

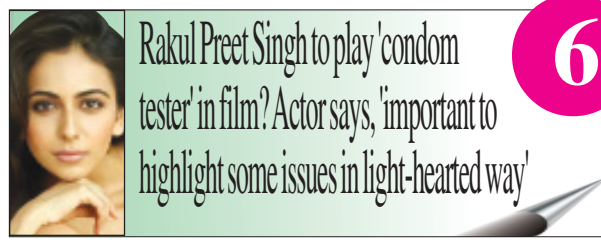
J&K police officer Davinder Singh, arrested by NIA in terror case, dismissed from service

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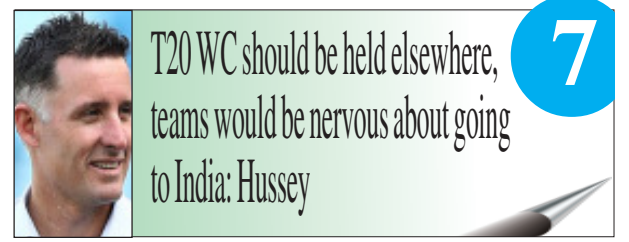
There Has Been Significant Rise In Cyber Crime Activity During Pandemic: Odisha DGP

3



Rakul Preet Singh to play 'condom tester' in film? Actor says, 'important to highlight some issues in light-hearted way'

6



T20 WC should be held elsewhere, teams would be nervous about going to India: Hussey

7

Collect data on children infected with Covid-19: PM Modi to district officials



New Delhi, May 20: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday urged district officials to collect data on children being infected with COVID-19. He also urged the district officials to guard against Covid vaccine wastage, saying “even single dose going waste denies someone protection shield.” Describing the virus as “dhoort” and “bahurupia” in Hindi, Modi in an interaction with district magistrates (DM) and field officials also underlined concerns expressed in various quarters about the threats it poses to the youth and children. “Due to coronavirus mutations, there have been more concerns about youngsters, kids. We will have to be more prepared,” he said, asking officials to

collect data on COVID infection and its seriousness among youth, kids in their districts. On vaccine wastage, PM Modi said that every dose wasted is denying someone protection shield against the disease. “There is the issue of vaccine wastage. When vaccines are delivered to you all, we must ensure there is no wastage. You all must monitor this in both urban and rural areas. Stopping vaccine wastage is critical and you all must ensure that we don’t have any (wastage).” he said. “Coronavirus is invisible and keeps changing variants. Hence, our approach should also be dynamic and upgraded continuously. The virus has made your work more demanding and challenging. In the midst

of new challenges, we need new strategies and solutions. It becomes important to use local experiences and we need to work together as a country,” PM Modi said. On Wednesday, the prime minister had interacted with a few district officials and asked them to be “more vigilant” amid a dip in Covid-19 cases in some states. Saying the “fight is to save every single life”, the Prime Minister described state- and district-level officials as “field commanders” in the “war” against the Covid-19 pandemic and listed out the “weapons” they need to deploy against the virus: local containment zones, aggressive testing and ensuring that people have correct and complete information.

Odisha CM Naveen Patnaik Dedicates Liquid Medical Oxygen Plant At MKCG Hospital

Bhubaneswar, May 20: Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik today dedicated a Liquid Medical Oxygen plant facility at MKCG Medical College in Berhampur on virtual platform. The LMO plant built at a cost of Rs 2 crore has a production capacity of 20 thousand litres. Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Minister expressed hope that it would help reduce pressure on oxygen cylinders in the MKCG Medical College and Hospital that caters to the needs of south Odisha districts, particularly Ganjam. Assuring that the Government is taking all pos-

sible measures to save precious lives, the Chief Minister said the oxygen supply management is being monitored on an hourly-basis. He added that the state is further strengthening oxygen management through purchase of oxygen cylinders, establishment of oxygen generating facilities and deployment of LMO containers. To plan for future oxygen requirement and management, a taskforce has also been set up, the CM indicated. Thanking the people for the cooperation in the fight against pandemic, Patnaik expressed hope that together, we



can contain the virus and come back to normalcy sooner. The Chief Minister appreciated the role of the people of Ganjam in community involvement in checking the pandemic. Among others,

Minister Health and Family Welfare Naba Kishore Das, MP Berhampur Chandrasekhar Sahu, MLA Berhampur Bikram Panda, Secretary to Chief Minister VK Pandian, Chief

Advisor R. Balakrishnan, WODC Chairman Asit Tripathy, Chief secretary Suresh Mohapatra, ACS Health PK Mohapatra and other senior officials were present in the meeting.

Odisha To Spend Rs 164 Crore For E-Hospital Management Information System

Bhubaneswar, May 20: In order to streamline and strengthen quality public health service delivery to the people of the State, Odisha Health and Family Welfare Department is going to implement OeHMIS (Odisha e-Hospital Management Information System) in all Government Medical Colleges. In order to streamline and strengthen quality public health service delivery to the people of the State, Odisha Health and Family Wel-

fare Department is going to implement OeHMIS (Odisha e-Hospital Management Information System) in all Government Medical Colleges. The management system will also be implemented at Acharya Harihar Post Graduate Institute of Cancer and Sishu Bhawan in Cuttack, Capital Hospital in Bhubaneswar, 31 District Headquarters Hospitals and 106 Urban primary health centres (PHCs) of the State. “This digital technology-

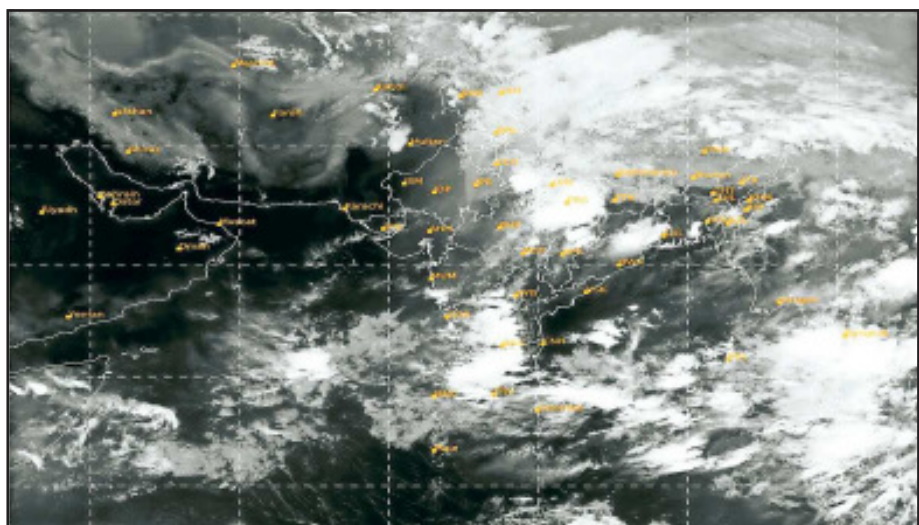
enabled solution which will boost public health core and administration is a part of 5T initiative of Government and also under the “Sustha Odisha-Sukhi Odisha” vision of the Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik,” said a government statement. The main objective of the project, as stated by the department is to streamline the treatment flow of the patients in the hospitals while allowing doctors and other staff to perform as per their peak

ability in an optimized and efficient manner. It will also help in decision support system of the hospital authorities for developing comprehensive health care policies. The project will cover various health services as patient registration, emergency registration, patient enquiry, patient billing, ADT (Bed Management), OPD with order management, IPD management system, investigation of lab, MRD, OT & Anaesthesia, laundry, BMED,

diet kitchen, Transport and CSSD. “Government has already earmarked 163.38 Crores for successful implementation of the project in the State. After functionalization of the project in the designated hospitals, I am sure this will boost quality public health service and overall administration of hospital and optimum utilization of doctors, staff towards dispensing service delivery,” the government statement added.

Another cyclone on way, may hit West Bengal or Odisha next week

New Delhi, May 20: The satellite image of Bay of Bengal on Wednesday. A low-pressure will develop close to the north Andaman Sea around May 22, according to IMD. Top state officials Wednesday met district administrations along the coastal belt, alerting them on a cyclonic storm developing over gangetic West Bengal and likely to make land-fall over the next two to three days. Officials at the India Meteorological Department (IMD) on Wednesday afternoon said that a low-pressure system could take birth within the next 48 hours and it holds the potential to intensify into a cyclone. This system will develop close to the north Andaman Sea around May 22 and reach either Odisha or West Bengal by the evening of May 26. If realised, this storm will be the second to form in 2021 and the first over the Bay of Bengal



this year. Once the cyclone forms, it will acquire the name Yaas, given by Oman. The state meteorological department has already put an alert saying, “A low pressure area is very likely to form over (the) North Andaman Sea and adjoining East Central Bay of Bengal around 22nd May, 2021. It is very likely to intensify gradually into a Cyclonic Storm during the subsequent 72 hours. It is very likely to move northwest-wards and reach West Bengal – Odisha coasts around 26th May, 2021

evening.” The Met office further said, “Light to moderate rainfall at most places with heavy falls at isolated places very likely to commence in the coastal districts of West Bengal from 25th evening with significant increase in spatial extension and intensity subsequently over the districts of Gangetic West Bengal. Squally wind speed reaching 45–55 kmph gusting to 65 kmph is likely to prevail over Andaman Sea & adjoining East-central Bay of Bengal on 23rd May. It is very likely to increase becoming 50–

60 kmph gusting to 70 kmph from 23rd May and further becoming Gale wind speed during 24th – 26th May over major parts of central Bay of Bengal and into North Bay of Bengal and along & off Odisha – West Bengal – Bangladesh coasts during 25th – 27th May.” The weather report further said conditions will be “rough to very rough over Andaman Sea & adjoining East Central Bay of Bengal on 23rd May, high to very high over major parts of Central Bay of Bengal during 24th – 26th May

and into North Bay of Bengal and along & off Odisha – West Bengal coasts during 25th – 27th May”. With the sea conditions turning rough in the coming days, the fishermen have been warned against venturing into the sea from May 21 onwards. Those at sea are advised to return to safety before May 23. The state government has already directed district administrations to haul back all the trawlers that have already gone to sea for fishing. It has also sought heightened vigilance on the situation at Hingalgunj and Sandeshkhali sub-divisions. Leaves of employees in the concerned government departments have been cancelled. Even though there is a storm brewing close by, ocean and atmospheric conditions are favourable for the advancement of the South-west monsoon over the south Andaman Sea on May 21, the IMD said.

Pinarayi Vijayan sworn in as Kerala Chief Minister for the second time



Kochi, May 20: Senior CPM leader Pinarayi Vijayan took oath as the chief minister of Kerala for the second time at the Central Stadium in Thiruvananthapuram on Thursday. Governor Arif Muhammad Khan administered the oath of

office. A maximum of 500 persons in attendance were allowed at the venue keeping with the Covid protocols. Vijayan is the first chief minister in the history of the state to be re-elected to power after a full five-year term. C Achutha

Menon of the CPI had a consecutive term in power in the past, but it was not a five-year term. Vijayan will lead a 21-member cabinet consisting of members from CPM, CPI, KC(M), JDS, NCP, DKC and INL.

