

WORLD 5
CLASSICAL DANCER FROM INDIA SHOT DEAD IN US

NATION 4
CENTRE, TRIPURA, TIPRA MOTHA SIGN TRIPARTITE PACT

SPORT 7
NEW ZEALAND BOWL OUT AUSTRALIA, CHASES 369

BHUBANESWAR, SUNDAY MARCH 3, 2024; PAGES 12 ₹4

Government pulls up Google over apps issue

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

CALLS TECH FIRMS MEET

Taking a strong view of Google pulling out some apps from its Play Store, the Government on Saturday said delisting of Indian apps cannot be permitted and that the tech company and the startups concerned have been called for a meeting next week.

In an interview to PTI, IT and Telecom Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said the startup ecosystem is key to the Indian economy and their fate cannot be left to any big tech to decide.

The Minister's comments assume significance as Google on Friday began removing some apps, including popular matrimony apps, from its Play Store in India over a dispute on service fee payments, even as apps and well-known startup founders cried foul.

Taking a serious view of the issue, Vaishnaw said: "India is very clear, our policy is very clear...Our startups will get the protection that they need." The Minister said the Government will be meeting Google and app developers who have been delisted, next week, to resolve the dispute.

"I have already called Google...I have already called the app developers who have been delisted, we will be meeting them next week. This cannot be permitted..This kind of delisting cannot be permitted," he asserted.

Stating that India has built a strong startup ecosystem of over one lakh startups, and more than 100 unicorns from scratch in a matter of 10 years, the Minister said the energy of youth and entrepreneurs must be channelised fully and "cannot be left to the policies of any big tech."

"I will be telling Google... Our entrepreneurial energy...Startups, look at the whole startup India programme, 10 years back we had practically nothing and today we have more than 1,00,000 startups, more than 100 unicorns...This is something...The energy of our youth, the energy of our entrepreneurs, energy of our talented people that has to be channelised fully well, it cannot be left to the policies of any big tech," Vaishnaw said.

PATANJALI®
Kesh Kanti

Tootna mana Hai!





Oil & Shampoo

Power of 30 Herbs

for complete nourishment of hair

Stops hair fall • Promotes growth of new hair
• Repairs damaged hair • Prevents premature graying of hair
• Makes the scalp dandruff free



Odisha:
The Emerging Sports Hub of India

Transforming the Sports Landscape and Empowering the Athletes



**India's largest & most advanced Sports Science Center in Bhubaneswar**

**Table Tennis Academy in Cuttack and Gymnastics Academy in Rourkela**

**48 Multipurpose indoor stadiums and 23 Hockey training centres**

**41 Cricket academies developed by OCA in Odisha**

**Women's cricket academy in Puri and cricket ground in Jharsuguda**



OIPR-15001/13/0596/2324
Information & Public Relations Department



SWAYAM - Empowering Odisha's Entrepreneurs

INTEREST-FREE LOANS

UP TO ₹1 LAKH

FOR YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS

OIPR-15001/13/0602/2324



In Cuttack, Nabarangpur 2 policemen held by Vigilance for taking bribe

PNS ■ CUTTACK / NABARANGPUR

Separate teams of Vigilance sleuths arrested two policemen for allegedly accepting bribes in Cuttack and Nabarangpur districts on Saturday.

In the first incident, an Assistant Sub-Inspector (ASI) of police identified as Alok Kumar Sarangi, presently working in Bhadreswar PS in Cuttack, was caught red-handed while de-

manding and accepting a bribe of Rs 8,000 from a complainant to help him in a case registered earlier at the police station. The bribe money was recovered and seized from the possession of Sarangi.

Following the trap, simultaneous searches were underway at three different locations associated with the ASI from a disproportionate assets (DA) angle.

A Vigilance case was regis-

tered and an investigation was in progress against Sarangi.

In the second incident, another ASI identified as Simanchal Moharana, presently working in Dabugaon PS in Nabarangpur, was apprehended by Vigilance inside the police station while demanding and accepting a bribe of Rs 5,000 from a complainant for showing leniency and for helping in a case registered earlier in the PS against him

and his family members.

On seeing the Vigilance officials, Moharana threw the entire bribe money into the PS Malkhana. However, the cash was recovered and seized.

Following the trap, simultaneous searches were underway at two separate locations linked to Moharana from a DA angle. In this connection, a Vigilance case was registered and an investigation was in progress against Moharana.

Remuneration of Art Instructors, PETs, PHIEVs hiked Multilingual Education Teachers also benefited

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

The State Government on Saturday hiked the remuneration of Art Instructors, Physical Education Teachers (PETs), PHIEVs and Multilingual Education Teachers to Rs 10,000.

As per a release from the Chief Minister's Office (CMO), the remuneration of Art Instructors and PETs engaged at upper primary schools increased to Rs 10,000 from Rs 7,000. The Art and PE Teachers will receive monthly remuneration for 12 months instead of 10 months, announced Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik.

As per the announcement, the teachers will take 30-period classes instead of 24-period classes in a month. Besides, like other government employees, the women Art and

PE Teachers can avail maternity leave if required. With the decision, a total of 4,605 Art teachers will be benefitted in the State.

Also, the government announced to increase the remuneration of PHIEVs (Inclusive Education Volunteer for physically-handicapped children) and Multilingual Education Teachers to Rs 10,000.

As per the release, the PHIEVs and Multilingual Education Teachers will get a hike in remuneration from Rs 5,379 to Rs 10,000 per month.

The PHIEVs are engaged at different gram panchayats since 2014 to impart special education and service to physically-disabled children studying at various schools in the State. With this move, 1,117 PHIEVs will be benefitted in the State. Besides, the CM directed for regularisation of the Multilingual Education Teachers working in schools for tribal and SC students under the ST & SC Development, Minorities & Backward Classes Welfare Department on the basis of their eligibility.

Odisha Food Processing Conclave held



SHG members from Millet Mission, FPOs, food processing enterprises, technologists attend

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

The Odisha Food Processing Conclave was held here in collaboration with the Union Ministry of Food Processing Industries, Indian Chamber of Commerce (ICC) and State Department of MSME. Special Secretary, Department of

MSME, Bibhuthi Bhushan Dash was the chief guest at the event.

FSSAI Director Shakti P Mishra, OUAT Dean Dr Sanjay Kumar Dash and ICC State Council Agri Food Processing Committee advisor and SNM Group chairman Dr Pradipta Mohanty were on the dais, while ICC chairman JB Pany delivered the welcome address and gave detailed information on the food processing industry in Odisha.

ICC senior director Madhuparna Bhowmick delivered the vote of thanks. Other guests present were Additional Director of Agriculture and Food Production Directorate Tankadhar Sahu,

Deputy Director of Industries Cuttack Mitrasu Tripathy, regional president of Sea Food Exporters Association of India Dr Kamlesh Mishra, Food Processing Engineering CAET, OUAT Dr Kalpana Rayguru, SBI Bhubaneswar AGM Dr Milan Kumar Patro, Cold Storage Association of Odisha president Janardhan Sahoo, Davik Food and Beverage Private Limited founder director Dr Bhawana Gupta and ICC Odisha regional head JP Pal. The programme was attended by more than 130 food processing entrepreneurs, SHG members from Odisha Millet Mission, FPOs, food processing enterprises and technologists from Odisha.

In city MP engineer missing from rly station

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

An engineer from Gwalior in Madhya Pradesh has allegedly gone missing in Bhubaneswar in mysterious circumstances.

The matter came to light after the elder brother of the engineer alleged this before the media.

As per reports, the missing engineer was identified as Bishnu Singh. His brother Satendra Pratap said the last time Bishnu spoke to the family member over phone was after reaching the Bhubaneswar railway station on Friday.

He was supposed to return home by a Delhi flight on Friday.

Later, when family members contacted Bishnu, an unknown person picked up the call and told that Bishnu had been hospitalised. Though his

family members tried to contact him, he could not be reached over phone, Satendra said.

On hearing the news, Satendra rushed to Bhubaneswar and searched for his brother at different hospitals but in vain.

However, no complaint has been filed in this connection.

A worried Satendra told the media that he has not been able to trace his brother.

Drug seized from minor boy in Shreemandir

PNS ■ PURI

The illegal trade of narcotic drugs continues unabated in Odisha involving minors in trafficking in the premises of the Jagannath Temple in Puri.

In a shocking incident, a minor boy was caught with brown sugar inside the temple on Saturday.

According to reports, a security personnel deployed at the Shreemandir spotted the minor boy opening the banned contraband from a container that he was carrying near the Maa Bimala Temple situated inside the Jagannath Temple. The on-duty personnel examined the container and recovered

brown sugar.

During interrogation, the minor boy revealed that he had been given the brown sugar for sale inside the Shreemandir.

The accused was taken to the Singhadwar police station to ascertain more information about the incident.

BJD Govt has turned 'PC' Sarkar: Congress



PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

The Naveen Patnaik-led BJD Government is a 30-percentage (PC) Sarkar. The PC culture is rampant starting from the panchayat to the State Secretariat levels and this varies from 20 to 40%, alleged the Congress at a Press meet here on Saturday.

In the garb of transparency, this government is the most corrupt government the State has ever seen. In the Ama Odisha Nabin Odisha scheme alone, there has been PC transaction of around Rs 1,019 crore. The total fund allocation for Ama Odisha Nabin

Odisha in 2022-2023 is Rs 3,397 crore and average 30% PC means Rs 1,019 crore has been siphoned away from the State exchequer, said PCC spokesperson Sudarsan Das.

Likewise in ST schools' scheme with Rs 1,268 crore, the total amount of PC is to the tune of Rs 380 crore. The PC money is being used by the BJD for its electoral gains, alleged Das.

