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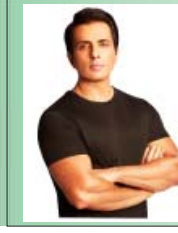
WEDNESDAY 27 OCT 2021



**2**  
Modi In UP To Inaugurate Medical Colleges, Launch Mega Health Scheme



**3**  
42nd Sarala Puraskar Presented to Storyteller Paramita Satpathy



**6**  
Sonu Sood Organises Vaccination Awareness Drive In Mumbai



**7**  
Virat An Absolutely Amazing Talent, Says Gavaskar

## FIH Odisha Men's Hockey Junior World Cup Bhubaneswar 2021 To Be Held Without Spectators At Kalinga Stadium

New Delhi: The FIH Odisha Men's Hockey Junior World Cup Bhubaneswar 2021 scheduled to begin on November 24, will be a telecast-only affair as Hockey India and FIH jointly decide to hold the marquee quadrennial tournament under closed-doors. With the sheer popularity of the sport in this region and expected crowds in the stadium, the organisers believe it would not be possible control that number of people and yet follow all the necessary covid guidelines and protocols laid out by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MOHFW), Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, State Government, FIH and Hockey India. Social



distancing is a priority due to the prevailing Covid-19 pandemic situation and the safety of the fans and athletes needs to be prioritised. For the organisers, it is imperative to hold the tournament in an environment where health and safety of the participating teams is of paramount importance. While the stadium will only be open to accredited personnel and the participants of the tournament, the fans can tune in and

cheer for their favourite teams and players, across platforms around the world for all games. The FIH Odisha Men's Hockey Junior World Cup Bhubaneswar 2021 will see 16 teams in the fray. The participating teams include defending champions and hosts India, Argentina, Belgium, Canada, Chile, Egypt, France, Germany, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, Poland, South Africa, Spain, The Netherlands and the United States

## CM Releases Rs 1.5 Crore Matching Grant For Mo College

Bhubaneswar, (A.O. Bureau): Chief Minister Shri Naveen Patnaik today released the first tranche of matching grant of Rs. 1.5 crore to 12 colleges and 2 universities under Mo College campaign. The Chief Minister said that as per the mandate of Mo College campaign, this is double the amount made by various contributors to these institutes. Addressing a programme on the occasion, the Chief Minister announced that 140 higher educational institutions will be developed under 5T transformation in the 1st phase. This will provide state-of-the-art campus, classrooms, and offer a transformed



learning experience benefitting over 30 thousand students of the State at the under graduate and post graduate level, he added. The Chief Minister said that the success of school transformation programme, has inspired for taking up such an initiatives for the higher education institution. He added that the State Government is developing 1070 schools for transformation which will be completed by 14th of

November and 50 transformed schools have already been dedicated few months back in Hinjili block of Ganjam district. Speaking on the spirit of college life, the Chief Minister said that college days are a golden period of our life. It's the day of youthful exuberance. This is the time when we live through our dreams, our struggles and our limitless possibilities. In fact, this period leads us to march with deter-

mination for realising our cherished dreams. The College Transformation Programme will give an ideal ambience and guidance to channelize the youthful vigour and irrepressible energy of our young souls, the CM envisioned. Thanking all the donors and contributors for the magnanimous donations to Mo College campaign, the CM said that they have made to their own institutes that have made them what they are today. This is undoubtedly a great beginning which will go a long way to inspire more and more members of the alumni & philanthropists to give back to their Alma Maters for ensuring a holistic development of the college ecosystem

of the state, he added. He emphasised that Mo College is an endeavour to reunite you with your alma mater, redevelop it, and re-live the dream moments of your life. It is certainly the most delightful experience to be part of the development of the institutions that have shaped your life, he added. He called upon the people, especially the members of alumni to join the "Mo College" campaign. Attending the programme, Higher Education Minister Shri Arun Sahoo expected that Mo College campaign will succeed in taking the educational ambience of higher education institutions to a new level.

## WHO To Give Permission To COVAXIN Soon

New Delhi, 26/10: The World Health Organization (WHO) is meeting today to approve India's indigenous vaccine Covaxin. COVAXIN will be approved only on the basis of this meeting today. A spokesman for the organization told the news agency Reuters that the meeting of the Technical Advisory Group was going on. A decision on its Emergency Use License (EUL) can be



taken soon. Earlier, Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya has said - WHO has a system in which there is a technical committee which has ap-

proved the vaccine. The meeting of other committees is today. Covaccine will be approved only on the basis of today's meetings.

## Aryan Khan's Bail Hearing Adjourned Till Today

Mumbai: The Bombay High Court has adjourned Aryan Khan's bail plea hearing till Wednesday. The court will now hear the case at 2:30 pm tomorrow. In today's arguments, former Attorney General Mukul Rohatgi argued that Aryan Khan was a "young man" who should be sent to rehab rather than jail.

## Sea Phase Of India-UK Maiden Tri-Service Exercise 'Konkan Shakti 2021' In Full Swing

New Delhi: The sea phase of the maiden Tri-Service exercise 'Konkan Shakti 2021' between the Armed Forces of India and the United Kingdom (UK) is being held off the Konkan coast in the Arabian Sea. On completion of harbour planning phase, the sea phase of the exercise commenced on October 24, 2021. It will continue till October 27, 2021. All participating units were split into two opposing forces with the aim of achieving sea control to land Army ground-troops at a pre-designated site. The force was led by the Flag Officer Commanding Western Fleet and comprised the flagship INS



Chennai, other warships of the Indian Navy, and HMS Richmond, the Royal Navy's Type 23 frigate. The other force operated under the UK Carrier Strike Group comprised aircraft carrier, HMS Queen Elizabeth, other UK, and Netherlands naval ships, and Indian warships. The two forces integrated within their groups with exercises such as replenishment at sea approaches, air direction,

and strike operations by fighter aircraft (MiG 29Ks and F35Bs), cross control of helicopters (Sea King, Chetak, and Wildcat), transiting through war-at-sea scenarios, and gun shoots on expendable air targets. The simulated induction of Army troops was also undertaken, followed by the setting up of a joint command operations centre. Thereafter, the two forces ef-

ected a rendezvous at sea with advanced air and sub-surface exercises. The air operations included strikes on the combined formation by Indian maritime patrol aircraft (MPA) Dornier, fighters of the Indian Navy (MiG 29Ks), Royal Navy (F35Bs) and Indian Air Force (SU-30 and Jaguars) as well as a composite flypast over the formation. Sub-surface exercises with an Indian Scorpene-class submarine and underwater remote-controlled vehicle EMATT, operated by the Royal Navy, were undertaken through the night. Indian MPA, P8I also participated in the exercise.

FIFA-KISS Partnership

Launch Ceremony

**FIFA Football for Schools**

(First Such Initiative in India)

KISS

KALINGA INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

at

**Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences (KISS), Bhubaneswar**

Virtual Launch by

**Shri Naveen Patnaik**

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Odisha

Gracious Presence

**Shri Tusharkanti Behera**  
Hon'ble Minister, Sports & Youth Services and Electronics & Information Technology, Govt. of Odisha

**Prof. Achyuta Samanta**  
Hon'ble Member of Parliament (Kandhamal) & Founder, KIIT & KISS

**Shri R. Vineel Krishna, IAS**  
Commissioner cum Secretary, Sports & Youth Services Department, Govt. of Odisha

**Mr. Kushal Das**  
General Secretary - AIFF

**Shri Debashish Samantaray**  
President - Football Association of Odisha

**Shri Ashirbad Behera**  
Secretary - Football Association of Odisha

Virtual Presence

**Dr. Nik Gugger**  
Hon'ble MP, Switzerland

**Mr. Gianni Infantino**  
President, FIFA

**Mr. Youri Djorkaeff**  
CEO - FIFA Foundation

**Mr. Alexandre Gros**  
Project Leader - FIFA Football for Schools

FIFA Officials

**Ms Alexandra Huete**

**Mr. Antonio Buenano**

**Mr. Alberto Giacomini**

Venue: KIIT Football Stadium, Bhubaneswar | Date: 27th October 2021

Watch LIVE on Kalinga TV from 10:00AM- 11:00AM



## India, UK Holding First Tri-Service Drill In Arabian Sea

New Delhi: India and the UK's armed forces are carrying out their maiden tri-Service exercise 'Konkan Shakti 2021' in the Arabian Sea, off the Konkan coast, and elsewhere defence officials said on Tuesday. The tri-service exercise aims to derive mutual benefits from each other's experiences and also showcase the continuing co-operation between the two countries, they said. "On completion of harbour planning phase, the sea phase of the exercise commenced on October 24. It will continue till October 27," the Indian Navy said. All participating units were split into two opposing forces with the aim of achieving sea control to land troops at a pre-designated site. "One force was led by the Flag Officer Commanding Western Fleet



and comprised the flag ship INS Chennai, other warships of the Indian Navy and HMS Richmond, the Royal Navy's Type 23 frigate," the force said. The other force operated under the UK Carrier Strike Group comprising aircraft carrier HMS Queen Elizabeth, other UK and the Netherlands' ships and Indian warships. The two forces integrated, within their groups, exercises such as replenishment at sea approaches, air direction and strike operations by fighter air-

craft — MiG 29Ks and F35Bs, cross control of helicopters — Sea King, Chetak and Wildcat, transiting through war-at-sea scenarios and gun shoots on expendable air targets. The simulated induction of troops was also undertaken, followed by setting up of a joint command operations centre. Thereafter, the two forces effected a rendezvous at sea with advanced air and sub-surface exercises. The air operations included strikes on the combined formation by Indian

maritime patrol aircraft (MPA) Dornier, fighters of the Indian Navy (MiG-29Ks), Royal Navy (F35Bs) and Indian Air Force (SU-30 and Jaguars) as well as a composite fly-past over the formation. Sub-surface exercises with an Indian Scorpene class submarine and underwater remote controlled vehicle EMATT, operated by the Royal Navy, were undertaken through the night. "Indian MPA P8I also participated in the exercise," Navy said. The land phase of the exercise is being conducted between the Indian Army and UK Army at Chaubatia under the Golden Key Division of Surya Command. The UK Army is being represented by officers and troops of the 1st Battalion of the Fusilier Regiment and the Indian Army

is represented by the troops of 1/11 Gorkha Rifles. The joint company level exercise between the two nations is aimed at training troops in conduct of Humanitarian Aid and Disaster Relief Operations by coalition forces in an opposed environment. The tri-service exercise aims to derive mutual benefits from each other's experiences and also showcase the continuing cooperation between the two countries. Maritime cooperation is a distinguishable symbol of the commitment of both nations in ensuring a positive climate at sea for enhancing strategic stability and promoting global economic prosperity. The interoperability achieved over the years, as a result of such exercises, has proved to be operationally beneficial to armed forces of both countries.

