Behura, Bidu Bhushan Mohapatra, Chitrasena Parida, Rajesh Mohanty, Hibzur Rehman, Basant Sethi, Saimendra Prusty, Satyapriya Samal, Surya Kumar Das, Sambit Srichandan, Abhinash Lenka, Osiullah Khan were the prominent participants in the discussion.

Humanitarian and Medical Benefits slammed down by Odisha Government

(A.O. Bureau) Rayagada, Mar 13: Congress MP Saptagiri Ulaka on Friday, March 12th, 2021 rebuked the Odisha Government for losing an important opportunity for the foundation of the Government Medical College at Rayagada District. The Lok Sabha member from Koraput said Rayagada lost an opportunity to have a government medical college due to the step-motherly attitude of the government. While many states secured over five government medical colleges under Phase-III of the Centrally sponsored



schemes. Establishment of new medical colleges attached with existing district/referral hospitals, Odisha got only one, he said. In response to Ulaka's zero hour mention in the Parliament on February

13th, 2021 in context to the setting up of the medical college, Union Health and Family Welfare Minister, Dr. Harsh Vardhan recently replied that Odisha had proposed only one medical college at

Kalahandi, which has been sanctioned. "The Ministry did not receive any proposal for Rayagada District. Since 75 medical colleges have already been approved based on the proposals across the states, it would not be possible to consider the one at Rayagada under the scheme, Dr Vardhan's written reply read." MP Ulaka earlier visited the Union Health Minister and requested him with a letter to approve a new medical college at Rayagada district under Phase III of the scheme. "The State government had promised a medical college

and 500-bed hospital at Rayagada under PPP mode in 2014." It was one of the first medical college projects in the country that was approved by the Centre under viability grant funding support. Unfortunately, this could not take off due to the State's negligence," MP Ulaka said. He had, however, moved the Health Ministry after the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs gave its nod for establishment of 75 additional government medical colleges in underserved areas having no medical college with a preference to aspirational districts.

Classes To Resume In VSSUT From March 16



(A.O. Bureau) Sambalpur, Mar 13: The offline classes will resume in the Veer Surendra Sai University of Technology (VSSUT), Burla, from March 16, informed

Vice Chancellor Bibhuti Bhusan Pati today. As per decision, the online classes will be suspended and the first year students can join the campus from March 17. The Vice Chancellor

took the decision after VSSUT was declared COVID-free varsity. The offline classes were suspended at the VSSUT after COVID cases were detected in the campus.

4 Arrested For Setting Forest On Fire In Boudh

(A.O. Bureau) Boudh, Mar 13: The forest sleuths of Purunakatak Range have been successful in scuttling an attempt of forest fire by arresting four accused persons on the spot. Reports said that the Special Forest Squad, constituted by the Forest Division here for preventing the fire mishap deliberately committed by some miscreants, is raiding various forest areas to catch red-handed such anti-

social elements. Today morning, the Special Squad forest sleuths caught hold of three miscreants from Mundeswar Jungle when they were trying to flee the spot after torching the forest patch. Matchbox has also been seized from their possession. The raid was conducted by Purunakatak Range Officer Nihar Ranjan Mallick, Boudh ACF Jitendra Kumar Behera and other forest staff.



Malkangiri police arrested four people from Maharashtra, including Nandi Bull



(A.O. Bureau) Malkangiri, Mar 13: Malkangiri district headquarters sub-division Adarsh ??police have detained four criminals, including Nandi Bull. They looted Rs 48,000 by showing

oxen. The four viral video of the incident seen by a cop after the event has serious way they started inspection about 7 day after day Saturday the Nandi Bull and four cheaters arrested for successfully

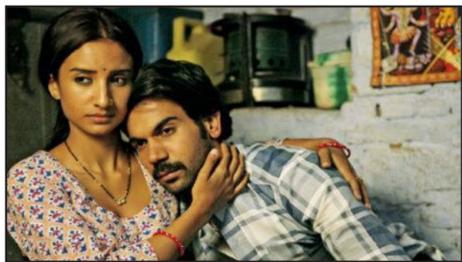
cheating by using harmless animal enthusiast ox Nandi and four cheaters tied at Police station still detained, including disclosed that means showing agility crisis a case is booked against them by Malkangiri police

Streaming Guide: Rajkummar Rao movies



New Delhi, Mar 13: Rajkummar Rao's latest film *Roohi* hit the theaters this Friday. In our series Streaming Guide, we list the works of a filmmaker or actor which are available on OTT platforms like ZEE5, Netflix, Amazon Prime Video, Disney Plus Hotstar, Eros Now and YouTube. This edition features actor Rajkummar Rao who has films like *Gangs of Wasseypur*, *Kai Po Che!*, *Shahid*, *Trapped*, *Ludo*, and *The*

showcased the sheer brilliance at his craft? *Kai Po Che!*: Abhishek Kapoor's *Kai Po Che*, based on Chetan Bhagat's novel '3 Mistake of My Life' brought much-needed attention to Rajkummar Rao. Though the film also starred Sushant Singh Rajput who was a household name because of his daily *Pavitra Rishta*, Rao managed to grab eyeballs with his performance. In this story of three friends,



White Tiger among others to his credit.

