

Naveen launches sports infra projects worth ₹660cr

Bhubaneswar: Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik, Friday, launched sports infrastructure projects worth ₹660 crore that include 48 multipurpose indoor stadiums, Cuttack Table Tennis Academy, Rourkela Gymnastics Academy and 12 hockey training centres. On this occasion he also laid the foundation stone for 11 sports projects. These projects have been taken up under 5T initiative to ensure transformation of the sports sector, from grassroots to elite. **Details inside**

IRREGULAR by MANJUL



Improve the system! Why do you make us travel to exam centres when we can get the paper at home

Organ goes to Delhi



POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Feb 23: A green corridor was set up by AIIMS in Bhubaneswar with the help of the state government Friday to transport the liver donated by a brain dead patient to a hospital in New Delhi, kicking-off a debate if the state doesn't have worthy organ recipients.

It all happened after surgeons at the state's premier healthcare facility, AIIMS Bhubaneswar, collected the liver from a 14-year-old girl who was declared brain dead in the ICU. The organ was transported to ILBS, New Delhi for which a green corridor was arranged.

The girl, daughter of Banita and Dukhabandhu Mahant, originally

from Keonjhar district and currently residing in Bhubaneswar, was suffering from chronic kidney disease and was under dialysis for last few months. Recently, she suffered brain stroke and was admitted to the department of medicine at AIIMS Bhubaneswar February 15. Subsequently, she went into a coma and was on ventilator. With no signs of recovery, the girl was declared brain dead by the expert committee from AIIMS Bhubaneswar after doing a series of Apnoea tests. Knowing the irreparable loss, the brave parents of the child came forward to show the highest degree of humanity and gave consent to donate the organs - liver and lungs -- of their daughter. The expert surgeons retrieved her liver after declaration of the brain stem death.

In November last year, the family members of a brain-dead woman from Berhampur had donated her multiple organs that could save the lives of six patients. AMRI Hospital in Bhubaneswar had facilitated the harvesting of the organs that were donated to patients in different parts of the country.

Exam pressure: 2 students die by suicide

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhubaneswar, Feb 23: Two students died allegedly by suicide due to examination pressure in separate incidents in Ganjam and Bhadrak districts, police said Friday. The suicide incidents came

to the fore when the students were appearing in the annual Plus II and the matriculation (Class X) examinations. While the body of a Plus II science second-year male student was found hanging in his house at Suryanagar in Baidyanathpur area of Berhampur Friday

morning, a Class X boy was found hanging at Jahangir Sasan village in Bhadrak district. The Plus II boy, a student of Nilakantheswar Sishu Mandir in Berhampur, was reportedly caught while resorting to malpractice during physics examination Thursday

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Byju's shareholders vote to remove CEO, family

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Feb 23: Majority of Byju's shareholders Friday voted unanimously for removing founder CEO Byju Raveendran and his family from the board over alleged 'mismanagement and failures' at what was once India's hottest tech startup, but the company dug in its heels, calling the voting done in absence of founders as invalid and ineffective. Founder CEO Raveendran, his

wife and brother - the only three members on company board as of now - stayed away from the extraordinary general meeting (EGM) called by a group of six investors, who collectively hold more than 32 per cent in Think & Learn (T&L), the firm that operates online tuition platform Byju's.

At the end, more than 60 per cent of the shareholders voted in favour of all the seven resolutions, which included removing the current man-



agement, reconfiguration of the board and a third party forensic investigation into acquisitions done

by the company. Prosus - one of the six investors who had called the EGM - in a statement said "shareholders unanimously passed all resolutions put forward for vote."

"These included a request for the resolution of the outstanding governance, financial mismanagement and compliance issues at Byju's; the reconstitution of the board of directors, so that it is no longer controlled by the founder of T&L; and a change of leadership of the company."

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Sketching Amit Patel	Sketching Hira Soren
Painting Aadyaa Mohapatra	Painting Debansi Mohanty

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SWIFT'S SYDNEY GIG SUFFERS DUE TO LIGHTNING STRIKE

Singer-songwriter Taylor Swift's concert in Sydney was evacuated over safety fears after a series of lightning strikes Friday. Her gig at the Accor Stadium suffered a major blow following the bad weather with fans being forced to leave the lower levels of the Stadium, reports *Female First UK*.

ZENDAYA DONATES \$100K TO THEATRE

Actress and singer Zendaya has donated \$100,000 to California Shakespeare Theater in Oakland, the place where she began her career. She has teamed up with the Women Donors Network (WDN) to hand over the sum which helps cover the cost of improvements and future shows.



FORTUNE FORECAST

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ARIES
You will want to catch up with old friends that you have been neglecting for some time. The stars suggest that you will enjoy yourself. Your excitement will brighten up your activities. Your frankness and honesty are what set you apart from others, says Ganesh.

TAURUS
You will be very sensitive about the image you project socially and professionally. Ganesh sees you treating this very seriously and doing everything you can to make this right impression. Today, you will remain decent, dignified and focused in all that you do. Do not be too eager to please others.

GEMINI
A hectic and busy day awaits you, which will probably leave you feeling bored and listless. Find creative ways to beat the boredom, or take a break and do things which appeal to you today, says Ganesh.

CANCER
You will begin the day with a definite plan for a bright future. You will resolutely implement plans that you have made thoughtfully. Such methodical decisions will save you a lot of time in the future. Ganesh says that you will succeed in every endeavour today.

LEO
Your decisions today will be not only be correct, but also resolute and steadfast. Your health will be fine. At the work-place, things ought to proceed as usual. However, you will concentrate more on work today. In personal relationships, some minor arguments could crop up.

VIRGO
Opening up to your beloved about your whims and fancies as well as your goals shall be the key today. And, why not, urges Ganesh. Your intimate relations should be built on trust and mutual compatibility. Your energy levels will hit the sky. Make the most of this spurt by finishing in leftover mundane chores. Don't forget to stick to social norms, though.

LIBRA
Ganesh says that you shall soon be able to travel or plan a trip, not for family or business matters, but for getting away from the mundane life. You will pay more importance to your professional matters as opposed to your personal matters. Today you will be able to attain success in every thing you do with the blessings of Ganesh.

SCORPIO
Today, you are like a balloon that may burst any time. You may vent out all the sweet and bitter experiences and feel much lighter. Or it may have adverse effects on your health, says Ganesh. You prefer to stay in your cocoon, in the warmth of your near and dear ones.

SAGITTARIUS
Determined and dedicated, that's what you are when it comes to work. Well, this may even find you amidst heaps of files and loads of work. No wonder you become a workaholic. You are likely to enjoy during the latter half of the day. Have a fun-filled evening!

CAPRICORN
Your interests are guarded by the Almighty, so don't worry about them. Not that you are not ambitious, but you are satisfied with what you have and gained. You have set some realistic goals for yourself and you are making sincere efforts to achieve them. You are a simple person and you like your life to be uncomplicated. People around you will be impressed with your approach towards life, feels Ganesh.

AQUARIUS
You are close to your family, and now is the time to enjoy the company of your loved ones at home. You will take them out for shopping, go with them on picnics and pamper them in every possible way, says Ganesh. Not that you made them feel special with a selfish motive, but your show of affection will work wonders for you.

PISCES
Ganesh feels that you will sympathize with people today. This will help you get people's good wishes. You can prove to be a good boss, co worker, husband or wife and son or daughter. Ganesh advises you to carry on with these virtues.

Mumbai: Actress Medha Shankr, who received a lot of positive response to her work in *12th Fail*, shared that at one point she was "fully broke" and only had Rs 257 in her account.

The actress, who has been presented with IMDb Breakout Star STARmeter Award, also shared that she first auditioned for *12th Fail* in 2022, and during the screentest she had a strong intuition that this role was meant for her.

Acting is my calling: Medha

Looking back at the tough time, she told IMDB. "It was 2020, a devastating year for many reasons worldwide. It was also tough for me because I was fully broke; I had only 257 rupees in my account."

Talking about what kept her going during this tough phase, she said: "I wanted to become an actor not because of the peripherals like glamour, beauty clothes, or attention. It was never about that for me. I wanted to become an actor because I was deeply in love with the craft and the art part of it. I know that acting is my calling."

12th Fail, which is directed by Vidhu Vinod Chopra, also stars Vikrant Massey along with Joshi Anantvijay, Anshuman Pushkar, Geeta Agrawal Sharma, and Priyanshu Chatterjee.

The movie is based on the real-life story of IPS Officer Manoj Kumar Sharma and IRS Officer Shradha Joshi.

Bhubaneswar:

A 15-day free film-based skill training for ST students by FTII-Pune was completed at the Central University Odisha (CUO), Koraput, Friday.

The event was held through an initiative of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India, and as a part of the *Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav*.

The valedictory session was chaired by the varsity's Vice-Chancellor Chakradhar Tripathi, while Registrar NC Panda and FTII's Ajmal Jami were the guests of honour. Ashwin B Sonone, coordinator of the courses on behalf of FTII, was present virtually.

The programme started with the VC inaugurating a photo exhibition on Cinema of Odisha. Short films made by ST students during the course were screened at the event, and a souvenir was released.

Sonone expressed satisfaction that the FTII could impart training in a tribal area like Koraput. Sourav Gupta, HOD (i/c), Department of Journalism and Mass Communication, the overall coordinator of the programme, presented the workshop report, where he stated that four courses, namely Screen Acting, Screenplay Writing, Film Appreciation, and Smartphone Filmmaking, were held as a part of the event. In all, 38 ST students, including 17 girls, participated in the programme.

FTII's film-based training for ST students at CUO



Visitors take a look at the photo exhibition held on CUO campus, Koraput

Janhvi shares her biggest regret

Mumbai: Janhvi Kapoor is gearing up for her debut in the South film industry opposite Jr NTR in the movie *Devara* directed by Koratala Siva. The release of the first part, originally set for April, has been postponed to October 10. The *Mili* actress recently shared her biggest regret, which is related to *Devara*.

In an interview with *The Week*, Janhvi expressed regret over her inability to speak Telugu while shooting for *Devara* with Jr NTR. She admitted to never having learned the language and feeling ashamed of it. The actress mentioned that she can understand Telugu phonetically, but struggles with speaking it. She praised the *Devara* team for their patience and support in helping her with her lines, especially given the opportunity to work with such experienced actors.

Janhvi is in the best phase of her career. A couple of days ago, Karan Johar announced that she was going to be part of his next production with Shashank Khaitan and Varun Dhawan. It has been titled *Sunny Sanskari Ki Tulsi Kumari*. She also has a film with south sensations Ram Charan and Suriya in the pipeline, and also has one with Tiger Shroff. Her next release is going to be *Mr and Mrs Mahi*, again backed by Karan Johar with Rajkumar Rao, directed by Sharan Sharma who directed her in *Gunjan Saxena: The Kargil Girl*.



The members of Bhubaneswar-based theatre troupe Labanya Theatre presented Odia drama *Nilatha Nirdeshaka* on the first day of the two-day theatre festival at Bhanjakala Mandap, Friday. Written by Dillip Balabantray and directed by Satya Jena (Tunu), the humorous play showcased life's harsh reality. Among the luminaries, dramatists Prasanna Mishra, Haren Sahoo, and Odisha Sangeet Natak Akademi Secretary Prabodh Rath graced the occasion, while Debadutta Pati curated the event. The event is being organised by the Asim Basu Foundation in collaboration of Odia Language, Literature and Culture Department in the memory of eminent actor, director, painter, and author Asim Basu.

PEANUTS



CALVIN AND HOBBS

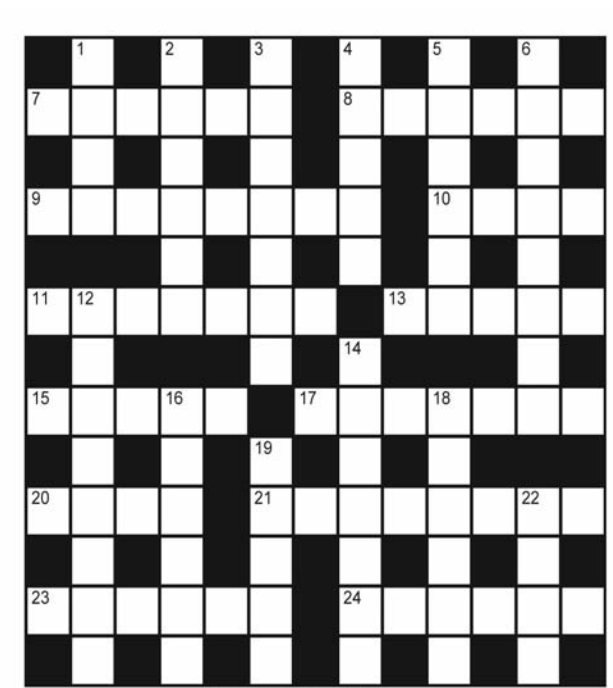


BREVITY



FUN post

CROSSWORD



- Across**
- 7 Colouring tool
 - 8 Large-eyed insect
 - 9 Luge
 - 10 Greasy
 - 11 Collectively
 - 13 Styptic weed
 - 15 Pronounce
 - 17 Disobedient
 - 20 See the sights
 - 21 Take to the lake, maybe (5,3)
 - 23 Chinese soup (3,3)
 - 24 Cantaloupes
 - 4 Harbingers
 - 5 Make secret
 - 6 Frequent flier
 - 12 Traditional melody
 - 14 Music with a syncopated melody
 - 16 Marsh birds
 - 18 Yodel
 - 19 Wild boars
 - 22 Picture card
- Down**
- 1 Descartes's "therefore"
 - 2 Magnate
 - 3 Cuddle

SUDOKU

To solve the Sudoku puzzle, fill in the boxes in such a manner that every row, column and 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9, without repeating any.

	4		8			7		9
7		2						
						8	3	
9						10		
		5		9			2	
7		2						8
9	1				6		5	
		3						
						2	9	6
5			6	2				8

SOLUTIONS

CROSSWORD

O	S	S	A	T	A
S	K	E	C	H	C
R	R	I	O	S	
T	A	X	I	N	A
K	G	E	P	U	
O	R	D	E	R	L
I	B	E	S	A	T
A	N	G	R	I	S
G	P	E	T	E	R
E	S	P	A	L	I
I	K	R	I	E	N
A	D	H	E	R	E
E	R	D	F	A	R

SUDOKU

8	6	4	5	7	1	9	3	2
9	5	3	4	2	8	6	1	7
2	1	7	9	3	6	8	4	5
3	2	9	8	4	7	5	6	1
1	4	8	6	5	9	2	7	3
6	7	5	2	1	3	4	9	8
4	8	1	7	9	2	3	5	6
7	9	6	3	8	5	1	2	4
5	3	2	1	6	4	7	8	9

CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMORROW

₹6,134CR PROJECTS OKAYED

ARINDAM GANGULY, OP

Bhubaneswar, Feb 23: The State Level Single Window Clearance Authority (SLSWCA), chaired by Chief Secretary PK Jena, approved ₹6,134.52 crore worth 27 projects, which would create employment opportunities for 42,275 people of Odisha, Friday.

