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RNI Regd No: ODIENG/2019/77780 BHUBANESWAR www.aroundodisha.com VOLUME - 6 ISSUE - 236 Rs-2/- PAGES - 8 MONDAY 10 MARCH 2025



Baba Ramdev slams Donald Trump amid trade war fear

2



Former Minister Ananta Das Passes Away At 85

3



Champions Trophy: Shreyas Iyer Finishes As Second-Highest Run-Scorer In Tournament

7



Utkal Alumina observes International Women's Day

6

India defeated New Zealand in the final

Dubai: Captain Rohit Sharma top-scored with 76 while Shreyas Iyer, KL Rahul and Hardik Pandya chipped in with important contributions to give India their third Champions Trophy triumph with a four-wicket win over New Zealand in the final at the Dubai International Stadium on Sunday. A chase of 252 looked like an easy task for India on a pitch which didn't give much turn, but a fighting New Zealand making regular strikes meant that it wasn't a cakewalk. After Rohit fell for an explosive 83-ball 76, there was a sudden nervous energy in India's chase. But the enviable batting depth, despite New Zealand's spinners fighting hard, meant they got over the line with an over to spare. While Iyer made 48 off 62 balls, Rahul kept his calm to stay till the end and be 34 not out off 33 balls to

ensure India got its third Champions Trophy title after 2002 and 2013, becoming the most successful team in the eight-team tournament's history in front of a stadium majorly filled by Indian fans. The win would also come as a soothing balm for the Indian team and its ardent fans after missing out on the 2023 ODI World Cup triumph on home soil. On a sunny afternoon, contrasting half-centuries from all-rounders Daryl Mitchell (63 off 101 balls) and Michael Bracewell (53 not out off 40 balls) took New Zealand to 251/7 in their 50 overs. India's spinners called the shots majorly to pick five wickets collectively on a sluggish pitch. Wrist spin duo of Kuldeep Yadav and Varun Chakaravathy picked two wickets each, while Ravindra Jadeja had a scalp to his name to set the base for a super consistent team.



CM Majhi Lays Foundation For Rs 118 Cr Projects In Keonjhar

Bhubaneswar: Odisha Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi on Sunday unveiled several developmental projects valued at Rs 160 crore for the Anandapur sub-division in his native district Keonjhar. The Chief Minister inaugurated 16 projects worth about Rs 42 crore and laid the foundation stones for several others at an estimated cost of Rs 118 crore while attending the 61st annual function of Anandapur College, his alma mater. CM Majhi also announced a financial assistance of Rs 7 crore for the infrastructure development of the college – construction of a multi-purpose hall, a seminar hall and development of the sports ground. The CM an-



nounced a grant of Rs 2 crore for the development of the Anandapur sub-divisional hospital and Rs 20 crore for the complete revamp of the stadium at Anandapur. "I feel blessed to have got the opportunity to study in such a great institution," he said. Majhi recalled his memories

when he was studying plus-II (classes 11 and 12) in 1987 at Anandapur College. He got emotional while talking about his old teachers and friends. "Student life is always a struggle. This struggle will make you successful one day. Strong faith in your hard

work and the blessings of teachers will take you to your destination," the chief minister said while addressing the students. "We have implemented the New Education Policy 2020 with an aim to provide quality education to the youths in a good learning envi-

ronment and enhance their skills to include them in the path for development of India," he said. He said that the state has implemented the PM Usha Yojana at the college level to strengthen the higher education system. "Our government has brought reforms in both education and examination fields in higher education. Along with improving the quality of education, we are working to ensure that students get employment on the basis of their merits," the CM said. In the next five years, at least 1.5 lakh government posts will be filled up in a transparent and corruption-free manner, he said.

PM Modi visits AIIMS to check on VP Dhankhar's health

NEWDELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday expressed concern for Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar's health and said that he visited the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) to inquire about his condition. In an X post, PM Modi said, "Went to AIIMS

and enquired about the health of Vice President Shri Jagdeep Dhankhar Ji. I pray for his good health and speedy recovery." Rajya Sabha chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar was admitted to the cardiac department at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences in the national capital

early on Sunday morning. The 73-year-old was said to have experienced chest pain and uneasiness. However, his situation is said to be stable now. As per PTI, Dhankhar was admitted to the Critical Care Unit (CCU) under Dr Rajiv Narang, Head of the Department of Cardiology at AIIMS.

Budget Session: Second Leg To See Fireworks Over Delimitation Row, Trump's Tariffs; Waqf Bill On Govt's Agenda

New Delhi: The second leg of the Budget session of Parliament is set to resume on Monday and is expected to be a stormy one with both the Opposition and Government ready to outdo each other on multiple issues. While the Opposition will seek to take on the Centre over the issue of Duplicate Electoral Photo Identity Card (EPIC) numbers, delimitation row and reciprocal tariffs threat by the United States, the govt is expected to push through the contentious Waqf bill through the Parliament and would be ready to walk an extra mile if needed, said

sources. TMC and DMK are expected to lead the Opposition's attack on the Centre as the respective parties have raised strong reservations against EPIC and alleged imposition of Hindi language on Southern states. The controversy over EPIC broke out after Trinamool Congress leaders claimed that the voter lists were manipulated in Bengal, to allow people from other states to cast ballots in the TMC-ruled state. The poll panel was quick to rubish the charges and went on to clarify that the EPIC numbers of some voters look identical in some cases, but other details show striking dissimilarity

ties pertaining to constituency, polling booths, and demographic information. Opposition parties refused to buy the EC's arguments on EPIC numbers and are now set to create a fresh furore in the House over it. Congress and TMC both are expected to raise the issue collectively in the House. Another issue that is likely to reverberate strongly in the House – includes delimitation and the three-language policy. The DMK MPs are likely to escalate their opposition on multiple matters including delimitation and three-language policy.

Ukraine Says Russia Attacked with Over 100 Drones Overnight

NEWDELHI: Ukraine reported that Russia launched over 100 drones overnight, targeting the capital and several regions. According to Ukraine's air force, 119 drones were deployed, with 71 successfully intercepted in various regions, including Kyiv. The drone attacks caused damage in six regions, with details yet to be disclosed. This wave of drone attacks follows deadly strikes in eastern and northeastern Ukraine on Friday and Saturday, which resulted in the deaths of at least 14 individuals. Among the incidents, a glide bomb attack in the town of Druzhkivka in the Donetsk region left 12 people, including a 15-year-old girl, wounded.

BJP MP Carries '1984' Bag To Parliament, Gifts It To Priyanka Gandhi

NEWDELHI: BJP MP Aparajita Sarangi on Friday carried a bag with '1984' written on it, and gifted it to Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra. Written in red, the numerical were shown bleeding. Sarangi, pointing to the 1984 anti-Sikh riots, said that the present generation should know

what Congress did in the last 50 years. Elaborating on her decision to gift a bag to Vadra, the Bharatiya Janata Party MP said, "The honorable MP is very fond of bags so I gifted her one. She was initially hesitant but then she accepted it." BJP MP, Aparajita Sarangi: "Since Priyanka ji is so

fond of bags I gave her this one of 1984 anti-Sikh massacre. At first she was hesitant to take it but then she took it and tucked it away." Just like 1984 anti-Sikh massacre perpetrated in the aftermath of Indira Gandhi... pic.twitter.com/ILFJRk0PCBJP MP, Aparajita Sarangi:

"Since Priyanka ji is so fond of bags I gave her this one of 1984 anti-Sikh massacre. At first she was hesitant to take it but then she took it and tucked it away." Just like 1984 anti-Sikh massacre perpetrated in the aftermath of Indira Gandhi...

Bangladesh Tops In Child Marriage Rate In Asia: UNICEF

Dhaka: Bangladesh continues to grapple with high rates of child marriage, gender inequality, violence, and limited opportunities for girls, as revealed by a recent global report. The report, titled, 'Girl Goals: What has changed for girls? Adolescent girls' rights over 30 years', was released by UNICEF, UN Women, and Plan International to mark International Women's Day. The report highlights that Bangladesh has the highest rate of child marriage in Asia, with over 50 per cent of girls being married off before the age of 18. This alarming statistic

places Bangladesh among the top nations globally struggling with this harmful practice. Emphasising the importance of investing in adolescent girls, the report points out that such investments not only empower individuals but also contribute significantly to the economic development and stability of communities and nations. The report assesses progress made by countries since the 1995 Beijing Declaration, acknowledging advancements in various areas, including education and healthcare access. However, it raises concerns over persistent challenges

faced by adolescent girls in Bangladesh, particularly regarding inequalities, violence, and restricted educational and economic opportunities. Rana Flowers, UNICEF's representative in Bangladesh, stressed the urgent need for change. "Adolescent girls in Bangladesh want to contribute to a flourishing Bangladesh where they can embrace opportunities and support their country to thrive. Yet, barriers and discrimination continue to hold them, and their country back," he said. Flowers highlighted that access to life skills and digital literacy is crucial, but

addressing the concerning rates of child marriage and violence against girls remains a top priority. He warned that these issues often lead to early and risky childbearing, which can endanger the lives of both mother and child. "This International Women's Day, let's break barriers and create equal opportunities, inspiring hope for all. We must amplify girls' voices and ensure their participation in decision-making," Flowers added. He urged the Bangladesh government to invest more in adolescent health services, strengthen the social work sector, and improve educa-

tion, nutrition, life skills, and digital literacy for girls to unlock their potential. The report reveals that Bangladesh ranks eighth globally in terms of child marriage rates and tops the list in Asia. It states that 51.4 per cent of Bangladeshi women aged 20-24 were married before turning 18. This practice continues to deepen poverty, risk girls' health, and hinder their potential, ultimately affecting Bangladesh's economic growth. The study further shows that 24 per cent of Bangladeshi women aged 20-24 had given birth before the age of 18.

J.P. Nadda Holds Meeting With Tripura BJP Leaders; Discusses Party-Related Issues

Agartala: Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) national president J.P. Nadda on Sunday held an important meeting with Tripura’s state unit leaders including Chief Minister Manik Saha and discussed various party affairs. A party leader refusing to disclose in details the subjects taken up during the meeting held at the state guest house said that J.P. Nadda held deliberations on the election of the state unit party president and matters relating to BJP allies — Indigenous People’s Front of Tripura (IPFT) and Tipra Motha Party (TMP). Besides Chief Minister Manik Saha, state President Rajib Bhattacharjee, former



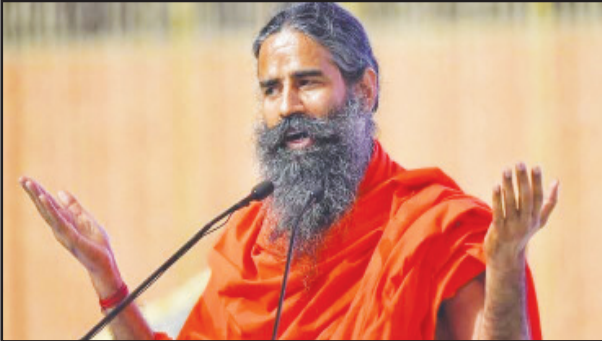
Chief Minister and Lok Sabha member Biplab Kumar Deb, BJP’s northeast in-charge Sambit Patra, Tripura BJP’s central observer and former MP Rajdeep Roy and other senior party leaders and ministers were present in the meeting. Before meeting with the state leaders in Agartala, J.P. Nadda, accompanied

by his wife, Manik Saha, Sambit Patra and other leaders, visited Tripura Sundari temple, one of the 51 Shakti Peethas worshipped by Hindus in southern T r i p u r a ’ s Udaipur. Under the PRASHAD (Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual Heritage Augmentation Drive) scheme of the Union Tourism Min-

istry, the 524-year-old Tripura Sundari temple has been redeveloped at a cost of over Rs 52 crore. The BJP President earlier addressed a mammoth rally at the Swami Vivekananda stadium here and the mega public gathering was organised to celebrate the BJP 2.0 government’s second anniversary. While ad-

ressing the rally, J.P. Nadda, also Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare, announced two new schemes of Tripura government for the girl child of the state — Mukhyamantri Balika Samridhi Yojana (MBSY) and Mukhyamantri Kanya Atmanirbhar Yojana (MKAY). He said that under the MBSY scheme, the Tripura government would deposit a bond of Rs 50,000 in the name of every girl child born to a below poverty line (BPL) family in Tripura. When the girl turns 18, she will receive the bond, which will be worth Rs 8 to 10 lakh.