Love Sex Aur Dhokha: A still from *Love Sex Aur Dhokha*. The thriller drama directed by Dibakar Banerjee features actors Nushrat Bharucha, Anshuman Jha, Neha Chauhan, Rajkummar Rao, Arya Banerjee and Amit Sial, among others. The ensemble film was Rajkummar's debut as well.

Ragini MMS: Rajkummar Rao and Kainaz Motivala in *Ragini MMS*. The paranormal thriller revolves around a couple, Uday (Rao) and Ragini (Kainaz Motivala) who go to a friend's farmhouse for a weekend. What was supposed to be a romantic getaway becomes a horrific experience as they sense the presence of supernatural forces. The film worked given its smart storytelling. *Gangs of Wasseypur* –

Rao essayed the role of a simple boy Govind who wishes to own a big business and marry his friend Ishaan's (Sushant) sister Vidya (Amrita Puri). *Shahid*: Rajkummar Rao played *Shahid Azmi* in *Shahid*. *Shahid* is based on the real-life story of slain human rights lawyer *Shahid Azmi*. He fought for the poor and innocent who were jailed or arrested on the charge of being terrorists. In 2010, he was gunned down while defending *Fahim Ansari*, accused in the 26/11 Mumbai attacks. Even though *Azmi* was a hero for the innocents he saved, *Mehta* doesn't portray him as a hero or a saint in the biopic. The film is a must-watch for its gripping narrative and effective performance by Rajkummar Rao.

CityLights: The film, starring Rajkummar Rao and *Patralekha*, deals with urban poverty. It is the story



Part 2: The second part of director *Anurag Kashyap's* gritty gangster drama starred some brilliant actors like *Nawazuddin Siddiqui*, *Manoj Bajpayee*, *Piyush Mishra* and *Pankaj Tripathi*. Still, Rajkummar Rao managed to shine among these talents. He played the role of *Shamshad Alam* and to get into the skin of his character, he even visited *Wasseypur*. Who can forget the chase sequence between his character and *Definite* (*Zeishan Quadri*) where the actor

of a poor farmer and his family who come to Mumbai in search of a livelihood but faces adverse conditions upon arrival in the city. The film is an official adaptation of British-Filipino movie *Metro Manila*, which was Britain's entry to the Oscars.

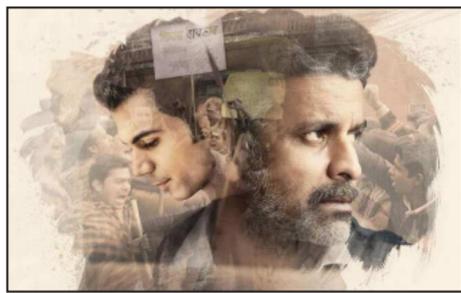
Aligarh: *Aligarh* is based on *Aligarh Muslim University professor Srinivas Ramchandra Siras*. He was suspended from his job because of his sexual orientation. In her review of the film, *The Indian Express* film critic *Shubhra*

Gupta wrote, "Like in his *Shahid*, *Hansal Mehta* and scriptwriter *Apurva Asrani* have come up with a lead character and a film which shines with authenticity and emotional heft, which leaves you thinking, and which says something we should all listen to, especially in these times when it has become more imperative than ever before: we can be different,



but we are us." *Trapped*: Rajkummar Rao in a still from *Trapped*. Rajkummar Rao shines in *Vikramaditya Motwane's* survival-drama-thriller about survival and hope. A man named *Shaurya* is almost driven to madness after he gets trapped in a high-rise building. Rao as the trapped man leaves you with an uncomfortable feeling, as if you are the one experiencing all the discomfort.

Bareilly Ki Barfi: *Bareilly Ki Barfi* helmed by *Ashwiny Iyer Tiwari* had a love triangle at the centre of its narrative but its



localised treatment sets it apart from other romantic comedies. *Ayushmann Khurrana*, *Kriti Sanon*, *Pankaj Tripathi*, *Seema Pahwa* and *Rajkummar Rao* proved their acting mettle with the film. Its song and dance sequences gave it a Bollywood touch and its one-liners brought smiles to the audience.

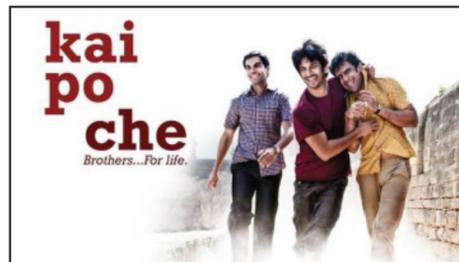
Omerta: *Omerta*, starring Rajkummar Rao in the lead role, is based on the life of *Omar Saeed Sheikh*, a terrorist of Pakistani descent. He was responsible for the 1994 kidnapping of four foreign tourists in Delhi and the 2002 kidnapping and murder of journalist *Daniel Pearl* in Pakistan among others.