Odisha Hydro Power Corporation (OHPC) Limited's proposal for a 63 MW hydro project in Kandhamal district got the SLSWCA nod. With an investment of ₹787.48 crore, the project would provide jobs to 210 people.

The SLSWCA approved the proposal of Koli Commercial LLP to set up a private freight terminal under the Gati Shakti Multi-Modal Terminal scheme in Angul with an investment of ₹82.02 crore. The freight terminal would generate 255 employment opportunities.

Texmaco Rail and Engineering Limited plans to set up a unit for manufacturing railway bogies and couplers in Paradip. With an investment of ₹438.92 crore, the mega project would boost local economy and create employment for 2,000 individuals.

Premium Transmission got a go-ahead from the SLSWCA for its industrial transmission and renewable energy equipment manufacturing unit in Khurda with an investment of ₹555 crore and an employment potential of 700.

The SLSWCA approved the proposal of Almamet for a magnesium granule manufacturing unit in Kalinga Nagar with an investment of ₹50.60 crore. The unit will create em-



KEY TAKEAWAYS

Premier Explosive will set up a defence explosives plant in Rayagada. With an investment of ₹864 crore, the project will provide jobs to 3,750 individuals

OHPC Ltd will set up a 63 MW hydro project in Kandhamal. With an investment of ₹787.48 crore, the project would provide jobs to 210 people

ployment to 95 individuals.

TIMAB Magnesium will set up a magnesia refractory manufacturing unit in Khurda with an investment of ₹90.00 crore. The mega unit will provide jobs to over 330 individuals.

Premier Explosive is set to set up a defence explosives plant in Rayagada. With an investment of ₹864 crore, the big ticket project will generate employment for 3,750 individuals.

ITC Limited's proposal to set up a 5-star hotel in Puri also got the SLSWCA nod. With an investment of ₹148.39 crore, the project will create jobs for 154 people and boost the local economy.

Magpet Polymer Pvt Ltd is set to install a facility for PET preform, bottles and caps recycled flakes and pellets in Khurda. With an invest-

ment of ₹175 crore, the facility will provide jobs to 545 individuals.

MAF Clothing, SAPL Industries Pvt. Ltd., Meenu Creation LLP, Pooja International, Sonu Exim Pvt Ltd, Rainbow Fabart Private Limited, BL International Private Limited, Fine Lines (Noida Apparel Cluster), and Canberg Global Sourcing Pvt Ltd will collectively invest in readymade garment manufacturing units across Khurda and Puri, projecting employment for over 26,823 individuals with total investments of ₹589.78 crore.

Prunama Steels Private Limited will set up ERW pipe manufacturing unit in Sundargarh. With an investment of ₹54.70 crore, the facility will employ 250 individuals.

The SLSWCA approved MSP Sponge Iron Limited's proposal for a 2 MTPA iron ore grinding unit in Keonjhar with an investment of ₹150 crore and an employment potential of 78.

Sree Metaliks Ltd will set up a grinding unit in Keonjhar with an investment of ₹147 crore and employment potential for 84 individuals.

Jupiter International Limited got the SLSWCA nod for a manufacturing facility of photovoltaic solar cells in Khurda with an investment of ₹250 crore. It will provide jobs to 350 individuals.

Among others, Perfectus Technology Solutions Pvt Ltd and Umang Cold Storage Private Limited will invest in IT projects in Infocity in Bhubaneswar. With a combined investment of ₹709.13 crore, the facilities will provide jobs to 5,900 individuals.

Pay hike for self-employed mechanics

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Feb 23: Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik Friday hiked the remuneration of self-employed mechanics in the state by 62.5 per cent.

According to the Chief

Minister's Office (CMO), the remuneration for these mechanics operating in gram panchayats (GPs) has been raised from ₹4,000 to ₹6,500. This move is expected to benefit around 13,000 people. The decision to raise the remuneration came after receiv-

ing requests and suggestions from the self-employed mechanics and their representatives during the visit of 5T and Nabin Odisha Chairman Kartik Pandian to various districts.

These mechanics are instrumental in providing

clean drinking water to villages across the state. There are two types of self-employed mechanics engaged in each GP: one working on piped water supply and the other responsible for the maintenance and repair of tubewells.






DSPL-702

ବରିଷ୍ଠଙ୍କୁ ସମ୍ମାନ | ଅସହାୟଙ୍କ ଭରସା

୫୮ ଲକ୍ଷରୁ ଡବ୍ଲୁ

ବୃଦ୍ଧ-ବୃଦ୍ଧା, ବିଧବା ଓ ଅସହାୟଙ୍କ ପାଇଁ ନିଶ୍ଚିତ ଯେନସନ







ମଧୁବାବୁ ଯେନସନ ଯୋଜନାର ବିଶେଷତ୍ୱ

- ମଧୁବାବୁ ଯେନସନ ହିତାଧିକାରୀଙ୍କ ସଂଖ୍ୟା ୩୬.୭୫ ଲକ୍ଷକୁ ବୃଦ୍ଧି
- ଏହି ଯୋଜନାରେ ସାମିଲ ହେବେ ୪ ଲକ୍ଷ ଅତିରିକ୍ତ ହିତାଧିକାରୀ
- ବରିଷ୍ଠ ନାଗରିକ, ବିଧବା, ଭିନ୍ନଶ୍ୟମ, ଅବିବାହିତା ମହିଳା, କୁଷ୍ଠ ରୋଗୀ, ଏଡସ ରୋଗୀ, ଛାଡ଼ାପତ୍ର ପାଇଥିବା ମହିଳା, କିନ୍ନର ଓ କୋଭିଡରେ ଅନାଥ ହୋଇଥିବା ପିଲା ଏହି ଯୋଜନାରେ ସାମିଲ

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OIPR-15001/13/0426/2324

'Prepare action plan for heat stress disorders'

ARINDAM GANGULY, OP

Bhubaneswar, Feb 23: State Public Health director Niranjan Mishra Friday instructed superintendents of all government medical college and hospitals (MCHs), chief district medical and public health officers (CDM & PHOs) and health officers to prepare comprehensive action plans to reduce morbidity and mortality due to heat stress disorders.

SOP to handle heat related illness

The Directorate of Public Health issued a standard operating procedure (SOP) to prevent and manage heat related illness. The SOP will be implemented at the district and sub-district level hospitals starting March 1 till July 31.

Health officials of each district were instructed to prepare brief comprehensive action plans, copies of which they would have to send to the directorate by March 1.



UP IN ARMS: Members of Samyukt Kisan Morcha and several Central trade unions stage a demonstration at Master Canteen Square in Bhubaneswar, Friday, protesting the alleged 'lackadaisical attitude' of the Union government towards farmers

BMC to remove political posters

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Feb 23: Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC) has decided to remove political posters, hoardings and graffiti under its jurisdiction in view of the upcoming Assembly and Lok Sabha elections.

Complete Ekamra Project by New Year: Pandian

ARINDAM GANGULY, OP

Bhubaneswar, Feb 23: 5T and Nabin Odisha Chairman Kartik Pandian inspected the ongoing Ekamra Development Project in Old Town area here early Friday morning and directed the officials concerned to complete the project by New Year-2025.

During his visit to the site between 6:30am and 7:30am, Pandian asked the officials to continue the work in full swing so that the project is completed by New Year-2025.

"The work looks mammoth but I have full confidence in the team and they can certainly deliver," said the 5T Secretary.

He inspected all aspects of the development plan including the work at the north parking lot near Sanitarium Chhak where besides bus parking and car parking, tourist conveniences, vending zone and Lingaraj police station will be constructed.

Focusing on rehabilitation of shopkeepers and vendors, he



said that their livelihood must be ensured in all possible ways.

He visited the alternative road from Kotitirtheswar to Taleswar parallel to Bindusagar road and reviewed the land requirements and drains.

He advised the officials of Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC) to hand over balance land wherever required for construction of drains.

The 5T Chairman inspected all aspects of the development plan including the work at the north parking lot near Sanitarium Chhak

during the review. To promote a clean environment around the temple, battery-operated vehicles will be used to ferry passengers around the temple.



He also inspected the south side of Parikrama and OAR, and the alternative bypass road planned near Badheibanka Chhak.

At the end, Pandian said the objective of the project is to provide a divine experience to the pilgrims. For this, beautiful gardens and designer stonework will be created alongside the Parikrama of the temple.

21 Amrit Bharat rly stations on the cards

PM TO LAY STONES FOR 554 AMRIT BHARAT STATIONS

POST NEWS NETWORK



Bhubaneswar, Feb 23: In a landmark move towards transforming country's railway infrastructure, Prime Minister Narendra Modi will lay foundation stones for redevelopment of 554 railway stations, including 21 in Odisha, entailing an expenditure of 41,000 crore February 26.

Addressing the media at Rail Sadan here Friday, East Coast Railway (ECoR) General Manager Manoj Sharma said that in Odisha foundation stones will be laid for 21 Amrit Bharat railway stations, with a total cost of ₹900 crore. The railway stations that would undergo transformation in Odisha are: Bimlagarh, Jaroli, Rairangpur, Panposh, Baleswar, Betnoti, Sambalpur City, Jharsuguda Road, Titlagarh, Kesinga, Rayagada, Paralakhemundi, Koraput, Jeypore, Talcher, Raghunathpur, Paradip, Kendujhargarh, Bhadrak, Belpahar and Brajarajnagar.

He also informed that within ECoR zone, which also covers some parts of Andhra Pradesh and Chhattisgarh, foundation stones will be laid for 22 Amrit Bharat railway stations with a sanctioned cost of ₹790 crore. This initiative is expected to enhance station facilities, making travel more comfortable for passengers.

Odisha will get a significant

push in terms of railway infrastructure overhaul as 52 road over-bridge (ROB) and road under-bridge (RUB) projects are scheduled for inauguration or foundation laying. The cumulative cost for these projects stands at ₹1,420 crore. Under ECoR zone alone, 30 ROB/RUBs with a total cost of ₹1,288 crore are slated for development, Sharma said.

Amrit Bharat railway stations redevelopment project promises improved station accessibility, air concourse, wider foot over-bridges (FOBs), waiting areas, toilet facilities, lift & escalator installations and enhanced cleanliness. Passengers can look forward to amenities such as free Wi-Fi, local product kiosks, executive lounges and space for business meetings.

Similarly, the ROB/RUB projects aim at bringing visible benefits to the public, removing traffic barriers, enhancing safety and improving overall transportation efficiency. The construction of ROB and RUBs is expected to boost convenience, comfort and mobility for road users by reducing congestion, pollution and travel time.

In Odisha, 57 railway stations under ECoR jurisdiction are being redeveloped under the scheme with a total cost of ₹3,286 crore.

CLASSIFIED LOST

Lost of Deed & ROR I, Abhisek Jena, S/o. Amrut Lal Jena, At/Po-Panchpada, Pn- Basta, Dist- Balasore do hereby solemnly affirm that I have purchased a piece of land of Mouza- Taziabad under DSRO, Balasore. I was purchased the full land measuring an Area A0.052 dec. That in link/connected original Deed No. 10061902555, dtd.12.04.2019 and two original correction No.50/295 & 50/ 403 has been misplaced / stolen which was not found till now, when I am going from Balasore Kacheri dtd. 13.02.2024 to my friend Satyabrata Samal's house to attend Birthday function of Bhanjapur Baripada from my bike. That I make this affidavit in order to produce before concerned authority for necessary action and step for purpose of avail of loan. If any one find this deed and two patta please contact below. Rajat Kumar Kar (Advocate), Mob.9937943086

SIC will make Dhenkanal 'future skills hub': Pradhan

PNN & AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, Feb 23: While inaugurating the Skill India Centre (SIC) at Dhenkanal Friday, Union Education and Skill Development Minister Dharmendra Pradhan said that the SIC will establish the district as a 'future skills hub' and will instill confidence in local youths preparing them to enter the job market with lucrative career prospects.

He said that with its industry centric and outcome driven approach, the SIC will help students gain experience in emerging fields and apply these skills in today's evolving job landscape. The SIC, Pradhan said, will not only provide courses on future skills at affordable prices but also preserve the rich cultural heritage of traditional crafts by promoting them in contemporary contexts.

"It will strengthen the skill development landscape of the region, enhancing access to 21st century skills and will fulfill aspirations, empower citizens, particularly youth and make them future ready," said Pradhan.

The SIC, if connected with the IIMC, Dhenkanal, which has been given the status of a Deemed University, will make the district a futuristic centre of modern communication in the coming days, he said.

Under the Skill India Mission, the centre will train aspirants and young women in new-age skills like graphic design, hospitality, technology services and others.

CRUT launches new Mo Bus app

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Feb 23: In a move to make Mo Bus service more technology driven and citizen-friendly, the Capital Region Urban Transport (CRUT) Friday launched a new Mo Bus mobile application and scheme for Mo Bus card.

The new app will have commuter friendly features like live bus tracking, estimated time of arrival, real-time bus occupancy,

online ticketing & pass purchase and information about nearby buses, a release by CRUT stated.

Inaugurating the app, Anu Garg, Development Commissioner-cum-ACS & Chairman CRUT said, "The new improved app will ensure ease of travel and empower commuters to know the live arrival time of their buses and see real-time bus occupancy. This will help citizens plan their travel accordingly."

The new 'CRUT MO BUS' app is available on Android as well

as IOS. Commuters can find the cheapest and fastest trip options, including all the bus route options to their destination. One can also buy a mobile bus pass directly through this app.

Garg announced special offer for Tap & Pay Mo Bus card. Elaborating, she said, "A commuter will get 40 per cent extra on top up of ₹500 and 50 per cent extra on top up of ₹1000 excluding the cost of the card (₹50)."

Tech can now recognise emotions in real time

South Korean scientists have developed a groundbreaking technology that can recognise human emotions in real time, an advance poised to revolutionise various industries, including next-generation wearable systems.

The multi-modal human emotion recognition system, developed by a team from the Ulsan National Institute of Science and Technology (UNIST), combines verbal and non-verbal expression data to efficiently utilise comprehensive emotional information.

At the core of this system is the personalised skin-integrated facial interface (PSiFI) system, which is self-powered, facile, stretchable, and transparent.

