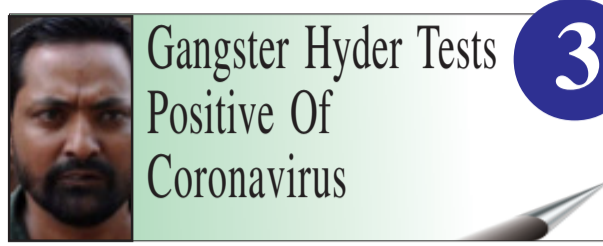


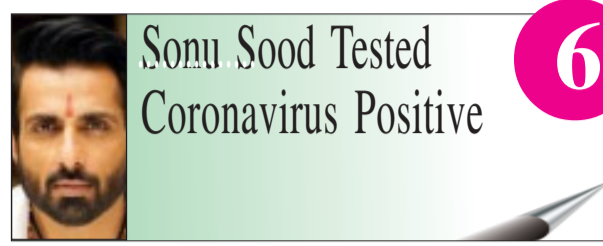
Lalu Yadav Gets Bail In Fooder Scam

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Gangster Hyder Tests Positive Of Coronavirus

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Sonu Sood Tested Coronavirus Positive

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Dhoni is the heartbeat of CSK, says coach Fleming

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'Utilise entire national capacity for vaccine production': PM Modi reviews Covid situation



New Delhi, Apr 17: Taking stock of the second coronavirus wave in the country, Prime Minister Narendra Modi Saturday said there is no substitute for "testing, tracking and treatment" and called for utilisation of "entire national capacity" to ramp up vaccine production. In a review meeting with top officials, PM Modi said India defeated the virus last year and it can do it again with the same principles but "faster speed and coordination". "Various aspects

relating to medicines, oxygen, ventilators, vaccination discussed at PM's review meet over COVID-19 situation," PTI quoted the government as saying. On the shortage of hospital beds and oxygen cylinders reported from different states, the PM said all necessary measures must be taken to make available the hospital beds for Covid patients and speeding up the installation of approved medical oxygen plants. PM Modi also asked the local administrations to be pro-

active and sensitive towards people's concerns. "Close coordination with states must be ensured in handling Covid-19 pandemic," he said. The meeting comes amid a huge surge in Covid-19 cases across the country with reports pouring in from many states about the shortage of hospital facilities and essentials like oxygen supply. A record single-day rise of 2,34,692 cases and 1,341 fatalities have pushed India's Covid-19 tally to 1,45,26,609 and the death toll due to the viral disease to 1,75,649, the health ministry said earlier on Saturday. The number of active coronavirus cases in the country has also surpassed the 16-lakh mark, the ministry's data updated at 8 am showed.

Make Covid vaccines available in open market: Odisha CM Naveen Patnaik writes to PM Narendra Modi

Bhubaneswar, Apr 17: Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik wrote to Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday requesting him to make vaccines available in the open market for better accessibility to those in need. "Vaccines may be made available outside the government supply chain in the open market so that willing citizens who can afford the vaccine can avail them. This will help governments to have a focused approach towards vulnerable sections of society," Patnaik wrote in his letter to the Prime Minister, adding that the vaccines which have been approved globally by credible agencies and governments should be accorded approval to increase the supply. Emphasising on India's vaccine manufacturing potential, Patnaik sug-

gested that the Centre and states should support units to ramp up vaccine production. He also suggested rationalisation in vaccine distribution with a specific focus on metropolitan cities. "The few metropolitan cities which

economic nerve centres of the country, and any lockdown in these areas will have an impact on the rest of the country in terms of labour movement," the letter read. Odisha's numbers during the first wave of the pandemic had wit-

lockdown. Most of these workers were from Ganjam district. In his letter, Patnaik also stated that Odisha has till date administered about 47 lakh Covid vaccine doses to healthcare workers, frontline workers and people above 45

lakh doses every day. We are getting a huge response from people to get vaccinated. He said the intermittent supply was creating a challenge in meeting the demand. It is in this backdrop that I had requested for 25 lakh vaccine doses to help us administer three lakh doses every day. Even at full capacity it will take us 160 days to fully vaccinate the eligible population of our State (above 45 years)," Patnaik wrote. Earlier, the state had sent three letters to the Centre drawing its attention to the vaccine shortage in Odisha. Vaccination drive was earlier halted in 11 districts following the shortage and is underway now only in 400 out of the 1,400 vaccination centres. Meanwhile, the state reported 3,144 new positive cases and four more deaths on Saturday.



contribute the highest COVID cases should be allowed priority vaccination and flexibility in age criteria as these are

nessed a sharp spike after migrants returned to the state following a loss of livelihood opportunities due to the

years. "We have one of the lowest rates of wastage in the country. We have a capacity to administer more than three

Centre sanctions Rs 50 crore for RO-PAX jetty on Dhamra river

Bhubaneswar, Apr 17: The Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways has accorded administrative approval for sanction of Rs 50.3 crore for developing all-weather RO-PAX (roll-on/roll-off passenger) jetty and allied infrastructure to connect Kaninali in Bhadrak and Talachua in Kendrapara district under the Sagarmala initiative. The State government will provide another 50 per cent (pc) cost of the project. Official sources said the total capital cost of the project is Rs 110.6 crore which includes construction of RO-PAX jetty at Kaninali



and Talachua and utility infrastructure such as parking area development, navigational aids and dredging. This project will reduce travel time for passengers from 6 hours by road to 1 hour by waterway. The development of the existing ghat with all-weather RO-PAX jetty is being carried out with intent of accommodating boats and other vessels as

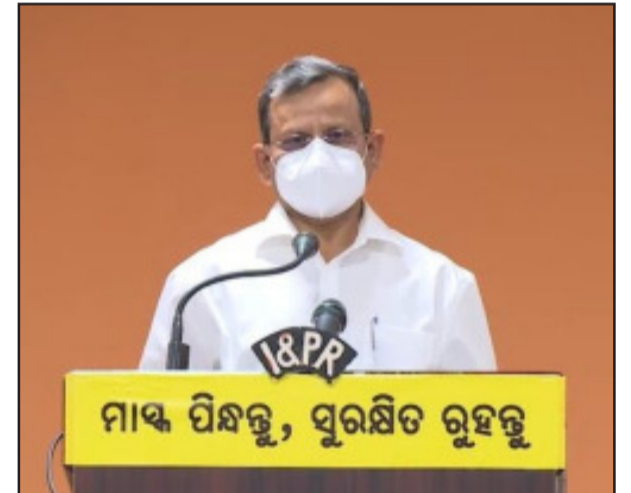
well as those having capacity to carry 10 light motor vehicles, 20 motor-cycles along with 60 passengers at a time, simultaneously ensuring safety of all passengers and vehicles. The project will facilitate indirect employment opportunities to locals around Dhamra river and reduce road distance of 200 km from Talachua to Dhamra. People of

Talachua and nearby villages largely depend upon Dhamra port for their livelihood, which is around 4 km from Kaninali ghat. Locals depend upon passenger ferries at ghats of Kaninali and Talachua to cross the river, a stretch of 7 km. At present, a number of passenger vehicles move through private boats without safety and pas-

sengers face difficulty in embarking and disembarking from launches on an everyday basis. The project will enhance the safety of passengers and vehicles with the state-of-the-art utility infrastructure, the officials said. Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan, who thanked Prime Minister Narendra Modi for giving special attention to the development of Odisha, said the project will increase the commercial and business activities and uplift the socio-economic status of the surrounding region. The project will solve the connectivity issue between Bhadrak and Kendrapara by reducing the travel time, he added.

'Industrial Activities Allowed In Odisha During Night Curfew, Weekend Shutdown'

Bhubaneswar, Apr 17: At a time when the State government functionaries geared up to ensure restrictions during night curfew and weekend shutdown are adhered from today, Chief Secretary Suresh Chandra Mahapatra clarified industries and related activities will be allowed to function as usual. The Chief Secretary, however, stated the organizations and industrial units would make sure the Covid protocols are followed strictly during the night curfew and weekend shutdown. "All industries have been directed to do adequate provisions for checking the Covid in-

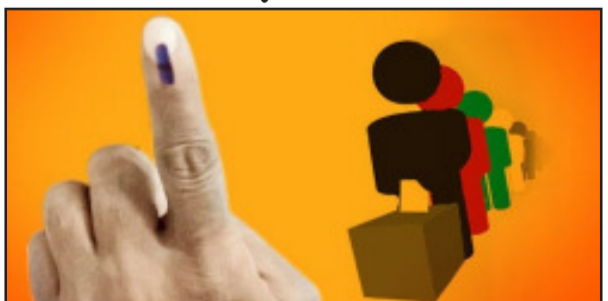


fection in their work places and campuses," the Chief Secretary added. Worth mentioning, amid the surge in Covid cases, the State government has decided to clamp night curfew in urban areas of 20 districts from 9 PM to

5 AM from April 17. Similarly, night curfew will be imposed in other 10 districts bordering Chhattisgarh States from 6 PM to 5 AM. Weekend shutdown has also come into force in the 10 districts from April 17.

By-Poll To Pipili Assembly Seat Declared

Bhubaneswar: The fresh date for by-election to Pipili Assembly seat was announced today. As per the Odisha Chief Electoral Office (CEO) sources, the by-poll will be held on May 13. The counting of votes is likely to take place on May 16. An official notification in this regard will be issued by the CEO, Odisha on Monday. Following the death of Congress candidate for by-election, Ajit Mangaraj due to Covid-19, the by-poll to Pipili Assembly seat



scheduled to be held on April 17 was postponed. Only the Congress party will be allowed to announce a new candidate who will file nomination for the by-poll. Rudra Pratap Maharathy of BJD and Ashrit Pattanayak of BJP filed their nominations

earlier. As many as 10 candidates were in the by-poll battle for the Pipili Assembly constituency. On October 4 last year, the sitting Pipili MLA Pradeep Maharathy passed away necessitating for a by-poll to the Assembly seat.