Newton: *Newton* tells the story of an election offi-

cial (*Rajkummar Rao*) in charge of a polling station deep in the Maoist-infested belt of *Chhattisgarh*. The political satire is directed by *Amit Masurkar* and also stars *Pankaj Tripathi*, *Raghubir Yadav*, *Anjali Patil* and *Sanjay Mishra*. It was adjudged India's official entry in the foreign-language film category for the 2018 Academy Awards.



Stree: *Pankaj Tripathi* and *Rajkummar Rao* in a still from *Stree*. Directed by *Amar Kaushik*, the horror-comedy, starring *Shraddha Kapoor*,



Rajkummar Rao, *Pankaj Tripathi*, *Aparshakti Khurrana*, *Abhishek Banerjee* and *Vijay Raaz* among others, delivers



your typical love triangle with the competitive spirit of two PT teachers thrown into the mix. It isn't awful, but it isn't great either. A strictly one-time watch.



Love Sonia: *Rajkummar Rao* plays a pivotal role in *Love Sonia*. *Love Sonia*, based on the horrors of child trafficking, features *Mrunal Thakur* along with *Freida Pinto*, *Manoj Bajpayee*, *Richa Chadha*, *Rajkummar Rao*, *Sai Tamhankar*, *Adil Hussain* and *Mark*

Duplass. It is a harrowing tale of a 17-year-old girl *Sonia* who is out to rescue her sister from the clutches of sex traffickers. The movie won laurels globally at several film festivals.

Ludo: *Rajkummar Rao* and *Fatima Sana Shaikh* in *Ludo*. If you're into dark comedies, *Anurag Basu's* *Ludo*, starring *Abhishek Bachchan*, *Aditya Roy Kapur*, *Rajkummar Rao*, *Pankaj Tripathi*, *Fatima Sana Shaikh*, *Sanya Malhotra* and *Pearle Maaney*, is a good pick. It brings together four different stories and how they intertwine as two people play *ludo* to decide between life and death.

Chhalaang: Starring *Rajkummar Rao*, *Nushrat Bharucha* and *Mohammed Zeeshan Ayyub*, *Hansal Mehta* directorial *Chhalaang* is



your typical love triangle with the competitive spirit of two PT teachers thrown into the mix. It isn't awful, but it isn't great either. A strictly one-time watch.

The White Tiger: *Adarsh Gourav*, *Priyanka Chopra* and *Rajkummar Rao* in *The White Tiger*. Directed by *Ramin Bahrani*, *The White Tiger* featured *Priyanka Chopra*, *Rajkummar Rao* and *Adarsh Gourav* in the lead roles. Based on *Aravind Adiga's* book of the same name, the film received a positive response from the critics. It chronicles the journey of *Balram*



Halwai (*Gourav*) from a poor villager to a successful entrepreneur, and also makes a commentary on the struggles of India's working class. It shows how hunger and lack of opportunity can build and drive a human being's "animal instinct of survival."



Baby Naming Ceremony: Here are the Auspicious Days and Time for Namkaran in March

New Delhi, Mar 13: *Namkaran Ceremony* is one of the 16 *sanskars* in the Hindu religion. It is performed to name the newborn baby. There is a tradition of *namkaran* where the first letter of the name is decided as per the newborn's birth time, *rashi*, *nakshatra* and the movement of celestial bodies. It is believed that the name has a greater impact on the child. In Hindu astrology, *Namkaran* is based on *Swar Siddhanta*, which is believed to give positive results during the growth and development of the child. The most common practice to name the newborn is based on the position of the moon at the time of his/her birth. *Swar Siddhanta* is given significant importance in *Vedic Astrology* as it is believed that dei-



ties are propitiated with the power of *swar*. Even all the *Vedic Mantras* are based on *Swar Siddhanta*. Hindus follow the zodiac sign, birth *nakshatra*, and *pada* to name the child. There are 27 *nakshatra* and each *nakshatra* is divided into 4 parts, which are known as *pada*. The initials of the name depend upon the *padas* and *nakshatras*. *Namkaran* is performed at auspicious *muhurats* only as parents want to make sure that are child have a brighter future

and he/she must stay away from all *doshas*. A name determines the child's identity and remains a part of him until his death and hence, the *namakaran* is performed at auspicious *muhurat*, depending on the *nakshatra*, *tithis*, *yoga* and *karan*. The naming ceremony is usually performed on the 10th, 11th, 12th or 16th day from the birth. Here are the auspicious *muhurats* to perform *Namkaran* for the child who is going to born this month.