It features a first-of-its-kind bidirectional triboelectric strain and vibration sensor that en-



ables the simultaneous sensing and integration of verbal and non-verbal expression data.

The system is fully integrated with a data processing circuit for wireless data transfer, enabling real-time emotion recognition.

Utilising machine learning algorithms, the developed technology demonstrates accurate and real-time human emotion recognition tasks, even when individuals are wearing masks.

The system has also been successfully applied in a digital

concierge application within a virtual reality (VR) environment, including smart homes, private movie theatres, and smart offices. This enables the provision of personalised recommendations for music, movies, and books.

The technology is based on the phenomenon of "friction charging," where objects separate into positive and negative charges upon friction. Notably, the system is self-generating, requiring no external power source or complex measuring devices for data recognition.

"Based on these technologies, we have developed a skin-integrated face interface (PSiFI) system that can be customised for individuals," said Prof. Jiyun Kim, from the Department of Material Science and Engineering at UNIST.

In the study, published online in the journal Nature Communications, the team successfully integrated the detection of facial muscle deformation and vocal cord vibrations, enabling real-time emotion recognition. The system's capabilities were demonstrated in a virtual reality "digital concierge" application, where customised services based on users' emotions were provided.

"With this developed system, it is possible to implement real-time emotion recognition with just a few learning steps and without complex measurement equipment. This opens up possibilities for portable emotion recognition devices and next-generation emotion-based digital platform services in the future," Jin Pyo Lee, the first author, from the varsity. IANS

MARKET WATCH

Table with columns for INDEX and VARIATION, listing SENSEX, NIFTY, DOLLAR, EURO, GOLD, and SILVER with their respective values and changes.

WEATHER

Table showing weather forecasts for BBSR and CTC, including Max Temp, Min Temp, Humidity, and Rainfall.

FOR CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS CONTACT OUR BOOKING STATIONS

Acharya Vihar-Dayal Agency-9437135727, A.P. Tours and Travel, Maitri Vihar, C.S. Pur- 9861301598, Aurobindo Market-Sai Audio & Electronics-9438304668, Airport Road-Sai Baba Variety Store-9090071530, Anish Infotech-Tankapani Road-9861341488, Bapuji Nagar- Dreamland Studio- 9777517314, Baramunda Rental Colony-Maa Ramchandi Communication-9658821469, Baramunda Housing Board Colony-Pappu Variety Store-9040500106, Cuttack Road-Alishan Snacks-8984236754, District Center (Chandrasekharpur)-Sai Google Mart-9776056507, Forest Park-DTDC Couriers & Services (HB Services)-7381024156, IRC Village-Bapi Xerox-9090090404, Gift Hut(Antriksh Gifts & Decors Pvt. Ltd.)-9954781084, Pruthvi Medicine-9853314816, Janpath-Krupajal Book Store-7978646669, Jaydev Vihar-AK Enterprises-7978116618, Subam Sai Books Store-8895550649, Swain Graphics- 9337121249, Jagannath Mobile Point- Janpath Road, Ram Mandir- 9938475415, Kanan Vihar-Auro Electronics-8260697560, Khandagiri- Swosti Mobile Centre- 7992914045, World Solution- 9938317559, KIIT Road-Jugad Jn-9338545031, Laxmi Sagar-Aditya Mobile-9438191836, Lewis Road-Spider Web-7809186415, Metro Satellite City-Arogya Mitra Medicine Store-9853621640, Madhusudan Nagar-Mohapatra Communication-9124446664, Maa Santoshi travels- Gajapati Nagar- 9777675867, Nayapalli- The Cake Room- 7873660137, Near Mayfair Lagoon-Cookiemann-9439491273, Nigamananda-Omm Sai Travels-9668284823, Nr Cosmopolis Main Gate- Shreeram Medical Store- 8763711714, Net Square- Niladri Vihar (C.S. Pur)- 7205634821, Priyadarshini Market-Astro Point-9938134346, R.N. General Store-Nilakantha Nagar-9438642501, Sahid Nagar- Maa Communication- 9437353424, Sahini General Store- Near Patia Railway Station, Mahavir Vihar- 9937586626, Satya Nagar-Baishnavi Mixture & Sweets-7894821764, Samantapur- Download Point-7504557743, Sailashree Vihar-Harsha Book Store-8093449515, Saheed Nagar-Jagannath Graphics-7978652670, Photo World-7978468191, Sainath Photo Studio-8984436129, Shanti & Co-9937071063, Siripur-Omm Maa Sarala Communication-9777682449, Sushree fashion- Jagmara-9938714347, Shree Vision- Sailashree Vihar-9861476678, Unit-3-LIC of India Premium Point-9337787080, Unit-7- LIC Premium Point- 9338227422, VSS Nagar-Friends Cake & Bake-8658200930, Jeet Infoworld-7205195782, XIMB Square-LD Books-9658061373.







ହାତପାଆନ୍ତୁରେ 'ଆମ ବ୍ୟାଙ୍କ' ସେବା

ପ୍ରଥମ ପର୍ଯ୍ୟାୟରେ ୭୫୦ଟି ପଞ୍ଚାୟତକୁ ବ୍ୟାଙ୍କ ସେବା

୨୦୨୪ ମାର୍ଚ୍ଚ ସୁଦ୍ଧା ୪,୩୦୦ରୁ ଉର୍ଦ୍ଧ୍ୱ 'ଆମ ବ୍ୟାଙ୍କ' ହେବ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ଷମ



DSPL-704




OIPR-15001/13/0428/2324

Naveen launches ₹660 crore sports infrastructure projects

AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, Feb 23: Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik Friday launched sports infrastructure projects worth Rs 660 crore, including 48 multi-purpose indoor stadiums.

Patnaik also laid the foundation stones for 11 sports projects.

"We want to provide the best facilities to our young sports persons. I hope the projects launched today will provide a big momentum to sports development in the state," he said.

“

We want to provide the best facilities to our young sports persons. I hope the projects launched today will provide a big momentum to sports development in the state

”

NAVEEN PATNAIK | CHIEF MINISTER

Other important projects include 12 hockey training centres, the Cuttack Table Tennis Academy and the Rourkela Gymnastics Academy, an official said.

The multipurpose indoor stadiums will feature facilities for sporting activities like badminton, table tennis, yoga, chess and weightlifting, he said.

The 12 hockey training centres will impart professional coaching, the official said, adding, Odisha now has 23 such centres.

Odisha enters precision manufacturing: CM

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Feb 23: Kalyani Steels inked a pact with the state government, Friday, to set up a titanium metal and aerospace components manufacturing, and integrated advanced specialty steel and automotive components manufacturing complex in Odisha. The pact was signed in the presence of Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik.

The comprehensive manufacturing complex will come up at Gajamara in Dhenkanal district with an investment of Rs 11,750 crore. It will generate over 10,000 jobs, a press release issued by the Chief Minister's Office (CMO) said.

Speaking on the occasion, the CM expressed enthusiasm for the collaboration, highlighting its alignment with the state's vision to harness opportunities in emerging sectors for high-skill job creation. "By welcoming Kalyani Steels' project, including a titanium metal and alloy mill, an aerospace components facility, and an integrated automotive component unit, Odisha marks its grand entry into a highly advanced and precision manufacturing sector. With Rs 11,751 crore investment, this venture is set to revolutionise our industrial landscape, providing over 10,000 job opportunities in highly skill-oriented trades. This project is a perfect match for our aspirations for creating an ecosystem conducive to new-age industries," the chief minister said in his address.

He said the project will also catalyse the growth of MSMEs, spurring the development of a vibrant ecosystem of ancillary industries and OEM suppliers. This will provide many more employment opportunities. "Therefore, this project is a perfect match for our aspirations for creating an ecosystem conducive to new-age industries," he added.

Highlighting on skill development, the CM said, "Kalyani Steels' commitment to skill development will definitely ensure broad based benefits, elevating local workforce capabilities in advanced manufacturing sectors like metal downstream, automotive, and defence manufacturing."

KALYANI STEELS INKS PACT WITH STATE





DSPL-703

ସୁସ୍ଥ ଓଡ଼ିଶା, ସୁଖୀ ଓଡ଼ିଶା

ସର୍ବୋତ୍ତମ ସ୍ୱାସ୍ଥ୍ୟସେବା ସୁନିଶ୍ଚିତ କରିଛି BSKY

ବାର୍ଷିକ ୧୦ ଲକ୍ଷ ଟଙ୍କା ପର୍ଯ୍ୟନ୍ତ ଚିକିତ୍ସା ସୁବିଧା





ନୂଆ ବିଜୁ ସାକ୍ଷୀ କଲ୍ୟାଣ ଯୋଜନା ଘାଟି କାଟି









ବିଜୁ ସ୍ୱାସ୍ଥ୍ୟ କଲ୍ୟାଣ ଯୋଜନାର ବିଶେଷତ୍ୱ

୪ କୋଟି ଲୋକ ଉପକୃତ

ମାସିକ ୧ ଲକ୍ଷରୁ ଅଧିକ ହିତାଧିକାରୀ ପାଉଛନ୍ତି ପ୍ରାୟ ₹୨୦୦ କୋଟିର ଦେୟମୁକ୍ତ ଚିକିତ୍ସା

ସୂଚନା ଓ ଲୋକସମ୍ପର୍କ ବିଭାଗ

OIPR-15001/13/0427/2324



Your goal and the road you choose are your fate.

SRI AUROBINDO



Fixing Accountability

The Central Consumer Protection Authority (CCPA), the regulatory authority of the Consumer Affairs Ministry, just put a stop sign in front of IAS coaching centres' runaway hype trains! The consumer watchdog has issued notices to several IAS coaching institutes for misleading advertisements. These institutes for civil services examinations will not be allowed to use the personal details of toppers in their advertisements without their consent. The CCPA has introduced draft guidelines to rein in the advertising tactics of coaching institutes.

Sources have informed DKB that CCPA chief commissioner Nidhi Khare explained that guidelines have been issued following the constitution of a committee to oversee the misleading advertisements by IAS coaching institutes in December 2023 and a stakeholder consultation by CCPA on misleading advertisements last month.

We've often seen ads boasting about 100% selection rates or showcasing only the most exceptional success stories. The magnitude of inflated claims by institutes is huge considering that while 933 candidates were selected in UPSC 2022, ads from just 10 coaching centres claimed that more than 3,300 of their "alumni" were selected!

These rules will require coaching centres to be transparent about their students' achievements, including providing details like their names, ranks, and course durations. By holding coaching institutes accountable, the CCPA is slapping a reality check on those flashy, misleading ads, giving future IAS aspirants a fair shot without all the smoke and mirrors.

Rail officers hold edge

Based on recent trends and data, it appears that when it comes to appointing Chief Vigilance Officers (CVOs) in Central PSUs, ministries, and departments, the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) has a clear preference for officers from the Indian Railways Service cadre. Recently, the Centre gave the green light to the appointment of more than a dozen officers to these positions, and notably, a significant portion of them hail from the Indian Railways Service. Sources informed DKB that four CVOs belong to the ITS, IRS, IT, IP&TA&FS, and IoFS, and the rest are from the Indian Railway Service.

This trend isn't surprising, as insiders have often suggested that railway officers possess a unique advantage due to their extensive experience in managing complex, capital-intensive projects across diverse terrains and climatic zones. While certainly officers from various other cadres, including the IPS, IFoS, ITS, and IRS, play equally important roles as CVOs, it is quite evident that those from the Indian Railways Service cadre hold a distinct edge. Interestingly, the data suggests that IAS officers are less preferred for CVO posts, or vice versa.

Meanwhile, AS Rajeev, managing director of the Bank of Maharashtra, was selected for the post of Vigilance Commissioner (VC) by a committee led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

MHA pushes states on DGP appointments

The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has directed states to adhere to the directives set out by the Supreme Court on the appointment of officiating Directors General of Police (DGPs), despite the availability of eligible officers.

Recently, Union Home Secretary Ajay K Bhalla wrote to the chief secretaries of seven states—Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Punjab, Uttarakhand, Odisha, and West Bengal—underscoring the imperative to align with the Supreme Court's directives, particularly in light of the prevalent practice of installing interim state police chiefs. Punjab received MHA's notice regarding this matter earlier, concerning Gaurav Yadav, while Uttar Pradesh saw its fourth successive officiating DGP within a mere 20 months, Prashant Kumar, appointed last month.

Bhalla has urged the 'defaulting' states to follow the apex court's orders to ensure that DGPs get a tenure of a minimum of two years in the post. These directives apply solely to states, exempting union territories such as Jammu & Kashmir.

This trend of temporary DGPs in Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, UP, and Punjab, some serving for more than a year, was frowned upon by the Supreme Court in the Prakash Singh case. It not only undermines the stability and effectiveness of law enforcement agencies but also raises questions regarding transparency and accountability in governance.

Last year, the Bhagwant Mann government in Punjab moved to amend the Punjab Police Act to empower it to appoint a DGP of its choice. According to Supreme Court guidelines, state governments are supposed to send a panel of eligible officers to the UPSC, which will shortlist three officers from the panel, and the state government will then choose one from the panel.

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WISDOM CORNER

- In the long run, the sharpest weapon of all is a kind and gentle spirit. **ANNE FRANK**
- Being entirely honest with oneself is a good exercise. **SIGMUND FREUD**
- Home is, in the end, not just the place where you sleep, but the place where you stand. **PICO IYER**

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

- 1739:** The Battle of Karnal pitted the invading forces of Nādir Shah of Iran against Muhammad Shah, Mughal emperor of India. Nādir's forces defeated the army of Muhammad Shah within three hours, paving the way for the Iranian sack of Delhi.
- 1848:** The anti-monarchical Revolutions of 1848 reached France, the one nation where the insurgency was successful. However, they all ended in failure and repression and were followed by widespread disillusionment among liberals.
- 1942:** The Voice of America (VoA) made its first broadcast, in German, to counter the propaganda of Nazi leaders. By the time World War II ended, the VoA was broadcasting 3,200 programs in 40 languages every week.
- 1976:** The regime of Fidel Castro adopted the constitution of Cuba, which mandated the operation of only one political party—the Communist Party of Cuba.

FOCUS UNITED NATIONS

CALL FOR REFORMS



The question raised now by many countries is whether it is just, inclusive, or equitable to let five countries impose their will on the rest of the 188 member countries of the world

The United States vetoed the UN resolution calling for an immediate humanitarian ceasefire in Gaza. Thirteen out of 15 UN Security Council members, both permanent and non-permanent, voted in favour, Britain abstained, and the US voted against. But, since the five permanent members (P-5) have the veto powers, the United States vetoed it causing the resolution to be unimplementable. This is the third time the US has vetoed the resolutions on the humanitarian ceasefire in Gaza. After the veto, the demand for reform of UN organs has become shriller.