Odisha Makes 14-Day Quarantine Mandatory For Kumbh Returnees

Bhubaneswar, Apr 17: The Special Relief Commissioner (SRC), Odisha today made it mandatory for Kumbh Mela returnees to spend a 14-day quarantine after their return. The SRC directed District Collectors and Municipal Commissioners to ensure people of the State, who return from Kumbh Mela complete a 14-day quarantine at home or in Cluster TMCs. He further stated the list of persons, who registered themselves with the Uttarakhand State Government for participating in



Kumbh Mela, has been shared with the Collectors and the Municipal Commissioners. The SRC directed Collectors and Municipal Commissioners

to contact the persons from Odisha who attended the Kumbh Mela and find out their location and travel plan. The Kumbh attendees from Odisha will un-

dergo RTPCR test before boarding train and flight to the State. "All such persons must be personally tracked, their health condition monitored. They

must be compulsorily RTPCR tested," the SRC told the Collectors and the Municipal Commissioners. If any Kumbh returnee develops Covid like symptoms, the concerned person should be immediately attended to. ASHA and Anganwadi Workers will visit the symptomatic Kumbh returnees regularly at home, CTMCs and monitor their health conditions. Collectors and Municipal Commissioners were directed to report to the Health Department and the SRC office on a daily basis.

Nepal PM KP Oli holds all-party meet to decide on MCC, elections, Covid-19



Kathmandu, Apr 17: The Millennium Challenge Corporation Nepal compact will be included in the agenda of the Parliament Business Advisory Committee after April 19. The fate of it will be decided by Parliament, it has been decided. Nepal

Prime Minister convened an all-party meeting in Baluwater on Saturday which took crucial decisions regarding Millennium Challenge Corporation, elections and Covid-19 management. It has been decided that the Millennium Challenge Corpo-

ration Nepal compact will be included in the agenda of the Parliament Business Advisory Committee after April 19. The fate of it will be decided by Parliament. The meeting was attended by UML (Unified Marxist-Leninist) leaders Subash

Chandra Nemwang, Ishwar Pokhrel, Bishnu Paudel. From Nepali Congress, president Sher Bahadur Deuba, Ram Chandra Poudel, Bimalendra Nidhi and Bal Krishna Khand were present. From JSPN (Janata Samajbadi Party -- Nepal), president Mahanta Thakur and Laxman Lal Karna along with Sarbendranath Shukla participated in Saturday's meeting. Rajendra Mahato was not present as he is at Janakpur. Interestingly, Baburam Bhattarai and Upendra Yadav did not participate in the all-party meeting. CPN-Maoist chairman Prachanda and UML leader Nepal did not at-

tend the meeting, saying that they were not invited. At the meeting, Oli blamed Speaker Agni Sapkota for not allowing Parliament and the government to function. Foreign minister Gyawali said that the MCC grant had been stopped for three years. Now, it should be allowed to be tabled in Parliament. He also said that elections will be held on some seats rendered vacant due to the termination of some MPs. Congress leader Sher Bahadur Deuba said his party is ready for mid-term polls but the government should take care of the general convention, scheduled in August while announcing the date of elections.

Modi government's 'Reform, Performance and Transformation' mantra revives the country's economy - Dharmendra Pradhan



West Bengal, April 14 - The Modi government's mantra "Reform, Performance and Transformation" has revitalized the country's economy and empowered its citizens to empower and solve the problem. "Mr.

- Under the leadership of the Prime Minister, a golden age has come for East India
- 'Purvodaya Kalpana' sheds bright light for the balanced development of eastern India.

Pradhan made the remarks while holding talks with prominent members and industrialists of the India Chamber of Commerce, which represents the oil, gas, cement, paper, engineering and retail sectors in West Bengal. On the occasion, Mr. Pradhan discussed the major changes that have taken place in India under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the work being done for them. "On the development of East India, Mr. Pradhan said that the golden age has come for East India under the leadership of Prime Minister Modi. Prime Minister Modi's 'Purvodaya Kalpana' has shed a bright light for

the balanced development of eastern India. The Union Minister said that the Government of India is committed to lifting the barriers to wealth creation and increasing entrepreneurial capacity for strong Bengal and eastern India. "The steps taken to lead the West Bengal economy, take advantage of the potential here, develop technology, strengthen Make in India and Mission East, and take steps in a self-reliant India led by Prime Minister Modi were discussed. "The issue of government-sponsored paralysis in West Bengal, restrictions on wealth creation and lack of political will were also discussed in West Bengal.

Lalu Yadav Gets Bail In Fodder Scam

Patna, Apr 17: The RJD supremo Lalu Prasad Yadav, who was serving a jail sentence for more than a year in fodder scam cases, has been granted bail by the Jharkhand High Court today. With this decision, the way for Lalu Yadav to come out of jail has been cleared. Even before the embezzlement case from



the Dumka treasury, Lalu's bail has been heard many times before. In this case of fod-

der scam, the High Court has granted bail to Lalu Yadav in the case of illegal with-

drawal of Rs 3.13 crore from Dumka treasury. According to RJD chief's counsel Devarshi Mandal, there was a virtual hearing of Lalu's bail case amid reports of corona infection. The court of Justice Aparesh Singh in the Jharkhand High Court ruled to grant bail to the RJD chief after hearing in the Dumka treasury case.

Case number RC 38 case was heard in the court today. Lalu Yadav has already been granted bail in the Chaibasa and Deoghar cases before the illegal withdrawal of more than Rs 3 crore from the Dumka treasury. Let me tell you that in the case of illegal withdrawal from the Dumka treasury,

Deep Sidhu Arrested Again After Getting Bail



New Delhi, Apr 17: The crime branch has once again arrested Deep Sidhu, accused of violence at the Red Fort in Delhi. Deep has been arrested for sabotaging inside the Red Fort. Archaeological Department had registered a case in this regard in Crime Branch. Because of which this action has been taken. Earlier, Deep Sidhu was granted bail on Saturday

by the Tis Hazari court of Delhi in the case of violence in the Red Fort of Delhi on Republic Day. Sidhu was granted bail on a personal bond of thirty thousand rupees and the condition was that he would appear at the call of the police, submit his passport, change his phone number and not tamper the evidence with anyone. Farmers are continuously agitating against

the Center against agricultural laws. Under this, there was a call to take out a tractor rally till the Red Fort on 26 January. During this time, the farmers had a huge uproar in Delhi and the Red Fort was vandalized. After this, accused Deep had declared himself innocent through Facebook Live. Deep Sidhu had said that I have come to know that an arrest warrant and a look-out notice have been issued against me. I will appear before the investigating agency in a few days. Deep had said during this time that a lot of wrong information is being spread against him. I am not afraid of any investigation. When I have not done anything wrong, I do not need to run away from anyone. Sidhu said, I need some time to find out the truth of some things. I will soon appear before the investigating agency with all the facts. Sidhu said that I have not done anything wrong so I will not run away from the investigation.

Hope time for 1st woman CJI won't be very far off: Justice Nariman

New Delhi, Apr 17: Supreme Court judge Justice Rohinton Fali Nariman on Friday expressed "hope" that "the time for the first woman Chief Justice of India won't be very far off". He said this while delivering the 26th Justice Sunanda Bhandare Memorial Lecture on 'Great Women Of History' here. Speaking on women leadership in the 20th century, he said "the 1960's brought a rich haul of women

Prime Ministers. For the first time you had (Siri m a v o) Bandaranaike in Ceylon, you had Indira (Gandhi) here, you also had Golda Meir in Israel. In 1979, you had Margaret Thatcher, after which I have counted — there is something like a 125 women heads of state, whether president or PM since then". "In India, we have had a woman President. But unfortunately, despite the fact that we have had

a woman President and we have had a woman Prime Minister, we have never had a woman Chief Justice". Justice Nariman said late Justice Bhandare "was probably the candidate for becoming the first woman Chief Justice of India. Unfortunately, life was cruel to her and cut her remarkable career short" and added, "in any event, I hope that given the present dispensation, the time for the first woman Chief



Justice won't be very far off". The comments come a day after Chief Justice of India S A Bobde during a hearing remarked that the "time has come for a woman Chief Justice of India". The bench

headed by him was hearing a plea filed by the Supreme Court Women Lawyers Association seeking the court's intervention to consider more women for appointment as judges in high courts.

EC puts off poll at Bengal's Jangipur seat following death of RSP candidate



Jangipur, Apr 17: The Election Commission on Saturday put off assembly election to the Jangipur seat

in West Bengal following the death of a Revolutionary Socialist Party candidate. As per provisions of

the Representation of the People Act, in case a candidate of a recognised party dies, the poll is put

off to allow the party decide on a new candidate. The new candidate gets to file his or her nomination and goes through the entire process of scrutiny of documents and the opportunity to withdraw nomination. A commission spokesperson said, "Poll at 58 Jangipur AC in Murshidabad scheduled on April 26 stands adjourned due to death of RSP candidate." The Election Commission

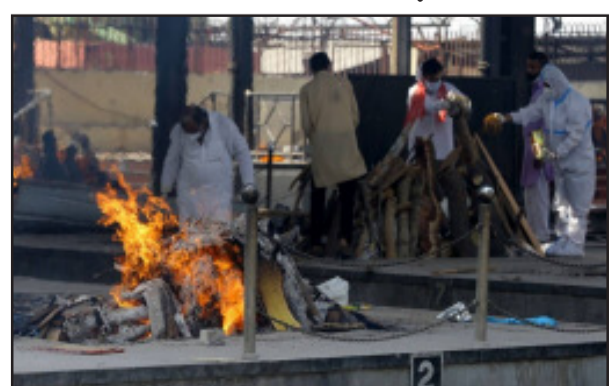
would announce a fresh poll schedule for the seat in the coming days, officials said. Revolutionary Socialist Party candidate Pradip Kumar Nandi, who tested positive for COVID-19 four days ago, died at a hospital in Berhampore on Friday. Nandi, 73, was the party's nominee from the Jangipur assembly constituency in Murshidabad district in the ongoing West Bengal assembly elections.

Crowding at Delhi's cremation grounds: East MCD will run facility 24x7, North asks hospitals to stagger release of bodies

New Delhi, Apr 17: The East Delhi Municipal Corporation (EDMC) will run the Karkardooma crematorium for 24 hours from Monday onwards because of an increase in the number of Covid deaths, while the North Delhi Mu-

nicipal Corporation (NDMC) has asked hospitals to send bodies in a staggered manner to reduce waiting time at the crematorium. "We were getting reports about people having to wait the entire night to get bodies of Covid victims cre-

mated, as the timings are 8 am to 9 pm. To make sure people do not have to wait, we will in all likelihood be running the crematorium 24x7," said Dr Ajay Handa, additional medical health official from the EDMC. The number of bodies arriv-



ing at the Karkardooma crematorium has increased since April 1. From January 1 till the end of March this year, nine bodies were cremated here as per Covid protocol, while this month the number has already touched 20. At the Seemapuri

burial ground under EDMC, 134 bodies were cremated as per Covid protocol since April 1, as compared to 35 from January 1 to March-end this year. Overall, since April 1, the crematoriums at Karkardooma, Ghazipur, and the burial

grounds of Seemapuri, Shastri Park and Mayur Vihar Phase 3 saw the last sites of 207 bodies as per Covid protocol, as compared to 67 from January 1-March 31. Last year, from April 1 to December 12, this number stood at 1,891.