## GTA Elections Will Be Held Soon, Says Mamata

Kolkata: Looking for a permanent solution to the issue of the hill areas, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Tuesday said that the state government will take steps to conduct elections in the Gorkha Territorial Administration (GTA). She also promised that the government will do everything possible to implement the three-tier panchayat system in the hills. The Chief Minister, who is on a four days' tour to north Bengal, said in an administrative meeting in Darjeeling that the state government will take all the steps to conduct the GTA election within the next few months. The Trinamool Congress formed GTA after coming to power in 2011 but there was election only once since its

inception. Bimal Gurung, who headed the Gorkhaland movement, became the Chairman of GTA but since then there was no election. There were several allegations that there were corrupt practices in GTA and there was demand for an audit from several quarters. The state government wanted to do an audit, but the process was thwarted by the terror unleashed by Gurung and his Gorkha Janamukti Morcha. Later, when an arrest warrant was issued, Gurung fled Darjeeling from the hills and Binoy Tamang became the GTA Chairman. "We will prepare a fresh voters' list of the hills and conduct elections as early as possible. Terror is not the solution to a problem. To me there is

no difference between north Bengal and south Bengal. I want development for the people of the hills. Give me a chance. There will be a permanent solution to the problem of the people in the Hills," Banerjee said. The Chief Minister also said that there is a two-tier panchayat system in the hills and the government is keen to develop a full-fledged three-tier panchayat system so that the people of the hills can get all the benefits. "We are working towards it and we hope to implement the system very soon," she added. GJM leader Roshan Giri, another hill leader Anit Thapa, another hill leader, and Kalimpong MLA Ruden Lepcha, who were present in the meeting, had demanded GTA and panchayat elections from the Chief Minister.

## Congress Targets TMC For Participating In Goa Election



New Delhi: In a major development, the Congress party targeted the Trinamool Congress for its foray into Goa, saying elections should not become "tourism" and parties need to introspect whether they are strengthening the BJP or providing it "cover fire" in the fight against the "corrupt" government in the state. Congress spokesperson Randeep Surjewala said the Congress is determined to fight for a "transparent" government in the state, which he said is besieged by corruption,

while demanding the immediate sacking of Chief Minister Pramod Sawant who is facing fresh allegations from former Goa Governor Satya Pal Malik. Following its victory in West Bengal, Trinamool Congress is attempting to expand its national imprint and has set its eye on Goa hoping to win it or at least become the biggest Opposition party. It has even poached one of the senior leaders Luizhino Faleiro, a former Chief Minister

## India's COVID-19 Vaccination Coverage Exceeds 102.94 Cr

New Delhi: With the administration of 64,75,733 vaccine doses in the last 24 hours, India's COVID-19 vaccination coverage has exceeded 102.94 Cr (1,02,94,01,119) as per provisional reports till 7 am today. This has been achieved through 1,02,28,502 sessions, according to the Union health ministry. The recovery of 15,951 patients in the last 24 hours has increased the cumulative tally of recovered patients (since the beginning of the pandemic) to 3,35,83,318, the ministry said. Consequently,



India's recovery rate stands at 98.19%. Recovery Rate is currently at its highest peak since March 2020. Sustained and collaborative efforts by the Centre and the States/UTs continue the trend of less than 50,000 Daily New Cases that is being reported for 121 consecutive days now. Meanwhile, 12,428 new cases were reported in the last 24 hours.

## Court To Pronounce Order On Punjab Drug Racket On Nov 18

Chandigarh: After over three years "delay" in the Punjab multi-crore drug case, the Punjab and Haryana High Court on Tuesday announced it will pass an order on November 18. It also observed that the matter has been pending adjudication without any effective order being passed since 2018. Earlier, an application was filed by the state for examining status reports filed in 2018 be taken up on priority. After examining the plea, an order was passed by a bench of Justices A.G. Masih and A.K. Verma to enable the prosecuting agency to proceed as per law, an official statement



quoting the office of Advocate General A.P.S. Deol said. The bench considered the plea raised on behalf of the state and after hearing the Advocate General for an hour, orally observed that the bench "is conscious of the fact that the matter has been pending adjudication without any effective order

being passed since May 23, 2018 and, therefore, the bench does not want to give an impression that we are sitting over the matter". "So considering the plea raised in the application, the court has directed the Registrar Judicial to produce the status reports in sealed cover in chamber and observed that we will examine the reports in these days prior to passing the order on November 18," said the statement. The request of Satya Pal Jain, representing the Centre, to file further status report with regard to the progress in the extradition of certain accused as well as the latest report by the Enforcement Directorate and other agencies be filed on November 15, two days before the pronouncement of the order. Earlier, the case was being heard by the bench of Justices Rajan Gupta and Ajay Tewari but the latter recused himself from hearing the case on September 1.

## J&K: Six Civilians Injured In Grenade Attack In Bandipore

Srinagar: At least six civilians sustained injuries after terrorists lobbed a grenade in Jammu and Kashmir's Bandipore area on Tuesday. According to reports, the incident was reported from Sumbal bridge area. Soon after receiving the information, Security forces rushed to the site and launched a search operation

New Delhi: Four members of a family were killed after a massive fire broke out at their house today in the early hours in Delhi. The deceased persons were identified as 58-year-old Horilal, his 55-year-old wife Reena, their 24-year-old son Ashu and 18-year-old daughter Rohini. According to reports, the incident was reported at 4 am today. Following which four



fire tenders arrived at the spot and doused the flames. According to the fire department, the four members of the family died of

suffocation. Preliminary investigations suggest that cause of the incident was a mosquito coil catching fire and filling up with smoke.

## 4 Of Family Killed In Massive House Fire In Delhi

## Rs 25 Cr Extortion Charges: Not Summoned, Says NCB's Sameer Wankhede On Landing In Delhi

New Delhi: The Narcotics Control Bureau's (NCB) Mumbai zone director Sameer Wankhede landed in Delhi on Monday evening amid allegations of extortion charges levelled against him and others in the drugs-on-cruise-case in which

Bollywood superstar Shah Rukh Khan's son Aryan is behind the bars since a few weeks now. Wankhede said allegations against him were baseless and that he had not been summoned by the authorities, but was in the national capital for a different

purpose. The NCB has ordered a vigilance inquiry into the claims made by a witness in the case that an extortion bid of ₹25 crore was made by some agency officials, including its Wankhede, and others for letting off accused Aryan.

## Modi In UP To Inaugurate Medical Colleges, Launch Mega Health Scheme



UP, 26/10: Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has given a big statement regarding the National President of Samajwadi Party and former UP CM Akhilesh Yadav. Taking a jibe at the poster of Akhilesh Yadav, he said that I am coming, it means 'abduction, anarchy, looting'. We will not let this go on. Speaking at the program of Backward Classes in Lucknow, CM Yogi Adityanath

said that the opposition did not do anything for the state, otherwise the youth of the state would not have been forced to migrate. The previous government did the work of ruining the industry, but now youth of every section are getting jobs and they are putting their energy in the development of the state. A node of the Defense Corridor is being built in Aligarh. We are promoting the product of each district

## Amit Shah Pays Tribute To CRPF Jawans Killed In 2019 Pulwama Terror Attack

Srinagar: Union home minister Amit Shah on Tuesday paid tribute to the 40 personnel of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), who were killed in the terror attack in 2019, at a memorial at Lethpora in the Pulwama district of Jammu and Kashmir. J-K Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha also laid a wreath at the memorial and paid his tributes to the personnel killed in the 2019 Pulwama terror attack. On Monday, Amit Shah visited the CRPF

camp and interacted with the security personnel at Lethpora. Shah spent the night at the CRPF camp and along with Sinha also had dinner with the paramilitary forces. The memorial with the names of all the 40 jawans killed in the attack was inaugurated on February 14, 2020, at CRPF's Training Centre at the Lethpora camp in Pulwama. The memorial also has their photographs and CRPF's motto — "Seva and Nishtha" (Service and Loyalty).





## 42nd Sarala Puraskar Presented to Storyteller Paramita Satpathy

Bhubaneswar (A.O. Bureau): Prestigious 'Sarala Puraskar' given every year to best literary creation has been presented to renowned Odia storyteller Paramita Satpathy for her novel 'Abhipreta Kala'. She was presented with citation, trophy and five lakh Indian rupees by trusty Ms. Paramita Panda in a simple and short program complying with Covid -19 restrictions. In this occasion, Ila-Bansidhar Panda Kala Samman went to veteran painter Jagdish Chandra Kanungo and Ghumura artist Jayanta Kumar Behera along with a citation and 1.5 lakh cash award each. The annual Sarala Puraskar instituted by eminent Odia Indus-



trialist Late Dr. Bansidhar Panda and Late Mrs Ila Panda in the year 1980, has been continuously awarded by Indian Metals Public Charitable Trust (IMPACT). IMPACT is the charitable

wing of IMFA Ltd., the leading and the only fully integrated producer of ferro alloys in India. Sarala Puraskar is recognised as the foremost literary award of our state. This award is one

of the finest contributions of IMPACT to glorify Odia literature. The Ekalabya Puraskar also has been instituted by IMPACT to encourage promising sports talents of Odisha.

## Vigilance Awareness Week begins at PPT

Paradeep (A.O. Bureau): As per the directions from Central Vigilance Commission, Paradip Port Trust is observing Vigilance Awareness Week from 26th October to 1st November 2021. Centered on the theme "Independent India@75: Self-Reliance with Integrity", the week-long function started with administering pledge by Shri P.L. Haranadh, IRTS, Chairman, PPT to the employees, this morning adhering to the Covid-19 protocols. Following the pledge, a spot quiz contest on vigilance knowledge was held among the employees. Further, with an aim to bring transparency and improve efficiency in the PPT billing system,



Shri Haranadh launched "Online Bill processing and payment system" for contractors and vendors of PPT. With induction of the new digital platform the complete billing cycle will reduce to mere two days. Since, it is online system, so the bill processing will be done in a transparent manner with minimal manual interference.

