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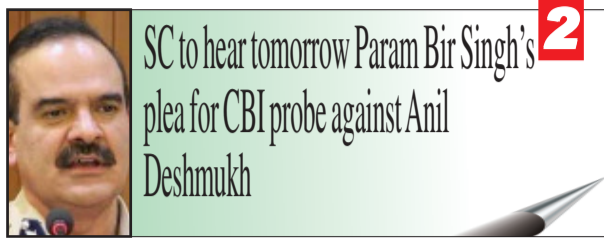
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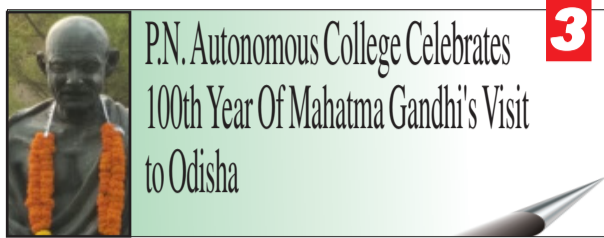
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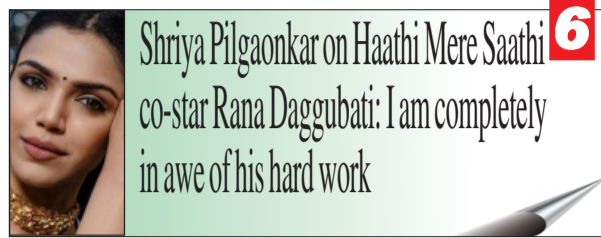
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Amid Spurt In Covid Cases, Odisha Caps Number Of Wedding Attendees Further

Bhubaneswar, Mar 23: In view of non-adherence to Covid appropriate behavior and protocols during marriage and funeral related gatherings, the Odisha government today further capped the number attendees at such functions. While issuing fresh guidelines, the Special Relief Commissioner's office today stated maximum 200 persons will be allowed to attend marriage and related gatherings. Earlier, the government allowed maximum 500 persons at marriage functions. Similarly, maximum 50 persons will be allowed to attend funeral and last rites related gatherings. The State government in its previous order allowed maximum 500 persons to attend such occasions. The new order of the SRC office comes into effect from March 26, 2021. In

closed spaces, the attendance will be maximum 50% of the hall capacity subject to the new ceilings. In open spaces, appropriate number of persons should be allowed keeping in view the ground/open space size to ensure physical dis-



tancing norms could be maintained. Wearing of masks, maintaining social distancing and provision of thermal scanning and use of hand wash or sanitiser are mandatory at such functions. The host of the marriage or funeral function shall make necessary arrangement for checking at the entry

point and ensure wearing of masks by the guests and others during the entire duration of their participation. Host shall make arrangement to provide masks to those who have not come with appropriate mask, the guideline read. District

Collectors, SPs and Municipal Commissioners, and Commissionerate of Police were directed to ensure implementation of the new guidelines. It further stated anyone found violating the order will be punished under the provisions of the Disaster Management Act 2005 and other relevant laws.

Odisha CM Moves Resolution Over Reservation For Govt School Students In Med, Engg Colleges

Bhubaneswar, Mar 23: The Odisha Legislative Assembly today passed a resolution proposing reservation for students of government schools for admission into engineering and medical colleges. Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik introduced the resolution for 15 per cent reservation for Government school students. Earlier, a high-power committee had recommended this reservation. The committee was headed by Justice AK Mishra, retired Judge of Orissa High Court. In 2020, Odisha Cabinet had proposed a reservation for students of State-run schools for admissions into various medical and engineering colleges. Other members of the committee were Prof. Ashok Kumar Das, Former Vice-Chancellor of Utkal University, DMET Prof CBK Mohanty, CHSE Chair-

man BS Poonia, TET Director G Reghu, and Joint Secretary, SD&TE Department AK Nayak. The Government stated that after the introduction of common entrance examinations like NEET and JEE, the number of students from Government schools and colleges of Odisha in these courses is getting reduced considerably. "This is not due to lack of merit, rather the students are unable to fare better in these tests due to lack of proper coaching facilities. Such common entrance tests require specialised training which is available only in coaching centres. Such coaching centres are mostly located in urban areas and costly." Students of Government schools and colleges lack both in physical and economic access to coaching centres. This has re-



sulted in inequitable conditions for a majority of the students of Odisha. In this backdrop the Cabinet has resolved to reserve an adequate number of seats for the students of Government High Schools in Medical and Engineering Colleges of the State, the Government stated. The High Power Committee after

thoroughly studying the situation came out with the following findings: About 86 per cent of the students in Odisha are in Government schools and they get 23 per cent seats in State Medical Colleges and 21 per cent seats in State Engineering Colleges. While 12 per cent of the students studying in private schools get

almost 60 per cent seats in both medical and engineering colleges in Odisha. This clearly shows that there is an inequity arising from physical and economic access to coaching institutions while playing a major role in national entrance examinations. The inequity affects a majority of the students, the Committee noted.

PM Modi To Survey Development Model Of Ayodhya



Ayodhya, Mar 23: The opinion of about five hundred people on the development of Ramnagari has been included in the document. Apart from the saints and Mahants of Ramnagari, suggestions have been taken from Sri Ram Janmabhoomi Tirtha Kshetra Trust, including MPs, MLAs, educationists and others. This sequence is still in progress. On this, Ayodhya MP Lallu

Singh said that Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath wants to shape the development of Ramnagari as per the intention of the PM. This is the reason why he does not want to leave any stone unturned in it. 3 companies have talked to many people- Lallu Singh. MP Lallu Singh said that before joining the PM through VC, 3 companies have talked to many people. After talking to

everyone, the vision document is ready. The CM has already discussed the document 2 times in the past, so now there will be a discussion with the PM. Along with Ayodhya, there will be a development of austerity of saints and sages in the surrounding districts. So far, better development of rail and road has been done in Ayodhya. I have said that whatever development takes place should not be merely modernism, reflecting the old tradition and culture along with modernity. Ayodhya which was born at the time of Rama should be prepared with the incorporation of modernism in such a way that the hearts of the people can be fascinated by Ayodhya.

Odisha CM Naveen Patnaik Reviews Coronavirus Situation

Bhubaneswar, Mar 23: The corona epidemic is on the rise again. Meanwhile, the administration has imposed a night curfew in Malkangiri, which will take effect today. Meanwhile, Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik today reviewed the state of the state. The Chief Minister reviewed the situation through video conferencing. The Chief Minister has held talks with all the district magistrates and SPs. It was attended by Chief Secretary Suresh Mohapatra, SRC Pradeep Mohapatra, Health Department ACS. However, after the review, the emphasis is on increasing the number of RT-PCR tests in the state. Thus the number of employees required at the district level will increase. Emphasis will be placed on

contact tracking for all coronary heart disease patients. A mini-maintenance zone will be set up if infections are reported in certain areas. People from the most affected states will be monitored. They will be tested according to the guidelines. The police will pay special attention to whether or not the Covid law is being followed. The government will have to pay close attention to markets, religious institutions, and weddings. On the other hand, after the Chief Minister's review, the Covid rule at the district level will be tightened. No decision was made at the meeting on the night curfew. Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has been advised by the health department. It is proposed that 200 people be included in the outing instead of 500.

COVID-19: Union Cabinet Approves Vaccination Above 45 Years Of Age From April 1



New Delhi, Mar 23: The Union Cabinet on Tuesday allowed the administration of coronavirus vaccine to people above 45 years of age from April 1, irrespective of comorbidities. Briefing the media on the Cabinet decisions, Union Minister Prakash Javadekar said: "I urge

all above the age of 45 to register and get themselves vaccinated from April 1. There are enough vaccines available and there should not be any concern on this." So far, 4.84 crore doses of corona vaccine have been administered in the country. The countrywide vaccination drive was rolled

out for healthcare workers on January 16 and vaccination of frontline workers started from February 2. The next phase of Covid-19 vaccination commenced from March 1 for those who are over 60 years of age and for people aged 45 and above with specific co-morbid conditions.

Results Of UPSC Civil Services (Main) Exam, 2020 Announced

New Delhi, Mar 23: The Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) today declared the results of the Civil Services (Main) Examination, 2020. Candidates, who have cleared the Main examination, will be eligible to appear for the Personality Test (Interview) for selection to the Indian Administrative Service, Indian Foreign Service, Indian Police Service and other Central Services (Group 'A' and Group 'B'). The Civil Services (Main) Examination, 2020 was held by the commission from January 8, 2021 to January 17, 2021. The UPSC further stated Personality Tests (Interviews) of short-listed candidates will be held in the Office of the Union Public Service Commission at Dholpur

House, Shahjahan Road, New Delhi-110069 soon. "The e-Summon Letters of Personality Tests (Interviews) of the candidates will be made available shortly, which may be downloaded from the Commission's Website <https://www.upsc.gov.in> & <https://www.upsonline.in>," the commission stated. All the qualified candidates are required to fill up the Attestation Form online and submit the same ONLINE which would be made available on the website of the Department of Personnel & Training from the date of commencement of Personality Tests (Interviews) till the conclusion of Personality Tests (Interviews) on the link <https://cseplus.nic.in/Account/Login>.

International Sand Artist Mr. Manas Kumar Sahoo has created a Sand Art on the occasion of "World TB DAY"

Puri, Mar 23: This year's theme is The Clock Is Ticking. Efforts are being made to eradicate Tuberculosis worldwide. The goal is to complete the effort by 2025. International Sand artist Mr. Manas has created his sand art based on this theme. He portrays LUNGS through his sand art, and shows that a TB-free society



is slowly being built around the world

through the efforts of Doctors. The sand Art

is 15 feet wide and uses 15 tonnes of

sand. It took Mr. Manas about 7 hours to build it which engraves the message saying "World TB Day" along with the theme of this year i.e. "The Clock is Ticking". The Sand Art was inaugurated by Sub Collector Mr. Saraj Swain, CDMPHO Dr. Sujata Mishra, and ADPHO TB Dr. Lalatendu Mishra, Puri.

SC to hear tomorrow Param Bir Singh's plea for CBI probe against Anil Deshmukh



New Delhi, Mar 23: The former Mumbai Police commissioner has accused the Maharashtra home minister of running an 'extortion racket,' through assistant police inspector Sachin Vaze. The Supreme Court will on Wednesday hear a petition filed by former Mumbai Police commissioner Param Bir Singh seeking a Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) probe against Maharashtra home minister Anil Deshmukh whom he has accused of running an 'extortion racket.' A two-judge bench of the top court, comprising Justices Sanjay Kishan Kaul and R Subhash Reddy will take up the plea filed by Singh, who was transferred last week by the Maharashtra government to the Home Guards, for "mishandling" the Mukesh Ambani bomb scare case. In his petition, filed on Monday, the senior police official also sought a stay on his transfer. Singh has alleged that he was trans-

ferred to the "low-key" post in the Home Guards "immediately after" he brought Deshmukh's alleged corrupt practices to the notice of Maharashtra chief minister Uddhav Thackeray, deputy CM Ajit Pawar and some other senior leaders of the state government. "The petitioner has invoked writ jurisdiction of this Hon'ble Court to seek unbiased, uninfluenced, impartial and fair investigation in the corrupt malpractices of Shri Anil Deshmukh, the Hon'ble Home Minister of Government of Maharashtra, before the evidence are destroyed," Singh's writ petition, filed through advocate Abhinav, said. In his letter to Thackeray, mailed on March 20, the senior Indian Police Service (IPS) officer had alleged that Deshmukh had directed assistant police inspector Sachin Vaze to collect ₹100 crore per month from hotels, bars and restaurants in Mumbai. Singh had

mentioned meeting Deshmukh and Vaze "in and around mid-February and thereafter" at the home minister's residence. It was at these meetings, the officer alleged, that Vaze was tasked with collecting the money. Vaze is currently in custody of the National Investigation Agency (NIA) which is handling the Ambani bomb scare probe and the related Mansukh Hiran death case. Both Deshmukh and his Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) have denied Singh's allegations, with the minister even threatening to file a defamation case against him. Both have cited Deshmukh's Covid-19 diagnosis in February to counter Singh's claims. Besides the NCP, Maharashtra's ruling Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) comprises the Shiv Sena and the Congress. NCP chief Sharad Pawar held press conferences on Sunday and Monday, backing his party colleague Deshmukh.