Baba Ramdev slams Donald Trump amid trade war fear



NEWDELHI: Baba Ramdev, yoga guru and the co-founder of FMCG giant Patanjali, lambasted US President Donald Trump on Sunday, saying the latter has been promoting “tariff terrorism”. Referring to the US president’s push to impose reciprocal tariffs on other nations, Ramdev claimed Trump has been bullying the poor and developing nations by unleashing a new “era of intellectual colonisation”. “There is a new era of intellectual colonization. Amid this, ever since Donald Trump rose to power, he created a new world record of ‘tariff terrorism’. He has ripped off democracy by

threatening poor and developing nations... This is ‘economic terrorism’... He is taking the world to a different era... In such a case, India needs to develop... All Indians should unite to build a strong nation and answer all these destructive powers,” he was quoted as saying by news agency ANI in M a h a r a s h t r a ’ s Nagpur. He said amid dangerous situations,

India needs to become developed as some powerful nations want to take the world towards destruction. Also read: ‘Trump has made tariffs household name’ says Congress leader Jairam Ramesh Since taking office less than two months ago, Trump has rolled out hefty import taxes on goods coming from America’s three biggest trading partners — Mexico, Canada and China.

India condemns vandalism of Hindu temple in California, calls for strict action

NEWDELHI: The Indian government issued a statement on Sunday after reports emerged that the BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir, one of Southern California’s largest Hindu temples, was vandalised with anti-India messages. The government strongly condemned the incident and urged local authorities to take strict action. Posting on X, ministry of external affairs spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said, “We have seen reports regarding the vandalism at a Hindu temple in Chino Hills, California. We condemn such despicable acts in the strongest terms. We call upon the local law enforcement authorities to take stringent action against those responsible for these acts, and also ensure adequate security to places of worship.” The Bochasanwasi Akshar Purushottam Swaminarayan Sanstha (BAPS) Hindu Temple in Chino Hills, California, was found desecrated, sparking widespread condemnation.

Delhi CM Rekha Gupta Assures Well-Being Of Women, Hails Them As Engines Of Development

New Delhi: Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta on Sunday hailed the spirit of city women and called them engines of development while assuring them that she will take care of their well-being. Addressing women at an event to mark International Women’s Day in central Delhi, the Delhi CM said women should become role models for others. “In Delhi, I assure that our government will pro-

vide them four basic facilities – education, health, security and development,” she said, inspiring them by saying, “Main hoon na” (I am there to take care of you). Lt Governor V.K. Saxena hailed CM Gupta, hoping that she will make the city more beautiful and developed. “The voting percentage of women was higher than men in Delhi elections,” the L-G said, highlighting the indicators of women empowerment. He said



empowerment of women would be real only if it includes social and political empowerment, in addition to economic empowerment. He also praised the outcomes of Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s “Beti Padhao,

Beti Bachao” scheme. The L-G highlighted that 140 “Lakpati Didis” in Delhi have got training as drone pilots. He encouraged women to continue moving forward with high spirit by reciting a couplet: “Kaun batata hai samundar ka rasta nadi ko, jinhe manzil ka junoon hota hai woh mashvara nahin lete (The spirited people continue to move forward to achieve their goal just as a river finds

its way to sea without seeking directions from anyone.” Earlier, Delhi BJP President Virendra Sachdeva said that media reports from Punjab are indicating that after the announcement of Rs 2,500 for women in Delhi, a similar demand is being raised by Punjab voters. Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) leaders are unable to respond to Punjab women’s demands and are making irrational statements out of political frustration, said Sachdeva.

One Maoist Killed In Encounter In MP’s Mandla District

Mandla (Madhya Pradesh): One Maoist was killed in an operation launched by Hawk Force and state police in Mandla district of Madhya Pradesh on Sunday while the operation is still going as “firing continues” from both sides. Confirming the report, Rajat Saklecha, Superintendent of Police told IANS over the phone from the site, that the Hawk force moved into a dense forest area bordering Kanha National Park and Balaghat following a tip-off on Sunday morning. There were 15-20 Maoists. “A male Maoist was killed in the encounter but we have yet to identify him as firing continues from both sides.” On the identity of the Maoist, he said that intense retaliatory firing from the Naxal side was going on, causing the police forces to cautiously approach the deceased Naxalite’s body.

Lalit Modi acquires Vanuatu citizenship

NEWDLHI: Fugitive businessman Lalit Modi has filed an application with the Indian high commission in London to surrender his Indian passport. Modi is learnt to have acquired citizenship of Vanuatu, an island nation in the Pacific Ocean that is known for its Citizenship-by-Investment (CBI) programme. Lalit Modi left India in 2010 and has since been living in London. The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) confirmed on Friday that the IPL founder had applied to surrender his Indian citizenship.

One Body Recovered From Telangana Tunnel On Day 16 Of Rescue Operation

Hyderabad: Rescue workers on Sunday – the 16th day of the operation – pulled out the body of one of the eight missing persons from the partially collapsed SLBC tunnel in T e l a n g a n a ’ s Nagarkurnool district after the cadaver dogs from Kerala identified the spot for presence of human remains under the rubble. The specially trained dogs identified human presence at D-2 point about 100 metres from the accident site in the final stretch of the 14-km-long tunnel. The rescue workers care-



fully excavated silt at the identified location and pulled out a body on Sunday evening. The decomposed body, identified as that of Gurupreet Singh, operator of the Tunnel Boring Machine (BTM) and hailing from Punjab, was shifted to the govern-

ment hospital at Nagarkurnool for preservation. The rescue teams continued search for the remaining seven persons in the the Srisailem Left Bank Canal (SLBC) project tunnel. Four labourers, two engineers and two machine operators, hailing from

Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, and Jammu and Kashmir were trapped in the tunnel on February 22 when a portion of the tunnel roof collapsed during the excavation. The seven trapped persons are Manoj Kumar and Sri Niwas (both UP), Sunny Singh (J&K), and Sandeep Sahu, Jegta Xess, Santosh Sahu and Anuj Sahu (all from Jharkhand). Several agencies of the state and Central governments have been making efforts for the last 15 days to trace the missing persons.

Smuggler Injured As BSF Trooper Opens Fire In Self-Defence Along Indo-B’desb Border

Kolkata: An Indian national, claimed by the Border Security Force (BSF) to be a smuggler, was injured after a jawan fired a round from his Pump Action Gun (PAG) in self-defence along the India-Bangladesh Border (IBB), in the North 24-Parganas district of West Bengal, early on Sunday. The BSF has claimed that he was part of group attempting to smuggle bottles of Phensedyl cough syrup across the border. “Even under adverse circumstances, the jawan maintained his composure and thwarted a major

smuggling attempt along the IBB. This happened around 5.30 a.m. on Sunday within the jurisdiction of the Kalanchi Border Outpost. Troops of the 143 Bn were on duty along the IBB, when a jawan spotted 4-5 smugglers moving rapidly towards the border under a bridge across the Ichhamati River. He immediately shouted out a warning and ran forward,” said N.K. Pandey, DIG and spokesperson, South Bengal Frontier, BSF. According to him, the jawan attempted to scare away the smug-

glers with a stun grenade, but they were desperate to get the bottles across the border. Instead of dispersing, the miscreants allegedly moved towards the lone jawan and tried to surround him. The smugglers were armed with sharp weapons and sticks. “The jawan realised that not only his life, but even government property, such as his weapons, were at risk. Without a flinch, he fired a round from his PAG. Even as one smuggler fell to the ground, the others took to their heels.

NCW Orders FIR Against Man For Filming Woman Co-Passenger In Train

New Delhi: National Commission for Women (NCW) Chairperson Vijaya Rahatkar has directed the registration of an FIR against a man who made a video of a woman co-passenger on the train and sexually harassing a college student during a journey in West

Bengal. According to a media report, the incident took place on March 5 in Murshidabad district. Taking cognizance of the media report, the Commission observed that accused Md Zim Nawaz’s act was punishable under sections 77, 75 and 79 of the

Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita Act, 2023, and Section 66E of the IT Act, 2000. “The FIR must invoke the relevant provisions,” said the panel in a social media post, attributing the direction to Rahatkar. Section 77 of the BNS is a law that makes it illegal to watch, record,

or share images of a woman performing a private act without her permission. This law is intended to protect women’s privacy. The offence carries a maximum punishment of three years. Accused Nawaz has also been prima facie found guilty of using words, gestures

or acts intended to insult the modesty of a woman, said the Commission. Naming the accused, the NCW wrote in a post that the Commission has taken cognizance of media reports regarding the female passenger being harassed and secretly recorded on the

Balughat Express that runs between Howrah and Balughat town in north Bengal. The NCW also said that the accused Nawaz allegedly shared the victim’s personal details online, resulting in the woman getting life threats. After the media reported the incident, Minister of State for

Education and state BJP chief Sukanta Majumdar spoke to the victim and asked her to give a formal complaint to the police. Earlier, in a separate case, the Commission took serious note of the sexual assault on a 26-year-old woman inside a bus in Swargate bus depot in Pune

Prospect of Junagarh to Nabrampur Rail-way line via DHARAMGARH melted

Dharamgarh Correspondence: Enhancing Railway Connectivity in Odisha the Union Cabinet approved the Junagarh to Nabarangpur rail line in 2023. According to sources, a tender has been issued for land acquisition covering a distance of 116.21 km. The primary objective of this new rail line extension is to provide multimodal connectivity, ensure seamless movement of goods and passengers, and enhance logistics efficiency. The central government aims to reduce the distance from the Bailadila iron ore



mines to various steel plants in the Raipur region by 131 km through this project. Additionally, the new rail line is expected to facilitate logistics for a steel plant and goods sheds at Junagarh Road, Jeypore, Koraput, and other goods sheds along the

Raipur-Vizianagaram line. Recognizing this opportunity, intellectuals and stakeholders from Dharamgarh made significant efforts to advocate for the inclusion of Dharamgarh in the new rail line. They met with Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw, requesting an extension of

the Junagarh-Nabarangpur rail line via Dharamgarh. The honorable minister assured them that the extension via Dharamgarh would be considered. The Rail Extension Committee of Dharamgarh also organized protests, including strikes and shutdowns, to push for their demand. However, when the final land acquisition list was released, Dharamgarh station was not included. This omission has left the people of Dharamgarh in deep disappointment and regret.