Playback Singer Tapu Mishra Hospitalised

Bhubaneswar, May 20: Noted playback Singer Tapu Mishra has been undergoing treatment at a private hospital in Bhubaneswar since Wednesday evening. Mishra reportedly tested positive for Covid-19 few days back and was in home isolation. When Mishra’s condition deteriorated last

evening, her family members took her to the private hospital. Currently, she has been admitted to the ICU of the hospital. Tapu Mishra has won numerous accolades and recognitions for her melodious voice. Mishra’s father passed away on May 10 after being infected with Covid-19.

Telangana declares black fungus a notifiable disease after Centre's nudge

New Delhi, May 20: State minister and TRS president K T Rama Rao took to Twitter to share a format and said that anyone requiring medicines for black fungus can send an official email request to the director of medical education and the superintendent of the ENT hospital at the Gandhi General Hospital. The Telangana government on Thursday declared Mucormycosis, commonly known as the black fungus, a notifiable disease under the Epidemic Diseases Act 1897. The move came soon after the Union health ministry sent a directive to the states and the Union territories earlier in the day on the fungal infection. A notifiable disease is a disease that needs to be notified by



medical practitioners to the government in a prescribed format within three days or in case of urgency, within 24 hours. According to the notification, all government-run and private healthcare facilities will be required to follow the guidelines for screening, diagnosis and management of Mucormycosis as issued by the Centre and the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR). The state health department also

made the failure to report such cases of Mucormycosis a punishable offence. Meanwhile, state minister and TRS president K T Rama Rao took to Twitter to share a format and said that anyone requiring medicines for black fungus can send an official email request to the director of medical education and the superintendent of the ENT hospital at the Gandhi General Hospital, which has been designated as the

nodal centre for the treatment of the condition. Once the disease has been made notifiable, failure to report it is treated as a criminal offence. Black fungus is a condition seen in some patients who have recovered from coronavirus disease (Covid-19). The disease can lead to blackening or discoloration over the nose, blurred or double vision, chest pain, breathing difficulties and coughing of blood. Making a disease notifiable helps governments monitor the geographical spread of the disease and devise containment strategies. In case of highly infectious disease, a prompt notification often allows for close surveillance of the disease and gives authorities time and data to plan,

monitor and prevent further spread of the disease. The black fungus is caused by the steroid administered in the treatment of Covid-19 infection. In the past, the Centre had declared several diseases such as AIDS, cholera, dengue, tuberculosis etc., as notifiable diseases. Although the total number of black fungus cases in the state could not be immediately verified by the Hindustan Times, according to local media the cases of the disease are being reported from Adilabad, Khammam and Rajanna Sircilla districts. Meanwhile, Andhra Pradesh has recorded cases of Mucormycosis from Visakhapatnam, Srikakulam, Guntur, West Godavari and Kurnool districts.

ULFA-I to release abducted ONGC employee after Himanta Biswa Sarma's appeal

Guwahati, May 20: Ritul Saikia was among the three ONGC employees abducted by the banned ULFA-I on April 21 from Assam's Sivasagar district. The other two ONGC employees were rescued by security forces after a gunfight with the group.

Guwahati: Banned assistant, was abducted along with two colleagues, Mohini Mohan Gogoi (junior engineer assistant) and Alakesh Saikia (junior technician), from ONGC's workover rig site in Sivasagar district of Assam on April 21. Alakesh Saikia and Mohini Mohan Gogoi were rescued three days

companies, ONGC, Oil India Limited and Indian Oil Corporation Limited that included a demand for 95% quota in jobs for indigenous residents of Assam. The chief minister appeared to respond to this demand at his Press conference on Thursday, underlining that people often forget how Assam benefited



United Liberation Front of Asom-Independent (ULFA-I) on Thursday said it will release Ritul Saikia, an employee of Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) abducted from Assam last month, within the next four days. The outfit's move came minutes after Assam chief minister Himanta Biswa Sarma made an appeal at a Press conference to ULFA-I chief Paresh Baruah. "Saikia's parents, his wife and infant son are very distressed since his abduction. As an Assamese, it is my humble request to Paresh Baruah to release him at the earliest," Sarma said. Saikia, a junior engineer

later by security forces from Nagaland, close to the Indo-Myanmar border, in a joint operation. On Tuesday, Baruah had confirmed that Saikia was still in the outfit's custody and was safe. Himanta Biswa Sarma has said Saikia was being kept at a location in Myanmar close to the border with India. Chief minister Sarma said he considers reports of ULFA-I chief's promise as a positive step. "But I will be able to give a formal response only after I hear what Baruah has said," he said. Soon after the abduction, ULFA-I had issued a seven-point list of demands to three major oil

due to the petroleum companies. The state earns ₹18,000 crore from the oil sector annually and anyone who wants the sector to contribute more to Assam should hold discussions with the state government which can raise it with the Centre. "As the CM, it will be my government's task to ensure that these companies do more for the state in coming years," he added. "If this sector is targeted, our state's economic backbone will be broken," said Sarma. The banned insurgent last week announced a three-month unilateral ceasefire and suspension of all operations citing the Covid-19 pandemic.

J&K police officer Davinder Singh, arrested by NIA in terror case, dismissed from service

Jammu, May 20: Davinder Singh was arrested on January 11 in Kulgam. Police officer Davinder Singh, who was arrested and chargesheeted by the NIA in a terror case, was on Thursday dismissed by the Jammu and Kashmir administration, an official order said. Singh was arrested by the Jammu and Kashmir Police in January last year when he was ferrying terrorists of the banned Hizbul Mujahideen to Jammu from Kashmir. The case was investigated by the National Investigation Agency (NIA) who filed a chargesheet against Singh and others. Lt Governor Manoj Sinha ordered

Singh's dismissal from service with "immediate effect" under Article 311 of the Constitution. The chargesheet said he had saved the number of his contact at the Pakistan High Commission as "Pak Bhai" (Pakistani brother). The contact had been giving him various tasks which included deployment of forces and arrival of "VIPs" in the Kashmir valley. After having committed himself to Hizbul Mujahideen, Singh was asked by his Pakistani handler to establish a contact in the Ministry of External Affairs so that espionage activities could be carried out there. Besides Singh, others named in the



chargesheet are self-styled commander of the Hizbul Mujahideen terror group Syed Naveed Mushtaq alias Naveed Babu, his brother Syed Irfan Ahmad as well as the group's alleged underground worker Irfan Shafi Mir, alleged accomplice Rafi Ahmad Rather and businessman

Tanveer Ahmad Wani, a former president of the Line of Control Traders Association. Singh was arrested on January 11 this year along with Naveed Babu, Rather and Mir, an advocate, when their car was intercepted by the Jammu and Kashmir Police near Qazigund on the national

highway that connects the valley with the rest of the country. A search of the vehicle led to the recovery of an AK-47 rifle, three pistols and a cache of ammunition and explosives. The NIA took over the case on January 17. Singh used his own vehicle for the movement of the Hizbul Mujahideen terrorists and also assured them help in procuring weapons, the NIA alleged. Investigations show that the accused were obtaining weapons and ammunition from across the border with the help of arms smugglers and Singh. These weapons were later used for terrorist activities, it said.

Govt says it aims to ramp up daily testing capacity for COVID to 45 lakh by June-end

New Delhi, May 20: Agarwal further said that there are 89 districts where a decreasing trend in cases is being noted and there are 123 districts where a decreasing trend in case positivity is being observed for last 3 weeks. The government aims to ramp up India's daily testing capacity for COVID-19 to 45 lakh by end of June from the

Pune, ICMR Director General Balram Bhargava said kits by three more companies are in pipeline and likely to get the approval within a week. Bhargava said kits for home testing will be available in market in 3-4 days. Besides, Bhargava said for ramping up capacity the ICMR has validated more than 105 Rapid Antigen Tests compa-

31 of them are indigenous," he said. Out of the 45 lakh tests, 18 lakh will be RT-PCR, while 27 lakh will be Rapid Antigen Tests. More than 20.55 lakh tests were conducted in a span of 24 hours, the highest ever conducted in a single day in India. He further said all the states have placed the order and they are rapidly enhancing their testing capacity. "For home testing, you buy test kit from chemist shop then download mobile app, register and read user manual and then you conduct the test yourself and click mobile image and upload mobile phone gives test result. This ensures patient confidentiality, the data stored in secure server and linked with ICMR database," he said. In large cities, Bhargava said focus was mainly on RT PCR which is the standard test but in district level the backbone of testing has been TrueNAT and CBNAAT, while in rural areas RAT is the backbone of testing.



current capacity of 16-20 lakh per day, the Centre said on Thursday as a record 20.55 lakh tests were conducted in a span of 24 hours. On augmenting testing for COVID-19 while ICMR has so far approved a home-based rapid antigen testing (RAT) kit manufactured by Mylab Discovery Solutions Ltd,

nies and approved 41 of them. "We are doing 16-20 lakh tests this week and we have a capacity of about 20 lakh tests by end of the month and upto the end of next month we can have the capacity of upto 45 lakh because ICMR has validated more than 105 RAT companies and approved 41 of them and

CM Yogi wants change in guidelines to compensate kin of UP staff who died of Covid-19 during panchayat poll

Lucknow, May 20: Under pressure from teachers and employees associations, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has directed the State Chief Secretary as well as Additional Chief Secretary (Panchayati Raj) to find ways to compensate the kin of those who lost their lives due to Covid-19 during the recent Panchayat poll. The directions were given during the review meeting chaired by Adityanath on Thursday with team-9 formed for Covid management and control. Additional Chief Secretary (Information) Navneet Sehgal told indianexpress.com, "The Chief Minister directed the Chief Secretary as well as Additional Chief Secretary (Panchayati



Raj) to hold discussions with State Election Commission and find ways to compensate such teachers and employees, who lost their lives due to Covid." "While government is considerate towards the employees, they should remember that SEC guidelines were prepared before Covid-19 pandemic and it was felt there was a need for

changes. The government officials and SEC officials would sit and find a way out soon," Navneet added. It may be recalled that teachers and employees associations had threatened to strike work alleging that government observation on poll duty deaths due to Covid was flawed. While the government claimed that only three teachers died

of Covid during poll duty, teachers and employees associations said the election period covers the time between when individual leaves for electoral work, undergo training and goes home after the election duty. The Basic Education Teachers Association had claimed the actual figure of deaths to be more than 1600. Two

days back, in Badaun, two girls protested outside the residence of the District Magistrate with the body of their father lying in an ambulance. They claimed that their father died of Covid during poll duty. The school-going girls claimed that their father was the only earning member in the family and was serving as a head teacher at the local government primary school. "Our father did poll duty on April 19 and developed symptoms later by April end. Despite admitting him to different hospitals, he lost the battle to Covid on May 18. We wanted his death to be considered as one polling officer who died of Covid during panchayat election duty," the girls said.

