

## PM Modi asks people to stay away from 'shortcut politics'

Deogarh (Jharkhand), July 12 (UNI) Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday said the country is facing a new challenge in the form of "short-cut politics" and asked the people to remain away from it. "Today shortcut politics is the biggest challenge. It is very easy to fetch votes through shortcuts, where one has to do no hard work to get the votes of the people. But if the politics of the country depends on shortcut politics then it will lead to a short circuit. We have to stay away from it," he said while addressing a rally organised by the Jharkhand BJP at the



Deogarh College Grounds here.

He said earlier parties that were in power adopted short-cut politics as a result of which many nations which had got independence at

around the same time like India went ahead while 'our country' lagged behind. He said that the action of such parties was only confined to getting power.

He cited the example of

electricity which is generated through power plants. To set up the power plants one needs to make lots of investment, but "unfortunately" those who indulge in short-cut poli-

tics use the money meant for investment in misleading the people, and as a result, the country goes backward. Modi urged the people to remain away from such a brand of politics.

The Prime Minister said parties that indulge in short cut politics do not make airports, roads, AIIMS and medical colleges. He said when the government would not have money, then how it would undertake development and infrastructure for the welfare of the people. Earlier in the day Modi inaugurated and laid foundation stones for 25 infrastructure related projects in Jharkhand worth Rs 16,835 crores.

## Three killed in road accident

### Naveen announces Rs 2 lakh ex gratia each

Bhubaneswar, July 12 (UNI) Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik on Tuesday announced ex gratia of Rs 2 lakh each to the next of kin of three people killed in a road accident on Bolangir-Sonepur road near Badabahal chhak. Three people were killed and as many injured when a speeding car hit an auto



rickshaw on NH-57 near Badabahal Chhak on Tuesday. The Chief Minister while expressing his grief over the incident and sympathies to the bereaved family members,

directed to provide the assistance.

He also ordered free medical treatment to the injured. In another incident a person died and eight others sustained injuries after a truck collided with a bus on its way to Buguda in Ganjam District from Bhubaneswar on NH-16 near Gaza Khordha on Tuesday.

## ASI killed, 2 others injured in Srinagar attack

Srinagar, July 12 (UNI) An Assistant Sub Inspector of J&K police was killed and two others were injured in a militant attack in a Srinagar locality on Tuesday evening, officials said. They said militants fired upon a police naka party at Lal Bazar area of Srinagar city leaving three cops injured. One of the injured identified as ASI Mushtaq Ahmed succumbed to his injuries, police said. "We pay rich tribute to the martyr for his supreme sacrifice made in the line of duty. Other two injured personnel are being treated," a police tweet said. Police said the area has been cordoned to trace the attackers.

## CBI arrests Junior Engineer in alleged bribery case



New Delhi, July 12 (UNI) The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) arrested a Junior Engineer in Electrical department Chandigarh for allegedly accepting the bribe. A case was registered on the basis of a complaint against the accused who has been identified as Satish Kumar, JE, Electrical department, Chandigarh. It was alleged that the JE inspected the complainant's electricity meter connection and informed him that a complaint was received against him regarding excess electricity load and using only one electricity meter for two houses, CBI statement stated.

The JE allegedly threatened the complainant that a fine would be imposed on him for the said findings during inspection and demanded an alleged bribe of Rs 8,000 for not imposing penalty, it stated. CBI laid a trap and caught the accused while he was allegedly accepting a bribe of Rs 8000 from the complainant. The accused was produced in the Court at Chandigarh. Searches were conducted at the premises of the accused at Chandigarh and Yamunanagar which led to recovery of Rs 2 lakh.

## Odisha reports 509 covid cases in past 24 hours



Bhubaneswar, July 12 (UNI) The daily covid positive cases in Odisha have shown a declining trend in the past few days but continued to register over 500 mark for the fourth consecutive day on Tuesday. Information and Public Relations Department sources said the state reported 509 fresh cases during the last 24 hours, 63 cases less than the figure on Sunday. While the total tally of Covid positive cases in the state rose to 12,94,585, the active cases in the state now stood at 3539. Out of the total 509 cases, 299 cases were recorded from quarantine centres, and 210 as contact cases.

Khordha district reported 200 cases, the highest in the state followed by Cuttack (110), Sundergarh (49) Puri (14) and Jajpur (10)

Official reports said fresh positive cases were reported from 25 districts from 14,618 sample tests registering 3.48 percent Test Positive Report (TPR). Three districts such as Khordha, Sundergarh and Cuttack however remained in Red Zone with test positivity rate of 11.5 percent, 8.7 percent and 8.6 percent respectively while Puri and Boudh districts having TPR above 5 percent have been categorised as Yellow Zone.

## Draupadi Murmu meets AP CM

Vijayawada, July 12 (UNI) NDA's Presidential Candidate Draupadi Murmu, accompanied by Union Minister G Kishan Reddy, met Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy and Party MLAs, MLCs, and MPs at the CK Convention Centre in Mangalagiri near here on Tuesday. Addressing the gathering, Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy emphasized the need to strengthen and support Draupadi Murmu's candidature, who is an Adivasi woman. He extended his

support of all 151 MLAs, 31 MPs of YSRCP as it falls in line with the party stand of prioritizing the SC, ST, BC, and the Minorities with the implementation of social justice.

Chief Minister Jagan Mohan Reddy announced that mock polling will be held on July 18 to ensure that no vote goes invalid and directed all the legislators and parliamentarians to cast their votes without fail. Later, he introduced the Electoral College to Murmu. Seeking support for her candi-



dature as President of India, Draupadi Murmu traced the history of Andhra Pradesh, paying homage to great freedom

fighters and leaders from the State, and said she was fortunate to run for the highest post in the 75th year of independence

the 'Azadi ka Amrut Mahotsav'.

Earlier, she met Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy at his camp office in Tadepalli, where she was blessed by the vedic priests of Durga Malleswara Swamy Devasthanam. Union Minister G Kishan Reddy, Party General Secretary V Vijaysai Reddy were among those present. Meanwhile, Draupadi Murmu also met Telugu Desam party chief and former Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu who extended support to her.

## Odisha govt hikes housing loan assistance to Rs 40 lakh

Bhubaneswar, July 12 (UNI) Odisha government has hiked the housing loan assistance amount for government employees from Rs 25 lakh to Rs 40 lakh. The loan assistance was increased on the basis of the recommendations of the Seventh Pay Commission. The state government also reduced the rate of interest from earlier 11.5 per cent to 8 per cent. Chief Minister's office sources here said the loan assistance would be provided to the employees in two phases at the ratio of 60-40. Earlier as per the house building assistance rules in 2010 up to Rs 25 lakh loan was being given at 11.5 per cent interest. All employees covered under the National Pension scheme and all permanent government employees can avail of the housing loan.

## BOI issues lookout notice against Liu Yi for running illegal loan Apps in India

Bhubaneswar, July 12 (UNI) Bureau of Immigration (BOI) has issued a Look out Circular against Liu Yi, a Chinese national for running many illegal digital Loan Apps in India. The lookout notice was issued on the request of the Economic Offence Wing (EOW) of Bhubaneswar as LIU YI is the main accused in a case registered in January this year. The Chinese national used to run many illegal digital Loan Apps in India like -KOKO Loan, JOJO Loan, Golden Lightning Loan, Silver Kredit Loan, Gold Cash loan, Little Borrow Loan, Tap Credit Loan, Kredit bear Loan, Speedy rupee Loan,

Xpress credit Loan, Kredit Plan loan, Rupee Day Loan and few others. EOW sources here on Tuesday said in one APP alone there are more than 1.5 Lakh downloads. EOW suspected that through these apps, lakhs of people across the country, particularly the lower middle class people in need of small loans especially during difficult times of COVID were cheated and extorted.

Liu Yi started his illegal business in India in 2019 from Bangalore. His parent company was Jianbing Technology in Hangzhou China. He is the director of Omelette technology

private limited but indirectly controls/ owns Yellow Tune Technologies private limited Mudmate Technologies Private limited Pinkleaf Aryan communications private limited Techlite development private limited There are at least two more Chinese who used to assist him in his scam. It is suspected that they are running such illegal Loan APPs in other countries too, especially in Thailand. The EOW has already arrested five accused accomplices of the Chinese mastermind and is in touch with various state police and conducted raids in Mumbai, Bangalore and Delhi.

## Home coming for presiding deities of Puri Sri Jagannath temple

Puri, July 12 (UNI) Lord Jagannath, Lord Balabhadra and devi Subhadra, popularly called the trinity, the three presiding deities of Sri Jagannath temple, were escorted into the sanctum sanctorum from their respective chariot by Daita servitors popularly called as Niladri Bije (homecoming of Trinity). The deities after staying nine days in Gundicha temple began his Bahuda (return journey) on Saturday and reached Lion's gate by late evening. They stayed on their respective chariots parked in front of

Simhadwar, the main entrance to Sri Jagannath temple.

After spending three days on the chariots for observance of important rituals like "Suna Veshha" (Golden attire) followed by Adharpana (offering of rich drink) on the next day the deities were escorted into sanctum sanctorum of temple in Pahandi after offering of Rassogolla bhog. The priests on the morning performed daily chores of the deities like "Mangala arati, Abakash, Tadaplagi, Mailum, rosahoma, Surya puja and dwarpal puja" and offered

fruits as bhog to the deities on the chariots. After Sandhya Dhupa offering, the preparation for Pahandi began with fixing of ladders (chara-mara) onto the chariots and to the Ratnasimhasan in the Garbhagriha of the temple. Pahandi procession was conducted over one hour in advance by 6.10 PM amidst traditional temple musicians playing cymbals, trumpets, ghantas, drums, mrudanga, flute and bugles to conventional musical notes while Gotipua and Odissi dancers led the procession. Madan Mohan and



Ramakrushna were first taken into the temple followed by Sudarshan, Lord Balabhadra, devi Subhadra and in the end lord Jagannath was escorted by Daita servitors

in Pahandi. They were installed in their respective seats on the Ratna Singhasana in the garbhagriha. A two layer security cordon was put around the deities during

Pahandi to prevent any unauthorised person from touching the deities. A traditional play was enacted between the servitors of lord Jagannath and his consort Mahalaxmi. By the order of Mahalaxmi the temple gate was closed to prevent entry of lord Jagannath for not taking Mahalaxmi on the nine day pleasure trip to Sri Gundicha temple. While lord Balabhadra and Devi Subhadra were allowed to enter the temple the door was slammed on the face of lord Jagannath. Lord then offers Mahalaxmi

rasgullas to pacify her anger. After a long persuasion the temple gate opened for lord Jagannath. This home coming of the deities is popularly called "Niladri Bije" and with this the ratha yatra curtains were down.

Taking cues from the lord Jagannath, hundreds of devotees offered rasgullas as bhog to deities on chariots before Pahandi and distributed among them. This was the only occasion when rasgulla was offered to the deities. Regular nitees would resume beginning

with Mahasnan (the grand bath) followed by a fresh set of nitees concluding with Badasinghar (night dress) and Pahuda (sleeping) would be observed. The devotees would get mahaprasad known as "Nilachal abhada" on Wednesday. As per the religious practice lord Jagannath will supposedly go for four month long slumber beginning from Ekadasi known as Hari sayan ekadashi. During this period all the ceremonies like marriage, thread ceremony and consecration of temples, yajna and homa are forbidden.

# BTS coming to Disney+ soon

Los Angeles, July 12 (UNI) K-pop superband BTS will soon come on Disney+, according to an announcement made by the entertainment giant.

In a video message shared by Disney+, BTS said, "You will soon be able to meet us on the global streaming service, Disney+!."

"BTS: Permission to Dance -LA which brings you into our recent concert in LA will soon be available.

"And sometime next year, you can watch BTS Monuments: Beyond the Star -- a documentary series that will show a more up close and personal side of us.

"It will take you on a journey of how we have grown in the past year and a story of our music. We can't wait to show you these shows and hope you enjoy them as well. We



will see you all soon." According to CNN, this will result in five new titles with HYBE, BTS' management company that was previously known as Big Hit Entertainment.

The band during the FESTA 2022 dinner in June, which is part of an annual celebration of their founding, had announced to "explore some solo projects".

A reality show will see V heading for vacation in

In the Soop" with other Korean celebrities, the company said. The band's documentary will also peek into their daily lives "as they prepare for their second chapter," Disney and HYBE said in a joint statement.

Park Ji-won, CEO of HYBE, said "This will be the start of a long-term collaboration, where we present worldwide audiences a wide range of Hybe content for fans who love our music and

artists." Jessica Kam-Engle, Disney's head of content for Asia Pacific, said, "This collaboration represents our creative ambition — to work with iconic content creators and top stars in Asia-Pacific so their talent can be enjoyed by mainstream audiences in multiple ways. "We believe these new titles will captivate consumers worldwide and look forward to introducing more music content on our service."