Rescue of minor child from Puri Railway Station

(A.O. Bureau) Puri, Apr 17: Today at about-10.30 hrs, while Officer's & Staff of Puri [SI Mohan & others] were engaged for checking of Station area for enforcement of Covid protocol & also to prevent Criminal activities against passengers, noticed one minor child aged about-13 Years was moving in Platform No. 3 & 4 in alone & confusing state. On seeing his activities politely asked about his identity, but he didn't responded as he was initially looking in worried condition. After that RPF Staff brought him "Sishu & Child help desk" & provided snacks etc. Subsequently after counselling in friendly environment, the rescued minor child given his identity & it could



be noticed that he is belong from Mahanadi Vihar, under Chaulia Ganj PS, Dist-Cuttack [Odisha]. Further he also informed that today morning he came at Puri. After preliminary enquiry matter transmitted to his parents through available resources. On getting information his parents informed that his child is missing from today morning around-04.30 am & they were searching him at various

ocations in nearby locality & relatives. They further requested to keep him at RPF thana Puri till their reaching at Puri. As the rescued child was minor, so he produced before CWC [Child Welfare Committee] through Child line for further rehabilitation & hand over to his parents as per the procedure. RPF Puri continually working to reunite the separated children with full devotion to their families.

New COVID-19 cases cross 3000 for second day in Odisha, weekend shutdown in 10 districts

(A.O. Bureau) Bhubaneswar, Apr 17: Odisha reported over 3000 new COVID-19 cases for the second consecutive day pushing the active cases past 19,000 in a fortnight. The state logged 3144 cases and four fatalities in the last 24 hours. The death of four COVID patients in a day was the highest in over three months. The last time four people succumbed to the highly infectious disease was on December 23 when 263 people had also tested positive. Health department sources said of the fresh cases, 1823 were detected among suspects undergoing quarantine and 1321 were local infections. Sundargarh, Khurda and Nuapada continued to remain as areas of concern for



the state administration apart from other districts bordering Chhattisgarh and urban pockets of Cuttack, Balasore, Puri and Keonjhar. New clusters emerged at industrial townships in the state with a sizable population of migrant workers from states like West Bengal, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand. Nine districts had more than

100 new infections each and seven had over 50 cases each. Sundargarh registered the maximum 523 cases, followed by Khurda (497), Nuapada (395), Bargarh (156), Sambalpur (149), Cuttack (140), Puri (129), Keonjhar (128) and Jharsuguda (119). Ten districts having proximity with Chhattisgarh put together 1605 cases

contributing 52% of the daily caseload. The state conducted 37,245 tests, up from 31,891 tests a day before, bringing down the test positivity rate from 9.7% to 8.44%. Three men aged 38, 50 and 62 and a woman aged 60, all having comorbidities, succumbed to the disease taking the death toll to 1,942. The fatalities were reported from Balangir, Jharsuguda, Kalahandi and

Sambalpur. Of the 3,64,594 confirmed cases, 3,43,522 patients have recovered so far. The state government has imposed a weekend shutdown from Saturday in urban areas of the 10 districts to restrict movement of people that would ultimately help break the chain. A night curfew from 9 pm to 5 am in urban localities in the remaining 20 districts has also been clamped beginning from Saturday. Meanwhile, Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has appealed to people not to lower their guard. "The fight against COVID-19 is at a critical stage. Let's all continue to follow COVID protocols and maintain social distancing. Let us fight the second wave of the pandemic with the same spirit and determination as earlier," he said.

Odisha Capital Reports 451 More Covid Positive Cases

(A.O. Bureau) Bhubaneswar, Apr 17: Another 451 Covid positive cases were detected in Bhubaneswar city today taking the total positive cases in the Odisha Capital to 35,341. As per the data provided by the Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC) in last 24 hours, out of the total



Covid patients 360 were local contact cases and 91 were quarantine cases. The number of recovered cases in the city was at 117. So far, a total of 32,755 Covid patients recovered in the city and active cases stood at 2,315. As many as 250 patients have died of the diseases in the city.

Gangster Hyder Tests Positive Of Coronavirus

(A.O. Bureau) Cuttack, Apr 17: The number of Coronavirus cases is increasing day by day. Many top politicians, cricketers, film stars have been infected by the deadly virus. Meanwhile gangster Hyder has been tested positive for Coronavirus. He had escaped from the SCB Medical College and Hospital last week and was recaptured on Thursday. After his RT-



PCR test report came positive, he was sent to the Isolation ward. Cuttack DCP Prateek Singh Said "The gangster was scheduled to be taken on a seven-day remand by the Commissionerate Police (CP) today. However, the remand has been postponed as he tested positive for Covid-19."

Night Curfew: Section 144 Clamped In Bhubaneswar And Cuttack



(A.O. Bureau) Bhubaneswar, Apr 17: As part of precautionary measures against transmission of COVID-19 in twin city of the State, the Commissionerate Police today promulgated prohibitory order under section 144 of CrPC restricting unnecessary movements during night

curfew, which will be clamped from tonight. The prohibitory order under section 144 will remain in force from 9.00 PM to 5.00 AM with effect from April 17 under Bhubaneswar-Cuttack Commissionerate Police limits till further order, informed Police Commissioner

Saumendra Priyadarshi today. With imposition of prohibitory orders, the movements of vehicles and public will be restricted during night curfew. However, essential workers will be allowed for movement on showing their identity card issued by their respective organisation for bona fide official work.

After Congress Leader Ajit Mangaraj, His Mother Also Succumbs To COVID-19

(A.O. Bureau) Bhubaneswar, Apr 17: Less than a week after Ajit Mangaraj, Congress' candidate for Pipili By-poll, succumbed to COVID-19, his mother also died due to the virus late last night. Ajit's mother Khetramani Mangaraj



was undergoing treatment at a private hospital here since long after she tested positive for the virus. Sources said she was admitted to the hospital following a heart

attack and later contracted COVID-19. She was hospitalized before her son test positive for the deadly virus. Earlier on April 14, Ajit succumbed to the virus while undergoing treatment at a private hospital here. Following his death, the Pipili by-poll,

which was scheduled to be held on April 17, has been postponed. The Chief Electoral Officer will issue a new notification for conduct of the by-poll.

BJP celebrates Shradha Day with Bijubabu and Radhanath Rai

(A.O. Bureau) Bhubaneswar, Apr 17: The BJP's Cultural Coordination Front has paid deep homage to the holy shrine of Biju Patnaik, a world leader, unique leader and proverbial man of Nab Utkal. Rabinarayan Nand, host of the front, coordinator Prabir Mohanty, senior members Debraj Senapati, Satyabrata Jena, Laxmidhar Behera, entertainment hero and Karan Durga laid wreaths at the statue of Bijubabu in Jaydev Bihar. Similarly, a wreath was laid at his statue at PM4G Square on the holy day of the poet Radhanath Ray.



14-Kg Live Pangolin Rescued In Cuttack; Crime Branch STF Nabs Accused

(A.O. Bureau) Bhubaneswar, Apr 17: The Special Task Force (STF) of the Crime Branch successfully rescued a live pangolin following a raid at Abhimanpur in Cuttack district on Friday. A senior STF official informed that a person, identified as Keshab Sahoo has

been arrested in connection with the incident. Prashant Bhoi, SP (STF) said that the weight of the live pangolin is around 14 kg and the accused was planning to sell the mammal. A case under section 379, 411, 120(B) IPC and 51 of Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 has been registered

against the accused. The rescued animal will be handed over to DFO cum Wildlife Warden, Athagarh for safe custody. "We obtained credible information regarding a deal for the sale of live pangolin. Later, we conducted a raid at the village and rescued the Pangolin which was kept in-



side a bag," said Bhoi. The SP further said that there is a

huge market in several countries including China and

Singapore for Pangolin for its meat, scales, blood, tail and claws which are used for several purposes including for traditional medicines. "The cost of Pangolin varies in international market. However, the cost of the animal varies from 2 to 3 lakhs per kilogram of its weight. The ac-

cusced has confessed to have procured the Pangolin from another person, it is being verified and further investigation is underway," Bhoi added. It is pertinent to mention here that Pangolin is a scheduled-I protected animal under Wildlife Protection act, 1972. During last one year,

STF has seized as many as 12 Leopard skin, 6 Elephant Tusks, 2 deer skin, 3 live pangolin and 5 kg of pangolin scales and arrested 25 wildlife criminals in a special drive during the past one year. A total of 14 cases have been registered against the wildlife criminals.

EDITORIAL

Good Omen

It's time for the CJT's wish for a woman judge to head the nation's top court to come true. Chief Justice of India SA Bobde deserves nothing less than the nation's applause and compliments for recently stating unequivocally that the time has come when a woman should head the top court. Hinting that the apex court was already moving along the right path on the issue, he underscored that there was "no need for a change of attitude" of the Collegium to ensure greater representation of women in the judiciary. Hearing a plea by a women lawyers' body seeking consideration of the "meritorious" lot among them for appointment as judges in the High Courts, a Bench comprising Chief Justice Bobde and Justices Sanjay Kishan Kaul and Surya Kant said: "Why only higher judiciary? We think the time has come when a woman should be the Chief Justice of India." At this juncture, it would be pertinent to mention that currently there are only 81 female judges in the 25 High Courts across the country against 1,078 male judges. Among them, the Madras High Court tops the list with 13 female judges, followed by Punjab and Haryana with 11, and the Delhi and Bombay High Courts have eight women judges each. Interestingly, while the Supreme Court's emphasis on gender issues is to be lauded, it would truly have credibility and value if its own actions were consistent on this subject. Consider this: There is only one female judge among the 34 positions that currently constitute the Supreme Court. With Justice Indu Malhotra's retirement last month, the Collegium is considering a few women judges for elevation. The nation's top court has had only eight women judges since it came into existence on January 26, 1950. The first one, Fathima Beevi, made it to the elite club only as late as in October 1989. Not a single woman judge has figured in the list of 48 CJIs since its inception. It would perhaps not be out of the context here to mention that the Supreme Court had recently pointed to the delay in giving women permanent commission in the military, blaming it on the "systemic bias" within the Ministry of Defence. While there certainly seems to be some truth in what it said, it is a complicated issue, especially the impact of women in combat roles. That said, in either case, there's no denying that women are up to performing any professional job with panache while balancing with finesse their roles as mother, daughter, sister, wife and homemaker.