Atrocities case not to pressurise ex-CP to withdraw complaint against Anil Deshmukh: Cop to Bombay HC

Mumbai, May 20: Inspector Bhimrao Ghadge filed an affidavit in the Bombay High Court on Thursday, saying his case under the Atrocities Act lodged against former Mumbai police chief Param Bir Singh was not to pressurise him to withdraw his complaint against ex-Maharashtra minister Anil

Deshmukh. Ghadge filed the affidavit through his advocate S B Talekar, opposing Singh's petition seeking to quash the FIR registered against the former Mumbai police commissioner. The inspector alleged that Singh has defamed the police force by indulging in corrupt practices during his entire

service career. Last week, a vacation bench of the HC posted Singh's petition for hearing on May 21. The Maharashtra government had then assured the court that it would not arrest Singh till May 21. Singh in his petition filed earlier this month claimed he was being targeted by the

Maharashtra government with false criminal cases as a backlash of a letter he wrote in March this year to Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray, in which he levelled corruption allegations against Deshmukh. Ghadge in his affidavit termed Singh's claim as "imaginary, concocted and fictional".

Due To Very Poor Occupancy & To Break The Chain Of Covid19 Infection Cases

(A.O. Bureau)
Bhubaneswar, May 20: To break the chain of Covid19 infection and for very poor patronisation, it has been decided to cancel some more trains from ECoR jurisdiction including local MEMU/ Passenger Trains. Rajdhani Special Trains from Bhubaneswar will run Twice in a week instead of earlier daily up to 31 May, 2021. 02823 Bhubaneswar-New Delhi Rajdhani Express Special via Tata will run on Tuesdays from Bhubaneswar up to 31st May, 2021. Remaining days of this train will remain cancelled w.e.f. 21st May, 2021. 02824 New Delhi-Bhubaneswar Rajdhani Express Special via Tata will run on Wednesdays from New Delhi during the period. Remaining days of this



train will remain cancelled up to 1st June, 2021. 02825/02826 Bhubaneswar-New Delhi-Bhubaneswar Rajdhani Express Special via Adra from Bhubaneswar will run on Sundays and from New Delhi will run on Mondays during the period. This train will remain cancelled on 26th May from Bhubaneswar and on 28th May, 2021 from New Delhi. 0 2 8 5 5 / 0 2 8 5 6 Bhubaneswar-New Delhi-Bhubaneswar

Rajdhani Express Special via Sambalpur City & Rourkela will remain cancelled on 22nd & 29th May, 2021 from Bhubaneswar and on 23rd & 30th May, 2021 from New Delhi. Other trains cancelled during the period are as follows: A. 02882/02881 Bhubaneswar-Pune-Bhubaneswar Special from Bhubaneswar on 25th May and from Pune on 27th May, 2021 will remain cancelled. B. 0 2 0 9 7 / 0 2 0 9 8

Bhubaneswar-Junagarh Road-Bhubaneswar Special from Bhubaneswar between 21st to 31st May and from Junagarh Road between 22nd May to 1st June, 2021 will remain cancelled. C. 0 8 4 3 3 / 0 8 4 3 4 Bhubaneswar-Palasa-Bhubaneswar Special from both the directions from 21st May to 31st May, 2021 will remain cancelled. D. 08301/08302 Sambalpur-Rayagada-Sambalpur Special from both the di-

rections from 21st May to 31st May, 2021 will remain cancelled. E. 02892/02891 Bhubaneswar-Bangiriposi-Bhubaneswar Special from Bhubaneswar from 21st to 31st May and from Bangiriposi from 22nd May to 1st June, 2021 will remain cancelled. F. 0 8 4 9 3 / 0 8 4 9 4 Bhubaneswar-Balangir-Bhubaneswar Special from Bhubaneswar from 21st May to 31st May, 2021 from both the directions will remain cancelled.

After Padma Vibhusan Raghunath Mohapatra, His Two Sons Die In 2 Days

Bhubaneswar, May 20: COVID-19 turned out to be the cruelest for the family of eminent sculptor Padma Vibhushan Raghunath Mohapatra as the virus claimed lives of him and his two sons in just 12 days. While Raghunath and his son Prashant died on May 9 and May 19, respectively, his eldest son Jashobant succumbed to the virus at around 1 PM today. He was 52. Last night, his condition worsened and he was shifted to SUM COVID Hospital from AIIMS here. "Jashobanta was shifted to the SUM COVID Hospital yesterday in a critical stat. He passed away today in spite of all efforts of the medical team," said



hospital sources. Raghunath and his two sons — Prashant and Jashobant — were admitted to AIIMS here for COVID-19 treatment on April 22. On April 25, Raghunath was shifted to ICU of the AIIMS. On May 9, 2021, he breathed his last while undergoing treatment. He was 78.

The state government should issue a white paper on immunization: the Indian Citizens' Party

(A.O. Bureau)
Bhubaneswar, May 20: As the number of coronary infections and deaths rises, piles of firewood in cemeteries and the burning of hundreds of firewood have created fear and panic in Odisha. The people of the state are

skeptical of the Odisha government regarding the vaccination. In a press statement, Ramesh Raut, president of the Indian Citizens' Party, demanded that the BJP government in Odisha issue a white paper on the immunization of all Orissans, including children.

There Has Been Significant Rise In Cyber Crime Activity During Pandemic: Odisha DGP



(A.O. Bureau)
Bhubaneswar, May 20: The Odisha Police has collected whopping Rs 9.84 crore fine for Covid guideline violations in the State since April 1. This was informed by DGP Abhay at a presser here today. He further added action has been taken against 3,16,682 persons for violation of the Covid protocol. A total of 2,180 shops and markets were either sealed or shut for the norm violations.

As many as 821 persons have been arrested since April 1 for not adhering to the norms. Cautioning against fraud websites seeking personal information in the name of Covid vaccine registration, the DGP asked people of the State not to provide their data to any platform other than www.cowin.gov.in, Umang app and Aarogya Setu App for vaccine registration. The three web-based platforms have

been developed by the Government of India. There has been a considerable increase in cyber crimes during the Covid pandemic, the DGP added. Some websites claim to provide Covid medicine and oxygen support and asked for pre-payment. People are required to be cautious about them and cross-check their truthfulness, Abhay added. Callers in the name of providing telemedicine, selling Covid cure drugs also try to extract personal information. Similarly, some fraud e-commerce websites ask for pre-payment for home delivery. User of such websites should cross check so that they don't get duped, the DGP added. "Be cautious while sharing personal information.

Take over ODCL for COVID vaccine production: BJP

(A.O. Bureau)
Bhubaneswar, May 20: As Odisha is struggling to get its quota of Covid-19 vaccine from indigenous manufacturers, the State government could upgrade the drug manufacturing unit of Orissa Drugs and Chemicals Limited (ODCL) at Mancheswar here for vaccine production, the BJP has said. A Central public sector undertaking, ODCL, a joint venture between Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Ltd (IDPL) and Industrial Promotion and Investment Corporation of Odisha Limited (IPICOL), has a ready-to-use unit for production of vaccine. "ODCL, which was manufacturing injections, tablets, capsules, liquid orals and ORS till December 2020, re-



quires an investment of Rs 5 crore to make the facility ready for production of vaccine in vial form," said former general manager of the company TK Pradhan. He said the existing facility has the capacity to manufacture 5 lakh doses of vaccine a day and it will be a game-changer if the government decides to invest Rs 10 crore out of which Rs 5 crore is required to buy back 51 per cent (pc) of IDPL share. Set up as joint sector unit in May 1979

with IDPL holding 51 pc equity and IPICOL having the remaining 49 pc share, ODCL started its production in 1984. The company, however, continued to incur loss till Pradhan took over as general manager in 2010. Pradhan, who superannuated on May 10, said the company started making profit from 2011-12 till 2016-17. As IPICOL had shown interest to buy back the 51 pc share of IDCL, the Department of Pharmaceuticals under the

Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers sought the views of the State PSU for taking over ODCL along with its assets and liabilities. Since IPICOL is mandated for industrial promotion and not to do business, the PSU expressed its inability to take over the company. If the State government can provide huge incentives to Bharat Biotech in the shape of land allotment, exemption of stamp duty, capital investment subsidy, interest subsidy for production of Covaxin at Andharua here, investment of Rs 10 crore for ODCL is peanuts, said State BJP vice-president Bhruagu Baxipatra. The BJP leader requested Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik for immediate takeover of ODCL which will go a

long way in meeting the vaccine need of Odisha and other states. Cuttack: Noted biochemistry professor, educationist, medical administrator and researcher Dr Nimai Charan Panda died of old age at his residence in Cuttack on Wednesday. He was 90. Dr Panda was former principal of SCB Medical College and Director of Medical Education and Training. Dr Panda, a writer on science of repute, had also been the president of Odisha Bigyan Prachar Samiti. He was awarded Kalinga Samman-2019 for his contribution to popularise health science. He was also conferred with Gangadhar Rath Smarak Samman-2013 for his contribution in the field of biochemistry.

COVID-19: High reproduction value of virus in 28 districts of Odisha

(A.O. Bureau)
Bhubaneswar, May 20: Even as the test positivity rate continues to remain stable at around 18 per cent (pc) for the last three days, the Covid-19 daily count slightly rose to 11,099 from 10,321 a day before. The disease claimed 21 lives. The latest set of data analysed by a group of epidemiologists suggested that effective reproduction value (R), an indicator of how fast the infection can spread, might have dropped in some districts, it is still more than one in 28 of the 30 districts. While the R-value in Khurda has dropped from 1.67 between April 4 and 13 to 0.95, it has come down from 1.99 between March 31 and



April 13 to 0.91 on Wednesday in Sundargarh. Dhenkanal has the highest R-value of 1.41 followed by Bhadrak (1.36), Malkangiri (1.35), Koraput (1.33), Jagatsinghpur (1.29), Sonapur (1.29), Boudh (1.28), Mayurbhanj (1.27), Balasore (1.26) and Angul (1.26). Among the rest of the districts, it is well below

the 1.2 level. The R-value in eight of the 10 western Odisha districts, where the caseload is more as compared to other regions, is gradually coming down. It indicates that the growth in fresh cases is going to decelerate. Though active cases and daily deaths continue to rise, a reduction in R-value below one in Khurda and Sundargarh indicates

that the infection is likely to spread slower than before. Meanwhile, the State conducted highest 60,510 tests including 17,306 through RT-PCR in last 24 hours bringing down the TPR to below 20 pc. At least 19 districts have TPR higher than the State average between May 11 and 17. Angul topped the chart with 35.8 pc. The TPR was

34 pc in Khurda, 33 pc in Bhadrak, 32.4 pc in Boudh, 32.3 pc in Balasore, 27.8 pc in Sambalpur, 27.3 pc in Nuapada and 26.5 pc in Bargarh. Of the 11,099 fresh cases, Khurda district reported the highest 1,460 followed by Sundargarh (983), Cuttack (867), Angul (552), Sambalpur (547) and Mayurbhanj (507). The State has 95,339 active cases. Meanwhile, the Public Works department on Wednesday ordered exemption of toll tax at toll plazas under the State government for vehicles carrying medical oxygen (tankers and cylinders) to ensure smooth supply to different hospitals and Covid Care facilities. The order will remain in force till July 31.