# Second heatwave grips Spain

Madrid, July 12 (UNI/Xinhua) Spain is sweltering in its second heatwave, with scorching temperatures expected, risks of wildfires raised and low water levels recorded.

All of Spain's 17 autonomous communities, except Asturias and Cantabria on the north coast and Murcia in the southeast, are on alert for high temperatures, Spanish State Meteorological Agency (AEMET) warned on Monday.

The regions of Andalusia, Aragon, Castille-Leon, Castille-La Mancha and Madrid are on orange alerts with temperatures

expected to top 41 degrees centigrade, it added.

AEMET said the heatwave may have a duration of around nine days, and the "worst is expected" between Tuesday and Thursday, with temperatures expected to reach or even go above 44 degrees centigrade in southern cities such as Cordoba, Seville, Jaen and Badajoz.

The heatwave has raised the risk of forest fires in Spain to "extreme" and "very high" in nearly all parts of the country. A total of 81,866 hectares of woodland and scrub in Spain have already been burned by wildfires in

2022, beating the total amount of damage in 2021, according to the Ministry of Ecological Transition.

Meanwhile, Spain's reservoirs are at worryingly low levels at an average of just 45 percent capacity. The situation is actually worse in some regions, such as Andalusia and Extremadura, with just 32 percent and 35 percent of their capacity left.

This heatwave follows Spain's first heatwave in June, which was one of the earliest on record. The country also recorded the hottest May of this century.

# Gotabaya signs resignation letter



Colombo, July 12 (UNI) Sri Lankan President Gotabaya Rajapaksa has signed his resignation letter, and the Speaker of Parliament will publicly announce it to the nation on Wednesday, it was reported on Tuesday.

The resignation was signed and handed over to a senior government official who will hand it over to Speaker Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena, the Daily Mirror reported. Gotabaya Rajapaksa fled the President's House shortly before thousands of protesters stormed it on Saturday.

# Flydubai suspends flights to Colombo

Colombo, July 12 (UNI) Flydubai flights between Dubai and Colombo have been suspended until further notice, it was reported on Tuesday. "Passengers who have booked to travel on these flights will be contacted and offered a refund," the Daily Mirror quoted the airline as saying. The airline will continue to closely monitor the situation on the ground in Sri Lanka, where massive protests triggered by widespread shortages of essential commodities forced President Gotabaya Rajapaksa to flee the presidential house on Saturday. Massive jet fuel shortage in Sri Lanka is forcing airlines to fuel up in other hubs before making the journey back.

# President, brother stopped from leaving SL

Colombo, July 12 (UNI) Sri Lankan President Gotabaya Rajapaksa, who is set to resign on Wednesday, and his equally embattled brother Basil Rajapaksa remained in the country on Tuesday after being stopped by immigration officials from flying out, news reports said.

The President, who had to flee his official house on Saturday shortly before thousands of protesters stormed it, was involved "in a humiliating standoff with airport immigration staff" who

blocked his exit to safety abroad, international news agency AFP quoted official sources as saying.

The 73-year-old leader wanted to travel to Dubai, officials said.

Speculation mounted that since President Rajapaksa enjoys immunity from arrest, he wanted to go abroad before stepping down to avoid the possibility of being detained.

But immigration officers refused to go to the VIP

suite to stamp his passport while he insisted that he would not go through the public facilities fearing reprisals from other airport users, AFP reported.

The President and his wife spent the night at a military base next to the main international airport after missing four flights that could have taken them to the United Arab Emirates, the report said.

The President's youngest brother Basil Rajapaksa, who resigned in April as Finance Minister, missed

his own Emirates flight to Dubai early on Tuesday after a similar standoff with airport staff.

As the President remains the commander-in-chief of the armed forces with military resources at his disposal, he could still take a navy vessel to either India or the Maldives.

President Rajapaksa is widely accused of mismanaging the economy to a point where the country has run out of foreign exchange to finance even the most es-

sential imports, leading to severe hardships for the 22 million population.

Basil Rajapaksa tried to leave Sri Lanka through the Silk Route Passenger Clearance Terminal but immigration officials at the airport refused to let him leave following the protests by passengers.

The Daily Mirror quoted immigration office sources as saying that the once powerful former Minister arrived at the Badaranaik International Airport at midnight to leave for Dubai.

The reserved flight for Basil Rajapaksa was scheduled to leave for Dubai at 3.15 am on Tuesday.

However, the immigration officers refused to approve Basil Rajapaksa's departure. Later, the Sri Lanka Immigration and Emigration Officers Association (SLIEOA) decided to withdraw from functioning at the Silk Route Passenger Clearance Terminal.

Basil Rajapaksa had to return to Colombo with-

out being able to proceed, the report said.

SLIEOA President K.A.A.S. Kanugala said the decision was made considering the current unstable and crisis situation in the country and the strong possibility of a large numbers of accused former political VIPs using this Silk Route Clearance Terminal to leave the country.

Sri Lankan VIPs could normally arrange their flight facilities by paying money at the BIA through the Silk Route.

# Musk on Trump saying he voted for him: 'Not true'

Washington, July 12 (UNI) Tesla CEO Elon Musk on Tuesday rejected Donald Trump's claim that the tech billionaire had voted for him and said that the former US President should forget about running for the post in 2024.

This comes following Musk's termination of \$44 billion pullout from Twitter deal on July 10. Last week, he announced termination of the acquisition deal due to multiple breaches of the purchase agreement, including an alleged inability by Twitter to provide the information needed to complete a comprehensive analysis of spam and fake accounts, Sputnik reported.

Speaking at an event in Alaska, Trump said, "He (Elon) said the other day, 'Oh, I've never voted for a Republican. I said, 'I didn't know that. He told me he voted for me, so he's another...artist."

He further said, "Who the hell knows what's going to happen? He's got a pretty rotten contract. I looked at his contract, not a good contract."

In response to his comment, Musk gave a two-word reply: "Not true".



In another tweet, he said, "I don't hate the man, but it's time for Trump to hang up his hat & sail into the sunset.

"Dems should also call off the attack — don't make it so that Trump's only way to survive is to regain the Presidency."

"Trump would be 82 at end of term, which is too old to be chief executive of anything, let alone the United States of America.

"If DeSantis runs against Biden in 2024, then DeSantis will easily win — he doesn't even need to campaign," he said in another tweet.

# Japan bids tearful farewell to Shinzo Abe

Tokyo, July 12 (UNI) The funeral service of former Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe took place in Tokyo on Tuesday, four days after his assassination in Nara.

According to CNN, the private ceremony took place at the Zojoji Temple in Tokyo, a historic landmark founded in the Kanto region more than 600 years ago and relocated to the capital, standing at its present site since 1598.

Thousands of people from all walks of life flocked to the streets near the temple to pay their respects to the late leader.

After the service, the hearse will be carrying Abe's body from the temple to the Kirigaya Funeral Hall for cremation.

Meanwhile, hundreds of people braved the rains to leave flowers and notes of condolences in Nara, Japan, near the site where former Japanese prime minister Shinzo Abe was assassinated on July 8,



CNN reported.

his campaign speech.

receive the decoration under the postwar Constitution after Shigeru Yoshida, Eisaku Sato and Yasuhiro Nakasone, Kyodo News reported.

# US, G7 'exploring' price cap on Russian oil

Washington, July 12 (UNI/Sputnik) US President Joe Biden and the leaders of the Group of Seven (G7) countries are "actively exploring" the possibility of imposing a price cap on Russian oil and are consulting with third countries amid record high energy prices in the West, the State Department told Sputnik. "President Biden and the G7 leaders are actively exploring imposing a limit on the price of Russian oil, consulting with third countries, and have tasked out their Finance and Energy Ministers to pursue a proposal," the State Department said. Earlier in July, the US Treasury Department said Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen is seeking to use her upcoming trip to Asia to push for imposing a price cap on Russian oil - a measure that was discussed by the United States and its partners during the Group of Seven (G7) meeting in Germany on June 28-30. Following the G7 meeting, the leaders of the seven most economically advanced states issued a communique saying an oil price cap set at \$40-\$60 could be implemented through the options such as allowing Russian seaborne crude oil and petroleum products to be shipped worldwide only if they are purchased at or below an agreed price threshold. Since February 24, the European Union has imposed numerous sanctions, hitting Russia's banking, financial and media organizations, government officials and lawmakers, as well as oil supplied by sea, among other restrictions.

The country's longest serving premier was shot on July 8 by Tetsuya Yamagami in Nara during

On Monday, the Cabinet Office had announced that Abe will be the fourth former Prime Minister to

## Countdown for Durga Puja starts with Khunti puja in Bengal

Kolkata, July 12 (UNI) With barely sixty eight days to go for the most awaited carnival of the Bengali community - the 'Durga Puja' - clubs and barowari puja committees have started khunti pujas, a customary ritual before putting up pandals, to mark the countdown of the festival season.

Various big clubs conducting pujas start with the Khunti puja or worship of the first bamboo on which the foundation of the pandals will be based and the goddess and her progeny will be kept and worshipped for five days.

The ritual Khunti puja is performed on the auspicious day of Rath Yatra. In the family organised pujas, the day marks the beginning of making of the kathamo or the wooden frame on which the clay idol will be built.

From the heavyweight Nakatala Udayan Sangh, Chetla Agrani Club, Hindustan Club, Sribhumi



Sporting Club, Santosh Mitra Square, Mohammad Ali Park, Mudiali Club, Bakulbagan Public Durgotsab Committee and Behala Young Men's Association organised 'Khuti puja' recently, heralding the construction of pandals.

Durga Puja of Sribhumi Sporting Club, popularly known as Fire Minister Sujit Basu's Puja, turned 50 this year. Trinamool MP and actor Dev was present at the khuntipuja. According to the organizers, this time the pavilion will be built in the style of

Vatican City. Puja of Santoshmitra Square has entered its 87th year. On rath yatra day also poles are worshipped here. This time the theme of this year will be the celebration of 75 years of independence.

Mudiali Club is one of the notable Durga Pujas in Kolkata. The members of this club also performed khuntipuja on the day of rath yatra.

The Chetla Agrani Club's Durgotsab Khuntipuja

was held on rath yatra day. This year Puja set foot in the 30th year. State Minister and Mayor of Kolkata Firhad Hakim was present on the occasion.

Behala Young Men's Association started preparations for Durga Puja through Khuntipuja on the day of Rath Yatra. In the 63rd year, their theme is endless. Mayor Parishad Tarak Singh, Councilor of Ward No. 119 and others were present.

For the last 6 years, the

women of Samlan Para have been in charge of the puja of the Hindustan Club in Gariahat. The president of this club is Chandrima Bhattacharya. This year 60th anniversary of Puja. The symbolic chariot is made of towels. According to the organizers, the theme of this year's Puja is not envy, but the country.

Durga Puja of Naktala Udayan Sangh, known as the Puja of Minister Partha Chatterjee, is now 36 years old. Khuntipuja is the custom of the day of the rath yatra .

"Khuti puja has become the norm of sarbojonin pujas in Kolkata and elsewhere in the state," a member of the Sribhumi Sporting Club Puja Committee said.

Agreeing that Khuti puja has caught up in a big way in the city, a member of Naktala Udayan Sangh said, "Puja is a big occasion for the neighbourhood".

## Sena may support NDA's presidential candidate Murmu

Mumbai, July 12 (UNI) Shiv Sena spokesperson and MP Sanjay Raut on Tuesday hinted party president Uddhav Thackeray is likely to announce party's support for NDA-named presidential candidate, Droupadi Murmu.

However, he made it clear that support for Murmu does not translate to supporting the BJP.

In a meeting on Monday, Sena MPs met Thackeray in which most of them expressed their support in favour of Murmu.

Interacting with the media on Tuesday, Raut said many MPs have expressed their support to Murmu.

Raut said there is a large tribal community in Maharashtra too and as

many Shiv Sena workers are involved in the tribal areas, Thackeray now aware of their intention, will take the final decision.

He also cited example of former President Pratibha Patil, whose candidature was named by the Congress-led UPA, and Sena at the time despite being an NDA ally had voted in favour of Patil.

## Free ration for disaster-affected people in Himachal

Hamirpur (Himachal Pradesh), July 12 (UNI) The Himachal Pradesh government on Tuesday said it will be providing free ration and gas connections to the families affected by the cloudburst and heavy rain.