Suspension of international flights extended till April 30

New Delhi, Mar 23: Suspension of international flights extended till April 30, apart from the ones plying on approved routes, DGCA said on Tuesday in its revised order. The director-general of civil aviation on Tuesday extended the suspension of international flights in India till April 30, apart from those which have been already approved by the authorities. The directive comes as the ministry of home affairs on Tuesday issued new directives to be implemented in the country in April, amid a surge of Covid-19 cases. International flights were suspended in March 2020, after a nationwide lockdown was imposed

in view of the Covid-19 pandemic breakout. In May 2020, the government launched the Vande Bharat Mission to evacuate Indian stranded abroad. The mission currently is in its 10th phase. In the process of gradual resumption of international flights, India signed transport bubbles or air travel arrangements with countries that allowed two-way resumption of commercial passenger services. At present, international flight services are allowed between India and 27 countries, including Afghanistan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Canada, Ethiopia, France, Germany, Iraq, Japan, Kenya, Kuwait, Maldives,



Nepal, Netherlands, Nigeria, Oman, Qatar, Russia, Rwanda, Seychelles, Tanzania, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United States and Uzbekistan. Even before we began Vande Bharat Mission we brought back our people from Wuhan,

Tehran & Rome. Then we launched VBM on 6 May 2020 & have so far facilitated repatriation & International travel of more than 67.9 lakh people from around the world. pic.twitter.com/GykwyKPUWy "Even before we began Vande Bharat Mission we

brought back our people from Wuhan, Tehran & Rome. Then we launched VBM on 6 May 2020 & have so far facilitated repatriation & International travel of more than 67.9 lakh people from around the world," civil aviation minister Hardeep Singh Puri recently tweeted.

Serum Institute can supply 470 million vaccine doses and Biotech 120 million by August: NITI Aayog member

Pune, Mar 23: The supply of Covid-19 vaccines from Serum Institute of India and Bharat Biotech could increase by July-August, according to Professor V K Paul, member (health) NITI Aayog. "The SII manufactures 60 million doses per month and can be in a position to supply 470 million doses by August," Paul said on Tuesday. Across the country, the cumulative Covid-19 vaccine doses are nearing 5 crore and more than 2 crore beneficiaries are aged over 60 years, according to data from the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. Responding to a query on the 90 per cent use of Covishield vis a vis Covaxin, Paul said this disparity pertained mainly to a supply issue.

"Covaxin hesitancy has melted to a large extent and has less side effects," he said. "We know that both SII and Bharat Biotech have a finite capacity and both are trying to increase production. There has to be a systematic increase in the vaccinations and Bharat Biotech should also be able to supply 120-130 million doses of Covaxin by August," he said. Paul was addressing queries relating to the Covid 19 vaccination programme, hesitancy, production capacity at manufacturing firms and whether India was meeting targets, at the online annual conference of the Sun Pharma Science Foundation on Covid-19 in India. The conference was coordinated by Prof Shahid Jameel, director,

Trivedi School of Biosciences, Ashoka University, Sonapat, Haryana. "In a single day (March 22), we were able to vaccinate three million people. We are on track," Paul said. It has been nine weeks since the vaccination programme began and in the first phase, the aim is to cover the vulnerable population, Paul said, responding to a query on whether India is woefully short of adhering to vaccination targets. But he raised concerns over vaccine hesitancy among senior citizens. "There was an eagerness earlier but there are some reports about vaccine hesitancy in this group. More vaccines will be rolled out by June-July and the pace is picking up. We need to wait and watch and yes, we will de-



liver," Paul said. Dr Ravi Wankhedkar, past national president of the Indian Medical Association, has urged the central government to rework the vaccination strategy and encour-

age vaccination on demand for eligible people, high-risk people, frontline workers in all fields and those interacting with large numbers every day who are exposed to risk of infection.

Vedanta Celebrates World Water Day

(A.O. Bureau) New Delhi, Mar 23: As part of its philosophy of sustainable and responsible growth, Vedanta has recycled 282.65 million cubic metres of water in the past four years. Protecting water resources is an integral part of Vedanta's commitment to sustainable development as the company has taken up 19 water saving projects to reduce water consumption across its businesses. As we celebrate World Water Day on March 22, Vedanta, which believes in using natural resources prudently, has been investing in new technologies and systems to optimise water consumption. Recycling and treatment of industrial wastewater has been a key focus area to achieve zero liquid discharge. The company has incorporated efficient water usage practices, invested in state-of-the-art wastewater treatment plants and has completed water risk assessment of its entire operations. The company's businesses have put in place rainwater harvesting facilities and adopted

the 3Rs - Reduce, Re-use, Recycle. The company's drinking water and sanitation program are aimed at providing drinking water and purification systems to the local communities, and it has implemented WASH initiatives to develop safe and healthy habits. Vedanta has been helping farmers adopt drip-irrigation, treadle pump, solar powered water pumps and rainwater harvesting structures like percolation tanks to boost irrigation potential and reduce dependency on monsoons for cropping. The company has built several water-related community infrastructures like tube wells, bore wells, ponds, percolation tanks, etc. to help communities access water for household and irrigation purposes. According to Vedanta Group CEO and Chief Safety Officer Sunil Duggal: "Water plays a very crucial role in the socioeconomic development of a nation and has become an increasingly finite and precious resource. Our approach to water management respects rights

over use of water for all stakeholders, which in turn strengthens our social licence to operate. We have a long-term approach to water management that aims to improve our performance, recognize the significance of water and contribute to sustainable water management. We continuously implement technologies and systems across all our operations, to optimise water consumption, enhance energy productivity and safeguard biodiversity. Vedanta has both a water management policy and a water management standard in place which integrate with decision-making processes for all new and existing projects, ensuring that all necessary measures are in place to minimise the water footprint of our projects. At the same time, we strictly follow all norms including zero liquid discharge policy to ensure there is no ground water contamination due to our operations." At Hindustan Zinc, water stewardship is one of the most critical elements of the environment conser-

vation strategy as it seeks to reduce usage of fresh water, maintain water quality, and engage with communities to collaboratively manage a shared water resource throughout the mining life cycle. Hindustan Zinc has been declared Water Positive Company based on assurance carried out by a third-party organisation. With this ratio of 2.41, Hindustan Zinc is certified among the top water conserving companies. Vedanta Aluminium & Power Business has reduced freshwater consumption by 3.6 million cubic metres in FY20. The business unit has seen a 4% reduction in freshwater consumption over previous fiscal, while water recycling has risen to 16% over the same period. Cairn Oil & Gas has taken up various initiatives to provide accessibility to safe drinking water to rural communities. It launched Jeevan Amrit project with a focus on providing door-step access to safe drinking water and has taken up renovation of community water bodies and construction of wa-

ter tanks, meeting the water requirement of local communities. At ESL, the percentage of recycling of ETP (Effluent Treatment Plant) treated water has increased from 12% in FY'17-18 to 26% in FY20-21, while 100% of the wastewater generated is recirculated into the system after treatment. It has undertaken several measures under Project SWAJAL to make safe drinking water available to local communities. NandGhar, Vedanta's flagship community development initiative, observed World Water Day to underline the significance of #Swachh water in the lives of thousands of children, mothers, and community members living in the areas, where water is scarce and clean water is a luxury. The day also highlights the necessary improvement for access to water, hygiene facilities, and sanitation in the country. NandGhar has provided access to clean water and sanitation facilities to its beneficiaries and used nudges for positive behavioural changes.

From 'ripped jeans' to 'America enslaved India': A look at Tirath Rawat's jarring remarks as Uttarakhand CM

Dehradun, Mar 23: It has been a fortnight since Tirath Singh Rawat took oath as Uttarakhand Chief Minister and it was not without controversies. His statements have evoked sharp reactions from several quarters, including his own party. Commenting on Rawat's controversial remarks, a party leader said: "I feel fortunate that he did not say anything like those in one programme where I was present." Here's a list of controversial remarks that Rawat made after he assumed charge as CM. On March 14, Rawat in an event in Haridwar compared Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Lord Rama and Krishna and said that Modi will be admired like Ram and Krishna in the future. He further said that in modern time, world leaders queue up for their turn to get a photo clicked with Modi unlike previously when Indian PM and President had been standing away and could not move around. "This is because of Modi ji... I often say that Ram and



Krishna were in Dwapar and Treta yuga and Ram too had worked for the society so he was admired as a god. In the coming time, we will admire Narendra Modi in the same form because such a work Prime Minister Narendra Modi is doing in the country," Rawat said. Two days later, during a workshop organised by the State Commission for Protection of Child Rights, Rawat contended that women wearing ripped jeans send the wrong message to society and children. Expressing his indignation, Rawat described in detail the attire of a woman who had once travelled in a flight on the seat next to his, before going on to

question her values. "Jab unki taraf dekha to neeche gumboot they, jab aur upar dekha to ghutne fatey they, haath dekhe to kai kade they... Bachhey do saath me unke they. Maine kaha behan ji kahan jana hai... Delhi jana hai, husband kahan hai... JNU me professor hain, tum kya karti ho... main ek NGO chalati hun. NGO chalati hain, ghutne fatey dikhte hain, samaj ke beech me jaati ho, bachhey saath me hain, kya sanskar dogi? (She was wearing boots, jeans ripped on the knees, and several bracelets. She had two children travelling with her. Her husband is a professor in JNU.)