Bumpy road ahead

To avoid having a comatose economy now, we must bear the cross of our earlier negligence. India is hunkering down again to battle the second and more virulent wave of the Coronavirus outbreak. It would have been much better for us had we sincerely stuck to the COVID-19 protocols when the numbers were down and, who knows, we might have been rid of this pesky virus by now! While the average citizen decided that it was "okay" to return to the crowded restaurants, malls, airports and bus and railway stations without masks or social distancing, our short-sighted politicians postponed the all-important Board exams but considered it imperative to hold political rallies and road shows brimming with nonchalant people ahead of the Assembly elections, because their future depended on it. The religious leaders found it exigent for us to wash away our sins by bathing in the millions in the holy Ganga. Now, here's the result of our collective endeavours: The Coronavirus cases across the country hit a record 2,17,353 fresh infections in the last 24 hours, the eighth record daily increase in the last nine days. In the same period, 1,185 people lost their lives due to the viral disease. The numbers coming out of the Health Ministry say that India registered a steady increase in the number of active Corona cases for the 36th day in a row. Now, we are scrambling to control the damage. The Home Ministry has asked its officers up to the level of Under-Secretary to avail the WFH option while the Deputy Secretary and above-ranking officials have been asked to attend office regularly with the option to stagger timings between 9 AM and 10 AM. Various States, including the Capital, have also come up with local-level restrictions — ranging from shutting of malls, gyms, swimming pools and auditoriums, prohibiting dining at restaurants, besides imposing a weekend lockdown and night curfew. The Government has assured the citizenry that the "test, trace, treat" and vaccination drive will continue unabated and that the national drug controller will take just three days to process applications of the foreign-made vaccines once they've been approved for emergency use in India. One can only hope that this time around, the Government grinds its teeth and stands by the Prime Minister's words that "we must learn to live with the virus". No matter how many restrictions are placed on recreation and how many weekends are spent imprisoned indoors, the nation's economy must not be shut down again. The first wave gave us many lessons on how to identify hotspots, impose local lockdowns and create containment zones in order to keep the wheels of the industry churning. We have to ensure that our march towards a self-reliant, New India continues; our ailing economy that was just beginning to revive cannot be delivered another body blow in the form of a hard lockdown. Else, we risk having a comatose economy in our hands. So, the nation would do well to gird up its loins and prepare for a bumpy road ahead, but the wheels of the economy cannot stop, no matter what.

India's flaming forests play havoc

Natural causes and human intervention are to blame for the rising number of conflagrations not only in India, but the world over. The surge of forest fires in Uttarakhand once again underlines the growing incidence of the phenomenon in India. There has been a series of these this year in Himachal Pradesh, the Nagaland-Manipur border, Odisha, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat. According to the India State of Forest Report 2019 (ISFR) — the latest in the line of such reports — released by the Forest Survey of India (FSI), Dehradun, over 30,000 forest fires were reported in the country in 2019. The report identified nearly 21.67 per cent (7,12,249 sq km) of the country's land area as forested. Another 2.89 per cent (95,027 sq km) was under tree cover. The report identified 2,77,758 forest fire points across the country, and stated that about 21.40 per cent of India's forests are prone to fires. Of this, 3.89 per cent belonged to the category of extremely fire-prone, 6.01 per cent very highly fire-prone and 11.50 per cent highly fire-prone. The forests in Assam, Mizoram and Tripura are "extremely prone" to conflagrations. According to the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) annual report for 2020-21, the States with large forest areas and falling under the "very highly fire-prone" category — including Andhra Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Odisha, Maharashtra, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh — were turning into "extremely fire-prone" hotspots; so were regions like western



Hiranmay Karlekar

Maharashtra, southern Chhattisgarh and areas of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh, along with central Odisha. Areas under the "highly prone" and "moderately prone" categories make up about 26.2 per cent of the total forest cover — a staggering 1,72,374 sq km. A State prone to forest fires is Haryana which suffered at least 540 of these from 2016 to 2020. Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh are witness to the most frequent forest fires annually. According to the National Forest Inventory under the MoEFCC, the fires severely affect almost 10 per cent of the country's forest area while mildly affecting about 54 per cent, which makes about two-third of India's forests vulnerable to fires. The question is: Why is it so? Lightning is the most important natural cause. Another is the spontaneous combustion of dried-up leaves and sticks. The one that has been an increasingly potent factor, and is set to become even more so, is global warming. It dries up the leaves and shrubbery on the ground, making them highly inflammable. It also dries up the soil. Thus, the lack of soil moisture as a result of rain-

fall deficiency during monsoons — less than 18 per cent and 20 per cent in 2019 and 2020, respectively — has been an important factor in this year's Uttarakhand fires. In fact, it has been a cause not only in many other parts of India but the entire world — the blazes bedeviling Australia, California in the US and the Amazon rainforests in Brazil are examples. Human activity, however, is responsible for the overwhelming majority of forest fires the world over. In India, these blazes are mainly caused by the slash-and-burn method of shifting agriculture, known as jhum in Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Meghalaya, Tripura and Assam, where it is practised over about 15,000 sq km of forest land. The blazes are also set off to clear the ground for mining, timber felling and the construction of human settlements and industrial units, besides warding off the wild animals. People burn dry leaves and shrubbery on forest grounds, believing that it would lead to the sprouting of new and healthier grass. Poachers light fires on three sides to corner fleeing wild animals in one area as their concentrated

presence helps killing. People visiting forests are often careless and leave behind lighted butts of cigarettes or bidis, besides inflammable material. Things are made worse by the fact that it is difficult to extinguish forest fires. The absence of roads prevents fire tenders from reaching the sites and high winds carry the sparks to new areas. Helicopters are pressed into service — as in Uttarakhand recently where two Indian Air Force helicopters, each with a 5,000-litre water tank, were deployed. There are, however, limits to the number of helicopters that can be used and the availability of large lakes or rivers from which these can draw water. Forest fires wreak havoc in India every year. They destroy forests, cause pollution, turn streams dry or adversely affect their water quality, damage soil nutrients and increase the risk of soil erosion. They kill wildlife and insects, including endangered species, and destroy their habitats, damage national parks and sanctuaries, driving the wild animals like tigers, leopards and elephants towards human settlements, thus aggravating the human-animal conflict. And, of course, they kill humans and destroy their property. The question is: What is to be done? Forest fires are as old as forests and will continue to occur as long as forests exist. One, however, can limit their incidence by firmly dealing with the timber, builder and mining mafia, and the poachers, and simultaneously enlightening people not to carelessly leave incendiary material in forests. The Central and State Governments will have to launch sustained campaigns to this end. The consequences of not doing so will be severe.

Time For Spiritual Fight

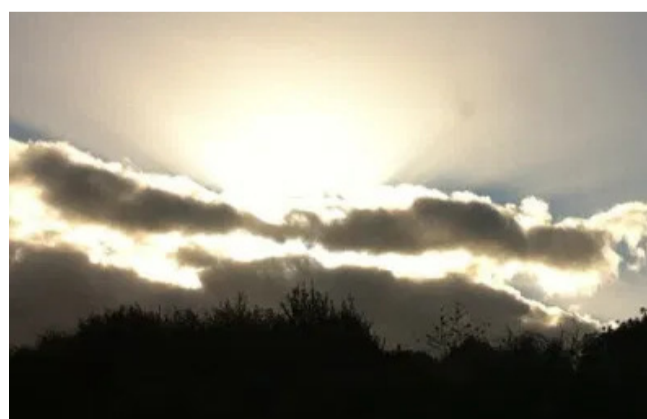
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Covid-19 has been truly fierce in its continued attack on humankind testing its patience, perseverance, preparedness and so many attributes. The pervasive disease has been hovering over our lives for than a year and amidst persistent uncertainty, humanity is looking for a permanent solution to resolve its deep conflict with the aggressive malady. Something, that would ease off the constant throttle around its neck allowing life to breathe freely. Strangely, even after discovery of many remedial measures to be deeply unsettled, intensely insecure and struggling for solution. Why is it that the pandemic is proving mightier than best human abilities and well thought out restorative measures? Is it because all through we have been desperately applying only corporeal remedies and ignoring effective solutions within, the ones dwell-

ing deep within us, in our conscience, consciousness and spirituality? These solution deeply rooted to our religious, philosophical and spiritual doctrines really need serious implementation at this crucial hour. We ought to realise that the only way to overpower the pandemic is to become all powerful and mighty at the level of mind and soul. All of us must simply understand if we wish to win the fight against the dreaded disorder, it has to be spiritual fight, a fight from the depth and strength of our soul. Deep down in the sea of pandemic, humanity is finally compelled to accept corona as an individual as well as collective destiny of the world. Majority faith believe that a presenting destiny is a sure outcome of our past

and present karmas (actions or deeds). Going by this, only righteous thinking and behaviour and mass execution and consolidation of right karmas is something that can alter the design of our fate. So let us profoundly perform every deed that is just and most needed at this critical time and defeat the malady. We thus have this most effective vaccine within' provided we locate and use it effectively. A collective practice of all divine human virtues and application of teachings from the treasure troves of all faiths are the only things that will see us win our battle by empowering us with equanimity, positivity and grit. So let us all deeply connect to the omnipotent divinity within and around the universe

and act in accordance. Leaving aside all religious, racial, ethnic and cultural inhibitions let us together undertake this spiritual fight for soul knows no religion, race or culture. Let us practically practice what the holy bible preaches, let us love God with all our heart, soul and mind, the way he loves us. Let us deeply understand valuable beliefs of Buddhism of the truth of existence of suffering, the truth of cause or origin of sufferings, the truth of end of sufferings and the way to end sufferings by practising the eight fold path of right understanding (view), right thought, right speech, right action, right livelihood, right effort, right mindfulness and right concentration. Let us thus secure peace and obtain freedom from our sufferings. We all should realise our soul qualities and use them for protection and healing of humanity. It is my belief if almighty wishes to take birth on this earth to save us he can do so only through our realisation of divinity and soul qualities.