10 Bangladeshis Arrested For Illegal Entry

Bhubaneswar Correspondence: Ten persons from Bangladesh were arrested at the Bhubaneswar Railway Station by the Special Task Force (STF) on Sunday for illegally entering Odisha. The group, which included six men, three women, and a juvenile, was apprehended for unlawfully entering Odisha without any valid travel documents such as passports or visas. The arrested persons have been identified as Md. Hasim (46), Sojib Khan (24), Allam Shaika (41), Md. Azeem (40), Dilara Sheikh (45), Md. Soha (36), Karima Begum (25), Monira Begum (30), Sahana Begum (45), and a 14-year-old juvenile. Acting on an intelligence tip-off, STF officials launched a co-ordinated raid at Bhubaneswar Railway Station, where they apprehended the suspects. Upon interrogation, they disclosed that they were from Bangladesh and had crossed the border illegally with the help of an agent near the Dhubri border (Assam), eventually arriving in Bhubaneswar to stay.

Notorious Criminal Arrested

Cuttack Correspondence: In a significant breakthrough, the Markat Nagar Police, under the Cuttack Urban Police District (UPD), arrested Sk Sana, a resident of Satichaura, on Saturday. During the arrest, the police recovered a pistol, live bullets, and two crude bombs from Sana's possession. The accused is a notorious criminal with a long history of illegal activities, as he has 11 criminal cases registered against him. The arrest comes as part of the police's ongoing efforts to curb crime and ensure public safety in the area.

Sec 163-BNSS Imposed Near 'Jaya Hotel' In Sakhigopal After Beef Allegations

Bhubaneswar Correspondence: Puri Administration has clamped prohibitory orders Section 163 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) near the controversial Jaya Hotel of Sakshi Gopal after allegations of serving beef as mutton. The administration has issued the order within a radius of 1 km from Sakshi Gopal College Chowk, prohibiting gatherings of more than four people in the area. Police have cordoned off the entire area. Hindu Sena has already warned of protesting in front of Jaya Dhaba. Earlier, the district administration had sealed the 'Jaya Hotel' on NH 216 after allegations sur-

rounded that the hotel was serving beef to customers under the guise of mutton. The hotel, known for its special mutton dishes, attracted hundreds of customers daily. However, complaints began pouring in that beef was being served instead of mutton, and sometimes, even beef fat was mixed with mutton and cooked. The district administration has sent a meat sample to the State Laboratory at OUAT in Bhubaneswar for examination. Police personnel have been deployed to maintain law and order. The hotel assistant, responsible for delivering meat parcels to other hotels, was also beaten up by locals.

SJTA Initiates Process For UNESCO Recognition Of Puri Ratha Jatra

Bhubaneswar Correspondence: The Shree Jagannath Temple Administration (SJTA) has started the process of nominating the annual Ratha Yatra for UNESCO's List of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity. According to reports, the SJTA is preparing the required documents to submit to the Sangeet Natak Akademi, the official agency that handles such nominations. The Ratha Yatra is a significant festival at the 12th-century Shree Jagannath Temple. It celebrates



the rich cultural heritage of Odisha and India. The goal is to get global recognition for the festival and highlight its importance on the world stage. SJTA Chief Administrator Dr. Arabinda Kumar Padhee expressed pride in beginning the process of

seeking UNESCO recognition for the Ratha Yatra. He highlighted that this effort aims to demonstrate the cultural significance of the festival to the world. Dr. Padhee visited Delhi recently, where he met with senior officials from the Union Ministry of

Former Minister Ananta Das Passes Away At 85

Bhubaneswar Correspondence: Senior BJD leader and former MLA Ananta Das passed away on Sunday at around 3 AM due to a prolonged illness related to old age at his residence in Bhubaneswar. He was 85. His son Biswajit Das informed the media about Das' demise. Das had been elected to the State Assembly from the Bhograi constituency four times from 2004 to 2019. He



had also served as the Higher Education and Industries Minister in the Naveen Patnaik government. Born on August 28, 1940, in

Kurutia village, Bhograi block, Das secured a government job after completing his MA LLB. He performed his duties efficiently as an administrative officer throughout his working life. After retiring, Das formed the Bhograi Vikas Parishad and worked towards B h o g r a i ' s development. He began his political career with the NCP but contested and won the 2004 elec-

tions on a BJD ticket as the MLA of Bhograi. Between 2004 and 2019, he won four consecutive elections as the MLA from Bhograi. Additionally, Das successfully held various key portfolios, including Industries Minister, Higher Education Minister, Chief Whip of the government, and Chairman of the Balasore District Planning Board of the Odisha Government.

3 Arrested In ATM Robbery After Exchange Of Fire In Bhubaneswar

Bhubaneswar Correspondence: The Commissionerate Police on Sunday arrested three persons in connection with their involvement in the ATM robberies after a brief exchange of fire in which one of the accused sustained bullet injuries near Kesura area under Badagada Police limits in the capital city. This was informed by Police Commissioner Suresh Dev Datta Singh. The injured accused who sustained bullet injuries on his left leg was rushed to AIIMS Bhubaneswar where he is undergoing treatment. "One member of the gang sustained injuries in an encounter with the special squad early this morning. The

injured criminal is undergoing treatment at the AIIMS, Bhubaneswar. Three persons including the injured accused have been arrested by the police in the case," said Singh. The injured accused identified as Deepak Kumar (25) is a resident of Nawada district in Bihar. Kumar's other two associates were Deepak Kumar Pande (24) of Nawada in Bihar and Abhisekh Kumar Singh (32) of Chatra in Jharkhand. Commissioner Singh further informed the media that the accused were involved in two cases in Bihar, one in Jharkhand, and four in Odisha, which includes two cases each in Puri and



Bhubaneswar. The police commissioner also expressed hope that the arrest of the trio would bring down incidents of ATM theft in the city and surrounding areas. Police have one country-made 7.65 mm semi-automatic pistol, one round of live ammunition and two fired cartridges, a white TATA Harrier car, cash worth Rs 12,000, three mobile phones,

quick fix adhesives, 12 numbers of ATM cards (of different customers), a knife and other incriminating articles. The city police sources revealed that the three criminals belong to a well-organised interstate Bihar-based gang of criminals who tamper with ATM machines by applying adhesive at the card punching slot of the ATM.

Dhenkanal Police Launch Massive Crackdown On Illegal Mining

Dhenkanal (correspondent): In a massive crackdown on illegal mining, police in Dhenkanal district seized several vehicles and arrested several persons in separate incidents. Three drivers were arrested and will be produced in court. The raids were conducted under the guidance of the Superintendent of Police (SP) and involved all Inspector-In-Charge (IIC) officers of the Sadar sub-division. The operation

aimed to curb the illegal transportation and storage of mines and minerals without proper authorization. In a separate operation on March 8, 2025, five cases were registered in the Hindol sub-division. Six accused persons were arrested, namely Muna Dehury, 32, of Kalinga, Aarta Mahanta, 34, of Sapua, Hemanta Kumar Patra, 52, of Sanamunda, Chikun Mohapatra, 25, of

Redhakhol in Sambalpur; Subrat Sahu, 24, of Luhamunda Upasahi in Angul, and Bhikari Pradhan, 22, of Odakopa of Dhenkanal. The accused were produced before the court of SDJM, Hindol. The police also seized several vehicles, including a Hywa and a tipper, loaded with illegal sand. Three cases were registered against the erring vehicles, and investigations are underway.

CM Majhi, Dy CMs Singh Deo & Parida Laud Team India's Champions Trophy Victory

Bhubaneswar Correspondence: Odisha Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi and Deputy Chief Ministers Kanak Vardhan Singh Deo and Pravati Parida congratulated Team India for their incredible victory over New Zealand in the Champions Trophy final in Dubai. In a post on X, Chief Minister Majhi wrote, "Heartiest congratulations to Team India on their spectacular victory in the Champions Trophy 2025 final. A dominant performance against New Zealand, showcasing skill, determination, and sportsmanship. The entire nation is proud of this glorious achievement." Similarly, Deputy Minister Kanak Vardhan Singh Deo, on his X account, wrote, "What a momentous achievement! Heartfelt congratulations to Team India for emerging victorious in the Champions Trophy 2025, defeating New Zealand in a thrilling final. This remarkable win is a testament to the exceptional skills and teamwork displayed throughout the tournament. Proud to see our team bring glory to the nation." Deputy Minister Pravati Parida also took to her X handle, writing, "Congratulations to #TeamIndia for their phenomenal victory in the Champions Trophy. Your hard work, determination, and team spirit have made the nation proud."

Hirakud Reservoir Set for Expansion with Additional Spillway Project

Bhubaneswar Correspondence: The uncertainty over the construction of an additional spillway in the Hirakud reservoir has been resolved. A delegation comprising members from the World Bank, Central Water Commission (CWC), and the State Dam Safety Department inspected the Hirakud reservoir to finalize the project. The construction is planned to commence in the current financial year and be completed by the financial year 2030-31. The nine-member delegation visited vari-

ous areas, including the additional spillway site, the fast gap of the upcoming Hirakud city, the rerolling mill area, the cable colony, Premnagar, Gandhinagar, Laxminagar, Gujatal, and the syphon area, before holding a review meeting at Ashok Nivas. The project has a budget allocation of Rs. 90 crore for the financial year 2025-26, Rs. 200 crore for 2026-27, Rs. 224 crore for 2027-28, Rs. 170 crore for 2028-29, Rs. 110 crore for 2029-30, and Rs. 90.38 crore for 2030-

31. Additionally, Rs. 32 crore will be spent on identifying and restoring cracks and other critical conditions through water, land, and air surveys. Another Rs. 150 crore has been allocated for automating the proposed spillways and gates of the Hirakud Dam. The additional spillway, approximately 91 meters long, aims to increase the floodwater discharge capacity and will feature five sluice gates. The spillway channel will be 2 km long and 300 meters wide. The Central

Water Commission and the state government jointly estimated the probable maximum flood (PMF) of the Mahanadi in 1997, and the Hirakud reservoir was designed to hold a total of 24.5 lakh cusecs of floodwater. Under the current system, a maximum of 1.5 million cusecs of floodwater can be discharged from the Hirakud reservoir at a time. The construction of multiple barrages on the upper reaches of the Mahanadi by the Chhattisgarh government has increased

the risk to the Hirakud reservoir. In response, the state government, in collaboration with the Central Water Commission and the World Bank, has taken steps to construct additional spillways. An agreement was signed with Tata Infra Projects Limited in 2018, but the company withdrew from the project in 2020 after completing only Rs. 12 crore of work due to delays in the land transfer process. As a result, the project's initial cost estimate of Rs. 369.53 crore has now more than doubled.