During week long celebrations of Vigilance Awareness Week, online debate competition among the local school students and other activities related to Vigilance Awareness are scheduled. PPT employees are also taking integrity pledge through PPT Website and the Website of CVC. Each department of PPT is also conduct-

ing stakeholders meet during the week for awareness on corruption issues relating to the functioning of their particular departments. Several Hoardings have been displayed in the locality for creating awareness among the public. The Valedictory function will be held on 1st Nov. 2021, wherein the prizes will be distributed.

## Anti-Corruption Week kicks off at Malkangiri



Malkangiri AO Bureau: The role of citizens is important in preventing corruption. Anti-Corruption Week kicks off. Anti-Corruption Week has been held at the Nagar Bhavan of Municipality in Malkangiri. The function was presided over by R Vijay Kumar Anti-Corruption Inspector and was attended by Bal Mukund Bhuiyan, Project Director, District Rural Development Agency joined as chief guest, the Guest of Honour are Mr Ratnakar Das, former

member of the Sahitya Akademi Academy, and Social worker Mr Duryodhana Patra. The event was attended by more than 100 government and private sector members, as well as members of self-help groups and intellectuals. Although this day is celebrated every year, corrupt businessmen, contractors, government and private employees, politicians are rampant in their greed for money. Many anti-corruption activists have been arrested and charged with felony criminal mischief

for trying to seduce a minor. Despite this, the guests present said that corruption could not be prevented. This corruption is hampering the economic and social development of our country, he told the Associated Press. The chief guest, Mr. Bhuiyan, took the oath of office not take bribe not to corrupt. The program was moderated by Malkangiri Municipal Council Assistant Executive Engineer Indu Madhav Sarkar, Municipal Council staff Lingaraj Pal, Jagannath Khemudu.

## the school management committee formed at MalKangiri

Malkangiri AO Bureau: A meeting of parents was held today at the former Board High School in the Malkangiri district headquarters subdivision. The meeting was attended by retired headmaster Prakash Chandra Patnaik, former headmaster Durga Prasad Patnaik and headmistress Kavita Mohapatra, and the school-level management committee training camp has been held in 2020-21. According to government regulations, the committee is sched-



uled to meet every three years, but could not be convened because of the school's closure. Today, the AG Committee was formed in the presence of every parent and guardian of the

school. The school management committee is made up of a headmaster, two students, a teacher, a ward member, an anganwadi worker, a health worker and 12 parents. Mr

simanchal Panda selected as President and Mrs. Patnaik elected as Vice President, the former headmaster, explained that they needed to be present at every school event.

## Accused Trio In Manish Anurag Murder Case Undergo Polygraph Test



Bhubaneswar (A.O. Bureau): The three accused in Manish Anurag murder case underwent a lie-detection test on Tuesday. The lie-detection tests were conducted at State Forensic Sciences Laboratory at Rasulgarh. A case has been registered in this connection at Infocity police station. The accused were booked on kidnapping and murder of Manish Anurag, whose body was recovered in Patrapada pond in Tamando police limits in

here on October 10. The polygraph report cannot be produced in the court as an evidence but it assists the police in investigation. DCP Uma Shankar Dash said, a thorough investigation is underway in this case. "The accused have shared vital information while they were in police remand. The polygraph test helps in investigation. We can corroborate the information obtained from the accused with prima facie evidence and other aspects of the probe," Dash said.

## BJD leader narrowly escapes firing by miscreants in Banpur

Chilika, (A.O. Bureau): A BJD leader narrowly escapes firing by miscreants. The incident took place in Neeladri Prasad panchayat under Khordha district's Banpur police station. A written complaint has been lodged at the Banpur police station. Lokanath Sabar (47), son of Nakul Sabar of Rigidisima village, complained. According to the complaint, on Monday night while Lokanath was returning to his village Rigidisima from Niladri Prasad by his Scooty, around 8pm, suddenly some miscreant fired one round towards Lokanath in Bankadgarh forest road. Fortunately, Lokanath narrowly es-



capes firing by miscreants. He drove away and informed police. Banpur IIC Rashmiranjan Sahu and his team rushed to the spot and continued the investigation since two days. However, police couldn't find any clues yet in this case. Lokanath, however, appears to have mentioned the names of some individuals in the FIR, suspecting that it may have been from previous en-

emies. Lokanath, on the other hand, is also known as a strong BJD leader of Neeladri P r a s a d Panchayat. Though panchayat elections are coming, it is speculated that this may have been a major factor in this firing. However, the Banpur police have registered a case vide case number 380/21 under Sections 307, 25 and 27 of the Arms Act and investigating, said IIC Sri Sahu.

## Green-Ag Project Launched In Odisha

Bhubaneswar: Agriculture and Farmers' Empowerment Minister Arun Kumar Sahoo launched Green-Ag project in the State today, said an official press release. Green-Ag project funded by Global Environment Facility (GEF) aims to catalyze transformative changes to India's agriculture sector for National and global environmental benefits without compromising the country's food security and farmers' income. Addressing the inaugural session of the State Inception Workshop of Green-Ag project, Sahoo expressed pleasure at Odisha being one of the targeted State among the five selected of the

country. aho said that Odisha is endowed with abundant natural resources with rich biodiversity and stressed the importance of sustainable use of natural resources and adopting a conservation approach for better environmental benefits. He expressed his confidence that the project will attain its objective of catalysing sustainable transformation of the agricultural sector whereby providing economic upliftment to the people of the targeted area with awareness on conservation of IUCN endangered species and critically vulnerable flora and fauna. The Minister indicated that the project will be imple-

mented in identified priority villages of Similipal Landscape of Mayurbhanj District of Odisha for global environmental benefits and livelihood enhancement of targeted communities. Commissioner-cum-Secretary, Agriculture and Farmers' Empowerment Department and Director of Soil Conservation and Watershed Development also addressed the programme. UN's Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) representative Tomio Shichiri and Konda Reddy highlighted the overview of the project in Odisha context and expressed their happiness for the cooperation received from the Government of Odisha.

## Odisha Model For Olive Ridley Conservation Recognised As Best Practice

Bhubaneswar: Odisha model in preservation and growth of Olive Ridley sea turtles has been recognised as the best practice. At the State High Power Committee on conser-

vation of Olive Ridley, Chief Secretary Suresh Chandra Mahapatra said scientists like Dr K. Sivkumar of Wild life Institute of India and Dr Priyambada Mohanty

(Hejmadi) said, "Odisha has contributed significantly towards preservation and growth of this endangered species. Odisha model for conservation of the species

has been applauded in international forums." Mahapatra directed the departments of forest and environment, fisheries and animal resource development,



# EDITORIAL

## Battle against Covid surge not over

UK Health Security Agency, the country’s public health body, last week issued an update on a new variant of the Delta strain of the novel coronavirus. Referred to as Delta Plus, or AY.4.2, it’s now classified as a variant under investigation. The data is inadequate to reach a firm conclusion on its virulence but there are two aspects that are relevant to India. The new strain appears to have a “modestly increased growth rate” compared to Delta. In addition, its origin is not clear and it’s seen in travelers to the UK from a large number of countries. The UK, Russia and Israel are among countries that have seen spikes in Covid cases in the recent past. Of the three, UK and Israel have managed to fully vaccinate a significant proportion of people. UK has fully vaccinated 66.69% of the population, while Israel has covered 64.99%. In comparison, in India 21.35% of the overall population and 32% of adults have been fully vaccinated. For sure, there’s justifiable pride in administering more than a billion doses in India. The reality however is that a large proportion of the population is partially vaccinated or unvaccinated.

India has adapted its systems to deal with the threat posed by Covid. In addition to a mammoth vaccination campaign, there are frameworks such as Insacog, an inter-ministerial consortium of 28 labs to monitor genomic variations of the novel coronavirus. None of these pillars in the fight against Covid can supplant the need for individuals to shoulder responsibility and engage in Covid-appropriate behaviour. While it is premature to be alarmed by the new variant of Delta, experience should teach us not to drop our guard. WHO data shows that Delta’s earliest documented samples were from India in October 2020. It was classified as a variant of concern by the organisation only in May 2021. But by then, it had India in the grip of a vicious second wave.

The period from now to about February 2022 is important in India from the standpoints of both social engagements and economic activities. It is important to do all that is necessary to bring about normalisation of activity. However, at the same time, lessons of the last 18 months need to be internalised. The battle against Covid is not over. It’s dangerous to let complacency slip in. Even as the vaccination programme carries on and also expands its scope to children, everyone needs to be mindful of the dangers that still lurk.

## World cup scenarios: What if Afghanistan or NZ win the T20 title?

If cricket fandom in India has recovered from Sunday’s mauling at the hands of Pakistan (the players themselves seem to have taken it in their stride) here some scenarios they can mull over unfolding in rest of the World Cup tournament now that the marquee India-Pakistan event is history. See which one suits your imagination best

1. Indian team is so mad at having been beaten so badly that they take it out on rest of the teams in the group stage and qualify comfortably for the semi-final, which they win and qualify for the final, where they meet....Pakistan again.
  - 1a. They win the final and avenge the group stage loss
  - 1b. They lose the final and Pakistan begin their cycle of dominance
2. Indian team is so shellshocked by the opening loss to Pakistan that they go on to lose to all other teams in the group stage, including to Afghanistan and Scotland, and don’t qualify for the semi-final. End of cricket in India. Till the next IPL. In between, we can say who cares for T20s, Test cricket is the real deal...yada yada yada
3. Pakistan team is so exhausted by its feat against India that it loses all other group stage games, doesn’t qualify for the semi-final and returns home with India. T20 semis and finals are watched by 20 people, especially if Bangladesh and Sri Lanka also don’t make it to last four. Who wants to watch a bunch of dessicated goras playing in the Gulf? Are you kidding??? Meanwhile some business magnates will be organising a T-20 bilateral series in which the teams will play every evening so that
  - 3a: People lose interest in India-Pakistan games
  - 3b: There are riots every evening in both countries
4. My own favorite scenario: Afghanistan beat Pakistan and India en route to the final, which they win no matter who their opponent is. Taliban declare cricket a national game and allow India to host IPL (or start an Afghan Premier League) in Kabul, Kandahar, Herat, Mazar e Sharif etc. Normalcy, and big bucks return to Afghanistan.
5. Most likely to happen: England maul everyone on their way to the final where they meet....(drumroll) New Zealand. New Zealand win on the last ball via a ball hitting helmet or some such ridiculous thing. All of England gets drunk and decamps en masse to soccer. NZ return home to be told, World Cup winners or not, they’ll be quarantined for two weeks in remote island because they have 2.5 Covid cases in Auckland.