The Congress has thrown an open challenge to the BJD to refute the allegations.

Among others, Prasanta Satpathy and Nalinikana Nayak were present at the Press conference.

SOCIAL CANVAS

Bus terminal named after visionary of Odisha's devt Ambedkar

The BJD Government has taken a commendable decision by recognising Dr BR Ambedkar and named the most important inter-State bus terminals in Bhubaneswar after him.

Earlier, the Government also named the oldest Cuttack bus stand after Netaji Subash Bose. During the last 25 years of BJD rule, naming one of its major projects after Ambedkar happened for the first time. The Government also planned to raise awareness about Ambedkar's contribution, as one of the makers of modern India, by creating a special gallery to exhibit the life and ideas of him.

These days, cutting across party lines, Ambedkar is being recognised and celebrated in India and abroad, not as a Dalit icon but as a modern democrat who represents all forms of equality along the lines of Martin Luther King and Nelson Mandela and they all fought against discrimination based on race and caste. The status and university chairs in Ambedkar's name and studies on his thoughts and ideas are growing rapidly across the globe.



MANAS JENA

The Colombia University, London School of Economics, many universities in Canada, North America, Europe and Australia have such memorials. He was the one who studied in the universities of three continents. The Government of India has contributed to building major memorials at Ambedkar's birthplace at Mahu, Darar and death place at Nagpur in Mumbai. The Government of AP has built the biggest statue of him and Telengana named its Assembly after him.

Dr Ambedkar visited Odisha as the Labour Member in the Viceroy's Executive Council to the Government of India. In his

presidential address at a conference of representatives of the Central Government and Government of Odisha, the central provinces and eastern States held at Cuttack on November 8, 1945, he explored the possibilities of developing Odisha's rivers to control flood while managing water for its best multipurpose use for the people. He made valuable opinions relating to the development of Odisha based on available information in those days. He was worried after realizing the socio-economic suffering of the people in those days. He identified floods, drought, famine, deterioration in health, malaria, malnutrition, vitamin deficiency and, above all, low income and poverty as the major issues of Odisha and these issues remain as a challenge before the State even these days. He identified lack of internal communication links within the State either by railway or by canal to connect the vast hinterland with the sea coast as one of the reasons of its backwardness. He said Odisha has natural resources, minerals, forest products and precious possession of vast

water wealth. The delta comprising three districts, such as Cuttack, Puri and Baleswar, can be traversed by a network of distributaries arising mainly from five rivers, like Mahanadi, Brahmani, Baitarani, Budhabalanga and Subarnarekha, for multipurpose use of water in all seasons. The poverty and backwardness of Odisha can be changed by using the best method of utilisation of water resources, he opined. He was critical of the Odisha Flood Inquiry Committee report in 1928 and the subsequent reports in 1937 and the Odisha Flood Advisory Committee report in 1939, with the involvement of eminent engineers, such as Adams William and M Visvesvarayya, in their approach to counter floods without a water management plan. Because the plan of only building embankments is not helpful in conservation of water; there is a need to build small reserves to store the water flowing in the rivers, he opined. Water being the wealth of people, its distribution and conservation is highly essential from the point of view of public good. He suggested constructing

dams in rivers at various points to conserve water permanently in reservoirs and the reservoirs can serve many purposes, such as generating electric power. The power can be helpful in running factories to make Odisha industrially developed.

Another important area was navigation, which was equally important and could supplement the railways. He said in spite of railways, the importance should be given to canals by reviving old canals and making new ones, like Germany and Russia, those which have used their water resources in the best possible ways for multiple gains. While supporting the scheme of the canal, he said, historically, canal played an important role in British India and the East India Company invested public budget for development of canals. Odisha has one such canal having its multipurpose use, but after 1875 the focus was more on railway replacing canal navigation. It impacted agriculture and the overall economy and changed the nature of public investment. He proposed that it be possible to connect

Chandabali to Sambalpur by a navigable inland waterway by construction of three dams seven miles above Naraj, Tikarpada and Sambalpur. It will be an affordable, cheap and convenient artery for passengers and goods traffic from the sea coast to Sambalpur.

He was equally concerned about submergence of land and its impact. Finally, the conference decided to undertake a survey of the Odisha's rivers to prepare projects for unified and multipurpose development like flood control, navigation, irrigation, drainage, soil conservation and power development. Adviser to the then Governor of Odisha BK Gokhale also spoke at the meeting in support of the proposal and said Odisha was the most backward part of India and the irrigation project would bring multipurpose development for the State.

Even today, the natural advantage of the Odisha's river system, as a perennial source of water wealth, has not been fully tapped and managed for the development of irrigation, which is a major reason of the

underdevelopment of the agriculture sector of the State. The development of agriculture will pave the way for industrialisation where water management will play a key role in producing power for the industry. The available hydro power will boost the small-scale industries, especially the argo based industries, for a balanced economic growth in the State. The utilization of natural resources and manpower in a scientific way will increase production, employment and income in the State.

Dr Ambedkar argued for one State, one language and said linguistic provinces would make democracy work better than a mixed language province. He was always in favour of federalism, which gives legislative, executive and judicial power to the States in managing the governance of the States. In recent times, while the States are demanding financial autonomy and power to manage natural and financial resources, the discourses developed by him have become more relevant for resource-rich poor States such as Odisha. (manasbbsr15@gmail.com)

sunday pioneer

www.dailypioneer.com



DSPL-767

Nearly 4 crore people are benefiting
from **BSKY & BSKY** Nabin Card

Biju Swasthya Kalyan Yojana
Paving the Way for a Healthy Odisha, Happy Odisha



OIPR-15001/13/0598/2324

MLA Arabinda Dhali quits BJD

To join BJP today
PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

Ahead of the 2024 general elections, MLA Arabinda Dhali has resigned from the Biju Janata Dal (BJD), he informed it on Saturday.

Dhali sent in his resignation letter to BJD supremo and Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik via email on Friday, citing no specific reason for quitting the party.

He informed the media on Saturday that he would join the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in a programme on Sunday.

Dhali represents the Jayadev constituency, one of the seven assembly segments of the Bhubaneswar Parliament Seat in Khordha district.

The five-time MLA was first elected to the Odisha



Legislative Assembly from the Malkangiri constituency on a BJP ticket in a by-election in 1992. He retained the seat for two consecutive terms on the BJP ticket from 1995-2000 and 2000-2004. He joined the BJD and was elected to the Assembly from the Jayadev constituency in

2009. He won the Assembly polls from Jayadev on BJD ticket in 2019.

During his tenure, he was given ministerial berth in Naveen Patnaik's Cabinet in various departments like Cooperation, Textiles & Handloom and Commerce and Transport between 2000 and 2004.

Teaching hospitals launched in 5 dists

4 med colleges to be upgraded
PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik on Saturday launched teaching hospitals at government medical colleges in five districts and laid foundation-stone for upgradation of four others.

While 650-bed teaching hospitals (THs) each were launched at Balangir's Bhima Bhoi Medical College, Baripada's Pandit Raghunath Murmu Medical College and Baleswar's Fakir Mohan Medical College, Sundargarh Government hospital and Keojhar Dharani Dhar Medical Colleges got 500-bed THs each.

Total 2,950-beds in THs worth over Rs 2,000 crore were inaugurated.

Among the proposed medical colleges to be upgraded with world-class facilities are Cuttack's



Acharya Harihar Post Graduate Institute of Cancer, Brahmapur's MKCG MCH, Rourkela RGH and VIMSAR Burla.

The CM said people of the State have faith in his government's healthcare services. "To provide the best of medical assistance to people is the goal of the government. Today's launches are a major step

in ensuring that people of Odisha have access to the best of health services. A healthy State is a happy State. Nearly 3,000-bed teaching hospitals worth over Rs 2,000 crore were launched in a single day, which is no small feat. This will benefit people across all socio-economic backgrounds in the districts concerned," he said.

No alliance with BJD: Manmohan

'We'll form next govt in Odisha'
NALINI SAHU ■ BHUBANESWAR

Putting all speculations to rest, BJP State president Manmohan Samal on Friday night said his party would fight in all the 147 Assembly and 21 Lok Sabha constituencies in the State on its own strength and there would be no alliance with the BJD.

"The central leaders of our party, Parliamentary Board and Central Election Committee have decided that the BJP would fight the elections all alone. We will form the government in the State," said Samal here after his return from New Delhi.

"Our party's central leaders have realised that the party is strong enough in Odisha to fight the elections all alone," he said.

BJP in-charge for Odisha Vijay Pal Singh Tomar also said there is no discussion about alliance with the BJD. "From the very beginning, I have been maintaining that there is no possibility of alliance with the BJD or any other party. We are capable enough to win at least 80 of the 147 Assembly seats and at least 16 of the 21 Lok Sabha seats," said Tomar.



DSPL-765

Odisha, The IT Hotspot of India

30,000 Plus Jobs Created, 50+ Companies in last 3 Years



**BOOSTING EMPLOYMENT
AND ECONOMIC
PROSPERITY**

Odisha, the top choice of
IT companies.

Solidifying Bhubaneswar's 'Premier IT Hub'
tag with Major Players like PwC, Concentrix,
Infosys, TCS, EY, Deloitte, Wipro, IBM,
Synopsys, Accenture, Cognizant and more.

Fostering youths' technical skills
and expertise.

In Kendrapada

18-yr-old boy's kidneys donated after death

Given State honour during funeral

RAJESH BEHERA
■ KENDRAPADA

Setting an example for others, the bereaved family members of a plus two student, who was declared brain dead at the SCB Medical College and Hospital, Cuttack on Thursday, donated their son's two kidneys to save the lives of two persons.