EDITORIAL

Why do we celebrate Holi

Also called as the festival of colours, Holi is one of the most popular festivals celebrated in India. Year on year, Holi arrives on the Poornima day (full moon day) in the month of Phalguna. Think of Holi and what comes to your mind is colours, fun, entertainment, songs and drums. The essence of Holi is the celebration of goodness over evil. There is a popular story from Hindu mythology that has given rise to the festival of Holi.

The mythological stories behind the celebration of Holi dates back to the Kruta Yuga and Dwapara Yuga. It is said during his times, Krishna organized this festival with great fanfare. A very old work of the Vedic literature namely Jaimini’s Purvamimamsa-Sutras and Kathaka-Grhya-Sutra has references about Holi. Therefore, we might say the festival of Holi started several years before Christ. Ancient Indian temple paintings and sculptures depict the celebration of Holi. The temple of Hampi built in the capital of Vijayanagara Empire represents Holi celebrations by royal families. In these lines, we may also make a mention of the paintings in Ahmednagar, Mewar and Bundi. Once there was a demon called Hiranyakasipu who nurtured hatred towards Lord Vishnu since he had earlier killed his brother Hiranyaksha. Prahlad was the son of Hiranyakasipu. Due to some mysterious causes, Prahlad was devoted to Vishnu by birth which infuriated the demon Hiranyakasipu. Being unsuccessful in persuading Prahlad to hate Vishnu, Hiranyakasipu decided to put an end to the life of Prahlad and tried several means. As part of his efforts to kill Prahlad, once Hiranyakasipu called his sister Holika and asked her to keep Prahlad on her laps and sit in the pyre so that the child shall be burnt to ashes. Holika had earlier got a boon that her body shall never be burnt by the fire. Once she entered the fire, to everyone’s surprise, nothing happened to Prahlad while Holika was burnt down at once to ashes. Since then, Holi came to be celebrated with the burning of pyre signifying the victory of good over evil. During the age of Dwapara, Lord Krishna organized Holi festival in a very grand manner. It was then that Holi attained a new dimension with the play of colours, squirting of water, songs, music and exuberant joy. As early as Krishna’s times, Holi became a community event. Even to this day, the grandeur of Holi celebrations that happen in Vrindavan is unmatched. Burning a pyre on the eve of Holi is the top highlight of the festival. Holi says good bye to winter and invites spring season. It is also deemed as the festival of spring harvest and in this regard, it is also called as Vasant Mahotsav. Squirting water and colours on others is the main part of the joyful celebrations of Holi. Earlier, plant based natural materials were used to prepare the colours thrown on people. Over the history, chemical based colours have come to be used which causes skin problems and irritation. Therefore, many people wish to avoid this enjoyable aspect of Holi.



Holi is an ancient festival of India and was originally known as 'Holika'. The festivals finds a detailed description in early religious works such as Jaimini's Purvamimamsa-Sutras and Kathaka-Grhya-Sutras. Historians also believe that Holi was celebrated by all Aryans but more so in the Eastern part of India. Another legend that is associated with the day involves Lord Krishna who is also an avatar of Lord Vishnu. Lord Krishna, who is known to be very mischievous and playful was concerned about his complexion and thought that Radha would never like him because she was extremely fair. On com-

Six levels of relationship with the master



The first and the highest level of relationship between the guru and the shishya is called Para Sambandh. It means that there is No. 2, there is no difference. There is only one, Soham, meaning ‘you are that’. That unity of consciousness is no relationship at all. It is simply a realisation of the highest, wherein there is No. 2. Then comes Mahan Sambandh – that is recognising the greatness and where the master doesn’t see any imperfection in the student nor does the student see shortcomings in the master. It is the greatness kind of relationship, when you do not see any shortcomings in the other. It is almost like the relationship between a mother and a child. There is total alignment. The third level is called Antaraal Sambandh, where there is a gap. The master speaks from

one level and the student understands from another. There is no perfect alignment, only some degree of understanding between the two. In this relationship, there is an effort from the side of the master and the student to make each other understand their points of view. The fourth level of relationship is called Divya Sambandh. Here exists a divine connection that comes with a blend of different emotions. The fifth is Divyadivya Sambandh. In this connection, the student is there to get something from the master, lives in his own world, and reels in faultfinding beyond a healthy measure. There are people who come to the spiritual path not for spirituality, but to get something else, or just to be seen as being spiritual. They use the knowledge for some trivial goals and purposes. The last is called Adivya Sambandh. You cannot escape a guru in your life. You even learn from others’ mistakes. Someone made a mistake, you saw that and learnt that you don’t want to make a mistake like that. They have taught you

Why Does God Come in Human Form



Many people believe that God is the creator of the universe. He is beyond time and space. But sometimes, He comes to earth in human form. People call this an incarnation or avatar. This happens in different religions and cultures. But why does God take a human form? There are many reasons for this. To Guide People on the Right Path Over time, people forget the right way to live. They become selfish and greedy. They fight with each other. They forget love, kindness and truth. In such times, God comes as a human to remind people of the right path. He teaches them how to live a good life. For example, Lord Krishna came to teach the message of duty and devotion. Jesus Christ came to spread love and forgiveness. Prophet Muhammad came to teach truth and righteousness. They all showed the right way to live. To Protect the Good and Destroy Evil When evil becomes too strong, God comes to protect good people. Evil forces harm innocent people. They create fear and suffering. God comes to stop them and bring justice. In Hinduism, Lord Vishnu is

believed to take many forms to defeat evil. Lord Rama fought Ravana to save Sita and protect the world. Lord Narasimha came to save Prahlada from his cruel father. These stories show that God comes when the world needs Him the most. To Show That He Understands Human Suffering People often wonder if God understands their pain. When God comes as a human, He experiences joy, sorrow, hunger and suffering just like us. He faces difficulties but remains strong. This gives people hope. For example, Jesus Christ suffered on the cross but forgave His enemies. Lord Buddha left His palace to experience human pain and find a way to end suffering. These acts show that God understands human struggles. To Teach by Example People learn best by example. If God speaks from the heavens, many may not listen. But if He comes as a human, people can see Him, hear Him and learn from Him. For example, Sri Krishna lived among people, played with them, and showed wisdom in His actions. Guru Nanak lived a simple life and helped people understand God’s love. When God takes human form, He becomes a living example for others to follow. To Restore Faith and Devotion

The 8+8+8 Rule: A Balanced Approach to Life



In today’s fast-paced world, maintaining balance is a challenge. Many people struggle with managing their time effectively. The 8+8+8 rule is a simple yet powerful guideline to help create a well-balanced life. It divides the 24-hour day into three equal parts: 8 hours for hard work, 8 hours for rest and 8 hours for personal activities. 8 Hours for Work: Work is an essential part of life. It provides financial security and personal satisfaction. Whether you have a job, run a business or work from home, dedicating 8 hours to productive activities helps you stay focused. Overworking can lead to stress and

burnout. By limiting work to 8 hours, you can remain efficient while keeping time for other aspects of life. 8 Hours for Rest: Sleep is the foundation of good health. The human body needs rest to recover and function properly. Experts recommend 7-9 hours of sleep each night for optimal health. A full 8-hour sleep cycle improves concentration, memory and mood. People who get enough rest tend to be more energetic and productive during the day. 8 Hours for Personal Activities: Life is not just about work and sleep. The remaining 8 hours should be dedicated to personal activities. This includes spending time with family, socializing with friends, exercising, pursuing hobbies, and learning new skills. It also allows time for relaxation, meditation and self-care. Engaging in enjoyable activities reduces stress and

enhances overall well-being. Why the 8+8+8 Rule is Important: This rule helps maintain a work-life balance. It prevents exhaustion and promotes a healthier lifestyle. People who follow this routine are more likely to feel fulfilled and happy. It also ensures that no single aspect of life dominates the others. Adapting the Rule to Your Lifestyle: Not everyone has the same schedule. Some jobs require flexible hours, while others demand more time. If strict adherence is not possible, slight adjustments can be made. The key is to ensure a fair distribution of time between work, rest and personal life. The 8+8+8 rule is a simple formula for a balanced life. It reminds us to work efficiently, rest properly and enjoy our time. By following this approach, we can lead healthier, happier and more productive lives.

HOLI : THE FESTIVAL OF LOVE

plaining about the same to his mother Yashoda, she asked him to apply colour on Radha and so he did making her look like him. Since that day, the festival became about smearing people with colour and Holi also became the festival of love. In some parts of India, specially in Bengal and Orissa, Holi Purnima is also celebrated as the birthday of Shri Chaitanya Mahaprabhu (A.D. 1486-1533). However, the literal meaning of the word 'Holi' is 'burning'. Legend of Lord Krishna is also associated with play with colors as the Lord started the tradition of play with colours by applying colour on his beloved Radha and other gopis. Gradually, the play gained popularity with the people and became a tradition. In spite of being such a colourful and gay festival, there are various aspects of Holi which makes it so significant for our lives. Though they might not be

so apparent but a closer look and a little thought will reveal the significance of Holi in more ways than meets the eyes. Ranging from socio-cultural, religious to biological there is every reason why we must heartily enjoy the festival and cherish the reasons for its celebrations. So when, its time for Holi, please don't hold yourself back and enjoy the festival to the hilt by participating with full enthusiasm in every small tradition related to the festival. Holi gets us close to our religion and our mythology as it is essentially the celebration of various legends associated with the festival. Celebration of the various legends associated with Holi reassure the people of the power of the truth as the moral of all these legends is the ultimate victory of good over evil. All these legends help the people to follow a good conduct

in their lives and believe in the virtue of being truthful. This is extremely important in the modern day society when so many people resort to evil practices for small gains and torture one who is honest. Holi helps the people to believe in the virtue of being truthful and honest and also to fight away the evil. Also, the tradition of the Holi is that even the enemies turn friends on Holi and forget any feeling of hardship that may be present. Besides, on this day people do not differentiate between the rich and poor and everybody celebrate the festival together with a spirit of bonhomie and brotherhood. In the evening people visit friends and relatives and exchange gifts, sweets and greetings. This helps in revatalising relationships and strengthening emotional bonds between people.

After 33 Years Olive Ridley Turtles Return To Eakakulanasi Island

Kendrapara (Correspondent): In a major out break to Bhitarkanika wildlife sanctuary, Olive Ridley turtles returned to Bhitarkanika Eakakulanasi island after 33 years. Which repeats of the year 1992, when around 3 lakhs Olive Ridley turtles nested at Eakakulanasi island in Bhitarkanika. From last Wednesday around two lakhs turtles started nesting there. Lakhs of turtles laid eggs at Nasi one and two islands in Gahiramatha. It will continue till two weeks and eggs taking 45 days to hatch. After they return to their destination. The profile of the Eakakulanasi beach, which is around 4 km long earlier, has now been elongated to 8 km following the natural process of accretion. It's world's largest nesting ground of turtles was said.