Black marketing of oxygen: OHRC seeks report

(A.O. Bureau)
Bhubaneswar, May 20: The Odisha Human Rights Commission (OHRC) on Wednesday took note of the alleged black marketing of oxygen and life-saving medicines and sought a report from the State government. The rights panel asked Chief Secretary Suresh Chandra Mahapatra and Additional Chief Secretary of Health department PK Mohapatra to submit the report by June 22. "The Commission is shocked to know that oxygen cylinders and medicines are stated to be sold at a very high price. Everybody knows that we are passing through an unprecedented situation and the people are fighting with life and death due to the pandemic," said OHRC Chairperson Justice BK Patel and member Asim Amitabh Dash. Human civilization is at stake and considering the

gravity of the issue, the Commission has taken suo motu cognizance of the matter and has sought reports from the government, he added. OHRC also directed the department concerned to prevent black marketing of oxygen and life-saving medicines and requested the DGP to ensure that persons indulged in such activities are taken to task immediately. The Commission also requested the Chief Secretary to ensure opening of temporary medical centres (TMCs) in rural areas at the earliest as declared by the government and to follow the advisory issued by the NHRC regarding the cremation of the bodies. Appreciating the steps taken by the government in fixing the rate for ambulance service, the Commission praised various organisations and individuals for providing free oxygen and food to needy persons during the pandemic.



EDITORIAL

Take your time

The news has come that the Phase 2 and 3 trials of Covaxin on children aged 2-18 years will start sometime in the next fortnight. The Bharat Biotech-manufactured vaccine against the raging COVID-19 pandemic will be the first such vaccine to be tested on minors in the country. Owing largely to speculation in social media, there is already the fear prevailing among the masses that the impending third wave of the virulent infection could potentially target mainly the children. Kicking off a minor controversy on the subject, a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) was recently filed in the Delhi High Court, requesting it to stay the vaccine's clinical trial on the minors. However, the court has refused to grant any interim stay on the trial. There has also been the lingering issue of vaccine hesitancy, especially since the initial stages of India's vaccination drive, when people preferred to wait till the last possible moment before going for the anti-COVID shot. Coupled with the doubts on the efficacy of the vaccines, people were also afraid that their elected representatives — largely ahead of the lesser mortals in any queue for any privilege and entitlement in receiving freebies — chose to wait this time around. Adding to their hesitation and discomfiture was Prime Minister Narendra Modi's appeal to the elected representatives to not rush for vaccination. However, the people's fears were allayed when the Prime Minister himself went to the All India Institute of Medical Sciences in the Capital to get the jab. The Hyderabad-based firm's vaccine, among the two main manufactured in India, the other being Covishield, is preferred among the populace. But the main concern to be addressed by the Government and the medical fraternity, including scientists, is that the health of our next generation must not be compromised in any way, at any cost. They are our future and let there be no haste at any level, at any stage, to rush ahead with the vaccination drive. Only when the clinical trials are completed to the satisfaction of the experts and the efficacy of the dose confirmed, should the kids be brought into the vaccination centres. In our hurry to fulfil the promise of inoculating all Indian citizens, we must not forget that it is also equally our responsibility to ensure that the health of the minors takes precedence of everything else.

Live-in a sin?

An open economy and access to technology and the internet not only broaden people's minds but also change how they look at relationships; like ties between a man and a woman that are deemed to be outside of familial, social and cultural contexts, that bring with it no obligations and no responsibility to the people in that relationship. The live-in relationship is one such where a couple lives separately outside of matrimony, often without sanction from their family or society at large. It happens with the condition that there are no conditions upon either the man or the woman. It begins when they are living together. It ends when they walk out. It is neither sin nor a crime though it is called 'living-in sin' in a country where the social institution of marriage is considered the bulwark of legal, ethical and moral relationship between a man and a woman. The emergence of individualisation in a liberalised world has catapulted live-ins to a preferred level of urban existence. Those who are highly individualistic prefer a no-holds-barred relationship, like live-in. Those who are sceptical about a marriage working prefer to live as common law partners. The political and biological freedoms sprouting out of the feminist movement and economic empowerment of women have encouraged them to see live-ins as a platform with equal footing as their male partners. Even bisexual relationships end up in a live-in silo, the partners protecting each other from the orthodoxy of society. It is in this context that a recent decision by a single-judge Bench of the Punjab and Haryana High Court describing the live-in relationship as morally and socially unacceptable comes as a surprise. The Bench of Justice HS Madaan was hearing a petition filed by a 19-year-old woman from Uttar Pradesh and a 22-year-old man from Punjab, currently in an "inter-caste" live-in relationship and seeking protection of their lives and liberty from the woman's family. The judge dismissed the petition saying: "As a matter of fact, the petitioners in the garb of filing the present petition are seeking seal of approval on their live-in relationship, which is morally and socially not acceptable and no protection order in the petition can be passed." For the record, a live-in relationship is not illegal in India. The Supreme Court, in a landmark judgment in the S Khushboo vs Kanniammal case of 2010, stated that a live-in comes within the ambit of the right to life under Article 21, that live-ins are permissible and it is not illegal for two consenting adults living together. In a 2013 judgment in the Indra Sarma vs VKV Sarma case, the apex court said the decision to marry or not marry to have a heterosexual relationship is personal, adding that a live-in is neither a crime nor a sin even though it may not be socially acceptable in India. Justice Madaan was obviously aware of these rulings, for he never said the live-in was legally unacceptable; he stressed on social unacceptability to dismiss the petition.

India is very much a mature democracy

In spite of the noises being made, at home and abroad, the truth is that India under Modi is the most inclusive democracy. Indians are probably among the most argumentative polity by nature, a trait that is seen in full flourish in any functioning democracy. Any sceptic or critic to the contrary in the 'Age of Modi' needs to just observe the memes, jokes and cartoons of the elected leaders on their WhatsApp forwards, which could not be in free-float in a flawed democracy. Or, just peek into the Twitter universe, and read through the first 50 tweets on your timeline to get a feel of the free-for-all views, both pro and anti-establishment. Or, just glance through the editorials of media houses that are democratically empowered enough to maintain an anti-establishment stance. Or, simply channel-hop at the prime time national debates. Amidst the cacophony of newshour debates, does one spot any hint of suppression or repression by the establishment? To the contrary, we may just be guilty of a revelry of 'over-democracy'! The watchdogs of democracy, Freedom House of the US and The Economist's Democracy Index, have displayed a distinctly skewed western bias in unilaterally downgrading the quality of Indian democracy to being "partly free", which is like saying a woman is "partly pregnant". So, what are the fair metrics to gauge freedom of expression? "Should newspapers be allowed to publish cartoons of Prophet Muhammad?" The answer is 'No'. "Does the struggle against terrorism justify the Government reading your emails?" The answer is 'Maybe', as there can be no binaries when the Governments have to combat terrorism.



Bindu Dalmia

"Between Facebook and the Government, do we have any privacy left?" The answer is 'None'. Clearly, in the highest traditions of maintaining plurality, the freedom of expression can never be absolute, but comes with responsibility, self-restraint and subjective interpretations. Let's remember that social media never existed during the time of Indira Gandhi's rule, and was negligible during Sonia Gandhi's proxy rule during the UPA years. Had social media been prevalent, it is anyone's guess if the erstwhile rulers would have permitted such laissez-faire critique as the Modi Government tolerates? Coming to the Centre-State relations in upholding democratic dharma, within India's diverse and complex federal structure, agriculture, education, health and housing are State subjects, so Modi, or any Prime Minister, has to manage multi-polarity through dialogue, discourse and ultimate consensus. This is because the Centre neither has the constitutional powers to, nor can it succeed, in imposing its writ on strong and

well-entrenched, grassroots-level State chieftains of the likes of Uddhav Thackeray, Mamata Banerjee or Naveen Patnaik. The fact that the BJP, which is the world's largest and richest political party with a membership of 150 million, succeeded only partially in increasing its footprint into West Bengal despite a fiercely contested battle, bears testimony to one of the fairest democracies of the world. The second exemplification of conferring too much democracy has been allowing the farmer's agitation to persist since mid-November despite their non-negotiable stance which obstructs fourth-generation reforms. The fact is that a Government with a strong mandate could and should have clamped down hard on such activism. Instead, the Centre ceded excessive ground on issues like hazardous stubble burning being allowed to persist, continuing to subsidise power bills and supporting the MSP on unsustainable water-guzzling crops.... Any lack of democracy here, considering farmers constitute 60 per cent

of India's population? No ranking of democratic metrics can be considered authentic which does not take into account a coherent counter-reality of the dedicated anti-Modi lobbies as seen within the social media universe, NGOs, and the think-tanks of the Left liberals. There exist thriving vested political and business lobbies within and outside of India that target to dethrone Modi for personal agendas on the pretext of India's descent into 'illiberalism'. They all cite the familiar and cliched tropes about the regime's fascist orientation as seen through "Hindu nationalism" or "minority victimhood" labels that have unfairly stuck with Modi. Let me blunt this myth firmly with a quote from Modi himself requesting peace and equilibrium on the historic Supreme Court judgment on Ayodhya in his tweet on November 9th 2019: "This verdict shouldn't be seen as a win or loss for anybody. Be it Ram Bhakti or Rahim Bhakti, it is imperative that we strengthen the spirit of Rashtra Bhakti." Clearly, Modi implied no celebration be undertaken on a day that was bigger in symbolism for Hindus than Diwali itself. If anything, even under Modi, while political parties shunned appeasement, but in the homeland of the majority community, we persisted with our obsession with obverse secularism. I have deliberately not delved into the distant past to substantiate why I believe India remains a mature and thriving democracy, but have cited just five recent instances since November 2019 to reiterate the Modi regime's conformity and commitment to democratic tenets. To sum up, the Indian democracy is an edifice that is so deeply entrenched, it is impossible to reverse its trajectory or dismantle its institutions even by the strongest and tallest leader of this century.