DK Giri

THE MOST POTENTIAL CANDIDATES FOR PERMANENT MEMBERSHIP IN THE UNSC ARE INDIA, BRAZIL, JAPAN, AND GERMANY

The US is moving, at the time of writing, an alternative resolution calling for temporary ceasefire linked to the release of hostages held by Hamas since October 7, 2023. On this dark day Hamas launched a terrorist attack on Israel, killing over 1,200 people and taking 256 Israelis, including women and children, as hostages. What will happen to this resolution is a matter of time and speculation. Let us focus on the frustrations and desperations of the international community over the controversial veto process in the UN. Let us recall that the veto power has been exercised by all the five members on numerous occasions.

In the recent past, Russia has used the veto 12 times in favour of the Syrian government, which is guilty of genocide of over 400,000 of its citizens since 2011. Russia even vetoed a resolution calling for ending the use of chemical weapons by the Syrian regime in the civil war. China has vetoed more than once resolutions on Islamic terrorists working against India, to declare them 'global terrorists.' Russia has been vetoing any resolution in favour of Ukraine with regard to the ongoing Ukraine war. China is also vetoing any resolution in favour of Muslim Rohingyas as Beijing completely backs the military

regime of Myanmar.

There is a contentious historical context for the veto power exercised by P-5 members. The P-5 is now broadly divided into two groups: the US, France, and the United Kingdom on the one hand, and China and Russia on the other. However, all of them act like a club, and the club will not change the rules that take away their privileges.

The question raised now by many countries is whether it is just, inclusive, or equitable to let five countries impose their will on the rest of the 188 member countries of the world. In fact, in the context of the veto, it is one country out of five imposing its will on the rest. Is this a fair, prudent, and practical way to run international politics? Admittedly, the UN Security Council has acted in unity in some cases, like military actions against the dictatorial regime of Col. Gaddafi in Libya and sanctions against Iran, etc. But in many cases, like the ones cited, one of the P-5 has been able to monopolise the peace process, in fact, in most cases, derailing it.

Because of the unequal composition of the UN organs, mainly the UN Security Council,

the principal objective of the United Nations has been defeated, hence the call for reforms of its structure.

India, as the biggest democracy and the most populous country in the world, is leading the campaign on UN Security Council reform. The principle New Delhi puts forth is 'equity in global decision-making'. This will redress the historical injustices committed on the Global South; 'centuries of injustices'. India's Permanent Representative at the United Nations Ambassador Ruchira Kamboj, made a powerful case at the Inter-Governmental Negotiations on Security Council Reform on February 16.

She forcefully said that equity entails that the voices of the marginalised and the oppressed be elevated to the world stage. Including the members of the Global South at the table will lead to more inclusive decision-making. Also, an inclusive Council will foster a broader consensus and legitimacy for its decisions.

Let it be noted that India is not only demanding the expansion of both permanent and non-permanent categories of membership in the UNSC; New Delhi

is also asking for restructuring the decision-making process in the Council, which includes the abolition of the veto power.

There is some wind of reforms blowing from the P-5 countries as well. One hears the talk of embracing the concept of 'voluntary restraint'. Prof. Jennifer Trahan discusses this concept in her book 'Existing Legal Limits to Security Council Veto Power in the Face of Atrocity Crimes, Chapter 3 focuses on 'Initiatives to Voluntarily Restrain Veto Use as to the Face of Atrocity Crimes'.

She also addresses an issue, i.e., whether P-5 countries can legally use the veto in the face of atrocity crimes. She establishes the linkage between the exercise of the veto power and 'continuing death tolls on the ground', like it is happening now in Gaza and Ukraine.

The second much-talked-about reform is expanding membership. The United States, UK, and France are apparently open to expansion, whereas China and Russia oppose it. The most potential candidates for permanent membership in the UNSC are India, Brazil, Japan, and Germany, which somewhat operate as the G-4.

To sum up, the UN has not been effective in countering conflicts, preventing wars, and restraining belligerence by many countries. But, without doubt, the UN has done commendable and critical developmental as well as humanitarian work. As we scan the multiple development arms of the United Nations, their works across the globe deserve admiration from the international community. So, one is not writing the obituary of the UN. On the contrary, if the UN did not exist, we would have had to invent it. More power to the United Nations as it resets its structures and functions

The writer is secretary general, association for democratic socialism

SPECTRUM RUSSIAN AGGRESSION

The world needs Ukraine to prevail

February 24, 2022, when Russia marched hundreds of thousands of troops into Ukraine, marked the beginning of a major geopolitical earthquake. For two years, Europe has been living with the grim reality of the continent's largest war of aggression since WW II, and with widespread, horrifying atrocities.

What Russia is doing is a classic example of nineteenth-century-style imperial and colonial aggression. For Russia, this war has never been about Ukraine's neutrality, NATO enlargement, protecting Russian-speakers, or any other fabricated pretexts.

The war is solely about annihilating an independent country, conquering land, and re-establishing dominance over a people that decided to be masters of their own destiny. Russia's imperial ambition is doubtless familiar to many nations around the world that were previously subject to colonial rule and oppression.

The consequences of the Russian aggression against Ukraine have been felt far beyond Europe. The war has affected food security and energy prices, and it has been accompanied by massive disinformation and political destabiliza-

tion campaigns. These shockwaves have been truly global. Putin is ushering in an increasingly transactional world. He has deployed the Wagner Group in Africa, destabilized other countries through coups, and engaged in economic coercion through the threat of hunger—offering grain that he himself made scarce by systematically burning fields in Ukraine, targeting storage infrastructure, and blocking important maritime export routes.

The war and its consequences thus concern every country. Should Russia prevail, it would send a very dangerous message that "might makes right." Every aggressive power around the world would be tempted to follow in Russia's footsteps. If aggression ultimately pays, why wouldn't all those with territorial claims against their neighbors act on them? This is why it is in many Asian, African, and Latin American countries' interest that Ukraine wins the war.

Supporting Ukraine is not "pro-Western." It is about rejecting war and terror. It is about standing for the principle of international relations based on mutual respect, and supporting Ukrainians' right to security and liberty. Ukraine and the

European Union share a view of international relations in the twenty-first century that is exactly opposed to that of Putin's Russia. Our vision is based on international law, respect, and mutual benefit, instead of coercion, bribery, and fear.

Nobody has a greater interest than we do in swiftly ending this war and bringing peace back to our continent. To achieve this, Ukraine has proposed a ten-point peace formula – which the EU fully supports – that not only envisions the end of hostilities but also includes proposals to strengthen food security, nuclear safety, environmental protection, energy security, international justice, human rights, and respect for the UN Charter.

This formula is the only serious peace proposal on the table, and we are calling on all countries committed to peace to join us in putting it into action. Ukraine is currently organizing a Global Peace Summit in Switzerland, and the EU is actively supporting this process. Leaders from around the world will work toward an agreement on a common vision for a just peace in Ukraine based on the UN Charter. Russia will then be presented with this consolidated position representing the global major-

ity, leaving it no other choice but to engage in good faith.

As the war enters its third year, our message is one of resilience in the face of aggression and terror. We cannot and will not allow aggression to be rewarded in the twenty-first century; instead, we will mobilize against it. The only way to achieve a just peace is to double down on support for Ukraine. The EU has done exactly that in recent months, and it is set to increase assistance even further in 2024.

Our common goal is to ensure that Ukraine can turn the tide of the war in its favor so that a just peace can be reached as soon as possible. The world's support is crucial for achieving this result. It is in everyone's interest that international law be upheld, and that cooperation is the highest priority. There must not be a return to the dark past of military aggression, imperialism, and colonialism – neither in Europe nor in any other region.

Dmytro Kuleba is Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine while Josep Borrell, is Vice President of the European Commission for a Stronger Europe in the World.



Dmytro Kuleba and Josep Borrell

THERE MUST NOT BE A RETURN TO THE DARK PAST OF MILITARY AGGRESSION, IMPERIALISM, AND COLONIALISM – NEITHER IN EUROPE NOR IN ANY OTHER REGION

Letters

TO THE EDITOR

Readers of Orissa POST are most welcome to contribute letters (200 words), articles and columns (between 750-1250 words). Contributors are requested to send their contact numbers and full postal address/email ID. They may also send in their valuable comments, opinion and suggestions, preferably by email, to: edit@orissapost.com

OrissaPOST
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Nariman's last wish

Sir, With the demise of Fali Nariman, India has lost yet another legal luminary who was not only speaking but also breathing constitutional democracy. He was one who had an unassailable faith in secularism, the lifeline of our country. It would not be an exaggeration if I say that most of the verdicts pronounced by the judges of the constitutional bench of the Supreme Court have the influence of the arguments on related matters put forth in the Apex Court by this constitutional expert. At a time when all constitutional bodies appear to remain compromised and a Damocles sword is hanging over the head of secularism, I am only reminded of what he has recorded in his autobiography, Before Memory Fades. "I have lived and flourished in a secular India.. In the fullness of time, if God wills, I would also like to die in a secular India." It looks as if God has fulfilled his last wish.
Tharcus S. Fernando, CHENNAI

Underrated cricketer

Sir, It is common knowledge that Indian cricketing legend Sunil Gavaskar is an ardent R Ashwin fan. Sunny, recently, while congratulating the spin ace for entering the 500-wicket club, felt Ashwin would have been the perfect material for India captaincy some two years ago. There is no disputing Gavaskar; but for a few Indian captains not considering the right arm off-spinner as a certainty in overseas tests, perhaps Ashwin would have emulated spinning great Anil Kumble, who went on to lead India in fourteen tests, as a spinner to captain the country in recent times. There always has been an abject bias in favour of batsmen in India. Though his bowling prowess in red ball cricket is beyond debate, Ashwin as a thinking cricketer has been massively underrated by selectors.
Ganapathi Bhat, AKOLA

Bridging the divide

Sir, Farmers and the government are locked in a crucial dialogue over the Minimum Support Price formula and procurement. While the government offers flexibility with new crops and family labour inclusion, farmers demand broader coverage and the Swaminathan Commission's C2+50% formula. At the heart lies ensuring remunerative prices, as market fluctuations threaten farmers' livelihoods. Both sides must remain engaged, for solutions lie in dialogue, not confrontation. Let's bridge the divide and build a sustainable future for our farmers.
Tauqueer Rahmani, MUMBAI

ପ୍ରାଣ ଓ ଶିଶୁଙ୍କ ଉତ୍ତମ ପୁଷ୍ଟି ସାଧନ ଓ ସ୍ୱାସ୍ଥ୍ୟରକ୍ଷାକୁ ଗୁରୁତ୍ୱ
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 ଏବେ ମିଳୁଛି ₹୧୦,୦୦୦ର ଆର୍ଥିକ ସହାୟତା
 OIPR-15001/13/0429/2324

Tension among labourers vitiates Jajpur industries



Jajpur, Feb 23: Wages and other issues have sparked sharp unrest among the workers and labourers in Sukinda mining region as well as in Kalinganagar industrial area of Jajpur district.

It has been alleged that many workers and labourers in Sukinda mining region and Kalinganagar are underpaid. They have staged agitations alleging that the mines authorities are not paying them their wages, EPF and bonus for over a year.

Moreover, payment of 50 per cent less wages now in comparison to what they used to get 25 years back has also sparked resentment among the labourers forcing them to migrate to other states and work there in various units to earn a livelihood.

Abrupt dismissal, low wages, non-payment of wages and other perks for longer periods, engagement of outsiders ignoring the locals and apathy towards the rightful demands of the displaced are some of the reasons fuelling the discontent among them. Some even alleged that persons having same technical qualifications are being given different salaries. As a result, they are preparing for a showdown for fulfillment of their demands.

This apart, fast unto death protests have also become regular demanding jobs to the next of the kin of the deceased labourers and workers. The simmering tension among them over these issues is now spilling out and spreading unrest in these areas.

Labourers alleged that the authorities of mines and industrial firms have let them down and neglected their rightful demand by greasing the palms of the senior government officials, police and public representatives with cash and attractive gifts. As a result, the senior government officials and public representatives have chosen to stay mum while overlooking their demands.

Moreover, efforts are also being made to suppress their agitation whenever they resort to protest to highlight their demands. Several meetings have been held comprising the district administration, mines and industrial authorities as well as trade union leaders to resolve their demands but in vain as the officials are in cahoots with the mines and industrial authorities.

As many as 248 casual labourers of Balasore Alloys mines staged an agitation over payment of their arrears, outstanding EPF and bonus in

November, last year. Later, the agitation was withdrawn after the mines authorities assured to fulfil their demands. However, the promise was never fulfilled and many of them were forced to migrate to other states for a livelihood.

Similarly, a consultancy agency 'Deko' engaged by a company in three of its mines had issued stop work notices to over 1,000 labourers and workers three months back with the deadline scheduled for March 31.

The notice has pushed the labourers into distress. They apprehend that this will deprive them of livelihood and drive them to penury. This has sparked tension among them.

Moreover, many families were displaced during the establishment of Neelachal Ispat plant at Kalinganagar. Some of the displaced were rehabilitated by the plant authorities and given employment in the unit. Among them, many have died but their survivors are yet to get any employment in the plant. They do not have the means to meet their family expenses.

Some of the labourers have even passed out from various Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) but they are being completely ignored and not being given any employment, the report added.

Security forces, Maoists exchange fire in Bargarh

Bargarh, Feb 23: Security forces and Maoists exchanged fire in Paikmal area of Bargarh district Friday, police said.

Following a tip-off on the presence of Naxals on Gandharmardan hill inside a forest in Paikmal area of the district, a joint operation was launched by the state's elite Special Operation Group (SOG) and the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) Wednesday, a senior official said.

Around 8.30am Friday, an exchange of fire took place in a hilly terrain near Khandijharan village under Paikmal police station area of Bargarh district. Later, security forces searched



the area and found an IED, eight bags, camp articles, clothes and food items. Search is continuing in the area, he said.

The police have not shared any information about any casualty or injury from either side. Senior police officers have

rushed to the area, located close to Chhattisgarh, to take stock of the situation.

Several jawans of the SOG were reportedly injured in an IED explosion during a search operation at Nalikumpa jungle in Boudh district Thursday.

Red rebels kill 2 in Sukma dist

Across the state's western border, two men were killed by Naxalites in a village in Chhattisgarh's Sukma district Friday, police said.

The victims, identified as Sodhi Hunga and Madvi Nanda, were residents of Kaher Dulhed village under Chintagufa police station limits. After being alerted about the murders, a police team was sent to the spot and further details are awaited. The exact reason behind the crime was yet to be ascertained, he said.