MCL adopts 50 orphan girls under ASWASANA initiative

Sambalpur (Correspondent) :- In a landmark initiative on International Women's Day, Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL) has officially adopted 50 orphan girl children in collaboration with the ASWASANA Trust, an initiative by the Jharsuguda district administration. This noble step aims to secure the future of orphaned girls by providing them with financial aid for education, nutrition and overall well-being. The ASWASANA Trust of Jharsuguda district administration is dedi-



cated to supporting orphan girls from vulnerable backgrounds, ensuring they receive proper education and care. Under this initiative, financial assistance is structured in a tiered manner, offering monthly stipends of Rs 1000, Rs 2000 and Rs

4000, depending on the age group. MCL's contribution of Rs 10 lakh to the Trust will directly benefit these 50 girls, empowering them to pursue a brighter future. The adoption event was held in the esteemed presence of Shri

Suresh Pujari, Hon'ble Minister for Revenue and Disaster Management, Govt of Odisha, Shri Tankadhar Tripathy, Hon'ble MLA Jharsuguda, Ms Aboli Sunil Naravane, Collector, Jharsuguda and Shri Awadh Kishor Pandey, General Manager, Ib Valley Area, MCL during the Subhadra Shakti Yojna program held in Jharsuguda. MCL's contribution highlights its strong commitment to corporate social responsibility (CSR) and its dedication to fostering positive change in society.

National Naat Mela held in Subarnapur

SUBARNAPUR (correspondent): The National Naat Mela has been organized by the Nodal Association for Amateur Theatre (NAAT), dedicated to drama, literature and social service of Subarnapur. The event began at 9:30 am at the Sonepur Sanskruti bhawan and concluded at 2:30 pm. The inaugural function was held under the chairmanship of Naat Executive President Pradyumna Kumar Sahu, with Subarnapur Additional District Magistrate Anjalina Pradhan as the chief guest, while prominent film director Premachand Mantu Mohapatra, social

worker Sribatsa Mallik, poet Artatrana Babu, MP representative Sarat Satapathy, social worker Gaurishyam Panda, along with General Secretary Banamali Panda and Literature Secretary Poet Narendra Bhoi were present. Culture Secretary Avinash Hota conducted the stage. The meeting expressed anger over the lack of a suitable stage for drama in Subarnapur. In the second phase, a 'Kavita Saptaswara' program was held under the chairmanship of playwright and poet Dr. Purushottam Mishra, in which seven poets recited their recorded poems.

2726 Cases Finalised In Kendrapara district National Lok Adalat

Kendrapara (Correspondent): In a major out break more than fifty percentage enrollment cases finalised in national Lok Adalat today in Kendrapara district. Out of 4224 enrollment different cases 2726 pending cases finalised and 81,77,778 of rupees penalty collected in this Lok Adalat. This year's first Lok Adalat was held at Kendrapara, Aul, Rajnagar and Pattamundai court premises today. Highest revenue cases finalised in this Lok Adalat. Out of 2644 enrollment cases 2325 cases finalised and 3,71,054 rupees penalty collected was said. District legal services authority coordinate this programme and honourable district senior civil judge Sumitra Sahoo operated it.

Two Buses Engulfed In Fire

Khordha correspondent : Two private buses were engulfed in flames at Municipality Chhak of Ramchandrapur village in Khordha district on Sunday. According to reports, the fire originated from a nearby dumping yard close to the bus stand. It quickly spread to the buses, which had been abandoned at the site for an extended period due to their deteriorated condition.

Paradip Municipality celebrates International Women's Day

Paradip (correspondent)- International Women's Day celebrated every year on 8th March. With the motto "Let's celebrate together the power of women's creativity and art", the Municipality of Paradip, has marked an activity in honor of International Women's Day. In a meeting held at Jayadev Sadan here in Paradip on Saturday, the Chairperson of Paradip Municipality Basant Biswal congratulated all women on this unique day. On the occasion, Sampad Chandra Swain, Minister of Industries, Skill Development & Technical Education, Govern-



ment of Odisha has joined as the chief guest and expressed that on a date like this, we should appreciate our shared success that today we have successful women and girls who have a voice in the society we live in. However, the minister said that our mission for an equal society must continue even further. Among others, Swarup Nandan Behera, Tehsildar cum Executive Officer

incharge of Paradip Municipality, Sushree Smruti Swain, Addl. Executive Officer, Paradip Municipality, Dr. Sasmita Satapathy, principal, Paradip college, Priti Arati Parija, Advisor, Paradip Ladies Club were present in the programme and highlighted the important role of women. The meeting was crowded by women from various wards of Paradip Municipality.

National People's Court held on behalf of District Law Service Authority

Malkangiri, correspondent : The first National Level People's Court in Malkangiri District held today by instruction of State Law Service Authority, Taluk Law Service Authority Motu and JMFC Mathli and Kudumulugumma, Village Justice Korukonda, was held in all the courts of Malkangiri District. In this Lok Adalat, among others, Malkangiri District Law Service Authority Judge and Chairperson Dr Prasanna Kumar Panda, Additional District Judge Mr Shantanu Kumar Das, Chief Judicial Officer Satyapriya



Das, Senior Civil Judge Vijay Kumar Das, Law Service Authority Secretary and Senior judge Sangita Patra. Civil Judge & SDJM Pratima Sahu and Village Justice Deven dranath Bagh, 1st Class Judge, Mathili Padmanav Majhi, 1st Class Judge Motu Praveen Kumar Hota and 1st Class Judge, Kudumulu Gumma Bimal Lakshmi Chowdhury were present and decided various cases. 38,

17, 038/- rupees were fixed for 5581 cases in this district level people's court. District Court, Additional District Judge Court, Subjudge Court, SDJM Court, District Law Service Authority, Malkangiri and Taluk Law Service Association, staff of all other courts and members of Malkangiri and Motu Bar Associations were present in this Lok Adalat and cooperated fully in the work of the court.

International Women's Day Celebration by Sattvic Soul through Mangrove Plantation Drive

PARADEEP, (correspondent): The Sattvic Soul Foundation working for it's Climate Action related activities has planted Mangrove saplings at the Nuagarh Panchyat, Kujanga Block, Jagatsinghpur at banks of The Mahanadi river on the occasion of the eve of International Women's Day. More than 30 women & girls volunteers from Sattvic Soul & Local institute planted more than 50 saplings and made an effort to bring back the greenery of the Coastal belt and the aim of the program was to raise awareness about the issue at various levels. n this program lead by the District Coor-

dinator of Sattvic Soul Mr. Biswajeet Samal, along with the Nature Lover Gayatri Swain, Sipili Pradhan, Lipsha Rani Pradhan, Pinki Pradhan, Sabitri Swain, Monalisha Mohapatra, Swornalata Swain, Rajalaxmi beura, Sital Swain, Swahani Maharatha, Truptimayee Ojha, Rashmita Sahoo, Adyasha Mohanty, Adyasha Nayak, Ritika Rout, Soni Baral, Pragnya Priyadarshini Swain, Rupali Malick, Puja Ojha involved and made the program a successful. In the past, the organization had received praise from various sections for involving Women's in climate related activities &

along with that for creating & conserving over 5,000 Mangrove Saplings and for doing these kinds of Mangrove Plantation regular basis on the banks of the Mahanadi. Mangrove Saplings are include Kharsi, Singala Bani, Bada Bani, Kaliachua, Bandari, Sinduka etc. Under the leadership of Mr Biswajeet Samal, the organization will continue to work towards building a green environment and a healthy society by protecting the environment through planting and maintaining more and more Mangrove saplings with our passionate Women Volunteers.

Odiya boy of MV 79 shined in Delhi Suraj was honoured by IIMC

Malkangiri correspondent : Mr Suraj Kumar Behera of local odiya boy of MV-79 has become the topper in IIMC (Indian Institute of Mass Communication) New Delhi Odia section. He has been honoured from IIMC for securing top positions. Minister of Information and Broadcasting Sri Ashwini Vaishnav felicitated as Chief Guest to Suraj at the program at Gandhi Mandap in New Delhi. He has been showered with best wishes from vari-

ous quarters for his success. It is known that Suraj was interested in journalism since his childhood. His writings, were published in various media from the time of reading. The Dillip Satapathi Memorial award was honoured by Hon'ble Speaker Surma Padhi and Former Governor Hon'ble Raghubar Das on National Press Day. In addition, he has already received Barendra Krishna Dhal Award, Radhanath Nath Rath Award.

2, 75,905 beneficiaries get the 2nd installment money of Subhadra Yojana

JAGATSINGHPUR, correspondent. As the Odisha government released 2nd installment money of the hyped women's scheme Subhadra Yojana on Saturday on the occasion of International Women's Day, as many as 2,75,905 women beneficiaries received Rs 5,000 each in Jagatsinghpur district. Coinciding the state level function held at Berhampur, Jagatsinghpur district administration organized a similar function at collector office ground, skill and industry minister Sampad Chandra Swain, MP Bibhuprasad Tarai, MLA Amarendra Das, Zilla Parishad president, municipality chairperson Archana Singh, collector J Sonal and other civil officials were present at the Subhadra money disbursement event

OFFICE OF THE NOTIFIED AREA COUNCIL, KODALA Odisha, Pin -761032, E-Mail: - nackodala@gmail.com	
Lt. No.390 / SAN / 2025	Dated:- 07/03/2025
e- NOTICE	
BID IDENTIFICATION NO. KOD-NAC-SAN-01/2025-26	
The Executive Officer, NAC, Kodala, on behalf of Governor of Odisha invites from registered service provider/Agency/Firm having experience in the field to engage the Manpower for different category indicated in the bid and the set of term and condition of contract and other necessary documents can be seen in Govt. website i.e. www.tendersorissa.gov.in , according to norm of e-procurement system in online mode for the work as per DTCN.	
1. Name of the Work	:- Sanitation Work as mentioned in website
2. Number of Work	:- 01 Nos.
3. Estimated cost	:- As per DTCN
4. Period of Completion	:- As per DTCN
5. Date and Time of availability of Bid Document in the Portal	:- From 10.00AM of Dt. 10/03/2025 To 5.00PM of Dt. 25/03/2025
6. Last date and time for receipt of Bid in the Portal	:- 5.00PM of Dt. 25/03/2025
7. The bid received online shall be opened on	11.00 AM of dtd. 26/03/2025
8. Name and Address of the Officer inviting Bid:-	Executive Officer, NAC, Kodala.
Further details can be seen from the Procurement Portal: www.tendersorissa.gov.in	
Executive Officer Kodal, NAC	

In Kalahandi Natioanl Lok Adalat held, 2478 cases settled

Bhawanipatna: (Correspondent) In a significant development, with the joint effort of Chairperson & Secretary of District Legal Service Authority the District and Session Judge Anup Ranjan Pattanik and Subhagottam Mishra, a number of 2478 cases was settled in the held National



Lok Adalat in Bhawanipatna of Kalahandi district. In this organised national

level lokadalat Vigilance Judge Badrinarayan Nanda, Family Court Judge

Rajashri Mohapatra, Chief Judicial Magistrate Padmalochan Badajena, Senior Civil Judge Sudipta Dehuri, Senior Civil Judge (Women) Rashmirekha Patra, Senior Civil Judge (LR & LTV) P Sitalakshmi and Sub-Divisional Judicial Magistrate Anuradha Sharma JMFC

Sumitra Biswal have played vital role, on finalising the cases at their level. During the process to settle the entire cases in the concluded Lok Adalat Additional District Judge (FTSC) jadumani Mishra and Registrar Charanjit Oram, accompanied, revealed through sources.