TRP Race: Saath Nibhaana Saathiya 2 Makes A Grand Entry In Top 5

New Delhi, Mar 13: *Saath Nibhaana Saathiya 2* makes an

Sudhanshu, Rupali Ganguly is also seen in the lead role. It airs on

time girlfriend in the city. This show also airs on *Star Plus*.



entry on the TRP charts. From last week, *Anupamaa*, *Ghum Hai Kisikey Pyaar Mein* and *Imlie* are still among the most-watched shows. As per the latest *BARC* reports, here are the most-watched shows on TV between February 27 and March 5: *Anupamaa*: The show has been at the top for months now. *Sudhanshu Pandey*, who plays the role of *Vanraj*, told us in an interview, "It is about how much connect you have with the audience. That connect can only happen when you know that your sentiments and emotions are in the right place." Along with

Star Plus. *Ghum Hai Kisikey Pyaar Mein*: This is another popular *Star Plus* show. While *Neil Bhatt* plays the role of *Virat*, *Ayesha Singh* and *Aishwarya Sharma* are seen in the roles of *Sai* and *Pakhi*, respectively. While *Sai* and *Virat* are married, *Pakhi* likes *Virat*. The three stay in the same house due to various reasons. *Imlie*: The show is headlined by actors *Sumbul Touqueer Khan* and *Gashmeer Mahajani*. While the two were forced to marry each other by the villagers, they decided to stay friends. *Aditya* even gets re-married to his long-

Yeh Rishta Kya Kehlata Hai: The story is now revolving around *Akshara* and *Naitik's* daughter *Naira*. *Hina Khan* and *Karan Mehra* played *Akshara* and *Naitik*, whereas *Shivani Joshi* plays *Naira*. The show is managing its place in the top five shows since last two weeks. *Saath Nibhaana Saathiya 2*: The second season was launched by *Rupal Patel* as *Kokila*, *Develeena Bhattacharjee* as *Gopi* and *Mohammed Nazim* as *Ahem*. Post their exit, the show is being taken forward by *Sneha Jain*, *Harsh Nagar* and *Akanksha Junega*. It airs on *Star Plus*.

Samantha Akkineni shares photo as she meditates with Lakshmi Manchu, Shilpa Reddy: 'A surreal feeling that passes through me'

New Delhi, Mar 13: Actor *Samantha Akkineni* shared with her fans that whenever she sits down to meditate "there's a surreal feeling" that passes through her. The actor, who recently joined *Isha Foundation*, shared a picture of herself on *Instagram* in which she, along with

Lakshmi Manchu and *Shilpa Reddy*, is seen meditating. "Every time I sit down to meditate, there's a surreal feeling that passes through me. It changes the way I look at things and frees me from internal thoughts



that hold me back. Meditation brings a sense of calm and positivity in my life," the actor shared.

India's Demand: Better batting effort from 'X factors' Pandya and Pant in the 2nd T20I

Ahmedabad, Mar 13: Left shaken by a bunch of world-class operators, the Indian team's white-ball stars will be aiming to put up an improved batting effort in the second T20 International against England here on Sunday. It was India's first white-ball game in three months and the rustiness of some of the premier shorter format players like KL Rahul, Hardik Pandya, and Yuzvendra Chahal's showed in the first game in which the hosts were clinically outplayed. One defeat is never the end of the story and no critic can rule this Indian team out of the series on the basis of a singular performance especially because of its zeal to fight. However, as skipper Virat Kohli talks about players with X-factors doing the job, he would expect Rishabh Pant and Pandya to do a bit more with their explosive hitting, which should not be confined to one audacious reverse scoop (Pant off Jofra Archer) or a falling ramp shot (Pandya off Ben Stokes). They are more than capable and will be expected to give a far better account of themselves, trying to play more shots square of the wicket like Shreyas Iyer



did during his innings of 67 off 48 balls. Both Pandya (19 off 21 balls) and Pant (21 off 23 balls) weren't able to gauge the pace of the track as Archer and Mark Wood bowled fast and straight denying them any width for the cut shot. The extra bounce also didn't allow them to drive on the up. "The wicket didn't allow you to hit the kind of shots you wanted to. Shreyas' innings was an example of how you could use the depth of the crease, ride the bounce because there was variable bounce at times, and hit the areas which others failed to do." It was just a below-par batting performance and England made us

pay for it," Kohli had summed it up aptly at the end of the match. The captain's acknowledgement of Iyer's performance could well mean that the wait for Suryakumar Yadav might get a tad longer with only one middle-order slot available currently. However, Kohli's propensity to change his playing XI at the drop of a hat is well documented. While giving his team's oldest member, Shikhar Dhawan, a couple of matches is perfectly understandable but how long does he want to persist with the left-hander, who looked completely out of sorts during his 4 off 12 balls. Rohit Sharma, as per Kohli, is rested for a