XIMB school sealed in Bhubaneswar after 45 students test positive



(A.O. Bureau) Bhubaneswar, Mar 23: The Xavier Institute of Management, Bhubaneswar, had resumed classes in February. The Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC) on Monday sealed the campus of Xavier Institute of Management (XIMB) in Bhubaneswar after 45 students of the Institute

tested positive for Covid-19. Following this, Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik is expected to review the statewide situation on Tuesday. "45 cases have been detected from within a campus. Travel history of all of them is being tracked," Special Relief Commissioner (SRC) Pradeep Jena said. He added that a

review meeting will be held with top officials, collectors and Superintendents of Police (SPs) across all districts. "Covid management committees will be activated again at village levels. Sarpanchs and ASHA and Anganwadi workers will be given responsibility once again to keep watch on travellers entering villages,"

Jena said, adding that a decision on lockdown and other aspects will be taken after observing the situation. According to the order issued by the BMC, no one is allowed to enter inside or go outside the campus except authorized persons of BMC. "All inhabitants within the campus shall strictly remain inside. The supply

of essentials and medical requirements if required will be ensured by the BMC," the order stated. Persons tested positive will be kept in isolation in separate rooms of a single hostel and they will be under the observation of the institute's authorities. BMC deputy commissioner and nodal officer for Covid-19 management, Suwendu Sahoo, said contact tracing is in progress to check the spread of the virus. "The source of infection is being ascertained," he added. IMB had resumed classes in February after the state government had allowed reopening of higher education institutions. At that time, all students and faculty members were tested for the novel coronavirus.

a Blood Donation camp was organised by Nifa On the occasion of Sahid Bhagat Singh jayanti



(A.O. Bureau) Puri, Mar 23: On the occasion of Sahid Bhagat Singh jayanti a Blood Donation camp was organised by Nifa, with collaboration of Sreekheta Press Club, Samarpan Odisha at

youth Hostel today total numbers of 56 unit Blood was collected Above 18 years students & others were participated in this camp Blood bank person, Journalist Biswajit Mishra Soumitra Hari

chandan, Pradumna Sathua Mahendra Bisoie Secy, NIFA Jayanti Mohapatra Secy, Samarpan Ex Sports Officer Rabi Narayan Senapati Pradip ku Nayak were present

High Drama On Bhubaneswar Street As Girl Tries To End Life Over Feud With Boyfriend



(A.O. Bureau) Bhubaneswar, Mar 23: High drama unfolded on Bharatpur road in Odisha capital as a girl

reportedly tried to end her life over a dispute with her male friend, yesterday. According to reports, a feud

emerged between the two around 3.30 pm on the street. Moments later, the girl consumed disinfectant liquid which she had kept in her bag and tried to jump from a higher place in a bid to end her life. Though the youth stopped her from taking the extreme step, the girl fell unconscious. He then picked the girl up for taking her to a hospital. Fortunately, the girl gained consciousness and was later taken to a hospital in an auto-rickshaw.

Experts Warn Climate Change Can Cause Huge Damage If Trend Not Reversed

(A.O. Bureau) Bhubaneswar, March 23: Experts have warned that climate change has already started to have a vicious impact on humanity calling for urgent measures to arrest and reverse the trend while pointing out that human activities were the greatest contributing factors to the developing situation. "Rising sea levels caused by global warming had begun to gobble up villages in Odisha while indiscriminate use of water could lead to an unimaginable situation in the future," Mr. Ranjan K. Panda, Convenor of Combat Climate Change Network, India, said on Monday. Seven villages in the Satbhaya area of coastal Kendrapara district in Odisha had been devoured by an advancing sea while several villages in Astaranga block of Puri district were facing the same fate, Mr. Panda, also known as 'Waterman of Odisha', said while speaking at a seminar on 'Global Water Crisis and Climate Change' organised by the Institute of Computer and Business Studies (IBCS), faculty



of management sciences of SOA, to mark the World Water Day. The Bay of Bengal has been advancing by a few meters in the coastal areas after every cyclone which had become more frequent while saline water ingress had been noticed up to a distance of five km from the sea in Astaranga area, Mr. Panda, a researcher, environmentalist and activist, said. Dr. Sarat Chandra Sahu, Director of Centre for Environment and Climate, SOA and eminent meteorologist and Mr. Ashok Kumar Sharda, Vice-President (Commerce) of Utkal Chamber of Commerce and Industry (UCCI) were the other speakers. Prof. Anup Kumar Samantary, Dean of IBCS, and Dr. Duryodhan Jena, Associate Professor, also spoke. Stating that

nearly two billion people had no access to safe water resources, Mr. Panda said large groups of people had little water to meet their needs even as they were advised to wash their hands frequently to prevent Covid-19 contamination. Covid-19 has actually forced us to think and it has also brought a glimmer of hope as it provided nature to regenerate itself as humans confined themselves to their homes, he said adding dolphins were found frolicking in a stretch of the Ganges while the haze lifted to make the Himalayas visible from hundreds of miles. "People must understand that they have to live in harmony with nature and rivers were not pipes which could be bent. We have become unsustainable. I now belong to a credit card

generation as I am using the water which belonged to my grandchildren," he said. The call of the hour is to protect our forests and plant more trees while being water prudent, Mr. Panda said. Dr. Sahu said only 2.5 per cent of the entire water resources in the world was available for human use of which two per cent was in the form of ice. The entire humanity was dependent on only 0.5 per cent of the water was available for use as the rest was in the oceans and seas. Climate change was resulting in extreme weather events which caused highly destructive floods in urban areas for which humans were responsible, Mr. Sahu said adding activities like removal of water absorbing plant cover from the soil and construction of buildings on flood plains adjacent

to rivers led to the frequent catastrophes. The urban population, which stood at 41 per cent in 2015 was expected to rise to 56 per cent in 2030 which would further accentuate the situation while climate change was expected to have more severe repercussions in the future. The length of the summer season, now experienced for three months, could extend to seven months by 2030 while the number of India's perennial rivers may get reduced from 17 now to 6 by that time. The development would have long term effect on human health and expenditure on health care could rise from seven per cent of the income now to 20 per cent by 2030, Dr. Sahu said. Mr. Sharda stressed the need to bring down emission levels to counter global warming saying India had agreed to reduce emission to 2005 level by 2030. Shifting the focus to solar power generation could provide a boost to the efforts to combat climate change while there was a need to expand the forest cover by five million hectares every year, he said.

Covid-19: Commissionerate Police Begins Awareness Drive

(A.O. Bureau) Bhubaneswar, Mar 23: Soon after Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik took stock of the Covid-19 situation in the State, the Twin City Commissionerate Police swung into action to sensitize the public on Covid appropriate behaviour. In the city PCR vans sounding sirens were seen sensitizing people on Covid appropriate behaviour like wearing masks, maintaining social distancing avoiding crowded places. At



prominent junctions, senior police officers were seen advising people on Covid appropriate behaviour to contain the pandemic since the city has recorded a spurt in the number of Covid positive cases in the last few days. "In the last few days, we have observed that Covid infections have

recorded a slight increase in our city. We want to first sensitize people that it is of utmost important to contain this increase in Covid infections," said Police Commissioner Saumendra Priyadarshi speaking to reporters here today evening. For this cooperation from all is necessary, he added.

ECoR Organised Zonal Official Language Implementation Committee Meet



(A.O. Bureau) Bhubaneswar, Mar 23: The 45th Zonal Official Language Implementation Committee Meeting of East Coast Railway was conducted under the Chairmanship of Shri Vidya Bhushan, General

Manager/ECoR. On this occasion Shri Sudhir Kumar, AGM/ECoR and other Principal Heads of Departments were also present. Progress of implementation of Rajbhasha in last quarter was re-

viewed and action plan for coming quarter was also discussed during the meeting. GM/ECoR Shri Vidya Bhushan urged railway employees for extensive use of Hindi in day to day official works. He

also advised to use simple words during the Hindi translation work. Shri Shailendra Kapil, Mukhya Rajbhasha Adhikari and Principal Chief Safety Officer coordinated the meeting.

P.N. Autonomous College Celebrates 100th Year Of Mahatma Gandhi's Visit to Odisha

(A.O. Bureau) Khordha, Mar 23: Pranath Autonomous College Khordha Celebrates the 100th year of Mahatma Gandhi's Visit to Odisha and paying homage to the prominent leader of the Indian Independence movement on Tuesday in the Premises of P.N. Autonomous College, Khordha. On March 23, 1921 Gandhi had stopped foot at cuttack railway station for the first time. On March 29 he visited Berhampur with pandit Gopabandhu Dash and addressed a huge gathering at Berhampur stadium. In this occasions Principal P.N. Autonomous College,



Khordha Dr. Mrs. Ranjeeta Sathy garland the statue of Mahatma Gandhi and lighting the candle. The other guest are Journalist Prasanna Kumar Paikaraya

humble tributes to the symbol of truth and nonviolence father of nation Mahatma Gandhi. Lecture Subodh Kumar Jagdev coordinate the entire programme. The

lectures, students and Staff's of P.N. Autonomous College were remain present and pay tributes to the father of the nation Mahatma Gandhi.

EDITORIAL

Kumbh of COVID

As the nation stares at another surge, Haridwar is taking it easy despite drawing mammoth crowds. As India on Monday marked the first anniversary of the “Janata curfew”, the first time that the nation realised the true gravity of the pandemic, it’s a good time to introspect where we stand 365 days and thousands of deaths later. Actually, it seems that after the initial spurt and the subsequent tranquilising trough and now facing another menacing crest, nothing has really changed. As we stare at the second COVID wave looming, the last 24 hours saw 46,951 fresh Coronavirus cases being reported — the biggest single-day jump since November 7 — which takes the country’s tally to 1,16,46,081 total infections. Of these, over 1.11 crore people have recovered and 1,59,967 deaths have been recorded. In the past week, India has registered the sharpest surge in fresh infections in nearly four months after the spread of the virus had seemed to slow down. Most of the fresh cases have been reported from Maharashtra, Punjab, Gujarat, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu. Restrictions have returned at several places across the country as the Government



and experts point out that the violation of protocols is leading to the resurgence of cases. Globally, over 12.3 crore people have so far contracted the virus; 27 lakh people have fallen prey to it. In the midst of all this mayhem, the city of Haridwar is nonchalantly hosting the ongoing Kumbh mela, prompting the Centre to issue an advisory to the Tirath Singh Rawat Government in Uttarakhand to shore up anti-COVID arrangements. A Health Ministry team had recently raised the alarm that 10-20 pilgrims and almost an equal number of locals are testing positive every day for the virus and that such a high rate of infections had the potential to rapidly turn into an “up-surge” in the number of cases. The ceremonies linked to Kumbh, which takes place at Haridwar, Nashik, Prayagraj and Ujjain every 12 years by rotation (though it is this time taking place after 11 years owing to suitable planetary alignments), would last most of next month with several days in April corresponding to the “Shahi snaans” (royal bath) expected to see upwards of five million converge on a single day. This development assumes significance because Rawat had recently announced that a negative COVID report won’t be made mandatory for visiting Haridwar and assured the devotees that all “unnecessary” restrictions imposed to contain the spread of COVID will be removed for the event, asserting that “faith is stronger than fear”. Interestingly, on Tuesday afternoon, the 56-year-old Chief Minister tweeted that he has tested positive for Coronavirus. We, as a nation, must understand that the virus neither follows a calendar, nor respects geographical boundaries, nor does it care for the “COVID fatigue” that we all have fallen prey to during our solitary confinement and isolation at home. The only way to fight Coronavirus is to have stringent mask discipline, avoid stepping out in public space and wash hands frequently and not get taken in by the false sense of security that “the pandemic is over because vaccines are here”.