What KK Shailaja's exclusion says about Kerala CPM

Amrith Lal

Continuity in government (thudar bharanam) was the slogan the Left Democratic Front raised in the assembly election in Kerala. Voters endorsed it and re-elected the LDF with an enhanced majority — the last time they did so was in 1977. But Team Pinarayi that takes oath today represents a break with the past — barring Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan, and the popular former minister and Speaker, K Radhakrishnan, 14 of the 16 CPM and CPI ministers are new to government. The shocking omission is of K K Shailaja, who held the health portfolio in the previous government and led the fightback against Covid-19. The heated debate around her absence has allowed the inclusion in the Cabinet of the CM's son-in-law, DYFI national president P A Muhammed Riyas, and the wife of LDF convenor and acting CPM state secretary, R Bindu, to go relatively unnoticed. This election was held in the backdrop of the Nipah outbreak, two devastating floods, and the pandemic that had robbed lakhs of people of jobs and incomes. People had become more dependent on state welfare and public goods. The government did not abandon them. It provided food kits and enhanced welfare and pension, on time. This allowed vulnerable sections of the population to live through the crisis with their self-respect intact. The LDF election campaign revolved around this narrative. It was too overwhelming a story for allegations of corruption and nepotism, or matters of faith, to sway voters. The CPM machinery narrated the story of ordeal, survival and sarkar's care through the face of the CM, refash-

ioned as Captain. During the lockdown, Pinarayi Vijayan had transformed into a benevolent patriarch who gave assurance to a listless population locked up in their homes. Though she was the face of the government during Nipah and in the initial days of Covid, Shailaja receded into the background as Vijayan loomed large on TV screens. But people talked about her: Her quiet efficiency and visible compassion was admired by people, especially women, in a state where governance is seen as the fief of men. Her sober demeanour and empathetic responses were an antidote to the aggression and bureaucratise that defined public communication. Though reasonably senior in the party hierarchy — she is a central committee member — it was as minister that Shailaja, or Teacher Amma, found pan-Kerala acceptance. She may have just been the right person at the right time, but her popularity may have rankled many in the party. And for the same reason, her absence has been interpreted by a cross-section of Kerala as a petty act of party patriarchy. Well-known actresses have launched hashtag campaigns and Left public intellectuals have registered their disappointment. An unspoken tension has come to exist between the party lines and government since Vijayan's ascent to the CM's office. Historically, the CPM CM and the party secretary have been parallel power centres, which at the best of times benefitted both offices. The party acted as the voice of the people whereas the CM repre-

sented the state and its interests. This tension defined the political character of the government and kept the interests of bureaucracy, crony capitalism, and regressive social groups in check. Today, the party's authority has diminished and the organisation's role is reduced to merely endorsing the government. The party is now an extension of Vijayan's persona. The election campaign reflected this new context. It was carefully curated to project the CM as a father figure who provided for the state at a time of crisis. Unusually for a Left poll campaign, rallies, banners and posters mostly featured just his face, and the candidate — the absentees included Marx, Engels, Lenin, P Krishna Pillai, AKG, EMS, VS, the face of CPM campaigns for nearly two decades, was conspicuous by his absence on campaign material. Not surprisingly, the party has interpreted the verdict as a vote solely for Vijayan. Other factors, including Shailaja's popularity or the good work done by ministers (Thomas Isaac and G Sudhakaran, for instance) who ran the finance, public works and education ministries, were ignored as subplots in an epic narrative centred on a single hero. Anecdotal evidence from the campaign suggests that the subplots had a big role in drawing the non-party voter to the LDF tent. Of course, the expansion of the social base of the LDF was enabled by the entry of a Kerala Congress faction, the CPM's backing of the anti-CAA movement, and ironically,

anti-Muslim talk by some CPM leaders. These, along with the collapse of the UDF as a broad front with a clear leadership and vision and a discredited BJP, contributed to the LDF win. But for a substantial set of voters, a vote for the LDF was an endorsement of the performance of the Vijayan Cabinet. They voted for continuity and expected Shailaja in the ministry. This non-party CPM backer is angry today. In 2006, she spoke for VS when his leadership claim was ignored. The party then acquiesced. In fact, she has been the reason why assembly elections have become polls for the LDF to lose — until the 1990s, the Left won assembly polls largely on negative votes polled against the Congress and allies. The party's focus on mass politics, civic engagement such as the literacy movement, Kudumbashree, voluntary work during flood and pandemic, has expanded its support among sections that do not vote on ideological lines. These supporters, not to be confused with cadres, helped the LDF almost win a second term in 2011 — it lost office by two seats. To dismiss their outburst as emotional is in line with the macho image of the party apparatchiks but it is surely out-of-step with the sentiment on the street. It is equally wrong to ignore voices that warn about patriarchal attitudes prevailing in Kerala politics. It is disturbing that a 21-member ministry in a state where women constitute more than 50 per cent of the population has just three women ministers, one more than in the past, and one Dalit. It is unfortunate that a woman who excelled as an administrator had to make way for a new face.

Liquid Oxygen Plant dedicates at Berhampur MKCG by CM. Nabeen Pattanik virtually

(A.O. Bureau) Berhampur: On a war-time basis, an oxygen plant was inaugurated at the MKCG Medical Complex in Berhampur by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Odisha, Shri Naveen Patnaik, through video conferencing. Oxygen is now a lifeline for fighting corona. Most coronary disease patients today are losing their lives due to lack of oxygen. A few days later, the MKCG in Berhampur also experienced a lack of oxygen. Due to the efforts of the administration and the state government, a technical team arrived in Berhampur from West Bengal on the same day this month with the necessary equipment for a liquid oxygen plant. A team of scientists from Uttarakhand also came and set up the plant in a very short time. However, Berhampur MP Chandra Shekhar Sahu, along with Berhampur



MLA Bikram Panda and Ganjam district collector Vijay Amrut Kulangi Berhampur sub-collector V. Kirti Vasan and Berhampur Municipal Corporation commissioner Baliram Vondhar, have taken a positive stance in the three weeks. People in general have praised the government public representative and the administration for taking it. So while the oxygen supply test of the plant was over, MKCG Chief Prof. Dr. Santosh Mishra informed. All arrangements have been made to connect the DCH-1, which is just

100 m away from the plant, directly to the patient's bed, and all the departments of the entire hospital, where there is a lack of oxygen, will be able to complete the oxygen communication from the plant and the people will benefit. The plant is currently in the process of being launched via video conferencing. He added that the state is further strengthening oxygen management through purchase of oxygen cylinders, establishment of Oxygen generating facilities and deployment of LMO containers. To plan for future oxygen

requirement and management, a Taskforce has also been set up, the CM indicated. Thanking the people for the cooperation in the fight against pandemic, Sri Patnaik expressed hope that together, we can contain the virus and come back to normalcy sooner. The Chief Minister appreciated the role of the people of Ganjam in community involvement in checking the pandemic. Minister Health and Family Welfare Sri Naba Das said that Odisha is now a leader in the fight against Covid under the direction of the Chief Minister.

He said that the LMO Plant has been built at a cost of Rs 2 crore. It has a production capacity of 20 thousand litres, he added. MP Berhampur Sri Chandrasekhar Sahu, MLA Berhampur Sri Bikram Panda also spoke on the occasion. Secretary to Chief Minister Sri V k Pandian coordinated the meeting. Chief Advisor Shri R. Balakrishnan, WODC Chairman Sri Asit Tripathy, Chief secretary Shri Suresh Mohapatra, ACS Health Shri P. K. Mohapatra, Industries Principal Secretary Shri Hemant Sharma and other senior officials of the State Govt, district administration and Senior Doctors of MKCG medical college and hospital were present on the occasion. Ganjam Collector gave the welcome address and Berhampur Municipal Corporation Commissioner offered the vote of thanks.

Kovidum Awareness Chariot Has been inaugurated in Kudumulgumma

(A.O. Bureau) Malkangiri, May 20: Local Sarpanch Pahala Pangi, Tahsildar Vijay Mandangi, Health Officer-in-Charge, Ashwini Kumar on behalf of the BSF, and Pradeep Kumar Panda, PEO, were present on the occasion. The chariot circled the entire market, circling the major villages of Padiapalli, Gunduriga,



Pujariguda, Nuaguda, Doraguda, Purunagumma, Oringi, Chalanaguda and spreading the message of corona awareness. Utkal Sambadik Sanghar officials Prabhakar Suna,

Bhagwan Sahu, Hrishikesh Sethi, Ganesh Patnaik, Sarat Khara, Vijay Patnaik along with local social activists Kishore Swain and Gopi Pangi were present at the event.

Sinking Boat case from Chitrakonda Dam one rescued



(A.O. Bureau) Malkangiri, May 20: Malkangiri: High-profile Chitrakonda fishing boat

case. One of the three missing in the boat sinking in the Chitrakonda Reservoir yesterday has

been rescued today. Firefighters were called to the scene this morning. Budri Muduli, 70, of Damodarbeda, was found dead in a search operation. One female and one child is still missing. The tehsildar said rescue efforts were underway in the reservoir in the presence of the local tehsildar and Chitrakonda police to investigate the situation.

Helpless woman rescued from wreckage by Aska IIC and CDPO



(A.O. Bureau) Aska, May 20: A woman was founded helpless in a wreckage at Aska Sugar Factory Nuangaon local police said. "Everywhere you look today, the tide of protectionist sentiment is flowing. With that, everyone is always on the lookout for their lives. According to today's report, a woman has been re-

ported to be struggling with her life in an abandoned house. A team led by Aska CDPO Bharati Mohapatra reached the spot. CDPO Bharati Mohapatra immediately informed to the Aska police. The woman's livelihood had been begging for a long time in this area. The body was found to be completely weak due to several days

of incontinence. The woman was rushed to the local Aska Sub-Divisional Hospital for immediate health care. It is to be informed that the woman is said to be from Bajrakot village under Pandiapatthar panchayat in Asika block. CDPO Bharati Mohapatra and rescued Aska Police IIC Prasant Kumar Sahu sent her to a hospital.

Berhampur Corporation BJD organized a blood donation camp

(A.O. Bureau) Berhampur, May 20: A blood donation camp has been organized in the premises of Gajapati Kalyan Mandap in Gajapati Nagar with the joint support of Odisha Mo Paribaar and the Berhampur Corporation BJD Team. There is a severe shortage of blood in the MKCG blood bank in Berhampur. A blood donation camp was held today under the leadership of Berhampur MLA Bikram Kumar Panda on the orders of the Hon'ble Chief Minister with the aim of addressing the shortage of Blood. Berhampur MLA Bikram Kumar



Panda was the chief guest and inaugurated the blood donation camp. The blood donation was encouraged by Berhampur MLA Shri Panda and Ganjam Dist. Jeevan Bindu Coordinator Subhas Maharana. Sri Maharana appeal to

the general public to donated blood to serve the mankind and there no one not facing the problem like scary of blood there no life loss by the blood so cooperate in any condition Which has no alternative. It simply came to anyone's notice then.

Therefore, even during this corona pandemic, many young people voluntarily and enthusiastically thanked all the blood donors who donated blood to alleviate the shortage of blood and make others happy. Similarly, the dream of Hon'ble

Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik should not be lost due to lack of blood, so Subhas Maharana called for the lifting of life by donating blood and saving the lives of others. A total of 35 units of blood were collected at the blood donation camp. It was attended by many activists of the party including Jeevanbindhu Odisha Mo Parivar Coordinator Subhas Maharana, Vijay Samal, Modan Dalai, Tumbanath Panda, Ajit Kumar Panda, Jyoti Ranjan Sahu, Tej Swamy, Dhires Sabat, Sachin Kumar Panda along with many party workers and social activists attend there.