Om Siblu (18), son of Ramesh Das of Nayakote village in Pattamundai Block who was studying +2 first year at Kendrapada Autonomous College, was suffering from brain tumour and was undergoing treatment at the SCB



since January 17. On Thursday, however, he was declared brain dead.

Wishing to donate organs of the deceased, his parents discussed with the SCB authorities. Later, the medical authorities retrieved Siblu's kidneys with the help of the State Organ and Tissue Transplant

Organisation (SOTTO).

Sources informed that one of his kidneys will be transplanted to a patient at SCB and the second one will be provided to a private hospital in Bhubaneswar for transplantation. Earlier on February 15, Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik had announced to provide State honour to the

organ donors' funerals in recognition of the sacrifice and courage of those who save the lives of others by donating the organs of their deceased family member. As per the decision of the Odisha Government, the State honour was provided to the mortal remains of Siblu at the village funeral ground.

6 Odisha artists to receive Sangeet Natak Akademi Awards

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

As many as six artists from Odisha will receive the prestigious Central Sangeet Natak Akademi Awards for the years 2022 and 2023.

Renowned vocalist and scholar Sangita Gosain will be honoured for her significant contributions to Odishi music in 2023.

Snehaprava Samantaray, a former Lecturer at the Utkal Sangeet Mahavidyalaya, will receive the award for her excellence in Odishi dance for the same year.

Debasish Pattnaik will be awarded the Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar-2023 for his achievements in Odishi dance as a young artist. Alok

Bishoyi, a talented folk dancer and musician, will also be honoured with the Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar for the year 2023.

In the category of Odishi dance, Guru Niranjana Rout has been selected for the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for the year 2022. Arupa Gayatri Panda has been chosen for the Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar for 2022 in the category of dance for Odishi. Recipients of the award receive a cash prize of Rs 1 lakh along with a 'Tamrapatra' and an 'Angavastram'.

The Sangeet Natak Akademi fellowships and awards will be presented by the President of India during a special investiture ceremony.

Keonjhar minor rape

Youth gets 25-yr RI, father 20-yr RI

PNS ■ KEONJHAR

Additional and Special Judge Subhashree Tripathy on Friday awarded 25 years' rigorous imprisonment (RI) to one Bubun Sethy (22) and 20 years' RI to his father Dologobindo (45) on the charges of raping a minor girl in Keonjhar district.

The judge also directed Bubun to pay a fine of Rs 33,000 and in default to undergo another three years' imprisonment. Dologobindo was also asked to pay a fine of Rs 10,000 and in default he has to undergo another year's jail term.

On October 2021, Bubun abducted the girl along with some of his friends while returning from the Banspal market to Bileipada. But hearing the girl's screams some transgenders informed the police. The cops rescued her and handed her over to her family.

Two days later on October 28, 2021, family members of Bubun forcefully took the girl to Sargigada village of Sundargarh district. During confinement she was raped several times. Later, on the complaint of the victim's family, the Sadar police rescued the girl and arrested Bubun and his father.

CUO featured in UGC Avenues of Excellence



PNS ■ KORAPUT

The Central University of Odisha (CUO), Koraput was featured in an episode of Avenues of Excellence TV series aired on DD National on Saturday.

The Avenues of Excellence is an initiative by the UGC which is part of the 'Study in India Portal' under which every week an episode is aired featuring a Higher Education Institution. The series is produced by TALIEM, New

Delhi. The episode on the CUO focused its campus, departments, labs, library and buildings. The future academic vision of the university was explained by its Vice-Chancellor Prof Chakradhar Tripathi in his byte in the video. Registrar Prof NC Panda spoke about the CUO's infrastructure expansion plans.

The coordination of this programme was carried out by the students of Department of Journalism & Mass Communication.

False complaints by Sarkhel

Paradip scribes seek protection

PNS ■ PARADIP

Arindam (Bapi) Sarkhel, a former Congress candidate and controversial political figure in Paradip, has faced criticism for resorting to spreading fake news and lodging false complaints against journalists in a bid to salvage his tarnished reputation. His recent actions have ignited widespread condemnation within the Paradip community.

Amidst speculations of Sarkhel's potential shift to another political party and his attempts to regain power, two working journalists from Paradip, Sashank Acharya and NM Baisakh, have filed complaints at the Paradip Model Police Station, seeking protection from potential retaliation.

Sarkhel's history of legal troubles, including involvement in two murder cases and subsequent bail releases, has



further fueled concerns about his intentions and the safety of those who oppose him. His alleged targeting of journalists underscores the importance of safeguarding Press freedom and ensuring the safety of media professionals in the region.

As the controversy surrounding Sarkhel continues to unfold, calls for accountability and justice have intensified, with many urging authorities to take swift action to protect the rights and safety of journalists reporting on matters of public interest.

In B'swar

Probe into woman's death at in-laws' house

PNS ■ BALESWAR

The Khaira police began an investigation into the mysterious death of a woman at her in-laws' house in Khaira block on Thursday.

The deceased was identified as Sasmita Sahu of Mainsamunda village under Shyamsundarpur Gram Panchayat. The in-laws while maintained it was a case of

suicide as Sasmita was found hanging, the parental family of the deceased alleged that she was murdered.

As per reports, Sasmita was married to Dipak Behera eight years ago and was eight months' pregnant. Dipak said when he woke up in the morning, he found Sasmita hanging from the ceiling fan. The body was sent for postmortem to ascertain the exact cause of death, said police.

In Kendrapada

2 youths missing while talking bath in river

PNS ■ KENDRAPADA

Two staffs of a cement company went missing in the Brahmani river on Saturday while they were taking bath at Narendrapur Ghat in Nimapur village under the Pattamundai Rural police station in Kendrapada district.

The two youths were identified as Ajit Kumar and Javed, who were from Agra in Uttar Pradesh. Seven painters from outside Odisha were engaged by the cement company in

Rajnagar block to paint walls. They were returning from Rajnagar after completing their assignment to Cuttack. Then, they decided to take bath in the Brahmani.

While they were taking bath, Ajit and Javed went missing as they were swept away by strong currents. Though their fellow worker with the help of locals and Fire Brigade personnel conducted a search operation to rescue them, the duo was yet to be traced till filing of the report.

In Baleswar

Rs 80L LAD fund for stadium, ambulance

PNS ■ BALESWAR

Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw sanctioned Rs 45 lakh and Rs 35 lakh respectively for the development of a stadium at Baleswar town and an advanced life support ambulance for Lions club Jaleswar. The fund has been released from his MPLAD fund.

Reports said for construction of first floor for players' dressing room, dormitory and conference hall etc,

the District Athletic Association had requested Vaishnaw for sanction of funds. Similarly, a request was made to him for an advanced life support system ambulance for Lions Club, Jaleswar.

The members of the District Athletic Association including working president Abhay Mohapatra and general secretary Adhip Das, past district Governor SB Gupta and members expressed their thanks to the Minister.

Prof Parida emerges top contender

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

The political barometer in Puri undivided district is on the rise. It is understood from reliable sources that the ruling BJD is on the lookout for a fresh MP nominee as it is not sure if present MP Pinaki Misra will contest again from the Puri Parliamentary seat. Meanwhile, the names of

many probables for BJD ticket are doing the round. The name of one Prof Dr Ajay Parida is being discussed as a top contender. It is said that his lobby is strong for ticket from the ruling BJD either for the Puri Lok Sabha seat or Nimapara Assembly seat.

Dr Parida, a Professor of KIIT University in the Department of Computer Science, is an erudite. He has two PhD degrees to his credit. One from the National Institute of Technology, Meghalaya and the

other from Utkal University, while he has his B.Tech from KIIT and MTech from CET. He has also his LLB Degree from Utkal University. A good organiser, Dr Parida spends his time in many pro-people programmes including organizing health, eye and blood donation camps in the undivided district of Puri. He reached out to people during cyclones and floods. He is also taking up many programmes at the slum areas of Puri district for educa-

tion and other developmental works.

Heavy weight leader and former three-time MLA Samir Das is uncertain to get BJD ticket from Nimapara this time, given the controversies surrounding him. Another ticket aspirant for the seat is Subrat Chhatoi. But he is considered as an outsider. One Rojaline Nayak has emerged as a leading woman candidate for ticket from BJD to contest the Assembly poll in Nimapara also.

Women join community awareness drive



Organised by SAHAYOG

PNS ■ NIRAKARPUR

Leading up to the International Women's Day 2024, a community awareness initiative took place in Nirakarpur in Tangi block of Khordha district. The programme revolved around the IWD-2024 theme

"Invest in Women: Accelerate Progress." More than five hundred women belonging to SHGs, community members, and young individuals from Nirakarpur, Lendo, Dia, and Rameswar Gram Panchayats actively participated.

The event was organised by SAHAYOG, a social organisation, in partnership with Vishwa Yuvak Kendra

from New Delhi.

Youth social activist Pravati Swain extended a warm welcome to all the distinguished guests, PRI representatives, women's self-help group members, teachers, women, and youth. Shedding light on the program's objectives and International Women's Day 2024, secretary of SAHAYOG Bijayalaxmi Rautaray shared

insights about Vishwa Yuvak Kendra in New Delhi and its partner organisations across India. They also discussed launching a campaign with various initiatives based on this year's theme, 'Investing More for Women: Accelerating Progress'. While women from diverse backgrounds spoke, the vote of thanks was given by social worker Sukanta Behera.