couple of matches having played 6 consecutive Test matches along with 14 days of hard quarantine at the start of his Australian sojourn. But Rohit's presence is very necessary at the top of the order and even though no one is really talking about it, it's been long since the Indian skipper has had an impactful T20 performance. He is too good a player to miss out. The bowling department didn't have enough runs on board to put up a fight but whether one of the three spinners can make way for a tearaway quick like Navdeep Saini remains to be seen. Perhaps Yuzvendra Chahal could make way for Rahul Tewatia, who may not be as crafty a

leg break bowler but certainly a decent one with good batting prowess. Eoin Morgan, one among the more likeable international captains, has been provided a team that has its bases covered with 12 players plying their trade in the IPL. Unless something really goes wrong, this England team is a contender to win the T20 World Cup trophy in October this year with way too many powerhouse performers. Squads: India: Virat Kohli (captain), Rohit Sharma (vc), KL Rahul, Shikhar Dhawan, Shreyas Iyer, Suryakumar Yadav, Rishabh Pant (wk), Hardik Pandya, Yuzvendra Chahal, Bhuvneshwar Kumar, Axar Patel, Washington Sundar, Shardul Thakur, Navdeep Saini, Deepak Chahar, Rahul Tewatia, Ishan Kishan (reserve wicketkeeper). England: Eoin Morgan (captain), Joss Buttler, Jason Roy, Liam Livingstone, Dawid Malan, Ben Stokes, Moeen Ali, Adil Rashid, Reece Topley, Chris Jordan, Mark Wood, Sam Curran, Tom Curran, Sam Billings, Jonny Bairstow, Jofra Archer. Match Starts at 7 pm.

Mumbai, Mar 13: Punjab Kings has roped in former Australian first-class cricketer Damien Wright as their new bowling coach for the upcoming edition of the IPL beginning on April 9. The 45-year-old Wright was also head coach of the Bangladesh U-19 cricket team and will help support the Punjab Kings squad under the guidance of head coach and Director of Cricket Operations, Anil Kumble. "I am delighted to come on board as bowling coach for Punjab Kings. The team looks great and there is tremendous potential in this squad and I look forward to working alongside an amazing support staff team this



season of the IPL," Wright said. Wright has worked with Australian Big Bash League sides Hobart Hurricanes and the Melbourne Stars and also served as the bowling coach of New Zealand team. Besides Wright and Kumble, Punjab Kings support staff includes assistant coach Andy Flower, batting coach Wasim Jaffer

and fielding coach Jonty Rhodes. "He brings in a great deal of experience and will definitely help strengthen our team. We look forward to working with him this edition of the IPL," Kumble said. Punjab Kings, led by KL Rahul, will start their IPL campaign against Rajasthan Royals in Mumbai on April 12.

Mithali Raj in 10K club

Lucknow, Mar 13: Veteran batter Mithali Raj on Friday became the first Indian woman cricketer and second International to complete 10,000 runs across all formats, drawing praise from some iconic names of the game and the BCCI. The 38-year-old Mithali, who leads the Indian ODI team, joined England's Charlotte Edwards in the elite club. Mithali achieved the feat with a boundary off Anne Bosch in the 28th over of India's innings during the third ODI against South Africa. Mithali has amassed 663 runs in 10 Test matches with a best score of 214, while she has 6974 and 2364 runs from 212 ODIs and 89 T20 Internationals re-

spectively. The figures add up to 10001. "Heartiest congratulations Mithali on completing 10000 runs in International Cricket. Terrific achievement... Keep going strong!" men's batting great and former captain Sachin Tendulkar tweeted. BCCI secretary Jay Shah called the India captain an "absolute legend". Mithali made her International debut against Ireland in an ODI back in June 1999 and has scored seven centuries and 54 half-centuries in the format. The Rajasthan player announced her retirement from the T20 format of the game in September 2019. She has 17 half-centuries in T20Is with a top score of 97 not out.

North London derby sees Arsenal, Tottenham trying to 'build a better future'

London, Mar 13: It wasn't just the sound of Tottenham fans hurling disparaging but playful chants at Arsenal players that was an unusual one this season. Victory over Arsenal in the north London derby kept Tottenham top of the Premier League in December. It turned out to be a brief few weeks when not only 2,000 fans were allowed into Tottenham's stadium but Jose Mourinho's side was in the title race. Three months on, even reclaiming a spot in the top four is proving tricky with seventh-place Tottenham five points behind Chelsea, albeit with a game in hand. Perhaps the only comfort for Mourinho from the demise of Tottenham's bid for a first English title since 1961 is the plight of Arsenal. "I look up, I don't look down," the Tottenham manager said. "If Arsenal was seven points ahead of us, I would look to them. But because we have seven points more than