A spokesman of the HP government told UNI that the Food Supplies Department will be providing free rice, flour, pulses, refined oil, salt and gas cylinders

to the affected families. The decision was taken as per the orders of the Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur after Food and Supplies Minister Rajendra Garg submitted a proposal on it. Since the onset of monsoon in the state, several instances of landslides and cloudbursts have been reported. The repeated cloudburst has caused huge destruc-

tion in Manikaran in Kullu, Kuh-Manjhwad in Bilaspur and Teesa in Chamba. Vice chairman of the state disaster management board Randhir Sharma said the district, police administration, Home Guard and NDRF personnel were put on high alert to help the calamity victims. He also appealed to the people to avoid going near the rivers, khads and nullahs.

## Wearing mask & Covid restrictions reinforced in Tripura

Agartala, July 12 (UNI) Anticipating the fourth wave of Covid19, Tripura government has reinforced wearing face and nose cover mask mandatory in public places from Tuesday along with all other precautionary measures to prevent the spread of the disease. In the meeting of the State Task Force of Covid19 on Monday expressed concern over the sudden spike of Covid positive cases in the state and decided to go for aggressive enforcement against non-wearing or improper wearing of masks especially in public places including educational institutions, market and government offices. The State Surveillance Officer Dr Deep Kumar Debbarma said to contain the spread of the coronavirus, the department would organise mass testing in offices and

market places at the initial stage. The situation will be reviewed after one week and a decision on mass testing in the entry points will be taken later on. He also appealed to all to strictly follow the Covid appropriate behaviour and specially appealed to the persons with comorbidities to go for testing if they develop any symptoms. As of 131 persons have been infected by Covid over the past one week and West Tripura district contributed 82 cases alone. A 221-bed Dedicated Hospital for Covid treatment is functioning in GBP hospital where eight persons with Covid infection are admitted now, he informed adding as many as 22 fresh positive cases have been detected out of 309 samples tested in the past 24 hours—the positivity rate is 7.12 per cent, ac-

ording to an official report. After September 2021, the Covid graph fell drastically and Tripura has passed months without a single case. However, recently Covid19 cases have started spiking and Agartala Municipal Corporation area has become the epicenter of the spread and none of the infected person is having any travel history, which indicated it's a local transmission, Debbarma said. According to Debbarma only eight patients out of the total 131 are hospitalized and others are in home isolation and stated, "We are giving preference to home isolation because if the patient is mild symptomatic, he should stay in his comfort zone for getting cured in an ideal timeframe. But unfortunately, we have

failed to get in touch with 37 people who had tested positive to the virus". Among the 131 positive patients, seven were administered with only one dose of vaccine, 74 of them received both the jabs and 11 people did not receive any vaccine. So far, the report revealed that patients of all age groups were found to be susceptible to this phase of transmission, he added. Meanwhile, Tripura government has also decided to approach Central government seeking relaxations for the booster dose for 18 years and above eligible population. Except for the above 60-yrs of age group, the booster dose of vaccine is not available in the government hospitals and as a result, a large number of people in the state have not yet administered the booster dose of vaccine.

## Amarnath Yatra resumes from Baltal

Srinagar, July 12 (UNI) The Amarnath Yatra resumed early Tuesday from the shortest Baltal route after remaining suspended for three days following a cloudburst near the cave shrine that left 16 people dead and many injured on July 8, officials said.

The Yatra resumed from the traditional Pahalgam route on Monday after two days of suspension.

A massive rescue operation was launched by the police, security forces, Indian Army, Air Force, NDRF and other concerned agencies to remove the debris and locate the missing since the calamity struck.

Road strips which were washed away due to the



flash floods at several places on the yatra track were constructed at alternative places to make the pilgrimage possible.

The rescue and maintenance of road operation is still going on at many places on both routes, officials said.

As many as 7,264 including 1,695 women, 84 children and 30 sadhus left Dumail on the Baltal route onwards to the holy

cave shrine. More than 3,000 pilgrims paid obeisance at the cave shrine till 10 am.

The yatra from the traditional Pahalgam route was restored Monday and pilgrims were allowed to proceed from Nunwan Base Camp and at halting points of Chandanwari and Panjtarni.

A fresh batch of yatries who reached from

Jammu to Nunwan Pahalgam camp in south Kashmir Monday were Tuesday allowed undertaking the pilgrimage amid dry weather, the officials said.

Kashmir Weather, an independent observatory forecast for Pahalgam route, mostly dry weather with possibility of a short rain shower in the late afternoon/evening at Pahalgam, Chandanwari, Zojibal, MG Top, Sheshnag, Poshpatri, Panchtarni, Sangam and Holy cave.

Similarly the weather will remain dry from Baltal to the holy cave, with possibility of short rain shower in the late afternoon/evening at Baltal, Dumail, Brarimarg, Sangam and holy cave.

## Feeling hot indicates more plantation needed in Tripura

Udaipur(Tripura), Jul 12. In accordance with the report published by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change on 'Forest Survey Report 2021' that the state Tripura comes under the category where forest cover area between 33 per cent to 75 per cent, also reported that the total geographical area in 10,486 sq km and 64.66 percentage of forest cover to GA. The change in forest cover with respect to ISFR 2019 reported -4 in the state Tripura.

The forest is important and government giving

stress on tree plantation by dint of different schemes in keeping it mind as measure for the betterment of climate condition because it has told in sustainable development goal number thirteen as 'Climate Action'. The condition need to be increased as the country India had committed for climate action in COP21; like to achieving 40 per cent of its installed electricity capacity from non-fossil energy sources by 2030.

The state Tripura need to give effort for more plantation as the temperature has been increasing day by day here in the state

and the temperature has reported as on standard weather forecast between 260c to 350c. The increasing temperature makes problem for people to stay here because they were not likely with this high temperature for doing their normal activities in view to sustain their life.

In tribal area of Tripura mostly hilly areas are not getting the facility of scheme 'Jal Jeevan Mission' owing to different latent reasons but the concern department of the state government headed by CM Dr. Manik Saha gives assurance to success the

scheme. As there is lack of water in hilly areas, the people in that region depend on natural sources of water. The natural sources like spring and all are getting dry due to high degree of temperature, the tribal people are facing problem here in Tripura to get their drinking water.

The department might take all the best efforts to solve these problems with the help of creating awareness among people to do more plantations with an eye to considering this matter for the benefit of forest conservation as well as environment protection.

## 'Shamshera' is physically toughest film for me: Ranbir Kapoor

New Delhi, July 12 (UNI) Bollywood superstar Ranbir Kapoor's bulked up physique for 'Shamshera' has broken the internet today.

Photos of his transformation to play an out and out action hero has taken all over the social media and Ranbir revealed how he went beast mode to flaunt a six pack in 'Shamshera'. Ranbir said in a statement, "Karan's brief to me was that he doesn't want me to have a beach body. Here is Balli who has been born and brought up in the harshness of a cruel prison. He is from the 1800's. Karan wanted me to have a bulked up workers body and I dived into it headlong." "This film physically was by far the



most toughest for me because I am a thin guy. That's my natural build. So, to lose weight is easy for me. To build muscle is tougher for me," he added. Ranbir's personal trainer Kunal Gir pushed him to the hilt for his fabulous transformation in 'Shamshera'. Kunal said, "Ranbir had five meals a day. He was on a high pro-

tein and low carb diet and went through rigorous training five days a week! He had a cheat meal only once a week. We trained four days a week, each session was an hour long followed by a quick five minute high intensity cardio session."

Ranbir, who is coming to the big screen four years after he delivered the

blockbuster 'Sanju', is pitted against Sanjay Dutt who is playing an evil, merciless, cold-hearted brute force of nature, Shuddh Singh. Directed by Karan Malhotra, this action extravaganza has been produced by Aditya Chopra and is set to release in Hindi, Tamil and Telugu on July 22.

## Theatre of hate

The right to offend and the right to get offended are two missing entries in our Constitution's formidable list of fundamental rights; yet, these two have dominated our public discourse in the last few weeks. Every social group of any heft wants to offend and get offended as if its very existence is determined by these two attributes of communal misbehaviour. The former is the fountainhead of all hate speech targeted to hurt others and the latter leads to a sense of hurt. So, there is a causal relationship between the attempts to create imagined hurt aimed at group identities. These two have now attained the status of performance art, scripted and enacted on television by news anchors reinforcing their hate-filled viewers, who in turn offer them Television Rating Points (TRPs), enabling news channels to monetise hate through advertising and sponsorships. This social malaise began during the UPA tenure as righteous indignation against a corrupt Union government, and also against certain tainted and compromised journalists who got caught in the Radia tapes. But gradually the moralistic ire turned political and then communal, singeing all civilised norms of public dialogue, particularly on news television, where bullying became the norm and crass, loud exchange of threats and abuses got labelled as debate. This live performance — with a screenful of experts led by the anchor attacking one person, often a Muslim — is the new theatre of hatred, where even the lone Muslim enjoys his or her scripted role. Along with the TRPs for the news channel, this performance offers some sort of celebrityhood and social validation for the "experts" from their respective identity groups. But unknowingly, these experts of strife are actually validating and legitimising hatred all over the society. Identity politics works because masses tend to identify themselves with a leader or spokesperson. TV anchors and experts have begun to play the role of spokespersons, amplifying concerns of identity politics using the language of othering and hatred. The Nupur Sharma incident of hate speech and its reaction from Gulf Cooperation Council countries have led to actual murders in India, the



culmination of the exercise of the right to offend and the right to get offended. We have had a full circle of the orgy of clashing privileges of boorish behaviour ending in the 'logical conclusion' of murder. This cycle of offensive behaviour is now being dissected by political opportunists of various persuasions to analyse which part of it suits them and which part is to be targeted, without understanding that hatred should not be dissected but disowned fully and wholly. And if religion as a whole is the problem, then let us not try to find good religious behaviour and bad religious behaviour but label all religious behaviour bad and embrace a new kind of secularism that will abhor all public religious practices. Even before the cycle of murderous responses to Nupur Sharma's hate speech got over, a new question of Hindu blasphemy has arisen with the graphic depiction of goddess Kali smoking a cigarette. De-contextualisation and de-realisation of religious icons are an interesting modern project, whether it be the smoking Kali of a wannabe filmmaker or the famous disrobed goddesses by MF Husain. But to be effective, it has to be a multi-religious project that acts as a confluence of rebellions; where all prophets and gods are de-contextualised in equal measure. But an Indian Prime Minister who hurriedly ushered in modernity through computerisation and telecom accessibility had slammed shut India's religious modernity project when he upturned the Shah Bano verdict and got the Satanic Verses banned.

# India needs to recalibrate strategy on China

The integration of Taiwan has always been the foremost priority for China. It is keen to integrate the island nation even by adopting the 'One nation, two systems' policy which it adopted for Macau and Hong Kong as well. China's Taiwan plan has gone awry as the US has become more openly aligned with Taiwanese interests. India seems to be drifting into the zone of active conflict between the US and China.

Even as China is going all out to pursue its expansionist agenda, including flexing economic muscles, the China-US rivalry — which got accentuated during the Trump regime — is continuing under the Biden administration. The Russia-Ukraine war, in its fifth month, has created new fault-lines. India-China relations are also undergoing severe stress. Attempts by our PM to woo President Xi Jinping by creating personal rapport, part of an armoury of diplomatic overtures which have gone well for India in its relationships with other countries, have almost failed. In this case, the outreach has boomeranged.

The conflict reached a flashpoint when Chinese soldiers ingressed all along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in eastern Ladakh in April-May 2020. The events thereafter have worsened bilateral relations, particularly the violent clash in the Galwan valley in June that year when 20 Indian soldiers, including the Commanding Officer, made the supreme sacrifice. This was followed by large-scale mobilisation by both sides, which is continuing even now. The current stand-off also gave the Indian Army its 'Kailash Range' moment when dominating positions were captured by India in a surprise move in August 2020, catching the Chinese forces off guard. This incident exposed the tenuous lines of communication of the People's Liberation Army (PLA), which they are now trying to address by constructing a bridge on the Pangong Tso. The integration of Taiwan has always been the foremost priority for China. It is keen to integrate the island nation even by adopting the 'One nation, two systems' policy which it adopted for Macau and Hong Kong as well. However, the crushing of the pro-democracy movement in Hong Kong, persecution of dissidents, passing of the national security law and other travesties against the residents of the island city have left Taiwan worried. China's Taiwan plan has gone awry as the US has become more openly aligned with Taiwanese interests, especially the pro-independence stance of the current President Tsai Ing-wen. India seems to be drifting into the zone of active conflict between the US and China.