In Ganjam

Engineer, Clerk held taking bribe

PNS ■ BRAHMAPUR

The Vigilance police on Saturday caught Benudhar Dalai, Executive Engineer (EE), (Irrigation), CAD Division No.8, Aska in Ganjima district and Kailash Ch Behera, Junior. Clerk of the same office while accepting a bribe of Rs 20,000 from a person.

The duo had demanded the bribe from the complainant (owner of a vehicle) to clear his pending bills towards hire charges of his vehicle for use by the said office.

Following the trap, simultaneous searches were carried out at three different locations of Dalai and two locations of Behera from the DA angle. Further investigation was in progress against accused.

Driving training institute unveiled in Talcher



to upskill youths on commercial vehicle driving

DHIRAMOHAN RAY ■ TALCHER

Talcher got its very own Commercial Vehicle Driving Training Institute, setting the stage for skilled driver development, increasing the employability of Talcher's youth in the respective profession.

Chairperson, Vikash Foundation Trust, Dr Mridula

Thakur Pradhan inaugurated the institute. Aligned with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of positioning India as a global Skill Hub, the institute aims to revolutionise the perception of driving as a profession, she said.

It is a collaboration between NSDC, Skill India, LINDE, and LSC underscoring a concerted effort towards addressing the burgeoning demand for skilled heavy vehicle drivers. At the heart of the initiative lies an innovative heavy

vehicle test driving track-V, poised to harness the region's immense potential. By equipping drivers with the state-of-the-art training facilities and streamlining the licencing process, the institute aims to empower Talcher's driver community and enhance their economic prospects.

The event was also graced by esteemed dignitaries, including CEO, Logistics Sector Skill Council (LSC), Ravikanth Yamarathi and Head of Distribution, Linde South Asia Ankur Desai.

Snakebite death

Summons issued to 3 dist Collectors by NHRC

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has issued conditional summons afresh to district Collectors of Keonjhar, Mayurbhanj and Bhadrak to appear before the Commission on April 10 along with detailed action taken report including the status of payment of ex-gratia amount to the family members of the deceased persons due to snakebites.

Considering the petition filed by lawyer and rights activist Radhakanta Tripathy and the reports submitted by the Centre and State authorities, the NHRC passed the order. Tripathy alleged that due to negligence of the School and Mass Education Department and district administration of Keonjhar, three students died

after a venomous snake bit them, while they were sleeping inside a coaching centre in the Nischitapur area in Keonjhar on July 22, 2023.

Amongst the disaster casualties in Odisha, snakebite deaths alone accounted for more than 40% and snakebite death cases in Odisha became more than double in the year 2021 especially due to shortage of anti-snake venom stocks in the Government-run-health facilities. The AVS (Anti Venom Serum) is also not easily available in the open market in Odisha.

Tripathy requested the NHRC for payment of compensation and benefits under the social welfare schemes to the next of the kin (NoK) of the deceased persons, action against the officials for their lapses who failed to ensure

safety and security to the students running coaching center, adequate availability of anti-snake venom in the hospitals, maintenance of a comprehensive national data of snakebite cases, make more search on the issue and designate the snakebite as a 'Notifiable Disease' within the Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme' to get a permanent solution etc.

Pursuant to NHRC notice, both Centre and State and the district Collectors of Boudh and Bolangir submitted the requisite reports.

The CDMO, Keonjhar submitted that four children namely Raja Naik, Akash Naik, Elina Naik and Snehashree came to the Department of Paediatric, DDMCH, Keonjhar, at different times with the alleged

snake bite.

It was reported by the school teacher that the children used to sleep on the floor of the hostel and were bitten by poisonous snake. Akash Naik was alive after getting all necessary treatment measures at DDMCH, Keonjhar and SVPPGI, Cuttack. However, rest three children Raja, Elina and Snehashree died due to bite of poisonous snake which was confirmed by the post-mortem examination.

However, the District Magistrate, Keonjhar has yet not reported regarding payment of ex-gratia amount to the family members of the deceased children. Similarly, the requisite reports from the DMS, Mayurbhanj and Bhadrak have also not been received, the NHRC observed.

Classical dancer from India shot dead in US

PTI ■ NEW YORK

In yet another deadly attack on Indians and Indian-Americans in the US in recent months, a 34-year-old trained classical dancer from India and a student of Washington University, was shot dead in St Louis, Missouri.

Kuchipudi and Bharatanatyam dancer Amarnath Ghosh, who migrated to the US from West Bengal last year “to follow his dancing dreams,” was shot several times near the border of St Louis’ Academy and Central West End neighbourhoods. He died on the spot. According to the St Louis Metropolitan Police Department, the shooting happened at 7:15 pm on Tuesday at Delmar Boulevard and Clarendon Avenue, news por-

tal ‘5 On Your Side’ reported on Friday. Ghosh was pursuing his master’s in the Performing Arts Department of Washington University.

Hailing from Suri town in West Bengal’s Birbhum district, Ghosh was an alumni of Kalakshetra, a prestigious Chennai institution that is a vital centre for the study and performance of fine arts, from 2007 to 2011.

His uncle Shyamal Ghosh said in Suri on Saturday, he is still in the dark about the details of his nephew’s death in the USA even after four days. “We had informed the district police and administration about what we had heard from various sources. But till today, we don’t have any details about his death,” he said.

Calling him “very friendly and very talented,” Ghosh’s friends Hima Kuppa and Ravi Kuppa in the US said, “He was always travelling a lot for his performances. A lot of organisations called him for performances, but he always wanted to come back to St Louis.”

Ghosh was learning ballet and dance. “I think it was a full scholarship at Wash U. His ultimate dream was to get his PhD in dance and work full-time with us at our Kuchipudi Art Academy,” Hima was quoted as saying by ‘5 On Your Side’.

He enjoyed volunteering as a dance instructor at a local studio and also taught children between the ages 5 and 18. His friends told the news outlet that Ghosh was the only child of his parents; his mother died three years ago and his father died when he was a child.

Gosh’s killing has prompted India’s consulate in Chicago to take up the issue with local police and the university.

Asserting that the mission is “extending all help to the relatives of deceased Amarnath Ghosh,” India’s Consulate in Chicago posted on X that it has “taken up the case strongly with St Louis police and the University for investigation of the reprehensible gun attack.”

Offering deep condolences to family and friends of the deceased in St Louis, Missouri, it said, “We are following up forensic, investigation with police and providing support.”

Washington University, where Gosh was a student, has condemned his killing as “senseless violence beyond comprehension.”

“There are no words to express the pain and anguish Amarnath’s family and friends are experiencing. His death is a terrible shock to us all. This type of senseless violence is beyond comprehension and we are devastated by this loss. To have this happen in our own St. Louis community is especially heartbreaking,” Anna “Dr G” Gonzalez, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs said in a statement released to all Washington University students, faculty and staff. It was actor Devoleena Bhattacharjee, who first alerted the authorities on social media about her friend Ghosh’s death. Taking to X, she posted, “The reason, accused details everything are not revealed yet or perhaps no one left in his family to fight for it except his few friends. He was from Kolkata. Excellent dancer, was pursuing PhD, was taking an evening walk and suddenly he was shot multiple times by an unknown.” She tagged the X handles of the Indian Embassy in the US, Prime Minister Narendra Modi among others and said, “Some friends in US are trying to claim the body but still no update about it” and requested the Embassy to look into it.

“At least we should know the reason of his murder,” she said in the post on Friday. On Saturday, Bhattacharjee said in another post on X: “Hope we get the update of this heinous crime as early as possible. If I am not wrong, this is 5th or 6th murder of Indian Students in 2 months. We all are worried here & grieving.”

Sunak pleads to protect democracy

PTI ■ LONDON

Prime Minister Rishi Sunak has issued an impassioned plea for Britain to protect its democracy as he warned that extremist forces were out to tear the country apart and undermine its multi-faith identity.

Referencing his own Hindu beliefs, the British Indian leader on Friday stressed that the enduring values of the UK are about embracing migrants of all faiths and ethnicities and urged protesters to ensure peaceful demonstrations are not hijacked by extremist forces.

“Immigrants who have come here have integrated and contributed. They have helped write the latest chapter in our island story. They have done this without being required to give up their identity,” said Sunak in a speech outside 10 Downing Street.

“You can be a practising Hindu and a proud Briton as I am, or a devout Muslim and a patriotic citizen as so many are, or a committed Jewish person and the heart of your local community, and all underpinned by the tolerance of our established, Christian church,” he said.

“But I fear that our great achievement in building the world’s most successful multi-ethnic, multi faith democracy is being deliberately undermined. There are forces here at home trying to tear us apart,” he added.

He was speaking soon after what he characterised as the “beyond alarming” win in a byelection on Thursday of a controversial politician, George Galloway, in Greater Manchester following a campaign dominated by the divisions of the Israel-Hamas conflict.

He said on too many occasions recently, the streets of Britain had been hijacked by small groups who are hostile to British values and have no respect for its democratic traditions.

“Islamist extremists and the far right feed off and embolden each other. They are equally desperate to pretend that their violence is somehow justified when actually these groups are two sides of the same extremist coin... both loathe the pluralist, modern country we are,” he said.



Zardari, Achakzai file papers for Pak presidential poll

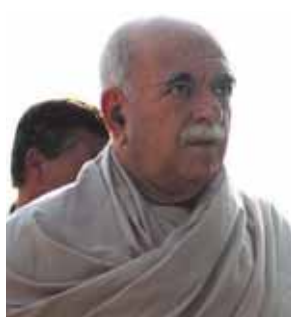
PTI ■ ISLAMABAD

Pakistan’s former president Asif Ali Zardari and his rival ethnic Pashtun politician Mahmood Khan Achakzai on Saturday filed their nominations for the presidential election to be held on March 9.