# Air Apparent

Sometime in the summer of 2007, Air India invited me to a ceremony in Seattle to take delivery of the first of several new Boeing 777 LR (Long Range) it had bought. I thought the trip would involve breaking a coconut or two on an aerobridge, running the aircraft over a lemon, and maybe a joyride around Puget Sound. Instead, it involved a quick 14-hour dash — over the Arctic — to New Delhi, and a return to NYC from Mumbai. Among other things on that trip, I learned that there is an immigration counter in Boeing Field in Everett near Seattle because so many new planes fly out of there to countries across the world; they don’t fly out of Sea-Tac, as the airport servicing Seattle, Tacoma, and surrounding areas is called.

At that point in time, I hadn’t flown Air India for years for reasons all too well known — it was a dismal state-run operation that was no match for the private players, among whom Jet and Kingfisher were flying high (their subsequent collapse is another story). But there was lot of talk of reviving Air India with new planes, new routes etc., esp by plugging into the growing US-India market, and they wanted to convince people about this. As this short account below shows, I was clearly skeptical of the outcome. The new planes would make no difference if

there was old service. Unless Air India could shape up in this area, I warned bleakly, it will be \$ 12 billion of your money down the tubes. The folks who had invited me for the joy ride did not like my candor one bit.

As it turned out, I did fly Air India a few times after that, mainly because it provided a direct Washington DC-New Delhi non-stop with no layovers. It was tolerable if you flew business class; at least you could sleep eight hours

## Chidanand Rajghatta

at a stretch. But economy was a wrench, and things went down the tubes rapidly. One time I flew, half the in-flight entertainment screens were kaput. Another time, a bathroom was out of commission (the flyers largely to blame). And I won’t even grumble over the refund they still owe me — I burned more \$\$\$ waiting for someone to pick up the helpline. Gradually the planes got shoddier and the ground service — the cabin crew was always good; they are so used to our dehati travelers — got worse. So you bet I’m relieved the government has finally canned and sold Air India.

Governments shouldn’t be in the business of running airlines and hotels. While at it I also hope they nuke the Centaur Hotel, the last word in Soviet/Socialist era hospitality. I remain skeptical if the Tatas,

who’ve bought Air India, can revive it for reasons I’ll dive into another time. But for now, I’ll only paraphrase Richard Branson: The quickest way to become a millionaire in the airline business is to start out as a billionaire. I’ll be happy if Tatas — or Rakesh Jhunjhunwala — disprove this proposition. Air India: Hot Air or taking wings? (From Aug 2007)The storied history of aviation in India added a

new chapter last week when Capt Amitabh Singh took off from Boeing Field near Seattle in a spanking new 777-LR and headed out to New Delhi. Thanks to oversimplification of the globe, we tend to think the distance from the United States east coast to India should be shorter than from the west coast. But as the unofficial flight demonstrated — by flying the Arctic route — what you see isn’t what you get.

Taking off from Seattle and flying longitudinally over Canada, the Boeing 777-LR looped over the North Pole, roared down Russia and Central Asia, and made the distance to New Delhi in the same time it would have taken from New York flying latitudinally across Europe — about 15 hours. On August 1, the same plane, named Andhra Pradesh,

made its first official non-stop flight from Mumbai to New York’s JFK in 15 hours.

As landmark events go, it wasn’t in the same bracket as JRD Tata’s flight from Karachi to Mumbai in 1932 on a single-engined de Havilland Puss Moth which launched what became Air India. It was more in the league of Air India’s first flight to London in 1948 on a Lockheed plane called the Malabar Princess or its first jet age flight to New York in 1960 on a Boeing 707 named Nanda Devi. Those were halcyon days for Air India. Air India hasn’t had a whole lot to be proud of lately. A sarkari airline seen to be in terminal decline and an anachronism in the age of free enterprise, it lost much of its international traffic to foreign airlines such as British Airways and Lufthansa. It was being run to the ground by poor service, old planes, and a bloated staff entrenched through sifarish and sycophancy. Now, Air India wants to change that sad script.

The 777-LR, the first of eight such planes, in addition to 60 more assorted Boeings, is seen as the answer to its revival. The new bird is a beauty — a sumptuous airplane that is breathtaking in its luxury at the top end and a bonanza even for those who fly coach class. Configured for generous leg space, its most engaging feature is a knock-

out in-flight entertainment that can keep you occupied for hours with dozens of movies in several foreign and Indian languages. Business travelers can put in a solid day’s work with power connections for their laptop. And of course, there is always the allure of Indian cuisine.

Given a half-decent service, nostalgic Indian diaspora and firang Indophiles would readily forget years of shoddy treatment and defect to the new Air India from soulless foreign carriers. But new aircraft alone is not enough to win back passengers. Air India needs to clean up its act starting with the first ticketing call. While at it, it also needs to nuke its Centaur Hotel, a layover hellhole not fit for man or beast. The inaugural flight took from Mumbai on the dot at 12.45 a.m and landed in JFK on schedule at 7 a.m — perfect for the day’s meeting on Wall Street. But the business traveler sitting next to me was far from happy. His check-in was tortured. The cabin crew was eager and earnest, but they didn’t have the first two duty free items he asked for. And they couldn’t fix his TV screen that blanked out.

Through gritted teeth, in the face of explanations about teething troubles, he said he’d give Air India just one more chance. Unless Air India can shape up, it will be \$ 12 billion of your money down the tubes.

# The individual is not really a single entity

## Narayani Ganesh

When you say, “I did this” or “I went there” it sounds like first person singular, and grammatically, it is correct. But when you extrapolate the first person singular to a larger canvas by taking into account all the factors that make up the ‘i’ you are referring to, it is abundantly clear that the ‘i’ is really plural because you are the sum of many, many entities. Biologically, you are a walking ecosystem because more than 100 trillion bacteria live inside of you, especially in your gut. That is perhaps more than the total of all human beings who have ever been born so far. Therefore, it is clear that you are not really the body; your body includes many other living organisms that affect

the way you move, the way you digest and the way you think, feel and respond. This could be the reason for the expression, ‘gut feeling’ as what you feel is the sum of the feelings of all inhabitants in your body. Spout wisdom, or come up with new theories and analyses, all of that does not come from just you, the individual; these are the collective result of inputs from all your mentors, family and friends, and content of whatever you consume from books and audio-visual media. “If I have seen further, it is by standing on the shoulders of giants,” Isaac Newton is believed to have

said. When we consider the concept of ‘i’ at a metaphysical level, we need to differentiate between the small ‘i’ which is the ego, and the large ‘I’ which refers to the Atman, the Self within, synonymous with Brahmn, the Universal Consciousness in Hindu philosophy. Again, it is clear that the self is contained in the Self, the smaller ‘i’ getting subsumed by the larger ‘I’, a plural situation. The goal of a serious seeker is to overcome the ego and get merged with the Self, thereby giving up all plurality and become One with Brahmn.

Once when Adi Shankara and his colleagues were returning from the bathing ghats of the Ganga, an outcaste with his dogs came in his path. Shankara asked him to move away — as was the custom those days — to which the Chandala, outcaste, asked him: “Who should move away — my body or my Atman? My body is made up of the same elements as yours and the Atman that resides in my body also resides in yours. So pray tell me, who or what should move out of your way?” This revelatory incident that Shankara experienced, inspired him to compose the ‘Manasa Panchaka’ even as he promoted the philosophy of

Advaita Vedanta. The doctrine of interdependence and what is called the ‘bundle’ theory in Buddhism talks of the anatman, no-self, and of anicca, the doctrine of impermanence, indicating that “The individual is a series of interconnected processes that, working together, give the appearance of being a single, separated whole.” Hence the individual, who we believe to be a singular entity, is viewed as being an interrelated part of an ever-changing, impermanent universe. Whether one believes in the Atman or the anatman, the premise that a human being is first person singular does not hold, as the so-called individual is really a plurality of many.

# Beijing’s message: New border control plans signal China’s inflexibility

China’s new land border law may have serious ramifications for its border dispute with India. The new law, which comes into effect on January 1, 2022, aims to strengthen Beijing’s control over its border areas and stipulates that China’s territorial integrity is “invulnerable”. Operationally, it enjoins the Chinese military to carry out border drills and provides state support for construction of border towns, strengthening of border defences and better integration of populations inhabiting border areas. In other words, China is looking to

legally formalise its claims over its disputed land borders by building permanent infrastructure and control systems in these areas. Which means that the current India-China border standoff resulting from Chinese encroachment of Indian territory in eastern Ladakh has slim chance of satisfactory resolution. True, there could be temporary on-ground adjustment5s50-like the establishment of the no-patrolling zone at Pangong Tso. But fundamentally the new law means that China will not budge from its border claims. This in turn means

that the India-China boundary negotiation mechanism is as good as dead. It also forces India to deploy its army along the LAC in sizeable strength and for extended durations to prevent further Chinese ingress. There’s no denying that the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) has long had to contend with the reality that its ethnic minorities occupy land that constitutes over two-thirds of China’s national territory and encompasses nearly all of China’s continental borders. While in the earlier CCP scheme Beijing

sought to integrate ethnic minority populations with promises of respecting and preserving their cultural heritage, over the decades it went back on those assurances. As exemplified by the current Chinese regime’s policies in Tibet, Xinjiang and Inner Mongolia, there is a concerted attempt to Sinicise ethnic minority populations and change the demography of these provinces by encouraging Han Chinese migration to these areas. The new border law is of a piece with this policy and settlement of Han Chinese in newly constructed Chinese bor-

der towns cannot be ruled out. Such a development is bound to significantly change the border dynamics with India. Meanwhile, the new border law can also be read as China’s rejection of India’s position linking resolution of the border dispute with the overall bilateral relationship. Beijing is clearly signalling that it won’t sacrifice its border claims to improve two-way ties. This should force New Delhi to rethink the possibility of a modus vivendi with Beijing. An aggressive, inflexible and belligerent China is here to stay.