While there are multiple issues between India and China, these could have been discussed between the two foreign ministers when Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi came to India in March this year. Neither the Chinese succeeded in their hidden agenda of declaring an international anti-West posture where India would have seemed to be aligned with Russia and China nor India made any major concessions. But the direction of future negotiations was made clear. Though there was no further progress in the easing of the LAC stand-off, China did take try to address the concerns of Indians studying in China who were not able to get a Chinese visa to resume their studies. Now when both foreign ministers have met on the sidelines of the G-20 meet in Bali earlier this week, new realities have



come to the fore for both countries. China has to cope with the adverse impact of the US and US-led groupings (Quad, AUKUS, IPEF and B3W, among others), besides an adverse perception created due to its expansionist agenda as well as debt-trapping strategy the world over. China can ill-afford to face India with large-scale mobilisation on the LAC with no world power coming to its rescue. The one new-found friend, Russia, has more problems than it can solve. To be realistic, India is also in a difficult position. Its firm stance has already done whatever good could be done. India also needs time to develop infrastructure along the borders, develop force structures, including theaterisation, and handle internal security challenges, especially in J&K. India should, therefore, also carry out a reappraisal of its stance with China to utilise the opportunities which have come to its doorstep in the form of Chinese eagerness to improve the bilateral relationship. While India has already drawn the red line in the public domain, especially on the LAC issue, it needs to re-craft its response so as to achieve maximum gains in all the interactive domains.

There are predictions of recession in the coming times and the country which is better prepared will be affected the least. Though Indian economy has a lot of resilience, it should not be tested too much. Instead, more should be added to its capacity. It will be possible only if India's defence preparedness and economic performance are geared towards handling both external and internal shocks. Both countries need to prepare themselves to create enabling conditions for the resolution of the LAC stand-off in the run-up to the G-20 summit scheduled to be held in November. China should also seize the moment as its economic and trade advantage over other countries will start diminishing with the establishment and availability of alternative supply chains, trade routes and industrial basins. A meeting between the foreign ministers of both countries, as a follow-up of the July 7 interaction in Bali, to resolve the LAC stand-off is extremely critical. Its resolution prior to the G-20 summit, when PM Modi and President Xi Jinping will come face to face, will be a welcome step and both countries need to utilise these opportunities.

## Johnson's ouster

Next incumbent must focus on UK's economic crisis

ECCENTRIC — that's the word outgoing British Prime Minister Boris Johnson has used to describe his forced departure after more than 50 ministers and aides resigned and he lost the support of the majority of the Conservative lawmakers. The same word might as well sum up his own conduct during his three-year-long tenure as PM. Mired in one scandal after another, Johnson stubbornly held his ground, defending the indefensible. It was only when his position became untenable and he was left to fend for himself that he willy-nilly stepped down, but with the caveat that he would remain the PM until his successor is chosen — an exercise that can take a few months. In his resignation speech, Johnson cited among his government's achievements the fastest Covid vaccine rollout in Europe. However, rather than leading by example, he himself broke pandemic lockdown rules by holding booze parties at his Downing Street residence and office and was fined by the



police over a gathering for the celebration of his 56th birthday. The proverbial last straw was the exit of lawmaker Chris Pincher, who quit as the Conservative

Party's deputy chief whip over accusations that he groped men in a private club in a drunken state. When it came to light that Johnson had been briefed about complaints of Pincher's sexual misconduct before the MP's appointment, the PM simply said that he had forgotten! Johnson's resignation came less than a month after a global poll voted Britain's response to Russia's invasion of Ukraine as the best among leading western countries. Addressing the Ukrainian parliament in May, he had invoked Winston Churchill's World War II declaration to motivate Kyiv to take on Moscow. However, his bravado in the international arena contrasted with his mishandling of domestic issues. His successor will be up against a slew of challenges. Britain is facing a grave economic crisis in the wake of the Covid pandemic, with the rates of inflation being the highest since the early 1980s. Millions of Britons are finding even basic essentials hard to afford. The next PM will have to prioritise setting Britain's own house in order over bolstering its global image.

## Shinzo Abe bolstered India-Japan ties

With thousands of insurgents having surrendered in the Northeast over the past decade, there is a need to accelerate the peace talks with some outfits that are overground and also those that are yet to give up their armed struggle. The state and the Centre will have to play an active role in involving ex-insurgents in the tourism sector.

The death of former Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe is an immense loss for Japan as well as India. He came from a political background, being the grandson of legendary Prime Minister Nobusuke Kishi and the son of former Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe. Shinzo Abe was in his early 50s when he first became the Prime Minister, considered to be a relatively young age for the top post in Japan. He quit within a year for health reasons, which rarely happens in Japan. And later, he came back as the PM for two terms as the leader of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), making him the longest-serving post-war Japanese PM. He won the elections in 2012, 2016 and 2020 before quitting suddenly, again on health grounds. After Abe stepped down, the stop-gap Prime Minister was Yoshihide Suga. Significantly, Abe did not push his own faction for leadership of the LDP last year, but backed Fumio Kishida, who served as foreign minister during Abe's tenure and was the leader of another party faction. Kishida became the PM as well as the LDP chief last year. This was because Kishida agreed to abide by Abenomics, Abe's outlook for Japan, which includes giving the nation greater economic heft, increasing defence spending, making Japan a part of regional alliances, not shirking military responsibility and expanding its relationship with India and Australia in particular. Abe visited India four times, the most by any Japanese PM — in 2007 during his first term and subsequently in his second term in 2014 as the chief guest at the Republic Day function, then in 2015 and 2017. He was scheduled to visit India for a summit in 2020 in Guwahati, but that could not take place. Abe's last meeting with PM Modi was on May 24 this year on the



sidelines of the Quad summit in Tokyo.

In 2007, Abe spoke in the Indian Parliament about the confluence of the two oceans, the Indian and Pacific. From his perspective, this was necessary to enlarge Japan's view because traditionally, Japan's concept of the Asia-Pacific stalled at Myanmar and India was thereafter treated separately. The confluence of the two oceans brought India into Japan's larger Asian purview. This later became the harbinger of the Indo-Pacific concept, which by 2012, merited greater attention from the East Asia Summit due to China's aggressive intent in the South and East China Seas. In 2015, Abe and Modi upgraded the relationship to a Special Strategic and

Global Partnership. In 2021, the Padma Vibhushan was conferred on Abe. The confluence of India and Japan over the Indo-Pacific led to a strengthening of the Malabar exercises, closer defence cooperation and the revitalisation of Quad.

Like India, Japan under Abe navigated the Trump years with trepidation but with success. In the Biden period, the Abe vision worked well. Quad, which Abe had been a part of in an earlier avatar, has now become a cohesive entity. Credit goes to Abe for his vision of the Indo-Pacific which brought closer functional and defence cooperation through a common strategic vision between India, Japan, Australia and the United States. Under Abe, there was a concerted attempt by Japan to enhance economic engagement with India. India became the largest recipient of Japanese ODA (official development assistance), which rose to about \$4 billion per annum. Abe sought more Japanese investment in India and prior to his aborted visit in 2020 a strategic plan for investing in India was crafted. This asked Japanese companies to aggregate their plans despite Covid-19, for the next five years, and implement them assiduously with India. Abe directed METI (Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry) to explore business opportunities in India and use government funding to build capacities in India so that such investment plans could work and achieve their strategic objectives.

Abe's terms saw Japan become India's most reliable economic partner. The Shinkansen project, visionary and high profile in its scope, became a symbol of how Japan viewed India as part of its regional partnerships.

In Abe's time, the defence papers and the nascent national security strategy started speaking about India clearly and to work with India with determination to maintain regional peace and stability. India and Japan were close partners in the East Asia Summit and in dealing with ASEAN. In fact, Japan was most vociferous in trying to retain India in the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP). And when India withdrew, Japan was most disappointed as under Abe, it wanted India in the RCEP to counterbalance China. Despite the withdrawal of India from RCEP, the Japanese view of strategically engaging India in the economic sphere led to the supply chain resilience initiative between Japan, Australia and India, on which discussions continue. India's inclusion in IPEF (Indo-Pacific Economic Framework) owes much to Abe's legacy of including India. After his retirement, Abe remained the head of a powerful Japanese faction and was campaigning in Nara for the Upper House elections due on July 10. In those elections, if the LDP and its partners secure two-thirds majority, an amendment to the Constitution, particularly Article 9, which restricts Japan's defence exposure, could be possible.

Article 9 states that "the Japanese people forever renounce war as a sovereign right of the nation and the threat or use of force as means of settling international disputes." It adds that the "right of belligerency of the State will not be recognised." Abe was a true Japanese politician in the manner he lived and worked. His demise is shocking because political assassinations in Japan are rare. He recently agreed to be the chairman of the India-Japan Association, showing his love and respect for India. India will miss Abe sorely because even out of power, he was a dependable friend and supporter of the country in Japan and across the region.

## World Population Day is celebrated

Awareness chariot came out



Susil Ku. Aich  
Angul, July 12: In Angul district July 11 is celebrated as World Population Day through various awareness programs. Awareness-raising campaigns are being held on the 11th to the 26th of this month to bring stability to the global population. From the middle of the twentieth century onwards, the world's population grew dramatically. The world's population has tripled between 1950 and 2020. The world population has grown 7 billion in 2011, and this year it has reached 8 billion. An awareness chariot was unveiled today at the Angul District General

Hospital to mark the World Population Day celebrations.

The chariot was driven by the District Chief Medical and Public Health Officer, Dr. Trilochan Pradhan. With the launch of various methods of family planning will be available from the District General Hospital to the Sub-Health Center, Primary Health Center, Group Health Center and Sub-Divisional Health Centers. All the paramedics, Asha and health workers, including Additional District Public Health Officer Dr. Dilip Patnaik, were present at the inauguration ceremony.

## One Killed, 8 Hurt In Truck-Bus Collision On NH-16

Khurda, July 12 (TNB): One person was killed while eight others sustained injuries as the bus they were travelling in collided head-on with a truck on NH 16 near Gadakhordha under Khurda Town police limits. According to reports, the bus carrying around 40 passengers was heading towards Buguda in Ganjam district from Bhubaneswar. Meanwhile, the bus collided head-on with a truck.

On being informed, Police along with Fire Service personnel rushed to the spot and rescued the injured.

## KHURDA ROAD DIVISION SUCCESSFULLY CONDUCTED RATHYATRA ARRANGEMENTS FOR PASSENGERS AT PURI RAILWAY STATION

Bhubaneswar, July 12 (TNB): Every year Khurda Road division of East Coast Railway has always been at the forefront in making arrangements for the huge inflow of devotees to Puri, during the Rath yatra period. This year Khurda Road division has successfully rendered service to the Lakhs of passengers at Puri Railway station during Rathyatra with provision of enhanced infrastructure and facilities. This year the Puri Railway station has dealt with 3, 64,581 (Three Lakh sixty four thousand five hundred eighty one) passengers during Rathyatra i.e from 1st July 2022 to 11th July 2022. For smooth travel



and convenience of the pilgrims, a total of 231 additional Special trains were run during this period.

Special emphasis has been given on providing additional infrastructure like Geman Hanger, additional train services, additional booking counters, transportation facilities, cleanliness, Catering & drinking water

## Sundargarh District Collector Visits Lahunipara Block, Inspects Public Welfare Projects

Sundargarh/Bonai, July 12 (TNB): Sundargarh District Collector Dr. Parag H. Gavali took stock of the progress of various public welfare projects in Lahunipara block during a field visit on Monday. He held interaction with the beneficiaries and the concerned departmental officials about the performance of these projects. Dr Gavali visited the water treatment plant at Lalei in Lahunipara block from where drinking water is being supplied to the residents of Lahunipara, Gurundia and Koira blocks under the Mega Piped Water Project. The

Collector witnessed the entire filtration process of the river water before it is supplied to the households.

The Collector visited the Paudi Bhuyan PVTG (Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group) area in the block and saw the infrastructural work of a Govt Primary School at Ranja village. He spoke to the students and teachers in order to get first hand information about the status of studies at the institution. Dr. Gavali also visited the Information Centre, which has been constructed with aid from the Paudi Bhuyan Development Agency (PBDA), various roads and culverts



built for the convenience of the general public. He held interaction with the residents to know about the issues and problems felt by them.

He then visited the railway siding at the Barsuan mining area and inquired with the mining and construction workers about the use of 'Safety Kits'

which have been provided to them by the District Administration. He also sought their opinion about the additional measures that can be taken for the safety of the workers. During the tour of the block, Dr. Gavali saw the infrastructure at the Lahunipara Community Health Centre (CHC). He

visited the separate wards meant for male and female patients and inspected the arrangements for medical waste management. He also took stock of the advanced facilities available at the Integrated Physiotherapy Centre at the CHC. He issued the necessary directions to refer patients in need of robotics physiotherapy or artificial limb transplantation to the Advanced Rehabilitation Centre (ARC), Sundargarh.