Zardari, from Sindh province, is the co-chairman of the Pakistan Peoples Party and has the support of the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz as the two leading parties joined hands to form a coalition government after the February 8 elections produced a split mandate.

Zardari, 68, is set to become the president for the second time as he is being supported by the parties that enjoy a majority in the electoral college. He also served as president from 2008 to 2013. Achakzai, 75, from Balochistan, is the chief of the Pashtunkhwa Milli Awami Party and was nominated by Imran Khan, the jailed leader of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf party. In Parliament, Achakzai would be supported by the Sunni Ittehad Council, the new home of the PTI-backed independent lawmakers. Their nomination papers were filed for the presidential elections and the scrutiny of the nomination papers will be held on Monday. The elections will be held on March 9.

The new president will replace Dr Arif Alvi, who completed a five-year term last year.



Ship attacked earlier by Houthi rebels sinks in Red Sea

AP ■ DUBAI

A ship attacked by Yemen’s Houthi rebels has sunk in the Red Sea after days of taking on water, officials said Saturday, the first vessel to be fully destroyed as part of their campaign over Israel’s war against Hamas in the Gaza Strip. The sinking of the Rubymar comes as shipping through the crucial waterway for cargo and energy shipments moving from Asia and the Middle East to Europe has been affected by the Houthi attacks.

Already, many ships have turned away from the route. The sinking could see further detours and higher insurance rates put on vessels plying the waterway — potentially driving up global inflation and affecting aid shipments to the region.

The Belize-flagged Rubymar had been drifting northward after being attacked on Feb 18 in the Bab el-Mandeb Strait, a crucial waterway linking the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden.

Yemen’s internationally recognized government, as well as a regional military official, confirmed the ship sank. The official spoke on condition of anonymity as no authorisation was given to speak to journalists about the incident.

The Rubymar’s Beirut-based manager could not be immediately reached for comment.

Yemen’s exiled government, which has been backed by a Saudi-led coalition since 2015, said the Rubymar sank late Friday as stormy weather took hold over the Red Sea. The vessel had been abandoned for 12 days after the attack, though plans had been made to try and tow the ship to a safe port. The Iran-backed Houthis, who had claimed the ship sank almost instantly after the attack, did not immediately acknowledge the ship’s sinking. The US military’s Central Command previously warned the vessel’s cargo of fertiliser, as well as fuel leaking from the ship, could cause ecological damage to the Red Sea.

3 held for Dhaka mall fire

AP ■ DHAKA

Bangladesh police have arrested three persons, including two owners of a restaurant, in connection with the massive fire that broke out at a shopping mall in the capital Dhaka that killed at least 46 people.

The fire broke out around 9:50 pm on Thursday at the restaurant named “Kacchi Bhai” on the first floor of the building, Green Cozy Cottage, and quickly spread to the upper floors that had more restaurants and a garment shop, according to fire service officials.

Two owners of an eatery called Chumuk and the manager of Kacchi Bhai restaurant were arrested on Friday, Dhaka Metropolitan Police Additional Commissioner Kh Mahid Uddin said.

He said, “The fire started from the food shop on the ground floor of the building. The police will file a case over negligence in connection with the deaths in the fire incident.”

Besides, anyone from the victim’s family can file a case if they want, said the police official.

At least 46 people were killed, and over 20 others sustained severe injuries by a devastating fire on Thursday night. Firefighters rescued 70 people, including 42 in unconscious state, from the rooftop and different floors of the seven-storey Green Cozy Cottage.

Legal action will be taken against whoever is found responsible in this incident, he added.

He said that three people arrested in this incident are being interrogated.

The building did not have permission to house restaurants.

The building had permission for office use, not restaurants and eateries, according to Rajdhani Unnayan Kartripakkha (Rajuk). But the building housed eight restaurants, a juice bar and a tea and coffee shop, the report said.

‘Mt Everest crowded and dirty now’

AP ■ KATHMANDU

The only surviving member of the mountaineering expedition that first conquered Mount Everest said Saturday that the world’s highest peak is too crowded and dirty, and the mountain is a god that needs to be respected.

Kanchha Sherpa, 91, was among the 35 members in the team that put New Zealander Edmund Hillary and his Sherpa guide Tenzing Norgay atop the 8,849-meter (29,032-foot) peak on May 29, 1953.

“It would be better for the mountain to reduce the number of climbers,” Kanchha said in an interview in Kathmandu on Saturday. “Right now there is always a big crowd of people at the summit.”

Since the first conquest, the peak has been climbed thousands of times, and it gets more crowded every year. During the spring climbing season in 2023, 667 climbers scaled the peak, but that brought in thousands of support staff to the base camp between the months of March and May.

There have been concerns about the number of people living on the mountain for months on end, generating trash and waste, but authorities have no plans to cut down on the number of permits they issue to climbers.

There are rules that require climbers to bring down their own trash, equipment and everything they carry to the mountain or risk losing their deposit, but monitoring has not been very effective.

“It is very dirty now. People throw tins and wrappings after eating food. Who is going to pick them up now?” Kanchha said. “Some climbers just dump their trash in the crevasse, which would be hidden at that time but eventually it will flow down to base camp as the snow melts and carries them downward.”

For the Sherpas, Everest is Qomolangma or goddess mother of the world, and is revered by their community. They generally perform religious rituals before climbing the peak.

“They should not be dirtying the mountain. It is our biggest god and they should not be dirtying the gods,” he said “Qomolangma is the biggest god for the Sherpas but people smoke and eat meat and throw them on the mountain.”

MEMBERSHIP EXPULSION NOTICE

This is to inform that the previous Managing Committee of the Fakhrudin Memorial CGHS Ltd., Plot No. 18, Sector-10, Dwarka, New Delhi-110075 (FMCGHS) had expelled Sh. Gopal Vyas, Membership No. 435 on 28th August 2017 for non-adherence to society By-laws and non-compliance of notices served U/s 86 (1) (a).

For and On Behalf of FMCGHS
Amarjeet
President

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform public at large that my client Shri Nagender Mohan Goyal S/o Late Shri Kalish Prasad Goyal R/o K-95-C, Shekh Sarai Phase-I, New Delhi-110017 declare that my brother Namely Late Shri Lalit Mohan Goyal S/o Late Shri Kalish Prasad Goyal had expired on 21.07.2021 and left behind the following legal heir Shri NAGENDER MOHAN GOYAL (Brother) as there is no legal heir of Late Shri Lalit Mohan Goyal, except the above mentioned. If anyone has any objection regarding this, he/she can raise objection within 30 days from the date of this publication at my client's address.

Vinay Kumar (Advocate)
Ch. No.582, Saket Court, New Delhi-17

PUBLIC NOTICE

Known to all that my client Janna Gupta and Vijay Kumar Gupta is owner of 95/2, area 50 sq yds., Khasra No. 105/1, Village Palam, Vishwas Park, Block E, New Delhi and mortgaged the same with ABFL and Janna Gupta and Vikas Gupta Purchased property from Mukesh Kumar vide sale deed dated 14.11.2023 and Mukesh Kumar is Purchase property from Om Prakash vide Notarized GPA dated 11.09.2023 and its related documents, so it is informed that any deal with said documents by any person except my said client and said institution regarding said property shall be deemed as null and void. If any person having any claim, right in said property then he may contact and handover the same and apprise his claim to undersigned within 15 days of this publication.

AD RES LEGAL SOLUTION
Ch. No. 760, Dwarka Court, Sector-10, Dwarka, New Delhi-75
M:- 9899013918

**GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM
PUBLIC WORKS ROADS DEPARTMENT
O/O THE CHIEF ENGINEER (EAP)
ARRTI CAMPUS, FATASIL AMBARI, GUWAHATI - 25,
Email-id: as-ce.asbp@assam.gov.in**

No. CE/EAP/ARRBP/111/TENDERS/2024/39

CORRIGENDUM

Project: Assam Resilient Rural Bridges Program (ARRBP)

Ref: i) RFB No. CE/EAP/ARRBP/111/TENDERS/2024/19, dated: 20/02/2024
ii) RFB No. CE/EAP/ARRBP/111/TENDERS/2024/33, dated: 27/02/2024

The following RFBs for construction of RCC Bridges in the districts under the World Bank Financed ARRB Program as mentioned and published in the following newspapers are hereby cancelled due to unavoidable reasons. Fresh RFBs will follow.

Sl.No.	RFB No.	Name of Newspaper & Published date
1.	CE/EAP/ARRBP/III/TENDERS/2024/19	i) The Sentinel, dtd. 22/02/2024 ii) Niyomiya Barta, dtd. 22/02/2024 and iii) The Pioneer, dtd. 22/02/2024
2.	CE/EAP/ARRBP/III/TENDERS/2024/33	i) The Assam Tribune, dtd. 28/02/2024 ii) Niyomiya Barta, dtd. 28/02/2024 and iii) The Pioneer, dtd. 28/02/2024

Inconvenience is regretted.

Sd/-
Chief Engineer (EAP), PWRD, Assam
ARR&TI Complex, Fatasil Ambari, Guwahati-25

Janasanyog/CF/6156/23-3-March/24

**GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM
MISSION DIRECTORATE OF SWACHH BHARAT MISSION(U)
:::ASSAM:::
2nd Floor, Directorate of Municipal Administration, Dispur, Guwahati-06
E-mail:sbmurhanassam@gmail.com
No.SBM(U)266/2024/32**

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI) NOTICE

Online proposals are invited from the Mission Director, Swachh Bharat Mission (Urban), Assam for "Empanelment of Class - I category Govt, registered contractors/ Firm/ Limited Company etc. in any Assam Government Department or Central Government Department/Organization having requisite experience of executing works of similar complexity for the Construction of Nature-Based Sewage Treatment Plant at the ULBs of Assam under Swachh Bharat Mission (Urban) 2.0, Assam in EPC mode along with S(five) year operation and maintenance (O&M)"

The tender documents can be downloaded from the website www.assamtenders.gov.in from 04/03/2024 (16:00 hours) onwards. The last date & time of bid submission is 25/03/2024 at 14:00 hours and the date & time of bid opening is 26/03/2024 at 12:00 hours.