MANAPPURAM HOME FINANCE LTD FORMERLY MANAPPURAM HOME FINANCE PVT LTD CIN : U65923K12010PIC039179 Regd Office: IV/470A (OLD) W/638A (NEW) Manappuram House Valapad Thrissur, Kerala 680567 Corp Office: Manappuram Home Finance Limited, Third Floor, Unit No. 301 to 315, A Wing, 'Kanaka Wall Street', Andheri-Kurla Road, Andheri East, Mumbai-400093, Maharashtra. Phone No.: 022-66211000. Website: www.manappuramhomefin.com				
POSSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable Property)				
Whereas, the undersigned being the authorised officer of Manappuram Home Finance Ltd ("MAHOFIN") under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest ("SARFESI") Act, 2002 (S4 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred upon section 13(12) read with rule 9 of the security interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a Demand Notice calling upon the borrowers and co-borrowers to repay the amount mentioned in the notice and interest thereon within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken Symbolic possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under section 13(4) of the said "Act" read with rule 9 of the said rules. The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the Manappuram Home Finance Ltd as mentioned below for each of the respective properties:				
Sr. No.	Name of Borrower and Co-borrower/ Loan account number/ Branch	Description Of Secured Asset In Respect Of Which Interest Has Been Created	Date of Demand Notice sent & Outstanding Amount	Date of Possession
1	Buli Pradhan Susanta Pradhan /MHL00940007408/ Berhampur	Extent of Area Ac.0.008 Dec Under Gharabari Classification, Khata No. 249/121, Plot No. 323/2431, In Mouza- Badachakada, Tehsil-Ganjam, P.O. Badachakada, Dist-Ganjam, Odisha, Pin: 761019. East-Land of Lakshman Gouda, West-Land of Bhokili Gouda, South-Land of Bhokili Gouda, North-Road	12-12-2024 & Rs. 281562/-	06-03-2025
Date: 10 th March 2025 Place: ODISHA				
				Sd/- Authorised Officer Manappuram Home Finance Ltd

MCL Celebrates International Women's Day with Grandeur

Sambalpur:(Correspondent) :-Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL) celebrated International Women's Day 2025 with great enthusiasm, honoring the strength, resilience and achievements of its female workforce.

On this occasion, Shri Uday Anant Kaole, CMD, and Shri Keshav Rao, Director (Personnel), along with Smt. Alpana Shukla Rao and Smt. Rashmi Behura, Vice Presidents of Jagruti Mahila Mandal,



MCL, felicitated MCL's Female Rescue Team for their courageous and exceptional services, in a program organised at the company headquarters in Sambalpur. Mrs.

Ananya Anusuya Naik, a renowned entrepreneur and social worker, and Mrs. Namrata Jain, a cancer survivor, were the key speakers of the event, who shared their powerful stories and

thoughts on women's empowerment and gender equality. The celebration also featured vibrant cultural performances, showcasing the rich heritage of Sambalpur and Odisha. The event was attended by members of WIPS, female employees from the company headquarters, and ladies of MCL HQ colonies. Similar events were organised at MCL Bhubaneswar office and Area headquarters of the company.

Utkal Alumina observes International Women's Day

Rayagada, (Correspondent): Utkal Alumina International Limited, a subsidiary of Hindalco Industries under the Aditya Birla Group, observed International Women's Day with great enthusiasm at the Nuapada Township Clubhouse today. The event witnessed active participation from the company's women employees, who were engaged in different sessions of activities and in-

teractive discussions. The celebration was graced by our Unit Head Shri. Rabi Mishra and Functional Head - Human Resources Mr. Bijaya Kumura, who delivered upon the significance of women empowerment and their invaluable contributions to society and personal lives. Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Rabi Mishra highlighted Utkal Alumina's commitment to foster an inclusive



workplace where women play a pivotal role in driving success starting from a person's life from childhood to death. He also stressed on the different stages of a man and the role of

women in their life. Mr. Bijaya Kumura reinforced the need for equal opportunities and encouraged women to excel in their professional and personal spheres.

Tata Steel Foundation Organises Tribal Music Conclave 'Sarjom Baa'

Sukinda, (correspondent): You must have shaken a leg to some scintillating music or grooved to Bollywood beats at a party or a friend's wedding. But, have you ever been to a tribal music fest? We are talking about "Sarjom Baa" - the tribal music festival of Sukinda in the Jajpur district of Odisha. It was Saturday evening - a perfect time to settle the weekend right - when the music maestros from the tribal hamlets of the Sukinda valley set the floor on fire with their indigenous music and musical instruments. The occasion was set by



Tata Steel Foundation to relive the traditional musical renditions and know about the fading but charming instruments at Tata Steel's Sukinda Chromite Mine campus. More than 300 tribal musicians and dancers along with their musical instruments

had gathered to give the onlookers a pleasant and exclusive experience. The audience and the art connoisseurs couldn't resist but let their hairs down to the enchanting rhythms of Tumda, Tamak, Sakwa, Jhumka, Ghumra and Kartal. Sharing his thoughts on the initiative,

Pankaj Satija, Executive-In-charge, Ferro Alloys and Minerals Division (FAMD) of Tata Steel said, "We are committed to preserving and promoting the cultural legacy of our indigenous communities. Folk Music and dances are integral to our society and reflect our successes, failures, aspirations, and struggles. 'Sarjom Baa' is not just a celebration of music and dance but also a step towards fostering inclusivity and preserving rich indigenous traditions and heritage for future generations."

Project "Kaushal" launched at Aditya Alumina Refinery, Kansariguda

Tikiri:(Correspondent): 8th March: Aditya Alumina Refinery, Kansariguda, a unit of Hindalco Industries Limited of Aditya Birla Group has successfully launched a flagship Project named "KAUSHAL" on 8th March 2025 at Phuljoba. The project is a pioneering skill development initiative aimed at enhancing employability among local youth. Under this project, 1st batch ITI Training of local youth was officially inaugurated today by Mr. Mazhar Beig, Unit Head & President, Aditya Alumina Refinery followed by launching of Project Logo "Kaushal". This marks a significant milestone under their career in the field of technical skills in



ery, towards fostering sustainable livelihoods through skill enhancement for local youth. This launch event was witnessed by ITI aspirant students, Parents, community leaders, opinion makers, senior management and officials from Aditya Alumina Refinery. In the first phase of the project, 50 ITI aspirants from local community are made ready to embark on the journey for shaping up their career in the field of technical skills in

electrical and fitter stream. These students will undergo 2 years technical ITI course followed by 1 year on the job training at Bhubaneswar. Speaking on the occasion, The Unit Head & President Sri Mazhar Beig extended his best wishes to the selected candidates and encouraged them to persevere their 2 years course with sincerity and dedication. In his deliberation, he mentioned launching of apparel training program

for the youth girls of this region. Mr. Beig applauded that we are confident in this initiative that it will make a significant difference in building a skilled workforce for the future. Mr. Kausikisaran Mishra, Vice President, Operation, Mr. Deepak Mohanty, Head HR, Mr. Basudeb Khuntia, Head F&C, Mr. Siba Mohapatra, Cluster CSR Head, Dr. Bibhudatta Mohapatra, Vice President Corporate Communication were among the dignitaries present in the occasion and Mr. Tanmaya Mohanty, Head CSR & R&R Aditya Alumina Refinery, Kansariguda were present. The event was gracefully concluded where the parents shared their gratitude towards the company.

Jindal Steel & Power Celebrates Naveen Jindal's Birthday as Fitness Day, Launches Community Facilities

Angul, (correspondent): Jindal Steel & Power (JSP) employees, along with members of the local community, came together to celebrate the birthday of Mr. Naveen Jindal, Chairman of JSP, with a series of meaningful social and fitness activities. The celebrations commenced with a special puja at the Devbhoomi Jindal Temple. Early in the morning, JSP's Angul location head and Executive Director-in-Charge, Mr. Pankaj Malhan, flagged off a mini-marathon within Jindal Nagar Township. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from employees, their families, and community members across all age groups, with winners receiving recognition and rewards. As part of its commitment to community well-being, the Jindal Foundation inaugurated a thousand-capacity pavilion at the newly developed playground in Golabandh village, adjacent to the Angul plant. Mr. Prashant Hota, President and Group Head of Jindal CSR, dedicated the facility to the villagers and highlighted Shri Naveen Jindal's focus on organic diet, sports, athletics, and fitness for all ages. Youths from Benagadia and Golabandh villages played a friendly cricket match to commemorate the occasion. Several key development initiatives were unveiled, most prominently the Naveen Jindal Skill Centre to enhance the skill ecosystem, Safety Park,



Volleyball Stadium, and a new canteen. The facilities were inaugurated by Mr. Pankaj Malhan in the presence of senior executives, including Mr. Damodar Mittal, Executive Director-Projects; Mr. Dinesh Tripathy; Mr. Dilip Sinha; Yoga Guru Swami Satyabindu Saraswati, Mr. Vijai Singh, Brig. Dinesh Sharma, and other dignitaries. Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Pankaj Malhan expressed his admiration for Mr. Naveen Jindal, calling him a visionary leader, a patriot, an iconic sportsman, a devoted family man, and an ardent advocate of a healthy lifestyle and fitness. Mr. Malhan stated, "Mr. Jindal considers everyone associated with JSP as part of his extended family. His unwavering commitment to national growth and social welfare is truly inspiring. On this special day, let us pledge to uphold his values and contribute our best to society and the nation."

JSWF-ATDC Hosts Rojgar Mela to Boost Women's Skill Empowerment



Sripura (correspondent): Skill empowerment remains a key focus area of JSW Foundation, and in alignment with this vision, the JSWF-ATDC Sewing cum Production Center at Sripura Panchayat successfully hosted a Rojgar Mela. In this job fair around 200 trained candidates participated to secure placements in leading textile and apparel companies. Reputed firms, including Shahi Exports, Bhubaneswar; VICTUS Dyeing, Tiruppur; Page Industries Limited - Jockey, Chakardharpur, Odisha; and Aditya Birla Fashion Retail Ltd, Bhubaneswar, participated in the event, conducting screening processes for the trained candidates. The fair served as a crucial bridge between skilled individuals and industry leaders, facilitating meaningful employment opportunities. The event was graced by Mr. J.P. Singh, Vice-President of HR at JSW BPSL, Sambalpur, who attended as the Chief Guest. In his address, he emphasized the significance of self-empowerment for every woman, highlighting the role of skill training in fostering independence and financial stability.

KIIT, KISS & KIMS Celebrate Women's Day

Bhubaneswar, (correspondent): KIIT, KISS, and KIMS came together to celebrate International Women's Day, reaffirming their commitment to gender equality and empowerment. Dr. Achyuta Samanta, Founder of KIIT and KISS, expressed his deep appreciation for the contributions of women, emphasizing that the growth of KIIT has been driven by the



respect and opportunities it provides to women. "What we preach, we practice. We have been promot-

ing women's empowerment since the inception of KIIT. He further noted that women have risen to occupy key

leadership positions within KIIT, making it a model institution for inclusivity and equal opportunity. More than 50 per cent staff at KIIT and KISS are women, and the ratio is the same among the students as well. Women employees expressed their sentiments about their deep connection with KIIT and the sense of security and opportunity it provides. They highlighted how the in-

stitution has created a nurturing environment where both personal and professional aspirations can flourish. Adding to the celebrations, the Centre for Women's Studies at KISS observed the day with a special focus on empowering young women through sports, under the theme "Empowering Young Women through Sports: Towards Building a Healthy Na-

tion." The initiative emphasized the role of sports in fostering resilience, leadership, and overall well-being among women. Among others, Prof Saranjit Singh, VC, KIIT Deemed to be University; Prof Debasish Bandopadhyay, VC, KISS DU; and Prof Jnyana Ranjan Mohanty, Registrar, KIIT DU were also graced the occasion.