The Bengali and the ‘outsider’ controversy

Mamata Banerjee's claim that she is Bengal's daughter while the BJP is an ‘outsider’ is steeped in disinformation. In replying to Mamata Didi’s allegation that the BJP is an “outsider” organisation, while she herself is the “daughter of Bengal”, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, at a speech in Kolkata’s Brigade Ground on March 7, remarked that the Trinamool had been spawned by the Congress. The Indian National Congress was founded in 1885 by a retired bureaucrat, Allan Octavian Hume, an Englishman. The Communist parties of India were all spawns of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. Their ideology was authored entirely by the ideologue Karl Marx. Vladimir Lenin brought the Bolshevik Party to power with the Revolution of 1917. A premier street in Calcutta celebrated Lenin’s coming to power by being named “Lenin Sarani”, opposite Metro cinema, near the Dharamtolla Street. Incidentally, the old Harrington Street, where the US Consulate is situated, was renamed by Chief Minister Jyoti Basu as “Ho Chi Minh Sarani”. I once took a client visiting from Germany around the city. He found every CPM graffiti to be a sketch of Soviet dictator Josef Stalin and wondered: “Why Stalin, now? Is there no Indian leader attractive enough to catch votes?” In World War II, Stalin wanted to arouse Russians to fight for their motherland, in complete contrast to Leon Trotsky’s earlier call for a “permanent Revolution” and Karl Marx’s Communist Manifesto, which called upon the workers of the world to unite. Mamata Banerjee never once has termed



Prafull Goradia

these things from outside. She finds Hindutva and “Jai Shri Ram” as outsiders despite the fact that Raj Narain Bose, the grandfather of Yogi Aurobindo Bose, had coined the term “Hindutva” in 1863. Leading Bengalis, including Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore, were members of the aggressively Hindu Anushilan Samiti. The Samiti had become particularly active after the first partition of Bengal in 1905, until 1911, when the partition was withdrawn by King George V. The Hindu ideology is not anti-anyone else. The word “Hindu” has been the identity for the entire subcontinent. In 1930, my father’s professor at the University of Boston asked him what he was. The reply was: An Indian. The professor said, “You are probably a Hindu. My question is — are you a Hindu Christian, a Hindu Muslim or a Hindu Hindu?” In other words, for the world outside, Hindu and Hinduism are the markers of India’s identity. Coming to the “Bengali versus outsider” debate, it bears iteration here that a prominent Bengali who was born 120 years ago seeded

a nationalist party that dominates Indian politics today. This is none other than Syama Prasad Mookerjee, a towering intellectual, academician and political leader. The party he founded, the Bharatiya Jana Sangh, was the only true opposition to the then hegemonic ruling Congress. Its later avatar became the BJP, which not only rules India and has become the world’s biggest political party, but has also decimated the once-mighty Congress. One must not forget that Mookerjee salvaged West Bengal and led the Hindus of the erstwhile undivided Bengal to grab a slice of their homeland from the nefarious designs of MA Jinnah and his Muslim League by resisting the blatantly biased League’s provincial government of Bengal. Bengal’s Hindus were the second largest ethnic minority after the Muslims in undivided Bengal (at nearly 42 per cent) but were subjected to two horrific rounds of genocide; the first in Calcutta in August 1946, following Jinnah’s clarion call for “direct action” (the Great Calcutta Killings), and then in Noakhali and Tippera

districts of eastern Bengal in October that year. Nearly 10,000 Hindus were massacred and thousands of Hindu women were raped in this orgy orchestrated by Bengal Premier HS Suhrawardy himself. Mookerjee, the indisputable leader of Bengal’s Hindus, recognised the looming threat as early as in 1940 when he said in Sylhet (then in Assam): “The dangers in front of us are many; the latest addition in the shape of a movement for Pakistan should not be brushed aside lightly. Jinnah is out to destroy the very soul of India.” The looming danger was the pernicious dream of a so-called “United Bengal”, promoted by Suhrawardy, Nazimuddin (ex-premier) and Fazlur Rahman (Bengal’s revenue minister), and supported by Sarat Chandra Bose of the Socialist Republic Party. This “United Bengal” movement, a smokescreen to grab all of Bengal for Pakistan, had Jinnah’s blessings. Had this League plan materialised, the Hindus of Bengal would have suffered a plight similar to that of Sindh’s Hindus who have been left without a country to call their own. The incorporation of all of Bengal into Pakistan was foiled only by the concerted efforts of Hindus, led resolutely by Mookerjee, who formed the Bengal Partition League towards the end of 1946. Governing the support of all sections of the Bengali society, League sections of communists and socialists also had to support the partition of Bengal — the Muslim League didn’t spare Hindu communists. The supreme irony is that Mamata might not have had even an identity, leave alone State, but for the heroic efforts of Mookerjee, whose party she now dubs an “outsider”.

Cyber Terrorism: China's New Weapon



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The series of cyber-attacks on financial capital Mumbai, National Stock Exchange on the IT systems of two coronavirus vaccine-makers Serum Institute of India and Bharat Biotech in the last few months was assertion of China’s asymmetric Warfare changing gears even as troops of both the countries go through the disengagement process at friction points in eastern Ladakh. The script is perfectly ambling in consonance with the Chinese playbook that had, long back incorporated hacking of enemy cyberspace as an essential tool of modern-day warfare. Though protocols have been in place in India to prevent such incidents, the recent attempts by Chinese hackers tell that game has clearly shifted to the next level. Cyber-attacks and Cyber espionage are regularly being practised by adversaries as they have proved to be useful strategy in the collection or corruption of data, stealing technology and patents, and disrupting critical infrastructures. The massive power outage in Mumbai in October 2020 is primarily linked to Chinese activities. The Telangana electricity Department has also received alerts about Chinese malware entering their cyber system. Breach



in SII and Bharat Biotech servers was attempted by Chinese State-backed hackers. This was confirmed by cyber intelligence firm ‘cyfirma’, based in Singapore and Tokyo. The cyber danger is present and crystal clear for India as it seeks a seat on the high table in the changing global order, making it mandatory that its rising stature must be protected with robust defence systems in traditional as well as digital domains. Countries with imperialist ambitions, like China, will never sit idle and allow India to take its designated place among global leadership. The longest stand-off in eastern Ladakh has shown what the future holds for India, especially on the northern border. And now the hacking attempts have raised immediate red-flags, seeking a new national strategy to strengthen the country’s cyber security. In an age when millions of people and Governments are digitally connected, scientists and hackers have discovered that it is possible to use malware to steal data of digital devices. These

things are primarily driven by the Russians and Chinese. The United States of America had already experienced the power of covert cyber activities by China. For nearly three years starting 2000, a series of Cyber-attacks were launched against America defence systems in an operation called “Titan Rain”. It targeted high level organisations like NASA and defence Major Lockheed Martin. The Cyber-attacks extradited vital information and compromised the systems. This information was transmitted to centres located in South Korea. Hong Kong and Taiwan before it was forwarded to Mainland China. It was later discovered that the attacks were part of State-sponsored cyber espionage attacks conducted by China. India is now at the top of the Chinese target-list which is becoming amply clear with the discovery of hacking attempts in the last few months. Nations and States often indulge in such covert activities to derail capability-building efforts of their adversaries. An-

other dirty aspect of Cyber-attacks is damage to internal governing systems of an enemy State to create arson and law and order situation. These are pressure tactics to keep countries engaged in their domestic problems while States like the People’s Republic of China or Russia practise their expansionist policies through various modes. In present day warfare tactics, cyber assaults form a more potent weapon than military or intelligence action. Cyber warfare capabilities can make big cities and even countries vulnerable. Shutting down of essential systems can result in arson, loot and violence in any city if the cyber-attack is not quashed in time. Russia adopted the same strategy along with military help during the 2016 invasion of Crimea. It was a convincing case of what hybrid warfare could achieve for a hegemonic power. The last few years have seen how a flood of fake news and dangerous narratives are being pushed in to chatting platforms on each of India’s internal issue. The role-played by Pakistan -Turkey orchestrated digital media post abrogation of Article 370 in Jammu and Kashmir on August 5, 2019 is well documented. Same thing were replicated during the anti-CAA protests. Delhi riots and also in the ongoing farmers protests. National critical Information Infrastructure protection centre is now a continuous war that does not allow even a tiny slip-up.

Finally, 'Sundari' Leaves For Madhya Pradesh From Odisha Forest



(A.O. Bureau)
Angul, Mar 23: 'Sundari', the tigress brought to Satkosa forest in Odisha's Angul district from Kanha Tiger Reserve in Madhya Pradesh over two and a half years ago, will be taken back in a special vehicle to the Ghorela forest today evening. This was informed by Angul Regional Chief Conservator of Forest (RCCF) Pradeep Raj Karata. The senior Forest Official further said 'Sundari' could not be put in a cage from its enclosure in Raiguda forest under

Satkosa sanctuary despite several attempts. Following this, the team decided to tranquilise the tigress, he added. "After a tranquilising shot was given to the tigress, she took 15 minutes to lose consciousness. The Forest personnel then brought her into a cage. Adequate amount of food has been kept in the cage as well. She is weighing 160 kg," informed Dr Kishore Sahu, a veterinarian who was part of a six-member team from Madhya Pradesh. The tigress in Raiguda forest will

reach Ghorela forest tomorrow afternoon, Sahu added. The six-member team from Kanha Tiger Reserve Forest along with a special vehicle reached Satkosa forest on March 21 to take back 'Sundari'. Worth mentioning, in June 2018, 'Sundari' was brought to Satkosa sanctuary from Madhya Pradesh under the country's first interstate first interstate relocation exercise for tigers. After the tigress reportedly killed two persons, it was kept in an enclosure in Raiguda forest since November 2018.

7-Day Home Quarantine Must For People Coming To This Odisha District

(A.O. Bureau)

Malkangiri, Mar 23: After announcing night curfew and curtailing the upper limit of congregation at various social gatherings as part of precautionary measures to curb spread of COVID-19, Malkangiri Collector today made seven-day home isolation mandatory for people coming to the district from other states. Issuing a fresh order, Collector Yeddula Vijay said, "All persons, who are coming to the district from other states have to undergo a compulsory home isolation for seven days. Anganwadi workers / P e o s / Sarpanches are directed to collect their travel history and maintain a database." Besides, all heads of state and central Government offices have been asked to furnish information on their travel history in advance before leaving headquarters to the nodal officer, the Collector said. Besides, the Collector issued the following



guidelines: Mass campaigning to create awareness regarding adherence to COVID-19 guidelines such as wearing of masks, maintaining social distancing and frequent use of hand wash or sanitizer shall be done through mike announcement, affixing posters/hoardings in public places. DIPRO is directed to create awareness through public announcements. All Tehsildars/BDOs/EOs are here by directed to create awareness by affixing posters/hoardings. Enforcement activities such as imposi-

tion of penalties on violators of COVID-19 guidelines, shutdown of shops, seizure of vehicles, etc shall be enhanced. All Tehsildars cum Executive Magistrates are directed submit daily report on enforcement activities at covid9malkangiri@gmail.com. The CDM and PHO is requested to setup dedicated Fever Clinic for patients with Influenza like Infection (ILI)/Severe Acute Respiratory Infection (SARI)/COVID-19 like symptoms at DHH, Malkangiri, Kalimela and Mathili. RTPCR and Antigen testing rate

shall be enhanced gradually. Large gatherings, congregations shall continue to be prohibited. Marriage, funeral/last rites related gatherings and social/religious/political/sports/entertainment academic/ cultural functions and gatherings shall be allowed with a ceiling of 200 persons subject to the following conditions: In closed spaces, a maximum of 50% of the Hall capacity will be allowed subject to the above ceiling. In open spaces, keeping the size of the ground/ open space in view, appropriate num-

ber of persons will be allowed, within the ceiling prescribed above, so as to ensure maintenance of prescribed physical distancing norms. Wearing of masks, maintaining social distancing and provision of thermal scanning and use of hand wash or sanitizer will be mandatory. Persons with Influenza like Infection (ILI)/ Severe Acute Respiratory Infection (SARI)/ COVID-19 like symptoms shall not be allowed. Permission for such functions/ gatherings shall be accorded by Tehsildars cum Executive Magistrates of their respective jurisdiction. The host of the marriage/funeral function shall make necessary arrangement for checking at the entry point and ensure wearing of mask by the guests/ others during the entire duration of their participation. Host shall make arrangement to provide masks to those who have not come with appropriate mask