NABARD-RIDF zonal workshop held

Koraput, Feb 23: NABARD Odisha Regional Office Friday organised Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) sensitisation and planning workshop for four districts - Koraput, Nabarangpur, Malkangiri and Rayagada at Semiliguda of Koraput district. NABARD officials headed by SR Panda, GM P Ananth, AGM and DDMs of the four districts, graced the programme, which was also attended by Deputy Director DPMU, CE-RWD, GM OMFED, SE RWD, OLIC, OAIC, CDAO, CDVO, RWSS and officials from three other districts.

Chief guest V Keerthi Vasan, IAS, Collector and District Magistrate of Koraput, highlighted the importance of infrastructure projects in economic development and underlined the critical role played by NABARD and all line departments in the infrastructure development of Koraput and other districts of Odisha. He said convergence and cooperation among all departments, timely implementation, speedy formulation and submission of proposals hold the key to holistic development and economic empowerment of people. A total of ₹2,000 crore worth of RIDF projects are under various stages of implementation and these needs to be completed in time so that the fruits of development reach a wider mass.



NOTICE

I Venugopal, S/o Gangu Naidu Chandana resident of Komettlapeta, Rayagada, Odisha have changed my name to Venugopal Chandana for all other future purposes as per the NOC No. 138432, Dtd.05.02.2024 issued by Attache, Embassy of India, Doha, Qatar.

INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL SERVICES CENTRES AUTHORITY
 (Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Government of India)
 2nd and 3rd Floor, Pragya Tower, GIFT City, Gandhinagar, Gujarat
 F. No. 24/IFSCA/Vacancy Notification/2020-2021 February 20, 2024

VACANCY NOTIFICATION

International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) is a statutory unified regulatory body under the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Government of India established by an Act of Parliament to develop and regulate the financial products, financial services and financial institutions located/performed in the International Financial Services Centres in India. The Authority invites applications from eligible Indian citizens for filling up of following posts on Deputation basis. The place of posting is GIFT City, Gandhinagar, Gujarat.

S. N.	Name of the Post	Stream	Posts	Pay Scale
1.	Assistant General Manager (Officer Grade C)	Insurance Operations	01	Rs. 77950-2850(3)-86500-3100(2)-92700-3300(4)-105900- EB-3300(2)-112500-3550(1)-116050 (13 years)
		Human Resources Management	01	
		Enforcement	01	
		Finance and Accounts	01	
		Investment Funds	01	
		Development	01	
Legal	01			
3.	Total number of vacancies		07	

2. The candidates willing to apply for the above posts are requested to refer www.ifsca.gov.in for detailed vacancy notification, service benefits and the eligibility criteria in terms of age, qualification and experience etc.. The last date for receipt of application along with requisite documents by post is 28.03.2024 by 6.00 PM.

General Manager
 Dept. of General Administration
 cbc 15228/12/0006/2324

Indian Bank ZONAL OFFICE: SAMBALPUR
 2nd Floor, Shyam Arcade, Khetrapur, Sambalpur-768003, E-mail: zosambalpur@indianbank.co.in

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE
 (See proviso to rule 6(2) & 8(6) Sale Notice for sale of property/ies under SARFAESI Act 2002)

Sale of immovable property/ies mortgaged to Bank under Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest (SARFAESI) Act, 2002 (No. 54 of 2002)

Whereas, the Authorized Officer of Indian Bank had taken possession of the following property/ies pursuant to the notice issued under Sec13(2) of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 in the following loan accounts with right to sell the same on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS", "AS IS WHAT IS BASIS" for realization of Bank's dues plus interest as detailed hereunder and whereas consequent upon failure to repay the dues, the undersigned in exercise of power conferred under the said Act 13(4) proposes to realize the Bank's dues by sale of the said property/ies. The Sale will be done by the undersigned through e-auction platform provided at the website https://www.msstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/ibapi/index.jsp.

Sl. No.	BRANCH / Name & Address of Borrowers / Guarantors / Mortgagees	Description of the Immovable / Movable Properties	Date of Demand Notice / Date of Possession / Outstanding dues (As per 13(2) notice)	Reserve Price/ EMD / Bid Increment Amount
1.	PATHARLA BRANCH / Borrower: Mr. Shankar Pradhan, S/o- Late Lalu Pradhan, At: Kandeigarh, G.P.: Patharla, Dist.: Bolangir-767002 / Co-Borrower: Mrs. Manjulata Pradhan, W/o- Late Dhankar Pradhan, At: Kandeigarh, G.P.: Patharla, Dist.: Bolangir-767002 / Co-Mortgagor: Mrs. Chumki Mahakur, W/o- Jadu Mahakur, At: Papanga, G.P.: Chichinda, Dist.: Bargarh, PIN-768104	All that piece and parcel of Land & Building recorded in the name of Mr. Shankar Pradhan and Late Dhankar Pradhan under Khata No.: 30/14, Plot No.: 238/339, Area: Ac.0.02dec. and Plot No.: 237/340, Area: Ac.0.05dec. and Plot No.: 237/342, Area: Ac.0.02dec., Kissam: Gharabari, Mouza: Kandeigarh, P.S.: Bolangir, Dist.: Bolangir, Bounded by North: Shankar Pradhan, South: Shankar Pradhan, East: Road, West: Shankar Pradhan	16.08.2023 / 21.11.2023 / ₹10,70,958/- as on 20.02.2024 plus further interest @ applicable rates till the date of realization and costs, charges and expenses	₹14,50,000/- / ₹1,45,000/- / ₹10,000/-
2.	TITILAGARH BRANCH / Borrower: Mrs. Smita Bag, W/o- Mr. Pankaj Bag, At: Malgodampada, Titilagarh, Dist.: Bolangir-767033 Guarantor & Mortgagor: Mrs. Bijayama Bag, W/o- Kalakanhu Bag, At: Malgodampada, Titilagarh, Dist.: Bolangir-767033	All that piece and parcel of property recorded in the name of Smt. Bijayama Bag, W/o- Kalakanhu Bag under Khata No.: 852/496, Plot No.: 1389/7829, Area: Ac.0.10dec. Mouza: Titilagarh, P.S.: Titilagarh, Dist.: Bolangir, Kissam: Gharabari, Bounded by North: Sagara Jal, South: Rajmal Jal, East: Road, West: Danga Jal.	04.11.2023 / 16.01.2024 / ₹30,94,549/- as on 21.02.2024 plus further interest @ applicable rates till the date of realization and costs, charges and expenses	₹85,70,000/- / ₹8,57,000/- / ₹10,000/-

DATE AND TIME OF E-AUCTION: 27.03.2024 from 11.00 AM to 05.00 PM with unlimited extension of 10 Minutes duration
LAST DATE AND TIME FOR SUBMISSION OF EMD AND DOCUMENTS: ON OR BEFORE 26.03.2024 upto 07.00 PM (online)
DATE & TIME OF INSPECTION OF PROPERTIES: 05.03.2024 to 26.03.2024 between 10.00 AM to 04.00 PM (with prior appointment from bank) at their own expenses

TERMS & CONDITIONS:
 (1) For detailed terms & conditions of the sale please refer to the link: https://www.msstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/ibapi/index.jsp and https://ibapi.in . Prospective bidders may also contact the Authorised Officers / Branch No. as mentioned in above list. (2) This is also 30 days notice to the borrowers/guarantors/mortgagors of the above said loan about holding of this sale on the above mentioned date. (3) On receipt of the entire sale consideration, the Authorised Officer shall issue the Sale Certificate as per rules. (4) All expenses relating to the stamp duty and registration of Sale Certificate conveyance if any, shall be borne by the successful bidder. (5) The Authorised Officer will not be held responsible for any charge lien encumbrance, property tax or any other dues to the Government or anybody in respect of the property under sale. (6) The Authorised Officer has the absolute right to accept or reject any bid or adjourn/postpone/cancel the sale without assigning any reason thereof. It may be noted that nothing in this notice constitute or deemed to constitute any commitment or representation on the part of the bank to sell the property.

STATUTORY 30 DAYS SALE NOTICE UNDER RULE 9(1) OF THE SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES, 2002
 Borrowers/Guarantors are hereby notified to pay the total dues along with up to date interest and ancillary expenses before the date of E-Auction, failing which the property will be auctioned/ sold and balance dues, if any, will be recovered with interest & cost.

Place: Sambalpur
 Date: 23.02.2024
 Sd/-Authorised Officer
 Indian Bank

Accident kills father-son duo; relative dies of heart attack

Keonjhar: In a heart wrenching incident, a man and his son died on the spot after an iron rod laden truck hit their scooter from behind at Pipilia Chhak under Ghatgaon police limits in Keonjhar district, Friday morning. The deceased were identified as Kande Munda, 57, and his son Laxman Munda, 35, residents of Barigaon village under Ghatgaon police station limits. Tragedy struck again as after learning about the deaths of his elder brother and nephew in the accident, Samara Munda died of a heart attack at his home in Barigaon village.

According to reports, Kande Munda and his son Laxman Munda were on their way to Bankpatuli weekly market from Barigaon on a scooter when a speeding iron rod laden truck coming from Keonjhar town hit them. Both the man and his son died on the spot. When the news of the duo's death reached Barigaon village, Laxman's uncle Samara Munda succumbed to a heart attack. Meanwhile, angry locals staged a road blockade on National Highway-20 demanding compensation to the bereaved family and the arrest of the truck driver.

EAST COAST RAILWAY
 Tender Notice No. 69/ET/SBPIENGG/2023-24
 Date: 16.02.2024
 (1) e-Tender No. 44-eT-SDENC-SBP-23

Name of the work: CONDUCTING "CONTINUOUS SCOUR MONITORING" OF FOUNDATIONS OF BRIDGE NO. 77 AT KM 569.014 BETWEEN SAMBALPUR-HIRAKUD SECTION OF SAMBALPUR DIVISION USING "SONAR ECHO-RANGE TECHNOLOGY" BY AIRMAR ECHO RANGE SS510 SMART SENSOR OR SIMILAR EQUIPMENT AND SUBMITTING CONTINUOUS MONITORING DATA, ANALYSIS AND PREPARATION/ SUBMISSION OF DETAILED REPORTS OF CONTINUOUS SCOUR MONITORING DATA, GENERATING ALARMS/ SMS ALERTS AND VALIDATION OF REPORTS WITH GROUND LEVELS.

Approx cost of the work: ₹16,54,939.25, Bid Security: ₹33,100/-
 (2) e-Tender No. 52-eT-SDENC-SBP-23

Name of the work: INSTRUMENTATION OF BRIDGE NO. 160 DN (SPAN 8 X 24.4M) AT KM. 598/0-5 IN DEOBHAL-BARGARH ROAD SECTION OF SAMBALPUR DIVISION.

Approx cost of the work: ₹49,44,478.03, Bid Security: ₹98,900/-
Completion Period of the work: 04 (Four) Months (for sl no. 1) & 08 (Eight) Months (for sl no. 2).

Date & Time of Tender Closing: 11.03.2024 at 1500 hrs. (for both Tenders)

No manual offers sent by Post/Courier/ Fax or in person shall be accepted against such e-Tenders, even if these are submitted on firm's letter head and received in time. All such manual offers shall be considered invalid and shall be rejected summarily without any consideration. Complete information including e-tender documents of the above e-Tenders is available in website http://www.iregs.gov.in

The tenders/bidders must have Class-III Digital Signature Certificate and must be registered or IREPS portal. Only registered tenderer/bidder can participate on e-tendering. All relevant papers must have to be uploaded at the time of participating on e-tendering as per instruction.

Note: The prospective tenderers are advised to visit the website fifteen days before the date of closing of tender to note any changes/ corrigendum issued for this tender.

Divisional Railway Manager (Engg./I) Sambalpur
 PR-113/0/23-24

JDCA
 JD Centre of Art

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

JD Centre of Art (JDCA), a museum with approx. 40,000 Sft built-up area located on an 1 acre land at A5 Jagamara, Bhubaneswar 751030, Odisha, is inviting sealed Tender for the following works:

S. No	Work	Value (₹)	Submission Deadline
1	Tiling: Floor & wall 18,000 sft area	₹ 19,00,000/-	11-03-2024
2	Painting & finishing 37,000 sft area	₹ 10,00,000/-	16-03-2024
3	Plumbing: Basement, GF & site	₹ 54,00,000/-	11-03-2024
4	Solar Plant (25KW) (Off-Grid System)	₹ 15,00,000/-	11-03-2024
5	Transformer (250 KVA 11/ .4 Kv)	₹ 8,00,000/-	04-03-2024

Interested firms/parties should:
 1. Submit the tender fee of Rs. 1,500/- by DD or Cheque in Favour of JDCA Building Block A, Payable at Bhubaneswar. Submit Sealed Tender and EMD of 2% of quoted amount: Online payment favouring "JDCA Building Block A" payable on the date of submission of tender, A5 Jagamara, NH5 (next to Hotel Kharavela), Khandagiri, Bhubaneswar 751030, as per tender instructions before the submission deadline.
 2. For queries & tender documents: spaces@jdcentreofart.org or contact@jdcentreofart.org
 T: 0674 2951179, +91 9310322133, +91 8582926548



Participants compete in a bullock cart race at Kole village in Karad, Maharashtra



A beekeeper holds a black flag in front of the Greek Parliament during a demonstration in central Athens, Greece



A farmer prepares a barbecue in front of a monument in Paris. Angry farmers were back to Paris on their tractors in a new protest demanding more government support and simpler regulations, on the eve of a major agricultural fair in the French capital



Farmers carry saplings of paddy crop in Nadia



Borrowers, mostly farmers from Nepal's rural districts, protesting against the alleged excesses of private lenders, gather for a protest in Kathmandu, Nepal



Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh with his Netherlands counterpart Kajsa Ollongren prior to a bilateral meeting, in New Delhi



A child climbs a snow covered slope at the ski resort of Gulmarg after fresh snowfall, in north Kashmir

national

of the day quote

I don't know how feasible it is to ensure MSP through a law. Then, everybody will want MSP for their products. I don't know how feasible is their (farmers) demand

Good leadership is important for development and progress, and India has progressed to become a major world force under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership

Water scarcity is a major problem in Latur and elected representatives must take all efforts to come up with a solution

SHORT TAKES

Bengal 'BJP leader' held

Howrah/Kolkata: The police Friday claimed to have arrested "a local BJP leader" along with 10 others on charges of running a sex racket in a hotel in West Bengal's Howrah district...

India, US hold talks

New Delhi: India and the US Friday discussed ways of enhancing cooperation on a wide range of issues such as extradition, mobility of students and professionals...