Blood donation camp at chitrakonda by Biju chatra Dal



(A.O. Bureau) Malkangiri, Apr 17: District Biju Yuva Janata Dal and Biju Chhatra Janata Dal (BJD) organized a rally in support of "Odisha-Mo Parivar" at the urging of Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Naveen Patnaik from March 5 Biju babu Birthday to April 14 death day. The blood donation camp's "jivan Bindu" program has

been completed in all seven blocks, while 236 units of blood have been collected by following the guidelines of the Corna Epilepsy. A blood donation camp was organized by the district Biju Chhatra Janata Dal in the Chitrakonda block on the last day of the function. The Chitrakonda MLA sri Purna Chandra Baka, joined as chief

guest The MLA Representative Mr Amit Agrawal, Block Youth president Dipti Ranjan Rath, Youth leader Mahesh Kumar Baka, block student president Jagannath Naik and other senior, youth and student Biju Janata Dal workers were present and encouraged the blood donors, while 18 units of blood were collected.

Transformation Of High Schools Under 5t Initiative

(A.O. Bureau) Balasore, Apr 17: District Administration has been proactive to provide contemporary quality education to the school students studying in different government High Schools in the District. So a pilot project "High School transformation under 5T initiative' is in full gear under the guidance of the District Collector & Magistrate Shri K Sudarshan Chakravarty and District Education Officer Mr Ranjan Kumar Giri. In the first phase of this initiative 24 schools of Balasore District have been included in the aspirational model Schools and an objective based comprehensive program has been undertaken to be implemented by Gandhi Jayanti, 2nd October 2021. In this context the 5T Secretary to Gov-



ernment of Odisha Shri V.Karthikeyan Pandian, IAS has reviewed the initiative from different prospective right from Odisha Lokseva Bhavan, Bhubaneswar. He reiterated that the Government is determined to provide well furnished infrastructure to ensure quality education to the students who are in government High Schools in the state. This far reach-

ing project is fast at work to bring about radical changes in infrastructure which in turn will furnish the school with Smart classrooms, e-library, safe drinking water, modern toilets, well equipped science laboratory and a healthy ambience with adequate place for games and sports. Beautification of School Campus will be prioritised to make it

credentially attractive. Besides the schools will organise will organise unconventional programs like career counselling & Health awareness programmes to make the schools even progressive. This virtual event which was organised under the direct supervision of the District Collector & Magistrate K. Sudarshan Chakravarty was at-

tended by the District Education Officer, the Project Director DRDA Shri Rabindra Kumar Sahu, Sub Collector Balasore Sri Ashish Iswar Patil, Block Development Officers of concerned (12) Blocks. Block Education Officers, the Headmasters and students of those declared model schools. Unstoppable cooperation of the learned people, corporates, Bonafide members above all Alumni Members of the schools have achieved untold success in the Mo School Abhiyan launched by Honourable Chief Minister Shri Naveen Patnaik. Such collaboration in continuation will give a new dimension to the schools in the process of transformation as aspirational model educational Institution said the stakeholders.

COVID19 Testing & Treatment facilities at Rourkela

(A.O. Bureau) Rourkela, Apr 17: Various measures are being taken by the district administration, Sundargarh to contain and control the COVID infection in Rourkela city. In addition to maintaining COVID appropriate behaviour, the individuals with COVID symptoms are advised to go for the Flu Clinic at any hospital and opt for RTPCR or Rapid Antigen Tests if so, advised by the doctor. Different government and private hospitals in the city are also equipped for treatment of COVID19 with elaborate arrangement. If a person has symptoms like COVID, he or she should immediately consult a flu-clinic at Rourkela Government Hospital (RGH) or another private hospital. After examining the symptoms, the doctor may recommend going for RTPCR or a Rapid



Antigen test. If the doctor does not recommend any COVID test, the individual must take prescribed medicines and stay at home. Where to get tested? Both RTPCR and Rapid Antigen Testing are available at the Rourkela Government Hospital (RGH) and the Sector-6 Health and Wellness Center at Rourkela. Rapid antigen tests are also conducted at JP Hospital, Vesaj Patel Hospital, Hi-Tech Hospital, Ispat General Hos-

pital (IGH) in Rourkela and Railway Hospital in Bondamunda. The COVID negative report to be published on the website of the Rourkela Municipal Corporation www.mcnic.in for information on people undergoing COVID testing. Concerned persons can download the report from the site. Where to get Treated? In case the report comes as COVID positive, the patient may go for treatment to any private hospital. Every private hos-

pital in the city has reserved certain beds for treatment of COVID19. Similarly, any patient can approach Hi-Tech COVID Hospital. After the patient is examined at Hi-Tech COVID Hospital, he/she might be admitted to one of the governments COVID hospitals like the Hi-Tech Hospital, Shanti Memorial Hospital or JP Hospital. Home Isolation: If admission is not required as per the doctor's analysis, the COVID

positive patient may be advised to remain in home isolation and given medicines. The home isolation is to be strictly followed for at least 14 days. While in home isolation if the patient develops any symptoms, the patient may call +917008534384 for further advice. Similarly, the family members of the person in isolation should immediately get themselves tested.

Important contact numbers: Hi Tech Hospital +919437044838, +919237230463. Shanti Memorial Hospital, Reception-7205318101 / 0661-2511300, Vaccination-7205318105, Pharmacy - 7205318104. Jaiprakash Hospital, Helpline: 0661-2461100, COVID Ward: 8118060749 (11 AM - 3 PM), COVID ICU: 9078884741 (11 AM - 3 PM).

Awareness meeting of forest and wild life protection at Niliguda Village

(A.O. Bureau) Malkangiri, Apr 17: An awareness meeting was held today on behalf of the Kalimela Forest Department to awareness on wildlife and forest development in Old Niliguda. The forest department was then discussed with the villagers about the burning of the Abad

trees and explained in the coming days to prevent forest growth, protection and wildlife. The chief guest at the meeting was Niliguda Sarpanch Budra Kartami explain in the Koya language. Padma Charan Madkami, president of the Durmaguda Forest Protection Commit-

tee, Peda Singha Kamrami of the village, explained the benefits and disadvantages of the forest in their respective regional languages. Finally oath taking ceremony done by P-NGO workers' for save forest not to set fire in forest not to hunt wildlife



Married Woman 'Raped' For 21 Days Inside Truck After Abduction In Nayagarh

(A.O. Bureau) Nayagarh, Apr 17: A married woman was allegedly raped for 21 days inside a truck cabin in Nayagarh district after being abducted from Jaleswar area in Balasore district. Following allegation lodged at the Fategarh Police Station in Nayagarh district, the husband of the rape survivor has taken her to their home. According to reports, a married woman, who is also an under graduate student, lives with her family that includes her husband, 5-year-old daughter and her sister, at a house on rent at Khuluda locality under Jaleswar police limits in Balasore district. On March 24, while she was going to a nearby xerox shop to make photocopy of some important documents, an SUV stopped on her way and

one person inside the vehicle asked her for the directions to a particular route. Seeing her busy at talk, another person inside the vehicle suddenly opened the door that hit on her head following which she fell down and became unconscious.



When she regained her consciousness found herself without clothes inside cabin of a truck stationed near a road in Nayagarh district. After she cried for help, two youth of the age group between 25 and 30 threatened to kill her if she did not obey their order.

The frightened woman remained silent. Subsequently, the duo allegedly raped her many a time inside the closed cabin of the truck for more than 20 days. However, the rape survivor managed to escape from clutches of two youth when they had

gone for lunch to a nearby hotel. After she found that one of the doors of the truck is not closed, she descended from the vehicle cautiously and ran off. She took shelter at a house after walking around 5 km via Bolagarh Railway Station.

Cannabis worth more than Rs 1 crore was seized by chitrakonda police

(A.O. Bureau) Malkangiri, Apr 17: After a gap of a few days, the Chitrakonda police have had another major success. Chitrakonda police have arrested a smuggler with cannabis smuggled into neighboring Andhra Pradesh by a tractor. According to sources, a team of Chitrakonda police, led by Chitrakonda police officer-in-charge Shri Surya Prakash Nayak, was patrolling near Silpandi ghat in Kapatuti panchayat under



Chitrakonda block on the night of the 16th. Found. Seeing the police, some of the occupants of the tractor

jumped out of the tractor, taking advantage of the darkness. The police was successful in grabbing an accused.

The accused is Sukdev Khara, 23, father of Ram Murthy Khara village - Datunguda. The cannabis was brought to

Chitrakonda police station and weighed 1,113 kg and 600 grams and was estimated to be worth Rs 1 crore 10 lakh, Chitrakonda police said. They also confiscated a Mahendra tractor OD-10Q 8634, and a tractor-trailer OD-10, Q 8635 and Rs 650 in cash, along with a defendant's Aadhaar card and voter ID. The accused has been produced in Malkangiri District Court under Chitrakonda Police Station Case No. 50 dt 16/4/2021.

Covid Second Wave: Prohibitory Orders Clamped In Jagatsinghpur

(A.O. Bureau) Jagatsinghpur, Apr 17: The resurgence of SARS-CoV2 and increasing trend of Covid-19 cases recently prompted the Odisha government to enforce night curfew and weekend

shutdowns in several parts of the State. In view of the government order issued on April 15, the Jagatsinghpur district administration has decided to promulgate prohibitory orders (curfew) under

Section-144 of CrPC to restrict the movement of individuals, non-essential activities in Jagatsinghpur and Paradip Municipality limits and other market places under the NACs. Prohibitory

orders will also be clamped Raghunathpur market, Tarapur market, Jaipur market, Tirtol market, Rahama market and Kujang market of Jagatsinghpur district between 9 pm to 5

am from today. It is pertinent to mention here that night curfew restrictions will come into effect in all urban areas across the State including Cuttack and Bhubaneswar from tonight.