them in the league's top four. But you have to drop far down in the rankings to find Arsenal players Alexandre Lacazette and Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang scoring nine goals each and with only three assists between them this season. Even Arsenal Mikel Arteta is in awe of a Tottenham side that has scored 102 goals in all competitions this season—a haul eclipsed only by Bayern Munich among teams in Europe's top five leagues. "It's very difficult because the level of quality, precision, understanding and chemistry that they have between them makes them probably one of the most special (attacks) in Europe," Arteta said. "And they don't need much. They are able to create their own chances, they are able to link as a team. So it is really difficult to do." Kane also contributed both goals in Thursday's European win over Dinamo Zagreb. It's



them, I don't look down." With two wins from its last seven league matches, Arsenal is only just in the top half of the standings in 10th place. The only path back into the Champions League for both teams could be by winning the Europa League, and they won the first legs of their last-16 games on Thursday. "A little bit like us they're trying to build a better future," Mourinho said. The future could look more promising for Tottenham based at the forward line. Harry Kane has 16 goals and 13 assists and Son Heung-min has 13 goals and nine assists—putting

the versatility of Kane that impresses Mourinho, with his ability to drop deeper, operating in the No. 10 role as well as the No. 9 spot leading the attack. "When a striker is the kind of goal scorer who can only play in that position, it's more difficult because when they lose that intensity of the younger people then they have nothing," Mourinho said. "But the kind of players (like Harry), I think they get better with time, with experience, with understanding of the game. "At this moment you see Harry and (Karim) Benzema, who's already 33 now, this kind of striker.

India collapse at Modi stadium

Ahmedabad, Mar 13: Indian batsmen had little to offer in the face of a regimented English bowling effort on a two-paced track as the hosts received an eight-wicket hammering in the opening T20I at Narendra Modi stadium on Friday. Indian batsmen struggled to score freely before Shreyas Iyer showed the way with a dogged 67-run knock that took Virat Kohli's men to 124 for seven. In the absence of scoreboard pressure, England overhauled the target with ease in 15.3 overs to take a 1-0 lead in the five-match series. The Indian batsmen never got the momentum going as England's pace-heavy attack, led by Mark Wood, used the extra bounce effectively to trouble them. Most of the Indian batsmen went for flashy shots when placement would have served them well, as Iyer did later in the innings. The world's biggest stadium, which has a seating capacity of



1,32,000, played host to 67,200 fans, according to EspnCrinfo, way more than the 50 per cent capacity that was to be filled for the game in the middle of the Covid-19 pandemic. Jason Roy scored a well-calculated 49-run knock while Jonny Bairstow's big hits showed there were no demons in the pitch as the Indians made it seem after being invited to bat by England skipper Eoin Morgan. Roy struck the ball clean and hard to form a 72-run opening wicket

stand with Jos Buttler (28), ending any hopes that the Indians harboured of getting back in the game. The luxury of time allowed the England batsmen to play freely. None of the Indian bowlers looked like asking tough questions to the visitors. Roy was trapped by Washington Sundar but by that time England had put 89 runs on the board. Bairstow (26) and Dawid Malan (24) took the side past the finish line. Earlier, after India's top-order was blown

away, Iyer gauged the nature of the pitch quickly and adjusted his game accordingly, playing a sensible innings that helped them cross the 100-run mark. Laced with eight boundaries and a six, and coming off 48 balls, it was Iyer's best T20 knock. He fell in the last over. England surprised India by opening the attack with leg-spinner Adil Rashid, who was not only economical but also dismissed Kohli (0) after KL Rahul (1) dragged one back onto his

stumps from player of the match Jofra Archer (3/23). Feeling the heat, Shikhar Dhawan, who got the opportunity since Rohit Sharma was rested, attempted to break the shackles with a flashy shot off Wood but completely missed the line to see his timber disturbed. In-form batsman Rishabh Pant (21) was promoted to number four. He struck the ball clean, which included a reverse-flick off Archer for a six, but the England bowlers kept it tight. The home team was tottering at 34 for three in eight overs. Pant and Iyer added 28 runs for the fourth wicket before the former hit one straight to Bairstow off Ben Stokes. That brought Hardik Pandya to the crease, who true to his style, looked for some big hits but could not do much. The visiting players wore black armbands in memory of former cricketer Joey Benjamin, who died Wednesday.

SmackDown results: Chaos descends as Daniel Bryan takes out Edge

New Delhi, Mar 13: A determined Edge came face-to-face with a passionate Daniel Bryan. On The Road to WrestleMania, The Rated-R Superstar found himself in an intense war of words with the Superstar who will challenge Universal Champion Roman Reigns at WWE Fastlane, Daniel Bryan. Universal Title Contract Signing descended into chaos. Edge to battle Uso next week to become the Special Enforcer at WWE Fastlane. After Roman Reigns cast doubt on Daniel Bryan's legitimacy to challenge him at WWE Fastlane during the Uni-

versal Title Match Contract Signing, The Head of the Table and Jey Uso launched a two-on-one assault on The Leader of the "Yes!" Movement. This brought Edge to the rescue, who soon suggested he be named the Special Enforcer for the March 21 showdown.