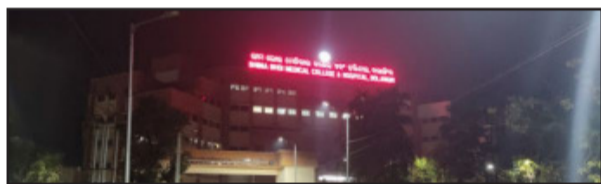
Letter from the Senior Citizens Council to the Tahsildar regarding the 3 point demand

(A.O. Bureau)
Rengali, Mar 23: The Sambalpur District Rengali Senior Citizens' Council has submitted a letter of demand to the Tahsildar to the District Magistrate for a three-point demand. On Tuesday, the council issued a letter to the Rengali tahsildar addressed to the Sambalpur district

commissioner demanding that Rengali be sub-divisional, Rengali hospital converted into a group health center, and a flyover constructed at the tehsil intersection. Additional Tahsildar Nepal Munda accepted the demand letter as there was no tahsildar. If the demand is not met

within the next seven days, the council has warned that a peaceful protest will be held in front of the tehsil office. Council President Basant Nayak, Editor Interim Water, Dr. Ashok Nayak, Binod Bihari Nand, Shashi Sahu, Salegram Sahu, Duryodhan Gardia and other members of the council were present.

Odisha Govt Employee Tests COVID +Ve After 2nd Dose Of Vaccine



(A.O. Bureau)
Balangir, Mar 23: An Odisha government employee of Balangir district has tested positive for COVID-19 after receiving the second dose of vaccine. As per reports, a person working as a clerk in the office of Titlagarh sub-collector was administered the

second dose of COVID-19 vaccine on March 10. He later developed fever and underwent COVID-19 test. He tested positive for the virus in the RT-PCR test. He has been admitted to the COVID ward of the Bhima Bhoi Medical College and Hospital here for treatment.

Odisha Man Gifts Land On Moon To Newborn Daughter

(A.O. Bureau)

Kendrapara, Mar 23: Avaya Kumar Senapati of Kupuni village under Pattamundai block of Odisha's Kendrapara district has given an 'out of this world' gift to his newborn daughter, literally. As per reports, Senapati purchased an acre of land on moon for over Rs 10,000 through USA-based Luna Society International this month and gifted it to her daughter Aditi, who was born on January 15. "I wanted to give a special gift to my daughter. With the help of a friend from USA, I bought one acre of land on the moon through the Luna Society International," said Senapati. The Luna Society Interna-



tional has sent him a 'Lunar Property Registration' document mentioning about the location of the purchased patch of land on moon, longitude and latitude, and other related details.

Man Gets Lifer For Murder In Rairangpur

(A.O. Bureau)
Bariapada, Mar 23: A local court in Rairangpur today sentenced a man to life imprisonment upon convicting him for murder. Additional District and Sessions Judge Anup Ranjan Patnaik today awarded life imprisonment to Arjun Majhi of Pithakutuni village under Rairangpur Rural police limits of Mayurbhanj district upon convicting him of murder. The court also



imposed a fine of Rs 10,000 on him, and on

failing to pay the fine Arjun has to undergo

another six months of imprisonment. Accord-

ing to case records, Arjun had a brawl with fellow villager Prithi Majhi over drinking of 'handia' (a local alcoholic brew). On December 3, 2017 afternoon bent upon taking revenge Arjun on finding Prithi in desolate farmland, in a fit of rage pounded him to death with a stone. Prithi's son Mahanga had lodged an FIR at the Rairangpur Rural Police Station in this connection.

Police Solves Rs 21 lakh Armed Dacoity Case At Sonepur, Arrests Five

(A.O. Bureau)

Sonepur, Mar 23: The Sonepur police on Tuesday arrested five persons in connection with last week's sensational dacoity case where miscreants snatched away Rs 21 lakh cash from an ATM Officer (ATMO) at Bhagalpur square under Birmaharajpur Police limits in the district on March 17 after holding him at gun point. The accused have been identified as Uttam Kumar Dip (21) son of Santosh Dip from Ambapakhali under Mannunda Police Station, Haribol Sandha (30) son of Dagar Sandha from Khaliyamura village under

Kantamal police station, Ambuja Behera (28) son of Abhi Behera from Gohirpita village under Mannunda police limits, Abdul Shaddul Gaigoria (32) son of Sandheswar, also known as Supteswar Gaigoria from Digi village under Mannunda police station and Sunil Kumar Moharana (28) son of Sudhansu Sekhar Moharana from Ghodaghatpada village in Sonepur. The police recovered Rs. 15,30,000 of the stolen cash, five motorcycles and 10 mobile phones from their possession. As per the police, the complainant of the case, Sudhanshu Pradhan,

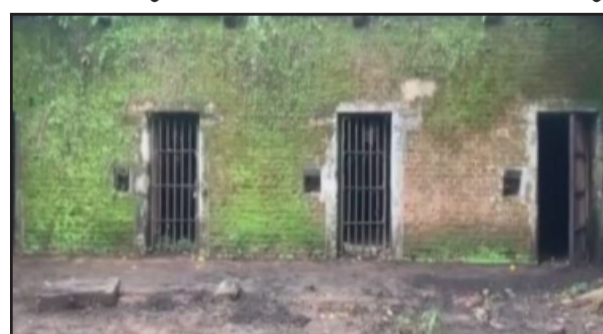
works as an ATMO (ATM Officer) in a private agency in Bhubaneswar and posted at Sonepur district. The agency had reportedly taken the franchise from the Bank of Baroda to collect money from the bank and deposit the same in different cash dispensing machines of the bank in the district. Pradhan used to collect cash from the bank's main branch at Sonepur and deposited the same in the ATM counters located at Sonepur, Ullunda and Binka. Sunil Kumar Moharana (28), a resident of Ghodaghatpada of Sonepur Police works under him.



100th Year Of Mahatma's Odisha Visit: Jail Evoking Memories Of Freedom Struggle Lies In Shambles

(A.O. Bureau)
Nabarangpur, Mar 23: The crumbling walls of its dilapidated facade and eerie looks of the surrounding overgrown vegetation evoke memories of the horrors hundreds of freedom fighters endured in its tiny cubicular cells during the colonial oppression. Locals claim to hear wails of torture followed by chants of 'Vande Mataram' escaping the brick walls of this ramshackle structure sending shivers down the

spines in the dead of the night. This 90-year-old jail at the Treasury and Tehsil office in Nabarangpur, which is a symbol of Odisha's unputdownable struggle against the British occupation forces, is a sight of neglect and apathy at present. As we celebrate the 100th year of the Father of the Nation Mahatma Gandhi's visit to Odisha today, a flashback of the sacrifices of our freedom fighters on the face of the most inhuman



torture in the cellular (read molecular) jail at Nabarangpur makes us bow down our heads in respect to those brave hearts of Odisha. They embraced torture, incarceration, and death while

chanting the lore of the motherland so that the future generation could breathe the sweet air of freedom. Built around 1932, this jail served as a transit detention center for prisoners who were

later shifted to Koraput and Berhampur jails following the announcement of punishment by the courts, which never went in favor of the freedom fighters. Splashes of the blood of the incarcerated freedom fighters can be seen on the walls of the dark and dingy cells of the prison. Only 14 tiny cells which housed no less than 250 prisoners speak volumes about the level of inhuman treatment and torments they had been subjected to.

Deepika will look 'sexy as hell' even if she wears a 'potato sack', says Ananya

New Delhi, Mar 23: Ananya Panday can't stop praising Deepika Padukone. She said that Deepika can pull off a 'potato sack'. Actor Ananya Panday has said that her co-star Deepika Padukone would look 'sexy as hell' even if she were wearing a 'potato sack'. Ananya and Deepika will appear together in director Shakun Batra's upcoming film, described as a domestic noir. On the sidelines of the Lakme Fashion Week, where Ananya appeared as a showstopper for designer Ruchika Sachdeva's brand Bodice, she was asked how she'd approach styling Deepika. Ananya told Pinkvilla, "If I give her



a potato sack she'll (still) look sexy as hell so she doesn't need me!" She said that actor Alia Bhatt looks 'the cutest' in a sweatpants-sweater combo. Ever since the two worked together, Ananya has often gushed about her

'akka (sister)' Deepika. Speaking with Mumbai Mirror last year, Ananya said, "You don't feel like she is a star overpowering you. It feels like being with a friend. Deepika is more beautiful on the inside than on the

outside." In an Instagram post that showed a masked Ananya hugging Deepika, the actor wrote, "I love you @DeepikaPadukone Aka. The only person I hug." Ananya made her acting debut with

Punit Malhotra's Student of the Year 2, which also featured Tara Sutaria and Tiger Shroff. She has since appeared in the Pati Patni Aur Woh remake with Kartik Aaryan, and Khaali Peeli, with Ishaan Khatter. She will be seen next in the multi-lingual film Liger, starring Vijay Deverakonda. Shakun Batra's film also stars Gully Boy actor Siddhant Chaturvedi. In an interview, Deepika said that 'Shakun has this strong point with people and relationships' and that she has enjoyed 'watching and performing' the sort of films 'that deal with intricate human relationships'.

Ekta Kapoor wishes 'buddy' Smriti Irani a happy birthday, makes a humble request

New Delhi, Mar 23: Smriti Irani celebrated her birthday on Tuesday, March 23. On the occasion, Ekta Kapoor shared a sweet birthday post. Actor-turned-politician Smriti Irani turned a year older on Tuesday, March 23. On the occasion, producer Ekta Kapoor took to her Instagram account and wished her a happy birthday. Ekta, who produced Smriti's famous small-screen show Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi, shared a gallery of pictures featuring the duo and their friends. "Happy bday buddy ! There is no one. Like u ! A super mom... wife ...friend ...human and a leader

extraordinaire !" she wrote before making a request. "Today get off ur diet pls ! U have lost a lot of weight n I'm jealous ! Happy bdayyy," she added. One of the pictures also featured Sakshi Tanwar, of Kahaani Ghar Ghar Kii fame. Smriti took to the comments section and said, "Your wishes mean the world to me thank you for all the love ... blessings to my babies Lakku & Ravie." Earlier this week, Ekta shared a birthday post for friend Anita Hassanandani's husband Rohit Reddy. She shared pictures from her trip to Turkey with Anita, Rohit, Ankita Bhargava and Karan Patel. "Happy



bday hottie !" she captioned the photos. Rohit dropped a couple of heart emojis. Ekta recently confirmed that she is reuniting with director Dibakar Banerjee for Love Sex Aur Dhokha (LSD) 2. In a statement, Ekta said, "LSD is best

remembered for its riveting storytelling and with the sequel they aim to recreate the same magic. Dibakar's craft and storytelling prowess is superlative and I am thrilled to associate with him yet again. We are hopeful to recreate the

magic this time around as well and hope that the audience will laud and appreciate 'LSD 2' as much as they did the first part." "LSD" was a moment of change in our lives captured through the voice of technology that was changing our souls.