Forestation could offset CO2 removal gains

Researchers have found that while forestation - converting bare or cultivated land into forests - helps in increasing carbon dioxide absorption from the atmosphere, there are other complex Earth System responses at play that could reduce these gains

New Delhi, Feb 23: Large scale forestation, recognised as one of the essential carbon removal strategies to mitigate climate change, has been found to have "side-effects" that could offset the benefits by a third.



when forestation was implemented alongside other strategies to tackle climate change, such as reducing fossil fuel emissions, the negative impacts of these indirect effects were lower.

The findings suggested that the benefits of wide-scale forestation efforts may be overestimated and highlighted the importance of combining these efforts with complementary climate change mitigation strategies for more effective long-term action, the researchers said.



What the international community has allowed in Gaza will go down in history not only as a great shame for the whole of humanity, but as a turning point for the human race

MANOHAR JOSHI NO MORE Former Lok Sabha Speaker Manohar Joshi passed away at a Mumbai hospital Friday, where he was admitted after suffering a cardiac arrest.

Cops, farmers clash in Haryana

Hisar/Chandigarh, Feb 23: As the deadlock between the protesting farmers and the central government persists, the Haryana Police Friday used tear gas to disperse farmers heading towards Khanauri on Punjab's border with the state.



An elderly farmer while participating in the 'Black Day' protest at the Punjab-Haryana Shambhu border, in Patiala district

A petition has been filed in the Supreme Court alleging violation of the rights of the "peacefully protesting" farmers by the Centre and some states. The plea claimed that the Centre and some states have issued "threats" and fortified the national capital's borders...

Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar announced waiver of interest and penalty on certain crop loans and did not hike taxes as he presented a Rs 1.89-lakh crore budget for the 2024-25 financial year.

of the Swaminathan Commission's recommendations, pension for farmers and farm labourers, no hike in electricity tariff, withdrawal of police cases and "justice" for the victims of the 2021 Lakhimpur Kheri violence...

30 firms donated ₹335cr to BJP: Cong



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Feb 23: The Congress Friday alleged that probe agencies were being misused to "extort" donations for the BJP from private companies and demanded a Supreme Court-monitored probe into what it called "hafta-vasooli" by the government.

a Supreme Court-monitored probe into the donations received by the BJP. Congress leader Rahul Gandhi in a post on X said, "Do you know about the Prime Minister's 'Donate, take bail and business' scheme?"

Fresh protests in Sandeshkhali

Kolkata, Feb 23: Fresh protests rattled the troubled enclave of Sandeshkhali in West Bengal's North 24 Parganas district Friday, as enraged locals vented their ire by torching the property of TMC leaders...



BJP MP Locket Chatterjee talks to the media while heading towards Sandeshkhali, in Kolkata, Friday

During the unrest, residents barricaded roads with logs and set them on fire to block the entry of police vehicles into Jhupkhali area of Sandeshkhali. Tensions persisted for the second consecutive day, with reports of TMC leaders being assaulted and their residences being ransacked.

Later in the afternoon, DGP Kumar arrived in the locality and engaged in discussions with the locals. "Please register your complaints. We will take action. We will establish a police camp here. However, I earnestly request you not to take the law into your own hands..."

BRS MLA dies in accident

Hyderabad: Opposition BRS MLA in Telangana G Lasya Nanditha died in a road accident at Patancheru in neighbouring Sangareddy district Friday.

INVITATION FOR BIDS Tender Reference No.HDL NAC-04/2023-24 Tender Call Notice No.353/HDLNAC, Dated 21.02.2024

ADVERTISEMENT Recruitment of Project Research Scientist-II, Junior Nursing Officer & Data Entry Operator, SCB Dental College and Hospital, Cuttack

NOTIFIED AREA COUNCIL, PADAMPUR No.384/2024 Date: 22.02.2024 Notice Inviting Tender

ADVERTISEMENT Recruitment of Project Research Scientist-II, Junior Nursing Officer & Data Entry Operator, SCB Dental College and Hospital, Cuttack

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ADVERTISEMENT Recruitment of Project Research Scientist-II, Junior Nursing Officer & Data Entry Operator, SCB Dental College and Hospital, Cuttack

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA No.O-2619: OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, RURAL WORKS DIVISION, KESINGA

INVITATION FOR BIDS Tender Reference No.HDL NAC-04/2023-24 Tender Call Notice No.353/HDLNAC, Dated 21.02.2024

ADVERTISEMENT Recruitment of Project Research Scientist-II, Junior Nursing Officer & Data Entry Operator, SCB Dental College and Hospital, Cuttack

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international



Remember, every communist regime throughout history has tried to stamp out the churches, just like every fascist regime has tried to co-opt them & control them. And, in America, the radical left is trying to do both

ISIS BRIDE LOSES APPEAL TO REGAIN UK CITIZENSHIP

Shamima Begum, the London-born Bangladeshi-origin woman, who fled the UK as a 15-year-old schoolgirl to join the Islamic State (ISIS) terrorist network, Friday lost yet another legal bid to regain her British citizenship and return to the UK from Syria. Previously in 2022, the UK Supreme Court upheld the decision to bar the now 24-year-old from returning to the UK

Fresh sanctions



The United States and the European Union are piling new sanctions on Russia on the eve of the second anniversary of its invasion of Ukraine and in retaliation for the death of noted Kremlin critic Alexei Navalny last week in an Arctic penal colony

The US Treasury Department plans Friday to impose more than 500 new sanctions on Russia and its war machine in the largest single tranche of penalties since the invasion. They come on the heels of a series of new arrests and indictments announced by the Justice Department Thursday that target Russian businessmen, including the head of Russia's second-largest bank, and their middlemen in five separate federal cases.

The European Union announced Friday that it is imposing sanctions on several foreign companies over allegations that they have exported dual-use goods to Russia that could be used in its war against Ukraine.

The 27-nation bloc also said that it was targeting scores of Russian officials, including "members of the judiciary, local politicians and people responsible for the illegal deportation and military re-education of Ukrainian children." The US specifically was to target individuals associated with Navalny's imprisonment a day after Biden met with the Opposition leader's widow and daughter in California. The EU asset freezes and travel bans constitute the 13th package of measures imposed by the bloc against people and organisations it suspects of undermining the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine.

The military stalemate between Ukraine and Russia appears to be continuing without any end in sight. As the Russia-Ukraine war enters the third year, it becomes imperative to reflect on the sequence of events that have unfolded during the war

Wives have become widows, parents long for captured sons, classrooms are empty and farmers can't find the hands to work the land. Unlikely friendships have formed; old ones have fallen apart.

The fighting on Ukraine's eastern and southern fronts is far away from this settlement of modest homes surrounded by walled gardens in the centre of the country, but its population of about 6,800 has been profoundly affected.

The scale of Ukrainian military casualties is a closely guarded state secret. Western officials estimate tens of thousands have been killed and tens of thousands more wounded. Russia, in the ascendancy on the cusp of the second anniversary of its February 24, 2022 invasion, has also suffered heavy



RUSSIA-UKRAINE CRISIS

suicides, the war impacts almost every aspect of Ukrainian life. Onyshchuk quit her job in a grocery store when she got pregnant with Anhelina, and finding new work has been made tougher by the fact that the local kindergarten has

closed. Schools in Lozuvatka, located around 350 km south-east of Kyiv, are also shut. Their bomb shelters aren't big enough to accommodate all of the



students in the event of an air raid. Although direct Russian missile and drone attacks on the village are rare, it lies close to the key steel-producing town of Kryvyi Rih which has been struck frequently, triggering sirens in surrounding areas.

In one of Lozuvatka's three schools, teacher

Anisimova stands before her computer in an empty classroom as she delivers an online lesson about the solar system to a group of 10 and 11-year-olds. The UN children's fund UNICEF said in August that only about a third of school-aged children across Ukraine attended classes fully in person. More than

The UN's humanitarian appeal to meet needs in Ukraine is only 10% funded for 2024, the country's resident coordinator said, putting in jeopardy crucial assistance needed to reach those in need across frontline areas

1,300 schools had been destroyed altogether in government-held areas of the country, it added.

UKRAINE'S PRISONERS OF WAR

As well as the dead, there are the missing. Ukrainian officials say about 8,000 people - civilians and soldiers - are in Russian captivity

as a result of hostilities. Some 3,000 people, mostly military, have been freed in dozens of prisoner of war exchanges, but thousands of families have been



left to ponder the fate of captured relatives.

Ukrainian forces there struggled for months to repel Russia's invasion in some of the bloodiest fighting of the war, before Kyiv ordered them to surrender when further defence looked doomed.

FIGHTING TO THE BITTER END

According to local authorities, more than a third of skilled farm workers in

UNCERTAINTY

Ukrainians more likely to end up homeless in Britain: Red Cross

Cuts to housing programmes in UK, Ireland, east Europe

Humanitarian conditions remain dire inside Ukraine

Lozuvatka have been mobilised into the military, underlining the impact of the war on agriculture, a backbone of Ukraine's economy.

CROWDFUNDING

Faced by an enemy with military superiority and deep resources, Ukrainians have adopted innovation to defend their country. One way to offset the ups and downs of foreign military aid has been the use of crowdfunding. This grassroots approach has helped shape the course of the war. Collective fundraising is not new, but online platforms have enabled a dramatic shift in its scale and scope. Since the mid-2000s, crowdfunding platforms have made it much easier to raise large amounts of money by soliciting small donations from many supporters. Ukrainians have elevated crowdfunding's significance to match the existential threat they face.

AGENCIES



SNIPPETS

Fire ravages residential block in Spain

Valencia (Spain): As firefighters and scientific police Friday began inspecting the interior of two residential towers that were destroyed by fire in the eastern Spanish city of Valencia, killing four people, questions abounded as to how the fire spread so rapidly. Authorities said 14 people were still missing following the blaze at the complex Thursday. Valencia Mayor María José Catala said that the danger of the 14-story building collapsing and the intense heat from the fire initially prevented emergency workers from getting in to search for possible survivors. The fire started Thursday evening and quickly engulfed the buildings. Experts said that the building's polyurethane cladding may have contributed to the fire's ferocity.

Trilateral exercise 'DOSTI-16' kicks off

Male: Seeking to enhance maritime security and interoperability, coast guard personnel from India, the Maldives and Sri Lanka have embarked on a four-day trilateral exercise to identify emerging maritime challenges in the Indian Ocean Region. Indian Coast Guard ship Samarth and ICGS Abhinav along with Sri Lanka Naval Ship Samudura reached here Thursday for the exercise 'DOSTI-16' that would be held between February 22 and 25. Bangladesh is participating as an observer. Coast guard helicopter ICGS Dornier too is part of the trilateral exercise 'Dosti', which Sri Lanka said aims to enhance cooperation, strengthen friendship, improve mutual operational capability, and develop interoperability among the Coast Guard personnel of India, the Maldives, and Sri Lanka. The Maldives National Defence Force (MNDF) late Thursday evening extended a warm welcome to ADG S Paramesh, Additional Director General of the Indian Coast Guard.

18 Indian fishermen freed by Sri Lanka court

Colombo: Eighteen Indian fishermen who were held for allegedly poaching in Sri Lankan waters earlier this month have been released, officials said Friday. The fishermen were arrested February 7 off the coast of the Delft islet in Jaffna in northern Sri Lanka. The magistrate in Jaffna while freeing the 18 fishermen Thursday also ordered six months imprisonment for two drivers of the boats used for illegal fishing. The boats were ordered to be confiscated. The fishermen had pleaded guilty when they were produced in court. The magistrate ordered their repatriation with assistance from the Sri Lankan Navy and the Indian Deputy High Commission office in Jaffna. On February 20, the Northern Fisher Organisations launched a protest in front of the Indian Deputy High Commission office in Jaffna calling for intervention to stop illegal fishing by Indian fishermen in Sri Lankan waters.

IMF ready to work with new govt in Pak

Imran said he will write to the IMF, demanding the Washington-based institution stop its support to Pakistan where his political rivals, the PML-N & the PPP, were on the verge of forming a coalition government with a "stolen mandate"



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Washington/Islamabad, Feb 23: The IMF is looking forward to working with the new government in Pakistan, a top official has said while keeping mum on jailed former Prime Minister Imran Khan's demand that the global lender should conduct an "audit" of the election results before approving any new loan for the cash-strapped country.

Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) founder Khan Thursday said he will write to the International Monetary Fund, demanding the Washington-based institution stop its support to Pakistan where his political rivals, the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz and the Pakistan Peoples Party, were on the verge of forming a coalition government with a "stolen mandate."

The 71-year-old former Prime Minister's message from jail was conveyed through Barrister Ali Zafar, who met him in the Adiala Jail Rawalpindi where he has been incarcerated since last year

after being convicted in corruption and other cases.

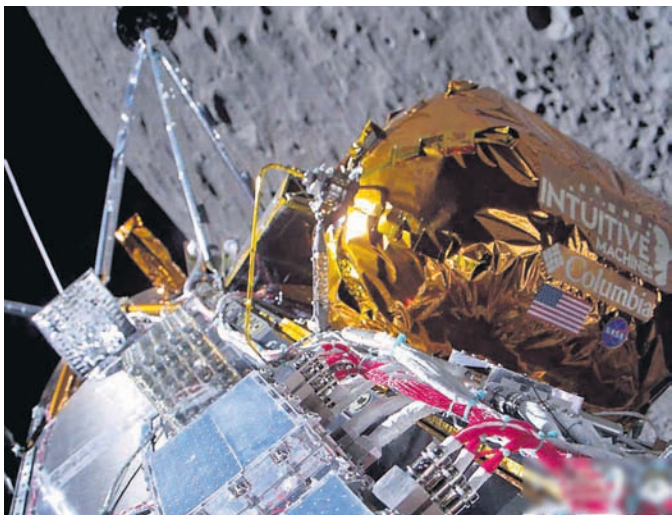
The IMF is looking forward to engaging with Pakistan's new government on policies to ensure "macroeconomic stability and prosperity" for the country, Julie Kozack, the head of the Communications Department of the IMF said, while maintaining silence on any communication to the organisation from jailed former premier Khan on the outcome of the February 8 polls in the country.

During the press conference in Washington Thursday, Kozack was asked about whether Pakistan was on track to secure the third tranche of the stand-by agreement reached in June 2023 and also if the IMF would entertain any letter by Khan calling for investigations into election irregularities.

"We look forward to working with the new government on policies to ensure macroeconomic stability and prosperity for all of Pakistan's citizens, and I am going to leave it at that," Kozack said.

US returns to Moon for 1st time in over 50 yrs

Built by Intuitive Machines, the lander - named Odysseus - touched down on the Moon at around 6:23 p.M. ET Thursday, making it the first American spacecraft on the Moon since the Apollo 17 mission in 1972



The lander carries a bounty of NASA scientific instruments, "and bearing the dream of a new adventure in science, innovation and American leadership in space, well, all of that ace the landing of the lifetime," Nelson said.