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The fire destroyed many homes in Biswali village of Kujang Block



(A.O. Bureau) Paradip, Mar 13: The fire destroyed many homes in Biswali village of Kujang Block, Jagatsinghpur. The families were helpless and suffering. In such times IFFCO lend a helping hand to the victims.

IFFCO distributed essential relief materials i.e Rice, Dal, Sugar, Oil, Atta, Chuda, Biscuits, dress materials and utensils to among the victims by Sh Prasanna Kumar Beura, Administrative Officer, Sh

Sibaram Behera, Liaison Officer, IFFCO Paradip in presence of Smt Suprava Sahoo, Sarapancha, Biswali GP and Sh Sudhal Kumar Swain, representative of Hon'ble M.P. Jagatsinghpur. IFFCO have always been helping people in need and addressing social issues. It is now talk of the town in Paradip, how a corporate sector like IFFCO is setting up an example by providing support and help to the people in need. IFFCO's such initiatives are really appreciable and commendable.

JSW Contributes Mas Vehicle To Paradip Municipality



(A.O. Bureau) Paradip, Mar 13: Paradip Municipality has added one more feather to its crown on Friday, Sambit Routray, MLA, Paradip flagged off one truck Mounted Automated Sweeping (MAS) vehicle donated by JSW Foundation at premises of Jaydev Sadan, Paradip in presence of Vinit Kumar, Chairman, Paradip Port Trust, Arun Maheswari, JMD & CEO, JSW Infrastructure and other

Sr.Officials with an aim to facilitate dust free roads & pavements at Paradip township. Municipality has put in considerable

efforts in boosting the cleanliness drive. This addition in the Municipality's sanitation space is yet another step towards

making cleaner City. This Truck Mounted Sweepers will not only lessen burden from manual road Sweepers but also will help in re-

solving all-weather challenges faced by the Municipality in ensuring cleaner and safer Roads for motorists to commute.

Tata Steel's Ferro Alloys Plant bags prestigious Kalinga Safety Award



(A.O. Bureau) Joda, Mar 13: Tata Steel was conferred with the prestigious 'Kalinga Safety Award - 2019' in the Silver category for its Ferro Alloys Plant, Joda at

the 11th Odisha State Safety Conclave (OSSC) 2020 held at Hotel New Marrion, Bhubaneswar on Friday. The award was received by Mr G P Sahu, Head, Ferro Al-

loys Plant, Joda and Mr Naba Mishra, General Secretary, FAP Employee Union from Dr Surya Narayan Patra, Hon'ble Speaker, Odisha Legislative Assembly & Mr

BishnupadaSethi, IAS, Principal Secretary, Revenue and Disaster Management Department, Government of Odisha. It may be noted here that Ferro Alloys Plant (FAP), Bannipal also received the Kalinga Safety Award in the Gold category. This year, while FAP, Bannipal received its first award, FAP, Joda bagged this prestigious award for the fourth consecutive time. Leaders from major mining and construction industries, industrial experts and eminent guests were present at the conclave that was

organized by Institute of Quality & Environment Management Services (IQEMS) in collaboration with Institute of Public Enterprise, Hyderabad and Odisha State Productivity Council, Bhubaneswar. It may be noted here that 'Kalinga Safety Award' is considered to be one of the most prestigious awards in India that recognizes exceptional contributions made by organisations in different categories with the objective to award industries who have displayed optimum excellence in their safety practices.

Gold Price Drastically Reduced

(A.O. Bureau) New Delhi, Mar 13: Gold prices (Gold Price Today) are continuously falling. So far, the price of gold has come down to

hand, if we talk about this year, then in less than 3 months, its price has come down by Rs 6000. In the last trading session in the Delhi bullion mar-

ket, 24-carat gold had closed at Rs 44601 and 23 carats at Rs 44422. At the same time, silver opened at Rs 66480 with a strength of Rs 110 per kg. Experts say that due



a low of about 11 months. Gold touched an all-time high of 56,200 in August last year, but now gold has fallen 22 percent to Rs 12,400 per 10 grams. On the other

of gold prices may not be for long. Weakness in the dollar, rising inflationary pressures, and monetary expansion have had a direct impact on the gold price.

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Women Are The Sutradhar At Vedanta, Says Chairman Anil Agarwal As Company Celebrates International Women's Day

Focus on increasing women participation in operations to 50% from current 22%



(A.O. Bureau) Mumbai, Mar 13: Women are the 'sutradhar' that keeps the one lakh-strong Vedanta family together, Chairman Anil Agarwal said while addressing a virtual town hall meeting with employees and their families to celebrate International Women's Day. "If a woman is convinced and she puts her mind into a task, she can deliver 110% results," the Vedanta chairman said, while urging women to believe in themselves. 'Choose an idea and put your heart and mind into it. Do something only when you are convinced about it, not because you have to do it or you have been asked to do it,' he said. Mr Agarwal encouraged women to pick up an activity outside their daily lives, be it a full-time or a part-

time engagement and contribute to society. "There is nothing a woman cannot do. You only have to develop a mindset of being able to achieve it," he added. There are nearly two crore women in India who can contribute to the society in a significant way, provided they get the right opportunity, he pointed out. Mr Agarwal was joined by Priya Agarwal Hebbar, a director on the company's board, who felt the biggest challenge women in India face is in developing their mindset. She also felt women need to embody the values they set to inculcate in their children. She also sought Mr Agarwal's views on how women can achieve and maintain a fine balance between tradition and their newer, more demanding professional roles.