Side Effects of Kadha: Herbal decoction can cause several diseases, must take these precautions

New Delhi | Jagran Lifestyle Desk: Coronavirus crisis has brought several changes in our daily lifestyle and drinking Kadha is among one of the new normals. In the past few months, we have heard that the immune system should be strengthened to fight against coronavirus and Kadha is really helpful in it. Ayush Ministry has also suggested the consumption of herbal decoction, but, do we know the side effects of excessive intake of Kadha. The wrong use of Kadha can lead to many severe diseases. Improper use of Kadha may cause bleeding from the nose, acidity, mouth ulcers, urination problems, rashes, acne and other diseases. So, if you want to keep your immune system healthy, then, intake decoction

with a little care. Read on to know about the right use of Kadha, the right amount, the right time to take and other details.

homemade ingredients used in the Kadha can raise the temperature of your body. A large amount of these soluble

give you serious mouth blisters. So, use the ingredients carefully and in proper measurement. What should be the

Kadha, take all the ingredients in 100 ml water and allow it to boil until it is reduced to 50 ml. Don't drink too hot drinks, it can also induce body temperature. How many times a day Kadha can be consumed?

It is believed that decoction can boot your immunity to 200 per cent and can help to fight against novel coronavirus. But the intake of this brew is equally sensitive for our health, it is necessary to consume Kadha in a defined time. It is advised not to drink Kadha in the morning with an empty stomach. The evening is a good time and it also benefits more. If you are suffering from cold and cough then you can take it twice a day.



Side effects of consuming excessive Kadha: While consuming homemade decoction, an individual must know about the ingredients used. The

substances can force speedy reactions in your body which can lead to severe disease. It can severely harm your digestive system and can

amount of one dose of Kadha? The decoction should not be consumed more than 50 ml at a time. To make the right amount of the

Mira Rajput is a 'proud mama' as daughter Misha turns her photographer: 'She's getting good with camera'



New Delhi, Apr 17: Shahid Kapoor's wife Mira Rajput shared a beautiful click of herself on Instagram. She revealed the picture has been taken by her daughter Misha Kapoor. Actor Shahid Kapoor's wife Mira Rajput treated her fans to a beautiful picture of herself on Saturday. She revealed that the photo has been taken by the couple's daughter Misha Kapoor. In her caption, she also mentioned how she is a

"proud mama." "Through my sweetheart's eyes. She really is getting good with the camera, and it makes me a proud mama to see her develop a hobby! But in life, I will always be beside you and behind you, because you my darling are the one to shine," Mira wrote. The picture left the fans of Mira and Shahid Kapoor impressed. While a fan commented, "She is so good at clicking pictures", another

Instagram follower mentioned how it has been long since Mira posted pictures of her children. Mira and Shahid, who got married in 2015, were blessed with Misha in August 2016. Two years later, on September 05, 2018, the couple welcomed their second child—a baby boy whom they named, Zain Kapoor. Earlier this week, Mira shared a picture in which Shahid is seen making his wife wear a helmet while she has a mask on. Sharing the picture on Instagram, Mira called Shahid "#Coronapatrol ACP Shadyuman," which left the actor's fans in split. On the work front, Shahid is currently shooting for his Amazon Prime Video series directed by Raj and DK.

Black Panther director won't boycott Georgia for superhero sequel

New Delhi, Apr 17: Black Panther director Ryan Coogler said on Friday he would shoot the hit movie's sequel in Georgia as planned, despite his opposition to restrictions on voting rights in the state that have prompted calls by some for a boycott.

sons I will not be engaging in a boycott of Georgia," Coogler wrote. "Our film is staying in Georgia. Additionally, I have made a personal commitment to raise awareness about ways to help overturn this harmful bill." Black Panther, the first superhero

Coogler announced his decision two days after more than 100 companies, and Hollywood stars including George Clooney and director J.J. Abrams, declared their opposition to voting curbs in Georgia and other states. Civil rights groups and others say the measures unfairly target Black and ethnic groups. Actor Will Smith and director Antoine Fuqua said this week they would move production on their runaway slave thriller Emancipation out of Georgia, which has become a major production hub for Hollywood. Coogler on Friday wrote that he was "profoundly disappointed" at the passing of the bill in Georgia in March but had decided to educate himself before making a decision about filming the sequel there.

Arjun falls head over heels for Rakul Preet in Dil Hai Deewana song

Mumbai, Apr 17: Dil Hai Deewana music video features actors Arjun Kapoor and Rakul Preet Singh. The song features undertones of Anil Kapoor's popular tune Dhina Dhin Da from the film Ram Laxman. The music video of the T-series produced song Dil Hai Deewana released on Saturday. The upbeat track featuring Bollywood actors Arjun Kapoor and Rakul Preet Singh gives fans a love story that is filled with fun. Arjun took to his Instagram handle and shared the music video along with the caption, "Annnnd it's here guys! The bomb that I have been waiting for is all set to make a blast! #DilHaiDeewana is out now! Tune in now!" The

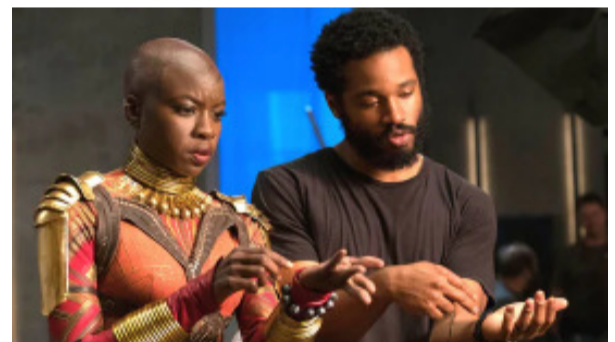


premise of the video is that Rakul, who only likes bad boys, is the manager of a company where Arjun works and is head over heels in love with her. It then shows him daydreaming about dancing with his lady love throughout various sequences of the video. At the end of the video Arjun, even though a good guy, is

able to get a date with Rakul. Regarding the song, it features undertones of Anil Kapoor's popular tune Dhina Dhin Da from the film Ram Laxman and is overall a catchy and peppy number, well-suited for a Bollywood dance night. Dil Hai Deewana, composed by Tanishk Bagchi and penned by Shabbir Ahmed, reunites

Arjun with his Aurangzeb co-star turned singer, Zara Khan, who has lent the female vocals for the song along with Darshan Raval. The music video of the song has been directed by Radhika Rao and Vinay Sapru. Earlier, Arjun had shared the teaser of the romantic dance track that was recently shot in Mumbai. He had also later di-

vulged that it was his dream to someday get to work with Darshan, as he had been floored by the singer's performance in 2014 at a popular reality singing show, where Arjun was a guest judge. Meanwhile, Arjun and Rakul will be seen together in the Netflix movie Sardar and Grandson, directed by debutante filmmaker Kaashvie Nair. The film also stars Aditi Rao Hydari and John Abraham in pivotal roles. Apart from that, Arjun who was recently seen in Sandeep Aur Pinky Faraar, co-starring Parineeti Chopra, also has Ek Villain Returns and Bhoot Police in the pipeline. Rakul also has an interesting line-up of films like MayDay, Doctor G and Thank God.



Coogler said in a guest column for Hollywood website Deadline.com that pulling out of Georgia to make the sequel would adversely affect the lives of people involved in making the film. "For those rea-

movie with a predominantly Black cast, made more than \$1.3 billion at the global box office. Starring the late Chadwick Boseman, the Walt Disney Co film was the highest-grossing movie in North America in 2018.

Ishaan Khatter's heartfelt birthday wish for Beyond the Clouds director Majid Majidi: 'Thank you for setting the foundation of my journey in films'



New Delhi, Apr 17: Ishaan Khatter starrer Beyond the Clouds (2017) was written and directed by Majid Majidi. The actor on Saturday, wrote a heartfelt note for the Iranian filmmaker on the occasion of his birthday. Actor Ishaan Khatter, who made his acting debut as a lead

actor with critically acclaimed film Beyond the Clouds (2017), has written a heartfelt post for his director Majid Majidi. Taking to Instagram on Saturday, the young star wished Majidi on his birthday and thanked for believing in him. Ishaan posted a click with Iranian filmmaker in which

the two are caught in a candid moment on a ship by the sea. In his caption, he wrote, "Happy birthday Magic Majidi. This image was taken in Istanbul on the beautiful Bosphorus river a day before I received my first best actor award for # Beyond The Clouds. Safe to say I wasn't ex-

pecting it, especially not after they'd just honoured the great auteur Béla Tarr minutes before. Gosh I looked like such a kid then, and it was barely 3 years ago. Even then he saw in me something that only he could and entrusted me with the role of Amir which made me realise I have no business second guessing and questioning myself, if I was chosen by him. Thank you for giving me so much to remember and setting the foundation of my journey in films so beautifully. Love and respect always, Agha Majidi. P.S- he was feeding the birds and his lil cherubic grandson Roozbeh kept trying to leap out of my arms and

off the ship to fly with the birds I guess ?? that's what we were laughing about..." Beyond the Clouds also starred Malavika Mohanan, Gautam Ghose, GV Sharada and Tannishtha Chatterjee, among others. The movie received a lot of global praise and was screened at various international platforms, including International Film Festival of India. For the portrayal of his character in the 2018 release, Ishaan received several honours, including his first Filmfare Award for Best Debut for the film. On the work front, the actor was last seen in Khaali Peeli. His next project is Phone Bhoot co-starring Katrina Kaif and Siddhant Chaturvedi.

Ludo actor Pearle Maaney reveals daughter's name: 'She's made our lives happier'

New Delhi, Apr 17: Actor Pearle Maaney, who was recently seen in Anurag Basu's Ludo, took to Instagram to reveal the name of her baby daughter. She went on to reveal that her daughter has been named Nila Srinish, and that she has only made

have only become happier and more beautiful. Mommy and daddy loves her so much. Looking forward to a lifetime of adventure together." Explaining why they chose the name for their daughter, she wrote: "When we held her in our arms for the first time,

Bollywood debut with Ludo, in which she was seen playing a Malayali nurse. Pearle was one of the contestants of the widely popular reality show Bigg Boss Malayalam in the past. She's also a popular TV host. She's married to her



their lives happier since her arrival. Sharing a picture of her daughter who was born on March 21, Pearle wrote: "Introducing our baby girl Nila Srinish. It has been 28 days since the arrival of their daughter in this world and that their lives

we felt like we were holding a piece of moon. So precious. Such a dream come true. So pure and it felt so divine. Hence, we wanted to name her after the moon." Best known for her work in Malayalam cinema, Pearle made her

Bigg Boss co-contestant Srinish Aravind. She made her acting debut with 2013 Malayalam film Neelaksham Pachakadal Chuvanna Bhoomi and went on to star in movies such as Njaan, Lohan and Pretham among others.