Pooja Chopra: For me, it's about quality not quantity!

Mumbai, Mar 23: 'Commando' fame actor Pooja Chopra feels that doing diversified roles is a great thing for an actor, but bigger challenge in acting field is to take calculated risks. "In industry, we have to be very careful while we choose our roles. If you do one mistake then second chance is not easy to come," says the actress on her visit to Lucknow. 'Commando' fame actor Pooja Chopra feels that doing diversified roles is a great thing for an actor, but bigger challenge in acting field is to take calculated risks. "In industry, we have to be very careful while we choose our roles. If you do one mistake then second chance is not easy to come," says the actress on her visit to Lucknow. Pooja was shooting for her second film 'Jahaan Chaar Yaar' in the state capital after 'Bablu Bachelor' that she shot in 2017-18. "I am the kind of person who is okay doing a project a year... it's about quality not quantity," says the actress on doing select projects. In her last release web show 'Poison-2' she played an IPS officer. "This was one of my ambitions in life which got fulfilled when I played the character in the movie. Though, she was a uniform-clad strong woman character, but for me portraying a d-glam role was a bit challenging and adventurous too. However, the en-



couraging response that I got, gave me huge confidence that I can lead anything." Talking about mega-project 'Aiyaari' (2018), which did not work, she said, "This was my second project with Neeraj Pandey sir. Earlier, I had done a short film 'Ouch' with Manoj (Bajpai) sir that gave me a huge response and enormous confident. The feature film did not work well, but I am very proud to be a part of it as I learnt so much. Choosing a good project and giving my best is only in my hand and the rest is destiny." Coming back to her Lucknow's visit, she

said, "This is something about the city that fascinates me so much. Either it's the old-world charm, food or love in its air that charms you. Last time as well as this time I had a great experience." The film that she shot then with Sharman Joshi is now set to release. "It's RomCom where I play a Lucknow girl who falls in love with this bachelor, but she is very ambitious. It's light family drama with interesting sequence of events. It's great that films are now releasing in theatres so the audience can enjoy big screen cinema, but mind it... with precautions," she says.

On Holi, be Careful if You Wear Contact Lenses

New Delhi, Mar 23: The increased use of synthetic colours instead of natural colour in recent years makes it even more critical for people wearing contact lenses to be watchful. The fun-filled Holi festival is around the corner and so are the celebrations usually filled with gulaal, colours, water guns and water balloons. Amid all the excitement, we might just ingest colours through body parts exposed, including



our eyes. While generally we are more careful about our mouths and even noses, we often tend to think that the colours are only superficially affecting the surface of the eyes and not really getting inside. However in reality, some part of the colour or other material more often than not does manage to 'steal into' our eyes impacting

this extremely sensitive organ. Because of the noisy and the spirited nature of the celebrations, those wearing contact lenses might even forget that they are actually wearing lenses making it harder for themselves and their eyes, says Tushar Grover, Medical Director of Vision Eye Centre in New Delhi. The increased use of synthetic colours instead of natural colour in recent years makes it even more critical for people wearing

contact lenses to be watchful. The free-spirited nature of Holi celebrations makes it almost inevitable that there is some degree of damage, however mild or limited, to the health of our eyes. From minor irritations and abrasions to redness and itching to allergies to infections to inflammation of eye parts, the vigorous and energetic

act of playing with colours entails a substantial health cost for our eyes. Most of the colours going around today usually are synthetic in nature containing toxic material such as industrial dyes and other harmful chemicals. Some of the other harmful ingredients being used in coloured pastes today include lead oxide, copper sulphate, aluminium bromide, Prussian Blue and Mercury Sulphate. Similarly, dry colours and gulal contain asbestos, silica, lead, chromium, cadmium, and others, all of which are detrimental to eye health. For those wearing contact lenses, they should know that the lenses absorb colours. And so the colours tend to stick to the surface of the lens thereby prolonging their stay within the eyes. And given that most of these colours contain toxic chemicals, the resultant impact on eyes can be severe. The chemicals can damage or even lead to loss of epithelium, the protective covering for cornea which can have spillover effects on other eye parts. For instance, the iris of the eye can experience serious inflammation.

Shriya Pilgaonkar on Haathi Mere Saathi co-star Rana Daggubati: I am completely in awe of his hard work

New Delhi, Mar 23: Actor Shriya Pilgaonkar is excited about the release of Haathi Mere Saathi, which is a multi-lingual film that addresses the human-animal conflict. The Prabu Solomon film is heading to the theatres on March 26. In a conversation with indianexpress.com, the actor opened up on working with Rana Daggubati, shooting for the film in a forest and much more. Tell us about your character and what was your takeaway from it? In Haathi Mere Saathi, I play a news reporter and she is somebody who goes against all odds to walk on the path of truth, to support Rana's character in his fight for the rights of the elephants. I think with every character, you end up learning something. Every character leaves a part of itself in you. I believe that as you grow as an actor, your journey or growth as a person is also happening at the same time. It taught me that if you



don't value yourself, no one else is going to. So, I was quite inspired by this character, and of course, Rana's character in the film. How was it to work with Rana Daggubati? What was your first impression of him when you saw him as Bandev? The first time I actually met Rana in person, I couldn't recognize him. To be able to transform yourself to the extent where people might not even recognize you is such a beautiful thing. I am completely in awe of his hard work and his commitment and passion for cinema and storytelling. The film (Haathi Mere

Saathi) is majorly based on him and his bond with animals. Haathi Mere Saathi talks about giving us a sense of the fact that we're all a part of this world and we need to live together, hand in hand. The film sends the message in an entertaining and engrossing way. I'm proud to be a part of a story like this. The film was shot in a real jungle, in a no-network zone. Tell us about that experience? It was amazing to be in a place where there's no network. It made us present in the moment. We were actually listening, observing, talking to each other,

which was so nice. And I think it was also needed for a film like this. We felt the film is our responsibility. Even when we were shooting, there were a lot of precautions being taken to make sure that we didn't disturb the wild. We had to be very careful and responsible. It was nice that we were actually shooting in a real location. This is a multi-lingual film. Was there a special prep from your end? I had never worked on a multi-lingual film. I had no understanding of other languages. However, I also come from a belief that language cannot be a barrier for an actor. To be honest, in this film, there was not much time for me to prepare because I came on board quite late. But I was very clear that I did not want to speak gibberish. I actually wanted to enjoy speaking the language. Our writers were very helpful. Even the director told me to not to worry or get caught

up in the dialogues but just get the emotions right. After working on this film, I know that I'll be better equipped with such films in the future. The film will open to different markets too. How does that feel? Of course, exciting. You're an OTT star. I don't think labels really apply today because actors are doing everything. I want to continue working for OTT space as well as see myself on the silver screen. Of course, it feels good when someone calls me the OTT star but I guess I don't want to attach myself with any such tags. Having said that, OTT has given opportunities to writers, actors, critics and so many. It will only grow but with time, the audience will have an understanding of what they want to see. They will understand the difference between good and mediocre content. So, now the actual competition is to produce quality content.

Ill-fitting kit proves untimely for Apurvi Chandela



New Delhi, Mar 23: The last time Apurvi Chandela competed at an international event in New Delhi, she set a new world record. That was at the World Cup in 2019. This time, in her last competition at the same venue and same tournament – but a different event – Chandela fired a blank. In the last series of the women’s team bronze medal match on Sunday, Chandela shuffled ever-so-slightly and aimed her air rifle at the target placed 10m in front of her as the timer was reset to 15 seconds. She had uncharacteristically rushed into her previous shot, and so the usually-calm 28-year-old took her time on the final shot. She kept shuffling, trying to get the perfect sighting of the target. But took too long. When time ran out, she was still shuffling and sighting.

Her score read 0 and eventually – but not only because of this – India lost to Poland. What happened was rare, unexpected and, going by Chandela’s high standards, unlikely to happen again. But it gave a little glimpse into the Jaipur-girl’s mind, where a pen tip-sized target occupies prime space. One of India’s foremost rifle shooters who dominated the 2019 season, Chandela looks a pale shadow of herself since shooting events restarted in 2021. In the individual 10m air rifle event, where she won a Tokyo Olympics quota, she shot a mediocre score of 622.8 to finish 26th out of the 48 shooters who started in the qualification round. Her low score came as a surprise, but it was hardly an aberration. In the four selection trials held

in January and February at the same range, Chandela shot scores of 625.9, 624.5, 621.3 and 623.2. To put it in perspective, the world record in the qualifying round is 634, set by China’s Ruozhu Zhao at the 2019 New Delhi World Cup – the same where Chandela set the world record for the finals. “She might not be in the best shape right now but in her head, she is sorted. She knows what the problems are, what the solution is and knows she can get out of this very fast,” national rifle coach Deepali Deshpande says. The problem, according to Deshpande and Chandela’s personal coach Rakesh Manpat, is the shooter’s kit. When the ‘unlockdown’ began and shooting activities resumed sometime last September, Chandela

started to focus on improving her fitness. Inadvertently, she dropped 7 kgs in a short burst – around three months. “Weight loss was not the goal. Our goal was to get fitter and in that process, weight was lost. But she has gotten fitter in terms of strength, which is very essential,” Manpat says. The sharp weight reduction meant her shooting kit, which is usually imported from Germany, would no longer be of use. Unlike in other sports, where an athlete can exchange her kit with teammates if something goes wrong, a shooting jacket and trouser are heavily personalised and cut according to the shooter’s size. But Chandela couldn’t import a new kit because of the pandemic-induced restrictions. Consequently, she had to

make do with a locally-sourced kit. “It does not suit her technique. She has been using a particular type of kit for a very long time so this kind of change is massive and does impact performance,” Deshpande says, adding that the problem with the kit will be solved by April once the new pair arrives. India’s other quota holder in 10m air rifle, Anjum Moudgil, too faced similar issues. “But thankfully, there wasn’t much change in her body structure so it was easy for her to go back to the old kit,” Deshpande adds. Chandela and Moudgil won Olympic quotas in style at the 2018 World Championships – the biggest tournament in the Olympic cycle apart from the Games themselves. But the National Rifle Association of India’s (NRAI) hesitancy to name the squad – a quota belongs to the country and not athletes – has made the shooters anxious and put pressure on them to keep performing at high levels constantly. After reaching the final of the 10m air rifle event, which has all but sealed her place in the team, Moudgil admitted she was feeling “a lot of pressure” and how it was off her back once she reached the final. Chandela has not spoken about her mindset, but her coaches are not concerned about the low scores.