Batakrishna Patnaik, a former officer of the Southeastern Railway in Bhadrak Jagannathpur, has died in a heart attack

Bhadrak, May, 20: Batakrishna Patnaik, a retired officer of Jagannathpur in Bhadrak and a retired Southeastern Railway official, has died of a heart attack at the age of seven. The late Patnaik, who was always busy with a normal life, suddenly fell ill and was rushed to Bhadrak Hospital, where all his efforts were not able to save his life. The late Patnaik served in the Southeast-

ern Railway for 71 years from 19 July and retired on July 31, 2005 as Superintendent (Grade-1) of the Electrical Department of the DRM Office No. 7 under Khadgapur Junction. After his death, the body was taken to his residence in Jagannathpur in a special ambulance from the hospital and buried in the village cemetery with due respect. His wife Pratibha Mohanty (Veena), second daughter



ter Pragya, son-in-law Ranjan, only son Kalia, son-in-law Kunu, granddaughter Suneha and Babli and friends and relatives were present at the funeral of the late Patnaik and paid their last respects. The mourning of the late Patnaik has cast a shadow of mourning over the local community. According to the state government's Covid-18 regulations, the family will be cleansed of the late Patnaik.

Family denied ration as members test COVID positive in Dhenkanal

(A.O. Bureau) Dhenkanal, May 20: Not just Covid-19 infection but the stigma attached with the disease has also made lives miserable for affected families. In Dhenkanal district, a family was denied ration after three of its members were detected Covid positive. The infected family members have been admitted to Covid Care Centre set up on Parjang ITI premises. Head of the family



Sanjib Kumar Nayak said the grocery store in the area refused to sell them ration after coming to know about the infections. Ration was also refused to

neighbours of the Nayak family. Sources said absence of awareness campaigns about Covid-19 has led to such incidents in rural pockets of the district.

25 day-old premature baby beats COVID-19 in Nuapada

(A.O. Bureau) Nuapada, May 20: Amid the gloom prevailing around the pandemic comes the story of a 25-day-old premature and low birth weight baby recovering from Covid-19 in Odisha's most back-

ward Nuapada district. The baby boy was born to Yadram Rout and his wife Seema of Bhalukona at the Nuapada district headquarters hospital on April 17. The baby was born premature in just 33 weeks and weighed

1.755 kg against a normal weight of 2.5-3.5 kg. The newborn was shifted to the SNCU on April 17 and discharged on April 24. He was taken to the village by his parents, said Nuapada CDMO, Dr Kali Prasad Behera.



However, the baby started sneezing and coughing a few days later following which Seema took him to the hospital again on May 12. The mother and her child's rapid antigen tests were conducted and both

found infected. While Seema was asked to stay in home isolation, her child was admitted to the SNCU of the hospital. The doctors said the baby was critical. "His SpO2 level had dropped. His weight too had come

down to 1.63 kg and haemoglobin level very low. To our utmost delight, he was soon way to recovery," said district medical officer-cum-superintendent and paediatrician, Jyotshna Rani Patanayak.

When Karan teased Katrina with Vicky's name



Mumbai, May 20: Vicky Kaushal and Katrina Kaif have been rumoured to be dating for a while now. While the couple hasn't addressed the rumours yet, Karan Johar was once seen teasing Katrina with the actor's name. Before the pandemic delayed the release of Sooryavanshi, the team of the cop-movie was on the sets of The Kapil Sharma Show to promote the movie. Akshay Kumar and Katrina were joined by director Rohit Shetty and Karan in the episode. During their chat, Kapil asked Karan about the rumour that the producer got so scared during the shoot of the horror movie of

Bhoot that he would cling to Vicky. Karan turned towards Katrina and instantly apologised to her. A confused Akshay asked Karan about his apology to Katrina. Karan joked, "Dekhiye inke ghar mein sab Kaushal Mangal hai." In another episode of the comedy show, Vicky had clarified the rumours regarding Karan getting scared on the sets of Bhoot. He told Kapil, "Yes, he would get scared during the shoot of the movie but he was so scared that he wouldn't come to the sets." Although Vicky and Katrina have not been spotted together in the last few months, they were seen attending a gathering at

Karan's house in December 2020. Katrina and Vicky came and left separately. Later that month, Katrina hosted a Christmas party at her residence with Vicky attending it. Sidharth Malhotra, filmmaker Kabir Khan, and actors Ananya Panday, Ishaan Khatter, Angad Bedi and Neha Dhupia were also present at the party. Vicky and Katrina recovered from Covid-19 recently. On April 5, Vicky took to Instagram and confirmed his diagnosis. A day later, on April 6, Katrina also revealed she was diagnosed with Covid-19. While Vicky recovered on April 16, Katrina recovered on April 17.

Sonu Sood says he feels 'humbled' after fans pour milk on his life-size poster

New Delhi, May 20: Actor Sonu Sood on Thursday reacted to a video in which people are seen pouring milk on a garlanded life-size poster of his. In the clip, shared by a Twitter user, two people are seen standing behind the image, at an elevation higher than the poster and pouring milk. Since last year, Sonu has been helping those affected by the Covid-19 pandemic. As per the user, the incident took place in Srikalahasti town of Chittoor district in Andhra Pradesh to laud Sonu for his work and to inspire the people. Sharing the video, Sonu tweeted,

"Humbled." Reacting to the tweet, fans heaped praises on Sonu. One wrote, "It was more respect towards someone who is extending so much help in this crisis by giving it to needed one. That way they would have done what Sonu Sood is doing." Another tweeted, "Sonu Sood ji well deserved this kind of affection from general public, as he is man of general public. Myself Salute Sonu ji for their out of box directly to general public in Covid -19 pandemic time. Tks." A third commented, "You deserve even more than that. You are the hope to the human-



ity, this just a beginning, there are many more things which await for you." Sonu has been actively helping people amid the Covid-19 crisis. Amid the deadlier second wave of Covid-19, he is supporting people who need hospital beds, oxygen cyl-

inders, medicines and other medical facilities. Last year, in an interview with SpotboyE he had said, "I am not really going out of my way to justify my behaviour to people who doubt my intentions. To be negative is in their DNA. It's not their fault. All these

are trolls. They have no spine and they are only seeking attention." In 2020, during the coronavirus-induced lockdown, Sood had helped several migrant workers reach their home town and fed many underprivileged people.

Changes in menstrual cycle? Covid vaccine side effects are more than blood clots

Bloomberg, May 20: Twenty-two of the 28 people who suffered blood clots possibly associated with the Johnson & Johnson vaccine were women. Women also make up nearly all of the small number who had a severe allergic reaction—anaphylaxis—following injection with other vac-

cines. Women are also much more likely to suffer severe, extensive rashes after getting the Covid-19 vaccine — another uncommon but troubling side effect. It's not surprising that sex hormones and the immune system can influence each other, says Johns Hopkins University immunologist Sabra Klein.

She said she's submitted a proposal to the National Institutes of Health to study the menstrual problems. I asked her whether there's any understanding of whether the other side effects are more common only in women of reproductive age, or across all age groups. She said that hasn't been studied yet, but

should be. All the women who had blood clots following the Johnson & Johnson shot were between 18 and 48. Doctors are still discussing whether women of reproductive age should be advised to avoid it in favor of the other approved vaccines, but nobody, she says, is doing studies on the question.

Some people have tried to dismiss the blood clot problem by noting that birth control pills are also associated with blood clot risk. But neither problem should be dismissed. More work should be done to prevent women from getting blood clots associated with birth control pills too.

Rakul Preet Singh to play 'condom tester' in film? Actor says, 'important to highlight some issues in light-hearted way'

New Delhi, May 20: Actor Rakul Preet Singh has said that she is excited to be seen in a film produced by Ronnie Screwvala's RSVP Movies. Soon after the yet-to-be-titled film was announced, director Tejas Deoskar had said that the film features Rakul in an experimental role. According to reports, she essays the role of a young girl who is a "condom tester" - an employee working for condom brands to test the quality of their products before they are released in the market. Asked about her role in the film, Rakul told SpotboyE in an interview, "It's very exciting and I am very thrilled about that film because it's important to sort of highlight some issues in a light-hearted way and that has got me pretty excited. But for now, that will happen towards the end of the year." Tejas had told a leading daily

earlier this month, "Our film is a social family entertainer, which aims at doing the use of

condoms and

for this one, I always believed Rakul was the best suited for the character. She brings freshness to every role that she portrays and with a sensitive, thought-provoking subject like this, she was our first choice. Rakul was thrilled when she was approached for the film. She heard the narra-

tion and immediately agreed to do it." Tejas had earlier directed Madhuri Dixit's Marathi film, Bucket List. Rakul was most recently seen in the Netflix film, Sardar Ka Grandson that also stars Neena Gupta and Arjun Kapoor. Rakul is working on Ayushmann Khurana's Doctor G directed by Anubhuti Kashyap. Anubhuti, Anurag Kashyap's sister will make her Bollywood debut with the film. Rakul will also be seen in Ajay Devgn's MayDay, co-starring Amitabh Bachchan. She also has another movie with Ajay, Thank God, that also stars Sidharth Malhotra. Talking to Hindustan Times about her projects, Rakul had said in March, "I think I am blessed that I have a variety of projects which are very different from each other. I really hope that these films click with people seeing me in different roles, and then they can envision me in even more varied characters."

Tamannaah's show is a slow-burning thriller



New Delhi, May 20: It is very essential for any crime thriller or murder mystery to work wholesomely; they need to have a solid payoff. Tamannaah Bhatia's November Story, an extremely well written, slow-burning thriller, has pretty much everything to stand out, but it does get let down by a slightly underwhelming payoff. Nevertheless, it's a show that deserves a lot of praise, especially for the writing which succeeds in keeping one hooked right from the first episode. In spite of the disappointing end, there's so much to like in the show and how it builds some solid cliffhangers in each episode. Tamannaah plays Anu, the daughter of India's best crime novelist, Ganesan. Anu works as an ethical hacker while trying to look after her father who is suffering from Alzheimer's. She is also trying to sell a house without the knowledge of her father. One day, Anu finds a woman (she had briefly encountered

the same evening in a train) killed in the house she's been trying to sell. Her father becomes the prime suspect in that murder. As the doting daughter, Anu has to prove her father's innocence and at the same time find out who actually killed that woman. November Story unravels slowly, and its pace is an issue at times. But what keeps one engaged is the gripping screenplay that beautifully weaves together a web of incidents to produce something worthwhile. While the show is a murder mystery on the surface, it also tries to lighten the mood with some comical moments which take place in the police investigation. At times, some investigation scenes spoil the mood of the show but it's understandable if it was done to keep the narrative not too serious all the time. Some scenes featuring Aruldhoss as the investigating police inspector are downright funny but equally silly otherwise. You start to wonder

why even bring in a comedy element in a show that rests heavily on building suspense with twists and turns. Tamannaah plays her part well to a large extent but there are moments when she feels clueless. But this is definitely one of her better performances. Pasupathy, who hand-picks his role with precision, is one of the best casting choices and the show takes off from the minute he enters the frame. He plays Yaesu, a coroner with some shades of grey. Vivek Prasanna and GM Prabhhu add a lot of weight to the narration as the supporting cast. Vidhu Ayyanna's cinematography is top notch, and some visuals are truly haunting. The writing, for the most part of the show, is highly competent and one can't find fault with until the climax which is needlessly long drawn. November Story, despite its flaws, is an excellent show that I wish encourages more web series to get made in Tamil.