Sonu Sood Tested Coronavirus Positive

(A.O. Bureau) Mumbai, Apr 17: Bollywood actor Sonu Sood has been tested corona positive. The actor has given this information to the

fans through his social media. Sonu Sood has told me that his corona report is positive but his mood is super positive. In such a situation, it is clear that Sonu



Sood is very positive about it. While giving this information, Sonu Sood posted, Hello friends, I want to inform you that my test positive of Covid 19 has come.

That is why I have quarantined myself. There is nothing to worry, on the contrary, now I will have more time than before to fix your problems.

Mumbai Indians win toss, elect to bat | Delhi Capitals hold edge over Punjab Kings as Nortje set to replace Tom Curran



Chennai, Apr 17: Mumbai Indians (MI) won the toss and elected to bat in their match against SunRisers Hyderabad (SRH) here at the M.A. Chidambaram Stadium on Saturday. While MI brought in Adam Milne for Marco Jansen, SRH made four changes to the eleven that featured in the last match. Left-arm pace bowler Khaleel Ahmed, batsman Virat Singh, left-

arm spinner Abhishek Sharma and off-spinner Mujeeb Ur Rahman have come in for T Natarajan, Wriddhiman Saha, Shahbaz Nadeem and Jason Holder. MI have won one and lost one whereas SRH lost both the matches they have played so far. Mumbai Indians: Rohit Sharma (captain), Quinton de Kock (wicketkeeper), Suryakumar Yadav, Ishan Kishan, Hardik

Pandya, Kieron Pollard, Krunal Pandya, Rahul Chahar, Adam Milne, Jasprit Bumrah, Trent Boult. SunRisers Hyderabad: David Warner (captain), Jonny Bairstow (wicketkeeper), Manish Pandey, Virat Singh, Vijay Shankar, Abhishek Sharma, Abdul Samad, Rashid Khan, Bhuvneshwar Kumar, Mujeeb Ur Rahman, Khaleel Ahmed.

Mumbai, Apr 17: Delhi Capitals skipper Rishabh Pant will aim to display better tactical acumen in Catch-22 situations against a 'blow-hot-blow-cold' Punjab Kings in what promises to be a battle of brittle middle-orders in an IPL match here on Sunday. Both teams are coming into the 'Norther Derby' of IPL after enduring defeats in their previous games but Delhi Capitals are definitely a better side on paper. Pant, relatively inexperienced in terms of IPL captaincy, lost the plot in the last game where he didn't finish his best bowler Ravichandran Ashwin's quota and instead used Tom Curran's friendly medium pacers. As coach Ricky Ponting pointed out, he would expect a better "on his feet" thinking from the young captain. The likely addition of Anrich

Nortje in the playing XI will only bolster Pant's bowling attack which lost its bearings during the last match with Curran's lack of pace on a slow track being cannon fodder for Chris Morris and David Miller. Punjab Kings, on the other hand, suffered an inexcusable batting collapse against Chennai Super Kings with Deepak Chahar's extra bounce and slight seam movement causing the damage. This was after a healthy 200 plus total in the opening game. The nature of the Wankhede track is posing a few questions under lights for top-order batsmen as the last two games have shown with underlying moisture aiding quality fast bowling. So KL Rahul versus Kagiso Rabada and Chris Woakes bowling to Chris Gayle could be as enticing as Prithvi



Shaw encountering the guile of Mohammed Shami and Shikhar Dhawan trying to unsettle a disciplined Arshdeep Singh. Jaydev Unadkat and Rajasthan Royals have shown that despite massive improvements,

there are still some chinks in Shaw's armoury and Arshdeep could be used to expose that. Both teams are top heavy in batting with DC dependant on Shaw, Dhawan and Pant for doing the bulk of scoring while the

same job profile is held by KL Rahul, Chris Gayle and Deepak Hooda in the Punjab line-up. Even the weaknesses of both the teams are pretty similar. If Ajinkya Rahane's lack of power-hitting and Marcus Stoinis' indifferent show is affecting the DC middle-order, Mayank Agarwal's prolonged bad-patch coupled with Nicholas Pooran's susceptibility to short balls over his shoulder are not great news for Punjab either. The middle-orders' struggles in both the dugouts will make it an engrossing contest with DC bowlers expected to hold sway in Nortje's presence. In case of Punjab Kings, save Mohammed Shami, the two high-priced pacers -- Jhye Richardson and Riley Meredith -- haven't exactly set the stage on fire.

Bajrang Punia settles for silver after withdrawal, Ravi Kumar retains title

New Delhi, Apr. 17: Indian wrestler Ravi Kumar Dahiya retained his Asian Championship title with a solid performance but Bajrang Punia settled for a silver medal after withdrawing from the much-awaited final against Takuto Otoguro due to an elbow injury, here on Saturday. Bajrang told PTI that he did not want to aggravate the condition of his right elbow. He said he started feeling the pain during the quarterfinal against Korean Yongseok Jeong. "When I was pulling the Korean, the pain in my right elbow resurfaced. It's the same elbow that I had injured during the World Championship. The coaches advised that I must not take risk so close to the Olympics, so I withdrew," Bajrang said.

Bajrang did not look his usual self but did not face much competition enroute the final. He had no difficulty in getting past Jeong, who hardly attacked in his opening 65kg bout. His first scoring point was a take-down on counter and earned one more for the passivity of his rival. Next for him was Mongolia's Bilguun Sarmandakh, whom he pinned to ensure his passage into the summit clash. Bajrang had lost the 2018 World Championship title clash and last year's Asian Championship final to the Otoguro and could have tested himself against the Japanese but it turned out to be an anti-climactic end to the 65kg competition. Ravi Dahiya, though, gave India the first freestyle gold medal of this edition with



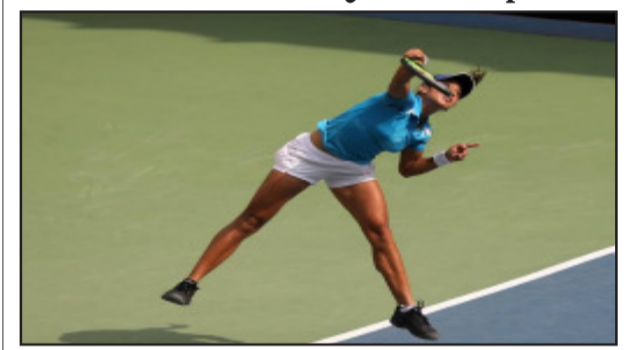
a commanding show. His supreme stamina and relentless attacking prowess was too good for his opponents in the 57kg. He returned to the mat after a year and in style. He had last competed at this event in New Delhi where he had won gold. He was slow off the blocks but became his usual dominant self after the first pe-

nod against Uzbekistan's Nodirjon Safarov in his opening bout. Once he got into his rhythm, his moves were too hot to handle for his rival, as he won 9-2. Ravi had a lot left in his tank even towards the end while Safarov had lost his steam, making it easy for the Indian to score points. Next, he faced Palestine's

Ali MMAburumaila and won on technical superiority. His title clash against Iran's Alireza Nosratollah Sarlak was expected to be a tight one but Ravi only got better and better as the fast-paced final progressed. There were attacks from both the wrestlers but Ravi was clearly the superior one on the mat with his quick moves as he won 9-4. Karan Karan bagged the 70kg bronze medal after winning 3-1 against Korea's Seungbong Lee. He had reached the quarters with a hard-fought 3-1 win over Iran's Amirhossein Ali Hosseini but lost the next bout 0-6 to Syrbaz Talgat from Kazakhstan. Later he got into medal round through the repechage route. Also

reaching the medal rounds were Narsingh Pancham Yadav (74kg) and Satywart Kadiyan (97kg), who will fight for bronze after losing their respective semifinals. Kadiyan moved to the 97kg quarterfinals with an easy 8-0 win over Kyrgyzstan's Arslanbek Turdubekov. He scored two points in the first period with push out while the rest were through take-down moves in the second as his rival hardly attacked. In the quarterfinal against Uzbekistan's Mukhammadasul Rakhimov, he played smart to win 4-1. He then faced Iran's Ali Khalil Shabanibengar and lost the semifinal by technical superiority in mere 25 seconds.

Billie Jean King Cup: Ankita Raina's defeat sends India back to regional competition



New Delhi, Apr 17: Ankita Raina's gallant fight ended in agony yet again as her defeat against world number 47 Anastasiya Sevastova in the must-win Play-offs match on Saturday sent the Indian team back to the Asia/Oceania Group of the Billie Jean King Cup. After her phenomenal fight against 2017 French Open champion Jelena Ostapenko

on Friday, the India number one again showed stomach for fight against superior players but Sevastova sealed the match to give her side an unassailable 3-0 lead. Ranked 174, Ankita lost the first reverse singles match 0-6 6-7(5) to Sevastova, who had got the better of legendary Serena Williams in her team's previous tie against the USA.

Pakistan cricket players will get visas for World T20 in India: BCCI apex council



New Delhi, Apr 17: Pakistan's cricket players will get visas to compete in the T20 World Cup in India this October, the BCCI's apex council has been told by Board secretary Jay Shah following "government assurances". Shah told the council in a video conference meeting held on Friday where it was also decided that the mega-event will be staged across nine venues with Ahmedabad's

Narendra Modi Stadium hosting the final. The other venues are Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Dharamsala and Lucknow. "The visa issue of Pakistan cricket team has been sorted. However, whether the fans can travel across the border to watch matches is still not clear," an Apex Council member told PTI on conditions of anonymity. "It will be decided in due course of

time. However, we had promised ICC that it will be sorted. The secretary announced during the meeting." India and Pakistan have not played bilateral cricket for close to a decade now due to diplomatic tensions between the two countries. Pakistan has been demanding assurances from the ICC that visas will be granted to its players for the 16-team extravaganza, which will complete seven editions this year.