# The Smruti Sudha revealed on Dr. Kalam's 70th birth anniversary at Khallikot

Khallikot(A.O. Bureau): Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam has celebrated the 70th birth anniversary of Dr. Kalam on behalf of the Jan Kalyan Parishad. The occasion included the inauguration of the memorial, organized by the Council, and a workshop on the relevance of tree planting in the current situation and a safe earth. The meeting was presided over by Mr. Purna Chandra Behera, President of the Council. Primary Education Director Shri Vrindavan Shatapathy, Co-Director Shri Prashant Kumar Swain, Former MLA of Khordha and International Green Captain Shri Dillip Shri Chandan, Editor Chir Sandhan Professor Partha Sarathi Ajay Barik. Distinguished Columnist Shri Hayagrib Tripathi, Daily Morning Berhampur Edition Chief Shri Jagan



Mohan Mohapatra, District Public Relations Officer Shri Rabindra Kumar Behera, Former Mayor of Rambha Shri Subash Chandra Panda, Purushottampur BEO Shri Harekrishna Panda, Chhatrapur BEO Shri Abinash Shatapathi, Khallikot BEO Mrs. Bichitra Manjari Mishra, Beguniapada BEO Shri Kamala Kant Sahu joined as the Chief Guest, calling Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam a Yuga Man and his contribution to India as a scientist. Teacher Deepika

Das sang the opening song while Dwarika Nath Maharana introduced the guests. Mr. Sriharsh Maharana, Secretary, Abdul Kalam Jan Kalyan Parishad, read out the editorial. On the occasion, Mr. Jagan Mohan Mohapatra, Head of the Berhampur edition of the morning, was honored with the Best Journalist Award, while Mr. Purnachandra Rath, an eminent educator from Khallikot, was honoured with the Pragya Purusha

Samman. Mr. Jayant Das, President of Art College, was honoured with the Distinguished Sculptor Award, Dr. Prakash Chandra Panigrahi was awarded the Distinguished Educator Award, Mr. Ajit Sethi the Distinguished Academic Award, Deepika Das the Honorable Mention, Mr. Ranjan Kumar Mohapatra and Prabhat Kumar Mohapatra the Social Worker and Lalit Kumar Paley the Adarsh Student Award.

## The unfortunate incident took place in Nabarangpur

Nabarangpur: (AO Bureau):-Nabarangpur district's Raigarh block Haldi panchayat headquarters sub-division. Rinki Majhi, 13, daughter of Kirtan Majhi of the village, recovered the half-burnt body. Rinky is now in eighth grade and returned home this morning after a visit. Rinki's body was found half-burned in the middle of the house a short distance away from the house. The villagers rushed to the scene and tried to rescue Rinki, but he was pronounced dead at the scene. Raigarh police have arrived at the scene and are investigating. No response was received from the family.

## Excise conducts multiple raids, two apprehended



Chilika, (A.O. Bureau):On Tuesday, the Excise department raided several places under Khordha district's Balugaon police station and arrested two accused. According to sources, the Excise department raided Barkul

and Chandraput villages in the morning and arrested two liquor dealers and seized 108 liters of ID liquor from them. The two arrested were Dharma Jali and Kishore Sahu. The Excise department has filed two cases in PR

Nos. 72/21-22 and 73/21-22 in this regard and forwarded both accused to court today. Balugaon Excise officer Manoj Kumar Barik, Tangi Excise officer Sunita Dalai and other staff members were involved in the raid.



**Nabarangpur - Suicide of a loving couple.** The incident took place in Nirundi village in Jharigaon block of Nabarangpur district. The couple committed suicide by hanging themselves from a rope in a locked room. A special team has arrived at Nirandi village in Nabarangpur district to investigate.

# Gangpur police have arrested five accused in connection with the robbery of Bharat finance company employee

Belgunta(A.O. Bureau): While finance company employees go to the countryside to lend money to women groups, they often come across reports of looting. In such a case, Gangpur police today arrested five people in connection with the robbery of an employee of Bharat Finance Company and confiscated Rs 23,700 in cash, a red and white Apache motorcycle with OD07AA 4630 number mixed with a knife, a knife, and a mobile phone. Receipt book confiscated. The arrested persons are Dillip Sethi (24), Mangulu Sethi (25) of D. Singipur village un-



der Gangpur police station and Pintu alias Mangulu Pradhan (23), Mangulu Swai (26) and Nilu Bisoyi (24) of Kharida village under Hinjili police station. According to sources, Tutu Behera, 23, of Nujaypur village in Nayagarh district, works as an assistant

# Devotees throng Gangadhareshwar Pani Mahaprabhu's peeth for Karthik Monday

Kukudakhandi(A.O. Bureau) : Gangadhareshwar (Pani Mahaprabhu) is an old Shaiva area on the outskirts of Berhampur. The Shaivite seat is located in the Nimkhandi panchayat area under the Kukudakhandi block of the Gopalpur constituency. So there is a gathering of devotees all year round here. A crowd of devotees was seen at the Gangadhareshwar Peeth on the first Monday of Kartik this year. The local temple management committee continued the process of bringing people to see the Lord within the Covid cuts. In this temple, Shivaratri sital sasthi and the Shiva Chaturdasi of



each month is the festival celebrated here on the pedestal. However, with the help of the devotees and the management committee, the temple is being upgraded. Many members of the committee have appealed to the government or the local

block administration. To date, the administration has not been able to provide a good solution. In addition, there are no special facilities for devotees to stay here, and small temples often disrupt the service of God. However, the temple's

management committee has appealed to the block administration to build a high-rise temple and a half-paved road in collaboration with devotees and people. Mahendra Subuddhi, president of the management committee of the Ganga Dhareshwar temple, Lokesh Patra, vice-president and Gandhi Patra, Narsingh Acharya secretary, and Premananda Nayak joint secretary, treasurer Abhiram Sahu, Legal Adviser Shiv Prasad Mishra, Manoj Das Kamesu Patra Babuli Sahu Prashant Kumar Sahu (Bitu) Chairman Sarat Chandra Patra were present and assisted in the Kartik program on Monday.

## Power show of congress workers in MalKangiri District

Malkangiri (A.O. Bureau): Pradeep Majhi resigned from the Congress on October 24 and showed his strength in Nabarangpur district last Sunday, which was seen by the district Congress in Malkangiri yesterday. Koraput District Congress President Meenakshi Bahinipati, Sankhemundi MLA Ramesh Jena and Nabarangpur District Congress President Munna Tripathi were prominently present at the function organized by the District Con-



gress. Indigenous people in Malkangiri district have never been with Pradeep Majhi, and Congress leader Ramesh Jena has questioned why Pradeep Majhi would have lost

the election twice. Congress's strength after Pradeep Majhi: Hundreds of workers from other parties have joined the Congress. Meenakshi Bahinipati said the Con-

gress candidate would win here in the general elections starting from the upcoming panchayat elections. Hundreds of workers from other parties joined the congress yesterday. District Congress president Govind Patra said he was happy. The gathering was attended by many of the district's veteran Congress leaders, Mala Madhi, D. Nilakantha Rao, Padma Pangi, Chiti Babu, Keshu Babu, Chhabi Das, Pranakrishna Biswas were the prominent participants.

## Decomposed dead body of an unidentified youth was recovered

Chilika, (A.O. Bureau):A shocking incident took place in Pandarasuni forest under Khordha district's Nachuni Outpost on Tuesday afternoon. The decomposed dead body of an unidentified young man was found lying in the forest. Imme-

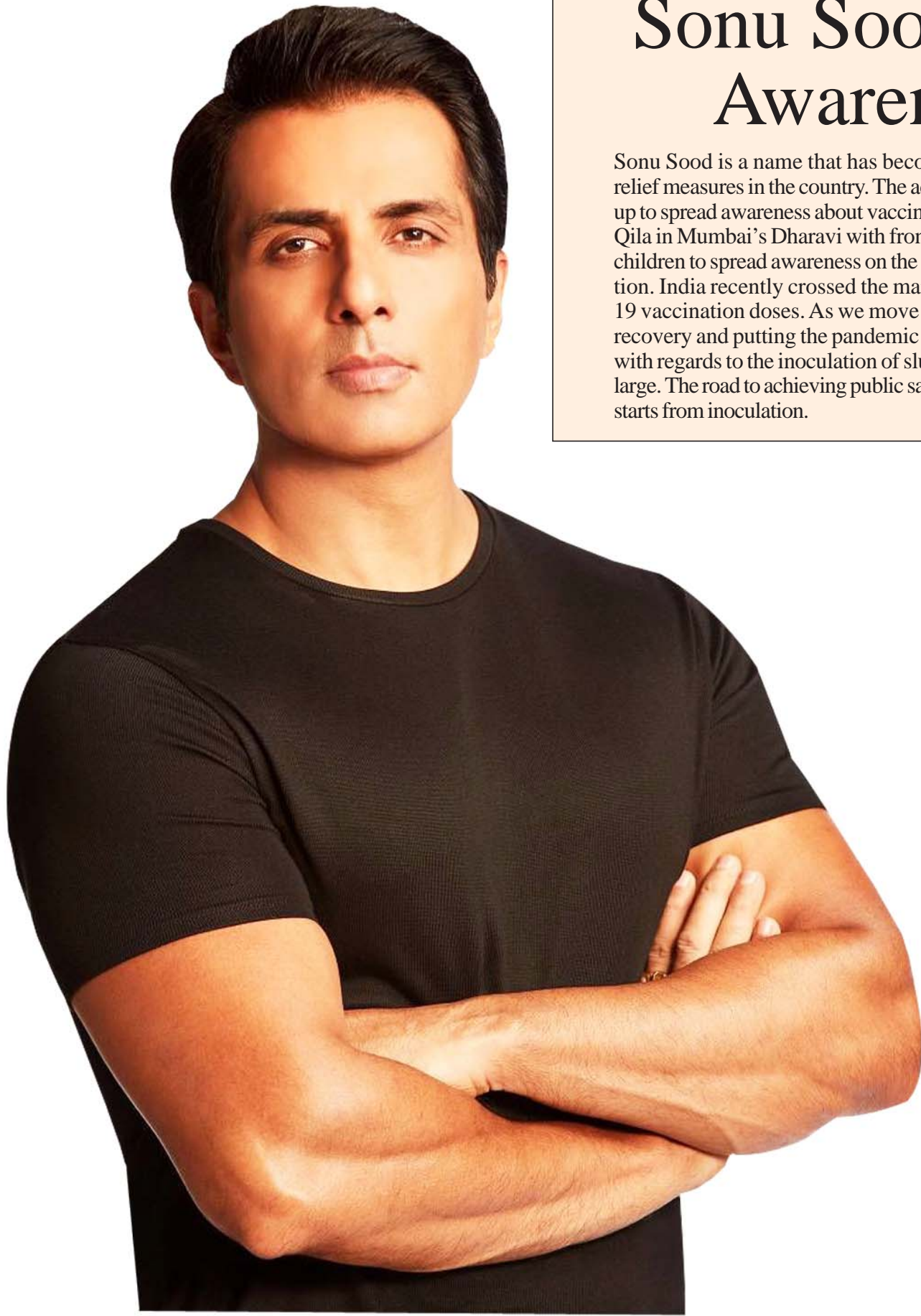
diately after the villagers saw this and informed the Nachuni OP police, OIC Mukesh Behera reached the spot and started investigation. Police say the body may have been lying there for about 20 to 25 days. The identity of the young man could not