Indian women to play maiden pink ball Test during Australia tour this year



New Delhi, May 20: The Indian women's cricket team will compete in its maiden day-night Test from September 30 to October 3 when it tours Australia this year. The match will be played in Perth, which hasn't hosted a day-night game as yet, Cricket Australia said after BCCI secretary Jay Shah Shah made the initial announcement. "Taking forward our commitment towards women's cricket, I am

extremely pleased to announce that Team India @BCCIwomen will play in their first-ever pink ball day-night Test later this year in Australia," Shah tweeted. The Indian women's team, which will play its first Test in seven years from June 16 in England, will compete in another one during the tour of Australia. The team will also play three ODIs (from September 19 to 24) and as many T20 International matches (from

October 7 to 11) Down Under. India last played a Test against Australia in 2006. The pink ball Test between India and Australia will be only the second such match to be held in the history of women's cricket. The only day-night women's game played so far was between Australia and England at Sydney in November 2017. The match ended in a draw. Preparing for both the England and Australia Test will be a challenge

since the women don't play with red ball even on the domestic circuit. "It will be a challenge for sure but the good thing is that women are getting to play Tests," a former India player said. "The pink ball game in Australia will be a tougher challenge as the girls have never played with that ball but I am sure they will get to prepare well for it. A few practice games will also be needed," she added. England and

Australia are the only two teams which regularly play Test cricket, mainly against each other in the Women's Ashes. Going forward, India will also be seen playing the longest format against the two teams. "As players, we've said for a long time that we'd love to play more Test matches," Australia captain Meg Lanning said on Wednesday. "It's an exciting prospect and I know (India) are heading over to England to play a Test match pretty soon so it shows they're up for the challenge and really willing to play that format."

The Schedule: Sep 19: First ODI, North Sydney Oval (D/N); Sep 22: Second ODI, Junction Oval; Sep 24: Third ODI, Junction Oval; Sep 30 – Oct 3: Day/Night Test match, WACA Ground (D/N); Oct 7: First T20, North Sydney Oval; Oct 9: Second T20, North Sydney Oval; Oct 11: Third T20, North Sydney Oval.

T20 WC should be held elsewhere, teams would be nervous about going to India: Hussey

Sydney, May 20: Former Australia batsman Mike Hussey, who tested positive for COVID-19 in IPL's bio-bubble, has advocated moving this year's T20 World Cup from India to the UAE as he feels teams will be "nervous" to travel there because of the raging pandemic. Batting coach Hussey was among three members of the Chennai Super Kings contingent who contracted the virus during the IPL, which had to be suspended after cases were detected in four teams. "I think it's going to be very difficult in my view to play that tournament in India," Hussey told 'Fox Cricket' upon his return to Sydney, where he is undergoing a 14-day quarantine. Hussey had also spent two weeks isolating in India after testing positive for the virus in Delhi from where he was transported to Chennai in an air ambulance. "We're talking about eight teams in the IPL. I

think there are probably similar number, maybe more teams coming in from overseas (for the T20 World Cup), there'd be more venues. As I said earlier, if they're playing in different cities, that is when the risk goes up. "I think they'll

ICC is likely to take a call on the tournament on June 1. Talking about his ordeal in India, Hussey said he had symptoms but he never feared for his life. "At the time I thought I didn't feel great, but not life-threatening or anything like that. But it does



have to look some pretty big contingency plans, perhaps looking at the UAE or somewhere like that that could host the World T20. I think there will be a lot of cricket boards around the world that'd be pretty nervous about going back to India for a cricket tournament," said Hussey. UAE has already emerged as the back up venue and the

take its toll on you after a while I guess. My initial test came up as a weak positive, and we were sort of hoping the next would be negative and it'd be alright, but unfortunately I got retested the next day and that came back positive. "To be honest, I had already started feeling some of the symptoms and so I was thinking, 'I'm pretty sure I've got it.'"

'Was going to use Dukes balls towards end of IPL': Kyle Jamieson on his equation with Virat Kohli



New Delhi, May 20: Kyle Jamieson, responding to a query on refusing to bowl at Virat Kohli with the Dukes ball at RCB nets, said he was planning to use them later on in the IPL 2021 season. Jamieson, speaking about his relationship with the RCB skipper, said at a virtual press conference from the UK on Wednesday, "We were talking generally about cricket, having played against each other 12 months before. He was asking me if I had played in England, what his own experiences had been there. No specifics. We went our ways with a

sort of parting jibe – "See you in a month's time." "I had two Dukes balls in my bag but I didn't get the chance to use them. I was going to bring them out at the back end of the tournament," he said. Jamieson was responding to a question on the comments made by his RCB teammate Dan Christian on a podcast episode, that has since been deleted, that he had not not fallen for Kohli's attempt to face him at nets with the Dukes ball — the ball which will be used for the WTC final between India and New Zealand. "Pretty cagey from Virat

actually, right in the first week we were here... Virat says 'Oh, if you want to have a bowl against me in the nets, I am more than happy to face'. Jamie was like, 'No chance I am going to bowl at you!'" Christian had said. Speaking on his time in India, Jamieson said during the interaction: "My time in the IPL was a great chance to share the dressing room with some legends of the game like Kohli and AB de Villiers. It was great to be involved in that atmosphere, to soak up the knowledge, albeit all the things that were going on outside (the IPL bubble)."

'You've let boxing down, fraud': Anthony Joshua trades blows with Tyson Fury

New Delhi, May 20: Anthony Joshua expressed his discontentment with Tyson Fury by calling him "a fraud" on social media on Thursday with their undisputed title fight on the brink of collapsing. Earlier last week, Joshua's promoter Eddie Hearn had confirmed that the world heavyweight unification title fight was set to be held on August 14 in Saudi Arabia. He said the fight was a "done deal", even if not yet fully signed off by both parties. But on Monday, a court ruled that WBC champion Fury must take on Deontay Wilder again by September 15, meaning IBF, WBA and WBO titleholder Joshua may instead fight



Oleksandr Usyk next. "The world now sees you for the fraud you are," Joshua posted on Twitter. "You've let boxing down! You lied to the fans and led them on. Used my name for clout not a fight. Bring me any championship fighter who can handle their business correctly." In

reply, Fury said, "You are more full of [rubbish] than [promoter Eddie Hearn]. Your full team knew there was an arbitration going on, it was out of my hands! If I'm a fraud let's fight this weekend bare knuckles until one man quits." Joshua hit back by saying, "If there was an ar-

bitration going on, why announce to the world we are fighting! The fight was signed! I'll slap your bald head and you'll do nothing!" When asked about the August 14 date for the much-awaited fight, Hearn told Sky Sports, "We were told the arbitration wouldn't be a problem but obvi-

ously it is a problem. We still hope the fight can go ahead but it's out of our hands." "If [Fury's] hands are tied [Joshua] will have to look elsewhere." Joshua fought Andy Ruiz Jr in Diriyah, on the outskirts of the Riyadh, in December 2019 and won back the belts he had lost in an earlier shock defeat. The 31-year-old, the 2012 Olympic super-heavyweight gold medallist, holds the IBF, WBO, WBA and IBO titles while Fury, 32, is the WBC belt holder. Fury has not fought for more than a year since his knockout win against Wilder while Joshua's last ring appearance was against Kubrat Pulev in December.

Sports Ministry invites applications for National Sports Awards

New Delhi, May 20: The Sports Ministry on Thursday invited applications for the national sports awards, allowing eligible athletes, coaches, universities and other entities to self-nominate and apply online for a second year running because of the COVID-19 pandemic. The last date of submitting applications is June 21. "In view of the current pandemic situ-

ation, the nominations for the National Sports Awards will be accepted online, this year," the Ministry said in a release. "Last year the Sports Ministry had for the first time allowed for self nomination of applicants in view of the pandemic. "This year too, self nomination will be allowed. National Sporting Federations will also nominate athletes for the top honours," it added. Till 2019,

applicants needed recommendations to be able to apply but the condition was waived off last year as the COVID-19 lockdown prevented smooth movement of people. Last year, 74 recipients were bestowed with the awards. The prize money was also increased significantly with the Khel Ratna awardees receiving Rs 25 lakh,

Arjuna awardees Rs 15 lakh, Dhronacharya (Lifetime) Rs 15 lakh, and Dhyanchand winners Rs 10 lakh. In an unprecedented move, cricketer Rohit Sharma, women's hockey team captain Rani Rampal, wrestler Vinesh Phogat, paralympian Mariyappan Thangavelu and TT player Manika Batra were jointly awarded the Khel Ratna last year.

COVID-hit River Plate win with midfielder Enzo Perez in goal, no substitutes

Buenos Aires, May 20: A COVID-19 outbreak and injury problems saw River Plate face Colombia's Independiente with midfielder Enzo Perez playing in goal and no substitutes on the bench but the Argentines still emerged with a 2-1 win in Wednesday's Copa Libertadores game. With novel coronavirus cases surging in Argentina,



River had 20 players test positive and others were injured, reducing their squad to 11 fit players for the match in Buenos

Aires. Four goalkeepers were among those affected but a request to register their fifth- and sixth-choice goalkeepers

was rejected by the South American Football Confederation (CONMEBOL). Veteran midfielder Perez started in goal behind an inexperienced team but was rarely troubled by Independiente, who have yet to win in this year's Libertadores, the South American equivalent of Europe's Champions League. Fabrizio Angileri put River ahead after just

three minutes and Julian Alvarez doubled their lead three minutes later. Kelvin Osorio spoiled Perez's bid for a clean sheet when he scored after 73 minutes for Independiente, who introduced 15-year-old Hollman McCormick to the action late on. River held on to secure the win and go top in Group D, with nine points from five games.

Indian team leaves for Doha for WC qualifiers

New Delhi, May 20: Talismanic captain Sunil Chhetri made a return after recovering from Covid-19 infection as a 28-member Indian football squad leaves for Doha on Wednesday for the three upcoming matches of the joint 2022 World Cup and 2023 Asian Cup Qualifiers. The team will have a preparatory camp inside a bio-

bubble in Doha before its first match on June 3 against hosts Qatar. After missing the two International friendly matches against Oman and the UAE on March 25 and 29, Chhetri is set to feature in the forthcoming games. As per the health parameters required to travel to Qatar, all the players and staff will carry with them negative re-

sults from the RT-PCR Covid-19 tests conducted in the last 48 hours. Prior to their departure, all of them were serving quarantine in the national capital since May 15. The Indian team, fourth in Group E with three points, is already out of contention for a World Cup berth but it is still in the reckoning for the 2023 Asian Cup in China.