Dhoni is the heartbeat of CSK, says coach Fleming

Mumbai, Apr 17: Chennai Super Kings head coach Stephen Fleming has called skipper Mahendra Singh Dhoni the team's heartbeat and said the desire to do well even after playing 200 matches is a testament to his attitude towards the game and the franchise. Dhoni has been leading the side since the inaugural edition of the league in 2008. "His longevity has to be mentioned and appreciated... To play 200 games and still have a desire to do well is a testament to his attitude towards the game and franchise," Fleming said after CSK beat Punjab Kings by six wickets win in the ongoing IPL here on Friday. "I think the franchise has grown and MS has grown with it, so it is a great relationship and great fun," the former New Zealand skipper added. Terming Dhoni the heartbeat of

CSK, Fleming said, "He is the heartbeat of CSK, there's no doubt about it. Whether it's performance, guidance or leadership, you run out of things to say about him." He said the manner in which the team bounced back after the first game was impressive and praised Man of the Match Deepak Chahar for his efforts (4/13). "Really impressed with the way he bounced back after the first game. Without doubt, when Deepak gets a little bit of swing and a little bit of movement, he is one of the finest around. His ability to swing the ball is one. But his control and skill set is also very high. "The key is keeping him simple in his plans and just operating in and around the stumps. He is very effective when the ball swings. A great bounce back from a below par performance in the first



game." Fleming also said the toss was crucial, days after the team had failed to create any opportunities in their opening game against Delhi Capitals. "We felt within ourselves that the conditions transpired against us with the drizzle and the dew (in

the first game). We weren't able to create any opportunities. So the challenge was laid down to the bowlers' group as to how they were going to operate in today's conditions." The CSK coach backed opener Ruturaj Gaikwad de-

spite the batsman not being able to get going for a second straight match. "I am happy with the balance we have got in the team. Ruturaj (Gaikwad) is a fine player. He got a good ball in the first match and very difficult conditions today. It wasn't a 220-run wicket today. It was much different. "Ruturaj was a player we showed faith in last year, and his talent came through. Our philosophy when we pick players and put them in the team is to back them. This combination (Ruturaj-Faf du Plessis) is simply that," he added. Fleming said the playing XI would also depend on the conditions, which are not straightforward, adding he was encouraged with the way the team played. "Well, it was the best 11 when you put in a performance like this, then it's hard to argue. But yeah, we only have one.

Wearing Of Facemasks Compulsory In Trains & Station Premises



Bhubaneswar, Apr 17: In view of upsurge in Covid-19 cases, Railway administration has appealed the General public, especially the Train passengers and rail users to follow COVID appropriate behaviour by means of wearing face masks compulsorily while in Station premises and in trains during their journey.

Unmasked Passengers In Trains & Station Premises To Be Fined

gienic/unclean conditions which may cause danger to public life. Hence to ensure wearing of masks by all persons at railway premises and trains, Railways will impose fines of up to Rs 500 from persons not wearing masks in railway premises and trains. As per the guidelines issued by Ministry of Health & Family Welfare Department and Home Department,

'Jaadu Ginni Ka' - Vi CSR's financial literacy program, to reach 'Gali-Gali Gaon-Gaon' with CSC Van flag off

(A.O. Bureau) Bhubaneswar, Apr 17: Smt. Aparajita Sarangi, Hon'ble Member of Parliament from Bhubaneswar, Orissa today, flagged off the PMGDISHA 'Gali-Gali Gaon-Gaon' van in Bhubaneswar to promote financial literacy under Vodafone Idea Foundation's 'Jaadu Ginni Ka' program.

part of the Government of India's larger 'Financial Inclusion' vision, leading telecom operator, Vi has been driving the Jaadu Ginni Ka program through its CSR arm - Vodafone Idea Foundation, in association with Learning Links Foundation, and supported by CSC. The flagship program on financial literacy 'Jaadu Ginni Ka' is being undertaken in 21 districts of 16 states in the country.

Ka women beneficiaries have been the integral part and we've seen great impact in their lives with financial awareness. We are thankful to Smt. Aparajita Sarangi, Mem-

- Smt. Aparajita Sarangi, Member of Parliament - Bhubaneswar, flagged off the van to promote financial literacy in the region
Over the past 3 years, the program has reached out to over 10 million Indians - almost half of them are women



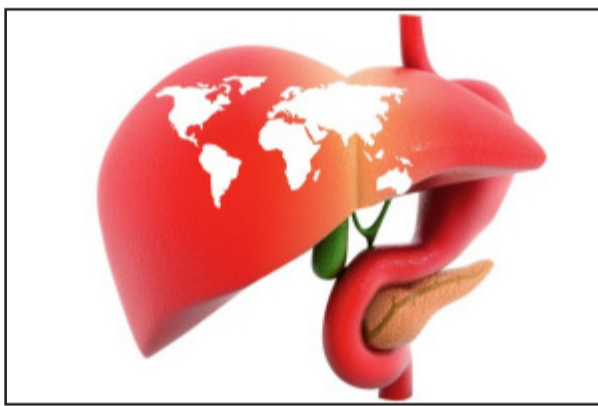
ber of Parliament in Bhubaneswar for flagging off the initiative and our partners Vodafone Idea Foundation and CSC Academy for all their support Talking at the event, Mr. P Balaji, Chief Regulatory and Corporate Affairs Officer, Vodafone Idea Ltd. spoke about Vi's commitment towards the betterment of the society through the use of technology, and how this ini-

tiative would enable people to be aware and well-informed on financial literacy, financial management and financial well-being. Mr. P. Balaji said, "In line with our objective to promote inclusivity in the society and to support Government's endeavour to boost financial literacy, we are delighted to flag-off our CSR initiative 'Jaadu Ginni Ka' in Bhubaneswar via Gali-Gali Gaon-Gaon mobile van. 'Jaadu Ginni Ka' provides an innovative technology led learning which empowers people with basic financial skills to help them in their daily lives. The initiative has positively impacted over 10 million Indians across 16 states with half of them being women. We plan to further expand our Gali-Gali Gaon-Gaon project in many more districts and communities in our association with CSC Academy."

World Liver Day: Treatment disruption for liver patients during Covid-19 can be fatal

Expert from CARE Hospital urges patients not to delay treatment and get regular check-ups Bhubaneswar: On the occasion of World Liver Day, experts from CARE Hospital led by DrDebasis Misra, Gastroenterologist, CARE Hospital, Bhubaneswar said that patients suffering from liver diseases should not delay treatment and that the disruption in treatment due to the restrictions imposed by Covid-19 paired with fear of contracting infection can prove to be fatal for liver patients.

protect themselves from getting infected by the virus," said DrDebasis. Reports from all over the globe state that patients with pre-existing diseases are at a greater risk of developing serious Covid-19 infection. However, data also suggests that hospitals around the world including India have noted approximately 50% decrease in the patients visiting hospitals since the outbreak of the pandemic. Explaining the situation, DrDebasis said, "According to a Report by NCBI, patients with advanced liver disease and those living with liver transplants represent vulnerable patient cohorts with an increased risk of infection and/or a severe course of COVID-



19. In addition, the current pandemic requires unusual allocation of healthcare resources which may negatively impact the care of patients with chronic liver disease that continue to require medical attention." "People with suppressed immune systems due to immunosuppressive medication, people over the age of 60, people with other comorbidities such as diabetes or as

a component of other illnesses are at elevated risk of contracting the infection along with having a more severe disease. Some liver disease patients have several of the abovementioned concurrent conditions like diabetes, thus increasing susceptibility," he added. Avoiding treatment or delaying it further may increase the risk of being infected by COVID-19 or will deteriorate the liver con-

dition further. Therefore, it is important to emphasize that people suffering from liver diseases should not delay treatment any further. DrDebasis concluded "The biggest concern is that despite having serious liver conditions, patients have been delaying treatments which will deteriorate their health further. At CARE hospitals, our patients' health and safety are of utmost importance and the hospital is committed to adhering to all the necessary infection control protocols to warrant their safety and good health. Having said this, we urge liver patients not to defer visits any longer and let us help them take care of their liver."

OFFICE OF THE REGULATED MARKET COMMITTEE SARGIPALI, SUNDARGARH

INVITATION OF BIDS THROUGH E-PROCUREMENT

TENDER CALL NOTICE NO. 219, DATED 13.04.2021 BID IDENTIFICATION NO. 01/2020-21

The office of the R.M.C. Sargipali, Sundargarh invites percentage rate bids in single cover system on online mode from eligible contractors for execution of the different works under RMC Sargipali. The details of which are available at e-procurement portal www.tenderorissa.gov.in from 19.04.2021. The interested tenderers are advised to visit the above website for submission of e-tender.

Tenders will be closed at 5.00 PM on 28.04.2021.

Sd/- Collector, Sundargarh-cum-Chairman R.M.C. Sargipali, Sundargarh

Advertisement for 'ଶେତ ଯୋଗରୀ ଯୋଜନା ଅନ୍ତର୍ଗତ' (Sheeta Yojana) with details on dates (9.04.2021 to 9.04.2021) and a table of rates for different categories of work.

Dushyant Chautala writes to PM Modi, says resume talks with farmers

New Delhi, Apr 17: Haryana Deputy Chief Minister Dushyant Chautala has written to Prime Minister Narendra Modi urging him to resume talks with farmers who are protesting at Delhi's borders, and reach an "amicable conclusion" to the impasse over the farm laws. In a letter dated April 15, Chautala appealed to the Prime Minister to constitute a committee of three to four senior cabinet ministers to resume talks with the agitating farmers. "Every problem has a solution by way of mutual discussion,"

Chautala wrote. "Our Annadattas are on the roads at the Delhi border, agitating in respect of the newly enacted three farm laws of the central government... It is a matter of concern that such an agitation has been going on for over 100 days," Chautala said. On Friday, Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar urged farmers to call off their protest and return home in view of the second Covid-19 wave. "Farmers are protesting at several places. It is their democratic right."

Advertisement for Dalmia Cement featuring the slogan 'FUTURE TODAY' and an image of a Dalmia cement bag. Text includes: 'Tomorrow is not going to be like today. Because we're building a world that's stronger, loftier, grander. The science of construction is changing fast. And Dalmia Cement Future Labs is at the forefront, creating better processes and advanced materials. The technology we have developed is already at work. In nuclear plants. New-age dams. Airstrips that set faster. And millions of homes built with a smaller carbon footprint. While the world dreams of a beautiful tomorrow, we're already there - building it brick by brick, and bond by bond. So what you get in a bag of Dalmia Cement is not only the finest quality, but also the shape of tomorrow's world.'