Pre-Bid meeting time and venue: 12/03/2024 at 12:00 hours at the Office of the Mission Director, Swachh Bharat Mission (Urban), Assam, Dispur, Guwahati-6

The Tender Inviting Authority reserves the right to accept or reject any bid/tender, and to cancel/annul the bidding process and reject all the bids at any time prior to the contract award without assigning any reason thereof.

**State Mission Director,
Swachh Bharat Mission (Urban), Assam
Dispur, Guwahati-6**

Janasanyog/CF/6145/23-3/March/24

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER

SSA-34/1/2023-MIS-SEC-SSA/1480404/2024 Dated 01.03.2024

Mission Director, Samagra Shiksha Axom, Kahilipara, Guwahati-19, Assam invites Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) through e-Tendering process from Authorized dealer or OEM of Tablet Computers.

To participate in this tender process through e-procurement document, bidder should have valid Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) and have to register in the portal https://assamtenders.gov.in by themselves.

The Bidder who have downloaded the tender schedules containing the tender details, terms and conditions, from the website shall submit their tender on-line on the website https://assamtenders.gov.in. The tender should be submitted on-line as per date and time of submission as per prescribed schedule.

Sd/-Mission Director,
Samagra Shiksha Axom
Kahilipara, Guwahati-19

Janasanyog/CF/6148/23/3-Mar-24

**MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
CHHATRAPATI SAMBAHAJINAGAR
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (Building & Electrical)**

Tel.No (0240) 2333536-40
Fax.No.(0240) -2331213

Address: Municipal Corporation Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar, Executive Engineer (Building & Electric)
Head office : Town Hall Pin 431001 E-Tender Call AMC (For Help): Cell No. 9764999592

No/AMC/EX.Eng./Bldg./19/2024
Date 28/02/2024

Sr. No	Work Name	Last Date of Tender Submission
1	Construction of School for Special children, Tidco, Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar.	09/03/2024

(Tender Amount Rs.10,18,00,962/-)

Note 1. For the above stated work is available on web site www.mahatenders.gov.in

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
(Building & Electrical)
Municipal Corporation
Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar.

KVR Karur Vysya Bank
Faridabad (4204) : 1-E / 20, B.P. NIT, 1-2 Chowk, Faridabad - 121001 (Haryana)
Tel:- 0129-2411612 And 0129- 2411604

SAFE DEPOSIT LOCKER BREAK OPEN PUBLIC NOTICE

The following hirers have availed safe deposit locker facility from FARIDABAD (4204) branch and failed to renew the same within the stipulated time, in spite of repeated notices issued to them by The Karur Vysya Bank Ltd. Since the hirers have failed to pay the locker rent dues, we are constrained to break open of the said locker on 18/03/2024, at the concerned branch premises at 11.00 AM.

This Public Notice is to the hirers/legal heirs of the hirers if applicable. Further, The Karur Vysya Bank Ltd has the authority to change the Break Opening Date without any prior notice.

Sr. No	Hirer's Name	Locker no.	Amount due (Rs) with GST
1.	TARUN SEHGAL	4204001B007	15,366/-
2.	SANGEETA GAUBA	4204001B030	8,142/-
3.	NARINDER KUMAR BHATIA	4204004B031	13,806/-
4.	ASHISH KUMAR AGGARWAL	4204001B039	8,142/-
5.	SUMIT GROVER	4204002D023	20,650/-

Date : 03.03.2024
Place : DELHI

Sd/-
Branch Head, Karur Vysya Bank

THE PUNJAB STATE COOPERATIVE MILK PRODUCERS FEDERATION LTD.
SCO 153-155, SECTOR 34-A, CHANDIGARH-160022. EPABX No. 0172-5041812,66
Notice Inviting e Tender
www.verka.coop

e- tenders are hereby invited for the purchase and supply of following items :-

Name of Work/Item	Period/Tentative Qty
For Verka Patiala Dairy Hiring of :- <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Vehicles for veterinary Route & Extension work.	01 No.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Insulated S.S Road Milk Tankers for Milk Lifting from BMC's/ MCC's & sister Dairies Cap. 9,000-11,000 ltrs.	15 No's
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Vehicle Tata 207, Mahindra Maxi truck etc. for transportation of Milk from Societies/ Farms at MCC Samana(Route No. 14,15 & 28)	03 No's

NOTE:

1. For complete details regarding above tender (NIT), please visit our website i.e. www.verka.coop & e Tendering portal i.e. eproc.punjab.gov.in.

2. Corrigendum, if any, will be uploaded on website only.

NA/12/22509/2023/33133 Dated CHD :- 3/1/2024

Incharge (Purchase)

India retains policy space at WTO

Will protect interests of farmers, fishermen in every respect: Goyal

PTI ■ ABU DHABI

The outcome of the 13th ministerial conference of the WTO was "good" and India is "completely satisfied" as the country continues to retain its full policy space to protect the interests of farmers and fishermen in every respect, Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal has said.

He said that New Delhi's procurement of food grains for distribution among the poor continues uninterrupted and without any hindrance. "India continues to retain full policy space for the benefit of our farmers, our fishermen, and in every respect, we have been able to take India's interests to the highest level possible," the minister told reporters here after the five-day meeting of the trade ministers of 166-member World Trade Organisation

(WTO). As the members were not able to reach consensus on key issues such as agriculture and fisheries subsidies, the talks that were scheduled to end on February 29 got extended for a day.

The talks at the WTO's ministerial conference ended with no decision on issues such as finding a permanent solution to public food stockpile and on curbing fisheries subsidies, but the members agreed to further extend the moratorium on imposing import duties on e-commerce trade for two more years.

The ministerial conference, the highest decision making body of the WTO, also managed to get more outcomes such as new disciplines on domestic regulation for services, formal joining of Comoros and Timor-Leste as members of the WTO, and least



developing countries continuing to get the benefits of LDC even three years after graduation.

India successfully pushed the food security issue and the country did not yield any ground on protecting the interest of poor farmers and fishermen as well as on other issues.

Goyal said that "it's a good

forward," he said.

He added that in the proposed fisheries subsidies agreement aimed to curb subsidies that lead to over capacity and over fishing, India found several ambiguities on the proposals that were on the table.

Some of the subsidies that certain countries give to their resource-poor fishermen were sought to be excluded.

Besides, definitions were not satisfactory and several areas where deeper consultations and greater degree of flexibility was required to ensure a fair and balanced agreement, were not possible in such a short period of time.

"By and large, the objectives with which we had come to Abu Dhabi are largely met and we go back fully satisfied," he said, adding, "our largest interest was to protect our farmers and our fishermen, both of which we are strongly doing and that is

our offensive interest which we are actively pursuing."

On further extension of the duty moratorium on e-commerce trade, the minister said that India was "not necessarily opposed" to it fully.

Since the members had not discussed the issues pertaining to the moratorium during the time between MC12 (happened at Geneva June 2022) and MC 13, such as its scope and its impact on different economies, "we believe that it's in the best interest that we continue this e-commerce moratorium", he said.

When asked about the effort of certain developed countries to push non-trader issues like investment agreement, environment and labour in the WTO, Goyal said India has been successful in making sure that such issues cannot become part of the WTO.

Sensex, Nifty hit all time high in special live trading session

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Equity benchmark indices Sensex and Nifty hit fresh all-time peaks in a special trading session on Saturday, extending their previous day's sharp rally, amid impressive GDP data and foreign fund inflows.

Leading stock exchanges BSE and NSE are conducting a special trading session in the equity and equity derivative segments on Saturday to check their preparedness to handle major disruption or failure at the primary site.

The special live trading session will have intra-day switch over from Primary Site (PR) to Disaster Recovery (DR) site.

The 30-share BSE Sensex climbed 236.77 points to reach its all-time high of 73,982.12 in early trade. The Nifty went up by 81.5 points to hit its record peak of 22,420.25.

There will be two trading sessions -- the first from 9:15 am to 10 am on the PR, and the second from 11:30 am to 12:30 pm on the DR site, according to the exchanges.

"Trading members are requested to note that the exchange will conduct a special live trading session with intraday switch over from Primary Site (PR) to Disaster Recovery Site (DR) on Saturday, March 2, in equity and equity derivatives segments," BSE and NSE said in separate circulars.

Among the Sensex firms, Tata Steel, Larsen & Toubro, Tata Motors and State Bank of India were the major gainers.



Mahindra & Mahindra, Titan, ICICI Bank and NTPC were among the laggards.

India's economy grew by better-than-expected 8.4 per cent in the final three months of 2023 -- the fastest pace in one-and-half years.

The US markets ended with gains on Friday.

India's manufacturing sector growth climbed to a five-month high in February amid a sharper uptick in factory production and sales, supported by both domestic and external demand, a monthly survey said on Friday.

The seasonally adjusted HSBC India Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) rose from 56.5 in January to 56.9 in February, pointing to the strongest improvement in the health of the sector since September 2023.

Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) bought equities worth Rs 128.94 crore on Friday, according to exchange data.



India eliminates extreme poverty: Brookings article

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

India has eliminated extreme poverty, a commentary authored by economists Surjit Bhalla and Karan Bhasin in a leading American think-tank The Brookings Institution said, citing the just released consumption expenditure data for 2022-23.