"What we can confirm, without a doubt, is our equipment is on the surface of the Moon, and we are transmitting," Flight Director and Chief Technology Officer Tim Crain announced

amidst cheers among his colleagues and others across the country as there were some tense moments before the landing on the Moon. As the spacecraft made its final descent, mission controllers lost contact with it, as was expected to occur, NBC News reported.

"After troubleshooting communications, flight controllers have confirmed Odysseus is upright and starting to send data. Right now, we are working to

downlink the first images from the lunar surface," Intuitive Machines said, announcing the historic feat.

"I know this was a nail-biter, but we are on the surface, and we are transmitting. Welcome to the Moon," Intuitive Machines Chief Executive Officer Stephen Altemus said during the livestream.

The lander will have seven days before darkness descends on the landing site, preventing the spacecraft's solar panels from gathering energy from sunlight and bringing freezing temperatures, ABC News reported. In August last year, India made history as its Moon mission Chandrayaan-3 became the first to land in the uncharted south pole of the Earth's only natural satellite and became the fourth country to master the technology of soft-landing on the Moon, propelling it into an elite group of nations.

"What a feat for IM, SpaceX and NASA. What a triumph for humanity. Odysseus has taken the Moon," Nelson said.

"Today, for the first time in the history of humanity, a commercial company, an American

company, launched and led the voyage up there, and today is a day that shows the power and promise of NASA's Commercial partnerships," Nelson said.

Intuitive Machines was one of several companies approved by NASA under Commercial Lunar Payload Services (CLPS) programme contracts to build private lunar landers that the federal space agency, among others, would use to send instruments into space, the report said. "Congratulations to everyone involved in this great and daring quest at Intuitive Machines, SpaceX and right here at NASA. What a triumph. Odysseus is taking the Moon. This feat is a giant leap forward for all of humanity," Nelson said.

Intuitive Machines CEO Steve Altemus said that the company's employees' names are engraved into the footer to stamp their names permanently on the lunar surface. "I had everyone's name etched on the bottom of the landing gear so that their names will be indelibly printed on the Moon when we touch down softly," he told ABC News. NASA said the lander brings NASA science to the Moon's surface.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Washington, Feb 23: A private American company has scripted history by landing the first commercial spacecraft on the Moon as well as the first US vehicle on the Earth's only natural satellite in more than 50 years, joining earlier feats by India, Russia, the US and China.

business

of the day quote

India offers lessons for the world struggling to contain manifest cybersecurity threats from companies of Chinese origin or those linked to its political philosophy

BRENDAN CARR | FCC COMMISSIONER, US

India envisions being a 30-trillion economy by 2047 to be a Viskit Bharat. This means manufacturing should be 25 per cent of GDP. We should be more ambitious and make manufacturing grow 16 times and exports grow 11 times

ANISH SHAH | MD AND CEO, M&M

What we expect for the full fiscal year is to be in the high single-digit growth, which means very robust growth for the second part of the year. A low double digit-growth for Pernod Ricard in India

JEAN TOUBOUL | CEO, PERNOD RICARD

SHORT TAKES

Global textile expo

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate India's largest textile event 'Bharat Tex' in the national capital February 26. 'Bharat Tex' will be spread across 22 lakh sq ft exhibition area, with participation from 100 countries and more than 3,000 trade buyers, Secretary in the Textiles Ministry Rachna Shah said Friday. "This is our effort at projecting Brand India before an international audience. This will showcase the entire strength of the textile ecosystem which is very unique to India," she added. An official statement from the Textile Ministry said 46 MoUs will be signed during the 4-day event beginning Monday, including international partnerships.

Penalty on Biocon

New Delhi: Biocon Ltd Friday said it has been imposed a penalty of over Rs 3 crore over GST-related issues. The company has received an order of adjudication imposing a penalty of Rs 3,03,78,465 dated February 22, 2024, from the office of Deputy Commissioner of Commercial Taxes, Divisional GST Office, Bangalore, Biocon Ltd said in a regulatory filing. The demand is related to input tax credit reporting error in GST monthly returns, denial of input tax credit on sales and promotional expenditures, valuation issue GST under corporate guarantee, and denial of exemption on export of services, it added.

Oil imports hit record monthly high

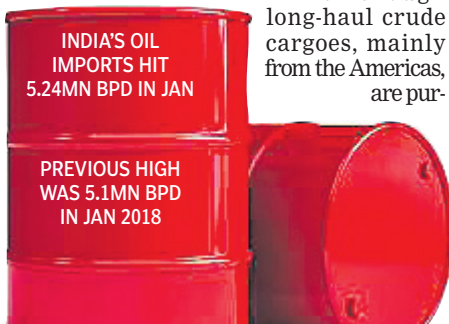
New Delhi, Feb 23: India's crude oil imports rose to a monthly record in January after the Red Sea shipping crisis delayed the December arrival of cargoes from the Americas, data from trade sources showed.

The world's third largest oil importer and consumer also received in January its first cargo of Venezuelan oil after a gap of more than three years, as the US eased sanctions on the South American producer, the data showed.

India's oil imports hit 5.24 million barrels per day (bpd) in January, up 17% from December and 3.5% higher than in the corresponding month a year earlier, according to the data.

The previous monthly high in India's imports was 5.1 million bpd in Jan 2018, the data showed.

The trade estimates are higher than Thursday's preliminary data from the oil ministry showing India's January oil imports at a



Some US and Latin American oil cargoes were delayed as they had been diverted to an alternative route around the Cape of Good Hope after the Red Sea crisis and those cargoes landed in late December or January

EHSAN UL HAQ | ANALYST, LSEG

21-month high of 21.39 million metric tons (5.1 million bpd). An official with one Indian refiner confirmed that some cargoes it was scheduled to receive in December had been delayed until January.

Even though long-haul crude cargoes, mainly from the Americas, are pur-

chased on a delivered basis, Indian buyers had to pay extra charges as sellers invoked a force majeure clause after freight and insurance costs jumped due to the Red Sea troubles, said the source, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

India's Russian oil imports in January rebounded from December to 1.47 million bpd, posting growth of 10.8% but Russia's share of the total declined to 28% from 30%, while Latin America's share rose to about 8% from 6%, the data showed.

Indian refiners turned to nearby suppliers in the Middle East to avoid disruption from the delays and make up for the diversion of Russian light sweet Sokol oil, supplies of which were hit by payment woes and tougher Western sanctions.

Top refiner Indian Oil Corp, a key buyer of Russian Sokol oil, had to draw from its inventories to make up for the shortfall.

January imports from Iraq surged to the highest since August 2019, raising the share of Middle Eastern oil in India's overall imports to 54%, from 48% in December 2023, the data showed.



We should never rush trade negotiations, they are going to impact the country for years and years to come

PIYUSH GOYAL | COMMERCE MINISTER

INDIAN DRONE MAKER ENTERS US

Indian drone manufacturing company IdeaForge, ranked fifth globally in the dual-use category of civil and defence, is entering the American drone market at a time when there is a reluctance to buy or acquire those made in China



NPCI to help Paytm users

RBI urges NPCI to help '@Paytm' UPI handle users migrate to other banks

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, Feb 23: The Reserve Bank has asked the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) to examine the possibility of migrating Paytm Payments Bank customers using the UPI handle '@paytm' to 4-5 other banks, in a bid to prevent any disruptions in the payment ecosystem.

On Friday, the central bank came out with additional steps for the benefit of customers, wallet holders and merchants who are availing banking services from Paytm Payments Bank, which has been barred from accepting deposits and credits after March 15, 2024.

As per the website of Paytm Payments Bank (PPBL), it has 30 crore wallets and 3 crore bank customers.

NPCI, an umbrella organisation for operating retail payments and settlement systems in India, is an initiative of RBI and Indian Banks' Association (IBA) for creating a payment and settlement infrastructure in India.

As the PPBL cannot accept further credits into its customer accounts and wallets after March 15, 2024, certain additional steps have become necessary to ensure seamless digital payments by UPI customers using '@paytm' handle operated by the bank, and min-



imise concentration risk in the UPI system by having multiple payment app providers, the RBI said in a statement.

"NPCI has been advised by the RBI to examine the request of One97 Communication Ltd (OCL) to become a Third-Party Application Provider (TPAP) for UPI channel for continued UPI operation of the Paytm app, as per the norms," it said.

One97 Communications Ltd (OCL), which owns the Paytm brand, holds a 49 per cent stake in PPBL.

RBI further said that in the event of NPCI granting TPAP status to OCL, it may be stipulated that '@paytm' handles are to be migrated in a seamless manner from PPBL to a set of newly identified banks to avoid any disruption.

"No new users are to be added by the said TPAP until all the existing users are migrated satisfactorily to a new handle," it added.

"For seamless migration of '@paytm' handle to other banks, NPCI may facilitate certification of 4-5 banks as Payment Service Provider (PSP) Banks with demonstrated capabilities to process high volume UPI transactions. This is in line with NPCI norms for minimising concentration risk," RBI said.

Also, for the merchants using Paytm QR Codes, OCL may open the settlement accounts with one or more PSP Banks (other than Paytm Payments Bank), the Reserve Bank said.

It further said the migration of UPI handles is applicable only to such customers and merchants who have a UPI handle '@Paytm'. For others who have a UPI address or handle other than '@Paytm', no action is required to be taken by them.

RBI again asked the customers, whose underlying account/wallet is currently with Paytm Payments Bank, to make an alternative arrangement with other banks well before March 15, 2024.

It further said that the holders of FASTag and National Common Mobility Cards (NCMC) issued by Paytm Payments Bank, may make alternative arrangements before March 15, 2024, to avoid any inconvenience.

Amid crisis, Google sees an opportunity

Fintech firm Google Pay Thursday announced the expansion of Soundpods for merchants across India to be executed over the next few months. The company introduced Soundpods last year in India on a limited pilot scale. Like Paytm's soundbox, Google Pay (GPay) soundpod is an audio notification service provided through a speaker device that alerts merchants after QR code payments. "Last year, we introduced our SoundPod product in a limited pilot - an audio device that helps merchants track QR code payments with audio alerts when a payment is received. Participating merchants have shared positive feedback, noting it reduces checkout time. We're pleased to announce SoundPods will be available for small merchants across India over the coming months," Ambarish Lenge, Google Pay vice president for product, said in a blog post.

Forex kitty dips to \$617.23bn

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, Feb 23: India's forex reserves declined \$5.24 billion to \$617.23 billion for the week ending February 9, according to weekly data released by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Friday.

The forex kitty stood at \$622.5 billion for the week ended February 2. However, in the current fiscal, the forex reserves have increased \$50.28 billion, the RBI data showed.

Foreign currency assets, which constitute the largest component of the reserves, dropped \$4.07 billion to \$546.52 billion during the week under review, as per the latest data.

The reserves had peaked in October 2021, when kitty had reached \$645 billion.

The reserves took a hit as the central bank sold dollars to defend the rupee amid pressures caused majorly by global developments since last year.

As a result, the rupee has been the best Asian currency so far this fiscal.

The sharp fall in the overall reserves was due to a sharp decline in foreign currency assets, which are the single largest component of the reserves.

Expressed in dollar terms, the foreign currency assets include the effect of appreciation or depreciation of non-US units like the euro, pound, and the yen held in the foreign exchange reserves.

The country's reserve position with the IMF also declined \$28 million to \$48.32 billion in the reporting week.

VOLATILE TRADE

Sensex edges lower, Nifty retreats from record highs

Markets opened higher but failed to sustain the morning momentum due to profit booking

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, Feb 23: Benchmark stock indices Sensex and Nifty edged lower in a volatile trade Friday, reversing early gains due to selling in IT and select banking shares.

The 30-share BSE Sensex slipped 15.44 points or 0.02 per cent to close at 73,142.80 points with 17 of its constituents closing in the red and 13 in the green.

The index opened higher but later slipped into losses due to profit-taking by investors. The barometer oscillated between a high of 73,413.93 and a low of 73,022 during the day.

The broader Nifty of NSE closed lower by 4.75 points or 0.02 per cent at 22,212.70 points as gains in FMCG, pharma and financial shares were offset by losses in IT and private bank shares. The 50-share barometer scaled a record high of 22,297.50 in intra-day trade.

Among Sensex shares, HCLTech, Asian Paints, Maruti, JSW Steel, TCS, SBI, ITC and Bharti Airtel were the major losers. On the other hand, Bajaj Finserv, Mahindra & Mahindra, Titan, L&T and Wipro were the major gainers.

The capital goods and industrial sectors showed strength, supported by advancements in manufacturing and services.

Reliance Industries rose by around 1 per cent to hit a 52-week high intra-day. Its arm Reliance Jio Financial Services soared by more than 14.5 per



Nvidia's record rally

Nvidia hit \$2 trillion in market value Friday, riding on an insatiable demand for its chips that made the Silicon Valley firm the pioneer of the generative artificial intelligence boom. The milestone followed another bumper revenue forecast from the chip designer that drove up its market value by \$277 billion Thursday - Wall Street's largest one-day gain on record. Its rapid ascent in the past year has led analysts to draw parallels to the picks and shovels providers during the gold rush of 1800s as Nvidia's chips are used by almost all generative AI players from chatGPT-maker OpenAI to Google. That has helped the company vault from \$1 trillion to \$2 trillion market value in just around nine months - the fastest among US companies and in less than half the time it took tech giants Apple and Microsoft.

cent to hit a year's high level, taking its market valuation to more than Rs 2 lakh crore.

BIZ BUZZ

Bosch and Siemens debuts in City

BHUBANESWAR: BSH Home Appliances Pvt Ltd, a subsidiary of BSH Hausgeräte GmbH, a global leader in the home appliance industry, announced the opening of its first-ever Bosch and Siemens brand store in Bhubaneswar. The inauguration of Zircon-Tech, the inaugural brand store located near Sai Mandir Square, Puri Bypass Road, reflects BSH's strategic move to cater to the growing demand for premium home appliances in emerging markets across India. The inauguration ceremony witnessed the presence of Saif Khan, CEO and MD of BSH Home Appliances, along with Santosh Bahera, Dealer Partner and other senior leadership team from BSH Home Appliances. This momentous occasion marked the company's debut in the heart of Odisha, reflecting the company's vision of delivering excellence and customer-centric solutions to the discerning consumers of Bhubaneswar. Commenting on the launch, Khan said, "We are excited to announce the grand opening of our first Bosch and Siemens store right here in the heart of Bhubaneswar. In our pursuit of meaningful collaborations with local retail partners, we aim to make our premium product offerings more accessible to the vibrant community of Bhubaneswar. There is an increasing demand for high-quality home appliances in this flourishing city, and our presence aims to complement this by providing you with a diverse and extensive range of products. We believe this brand store will add a unique touch to the growing momentum, offering access to the latest and most innovative home appliances."