be ascertained. Similarly, ropes were tied to a tree near the dead body, police said. The cause of death will be clear after the autopsy report come, but a scientific team from Khordha has arrived at the scene and is investigating.

tions revealed that Dillip Sethi and Mangulu Sethi of D. Singipur village were monitoring Tutu's debt collection. So after they informed the Mangulu chief of Kharida village, Mangulu contacted his two friends Mangulu Swain and Nilu Bisoyi. Two days before the robbery, five Yak miscreants made a blueprint for the robbery in a secluded area near Jahada. On the day of the robbery, Dillip Sethi and Mangulu Sethi were monitoring Tutu's movements, while three others looted from Tutu as per previous preparations. After the

robbery, the five miscreants gathered in a secluded area of Kalasuta village and distributed the loot money and threw a bag of important documents into a bush. Accused Mangulu Pradhan took Tutu's mobile and electronic tablets with him, but reportedly threw them into the canal for fear of tracking. Gangpur police officer Dhiresh Kumar Das, who arrested all five accused in connection with the incident, has registered a case under police case number 472/21 at Gangpur police station in connection with Tutu's case, Gangpur police officer Dhiresh Kumar Das said in a press meet.





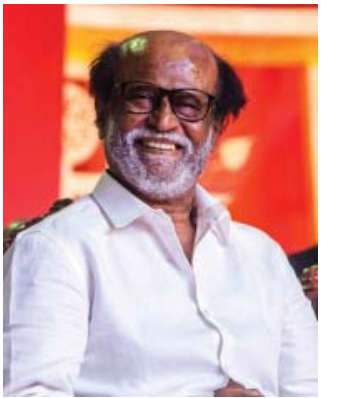
## Sonu Sood Organises Vaccination Awareness Drive In Mumbai

Sonu Sood is a name that has become synonymous with relief measures in the country. The actor once again stepped up to spread awareness about vaccination as he visited Kala Qila in Mumbai's Dharavi with frontline workers and their children to spread awareness on the importance of vaccination. India recently crossed the mark of 100 crore Covid-19 vaccination doses. As we move forward on the path of recovery and putting the pandemic behind us, the concern with regards to the inoculation of slum dwellers still looms large. The road to achieving public safety from the pandemic starts from inoculation.

Talking about the same, Sonu said, "We cannot take the Covid situation lightly as of yet. According to many researchers, there are many individuals in the slum areas who are not yet vaccinated. The idea is to get the entire nation jabbed to be corona-free." Talking about the cause further, he said, "With our Sunday drive, my agenda is to encourage maximum people to get their doses. I feel there is no one better than the kids of frontline workers who can help in motivating these countrymen for the same." On the work front, Sonu Sood has already wrapped his upcoming film, 'Prithviraj' with Akshay Kumar and is currently prepping for the Telugu film 'Acharya'.

## Rajnikanth Receives Dadasaheb Phalke Award

New Delhi: Actors Rajinikanth, Kangana Ranaut, Manoj Bajpayee and Dhanush were feted on Monday at the 67th National Film Awards which were announced earlier this year. The awards are being presented at the Vigyan Bhawan in the capital. Manoj and Dhanush received their awards for Best Actor for 'Bhonsle' and the Tamil film 'Asuran', respectively. Kangana Ranaut was honoured with the Best Actress award for her performances in the Hindi films 'Manikarnika: The Queen Of Jhansi' and 'Panga'. South superstar Rajinikanth received India's highest film honour Dada Saheb Phalke Award for his outstanding contribution to the world of Indian cinema. The veteran actor received a standing ovation as he was conferred the award. Rajinikanth's family including his wife Latha, and daughter Soundarya Rajinikanth too were present at the event. After receiving the honour, Rajinikanth thanked the central government. "I am extremely happy to receive this most prestigious Dadasaheb Phalke Award. My thanks to the honourable central government. I dedicate this award to my mentor, my guru K. Balachander. This moment, I remember him with great gratitude, and my brother Satyanarayan Gaikwad who's like my father who brought me up by teaching me great values, and spirituality. My friend in Karnataka, bus transport driver, and my colleague Rajbahadur." He recalled his days of struggle. "When I was the bus conductor, he identified the acting talent in me and encouraged me to join the cinema. All my producers, directors, co-artists, technicians, distributors, exhibitors and the media, press and all my fans. Tamil people – without them I am no body. Jai Hind!" "Chhichore" director Nitesh Tiwari and producer Sajid Nadiadwala dedicated the Best Film Award to late Bollywood star Sushant Singh Rajput, who passed away in 2020. Vijay Sethupathy was awarded the Best Supporting Actor for his performance in 'Super Deluxe'. Malayalam film 'Marakkar: Arabikadalinte Simham' (Marakkar: Lion of the Arabian Sea) received the National Film Award for Best Feature Film. The film has been written and directed by Priyadarshan, and stars Mohanlal. The actor was also present at the awards show. 'The Tashkent Files' won two awards – Best Supporting Actress, which went to Pallavi Joshi and for Best Dialogue Writer. The 67th National Awards were delayed since last year due to the pandemic.



## Satiate Your Sweet Cravings With Puran Poli

Puran Poli is a popular Mahastrian sweet flatbread made with flour, lentils, jaggery, and cardamoms. Let's check the ingredients for the recipe.

For Puran (Dal Stuffing):

1½ cup chana dal  
¼ tsp turmeric  
½ tsp ghee  
3 cup water  
1½ cup jaggery  
1 tsp ghee  
½ tsp cardamom powder  
For poli (outer covering):  
2 cup wheat flour  
1 cup maida  
¼ tsp turmeric  
¼ tsp salt  
2 tbsp oil  
water (for kneading)  
Other ingredients:  
maida (for dusting)  
ghee (for roasting)

### INSTRUCTIONS

How to make Puran / chana dal stuffing:

Firstly, in a large bowl soak 1½ cup chana dal for 1 hour.

Drain off the water and transfer it to the cooker.

Add ¼ tsp turmeric, ½ tsp ghee, 3 cups water.

Pressure cook for 3 whistles on medium flame.

Now drain off the water separating dal and water.

Transfer the dal to a large Kadai.

Add 1½ cup jaggery and mix well.

Once the jaggery melts, start to mash the dal.

Mash until the dal turns smooth paste. you can alternatively, grind the dal and jaggery into the mixi jar. Keep cooking until the mixture thickens and holds the shape. Now add 1 tsp ghee and ½ tsp cardamom powder and cook for a minute, or until the mixture starts to separate the pan. If the mixture is undercooked, then the stuffing will be sticky, and will be difficult to make a ball.

Transfer to the plate and cool slightly. Make sure not to overcook, else the stuffing turns hard.

Grease hands with ghee and makes ball-sized stuffing.

Finally, Puran is ready. Keep aside.



## Home Remedies To Treat Grey Hairs Naturally

Gray hairs are a nightmare for almost everyone. While heredity, smoking, chewing tobacco, and emotional stress can cause grey hair, lack of nourishment is also one of the main reasons for graying. But have no worries we have piled up some remedies that you can try.



### Curry Leaves And Coconut Oil

Curry leaves do an extraordinary job of revitalizing the roots of the hair. The vitamin B present in the curry leaves helps the hair follicles restore their biological color pigment while keeping premature greying at bay. Coconut oil is best known as a natural coolant for the scalp and turns as the true combination with the curry leaves to restrain unnecessary Pitta dosha that controls your grey hairs.

### Almond Oil And Lemon Juice Mask

Both Lemon and Almond oil are the most accessible ingredients in

your kitchen. Did you know that both elements assist you in getting rid of your grey hair naturally? Almond oil is an excellent source of Vitamin E that helps nourish hair roots and prevent premature greying of the hair. Lemon juice helps in accelerating hair growth and adds color, bounce, and gloss to the hair. This mixture of lemon and almond oil works better as the remedy to treat grey hair in millennials.

### Amla and Fenugreek Seeds Hair Mask

Amla is a great ingredient that nourishes hair and keeps it healthy. As it's rich in vitamin C, antioxidants, and more

nutrients, it can eliminate greying. Both Fenugreek and Amla treat any hair issue while making it strong.

The amino acids in the Fenugreek seeds help the hair follicles fight premature greying. Amino acids that are very helpful for the dark hair color are rich in Fenugreek seeds. Therefore Fenugreek seeds can help you in treating your grey hairs.

### Black Tea rinse

Black tea can cover gray hair as it stains the hair then darkens it while adding that shine to the hair. Black tea rinse offers a great keratin and melanin boost that restores the hair pigment. It is known to

cover your grey hair effectively.