DEPUTY CHIEF MINSITER PRAISES CSR INITIATIVES OF SBI

Bhubaneswar, (correspondent): On the occasion of International Women's Day 2025, State Bank of India Bhubaneswar Circle organized various CSR activities across Odisha. In an event organized at SBI LHO Bhubaneswar, Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister of Odisha Smt.

Pravati Parida had graced the occasion and distributed 200 Sewing Machines for Women SHGs and other Start-Up Lady Entrepreneurs as well as 81 numbers of Sanitary Pad Incinerators for Girls High Schools and Ladies Hostels across Odisha. In the said event, Chief Gen-



eral Manager Shri Dinesh Pruthi, General

Manager Shri Ponnambalam M.,

General Manager Shri Kaushal Kishor Singh, Deputy General Managers and more than 100 staff members of SBI LHO Bhubaneswar were present. Dy Chief Minister madam has lauded efforts of SBI's various initiatives for the upliftment of weaker section and girl students of Schools /

Colleges/ Universities under CSR programs. She has also praised SBI for smooth transfer of funds directly to the accounts of beneficiaries under Subhadra scheme and maximum disbursement of loans under Mission Shakti for which Odisha State has ranked 2nd position Pan India.

GIET University Excels at National Go-Karting Championship

Gunupur:(Correspondent)
:- Students from the Department of Mechanical Engineering at GIET University have made a mark at the National Go-Karting Championship held at Aditya Institute of Technology and Management, Tekili, Andhra Pradesh. The university's team, Prarambh, won the Best Business Model award, showcasing their technical expertise and strategic planning. The team was honored with a trophy, certificate, and a cash prize of ₹10,000.



Led by Captain Akash Patra and Vice-Captain Sovit Panda, Prarambh demonstrated exceptional innovation and problem-solving skills. Kiran Nayak and Itesh Pradhan presented the award-winning business model, contributing significantly to the team's success. A key highlight

of the competition was the team's self-designed electric go-kart, powered by a 4.5 kW motor and a 72V, 62Ah battery, reflecting their engineering excellence. Recognizing his invaluable mentorship, Assistant Professor Santosh Kumar Tripathi received the Dronacharya

Award for his guidance and leadership in shaping "Prarambh" into a competitive force in motorsports and engineering. Extending their congratulations, Dr. Satya Prakash Panda (President), Dr. Chandra Dhvaj Panda (Vice President), Dr. Jagadish Panda (Director General), Dr. A.V.N.L. Sharma (Vice Chancellor), and Dr. N.V. Jagannatha Rao (Registrar), along with faculty members, applauded the team's outstanding achievement.

NTPC Talcher Kaniha Wraps Up Successful ER-II IRSM Cricket Tournament 2024, Darlipali Wins the Championship

KANIHA, :(Correspondent): NTPC Talcher Kaniha successfully concluded the ER-II, IRSM Cricket Tournament 2024, showcasing a remarkable display of sportsmanship and teamwork. The tournament, which began on March 3rd, culminated in an exciting final on March 8th, 2025. The event, held at the BR Ambedkar Stadium in NTPC Kaniha, saw NTPC Darlipali emerge victorious, winning the final match by 12 runs against NTPC Kaniha. The event was graced by the chief guest, Shri A.K. Sehgal, ED (NTPC Talcher Kaniha), along with



other distinguished dignitaries including Shri Prabhat, RHoHR, Shri CH. Satya Rama Krishna, GM (O&M), Shri SS Rao (Maint. & ADM), Shri Navneet Kumar, AGM (HR), as well as Union and Association representatives. The NTPC family observed a minute's silence in memory of Shri Kumar Gav, DGM,

and prayed for the eternal peace of his departed soul. Shri Sehgal expressed his gratitude to the HR department and union association for organizing the successful event, congratulating all teams for their excellent performances, especially the winning team, Darlipali, and the runner-up, Talcher Kaniha.

Ravindra Jadeja's ODI retirement speculated after Virat Kohli's emotional gesture

NEWDELHI: Speculation is ripe whether the final of the ICC Champions Trophy will be the final ODI match for some of the biggest names in Indian cricket, especially for senior players such as Rohit Sharma and Ravindra Jadeja. While no official communication has been provided by any players or the team, netizens have come to the conclusion that Jadeja might be playing his final match, after Virat Kohli was spotted giving his long-time teammate a hug after his 10-over spell on Sunday in the final in Dubai. Jadeja finished a very economical and accurate spell in the middle overs, bowling out his quote while conceding just 30 runs, and also taking the important wicket of Tom Latham to break a growing partnership between the left-hander and Daryl Mitchell. Fans noticed how Kohli had previously shared a hug with Steven Smith after their semifinal, with the Australian great stepping away from ODI cricket after that loss. He was also seen embracing R Ashwin before the all-rounder announced his own surprise international retirement during the Border-Gavaskar Trophy.

Champions Trophy: Shreyas Iyer Finishes As Second-Highest Run-Scorer In Tournament

Dubai: India batter Shreyas Iyer finished the 2025 ICC Champions Trophy as the second-highest run-getter after playing a knock of 48 runs in the final against New Zealand at Dubai International Stadium on Sunday. Iyer might have missed out on the much-deserved half-century but he was involved in a crucial 61-run fourth-wicket partnership with Axar Patel in the chase of 252. India had an electrifying start with captain Rohit Sharma firing on all cylinders in the powerplay. He completed his 58th ODI half-century off 41 balls to set the tone of India's chase. Rohit and Shubman Gill stitched a 105-run partnership for the opening stand before New Zealand captain Mitchell Santer dismissed the latter for 31. In the next over, Michael Bracewell silenced the crowd with a prizey scalp of Virat Kohli for 1. Shreyas Iyer



joined Rohit in the middle but the Indian captain's stay was cut short by Rachin Ravindra in the 27th over to give India third jolt in the match. Rohit departed after scoring 76 runs studded with three sixes and seven fours. Iyer kept his calm and stitched a cautious and much-important partnership with Axar to keep India in the hunt for their third title. With 241 runs in five matches,

Iyer finished as the highest run-getter for India and second-highest in the tournament behind Rachin Ravindra's tally of 263 runs. Kohli finished as the second top run-getter for India with 218 runs and fourth overall. Iyer had a dismal start against Bangladesh in the tournament before he hit back-to-back half-centuries against arch-rivals Pakistan (56 runs) and New Zealand (79 runs) in the

group encounters. The middle-order batter also played a vital knock of 45 against Australia in the semi-final. Earlier, half-centuries from Daryl Mitchell (63 off 101 balls) and Michael Bracewell (53 not out off 40 balls) took New Zealand to 251/7 after India's spinners picked five wickets collectively, with wrist spin duo Kuldeep and Varun Chakaravathy taking two wickets each.

KIIT University Hosts Its First National-Level Track Cycling Championship

BHUBANESWAR,:(Correspondent): The All India Inter University Cycling (Men & Women) Championship and the East Zone Inter University Cricket (Women) Championship 2025 were grandly inaugurated on 9th March 2025 at the Minati Mohapatra Cycling Velodrome, KISS Campus 4. The event, organized under the aegis of the Association of Indian Universities (AIU), New Delhi, is being hosted by KIIT & KISS, Bhubaneswar, with the Support of Cycling Federation of India, Odisha Cycling Association and Odisha



Cricket Association from March 9 to 13, 2025. The opening ceremony witnessed the presence of distinguished personalities from the world of sports and academia. The Chief Guest, Prof. Achyuta Samanta, Founder of KIIT, KISS & KIMS, graced the

occasion along with Guest of Eminence Ms. Minati Mohapatra, the first Arjuna Awardee from Odisha in cycling and President of the Odisha Cycling Association. The Vice Chancellor of KISS Deemed to be University, Prof. Debashis Bandyopadhyay, delivered the welcome address,

setting the stage for an inspiring start to the championships. Shri Anil Kumar, Observer from AIU for the Cycling Championship, and Shri Sudam Rokade from the Cycling Federation of India, also addressed the gathering, emphasizing the significance of university-level sports in nurturing future champions. The event was further held by the presence of Shri Prasanna Rout, Secretary of Odisha Cycling Association, and Dr. Gaganendu Dash, Director General, School of Sports and Yogic Sciences.

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New Zealand captain Mitchell Santer dismissed the latter for 31. In the next over, Michael Bracewell silenced the crowd with a prizey scalp of Virat Kohli for 1. Shreyas Iyer joined Rohit in the middle but the Indian captain's stay was cut short by Rachin Ravindra in the 27th over to give India third jolt in the match. Rohit departed after scoring 76 runs studded with three sixes and seven fours. Iyer kept his calm and stitched a cautious and much-important partnership with Axar to keep India in the hunt for their third title. With 241 runs in five matches, Iyer finished as the highest run-getter for India and second-highest in the tournament behind Rachin

Ravindra's tally of 263 runs. Kohli finished as the second top run-getter for India with 218 runs and fourth overall. Iyer had a dismal start against Bangladesh in the tournament before he hit back-to-back half-centuries against arch-rivals Pakistan (56 runs) and New Zealand (79 runs) in the group encounters. The middle-order batter also played a vital knock of 45 against Australia in the semi-final. Earlier, half-centuries from Daryl Mitchell (63 off 101 balls) and Michael Bracewell (53 not out off 40 balls) took New Zealand to 251/7 after India's spinners picked five wickets collectively, with wrist spin duo Kuldeep and Varun Chakaravathy taking two wickets each.

Carlos Alcaraz Sets Eyes On Indian Wells Three-Peat, Begins Title Defence With A Bang

NEWDELHI: Two-time defending champion Carlos Alcaraz launched his bid for a rare Indian Wells three-peat with a bang on Saturday, racing into the third round with a 6-4, 6-2 victory over France's Quentin Halys. The four-time Grand Slam winner from Spain is vying to join Novak Djokovic and Roger Federer as the only players to win three straight Indian Wells ATP Masters titles. He admitted he was feeling some nerves to start the



match, but they evaporated amid a strong all-around performance. One early break staked Alcaraz to the first set, and he roared to a 4-0 lead in the second behind a formidable serve

display. He finished with seven aces and saved the only break point he faced, securing the win in 67 minutes. Since his quarter-final exit at the Australian Open Alcaraz

has captured the title in Rotterdam, where he shook off a cold to claim the first indoor trophy of his career. At No. 3 the Spaniard is the highest-ranked player left in the draw, with top-ranked Jannik Sinner serving a drugs ban and number two Alexander Zverev crashing out in his opener. Listen to the latest songs, In the third round he'll face Canadian Denis Shapovalov, a 6-3, 6-2 winner over Australian Adam Walton.