In the article, the two noted economists cite the data to say real per capita consumption has grown 2.9 per cent per annum since 2011-12, with rural growth at 3.1 per cent being significantly higher than urban growth of 2.6 per cent.

Also, there has been an unprecedented decline in urban and rural inequality. The urban Gini declined from 36.7 to 31.9; the rural Gini declined from 28.7 to 27.0.

The Gini coefficient, or the Gini index, measures the inequality of income distribution, whereas a higher value closer to one (or 100 per cent) represents greater inequality.

"In the annals of inequality analysis, this decline is unheard of, and especially in the context of high per capita growth," the article states.

High growth and a large decline in inequality have combined to eliminate poverty in India, it said, citing the PPP of USD 1.9 (purchasing power parity at 2011 prices and not the PPP USD 2.15 line at 2017 prices).

This, the economists argued, was more because the PPP of USD 1.9 closely corresponds to the official India Tendulkar poverty line.

The Headcount Poverty Ratio (HCR), the proportion of a population that lives below the poverty line, has declined from 12.2 per cent in 2011-12 to 2 per cent in 2022-23, equivalent to 0.93 percentage points per year.

Rural poverty stood at 2.5 per cent, while urban poverty was down to 1 per cent. These estimates do not take into account the free food (wheat and rice) supplied by the government to approximately two-thirds of the population, nor utilisation of public health and education," the authors noted in the commentary.

The decline in HCR is remarkable given that in the past it took 30 years for India to witness a similar decline in poverty levels, which has now been witnessed over 11 years, the article said.

Given the near elimination of extreme poverty, India should now graduate to a higher poverty line, which would provide an opportunity to redefine existing social protection programmes to give greater support to the genuinely poor, it added. "Official data now confirms that India has eliminated extreme poverty as commonly defined in international comparisons."

Coal production rises 27 per cent in Apr-Feb

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The coal production from captive and commercial mines has increased 27.06 per cent year-on-year to 126.8 million tonnes (MT) in the April-February this fiscal.

The coal dispatch from the

captive and commercial mines in the first eleven months of the current financial year also rose 29.14 per cent to 128.88 MT over the corresponding period of previous fiscal, the coal ministry said in a statement.

The total coal production and

dispatch in February was 14.85 MT and 12.95 MT, registering an increase of 37 per cent and 33 per cent, respectively. In the year-ago period, The total coal production and dispatch stood at 10.85 MT and 9.72 MT, respectively.

As of February 29, 2024, the

total number of producing mines was 54, with 35 allocated to the power sector, 11 allocated to the non-regulated sector, and 8 for the sale of coal.

Of the 91 mines awarded under commercial coal auctions, seven blocks have already started production.

Boeing in talks to buy Spirit AeroSystems

AP ■ NEW DELHI/DALLAS

Boeing is in talks to buy Spirit AeroSystems, which builds fuselages for Boeing 737 Max jetliners, including the one that suffered a door-panel blowout in January, according to a person knowledgeable about the discussions.

The timing of a deal - or whether the two sides even reach a final agreement - is uncertain, according to the person, who spoke about the private talks on condition of anonymity.

The Wall Street Journal first reported the talks. The newspaper said Friday that Spirit hired bankers to consider strategic options and has held preliminary discussions about a sale back

to Boeing, its former owner. Boeing and Spirit AeroSystems declined to comment.

Shares of Spirit jumped 15% in afternoon trading. A deal could help Boeing respond to critics who have blamed the company's manufacturing problems in large part on outsourcing key work to Spirit and other suppliers.

Boeing spun off Spirit in 2005 as part of a strategy to outsource the supply chain for its commercial planes. In recent years, quality problems have mounted at Spirit, including fuselage panels that didn't fit together precisely enough and holes that were improperly drilled. Those and other flaws held up deliveries of Boeing 737s and 787s.



Spirit removed its CEO in October and replaced him with Patrick Shanahan, a former Boeing executive who served as acting defense secretary in the Trump administration.

Scrutiny of Spirit - which is not related to Spirit Airlines - grew even stronger after an

emergency door plug that it made blew off an Alaska Airlines 737 Max 9 over Oregon on January 5.

Investigators said the panel had been removed at a Boeing factory to let Spirit workers fix damaged rivets, and bolts that help hold the panel in place were missing after the

repair job. It is not clear who removed the bolts and failed to put them back.

Two weeks later, Boeing CEO David Calhoun toured the Spirit factory in Wichita, Kansas. Calhoun and Shanahan pledged to work together to improve manufacturing quality.

Shanahan said Spirit would work with Boeing, regulators and airlines, and he vowed, "We will restore confidence."

Calhoun has long defended Boeing's outsourcing, but his tone changed in recent weeks. On January 31, as Boeing reported a fourth-quarter loss, Calhoun said that outsourcing probably went too far.

About 70 per cent of Spirit AeroSystems' revenue last year came from work done

for Boeing, according to Spirit's latest annual report. That is up from 60 per cent two years earlier. Most of the company's other revenue comes from making parts for Airbus, Boeing's European rival.

Spirit also is looking into selling operations in Ireland that make parts for Airbus, the Journal reported.

Spirit lost USD 616 million last year and hasn't turned a full-year profit since 2019. Since then, it has lost more than USD 2.5 billion. Boeing agreed in October to give more financial help to Spirit.

Boeing said it would provide USD 100 million for Spirit to retool its factory and adjust prices to give the supplier another USD 455 million over two years.

Lulu Group to decide on location to set up food processing unit

PTI ■ BENGALURU

A team of Lulu Group, a leading multinational diversified conglomerate that has planned to set up a export oriented full-fledged food processing plant will visit Vijayapura soon and conduct site visits to decide where the food processing unit should be set up, officials said on Saturday.

Top representatives of the

Lulu Group held a preliminary meeting about the proposed project with the Minister of Large and Medium Industries M B Patil, who is also the district in-charge minister for Vijayapura, they said.

Lulu Group export division CEO Najbuddin, Director Anant and his team participated in the meeting held on Friday at Khanija Bhavan.

In a statement issued by the Minister's office, Patil was quoted as saying that the team of Lulu Group will visit Vijayapura soon and will conduct site visits to decide on where the food processing unit should be set up.

At the recent World Economic Forum in Davos, Lulu Group had expressed interest and signed an agreement to set up a full-fledged food processing plant in Vijayapura district by

investing Rs 300 crore. This meeting was held as a continuation of that and the minister assured that the government will extend full cooperation, it said.

The minister has emphasised that the proposed unit will facilitate the purchase of local food products for grading, sorting and packaging purposes for supply to domestic and export markets, the statement added.

BUSINESS BRIEF

IIFL FINANCES LAUNCHES 'LADIES FIRST' GOLD LOAN MELA

IIFL Finance, which is one of India's largest non-banking finance companies has launched a unique 'Ladies First' Gold Loan Mela Campaign for women customers only. The industry-first initiative will offer an assured gift and zero processing fee to all new women customers, who will take gold loan from IIFL Finance branches across India between March 5 and March 12, 2024.

IIFL Finance will also offer bumper prizes including gold coins to winners. Saurabh Kumar, Head of Gold Loan Business at IIFL Finance said, "To celebrate women entrepreneurs, we at IIFL Finance have launched India's first Gold Loan mela dedicated to women borrowers in the week of International Women's Day."



Strong GDP growth, weak monsoon drove up India carbon emissions in 2023: IEA

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Strong GDP growth and a weak monsoon drove up India's energy-related carbon emissions by around 190 million tonnes in 2023, though the country's per capita emissions remain far below the global average, the International Energy Agency said.

Global energy-related carbon emissions grew by 1.1 per cent in 2023, increasing 410 million tonnes (Mt) to reach a new record high of 37.4 gigatonnes (Gt) in 2023, the International Energy Agency (IEA) said on Friday.

It said emissions in China grew around 565 Mt in 2023, the

largest increase globally and a continuation of its emissions-intensive economic growth in the post-pandemic period. Per capita emissions in China are now 15 per cent higher than in advanced economies.

However, China continued to dominate global clean energy additions. "In India, strong GDP growth drove up emissions by around 190 Mt. But a weak monsoon increased demand for electricity and cut hydro production, contributing around one-quarter of the increase in its total emissions in 2023. Per capita emissions in India remain far below the world average," the IEA said.

India grappled with warm and



dry conditions throughout 2023 and experienced a weak monsoon season, with August being the driest in at least 45 years.

In 2022, energy-related global emissions increased by 490 Mt, representing a 1.3 per cent rise.

According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC),

countries together need to cut down emissions of planet-warming greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide and methane by 43 per cent by 2030 to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius. The IEA noted that emissions from coal accounted for more than 65 per cent of the increase in 2023. It said global hydropower capacity increased by around 20 gigawatts (GW) in 2023. Despite this increase, the global generation of hydropower saw a record decline last year. This was primarily driven by severe and prolonged droughts that impacted major hydropower regions, exacerbated by the influence of El Niño.

Paytm shares decline 2.50 per cent

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Shares of One97 Communications Ltd, which owns and operates Paytm, declined more than 2.50 per cent in Saturday's special trading session, after the Financial Intelligence Unit slapped a penalty of Rs 5.49 crore on Paytm Payments Bank.

Leading stock exchanges BSE and NSE conducted a special trading session in the equity and equity derivative segments on Saturday to check their preparedness to handle major disruption or failure at the primary site.

The company's stock fell by 2.56 per cent to settle at Rs 414.55 apiece on the BSE. During the day, it went lower by 3.61 per cent to Rs 410.05. On the NSE, it declined by 2.13 per cent to Rs 414.40 per share.