Amway India emphasises on a healthy lifestyle; kicks-off 'Health and Hygiene' awareness campaign

(A.O. Bureau)
Bhubaneswar, May 20: Consistently promoting healthy living with a clear focus on supporting immunity through nutrition, Amway India, one of the country's leading FMCG Direct Selling Companies, kick started the awareness campaign to encourage 'Health and Hygiene' practices. Launched on Amway's 23rd anniversary in India, the campaign aims at spreading awareness on how the right nutrition can help in building a healthy lifestyle. The campaign is being supported through a series of virtual sessions with panels of doctors and nutrition experts. Across India, we have conducted over 1000 sessions reaching our 5.5 Lakh Direct Sellers/Retailers and their customers. Commenting on the launch Anshu Budhraj, CEO, Amway India, said - "Today, health and wellbeing have taken precedence over everything else with a rise in awareness for taking nutritional supplements to



support one's overall health, has also become age agnostic. As per a recent survey, 50% of consumers reported taking more supplements to support their immune system, supporting one's overall health in 2020 and the trend is here to remain for a longer period of time. Given Amway's formidable presence in the vitamin and dietary supplements market, we are well poised to meet the evolving consumer demands. Selfcare with nutrition, immunity and hygiene will continue to be the focus for us this year and in line with this we announced

the 'health and hygiene' awareness campaign on our 23rd anniversary in India to helping people live better, healthier lives. With this we are working towards, staying true to our brand's promise to the consumers by way of providing innovative, world-class quality products in line with the evolving consumer needs and consumer lifestyle. We are hosting multiple digital initiatives to spread awareness around the importance of nutrition and developing hygiene practices for optimal health." Talking about the importance of the campaign, Chandra Bhushan

Chakraborty, Senior Vice President, East and West, Amway India, said, "Given the current health scenario, it is important for each one of us to safeguard ourselves in the best way possible. Preventive healthcare and seeking personalized nutrition solutions have become a major part of self-care among consumers today. We are grateful to the doctors and other health experts for joining us to spread awareness, demystify common misconceptions and simplify a healthy lifestyle with a focus on eating right. Through these initiatives, we are

encouraging our Amway Direct Sellers/retailers and their customers to lead a fitter, healthier and hygienic life." Under the campaign, the doctors and nutrition experts are joining in to provide pertinent information relevant to the current times and elucidated the growing importance of leading a balanced life and the role of preventive healthcare and supplementation. These health experts shared the importance of living a healthy and hygienic lifestyle. Some of these initiatives in the East region include the World Health Day, World Asthma Day, World Laughter Day with focus on Oral Health, Immunity Campaign, Mother's Day celebration and Home, Health and Hygiene campaign, among others. Our Amway Direct Sellers/retailers and their customers joined to learn more about healthy and hygienic living along with its short- and long-term benefits.

Hindalco Cluster extends support to Sambalpur Distt. Admin

(A.O. Bureau)
Bhubaneswar: Keeping in view the second upsurge of the Covid-19, the Aditya Birla Group company, Hindalco has come forward to extend support to the Sambalpur

Donates 50 Jumbo Cylinders, 20 Oxygen Concentrators, 5 ICU beds to Distt. Covid Hospital & VIMSAR

ICU beds and 2000 antigen kits to those hospitals to meet the oxygen requirements of Covid pa-

pital authorities. As a responsible corporate citizen, Hindalco is deeply engaged in execut-



Distt. Covid Hospital and the VIMSAR (Veer Surendra Sai Institute of Medical Sciences and Research). On the request of the Distt. Administration, the company has donated 50 jumbo cylinders, 20 oxygen concentrators, 5

tients and strengthen the infrastructure facility of those two hospitals so that the patients can get better healthcare. These have been handed over to those hospitals by the Hindalco officials yesterday in the presence of hos-

ing its CSR activities in peripheral villages in the area of education, healthcare, sustainable livelihood, and rural infrastructure and addressing the issues of social concern which has immensely benefitted the people of Sambalpur district.

6 things you should not do before or after vaccination, Centre issues guideline

(A.O. Bureau)
New Delhi, May 20: With several changes newly introduced in the country's ongoing vaccination drive against Covid-19, the Centre has issued a guideline specifying some dos and don'ts so that there remains no confusion for people booking vaccine appointments online. Currently, India is in the third phase of the vaccination drive where people in the age group of 18 to 44 years are also eligible to get the vaccine, though the

multiple ID proofs from different platforms. On the day of vaccination, one should not consume alcohol or any other intoxicants. One should not panic in case of any vaccine side effect. There is no need for registration on Cowin for the second dose. Who should defer their vaccination? According to the latest guidelines, people who have just recovered from Covid should wait for three months, instead of four weeks as man-



Centre has asked states to prioritise the vaccination of the 45+ people as Covid-19 is more threatening for older people. Here are the 6 things that one should not do: Walk in without an appointment. All slots are being booked online through Cowin registration. One person should not register on multiple platforms. One person should not use multiple phone numbers and

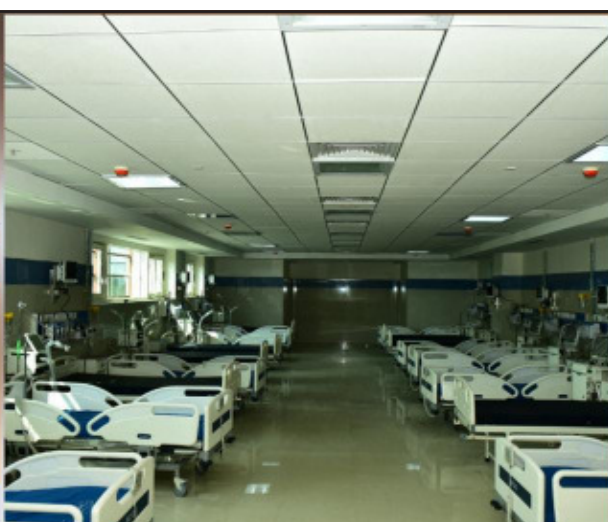
dated earlier, for their vaccination. The same waiting period of three months has been also advised for those who have been treated with plasma therapy, and those who got infected after receiving the first dose of the vaccine. People who have been hospitalised for any other illness should wait for four to eight weeks for the vaccination.

100 Ventilator ICU Beds Launched at Rourkela IPGI and Sur Specialty Hospitals



(A.O. Bureau)
Sundergarh, May 20: Odisha's corporate institutions, especially the Central State Enterprises (PSEs), are providing 5,000 beds and more than 1,000 ventilators in Odisha, Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan said. Mr. Pradhan made the remarks while inaugurating the ICU bed with 100 fans at the Steel Post Graduate Institute and Sur Specialty Hospital of the Cell Rourkela Steel Plant on a virtual platform from New Delhi on Thursday. In collaboration with the Government of India and the Government of Odisha, healthcare in-

frastructure is being given priority in Odisha. With the ventilator facilities provided by the Rourkela Steel Plant to the district administration at the IPGI and Sur Specialty Hospitals, the Covid beds will be able to provide high quality health care to the Covid-infected patients in the coming days. At the national and regional levels, SAIL's Rourkela Steel Plant is taking all possible steps to cope with the Covid epidemic. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has called for the establishment of a Covid Care Center near the Oxygen Plant, while SAIL is also responsible for setting up



a 500-bed large Covid Care Center in Rourkela. Emphasis is being placed on accelerating the production and supply of liquid medical oxygen from the oxygen-producing units at the Rourkela Steel Plant. Since April this year, the plant has supplied more than 10,000 tonnes of medical oxygen to various states of the country, including Odisha. Union Minister Shri Pradhan said that now health care should be given priority in the mining areas. Therefore, the Union Minister has directed the Cell to set up an oxygen facility at Balani or Baddabil in Kendujhar district and

100 oxygen beds at Koida in Sundergarh district and 50 oxygen beds. Of these, 7,8,180 vaccines have been made available to Odisha so far, of which 4,57,600 have been vaccinated by the Central Government. Corporations and cells are also involved in the vaccination campaign and make arrangements to vaccinate their employees and their families. The cell is also responsible for vaccinating at least two ordinary people in Sundergarh district. Mr. Pradhan hopes that Sundargarh district, with the help of the district administration and all the social political leaders, will be the

- In Odisha, the state-owned enterprise has a capacity of about 5,000 beds and 1,000 ventilators - Dharmendra Pradhan
- Sundergarh district aims to provide quality health care to the covid-infected
- At the urging of the Prime Minister, Cell is setting up a large 500-bed Covid Care Center in Rourkela.
- The cell is responsible for arranging 100 beds at Balani / Baddil in Kendujhar district and 50 beds at Koida in Sundergarh district.
- Odisha has so far received 6,680 tickets
- The central government has vaccinated 4,57,600 people in Odisha
- In Sundergarh district, the cell is responsible for vaccinating at least two people
- With the help of the district administration and all the social political leaders, is one hundred percent
- It can be considered the first district to be vaccinated
- In Rourkela, Kovid praised Gurinder Singh for helping patients

first district to be vaccinated one hundred percent. It is a matter of inspiration for all of us to dedicate ourselves to the service of society in the fight against the Karona epidemic in Odisha. In Rourkela, Gurinder Singh Karona thanked Shri Pradhan for providing free oxygen cylinders

and cooked food to the infected people. The function was attended by Union Steel Minister Fagan Singh Kulaste, Odisha Government Health Minister Nab Kishore Das, Sundergarh MP Joel Oram, all Sundergarh district legislators and cell officials.

Live-in relationships not prohibited by law... its social acceptance also on the rise: Punjab & Haryana HC

(A.O. Bureau)
Chandigarh, May 20: Punjab and Haryana HC The order comes just a few days after two different single benches of the court turned down two similar petitions of live-in-relationship couples. In a significant ruling where it allowed the protection plea of a couple in a live-in-relationship, the Punjab and

Haryana High Court has observed that the "individual has the right to formalise the relationship with the partner through marriage or to adopt the non-formal approach of a live-in-relationship". The court directed the Haryana Police to ensure that neither the lives or liberty of the couple is harmed as it stated "in law, such a rela-

tionship is not prohibited nor does it amount to commission of any offence" and "such persons are entitled to equal protection of laws as any other citizen of the country". The order, passed by the bench of Justice Sudhir Mittal, comes just a few days after two different single benches of the Punjab and Haryana High Court



turned down two similar petitions of live-in-relationship couples while observ-

ing "if such protection as claimed is granted, the entire social fabric of the so-

ciety would get disturbed". It dismissed another similar matter by holding that, "the petitioners in the garb of filing the present petition are seeking seal of approval on their live-in-relationship, which is morally and socially not acceptable and no protection order in the petition can be passed". Meanwhile, a similar matter of a live-in-relationship

couple, seeking protection, came up for hearing before the bench of Justice Mittal, wherein the couple through their counsel, Advocate Mandeep Singh, said they are both major and have decided to enter into a live-in relationship. "They are sure of their feelings for each other. A great deal of thought has gone into the decision. However,

the family of petitioner number 2 (woman) is against the relationship and are threatening to cause physical harm. A representation dated May 9, 2021, has also been submitted before the Haryana Police, but no action has been taken till date. Left with no other option, they have filed the present petition," said the advocate.