So, this black tea is a win-win deal for your hair. It not just covers up the grey hair but makes mane supple and soft. Now you must be thinking about how to utilize black tea. Read on to know!

### Onion Juice hair mask

Onions are the best remedy and the effective solution for gray hair. It enhances the catalase, an enzyme that darkens the hair. Onion juice is also known to promote hair growth. If it is mixed with lemon juice, it offers more shine to the hair. Being rich in sulfur content, onion makes a noticeable option for the hair.



# Women's Hockey Nationals: Punjab To Meet Odisha In Quarters

Jhansi: Sarabdeep Kaur and Kirandeep Kaur scored a brace each as Hockey Punjab blanked Hockey Arunachal 6-0 to reach the quarter-finals of the 11th Hockey India Senior Women's National Championship 2021 here on Tuesday. Sarabdeep opened the scoring for Punjab in the 20th minute and added another goal in the 33rd minute while Kirandeep Kaur scored her brace of goals in the 36th and 43rd minute of the match as Hockey Punjab started on a strong note in their Pool E match. Shalu Mann (28') and Navjot Kaur (50') scored one goal each as Punjab sealed their place in the last-eight stage. In the quarter-finals, Hockey Punjab will take on strong contenders Odisha while Hockey



Madhya Pradesh face Hockey Jharkhand, Hockey Maharashtra take on Karnataka and Hockey Haryana meet Uttar Pradesh Hockey in other last-eight stage matches on Wednesday. Chhattisgarh Hockey, Hockey Andhra Pradesh, Hockey Bihar, and Hockey Bengal registered victories in their respective matches on the sixth day of the

championship. Earlier, in the first match of the day, Chhattisgarh Hockey defeated Hockey Himachal 14-1 in their Pool D match. Rushali Kashyap (23', 39', 50', 54') scored four goals, while Aasmeen Khan (6', 17'), Shashi Kiran Lakra (11', 21'), Captain Balvinder Kaur Mehra (37', 55'), Pooja Singh (43', 57') scored a brace each. Gayatri

Shinde (15') and Pooja Yadav (36') scored one goal each. Sakshi Thakur (18') scored the only goal for Hockey Himachal. In the other Pool E match, Hockey Andhra Pradesh defeated Hockey Chandigarh 3-2. Kalapureddi Veera Venkata Durga (38', 42', 54') scored a hat-trick for Hockey Andhra Pradesh, while Reetu Devi (17') and

Poonam (29') scored one goal each for Hockey Chandigarh. In Pool A, Hockey Uttarakhand drew 0-0 with Le Puducherry Hockey. Hockey Bihar defeated Goans Hockey 4-1 in their Pool B match. Ebha Kerketta (22', 43', 54') scored a hat-trick, while Ritu Singh (25') scored one goal for Hockey Bihar, while Captain Geeta Rathod (10') scored the only goal for Goans Hockey. In the last match of the day, Hockey Bengal defeated Hockey Gujarat 8-1 in their Pool C match. Manisha Bhakat (3', 7', 24', 41', 51') scored five goals, while Nandita Deb (20'), Puja Bag (54'), and Supriya Bahadur (57') scored one goal each for Hockey Bengal. Muskan Kureshi (47') scored the only goal for Hockey Gujarat.

# T20 World Cup: Cricket South Africa Directs Players To Collectively 'Take The Knee'



Johannesburg: The Cricket South Africa (CSA) on Tuesday said that it has issued a directive to the national men's team to adopt a consistent and united stance against racism by 'taking the knee' prior to the start of their remaining matches of the ongoing T20 World Cup. The board recognised concerns that 'the different postures taken by team members in support of the BLM initiative created an unintended perception of disparity or lack of support for the initiative'. "After considering all relevant issues, including the position of the players, the Board felt that it was imperative for the team to be seen taking a united and consistent stand against racism, especially given SA's history," the CSA said in a statement. "Several other teams at the World Cup have

adopted a consistent stance against the issue, and the Board felt it is time for all SA players to do the same," it added. Notably, South Africa have adopted varied stances towards supporting the anti-racism movement since the BLM movement re-emerged last year, but the national team has not taken a knee together. Till now, it was decided that team members would make their own decision about whether to take a knee, raise a fist or stand to attention to support the initiative. However, CSA have changed their mind after South Africa's opening T20 World Cup match against Australia, where Australia took a knee but South Africa maintained their three options. Other countries like England, West Indies, India and Scotland have also taken a

knee so far, while Pakistan held their hands to their hearts. Sri Lanka and Bangladesh have not made any gestures yet but Bangladesh have previously taken a knee. The CSA board directive comes at the same time as the Social Justice and Nation-Building (SJN) hearings are being conducted, aimed at investigating the extent of racial discrimination in South African cricket. Several former players have made allegations of exclusion and told stories of being othered within the team. "A commitment to overcoming racism is the glue that should unite, bind and strengthen us. Race should not be manipulated to amplify our weaknesses. Diversity can and should find expression in many facets of our daily lives, but not when it comes to taking a stand against racism," CSA board chair Lawson Naidoo said.

# Virat An Absolutely Amazing Talent, Says Gavaskar

Dubai: Indian cricketing legend Sunil Gavaskar has called Virat Kohli an "absolutely amazing talent" for the innings he played against Pakistan in the 10-wicket loss to the arch-rivals in the ICC T20 World Cup 'Super 12' game on October 24. Following the dismissal of openers KL Rahul (3) and Rohit Sharma (0) early in Powerplays, the India skipper played with a "great sense of responsibility", scoring 57 off 49 deliveries to at least give his side a fighting total of 151/7. However, Pakistan, riding on a superb bowling performance from paceman Shaheen Afridi (3/31) and an unbeaten opening partnership of 152 runs between Mohammad Rizwan (79 not out) and Babar Azam (68 not out), scored a 10-wicket win over India. "It was a terrific innings (from Virat) because India had lost their openers in the



powerplay itself, so there was a greater sense of responsibility on Kohli's shoulders because he now had to pace the innings he thought to repair the innings and also get India to a total which they could hope to defend," said Gavaskar on Star Sports on Tuesday. "So, the way he (Virat) paced his innings, the way he chose the shots to break free at times and the six that he hit off Shaheen Afridi. Absolutely amazing talent." Gavaskar also praised Shaheen Afridi's bowling and shed light on how Virat was able to

play the pacer. "The way Shaheen Afridi was bowling, he was mixing it up quite well, he was angling the ball across the right hand and he was getting the ball to turn back in after pitching, not so much in the air because you don't get that much help in the UAE. That's why it was important for Kohli to try and step out so that he would be able to then negate the amount of swing that Shaheen Afridi was getting and that's how he was able to negotiate that and score runs off Shaheen Afridi."

# Women's National Boxing: World Medalists Manju, Jamuna Storm Into Semis

Hisar: Extending her brilliant winning run in the tournament, Railway Sports Promotion Board's (RSPB) boxer Manju Rani entered the 48kg semi-finals with a decisive 5-0 win over Punjab's Minakshai in the 5th Elite Women's National Boxing Championships here on Monday. The 21-year-old Manju, who won the silver medal on debut at the 2019 World Championships, packed unbelievable power that certainly took her opponent from Punjab completely by surprise, as she had no answers to Manju's precise punches.

# South Africa Cruise To First Super 12s Win Over The West Indies



Dubai: South Africa beat the West Indies at a canter to open their Super 12s account and leave their opponents staring at an early ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2021 exit. The Proteas limited the West Indies to 143 for eight as Dwaine Pretorius took three wickets late on to put the brakes on an innings which had looked set to reach a far more imposing total after opener Evin Lewis's blistering 56. In reply, South Africa rallied well

from the early loss of captain Temba Bavuma and never looked in trouble in pursuit of the runs as Aiden Markram's destructive 51 not out from just 26 balls broke the West Indies' resolve en route

to an eight-wicket win. Given the West Indies' net run rate took a heavy hit in the six-wicket defeat to England, a second consecutive loss leaves the defending champions desperate for favourable

results against Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Australia if they are to stand a chance of making the semi-finals. South Africa made one change from the defeat to Australia as Quinton de Kock was replaced at the top of the order by Reeza Hendricks, with Heinrich Klaasen taking the gloves. Unsurprisingly, Bavuma invited the West Indies to bat first at Dubai International Stadium, the same venue where they

capitulated to 55 all out against England on Sunday. That performance appeared to still be fresh in their minds as they made a very cautious start, edging to just six for none off the first three overs, part-timer Markram even squeezing in a maiden. But then opener Lewis got going in some style, smashing three sixes and three fours, as his side blitzed 37 off 18 balls to reach 43 without loss at the end of a topsy-turvy powerplay.

# Unvaccinated Athletes Likely To Take Part In Australian Open 2022 After Quarantine: Reports

Sydney: Unvaccinated athletes will be able to take part in next year's Australian Open after undergoing 14 days of quarantine, the WTA Tour has told its players, according to an email leaked to U.S. media. The email, obtained by freelance tennis journalist Ben Rothenberg, contradicts a statement made last week by Australia's immigration minister that play-

ers would need to be double vaccinated to get a visa to compete at the Grand Slam. A significant proportion of players on the women's WTA and men's ATP tour remain unvaccinated, and men's world number one Novak Djokovic has declined to disclose his vaccination status. In the email, the WTA said it wanted to "clear up false and misleading information" about the

conditions players would face at the Australian Open. The WTA said the information came from organisers Tennis Australia, who had requested players keep it confidential for "a few days" as they were still discussing the details with the government. Tennis Australia declined to comment on arrangements for unvaccinated players, including quarantine.