After record-breaking fifty on debut, Krunal Pandya breaks down remembering late father

Pune, Mar 23: India batsman Krunal Pandya smashed the fastest fifty by an ODI debutant during the first match against England here on Tuesday and broke down remembering his father who died in January this year after suffering a heart attack. The 30-year-old Krunal was handed the India cap by his younger brother and star all-rounder Hardik. He reached the half century mark in just 26 balls, overtaking John Morris (35 balls) of New Zealand. Krunal broke down

while being interviewed by the host broadcaster after his blistering unbeaten knock of 58 (31 balls), which was studded with seven fours and two sixes. “This one is for my father,” was all that Krunal could tell commentator Murali Kartik when asked about his unbeaten knock before being overwhelmed by emotions. He was enveloped by Hardik in a tight hug soon after. For Krunal, the last three months have been an emotional roller-coaster. In Janu-

ary, he had an ugly tiff with state-mate Deepak Hooda who accused the Baroda captain of bullying him during the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy camp. Hooda left the camp after that and was subsequently suspended for the entire season by the Baroda team management, which backed Krunal on the matter. Weeks after the controversy, Krunal lost his father Himanshu and had to leave the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy bio-bubble to be with his family.



Kohli wants to partner Rohit in T20 WC



Ahmedabad, Mar 23: To inflict maximum damage to the rival teams during the T20 World Cup, aggressive India skipper Virat Kohli is planning to open with flamboyant Rohit Sharma in the ICC tournament, scheduled to be held in country later this year. Kohli expressed his desire after he opened with Rohit in the final T20 against England on Saturday. They added 94-run for the first wicket in quick time. “I am going to

open in IPL as well. I have batted in different positions in the past. But I feel we have a solid middle order now. So, I will definitely like to partner Rohit at the top going into the T20 World Cup,” Kohli said at the post-match presentation. “Two best batsmen in the team, one can play second fiddle if the other gets going. That can inflict a lot of damage to the opposition team. Other guys also feel a lot more confident when one of

us is still in and is set.” Talking about the partnership with Rohit which set laid the foundation of a big total, Kohli said, “Today Rohit and me were both positive in our intent. We knew we could trust each other and one of us can play second fiddle if one takes off.” “Today it was classic Rohit Sharma. And then Surya coming in at three and taking the game even further away. Then Hardik finishing it. Augurs well for the team,” said Kohli who remained not out on 80 from 52 balls. Kohli, who was named player of the series for scoring 231 to top the run chart at an average of 115.50, said it was a complete game for the team. “It was a complete game for us. Totally outplayed the opposition. Even with so much dew coming in, like last game we’ve defended the total again. Despite Rishabh and Iyer not getting a chance (to bat) we put on 225,” said the captain. “It’s a testimony to our batting depth.” Talking about other players, he said, “Also how Shreyas batted in the last game and the responsibility he showed in the first game.

On This Day: MS Dhoni’s electrifying skills shattered ‘thousands of Bangladeshi hearts’

New Delhi, Mar 23: Former India skipper MS Dhoni may have been out of action for a long time but his brilliance on the field has left several memories for the fans to cherish. Team India garnered several accolades under his leadership and out of those, the wicketkeeper-batsman produced one such epic moment on this particular day. Five years ago on March 23, Dhoni’s electrifying display behind the wickets helped India pull a victory from the jaws of defeat. In a must-win group stage encounter in 2016 World T20, Dhoni dashed the hopes of several Bangladeshi fans when he completed an



impossible run-out to help the Men In Blue win the contest by 1 run. The match was played at the M Chinnaswamy stadium with the visitors dominating the proceedings from the word go. After restricting India to a paltry 146/7 on the board, they were on the verge from wrapping up a contest. With 11 required from the final six deliveries, all-rounder Hardik Pandya was

handed the responsibility to defend the target. However, a couple of boundaries by veteran Bangladeshi cricketer Mushfiqur Rahim saw the equation reduce to two from three balls. However, cricket fans then witnessed a dramatic turnaround as Bangladesh lost wickets in consecutive deliveries. The choke was then followed by an epic run-out, which saw Dhoni

remove the wickets before the batsman could make his ground. Dhoni played the finishing role yet again for India, but this time it was his gloves that worked the magic. “There were quite a few stuff we were discussing; one thing was for sure, we did not want him (Hardik) to bowl a yorker. It had to be a back of a length, but how back of a length, that was the question. :You don’t want to bowl a wide. We were deciding out field and I think he executed really well. It’s nice to have good plans, but the plan only looks good when it is executed well,” Dhoni said, at the post-match presentation ceremony. Praising a

young Jasprit Bumrah, who bowled an unbelievable 19th over, conceding just six runs. “Bumrah bowled really well; the second over that he bowled, he was under pressure with the field restrictions. It was a reflection of his misfield and the dropped catch, but he had to forget about what happened and that’s what we told him. I feel he is somebody who is very good with the yorkers and he did very well. “There were two occasions when we had to make the game and instead of using our part-timers and we bowled our frontliners. It was a very good bowling effort.”

SA vs PAK T20Is: Sharjeel Khan’s inclusion in Pakistan’s playing XI will depend on his fitness

New Delhi, Mar 23: Pakistan opener Sharjeel Khan has been told that his place in the playing eleven will depend on whether he can show some improvement in his fitness by April 9, a day before the T20 series begins in South Africa. Sharjeel, who was picked in the Pakistan T20 squad for the four games in South Africa and another three in Zimbabwe, has also been

told he will not play the intra-squad matches in Lahore before the team’s departure for Johannesburg on 28th March. “Sharjeel has been given a personal trainer and batting coach, Younis Khan himself. Fitness freak has been put in charge of his overall training in a bid to improve the opener’s fitness before the T20 series in South Africa,” a source aware of the de-

velopments said on Monday. Sharjeel’s selection after he performed well in the recent Pakistan Super League 6 matches has been questioned by some former players and critics who believe his fitness is not up to the level required to play international cricket. Sharjeel, who completed a two and a half year ban for spot-fixing before resuming his career last



year, was seen doing laps and working hard on his fitness under the supervision of Younis and the trainer at the Gaddafi stadium on Monday. A

former Test batsman, who is close to the national selection committee, however, voiced his concern over the deadline set for Sharjeel.

Memu Train Between Bhubaneswar & Kendujhargarh, Puri & Angul



(A.O. Bureau)
Bhubaneswar, Mar 23: It has been decided to run MEMU train towards Kendujhargarh from Bhubaneswar, towards Angul from Puri and extend the services of Visakhapatnam-Jagadarpur Special train to Kirandul as per the following.
BHUBANESWAR - KENDUJHARGARH - BHUBANESWAR MEMU: 68426 Bhubaneswar - Kendujhargarh MEMU from Bhubaneswar will leave at 1635hrs w.e.f. 30th March, 2021 and will reach at Kendujhargarh at 2135hrs. In the return direction, 68425 Kendujhargarh -

Bhubaneswar MEMU from Kendujhargarh will leave at 0630hrs w.e.f. 31st March, 2021 and will arrive at Bhubaneswar at 1105hrs.
PURI-ANGUL - PURI MEMU: 68422 Puri-Angul MEMU from Puri will leave at 1645hrs w.e.f. 5th April, 2021 and will reach at Angul at 2130hrs. In the return direction, 68421 Angul-Puri MEMU from Angul will leave at 0545hrs w.e.f. 6th April, 2021 and will arrive at Puri at 1020hrs.
PURI-HATIA - PURI SPECIAL: 08452 Puri-Hatia Special will run from Puri w.e.f. 1st April, 2021 and 08451 Hatia-Puri Special will leave

from Hatia w.e.f. 2nd April, 2021 till further advice. This train will leave Puri at 2030hrs and will reach at Hatia at 1045hrs on the following days. In the return direction, this train from Hatia will leave at 1600hrs and will arrive at Puri at 0610hrs on next days having stoppages at Khurda Road, Bhubaneswar, Cuttack, Dhenkanal, Talcher, Angul, Sambalpur, Jharsuguda, Bamra, Rajgangpur, Rourkela, Orga, Bano, Govindpur Road between Puri and Hatia from both the directions.
PURI - SAMBALPUR - PURI SPECIAL: 08303 / 08304 Sambalpur - Puri

- Special Train Between Puri-hatia, Puri-sambalpur & Puri-paradeep
- Services Of Visakhapatnam-jagadarpur Special Extended To Kirandul

Sambalpur Special will run w.e.f. 3rd April, 2021 till further advice. This train will leave Sambalpur at 0600hrs and will arrive at Puri at 1250hrs. In the return direction this train will leave Puri at 1545hrs and will arrive at Sambalpur at 2210hrs having stoppages at Jujumura, Rairakhol, Bamur, Boinda, Jarapada, Angul, Talcher Road, Meramandali, Dhenkanal, Naraj Mancheswar, Bhubaneswar and Khurda Road between Sambalpur & Puri from both the directions.
PURI - PARADEEP - PURI SPECIAL: 08414/08413 Puri-Paradeep-Puri Special will run w.e.f. 7th April, 2021 till further advice. This train will leave Puri at 0615hrs and will reach at Paradeep at 1015hrs. In the return direction, this train will leave Paradeep at 1800hrs and will arrive

at Puri at 2210hrs having stoppages at Sakthigopal, Delang, Khurda Road, Bhubaneswar, Cuttack, Kandarpur, Raghunathpur, Gorakhnath, Rahama and Badabandha between Puri & Paradeep from both the directions.
EXTENSION OF VISAKHAPATNAM-JAGADALPUR SPECIAL TO KIRANDUL: 08516/08515 Visakhapatnam-Jagadarpur-Visakhapatnam Special will be extended up to Kirandul w.e.f. 1st April, 2021.
08516 Jagadarpur Special from Visakhapatnam will leave at 0645hrs w.e.f. 1st April, 2021 and will reach at Kirandul at 2045hrs. In the return direction, 08515 Kirandul-Visakhapatnam Special from Kirandul will leave at 0600hrs w.e.f. 2nd April, 2021 and will arrive at Visakhapatnam at 2020hrs.

International Odisha Parba-2021 set for its first-ever virtual edition

(A.O. Bureau)
New Delhi, Mar 23: The mega 'International Odisha Parba' is back once again. This time, the grand festivity will be celebrated in a spectacular and unique manner, with lots of excitement and fervor. Keeping in mind the Covid-19 protocol, Odisha Parba this time will be celebrated on a virtual platform. The two-day long grand event is being organized by Odia Samaj, New Delhi, and will showcase the unique art, culture, heritage & tradition of Odisha. The first-ever Virtual International Odisha Parba 2021 will begin on Saturday, 27th March 2021, from 7 pm onwards. Shri Dhamendra Pradhan, Union Minister for Petroleum & Natural Gas and Steel, Padma Vibhushan Dr. Raghunath Mahapatra, MP and eminent sculptor along with Vice Chief of Army Staff, Lieutenant General Chandi Prasad Mohanty PVSM, AVSM, SM, VSM will give welcome messages. Shri Sidhartha Pradhan, President, Odia Samaj, New Delhi, will light the lamp and address the audience. The Virtual International Odisha Parba will have various dazzling cultural and traditional folk dances & musical performances and tete-a-tete with eminent Odia personalities, which will mesmerize the audience in the two-day long grand celebration. This time, the online stage is set for all Odias worldwide to tune-in and experience the marvelous extravaganza of Odia culture. The inaugural day will start



with the dance 'Bande Utkal Janani', a welcome performance by Guru Madhumita Rout's troop. The Virtual International Odisha Parba will witness various regional and ancient dance and art forms that originated centuries ago, such as Jodi Sankha, Animal Mask Dance, Ranapa Dance, Malakhamba, Bonda tribal Dance, Martial arts, Adi Dhun, etc. This time things will be different because Odia people from across the world will also participate and showcase their cultural heritage. Many famous and revered Odia personalities will connect to the audience and narrate their life stories and journey to success and fame. The audience will get to hear from Padma Vibhushan Sonal Mansingh, Padma Vibhushan Sudarshan Sahoo and many more.