To ensure safe motherhood, a number of Maa Gruha have been built in the hard-to-reach areas of the district. The Collector visited the Maa Gruha (Maternity Waiting Home) at

Poigaon and inquired about the various facilities available for the inmates during pregnancy and post-delivery. The Collector visited the smart classroom, advanced science lab, library and computer lab at the Khuntgaon government high school which has been transformed under the state Govt's 5T initiative. He interacted with the students and the teachers about the benefits of the advanced infrastructure in shaping the future of the students. ZP CDO&EO Bhairab Singh Patel, Dy Chairman ZP Kamal Lakra, Sub Collector Bonai Suranjan Sahoo, Project Administrator (PA) ITDA Lalat Kumar Luha, BDO Lahunipara Dhanai Charan Tudu, senior DMF and OMBADA officials accompanied the Collector during the visit.

## Odisha's Emerging Startups came together at FUTURECORN MEET - A one-of-a-kind session to build a robust Startup Ecosystem

Bhubaneswar, July 12 (TNB): Startup Odisha, initiative of MSME Department, Govt of Odisha, organised Odisha Futurecorn Meet - Startups' Meet which brought the emerging startup under one platform to discuss ideas and create an inclusive & robust Startup Ecosystem. The event was chaired by Dr. Omkar Rai, Executive Chairman of Startup Odisha and MdSadique Alam, IAS, CEO of Startup Odisha. The dignitaries shared their vision to help the



startups to become the Futurecorn of Odisha and also shared some insights about the various steps taken by Government of Odisha to foster the Startup Ecosystem.

This interactive session focused on feedbacks received from the startups to make the Startup Ecosystem more conducive. The insights were taken by Startup Odisha to make

them more empowered and ensure that they become the next Futurecorns in coming years. Startups sought help primarily in Funding, Land Acquisition, Government Connect Programs, and Laboratories & Equipment Setup. The event was attended by 48 Startups and 6 incubators. "Startup Odisha shall be taking all necessary measures to make Odisha as the next Startup Hub," says Executive Chairman Dr. Omkar Rai. Dr Rai addressed the

Startups about various new initiatives being taken by the Startup Odisha and how Government of Odisha has been nurturing the innovations at all levels. Recently, Odisha was awarded one of the Top Performers at States' Startup Ranking 2021. With a driven agenda of becoming the Best Startup Hub in the nation by 2025, Startup Odisha has been working diligently to nurture the Startup Ecosystem in terms of funds, incentives, mentoring, marketing and outreach.

## Lost

I Batakrushna Sahoo, S/O Late Bansidhar Sahoo At B h i m p u r Sahi, Gopalpur, P.S.-Cuttack Sadar Dist-Cuttack. I have lost my Previous ROR Khata No-299/75 Plot No-256 & 435 Dt.26.03.2014 of my plot done under Sub-Registrar, Jajpur of my Mouza-Kaimatia in between Balikuda Chhak and Gopalpur on dt 04.07.2022 at about 6.00PM. F.I.R has been filed in Cuttack Sadar Police Station. It is requested that if any kind hearted person finds it kindly inform on Mobile No-9658892162

## AFFIDAVIT

By Virtue of an affidavit before Notary Public, Bhubaneswar on dated 11.07.2022, I PRAGNYA PARAMITA PANDA 45 years, wife of Gouri Shankar Dash, Resident of At-Plot No.4774/4973, Chakesihani, Po-Rasulgarh, P.S.-M a n a c h e s w a r, Bhubaneswar, Dist-Khordha, Odisha-751010, hereby declare state that, in my Aadhar Card No. 9571 7182 1810, PAN card No.-AXZPO9413C and in my name is PRAGNYA DASH instead of my actual name PRAGNYA PARAMITA PANDA. That PRAGNYA PARAMITA PANDA and PRAGNYA DASH both are the same and one person. That, the fact stated above are true to the best of my knowledge and believe.

## AZADI KA AMRIT MAHOTSAV: FLAGGING OFF OF MOTORCYCLE RALLY & LED MOUNTED DISPLAY VAN BY DRM

Sambalpur, July 12 (TNB): Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav signifying the 75 Years of Independence is being celebrated all over the country and RPF is at the forefront of these celebrations. The activities such as Run for Unity, Tree Plantation, Cleanliness drive, Jal Seva, Motorcycle rally, Truck Procession with LED display portraying the achievements of RPF etc. have been organised by Railway Protection Force (RPF) Sambalpur Division w.e.f. 01.07.2022.

As a part of the celebration, on 10.07.2022 Shri Pradeep Kumar, Divisional Railway Manager, Sambalpur division flagged off the Motorcycle Rally and LED mounted display van from in front of DRM office complex, Sambalpur. Shri Anand Singh, ADRM, Sambalpur along with other Branch Officers including DSC/Sambalpur and other RPF officers and staff witnessed the auspicious event. The RPSF band, New Delhi display in ceremonial finery has enhanced the radiance of the occasion.

wide walls, Food Court with branded Kiosks etc provided at Puri Railway station. A total resting area of 15000 Sq.mts was provided at the concourse area of Puri Railway station for the convenience of devotees.

For the first time, Khurda Road division has arranged free food to the devotees at Puri Railway station in co-ordination with NALCO, MCL and Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL). More than one Lakh devotees were provided with free food on the days of Gundicha Yatra, Bahuda Yatra, Suna Vesha, Adharpana etc. Like every year, a team of Mechanical department of Khurda Road division, has rendered support and

service in repairing of wheels and positioning, rotating, shifting, changing direction of three chariots on grand road, Puri, with the help of Jacks and other machineries. The team accompanied the chariots, during the entire period of Rathyatra, to attend any kind of untoward incidents.

Shri Rinkesh Roy, the Divisional Railway Manager, Khurda Road, congratulated all the officers and staff, who have rendered services to the pilgrims at Puri Railway station during Rathyatra. He said that the division is always at the fore front in taking utmost care of passengers and to provide every modern facility in trains and stations.

## Guru has great importance in our life

Akshya Rout  
JAJPUR, July 12 : Guru Purnima is a famous Indian festival. Hindus and Buddhists celebrate it with full joy and cheer. According to the Hindu, calendar it is celebrated on the full moon of Ashadha month. Guru Purnima is a festival of reverence and dedication to the Guru. This festival is a festival of salute and respect to the Guru. It is believed that by worshipping the Guru on this day, his disciples receive the full fruits of the Guru's initiation. Writer Engineer Taraprasad Mishra Said Guru has great importance in our life. 'Gu' means darkness (ignorance), and 'Ru'

means light (knowledge). The Guru leads us from the darkness of ignorance to the light of knowledge. Future life is created by the Guru only. Gurus are respected on the occasion of Guru Purnima.

On this occasion, special prayers are organized in ashrams. Honored people include people from the fields of literature, music, theater, painting, etc. Katha, Kirtan, and Bhandara are organized at many places. On this day, there is also a provision to do charity in the name of Guru. No one can be imagined to be great without a Guru. Guru has a special place from Gurukul to modern schools. Even to-

day, Gurujii is addressed to the teacher in the villages. Time has also come when sarpanches go for the Guru's consent by not taking panch in the decision of towns. Today, in every field, there is a guru, spiritual, education, sports, literature, etc. The great men have said that if you want to achieve success, then firstly, you should find a good guru. It is difficult to achieve success without education which is waste.

Many lines, including "Guru Brahma, Guru Vishnu, Guru Devo," are enough to describe the glory of the Guru, but the reality is that Guru's glory and grace are

infinite. Mishra Said Many forms of a Guru loves his disciples. A father, sometimes a brother, a friend, becomes a guide of disciples. There is no limit for the Guru.

It is the biggest dream of a Guru to see his disciple high. When the disciple fails, the Guru encourages him not to be disappointed and to stand up. However, if we see today's world, corruption, crime, and exploitation show us the sad truth that there are no good gurus but only hypocrites. Gurus are respected on the occasion of Guru Purnima. On this occasion, special prayers are organized in ashrams. Honored people include people

from the fields of literature, music, theater, painting, etc. Katha, Kirtan, and Bhandara are organized at many places. On this day, there is also a provision to do charity in the name of Guru. No matter what the era is, respect for the Guru is always building. Saint Kabirdas has also described his glory as a great one from Govinda. In every age, the Guru has always been revered and will remain. The tradition of centuries-old Guru Poojan is still alive. Guru Puja has special significance on the day of Guru Purnima. There is no lack of respect for Guru among the disciples.

## SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE

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Whereas The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of ICICI Bank Limited under the Securitisation, Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) rules 2002, issued demand notices upon the borrowers mentioned below, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

As the borrower failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken Symbolic possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/ her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the below-mentioned dates. The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of ICICI Bank Limited.

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Loan Account Number	Description of Property/ Date of Symbolic Possession	Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand Notice (Rs.)	Name of Branch
1.	Snehatala Das/ Mousumi Rout/ W/o- Bidhuprakash Rout Ward No-28 Near Hudco Colony Baripada Town Mayurbhanj, Baripada-757001, Odisha Orissa Mayurbhanj-757034/ LBBPD00004862799/ LBBPD00004861984	Plot No- 1210/5827 Khata No-255/3275 Mouza- Raghunathpur District- Mayurbhanj S.R.O.- Baripada, P.S.- Baripada P.S. No. 116 Orissa Mayurbhanj Admeasuring sn srea of Ac 0.050 Decimal/ Date of Symbolic 08.07. 2022	22-02-2022 Rs. 48,66,119/-	Mayurbhanj
2.	CH Jincy Patra/ Sisira Kumar Patro/ C/o- Lochapada G. Jagannathpur Brahmapur Sadar Orissa Berhampur- 760010/ LBBBS00005140907	Khata No. 611/2735, Plot No. 457/1952/4234 Corresponding Toga Plot No 115, Drawing No. B-150 Correction Khata No- 611/2171 Mouza- Bhubaneswar Sahar Unit No. 41 Chandrasekharpur District-khorda, Tahasil- Bhubaneswar P.S. New Capital No. 23 Orissa Bhubaneswar (admeasuring sn srea of Area Sold Ac 0.062 Decimals, Along With G+2 Storied Residential Building Measuring 4668 Sq.ft./ (G.F- 1518 Sq.ft., 1st Floor- 1575 Sq.ft., 2nd Floor- 1575 Sq.ft.) Date of Symbolic 08.07.2022	March 14, 2022 Rs. 2,22,25,328/-	Berhampur
3.	Murali Dhar Sethi/ Rangabati Sethi/ Plot No- 466/1712 Nuasahi Nayapalli Orissa Bhubaneswar-751012/ LBBBS00000995837/ LBBBS00001404512/ LBBBS00001302828	Plot No- 129, Khata No.145 Mouza- Bhubaneswar Sahar Unit No.- 19 Paikanagar Bhubaneswar Orissa Bhubaneswar (Admeasuring an area of Ac 0.072 Dec/ Date of Symbolic 08.07.2022	March 14, 2022 Rs. 12,44,986/-	Bhubaneswar
4.	M/s Spark Furnitures Pvt Ltd/ Hemanta Kumar Behera/ Sadananda Behera/plot No 492 Service Road South Dumduma N H 5 Bhubaneswar Orissa Bhubaneswar- 751019/ LBBBS00005127469	Plot No 492, Khata No. 432/913 Chaka No. 67 Mouza- Dumduma District- Khurda Tahasil and P.S.-Bhubaneswar, P.S. No. 4 S.R.O. Khandagiri Orissa Bhubaneswar (Admeasuring an area of Ac 0.205 Dec i.e. 8929.8 Sq.ft./ Date of Symbolic 08.07.2022	March 14, 2022 Rs. 72,40,243/-	Bhubaneswar

The above-mentioned borrowers(s)/ guarantors(s) are hereby given a 30 day notice to repay the amount, else the mortgaged properties will be sold on the expiry of 30 days from the date of publication of this Notice, as per the provisions under the Rules 8 and 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002.

Date : July 13, 2022  
Place : Odisha (Mayurbhanj, Brahmapur, Bhubaneswar)  
Authorized Officer  
ICICI Bank Limited

## NEWS BOX

## Bitcoin price dips below \$21,000 | Check latest cryptocurrency rates

**New Delhi:** Bitcoin on Monday fell nearly 4 per cent as the price was hovering around \$20,500-mark. The cryptocurrency market weakened as investors were looking for the US consumer price index reading which will be out this week. The world's largest cryptocurrency, Bitcoin, was down by 3.83 per cent to \$20,553. Ethereum, the world's second largest cryptocurrency, fell by 3.68 per cent to \$1,150.09. "Most cryptocurrencies dipped over the weekend with increasing selling pressure. Bitcoin has been down by nearly 4 per cent since the last day. If bulls can keep the bar above the US\$21,000 level, we might see sharp upward moves," Edul Patel, Co-Founder & CEO, Mudrex said.