DSPL-706

AMLAN

(Anaemia Mukta Lakshya Abhiyan)

Healthy Odisha, Happy Odisha

► Under "AMLAN" programme Testing, Treatment & Counselling for anaemia are available **free of cost** for following age groups

- 6-59 months at AWC
- 5-9 years at Primary Schools
- 10-19 years adolescents at High Schools
- all women of reproductive age (20-24 yrs), pregnant women, lactating mothers at VHSND / UHSND.

► Anaemia causes poor cognitive development, physical exhaustion, decreased immunity and pregnancy related complications.

Request the beneficiaries to get tested for anaemia accordingly and take complete treatment.

Health & Family Welfare Department, Odisha

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Former England skipper shuns 'Bazball' to follow traditional style of multiday cricket as his resolute ton guides visitors past 300 on opening day of 4th Test, while Akash Deep shines on debut

JOE GOES BACK TO ROOT

WPL BEGINS WITH LAST-BALL THRILLER

Kaur, Bhatia fifties help MI defeat DC

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bangalore, Feb 23: Forceful fifties by Harmanpreet Kaur (55, 34b, 7x4, 1x6) and Yastika Bhatia (57, 45b, 8x4, 2x6) helped defending champions Mumbai Indians ace a thrilling final-ball chase to beat Delhi Capitals by four wickets in the Women's Premier League (WPL) opener here Friday.

Mumbai scaled down 172 off the last ball after the 19-year-old Alice Capsey's power-packed 75 (53b, 8x4, 3x6) was a perfect vindication of her future star as she guided Delhi to 171/5, setting a tall barrier in front of Mumbai.

But the Mumbai outfit stayed in the match through fine efforts by Yastika and Harmanpreet. Despite their concerted efforts, Mumbai still needed 12 runs off the last over bowled by off-spinner Capsey, who was later adjudged player of the match.

Capsey ousted Harmanpreet and Pooja Vastrakar in the first and fifth balls of the 20th over as Mumbai were left to make five runs off the last ball. But Sajana Sajejan slammed the only ball she faced over the long-on fence to spark wild celebrations in the Mumbai camp.

But Mumbai began their target hunting on a disastrous note, losing Hayley Matthews in the second ball of the first over itself off pacer Marizanne Kapp.

But Mumbai kept moving forward through two successive fifty stands involving Yastika, whose harsh treatment of veteran pacer Shikha Pandey (4, 4,

6) made for grand viewing. The aggressive left-hander first added an even fifty (35 balls) for the second wicket with Nat Sciver-Brunt (19) and followed it up with a 56-run alliance with Harmanpreet in 7.1 overs for the third wicket.

Yastika however did not last long as a pull off pacer Arundhati Reddy was snaffled by Kapp at deep mid-wicket. However, Harmanpreet, who was dropped on five by Minnu Mani at mid-wicket off Arundhati, added 44 runs for the fourth wicket in 28 balls as Mumbai stayed afloat.

Earlier, Capsey (75, 53b, 8x4, 3x6) joined her skipper Meg Lanning (31) after opener Shafali Verma was castled early by veteran pacer Shabnim Ismail. Capsey and Lanning mustered 64 runs in just over eight overs after making a steady start. Delhi were 26/1 after the six Power Play overs.

But Capsey started the blitz before Lanning joining the party. But Brunt broke the burgeoning alliance when she ousted Lanning. Capsey remained relentless in the company of her vice-captain Jemimah Rodrigues (42, 24b, 5x4, 2x6), and together they added 73 runs for an entertaining third wicket partnership in 7.3 overs. Kerr trapped Capsey leg before.

BRIEF SCORES: DC Women 171/5 (Alice Capsey 75, Jemimah Rodrigues 42; Nat Sciver-Brunt 2/33, Amelia Kerr 2/43) lost to MI Women 173/6 (Yastika Bhatia 57, Harmanpreet Kaur 55; Alice Capsey 2/23, Arundhati Reddy 2/27) by 4 wickets.



here Friday. At stumps, the 33-year-old Root was unbeaten on 106 (9x4) and had used up 226 deliveries during his classical Test knock. Giving him company at the other end was Ollie Robinson (31 batting, 60b, 4x4, 1x6) as England

“I dedicate this to my father because it was his dream that his son does something in life. I couldn't do anything in his life (when he was alive), so this performance is for my father. Every cricketer has one dream, to play for India in Tests. That was also my dream
AKASH DEEP

ball, grabbing the top-three in 10 balls as the visitors lost half of their side in the first session. But Root decided to drop anchor after that, reverting to his natural style of playing the waiting game. The move got him and England the desired results as he struck his first century in 15 innings. With the sun playing hide and

this series, also gave the Englishman some breathing space. He was happy to play the spinners on the back-foot and slice the field.

His biggest ally in England's splendid recovery was wicket-keeper-batter Ben Foakes (47, 126b, 4x4, 1x6). The visiting side went through the second session without losing a wicket for the first time in the series. The duo took their time and frustrated India by adding 86 runs in the post-lunch session when the wicket flattened out.

Post tea, Mohammed Siraj (2/60) gave the much-needed breakthrough dismissing Foakes three runs short of his half century. The dismissal ended a 113-run sixth wicket partnership. Siraj also dismissed Tom Hartley (13) with a brilliant delivery that exhibited late movement off the pitch, crashing into the off stump. Earlier, Ravichandran Ashwin got the scalp of Jonny Bairstow (38).

STUNNING DEBUT
India's good run with debutants continued as pacer Akash Deep, the fourth newcomer for the hosts in this series, showed promise for this level.

Bowling one of the finest maiden spells in a Test debut – 7-0-24-3 – Akash Deep dismissed Ben Duckett (11), Ollie Pope (0) and Zak Crawley (42) in 10 deliveries. The pacer hit the deck hard in a sensational display

seek during the fag end of the day the Yorkshire man hit the three-figure mark for the 31st time in his Test career, striking a classy cover-drive off Akash Deep.

It took him 219 balls to get there and the former skipper did not show much emotion, fully aware that his job was not yet done. A record 10 of his 31 Test centuries are against India and the latest one came at just the right juncture. England are reeling from back-to-back losses in Visakhapatnam and Rajkot to trail the five-match series 1-2.

The absence of rested pace spearhead Jasprit Bumrah, who had dismissed Root thrice in

staged a decent recovery from the early jolts given by Akash Deep (3/70).

The 27-year-old Bengal pacer, who hails from Bihar, picked up three wickets in his 17 overs, marking yet another confident debut for the home side in the ongoing series.

He made life miserable for England's top-order with the new

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Ranchi, Feb 23: India unearthed a fresh pace talent in debutant Akash Deep but veteran Joe Root single-handedly kept England afloat with a tenacious hundred that shunned 'Bazball' for a more conservative approach as the visitors hobbled to 302/7 on the opening day of the fourth Test

Bhagat, Kadam in Worlds semis

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Pattaya (Thailand), Feb 23: Pramod Bhagat and Sukant Kadam Friday reached the semifinals of the Para Badminton World Championship to assure themselves of at least a medal here.

Bhagat defeated France's Mathieu Thomas 21-15, 21-17 to set up a semifinal clash with compatriot Manoj Sarkar. Kadam got the better of Nigeria's Chigozie Jeremiah Nnanna 21-13, 21-11. He will take on Indonesia's Fredy Setiawan in the semifinal.

In mixed doubles, the Indian pair of Bhagat and Manisha Ramdass defeated Japan's Taiyo Imai and Noriko Ito 21-11, 16-21, 21-18 to seal their place in the



semifinal. They will take on the Indonesian pair of Fredy Setiawan and Khalimatus Sadiyah in the last-four.

In the men's doubles quarterfinals, Bhagat and Kadam will take on the French pair of Guillaume Gailly and Mathieu Thomas.

In other matches, Kumar Nitesh defeated Thailand's Mongkhon Bunsun in the quarterfinals to set up a last-four clash against Daniel Bethell of England.

Krishna Nagar defeated Thailand's Natthapong Meechai 21-12, 17-21, 21-12 to set up a semifinal showdown with Brazil's Vitor Tavares. Manisha Ramdass beat Portugal's Beatriz Monteiro 21-14, 21-12 and will face France's Maud Lefort in the semifinals.

Manasi Joshi defeated her country-mate Mandeep Kaur 21-12, 21-14 and will face Indonesia's Syakuroh Qonitah Ikhtiar in the semifinals. In women's doubles, Manasi and Thulasimathi Muresangan will face Australia's Caitlin Dransfield and Amonrat Jamporn in the semifinals.

MILAN, ROMA, MARSEILLE, BENFICA ADVANCE

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Milan, Feb 23: AC Milan advanced to the round of 16 in the Europa League despite a 3-2 loss at Rennes in the second leg of their playoff. Milan, which won 3-0 at the San Siro last week, eliminated its French opponent on a 5-3 aggregate score Thursday.

The Italian powerhouse, a seven-time European champion, has never won the second-tier Europa League or its predecessor, the UEFA Cup. Midfielder Benjamin Bourigeaud's hat-trick put the hosts up three times with Milan quickly answering twice.

Bourigeaud netted the opener in the 11th minute with a fierce right-footed shot from over 20 meters to beat goalkeeper Mike Maignan. Forward Luka Jovic canceled it out 10 minutes later



with a header off a cross by captain Theo Hernández.

Bourigeaud made it 2-1 early in the second from the penalty spot but Rafael Leao equalised after four minutes on a fine solo effort. Bourigeaud sent Maignan the wrong way with another spot kick to make it 3-2. Nicola Zalewski converted the

decisive spot-kick for Roma to prevail 4-2 in a penalty shootout over Feyenoord to qualify for the next round. Early in the game, captain Lorenzo Pellegrini found the net from the edge of the area to tie it a 1-1 after Santiago Giménez's fifth-minute header gave the Dutch team a 1-0 lead and silenced more than 67,000 fans at

Stadio Olimpico. The teams also drew 1-1 in the opening leg in Rotterdam.

Marseille's new coach Jean-Louis Gasset made a victorious debut after he was appointed Tuesday to replace Gennaro Gattuso. Geoffrey Kondogbia and substitute Ismailia Sarr sealed a 3-1 win for Marseille over Shakhtar Donetsk with a goal each in the second half. Marseille advanced on a 5-3 aggregate score.

Earlier, Marseille striker Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang netted his 31st career goal in the Europa League to break the competition record and level the tie after Georgiy Sudakov converted from the spot.

Two-time European champion Benfica held host Toulouse 0-0 to progress 2-1 on aggregate.

Rohtas to Ranchi via Kolkata: A journey from adversity to triumph

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Ranchi, Feb 23: Laduma Devi was busy overseeing the construction of their family house in Baddi village of Bihar's Rohtas district when she received a call from Akash Deep Thursday. "Ma, I'm making my Test debut for India tomorrow, you have to come".

Hours later, after a gruelling 300km road journey, she was at Ranchi's JSCA stadium, watching with pride and tears in her eyes as head coach Rahul Dravid handed the coveted cap to the pacer, who made an immediate impression with three top-order England wickets in the ongoing fourth Test.

The shy but stoic woman was soaking it all in with Akash Deep's two nieces and his cousin Baibhaw Kumar providing her support in the emotionally overwhelming moment. She and the family had been through hell and back but Akash Deep was finally making it all count.

"His father always wished for him to become a government officer, but cricket was his true passion, and I was his partner in crime. I would secretly send him to play cricket and help him pursue his dream," the proud mother told PTI as she watched her son make a sensational debut.

"During that time, if someone heard that your son was playing cricket, they would say 'yeh toh awara mawwali hi banega (he is spoilt and will become a rogue). But we had the faith in him and didn't let him give up despite losing my malik (husband) and beta (son) in six months," she said, pain still apparent in her shaky voice as she grappled with a surge of emotions.

Akash Deep's father Ramji Singh, a physical education teacher in a Government High School, never wanted him to become a cricketer. He was paralysed after retirement and was bed-ridden for five years before



Akash Deep takes his family's blessing before his first day out as a Test cricketer, Friday

breathing his last in February 2015. In the October of the same year, Akash Deep's elder brother Dhiraj died on his way to a hospital in Varanasi following brief illness, leaving behind two

daughters and wife.

"If his father and brother were alive today, they would be brimming with joy. This is the life's most memorable day and only few are lucky to see it. I'm

“I thought I have to do something after I lost my dad and brother in one year, then I stepped out to play cricket. I had nothing to lose and everything to win. We didn't know about cricket while growing up; cricket was not there where I come from. I played tennis cricket after 2007 and got to know about cricket after 2016. Since then, I have been following (Mohammed) Shami bhai and Kagiso Rabada
AKASH DEEP

the proudest mom on this earth," Laduma Devi said, tears rolling down her eyes.

"Sab bolte hain, padhoge likhoge banoge nawab; kheloge, kudoge banoge kharab. Yeh toh ulta ho gaya. (They say those who study become kings, and those who play end up spoilt. But it's the opposite in our case)."

With the family reliant on his father's monthly pension, he had thought of giving up his passion for cricket and focus on finding a stable income.

The youngest among six siblings with three elder sisters, Akash Deep briefly dabbled in sand selling business by renting dumpers near Sone river at the Bihar-Jharkhand border after Dhiraj's death.

He would also play tennis ball cricket at that time and needed a helping hand to keep his crickering dream alive.

His cousin Baibhaw, whose father works at Durgapur Steel Plant allowing him access to coaching in leather ball cricket, proved to be just the man. "I always felt he was god-gifted and I took him to Durgapur where we got his passport made and he went on to play a tournament in Dubai," Baibhaw recalled.

The duo landed in Kolkata in search of better opportunities and stayed in a rented flat in Kestopur. But life didn't become

easy with the shift as Akash Deep was rejected by three clubs – United CC, YMCA and the famous Kalighat.

"They said to wait for one more year as their team was out. I thought he would go back. But UCC called him one day saying they would play him without any pay," Baibhaw said.

Akash Deep's rise started from UCC as he grabbed 42 wickets in his maiden season in Kolkata Maidan (2017-18). He subsequently got a chance in the CK Nayudu Trophy for Bengal, which went on to win that year.

He was also picked as a net bowler for Rajasthan Royals in the IPL that was held in the UAE during the COVID-19 disruption and was eventually signed by RCB.

After fetching an IPL contract, the family's financial position improved considerably and a three-storied house is currently under construction that keeps his mother busy these days.