Ousmane Dembele Nets Brace, PSG Warm Up For Liverpool Second Leg With 4-1 Win

NEWDELHI: Ousmane Dembele scored twice as Paris Saint-Germain warmed up for the second leg of their Champions League last-16 tie against Liverpool by winning 4-1 away to Rennes in Ligue 1 with a much-changed team on Saturday. Bradley Barcola and Goncalo Ramos had PSG 2-0 up in Brittany before Lilian

Brassier pulled one back for Rennes, but Dembele netted twice in stoppage time to seal the victory for the visitors. The result allowed the Ligue 1 leaders to maintain their unbeaten record domestically this season. The Parisians are now a huge 16 points clear at the top, with closest challengers Marseille losing 1-0 at home to Lens later on

Saturday. Luis Enrique's PSG side were ultimately comfortable winners despite the coach making eight changes to his line-up in between the two legs of the Liverpool tie, with the return at Anfield coming up on Tuesday. "We are in perfect condition to go and take on Liverpool. We have nothing to lose and we will give everything to try to qualify.

Utkal Alumina organises the 9th edition of "Ama Nrutya, Ama Sanskruti" with a Grand Cultural Extravaganza

Rayagada, (correspondent): Utkal Alumina, a unit of Hindalco Industries Limited of Aditya Birla group, successfully hosted the 9th edition of its cultural event, "Ama Nrutya, Ama Sanskruti", at its township premises in Nuapada, Tikiri. The two-day festival showcased vibrant performances that celebrated the rich cultural heritage of the region. First day the event was inaugurated by Shri Akshaya Kumar Khemundu, Chief Development Officer of Rayagada district along with Shri Ravi Narayan Mishra, Unit Head graced the occa-



sion as esteemed guests. CDO Shri Khemundu praised the utkal alumina for the initiative for providing a platform to local talent. He delivered upon the cultural significance of the undivided Koraput region and encouraged efforts to promote indigenous traditions. The festival brought together traditional dance

troupes from 20 villages, who performed mesmerizing folk and tribal dances. The competition segment of the event saw Gokulum unda village securing first place, Mouiliguda taking second place, and Bagrizhola securing third place. These top three teams performed again on the final evening and were felicitated by

dignitaries. The closing ceremony was attended by Shri Nihar Ranjan Kahar, Additional District Magistrate of Rayagada, and Shri Biranchi Charan Patra, Additional Superintendent of Police, who commended Utkal Alumina for its commitment to preserving local culture. The highlight of the event was a spectacular showcase of traditional dances from across India, featuring performances from Mizoram, Assam, Manipur, Nagaland, Punjab, and Tamil Nadu, which captivated the audience with their diversity and artistic brilliance.

MCL receives Global Sustainable Mining Practices Award 2025

Sambalpur, (Correspondent) :-Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL), a subsidiary of Coal India Limited and the leading coal-producing company in India, received the Global Sustainable Mining Practices Award 2025 at the 3rd Odisha Mining and Infrastructure International Expo held at Bhubaneswar on Sunday. The award was presented by Hon'ble Governor of Odisha, Shri Hari Babu Kambhampati to Shri Uday Anant Kaole, Chairman-cum-Managing Director, MCL. This recognition underscores MCL's unwavering commitment to sustain-



able mining, environmental responsibility and innovative corporate practices. Shri Uday Anant Kaole has expressed his gratitude and reaffirmed MCL's dedication to environmentally conscious and socially responsible mining. "This award is a testament to MCL's continuous efforts in adopt-

ing sustainable practices, minimising environmental impact and fostering community welfare. We remain committed to ensuring that our mining operations align with global sustainability standards," the CMD said, congratulating Team MCL for their collective efforts in achieving this award.

MCL has been at the forefront of implementing green initiatives, including extensive afforestation, water conservation and the adoption of advanced mining technologies to reduce carbon footprints. The company's proactive approach toward sustainable mining has set a benchmark in the coal sector, reinforcing its position as a responsible industry leader. The Global Sustainable Mining Practices Award serves as a recognition of the coal mining industry's transition towards sustainability and innovation

J&T Gems & Jewellery opened its fifth mega showroom in Patia

BHUBANESWAR, (Correspondent): J&T Gems & Jewellery has officially opened its fifth mega showroom in Patia, Bhubaneswar. The expansive showroom, covering 6,000 square feet, was inaugurated by the Mayor of Bhubaneswar, Sulochana Das, with local corporators Mihir Kumar Raut, Pritinanda Rautray, Monalisa



Behera, and Amresh Jena also in attendance. Suresh Kumar

Chowdhury, the Managing Director, emphasized the brand's commitment

to outstanding customer service, competitive pricing, and exceptional design. The company already operates showrooms in Jagmara, Master Canteen, Berhampur, and Balasore. The inauguration was further graced by the presence of Director Madhusree Choudhury, Business Head Pramod Rath, and numerous customers and guests.

Talcher Thermal Recognizes Women from All Walks of Life on Women's Day

Talcher, (Correspondent): Talcher Thermal celebrated International Women's Day with a heartfelt event dedicated to recognizing and appreciating the invaluable contributions of contractual female workers. The celebration was a testament to the strength, resilience, and determination of women across all roles. Speaking at the event, Smt. Vibha Agarwal, President of Sagarika Ladies Club, said, "Every woman here is an inspiration. Whether at home, at work, or in society, their hard work drives progress. Today, we honor them—not just as

employees but as changemakers shaping our communities." The event was also graced by Ms. Payal Patel, known as the 'PAD Girl of Odisha', who spoke on the importance of women's health and hygiene. Ms. Bibharani Patra, a mountaineer from Odisha, and Smt. Mamta Patra, a social worker at the Social Development Foundation at Talcher Thermal, shared their inspiring journeys, proving that women, no matter where they come from, can achieve greatness. As part of the celebrations, a special health camp was organized for con-



tractual female workers, where health check-ups and awareness sessions were conducted. In addition, health kits were distributed to ensure that women had access to essential healthcare resources. The event also welcomed women beneficiaries from Talcher Thermal's CSR training programs, who shared

how these initiatives have transformed their lives and empowered them to become financially independent. One of the contractual workers shared, "Today, I feel truly empowered. We work hard every day, and this event makes us feel valued and appreciated. It's an inspiration for us and future generations." A CSR

GIET University Celebrates International Women's Day

Gunupur, (Correspondent): GIET University, Gunupur, marked International Women's Day with a grand celebration, bringing together esteemed dignitaries, faculty, students, and alumni. The event commenced with the arrival of guests, followed by a ceremonial presentation of flower bouquets. Dr. Prativa Kar, Convenor of the Internal Complaints Committee (ICC), delivered the welcome address, setting the stage for an evening of insightful discussions and celebrations. The program featured addresses by se-



nior university officials, including Dr. A.V.N.L. Sharma, Vice-Chancellor; Dr. Lalit Mohan Pattnaik, Pro-Chancellor; and Dr. Chandraraj Panda, Vice President of GIET University. Adding further prestige to the occasion, Dr. Sistla Rama Devi Pani, Head of Research and Editor of University News, AIU, Ministry of Education,

New Delhi, attended as the Guest of Honour. The Chief Guest, Mrs. Anuradha Mishra, Additional Director General, Directorate General of Vigilance, Eastern Zonal Unit, Kolkata, delivered a compelling address, emphasizing the vital role of women in leadership and governance. The university honored its distinguished guests

in a felicitation ceremony, followed by a heartfelt vote of thanks delivered by Mrs. Suman Mishra, Co-Convenor of ICC. The evening concluded with an inspiring alumni message, a prize distribution ceremony, and a vibrant cultural night, celebrating the achievements and contributions of women. The event was a resounding success, reaffirming GIET University's commitment to gender equality, empowerment, and the celebration of women's accomplishments across all spheres.

Hitech Medical College and Surya Kshetra Foundation Celebrate International Women's Day 1

Bhubaneswar, (Correspondent) :-Hitech Medical College and Hospital and a leading voluntary organization, Surya Kshetra Foundation of Educational Charitable Trust, jointly celebrated International Women's Day. The program was held at the Hitech Medical College and Hospital Auditorium. Dr. Bipin Mishra, Chairman, Surya Kshetra Foundation, was the chief guest and said that women play a significant role in building an empowered

society. Similarly, Suresh Kumar Panigrahi, Managing Trustee of Hitech Group, Principal Professor Dr. Purna Chandra Das were present as the guests of honor, while Brahmakumari Tapaswini Didi, Brahmakumari Aparna Didi, Editor of Surya Kshetra Foundation Dr. Sukanti Mishra, first Odia pilot Captain Selvi Mishra, Chairman of Premiyar Road Career Vijay Kumar Gupta attended as the chief guests and



wished success and prosperity to every woman of the state. Vice Principal of Hitech Medical College and Hospital Prof. Dr. Lisa Sarangi moderated the

program. Medical Superintendent Dr. Ravindranath Behera and Dr. Prashant Kumar Parija gave presentations on cancer diseases in women.

HBT Observes International Women's Day in Keonjhar

Keonjhar, (correspondent) :- On the occasion of International Women's Day, Humara Bachpan Trust (HBT) organized events across multiple locations in Keonjhar district, including Kumudi (Banspal Block) at the Panchayat Office, Hatadihi (Hatadihi Block) at Rajiv Gandhi Seva Kendra, and Swampatana (Patana Block) at the Panchayat Office Conference Hall. With the theme "Accelerate Action," the events focused on urgent issues



like child marriage, trafficking, and child labor, emphasizing the need for swift and coordinated interventions to strengthen child protection efforts in Keonjhar district. The initiative is part of the 'Just Rights for Children' pro-

gram, implemented by HBT in partnership with Kailash Satyarthi Children's Foundation (KSCF) since last two years, covering 150 villages across six blocks in Keonjhar-Hatadihi, Banspal, Sadar,

Harichandanpur, Patana, and Ghatagaon. The events witnessed the participation of 135 stakeholders including, Inspector-in-Charge, Sarpanch (s), adolescent girls, SHG members, PRI representatives, Anganwadi and ASHA workers, community leaders, GPLF leaders, child protection experts, and ward members. Discussions focused on the urgent need for collective action to eradicate child marriage and create safer environments for children.

Galaxy M16 5G and Galaxy M06 5G Go on Sale in India with Exciting Introductory Offers

NEW DELHI: Samsung, India's largest consumer electronics brand, today announced the sale of its Monster devices, Galaxy M16 5G and Galaxy M06 5G, the latest additions to the popular Galaxy M series, offering an impressive combination of style and cutting-edge innovation. Featuring segment-leading 6.7" Full HD+ Super AMOLED display, Galaxy M16 5G provides higher quality colour contrast, giving an immersive viewing experience. Galaxy M06 5G features a 6.7" HD+ display, which makes

scrolling through social media feeds, even in outdoor settings, a breeze for the tech-savvy Gen Z and millennial customers. Both Galaxy M16 5G and Galaxy M06 5G feature an all-new design with new linear grouped camera module, a bold yet balanced colour palette, and an enhanced finish, making them visually appealing and trendy. Both devices are sleek and incredibly ergonomic. The Galaxy M16 5G is just 7.9 mm slim, while the Galaxy M06 5G measures 8 mm.