"While on the other hand, as the price of Ethereum also falls, the revenue of projects based on the network is also plunging drastically. Ethereum has lost nearly 5 per cent, and it is about to test its support level at US\$1,200. If buyers lose control to sellers, we might see Ethereum falling to the US\$1,000 zone," Patel said. XRP price fell 5.49 per cent, Solana price was down by 5.33 per cent, Cardano fell by 4.12 per cent, Stellar fell 6.24 per cent. Popular cryptocurrencies, Dogecoin, was down by 4.14 per cent, Polkadot fell by 4.29 per cent, Avalanche was down by 6 per cent, Shiba Inu fell by 2.83 per cent.

## TCS share price hits three-week low | Here's why



**New Delhi:** Tata Consultancy Services Ltd (TCS) share price on Monday dropped more than four per cent to hit a three-week low. The shares dropped after the IT major missed estimates for quarterly profit on rising employee-related expenses, according to a Reuters report. On the BSE, TCS share price was down by 4.44 per cent or 144.90 points to Rs 3119.95. On the NSE, TCS share price fell 4.40 per cent or 143.65 points to Rs 3,121.80. Analysts flagged signs of a slowdown in demand after the IT services exporter on Friday said first-quarter profit came in at 94.78 billion rupees (\$1.19 billion), well below estimates of 98.51 billion rupees, according to Refinitiv data.

"Although management expects tech spends to be resilient, we see clear signs of moderation in demand," ICICI Securities said in a note, citing slowing hiring, muted deal growth and weak momentum in Europe, Reuters reported.

Operating margin for the quarter fell to 23.1 per cent from 25.5 per cent a year earlier, the Reuters report said. TCS shares, which are down 12.7 per cent up to Friday's close this year, are also set for their biggest intraday percentage fall in four weeks, as per the Reuters report.

## Uber lobbied, used stealth tech to block scrutiny, evade regulators: Report

**New Delhi:** Uber aggressively pushed into markets around the world, the ride-sharing service lobbied political leaders to relax labour and taxi laws, used a kill switch to thwart regulators and law enforcement, channeled money through Bermuda and other tax havens and considered portraying violence against its drivers as a way to gain public sympathy, according to a report released Sunday.

The International Consortium of Investigative Journalists, a nonprofit network of investigative reporters, scoured internal Uber texts, emails, invoices and other documents to deliver what it called an unprecedented look into the ways Uber defied tax laws and upended workers' rights.

The documents were first leaked to the British newspaper The Guardian, which shared them with the consortium. In a written statement, Uber spokesperson Jill Hazelbaker acknowledged mistakes "in the past and said CEO Dara Khosrowshahi, hired in 2017, had been tasked with transforming every aspect of how Uber operates... When we say Uber is a different company today, we mean it literally: 90% of current Uber employees joined after Dara became CEO."

Founded in 2009, Uber sought to skirt taxi regulations and offer inexpensive transportation via a ride-sharing app. The consortium's Uber Files revealed the extraordinary lengths that the company undertook to establish itself in nearly 30 countries. The company's lobbyists including former aides to President Barack Obama pressed government officials to drop their investigations, rewrite labor and taxi laws and relax background checks on drivers, the papers show. The investigation found that Uber used stealth technology to fend off government investigations. The company, for example, used a kill switch that cut access to Uber servers and blocked authorities from grabbing evidence during raids in at least six countries. During a police raid in Amsterdam, the Uber Files reported, former Uber CEO Travis Kalanick personally issued an order: Please hit the kill switch ASAP... Access must be shut down in AMS (Amsterdam).

The consortium also reported that Kalanick saw the threat of violence against Uber drivers in France by aggrieved taxi drivers as a way to gain public support. Violence guarantee(s) success," Kalanick texted colleagues. In a response to the consortium, Kalanick spokesman Devon Spurgeon said the former CEO never suggested that Uber should take advantage of violence at the expense of driver safety. "The Uber Files say the company cut its tax bill by millions of dollars by sending profits through Bermuda and other tax havens, then sought to deflect attention from its tax liabilities by helping authorities collect taxes from its drivers.

## Swiggy finds 'mystery horse rider' from viral video, says he is not a delivery boy

► **Swiggy previously offered a reward of Rs 5000 to anyone who assists them in locating the "Swiggyman on horse."**

► **Avi, the man in the popular video featuring the man and the horse, shot it.**

► **Swiggy describes the man as a "17-year-old" who "borrows things and forgets to return them."**

**New Delhi:** Swiggy has finally caught the man who was spotted riding a horse while carrying a Swiggy bag on a rainy day in Mumbai. Swiggy had launched a social media campaign to discover the man who

had devised a novel method of delivering food during severe rains. However, it turns out that the man is a 17-year-old horse couturier, not a delivery executive. Avi, the man in the popular video featuring the man and the horse, shot it.

Swiggy previously offered a reward of Rs 5000 to anyone who assists them in locating the "Swiggyman on horse." The man and the animal have now been found, and Swiggy has been informed about the mystery man by the folks who took the video. Swiggy describes the man as a "17-year-old" who "borrows things and forgets to return them." Swiggy claims the man took the delivery bag and refused to return it. Sushant, a 17-year-old who has become highly popular on social media, works as a couturier at a stable in Mumbai, where he



dresses horses for wedding processions. The Swiggy bag seen in the video was made up of embroidered drape, which is used to prepare horses for bridal processions. Swiggy mentioned on Twitter that the stable where he works is fairly close to where the video was recorded. They were on their way back

from a wedding. Read More: PM-KISAN: THESE farming families are not eligible for getting Rs 6,000 yearly benefit?

Avi, a young man, recorded the video of the "Swiggyman on horse" while waiting for the signal to turn green. Avi has now received the 5000 Swiggy Money prize.

"Avi and his pal claimed the 5000 Swiggy Money bonus." Sushant, whose shattered phone confirmed his status as a naive celebrity, received a smartphone. Now all he has to do is set up his account and wait for the blue tick. That concludes our contribution. Please do not respond if you have any further questions. While Sushant and Shiva are pleased with our attention and have graciously posed for a portrait, they have asked that we leave them alone in the future. And that is exactly what we want to do," Swiggy posted.

## Cooking oil prices to go down by Rs 15? All you need to know

**New Delhi:** The centre has asked trade bodies to reduce edible oil prices by Rs 15 per litre immediately because prices in the world market have fallen sharply, the government said in a statement, as per a Reuters report.

The government directed trade bodies to quickly pass on the reduction in global prices to end-consumers, the Reuters report said. India is the world's biggest importer of vegetable oils.

India buys palm oil mainly from Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand, while soy oil is mainly sourced from Argentina, Brazil and the United States. India imports sunflower oil from Ukraine and Russia.

Last week, the food ministry called a meeting of cooking oil industry bodies and manufacturers to deliberate on reduction in the retail prices of cooking oils as there has been a fall in global prices. Solvent Extractors' Association of India's (SEA) Executive Director B V Mehta said the global prices have



fallen by \$300-\$450 per tonnes of different edible oils in the last one month, but it takes time to reflect in the retail markets. He said retail prices were expected to come down in the coming days, according to a PTI

report. Meanwhile, India's palm oil imports in July are set to jump to the highest in 10 months because of a hefty correction in prices and as Indonesia allows more exports of the tropical oil, four dealers told Reuters.

## India projected to surpass China's population in 2023, says UN report

**New Delhi:** India is projected to surpass China as the most populous nation globally by 2023, the United Nations (UN) said in a report released on World Population Day. The UN added that the world population is projected to reach eight billion by November 15, 2022.

The global population could grow by around 8.5 billion by 2030, 9.7 billion by 2050 and 10.4 billion by 2100, the latest UN projections stated, adding that the world's population is growing at its slowest pace since 1950.

In 2022, the world's two most populous regions were in Asia with 29 per cent of the global population (2.3 billion people) in Eastern and South-Eastern Asia (2.1 billion) and 26 per cent in Central and Southern Asia. China and India, with over 1.4 billion each, were the most populous in these two regions, the UN report said.

The UN stated that over half of the projected increase in global population by 2050 will be concentrated in eight



nations, namely the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Ethiopia, India, Nigeria, Pakistan, the Philippines and Tanzania.

The population growth of Australia and New Zealand, Northern Africa and Western Asia, and Oceania through the end of the century are expected to experience slower but still positive, the UN said. The report added, that populations of Eastern and South Eastern Asia, Central and Southern Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, and Europe and Northern

America will reach their peak size and then will start to decline before 2100.

The United Nations, detailing the effect of the Covid-19 pandemic on population and other factors, said that the global life expectancy at birth in 2021 fell to 71.0 years, down from 72.8 in 2019. In Central and Southern Asia and in Latin America and the Caribbean, life expectancy at birth fell by almost three years between 2019 and 2021, while the combined population of Australia and New Zealand gained 1.2 years due to mortality rates during the pandemic, the report stated. High-income nations saw a population growth of 80.5 million due to international migration between 2000 and 2020. This exceeded the balance of births over deaths at 66.2 million. A total of 40 nations or areas saw a net inflow of 200,000 migrants each between 2010 and 2021.

## PM-KISAN: THESE farming families are not eligible for getting Rs 6,000 yearly benefit?

► **The instalments under PM Kisan Samman Nidhi Scheme gets delivered in the bank account of farmers which is linked with their Aadhaar card.**

**New Delhi:** Last month, i.e May 31, Prime Minister Narendra Modi released 11th instalment of financial benefit under Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) scheme. PM Modi had transferred an amount of around Rs 21,000 crore to more than 10 crore beneficiary farmer families. Each beneficiaries of PM-KISAN across the country is eligible to get Rs 2000 in his/her bank account.

The instalments under PM Kisan Samman Nidhi Scheme gets delivered in the bank account of farmers which is linked with their Aadhaar card. Under PM Kisan



Samman Nidhi, every year, annual cash transfer of Rs 6000 is disbursed to the farmers in three instalments. The first instalment is between April-July; second instalment is between August-November and the third instalment is between

December-March. PM-KISAN Scheme for only Small and Marginal Farmers' families? In the beginning when the PM-KISAN Scheme was launched (February, 2019), its benefits were admissible only to Small & marginal Farmers' families,

with combined landholding upto 2 hectare. The Scheme was later on revised in June 2019 and extended to all farmer families irrespective of the size of their landholdings. The Central Government had notified a decision to extend the benefit of Rs 6,000 per year under the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi scheme to all 14.5 crore farmers in the country, irrespective of the size of their landholding.

Which Farming families are excluded from the PM-KISAN Scheme?

Those excluded from the PM-KISAN include institutional land holders, farmer families holding constitutional posts, serving or retired officers and employees of State or Central government as well as Public Sector Undertakings and Government Autonomous bodies.

Professionals like doctors, engineers and lawyers as well as retired pensioners with a monthly pension of over Rs 10,000 and those who paid income tax in the last assessment year are also not eligible for the benefits.



because he has nine children with three different partners. Meanwhile, Musk is making news for withdrawing from the \$44 billion Twitter takeover. He asserted that he wants to change the microblogging platform in order to protect free speech. However, he recently reversed his position and said that Twitter was not providing accurate information on false and spam accounts on the platform. In response, Twitter stated that it intends to sue Musk for withdrawing from the \$44 billion transaction.



NEWS BOX

**Don't drop it: Novak Djokovic cautions Prince George of Cambridge to hold Wimbledon trophy carefully**

**New Delhi** Novak Djokovic won his fourth consecutive title at Wimbledon and moved one ahead of Roger Federer in the number of Grand Slam trophies. The Serbian was congratulated by a number of people, but the one who instantly went viral was the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge's eldest son, Prince George of Cambridge, who is third in the line of succession to the British throne, made his Wimbledon debut during the men's singles final between Novak Djokovic and Nick Kyrgios on centre court.

The Prince along with his parents personally congratulated Djokovic on his seventh title at the Championships. A member of the British royal family, George's first-ever visit turned into a memorable one when Djokovic gave him his trophy to hold but also cautioned him to not drop it. The victory at Wimbledon was Djokovic's first win this season as he was deported from Australia and crashed out in the quarter-finals at the French Open earlier this year.

**Wimbledon 2022: Had I won final I would have achieved greatest pinnacle in tennis, says runner-up Nick Kyrgios**

**New Delhi** Australia's Nick Kyrgios admitted had he won the final against Novak Djokovic of Serbia at Wimbledon, he would have achieved the greatest pinnacle in tennis.