New Delhi: After 16 seasons anchoring the US Para ice hockey team between the pipes, goaltender Steve Cash is hanging up his sledge. The 32-year-old announced his retirement on Monday (25 October) following a career that spanned four Paralympic Winter Games and eight World Para Ice Hockey Championships. During his career, Cash won three Paralympic golds and one bronze, and five world titles. He won 119 of the 159 games he appeared in, racking up

a career 1.22 goals against average and .898 save percentage. "It has been quite the journey and an honour to represent my country," said Cash in a USA Hockey statement. "I want to thank all of teammates throughout the years along with the supporters I have gained along the way. You guys have made the journey what it is." At the Vancouver 2010 Winter Paralympics, he set a Paralympic record after recording five shutouts and not allowing a single

goal. He was awarded the Best Male Athlete with a Disability at the 2010 ESPYs following his performance. Four years later in Sochi, he won four of his five contests, recorded a 0.41 goals against average with three shutouts and carried the US flag in the Closing Ceremony. In 2018, he helped Team USA claim its third straight Paralympic gold in PyeongChang, where he registered a 0.29 goal-against-average, .967 save percentage and a pair of shutouts

while winning all four of his starts. In the gold-medal game against Canada, Cash turned away 11 of 12 shots faced as the U.S. came from behind to defeat Canada, 2-1, in overtime. In 40 games played at the World Championship level, Cash won 33 of his 40 contests, recording 15 shutouts and helping the US become the first country to win back-to-back gold medals. Cash grew up in Overland, Missouri, and at the age of 3 had

his right leg amputated due to osteosarcoma. He grew up playing inline hockey with a prosthetic. Just last month, he revealed to Para ice hockey fans he has struggled with depression for 10 years, and has been able to receive the help he needs. Now, the US Para ice hockey team will try to win an unprecedented fourth straight gold medal at the Beijing Winter Paralympics next year, and it will have to try to win without Cash in the net for the first time.



## Executive Director & Refinery Head of Paradip Refinery inaugurates Vigilance Awareness Week-2021



Bhubaneswar (A.O. Bureau): Shri V S Jain, Executive Director & Refinery Head, Paradip Refinery, inaugurated Vigilance Awareness Week - 2021 in presence of all CGMs, other officials and administered Integ-

rity Pledge. As the country celebrates 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' marking 75th year of Independence, Shri Jain urged upon all the employees of Paradip Refinery to inculcate integrity & transparency in their professional as well

as public life and to uphold highest standard of ethics to make our nation self-reliant in every sphere. Shri P Misra, DGM (Vigilance) requested all for whole hearted participation for the week-long programmes.

## Apollo Hospitals announces free COVID vaccinations for children with Co-Morbidities

Newdelhi : Apollo Hospitals, Asia's foremost integrated healthcare services provider, today announced free vaccinations against COVID-19 for children with specified co-morbidities across the hospital network. It is anticipated that approval will soon be granted for vaccinating children with specified co-morbidities and immediately post-approval and details of the age-group permitted for vaccination, the free vaccination initiative would be launched by Apollo Hospitals. The list is expected to include children with haematological, neurological, cardiac, liver, gastrointestinal, rheumatic, cancer, respiratory, genitourinary, and developmental disorders. However, this is an indicative list and the final list of co-morbidities eligible for free vaccination would be as per the list published by the Government. Dr Prathap C Reddy, Chairman, Apollo Hospitals

Group said, "Adults have been the focus of vaccination till now as by and large, children have been spared from severe COVID infection. However, this is not the case in children with co-morbidities. These children continue to be at high risk of developing a severe infection. In addition, children with comorbidities have also seen a significant psychosocial impact as the lockdown resulted in their missing out on the personalized attention and specialized treatment and care that they require. The Government's approval of vaccinations for children with co-morbidities, when it comes through will be a welcome step in the right direction. Realising the criticality of this vaccination, we will be extending the COVID vaccines completely free of cost to children with co-morbidities and giving them the necessary 'kavach' (shield) against COVID!"

## Govt Proposes Open Network For Digital Commerce As Pvt Sector Led Non-Profit Firm

New Delhi: The Central government proposes to operationalise the Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC) as a private sector-led, non-profit company to bring focus on ethical and responsible behaviour while providing for trust, rigorous norms of governance, accountability, and transparency. The ONDC is expected to provide a start-up mindset for a population scale implementation, enabled by a management with a futuristic vision, leadership with a deep understanding of commerce, comfort with cutting-edge technology, and missionary outlook to drive change. The role of the entity would be to develop the network by adopting and building enabling technology and encouraging wide-scale voluntary participation by ecosystem players. It would ensure network

discipline by establishing a code of conduct and rules of network based on principles of consumer protection, fair trade, and regulatory conformity. The entity will also provide foundational services for managing the network like digital infrastructure, common registry, certification of participants and certifying agencies, grievance redressal, etc. It will develop and operate reference applications for buyers, sellers and gateway for market activation and priming the network along with partner entities. It will also support SMEs in their digital transformation by developing readymade tools to help existing software applications quickly adapt to the network. Union Minister of Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal reviewed the progress on ONDC initiative of

the DPIIT on Tuesday. Expressing satisfaction with the progress made and desired to compress timelines for making this network a reality soon, he directed that wide participation from ecosystem should be ensured and the institutional structure should be created in such a manner so as to ensure that the entity conducts itself in an ethical, cooperative, democratic and responsible manner. He also said that special efforts must be made to build trust in the ONDC network and elaborate mechanisms must be put in place for dispute resolution. The ONDC aims to democratise Digital Commerce, moving it from a platform-centric model to an open network. As UPI is to the digital payment domain, the ONDC is to e-commerce in India.

## NSE Registered Investor Base Crosses 5 Cr Unique Investors

Mumbai: The National Stock Exchange of India's unique registered investors base crossed the 5 crore count on Monday. According to the NSE, while the journey from three crore registered investors to four crore took about 15 months, the next one crore registrations took less than seven months. Besides, the total number of client codes registered with the exchange stood at 8.86 crore. "The journey from 4 crore unique investors to 5 crore unique investors took about 203 days, with north Indian states contributing to 36 per cent of new investor registrations, followed by western India with 31 per cent, southern India states and eastern India states accounting for 20 per cent and 13 per cent of new investor registrations, respectively," the NSE said in a statement. "At the state level, Maharashtra contributed 17 per cent followed by Uttar Pradesh with 10 per cent and Gujarat with 7 per cent of new investor registrations. The top 10 states accounted for 71 per cent of new investor registrations." The NSE also said that growth in investor registrations has largely been driven from non-metro cities. "The cities beyond the top 50 cities accounted for 57 per cent of new investor registrations, while the cities beyond the top 100 cities, contributed to 43 per cent, indicating that the growing interest in the equity markets is not restricted to the metros and a few tier 1 cities."

## Promoting sustainable living through Kitchen Garden

Joda, (A.O. Bureau): The importance of a kitchen garden is manifold. It ensures an inexpensive, regular and handy supply of fresh vegetables which are basic to nutrition. The green vegetables contain vitamins, minerals and the micro nutrients which protect people against diseases. This way of farming has become popular in various areas of Joda especially Khondbond and Guruda. Tata Steel Foundation has facilitated setting up of kitchen gardens in the area by distributing saplings to -120 saplings in households of these two villages. In its operational areas in Joda, as many as 674 saplings have been distributed reaching out to 166 households. These saplings are fruit bearing saplings such as papaya and drumstick. Generally, the



local communities here grow one variety of vegetable in their backyard. After rounds of orientation, they started three-layer farming comprising of leafy, bushy and creeper produce. Multi-layer farming opens a new door for farmers to

grow vegetables round the year as there is less risk of a complete crop failure. It is a potential technology, as it uses natural resources properly. The system also helps in better utilisation of environmental factors, greater yield stability in

## Relief For Consumers As Fuel Rates Unchanged For 2nd Day

New Delhi: Petrol and diesel prices remained unchanged for a second consecutive day on Tuesday, providing relief to consumers after the rates spiked to historic highs almost everyday for the past couple of months. With no change in the prices, the pump price of petrol in Delhi stood at Rs 107.59 a litre, while diesel rates also remained at Sunday's level of Rs 96.32 a litre, according to a price notification of state-owned fuel retailers. In the financial capital Mumbai, where petrol prices have increased to Rs 113.46 per litre and diesel to Rs 104.48 a litre, the



highest among all metros, there was no further spike in the retail rates on Tuesday. The fuel prices remained static on October 18 and 19, but increased for a fourth straight day by 35 paise per litre previously before again rising for five consecutive days between October 20 to 24. There was no change in rates on Oc-

tober 12 and 13. Diesel prices have now increased on 24 out of the last 31 days, taking up its retail price by Rs 7.80 per litre in Delhi. Due to the sharp hike, the fuel is now available at over Rs 100 a litre in several parts of the country. This dubious distinction was earlier available to petrol that had crossed Rs 100 a litre mark across the country a few

months earlier. Petrol prices had maintained stability since September 5 but oil companies finally raised its pump prices last week. The rates increased on 21 of the previous 27 days taking up the pump price of petrol by Rs 6.40 per litre. Crude price has been on a surge rising over a three-year high level of over \$86 a barrel as global demand remains firm while OPEC+ continues to move slowly on increasing production. Since September 5, the price of petrol and diesel in the international market is higher by around \$9-10 per barrel as compared to average prices during August.

## Agreement Inked For \$50 Mn US DFC Funding To Biological E

Hyderabad: The United States International Development Finance Corporation (DFC) and Hyderabad-based Biological E Limited on Monday signed a \$50 million financing agreement to expand Covid-19 vaccine manufacturing capabilities in India. DFC Chief Operating Officer David Marchick and Biological E. Limited Managing Director Mahima Datla signed the agreement which will support capacity for production of more than one billion doses of Covid-19 vaccines by the end of 2022 for India and for developing countries around the world.



Bhubaneswar (A.O. Bureau): East Coast Railway General Manager Shri Vidya Bhushan administered the oath on "Integrity" to the Staff and Officers of East Coast Railway at Divisional Headquarters at Waltair this morning, to bring about integrity and transparency in all spheres of activities, on the occasion of Vigilance Awareness Week-2021. Addi-

tional General Manager, East Coast Railway Shri Sudhir Kumar administered the oath on "Integrity" to the Staff and Officers at ECoR HQs at Bhubaneswar. Railwaymen took pledge to follow probity and rule of law in all walks of life; neither to take nor offer bribe; perform all tasks in an honest and transparent manner; to act in public

interest; to lead by example exhibiting integrity in personal behaviour and to report any incident of corruption to the appropriate agency. The oath was attended by Principal Heads of Departments, all officers and staffs. Senior Deputy General Manager cum Chief Vigilance Officer Shri Sanjay Mohapatra, Coordinated the programme.