To commemorate the golden history of Paika Bidroha, a contemporary dance recorded by the Moksha Dance Group of Cuttack at the foothills of historical Barunei hill will undoubtedly add more colors to this opus celebration. A Musical gala is also a part of the virtual International Odisha Parba, and well-known singers from the Ollywood industry including Tansen Singh, Tapu Mishra, Diptirekha, Sohini Mishra, Swayam Padhi, Tariq Aziz, Ashutosh will entertain the audience with their melodious performances. The event promises to be a memorable and one-of-a-kind event. Come and join the mega global event of Virtual International Odisha Parba on <http://www.odishaparba.live> on 27th and 28th March 2021 at 7.00 pm (IST) sharp.

India abstains during vote on resolution at UNHRC; urges Sri Lanka to fulfill its commitments

(A.O. Bureau)
Geneva, Mar 23: India, which abstained during the vote on a strong resolution against Sri Lanka's human rights practices at the UNHRC, on Tuesday urged Colombo to fulfill



its commitments on the devolution of political authority, to carry forward the process of reconciliation and address the aspirations of the Tamil community in the island nation. The resolution titled 'Promotion of Reconciliation Accountability and Human Rights in Sri Lanka' was adopted by the UN Human Rights Council (UNHRC) after 22 members out of 47-member Council voted in favour of it, which gives the UN body a mandate to collect evidence of crimes committed during the country's brutal three decade-long civil war against the LTTE. Eleven members voted against the resolution tabled by the Core Group on Sri Lanka consisting of countries like the United Kingdom, Canada and Germany. India was among 14 countries which abstained from voting. Ahead of the voting, India said that as an immediate neighbour, it has contributed to the relief, resettlement, rehabilitation and reconstruction process in Sri Lanka after 2009. India's approach to the question of human rights in Sri Lanka is guided by two fundamental considerations, Pawankumar Badhe, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of India in Geneva said in a statement. "One is our support to the Tamils of Sri

Lanka for equality, justice, dignity and peace. The other is in ensuring the unity, stability and territorial integrity of Sri Lanka. "We have always believed that these two goals are mutually supportive and Sri Lanka's progress is best assured by simultaneously addressing both objectives," Badhe said. "We would urge that the Government of Sri Lanka to carry forward the process of reconciliation, address the aspirations of the Tamil community and continue to engage constructively with the international community to ensure that the fundamental freedoms and human rights of all its citizens are fully protected," he said. He said India supports the call by the international community for the Government of Sri Lanka to fulfill its commitments on the devolution of political authority, including through the early holding of elections for Provincial Councils and to ensure that all Provincial Councils are able to operate effectively, in accordance with the 13th Amendment to the Sri Lankan Constitution. The 13th Amendment provides for devolution of power to the Tamil community. India has been pressing Sri Lanka to implement the 13th amendment which was brought in after the Indo-Sri Lankan agreement of 1987.

OFFICE OF THE CDAO-CUM-PROJECT DIRECTOR ATMA, MALKANGIRI

Memo No. 466

Dated 23.03.2021

କୃଷି ଓ କୃଷକ ସଶକ୍ତିକରଣ ବିଭାଗ, ଓଡ଼ିଶା ସରକାର

ଏତଦ୍ୱାରା ସମସ୍ତ ଚାଷୀ ଭାଇ ଓ ଭଉଣୀମାନଙ୍କୁ ଅବଗତ ନିମନ୍ତେ ଜଣାଇ ଦିଆଯାଉଛି କି କୃଷି ବିଭାଗ, ମାଲକାନଗିରି ଆପଣଙ୍କ ନିମନ୍ତେ ସବା ସର୍ବଦା ତତ୍ପର ରହିଛି ଏବଂ ଆପଣଙ୍କ ଅବଗତ ନିମନ୍ତେ ନିମ୍ନଲିଖିତ ସୂଚନା ଦିଆଗଲା ।

୧. କୃଷି ବିଭାଗ ମାଧ୍ୟମରେ 'କୃଷକ ପରିଚୟ ପତ୍ର' ପ୍ରତି ଗ୍ରାମରେ ଦିଆଯିବା ପାଇଁ ଉଦ୍ଦିଷ୍ଟ ରହିଛି । ଯାତ୍ର ଏବଂ ନୂତନ ପଂଜିକରଣ ୩୧ ମାର୍ଚ୍ଚ ୨୦୨୧ ଯାଏଁ କରାଯିବ । ଅଧିକ ବିବରଣୀ ପାଇଁ ନିଜ ଗ୍ରାମ ପଂଚାୟତର ଗ୍ରାମ୍ୟ କୃଷି କର୍ମଚାରୀ (VAW)ଙ୍କ ସହ ଯୋଗାଯୋଗ କରନ୍ତୁ ।
୨. ଓଡ଼ିଶା ସରକାରଙ୍କ 'ବଳରାମ' (BALARAM) ଯୋଜନା ମାଧ୍ୟମରେ ଜମିଜମିନ, ନାମମାତ୍ର ଏବଂ କ୍ଷୁଦ୍ର ଚାଷୀ ଯିଏ ଭାଗଚାଷୀ ହିସାବରେ ଚାଷବାସ କରୁଛନ୍ତି, ସେମାନେ ବ୍ୟାଙ୍କରୁ ଅଳ୍ପ ସୁଧ ହାରରେ ରଣ ନେଇପାରିବେ ।
୩. ଜାତୀୟ ଖାଦ୍ୟ ନିରାପତ୍ତା ମିଶନ ଏବଂ ରାଜ୍ୟ ଯୋଜନା ଜରିଆରେ ବିଭିନ୍ନ ପ୍ରଦର୍ଶନ କ୍ଷେତ୍ର ମାଧ୍ୟମରେ ଚାଷୀଙ୍କୁ ନୂତନ କିସମର ବିହନର ଉପଯୋଗାତା ତଥା ଜ୍ଞାନକୌଶଳ ପ୍ରତିବର୍ଷ ଦର୍ଶାଇ ଦିଆଯାଇଛି ।
୪. ଓଡ଼ିଶା ମିଲେଟ ମିଶନ ଜରିଆରେ ଆଦିବାସୀ ଚାଷୀଙ୍କ ଆୟବୃଦ୍ଧି ନିମନ୍ତେ ମାଣ୍ଡିଆ ଭଳି କ୍ଷୁଦ୍ର ଶସ୍ୟ ଚାଷ କରାଯାଇଛି ।
୫. ରାଷ୍ଟ୍ରୀୟ କୃଷି ବିକାଶ ଯୋଜନା ମାଧ୍ୟମରେ ଇ-ରୋଗପୋକ ସର୍ବେକ୍ଷଣ ପ୍ରତି ଗ୍ରାମ ପଂଚାୟତରେ ଉଭୟ ଖରିଫ ଏବଂ ରବି ଋତୁ ଚାଷରେ କରାଯାଇ ଫସଲ ସୁରକ୍ଷା କରାଯାଉଛି ।
୬. ମୃତକା ସ୍ୱାସ୍ଥ୍ୟ କାର୍ଡ ଯୋଜନା ଅନ୍ତର୍ଭୁକ୍ତ ପ୍ରତି ଗ୍ରାମରେ ମୃତକା ସ୍ୱାସ୍ଥ୍ୟ ନିମନ୍ତେ ଆଲୋଚନା ଚକ୍ର ମାଧ୍ୟମରେ ମୃତକା ସ୍ୱାସ୍ଥ୍ୟ ପରୀକ୍ଷା କରାଯିବା ନିମନ୍ତେ ଉଦ୍ଦେଶ୍ୟ ଦିଆଯାଉଛି ।
୭. ପରମ୍ପରାଗତ କୃଷି ବିକାଶ ଯୋଜନା ମାଧ୍ୟମରେ ଜୈବିକ କୃଷି, ଉଦ୍ୟାନ କୃଷି, ପ୍ରାଣୀ ସଂପଦ ଏବଂ ମତ୍ସ୍ୟ ବିଭାଗ ଏକତ୍ରିତ ହୋଇ ଚାଷୀଙ୍କ ସର୍ବାଙ୍ଗୀନ ଉନ୍ନତି ନିମନ୍ତେ ସର୍ବଦା ତତ୍ପର ରହିଛି ।
୮. ଚାଷୀଙ୍କ ସୁବିଧା ନିମନ୍ତେ କୃଷି ଏବଂ ଆନୁସଂଗିକ ବିଭାଗ ଜନିତ ଉପଦେଶ ମୋବାଇଲ୍ ଜରିଆରେ ପାଇବା ପାଇଁ ଓଡ଼ିଶା ସରକାରଙ୍କ ଦ୍ୱାରା ପ୍ରଚଳିତ ଟେଲି ଫ୍ରି ନମ୍ବର ୧୫୫୩୩୩ ଦ୍ୱାରା ଚାଷୀ ନିଜର ପଂଜିକରଣ କରିବା ସହ ସମସ୍ତ ସମସ୍ୟାର ସମାଧାନ ପାଇଛନ୍ତି ।

କୃଷି ବିଭାଗର ବିଭିନ୍ନ ସୁବିଧାସୁଯୋଗ ଏବଂ ଚାଷରେ ପରିଲକ୍ଷିତ ସମସ୍ୟାର ସମାଧାନ ପାଇବା ନିମନ୍ତେ ନିକଟସ୍ଥ କୃଷି ଅଧିକାରୀ କିମ୍ବା ଗ୍ରାମ୍ୟ କୃଷି କର୍ମଚାରୀଙ୍କ ସହ ଯୋଗାଯୋଗ କରନ୍ତୁ ।

ସ୍ୱା - କୈଳାଶ ଚନ୍ଦ୍ର ସ୍ୱାଇଁ

ଜିଲ୍ଲା ମୁଖ୍ୟ କୃଷି ଅଧିକାରୀ ତଥା ପ୍ରକଳ ନିର୍ଦ୍ଦେଶକ
ଆତ୍ମା, ମାଲକାନଗିରି

CORONAVIRUS

Tips to reduce risk of infection

Wash hands often.
Use soap and water or an alcohol-based hand rub

Cover your mouth and nose, if you cough or sneeze with the inside of your elbow.

Don't get close to anyone who has cold or flu-like symptoms

Go to the doctor if you have a fever cough or feel that it is difficult to breathe

If you go to the market, don't touch animals or anything in the area they stay.

A Well Wisher