Playing in his first-ever Slam finals, Kyrgios gave his all in the four-set marathon but fell short to Djokovic, who was playing in his eighth final at the grasscourt major, in the decider 6-4, 3-6, 4-6, 6(3)-7(7) on centre court on Sunday (July 10).

The Australian took an early advantage, winning the first set, but then lost his momentum. Kyrgios went all firing in the fourth set but fell short in front of Djokovic's dominance and experience. With the win, the Serb clinched his fourth consecutive title at the Championships. Djokovic now has 21 Slam trophies, one more than Roger Federer (20) but one less than Rafael Nadal (22). In spite of being at the losing end, Kyrgios sounded upbeat about his future in the sport. "It's taken me almost 10 years in my career to finally get to the point of playing for a Grand Slam (final) and coming up short," he said in the press conference. "I played a slam final against one of the greatest of all time, and I was right there. I came out in the first set and I looked like I was the one who had played in a lot of finals. I thought I dealt with the pressure pretty well." Kyrgios had received a walkover to the final after Rafael Nadal pulled out of the tournament due to an abdominal tear on the eve of their semi-final clash. "The anxiety of obviously having that day off from the semi-final, I slept terribly again last night," he said. "I was just thinking about it all the time. I thought I handled myself well today. I just came up short and I'm happy with that. So I've got that under my belt now, a Wimbledon finalist. I can kind of draw from experience." "I felt like I belonged. I feel like my level has always been there. I feel like I've put it together a little bit these couple of weeks."

**England vs India: Graeme Swann impressed by Virat Kohli in 3rd T20I - Loved the way he came out**

**New Delhi** Former off-spinner Graeme Swann was pretty impressed with Virat Kohli's approach in England's third and final T20I against India on July 10 at Trent Bridge in Nottingham. On Sunday, the Delhi-born Kohli came out firing on all cylinders and hit David Willey for a four followed by a six.

To his dismay, he got out in the very next ball while trying to smash Willey through the extra cover region. Jason Roy took a simple catch to help the Three Lions see the back of Kohli. Swann said that on some other day, the same shot would have earned Kohli a boundary. "I loved the way Virat Kohli came out, desperate to take the attack to the England bowlers. He hit a four and a six and on another day the ball he got out to would have flown to the boundary. He is just in horror form where he can't catch a break," Swann was quoted as saying after the match.

Swann also didn't come down hard on the Indian top order for playing rash shots. At the end of five overs, India found themselves three down for 31 while chasing 216. Rohit Sharma, Rishabh Pant and Kohli perished without disturbing the scorers much. Let's face it, in isolation, these are terrible dismissals. But I don't think you can have a go at the Indian top order for trying to take advantage of the powerplay when you are chasing more than 210. Had they been 30 for none or 40 for one in six overs, they would have lost the game. They would have ended up very short," he added. However, Suryakumar Yadav scored a 48-ball century to keep the Men in Blue alive in the match. In the end, India lost the game by 17 runs, but won the series 2-1.



**Journey to become consistent takes at least a decade: Viren Rasquinha on India women's hockey team's WC exit**

- ← **India lost their must-win match to Spain 0-1**
- ← **India failed to reach the World Cup quarters**
- ← **Rasquinha pens things to improve for women's team**

**New Delhi** Former India men's team captain Viren Rasquinha on Monday expressed his disappointment after the national women's hockey team failed to reach the quarter-finals at the World Cup 2022. India women's team suffered a heart-break as they lost to Spain 0-1 in their must-win crossover match on Sunday. A disappointed Rasquinha came out in support of the women's side and went on to do an analysis of the team.

The CEO of the Olympic Gold Quest, Rasquinha, shared the positives and the things that the women's team has to



improve on. "Really disappointing to lose 0-1 to Spain and miss out on the QF of #HWC2022. The womens hockey team needs our support now. The journey to become a consistent world top 4 team takes at least a decade. Look at Belgium or the Indian men. My advice - just stay mentally strong 1/6," Rasquinha tweeted.

"Tried to calmly analyse the overall performance and see the positives and things to improve so here goes. Positives: 1. Great overall fitness & work rate; 2. Decent structure in defence; 3. Excellent individual skills; 4. World class Keeper; 5. Can maintain High tempo throughout 2/6. Things to improve on: 1. Hockey is all

about scoring goals. If you don't score, too hard to survive 60 mins; 2. PCs - much more sharpness between pusher, stopper & flicker. Gives Gurjit a split second more > higher probability of scoring 3/6. Things to improve contd. 3. If direct PCs conversion rate improves, then gives a better chance of scoring through indirect variations as defence always mentally focuses on saving the direct flick first; 4. Need more bench strength to challenge the top 15-16 women 4/6. Things to improve on contd. 5. For me always the most important point - Learning to release the ball & choose the right option at the right time. All the skills in the world in hockey don't matter if you can't pick out the right pass when it really matters 5/6. Just a thought: Given that we have struggled to score in this World Cup, it could be a good idea to get Dhanraj Pillay in to take a 2-3 day coaching workshop just for our forwards. One of the main reasons why he was so good was just his composure and cleverness in the 'D' 6/6," Rasquinha concluded.

**England vs India | Proud of the way each one of us fought for this T20I series win: Dinesh Karthik**

**India won the three-match T20I series against England by 2-1. Suryakumar Yadav registered a century in the 3rd match but it went in vain as England grabbed a consolation win by 17 runs.**

**New Delhi** India wicketkeeper-batter Dinesh Karthik hailed the Men in Blue's clash against England in the T20Is and said that he is proud of the way Indians fought for the series victory.

The Rohit Sharma-led India won the three-match series by 2-1 against Jos Buttler's England. "2 excellent wins &



a superb fight today. Proud of the way each one of us fought for this series win," Karthik tweeted. Suryakumar Yadav registered a century but it went in vain as England avoided a clean sweep in the third and final T20I match at Trent Bridge in Nottingham. India made a number of changes for the third match, having already secured the series. Shreyas Iyer, Avesh Khan, Umran Malik and Ravi Bishnoi replaced Hardik Pandya, Bhuvneshwar Kumar, Jasprit Bumrah

and Yuzvendra Chahal. The move backfired as England hammered the modified Indian bowling attack. Umran conceded 56 runs in his four overs, while Ravindra Jadeja and Avesh Khan leaked 45 and 43 runs. England posted 215 for the loss of seven, thanks to quickfire knocks from Dawid Malan (77 off 39) and Liam Livingstone (42\* off 29). In reply, India's top-order once again collapsed with Rohit Sharma, Rishabh Pant and Virat Kohli returning to dugout inside powerplay overs. It was then Suryakumar who took the onus before Moeen Ali removed him in the penultimate over. Suryakumar's 55-ball 117 was studded with six sixes and 14 boundaries. However, all his hard work went in vain as India fell short by 17 runs. In the first two matches, it was the bowlers, including Bhuvneshwar, who helped India secure the series.

**SL vs AUS | Pathum Nissanka gets subbed off due to Covid-19 midway through the 2nd Test match**



**Colombo** Sri Lanka opener Pathum Nissanka has tested positive for Covid-19 midway through the game. This comes as a big jolt to Sri Lanka's hopes of winning the second Test match after getting in a commanding position at the end of the moving day (Day 3) with a 67-run lead having four wickets in hand. Nissanka was subjected to a rapid-antigen test after complaining about

not feeling well on Sunday, and he was pulled away from the game after testing positive for the infection. Oshada Fernando, who replaced Angelo Mathews in the first Test match, will play in this Test match as well. Fernando is the first ever player to be drafted as a Covid-19 substitute in back to back matches. Sri Lanka Cricket association broke the news over their social media handle, stating

that the player was found unwell on Sunday morning. "Pathum Nissanka has tested positive for Covid-19. He was found to be positive during an Antigen test conducted on the player yesterday morning, following the player complaining of feeling unwell," the statement said. Sri Lanka were put in a commanding position by Dinesh Chandimal's century on Day 3 as they looked to pull away from the game. Thoroughly dominating the third day, Sri Lanka built a lead of 67 runs, with four wickets still to go.

Sri Lanka cricket team have been going through a Covid-19 crisis of late. Three of their spinner who played in the first Test match, Jeffrey Vandersay, Dhananjaya de Silva and Asitha Fernando, were ruled out from the second Test match, including Praveen Jayawickrama who had been in line for a recall. Sri Lanka had to bring in the services of white-ball specialist Maheesh Theekshana, who had earlier troubled Australia in the ODI series. Australia and Sri Lanka teams are staying at the same hotel, but the visiting team is yet to announce a Covid-19 infection.

**Novak Djokovic on US Open participation: I'm not planning to get vaccinated but I would really love to go there**

The 21-time Grand Slam champion Novak Djokovic has confirmed that he is "not planning to get vaccinated" against Covid-19 but expressed his desire to compete at the US Open later this year.

The US Open will take place from August 29 to September 11. However, Djokovic's chances of participating in the hard-court major tournament are very bleak as he cannot enter the US without being vaccinated. "I'm not vaccinated and I'm not planning to get vaccinated so the only good news I can have is them removing the mandated green vaccine card or whatever you call it to enter United States or exemption," Djokovic said.

"I'll wait hopefully for some good news from USA because I would really love to go there. If that doesn't happen, then I have to see what the schedule will look like." Djokovic, who started 2022 tied at 20 Grand Slams with Roger Federer and Rafael Nadal, suffered a major blow as he was not allowed to defend his title at the Australian Open as he was not vaccinated. "Certainly this year has not been the same like last years. In the first several months of the year I was not feeling great generally. Mentally, emotionally, I was not at a good place," said Djokovic. DEPORTATION FROM AUSTRALIA

"Once I left Australia... (it) caused turbulence inside of me. I just needed time to weather the storm."



Wimbledon historically has always come at such important stages of my life and my career. In 2018 when I was starting the year with elbow surgery... this was the first slam that I won and (it) served as a springboard for (winning the next two majors at) the U.S. Open and 2019 Australian Open. I'm always inspired to play my best tennis in London. "Djokovic was deported from Australia after a 10-day legal battle, while Federer remained absent from the tournament due to a continuous recovery from knee surgery. It was Nadal who went onto clinch the Australian Open title and move one ahead of the other Big Two in the number of Slams. Nadal extended the count as he won his 14th trophy at the French Open. However, the Spaniard pulled out of the Wimbledon semi-finals following an abdominal tear.

**Transfer Rumours | Leeds star Raphinha's move to Barcelona stuck over Ousmane Dembele situation**

- ← **Barcelona have had troubles over their finances**
- ← **Barcelona are yet to sort out the their deals involving Frenkie de Jong and Ousmane Dembele**
- ← **Raphinha in the recent days has reportedly pushed for a transfer**

**New Delhi** Spanish giants FC Barcelona have been found to be stuck with the transfer of Brazilian winger Raphinha



after constant delay in the clarity over the situation of Ousmane Dembele. The French winger, who came to Barcelona with much fanfare in 2017, has been a story of unfulfilled potential. The club broke the bank for the player, but after just 154 matches over five seasons, fans have been left frustrated with the pacy winger, who was supposed to be one of

the generational talents while coming to Barcelona. It was reported midway through the season that Dembele would not be renewing his contract, sparking Barcelona to go on a hunt for a left footed winger to occupy the right flank. After identifying the target in Leeds star Raphinha, Barcelona moved forward for the signing of the player, who still has

two years left on his contract. With Raphinha pushing an exit from Leeds and Barcelona pursuing heavily, it was expected that the deal would be completed. However, that did not turn out to be true as Ousmane Dembele and the club came to a soft agreement over renewed terms of the player's contract. Leeds announced on 9 July that the 26-year-old Brazilian would not be travelling with them for pre-season in Australia, amid interest from Chelsea, Arsenal and Barcelona. With the club expected to fetch over 60 million pounds for the player, it is expected that he would be walking out this summer. Raphinha has reportedly told the club that his priority is to play for Barcelona and that he does not want a move to the West London-based club. But if the Dembele renewal is nearing its completion, Barcelona might find it increasingly difficult to shell money out for the Brazilian winger, who has the dribbling ability and vision that Barcelona really need in their flanks.

# JSW celebrates 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav'

Barbil, July 12 (TNB): As part of the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav celebrations, the country's leading steel producer, JSW Steel, organised a plantation drive at its office premises and mining areas. The company planted over 12 saplings at the Bhadrasahi office with a pledge to properly nurture the saplings till they grow into full-fledged trees. Sapling plantation was also carried out in Bhadrasahi office, Nuagaon mine area and in Bhubaneswar office as well. Moreover, the company also conducted swachata mission at its Jajang colony and its pre-

mises. Cleaning picnic spot and making it litter and tags free near Jajang river was another initiative carried out for the people. In a bid to create awareness among children regarding Independence Day, JSW Steel also organised a drawing competition for the students of Jajang High School. The theme for the competition was Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav. At the end, the winners were also felicitated with prizes.