Vedanta is ranked among the top global companies where women feel comfortable to work and the company takes a lot of pride in it, Mr Agarwal said adding that the company will increase women representation in operational roles to 50 per cent from 22 per cent currently. Appreciating women professionals' contribution at Vedanta's diversified business units, he also thanked the women across the Vedanta family who have always stood by their husbands and supported them allowing the latter to concentrate fully on work. His hour-long interaction drew a lot of questions. Responding to a query from the audience, he also encouraged wives of Vedanta employees to channelise their energy and entrepreneurial spirit to contribute to Vedanta in some meaningful way - be it through technology enablement or services.

Homegrown beverage brand 'eha - From The Pulp' launches Apple Drink

(A.O. Bureau) Bhubaneswar, Mar 13: Odisha's homegrown brand 'eha' launched 'Apple Drink' in the market. 'eha' is a product by food processing enterprise Agri Link Food Processing Private Limited. Company's Director, Mrs. Sharmilee Mahapatra, unveiled the new product at the dealers' meet, here. The drink made from pure apple pulp will soon be available across the stores in Odisha. Previously, Mango, Lychee, Chilli Guava and Mixed Fruit drinks from 'eha' have become customer favourites. The 160ml



Tetra Pak apple drink, introduced by the company now, is sold at rupees 10 only. "Connecting farmers with the consumers and providing high quality beverage is the motto of our company. All 'eha' the fruit drinks are made from

finest quality fruit pulp with an objective to give a healthy, tasty and nutritious drink to our consumers. Further, we aim to position eha - From The Pulp among the top 10 brands in the Indian beverage market," says Founder & CEO, Lt.

Col. Ashit Mahapatra. "There are various brands in the market selling variety of fruit drinks. Due to many additives being used, these drinks though tasty, might not be healthy. Keeping in mind the interest of our customers,

'eha' is made preservative free", says Mr. Aurobindo Mohanty, Director - Media & Branding. The dealers have praised the quality of 'eha' drinks available in market. Further, they are excited about the launch of the new 'eha Apple Drink', Mr. Prabhakar Kumar Nayak, Head - Sales informs. USP of 'eha' fruit products is the fortification of Vitamins A & C and with the goodness of Aloe Vera, which has various health benefits. Among others, 'eha' company staff, stakeholders, dealers and various channel partners were present at the function.

Women's Day Observed at Aditya Aluminium

(A.O. Bureau) Bhubaneswar: The International Women's Day 2021 was organized by Aditya Aluminium, Lapanga, Sambalpur on 12th March 2021 at Maliatkr Playground of Lapanga GP which witnessed the footfall of more than 400 members of Women Self Help Group. These SHGs are being supported by Aditya Aluminium, Lapanga under Mission Shakti and are actually working to build a healthy and empowered society in COVID -19 world. The theme of this



year's celebration was "Women in Leadership: Achieving an equal future in a COVID 19 world". Mrs. Gitanjali Mishra, the District Social Welfare Officer (DSWO) of Sambalpur graced the event as the Chief Guest. Other eminent guests on the occasion were Mrs. Minati

Panigrahi District Mission Shakti Coordinator, Mr. Niranjan Panda District Programme Coordinator Mission Shakti, Mrs. Sudhanshubala Muduli Principal Deaf & Dumb School Jharsuguda, Mrs. Manaswini Ranasingh SI Central Reserve Police, Mr. Shankar Prasad Sahu,

BDO Rengali, Mr. Satyanarayan Agarwal Vice Chairman Rengali Block, Mr. Sesadev Padhan Sarpanch Bomoloi, representatives from Agriculture and Horticulture Department Mr. Jagannath Dash DPD, Kadambini Sathpathy, Mrs. Sudharani Pattnaik, Mr. Ramakanta Biswal The Common Times, Rajib Mishra Swadhin Ekta Parishad, Dr. Vivekanand Mishra Head HR, Mr. Ghanshyam Parida Head CPP, and Satya Das Head ER of Aditya Aluminium. The

speakers on the occasion emphasized upon the need to provide equal opportunities to women in all spheres without any gender discrimination. Everyone unanimously accepted the enormous contribution of women towards the society in each and every domain. The HR Head of Aditya Aluminium, Dr. Vivekanand Mishra applauded the efforts of women employees in the company and said that going forward the Company will have 30% women employees.