Promoting a healthy lifestyle, a series of sanitation drives and how to prevent COVID infection activities were also part of

the celebration of the Mahotsav. The Centre has imposed a ban on single use plastic items across the country from July 1, 2022. Following the government's protocols, JSW has started a campaign and sensitising among the staff. The company will be careful whether the law is being followed or not. Notably, a discourse on 'mindful & deliberate utilization vis a vis mindless & destructive consumption' was organized at Bhubaneswar office for instilling a conscious lifestyle among employees. The employees were also advised set



resolution to adopt a sustainable life. Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav has been celebrating across the country to commemorate 75 years of independence and the glorious history of its people, culture and achievements. The official journey of Azadi Ka Amrit

Mahotsav commenced on 12th March 2021 which started a 75-week countdown to our 75th anniversary of independence and will end post a year on 15th August 2023.

JSW Foundation has also launched an intervention to transform the

Anganwadis in its ISP project area in Erasama block of Jagatsinghpur district. The work comprises interior and exterior wall painting based on Bala model, beautification, and provision of play items for the children in 15 Anganwadis of Dhinkia, Nuagan and Gadakujang GPs which is the Direct Impact Zone of the Integrated Steel Plant (ISP) project of JSW Utkal Steel Limited. More than twenty kinds of learning and playing materials, school bags, alphabetical English & Odia Book, Abacus counting frame, Ludo mat, Baby swing, Baby Horse rocker,

see saw, and others are being.

Several activities were also conducted at Paradip and the villages lying in the periphery of the Integrated Steel Plant project. Free eye check-up camps have been organized covering more than 10,000 beneficiaries in the 3 Gram Panchayats of ISP project and many areas of Paradip Municipality and beneficiaries were also provided free glasses. JSW Foundation also provided 60 Large and Medium wheel base dustbins to facilitate garbage collection by Paradip Municipality from public and residential ar-

ea. Further, a total of 5600 square meters of coastal belt was covered through plantation of as many number of trees along side the marine drive road of Nehru Bangla. A Free cancer detection and mega health camp was also organized by JSW Foundation at Dhinkia grampanchayat office wherein more than 300 beneficiaries attended and were provided with free medicines by JSW Foundation. Also during the recent Rath Yatra festival at Gadakujang, masks and drinking water was provided to thousands of devotees by JSW group.

## NABARD Celebrates 41st Foundation Day

Bhubaneswar, July 12 (TNB): NABARD reiterated its commitment to rural prosperity of the Nation and to the State of Odisha on the occasion of its 41st Foundation Day, celebrated in an august function on 12th July 2022. Hon'ble Finance Minister, Shri. Niranjan Pujari was the Chief Guest on the occasion. Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture And Farmers' Empowerment, Fisheries & Animal Resources Development, Shri. Ranendra Pratap Swain, Shri. P.K. Jena, IAS, Shri. Sanjeev Chopra, IAS, Agriculture Production Commissioner; Principal Secretary, Panchayati Raj and Drinking Water De-



partment, Shri. A K K Meena, IAS; Shri H N Panda, Regional Director RBI; Shri C Udayabhaskar, Chief General Manager, NABARD; Convenor, SLBC, Shri. Goutam Partha; CGM, SBI, Shri. Chandher Shekhar Sharma; Senior Officials from Govt., Banks and NABARD participated

in the programme. In his welcome address, Shri C. Udayabhaskar, Chief General Manager, NABARD, highlighted the major achievements of NABARD in recent years. He thanked the stakeholders for the excellent cooperation and support which has resulted in fabulous

performance of NABARD in the State. NABARD has been a major partner of Government of Odisha in its developmental endeavours. NABARD's financial support to the State Government, Banks and Corporations in Odisha has touched Rs.31,786 crore in 2021-22. He indicated that the thrust areas for 22-23 are remunerative activities beyond paddy cultivation, FPOs, developing micro entrepreneurs of successful SHG women, doubling of bank credit to the SHGs, doubling of farmer's income, climate change and promotion of handloom and handicraft OFPOs.

On this occasion, awards were given to individuals and institutions in various categories such as best performing tribal farmer, SHG, FPO, Watershed Management Committee, farmer under "Beyond Paddy", weaver, craftsman, Swachh Abhiyan Initiative, and BALARAM Yojana, recognizing their efforts in the various developmental initiatives of NABARD. A coffee table book "Reflections 2021-22", highlighting major achievements of NABARD in Odisha during 2021-22 and a video showcasing "40 years of NABARD in Odisha" were released on the occasion by the Hon'ble Guests.

## Tata Steel Celebrates World Population Day 200 SHG members felicitated for exceptional contributions to society

Joda, July 12 (TNB): Tata Steel Foundation, the CSR arm of Tata Steel, celebrated World Population Day at Joda West Auditorium on Monday. Along with guests and dignitaries, around 200 members of local Self-Help Groups (SHG) of Keonjhar district participated in the event. Chairman, Joda Municipality, Jagdish Prasad Sahoo graced the occasion as the Chief Guest while Chief Medical Officer, Tata Steel Hospital, Joda, Suchismita Das and Vice Chairman, Joda Municipality, Sandhya Patra participated in the event as the guests of honour. The programme, based on this year's theme - "A world of 8 Billion: Towards a resilient future for all - Harnessing opportunities and ensuring rights and choices for all", was observed as an awareness session to share the effectiveness of Human Development Index, Gen-



der Equality and Empowerment of Women. Speaking on the occasion, Jagdish Prasad Sahoo said: "The growth of a happy society is not only women's responsibility. Men should be equally responsible to drive it further. We should all work together to bring positivity in our community." In her address, Suchismita Das stressed on education as the key for inclusive growth. She said, "By educating one woman, we can educate the whole family and help us all live in a sociable manner. Of late,

has been observed that the number of women desiring to use family planning has increased markedly, and it should be encouraged to get the desired result." A short video on World Population Day focussing on Maternal Health Care was well appreciated by the attendees. On the occasion, all women participants were felicitated for their exemplary contribution as changemakers of society. Sandhya Patra congratulated the SHG members and assured them of all support in their future endeavours.

## Unemployed women did demonstration Infront of the smelter's plant of Nalco



Susil Ku. Aich Angul, July 12 : Unemployed young women from the surrounding villages in Nalco and L.A. P (ITI) Demonstration in front of the factory by Dhenkanal MPs today at Angul district Nalco. NALCO (Jamihara) Land looser Sponsored LAP / ITI has not ruled out the ninth RPDC meeting. How reasonable is it to ignore the decision of the Nalco district administration without giving permanent employment to the affected people. .... From 9 a.m. today, members of the sponsored ITI LAP198 staged a protest rally in front of the smelter's factory, Nalco Sponsored ITI The LAP17

and Nalco-affected people's union jointly launched a protest in front of the smelter's factory. Dhenkanal MP Shri Mahesh Sahu and State Housing Corporation Chairman Meenketan Amanat directly supported the movement and Dinesh Pradhan, Bhakti Prasad Das, many former Sarpanchs and members of the Samiti in the surrounding villages were present. The lawmaker himself called the strike a "land of worship" and warned that it would be "full-fledged" and "complete economic blockade" on Nalco in the coming days. It is unknown at this time what he will do after leaving the Area.

## Pre-retirement employee empowerment Workshop 'Roshni' held at SAIL, RSP

Rourkela, July 13 (TNB): A Pre retirement employee empowerment workshop 'ROSHNI' was held at HRD Centre of SAIL, Rourkela Steel Plant on 8th July 2022. Dr. P.K Sahoo, GM (Personnel) presided over the inaugural session. Notably, 35 employees including executives are superannuating in the month of July 2022. The sessions covered topics such as Final Settlement Dues and Financial Security Planning, Procedure for Smooth Final Settlement, Mindset For Smooth Transition to a New Phase of Life after Retirement, Ensuring Good Health, Well Being of Body and Mind and Safe uses of IT to facilitate smooth and stress-free transition from active employed life to post retirement life.

## Villagers protecting Cranes birds need Encourage

Naresh Ch. Pattanayak Keonjhar, July 12 : Every year during the monsoon, hundreds of different kinds of sarus cranes (Grey and White colour cranes) visit Badapasi village of Ghatagaon block to lay eggs. No one knows where they migrated from and went later. The village is situated at the side about 12 kms from Keonjhar town. When one goes on National Highway 20, from Keonjhar to Ghatagaon side he can see the tree

on the right side of the road, filled with cranes which look attractive like white flowers blossoming on it. According to the villagers they camped some days over the trees and prepared nests by collecting grass, sticks, straw etc over the top of the trees. They lay eggs in that nest. After some days baby chicks come out from the eggs, when hatched. The baby cranes remain with them for some days. When the



baby cranes started flying, the whole group migrated to other areas till next monsoon, villagers added.

They eat small rodents, fish, amphibians, insects and grain, berries from nearby cultivated fields, dams and ponds.

"We never disturbed them during their month-long stay in our village. We allow them to live in peace and provide a soundless atmosphere. The forest department should take steps by encouraging and aware the villagers, so that the birds visit every year" said Shibananda Naik of Badapasi.

In many areas, cranes are hunted for meat. But in this village, the villagers never hunted or disturbed them, which many appreciated.

Besides that, the forest department is aware the villagers never disturb the birds by making sound and blasting crackers with incentive or reward for their preservation. Dr. B. Behera, a bird lover said "it is really enjoyable. Nowadays when many of our birds are gradually extinct due to hunting and deforestation, protection of those birds by the villagers is really admirable. Forest department should encourage them with rewarding them for their effort"

## New Oxygen PRMS of Steel Melting Shop#2 inaugurated at RSP

Rourkela, July 13 (TNB): A New Oxygen PRMS for Converter # C & Caster # 3 of Steel Melting Shop#2 was inaugurated by Mr. Atanu Bhowmick, Director In-Charge, at Oxygen Plant of SAIL, Rourkela Steel Plant (RSP) on 12th July, 2022. Mr. P K Satapathy, ED (P&A), Mr. P K Sahoo, ED (Projects), Mr. Somnath Tripathy, ED (MM), Dr. B K Hota, ED (M&HS) and Mr. Naresh Kumar, Officiating ED(Works) and

CGM (Services), Mrs Asha S. Kartha, GM I/c Oxygen Plant and several CGMs, senior officers and employees of the Oxygen Plant and Projects Department, representatives of MECON (Consultant of Project) and Consortium comprising of M/s Vimal Organics Limited, New Delhi (Leader) and M/s Chemtech Industrial Valves Limited, Thane (Executing agency) were present on the occasion.



The new Oxygen PRMS (Pressure Reducing and Metering Station) of capacity 84000Nm3/hr has been installed to fulfill the oxygen demand for modernization projects like Converter- C & Caster-3 of SMS-2. Besides, the new system will ensure 100% avail-

ability of oxygen supply and simultaneous blowing of three converters at SMS #2 with enhanced efficiency. This will enhance the safety system of the Plant. The erection, installation and commissioning work of the system was coordinated by the Project department. The interlocks, logics and graphics were developed and implemented by Instrumentation department along with Oxygen Plant.

## Paper Bag Day; Say NO to plastics

Bhubaneswar, July 12 (TNB): 12th July every year is regarded as Paper Bag Day throughout the world. The intent of this day lies in encouraging the replacement of plastic bags with paper bags. Environmental pollution has become a grave issue of concern around the globe. Increase in population added with lavish lifestyles have increased the use of plastic and polythene which is highly harmful to the environment as they are non-biodegradable in nature. It does not only affect the lives of terrestrial and aquatic species but also draws them to the jaws of death. To curb this issue, Shantanu Shantiswaroop of Pokhariput, Bhubaneswar and student of 3rd standard in Saraswati Shishu Bidya Mandir, Bhitmatangi has drawn a picture of an attractive plastic bag with a slogan written on it which says "Say NO to plastic bags. Let's save the world together." Paper bags are environment friendly as they are biodegradable but destroying paper should be avoided. To save the earth and its resources for a sustainable future, this day should be more widely known and celebrated on a daily basis expresses Shantanu.

## Man Drowns In Hirakud Reservoir While Fishing

Jharsuguda, July 13 (TNB): A 36-year-old man in Jharsuguda drowned while fishing in Hirakud reservoir on Tuesday. The deceased has been identified as Prafulla Majhi of balanda village under Lakhanpur police limits. According to sources, Prafulla had gone fishing in the reservoir with one of his associates, named,



Gajaraj Ghusi. While fishing, Prafulla slipped into the water from his boat. Ghusi rescued him from the water and rushed him to the hospital. However, he was declared dead by doctors there.