Shares of One97 Communications on Friday jumped 5 per cent after the company said the board has approved the discontinuation of inter-company pacts with Paytm Payments Bank to reduce dependencies.

In fresh trouble for Paytm Payments Bank, the Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU) has slapped a penalty of Rs 5.49 crore on the payments bank for violating anti-money laundering law, the finance ministry said on



Friday. Paytm Payments Bank Ltd (PPBL) has been in trouble after the Reserve Bank directed it to stop accepting fresh deposits from customers with effect from February 29 -- a deadline which was later extended to March 15.

Earlier this week, Vijay Shekhar Sharma stepped down as part-time non-executive Chairman of PPBL and the board of the bank was reconstituted.

The finance ministry said FIU-India had initiated a review of Paytm Payments Bank on receipt of specific information from law enforcement agencies in respect of a few entities and their network of businesses engaged in illegal acts, including organising and facilitating online gambling.

No. 1 seed Jessica in San Diego Open semis

AP ■ SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA (USA)

Top-seeded Jessica Pegula beat Anna Blinkova 6-1, 2-6, 6-2 on Friday to advance to the semi-finals of the San Diego Open. Pegula, ranked No. 5 in the world, will face sixth-seeded Marta Kostyuk, who eliminated fourth-seeded Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova 3-6, 6-4, 6-3 in a rain-delayed quarterfinal. “Anna’s always a really tough competitor,” Pegula said. “She makes you really have to earn it. I feel like I started out playing really well, then she changed up her game plan and started hitting a lot of high balls. I wasn’t stepping in and was getting frustrated. I reeled off some really bad errors for a couple of games there, but I managed to find my range.” Pegula finished with 24 winners. She made 17 unforced errors, the majority of which came in the second set. Third-seeded Emma Navarro advanced to the semi-finals for the second year in a row by beating the last remaining qualifier, 113th-ranked Daria



Saville, 6-4, 6-2. She’ll face Katie Boulter, who beat 2022 runner-up Donna Vekic 6-4, 6-3. Navarro, 2021 NCAA singles champion at Virginia, was trailing 1-4 in the opening set

before reeling off five straight games to take control of the match. “Someone in the crowd told me to wake up. I guess that was maybe the push I needed,” said the 22-year-old

Navarro, who capitalized on eight of her 14 break-point opportunities. “It’s tough playing someone I’ve never played before. I was just kind of getting used to her game and putting

together a strategy of how I wanted to play. It took me a little bit to find that, but I got there in the end. I’m happy with the win and excited to be moving forward.” It will be Navarro’s fifth tour-level semifinal in less than a year. She won her first WTA title earlier this year in Hobart, Australia. There will be no return trip to the semifinals for Vekic. The seventh seed was upset on a windy day by Boulter, who at No. 49 is Britain’s top-ranked player. Earlier this week, Boulter beat second-seeded Beatriz Haddad Maia 3-6, 6-3, 6-4. “It was an absolute battle,” said the 27-year-old Boulter, who overcame a 1-3 first-set deficit to reach the second tour-level semifinal of her career. “Very tricky conditions. Not easy to get any rhythm for either of us, because we’re both big hitters. I found it tough to kind of get into the match. I just tried to stay as strong as I could and somehow found a way over the line. I’m an aggressive player, so I do try to go for it no matter what the conditions are.



Indian trio draws on a dull day in Prague Masters

PTI ■ PRAGUE

The Indian trio of R Praggnanandhaa, D Gukesh and Vidit Gujrathi played out draws on a dull fourth round day in the Prague Masters Chess tournament here. It was time for some recovery for Praggnanandhaa after two back-to-back losses and the Indian just played a solid game to sign peace with local hopeful Nguyen Thai Dai Van. Gukesh did not give any chances to Nodirbek Abdusattarov of Uzbekistan and split the point while Gujrathi could not make much headway against Mateusz Bartel of Poland. The day witnessed no decisive games as the remaining two were also drawn. Parham Maghsoodloo of Iran drew with highest ranked Czech David Navara and Richard Rapport of Romania got the same result against German Vincent Keymer. As a result the overnight positions remained unchanged with everyone heading a half to their kitty. Abdusattarov and Maghsoodloo now share the lead on three points out of a possible four Gukesh and Rapport share the third with

two and a half points apiece. Gujrathi stands at fourth spot on two points, a half point ahead of Praggnanandhaa, Navara, Dai Van and Keymer. Bartel moved up to a full point and remained at the bottom of the tables. The Nimzo Indian has been a part of Praggnanandhaa’s repertoire and he used it effectively as black. The Capablanca variation by Dai Van only saw pieces change hands at regular intervals. The players arrived at a heavy pieces endgame with white having a little pull but the Indian warded off the threats with a timely pawn sacrifice leading to a theoretically drawn rook and pawns endgame. The game lasted 40 moves. Abdusattarov again banked on his pet Catalan opening but Gukesh was calm and in control right through. The Uzbek had ridden on his luck in the previous round when he won a lost position against Navara but in the fourth round he was presented with no such opportunity. Gukesh went for a thematic central breakthrough in the early part of the middle game and developed his forces efficiently to force some exchanges. The players reached a Queen and pawn endgame that was just level

and offered no hopes for complications. Gujrathi’s Scotch opening as white raised visions of a complicated game but Bartel was up to the task even though it looked like the Indian was on top. Gujrathi won a rook for a minor piece but black had sufficient counter-play. The draw was a just result. In the Challengers section Grandmaster R Vaishali scored her second victory on the trot at the expense of Stepan Herbek of Czech Republic. The victory brought Vaishali back to a fifty percent score after two losses in the first two rounds. Meanwhile the race for India’s top rated continued and Viswanathan Anand again reclaimed the top spot as Arjun Erigaise lost the second round game against Xiangzhi Bu in the Shenzhen Masters in China. **RESULTS** round 4 (Indians unless stated): Richard Rapport (Rou, 2.5) drew with Vincent Keymer (Ger, 1.5) David Navara (Cze, 1.5) drew with Parham Maghsoodloo (Iri, 3); Nguyen Thai Dai Van (Cze, 1.5) drew with R Praggnanandhaa (1.5); Nodirbek Abdusattarov (Uzb, 3) drew with D Gukesh (2.5); Vidit Gujrathi (2) drew with Mateusz Bartel (Pol, 1).

AIFF women committee discusses appointment of new coaches

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The All India Football Federation’s (AIFF) women’s committee on Saturday held discussions regarding the appointment of new coaches for national teams and recruitment of more ‘A’ and ‘B’ License coaches. In recent times, the country finished joint winners in the SAFF U19 Women’s Championship in Dhaka. Immediately after that, the senior team secured the runners-up position in the Turkish Women’s Cup. The U-16 women’s team is currently playing in the SAFF Championship and won the first match comfortably. “The women’s senior national team didn’t have the opportunity to get international exposure for many months. There are plans to give the team more frequent exposure in the near future,” said acting secretary general Satyanarayan. “In light of these achievements and with



various international competitions underway, the ‘Khelo India’ Women’s Football League continues to serve as a beacon of progress. “It offers a crucial platform for aspiring women footballers to unlock their poten-

tial and play an important role in fostering the growth of the sport throughout the nation.” The committee analysed the performances of the various women’s national teams and deliberated upon the discus-

sions going on with the sport’s world governing body regarding the FIFA Women’s Development Programme and various domestic leagues that are being conducted in the country, such as the Khelo India Women’s League and the Indian Women’s League. The committee also lauded the strategic deployment of scouts across regions of the country, recognising their important role in talent identification and development. Additionally, discussions were held regarding the appointment of new coaches, signalling a promising step forward in advancing women’s football in India. The committee underscored the importance of recruiting more A and B License coaches, particularly goalkeeper coaches, and encouraging their active participation within the ecosystem. In addition to these initiatives, the committee recommended the celebration of Women’s Day and the organisation of virtual workshops.



With experience, things have changed for me: Sreejesh

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Veteran goalkeeper PR Sreejesh says he has learned to steer clear of negative thoughts with experience, something that has helped him immensely while guarding the post for the Indian team in big matches. As he prepares for the upcoming Paris Olympics, Sreejesh spoke about the criticism that comes with the “thankless job” of manning the goalpost for the national side. “It is a thankless job at times because if I made 10 saves and concede one goal, everyone will remember that one mistake. But I have accepted that and I have moved on with that,” he said on Saturday. “This profession has helped me in my personal life on how to deal with pressure and criticism as well,” Sreejesh added during a conversation with David Lee, who is the head coach of Prime Volleyball League franchise Bengaluru Torpedoes. One of the best players in modern-day volleyball, Lee represented USA thrice at the Olympics, and led his side to a gold medal and a bronze medal. Sreejesh, who is one of the top goalkeepers in the world, has represented India at the Olympics three times, and won the bronze medal at the

Tokyo Games in 2021. During a discussion on how athletes can develop mental strength at an early age, Sreejesh opened up on his struggles as a young goalkeeper. “Goalkeeping is a mental game. Being a player, we understand how we want to get involved in a match. But, being a goalkeeper, I just stand behind and my game is in my head,” Sreejesh said. “As a young player, my negative feelings used to dominate my positive feelings, and that would lead me to concede goals. Now, with my experience, things have changed for me, and I allow positive thoughts to dominate.” Sreejesh praised Prime Volleyball League for providing a platform for youngsters to showcase their skills and recalled his experience of playing in the erstwhile Hockey India League. “I was always very curious to see how the top overseas players are playing and how they train and behave. “Earlier, I never used to care about my diet, preparations, or proteins. I was a good listener, but never took an initiative in meetings. But the league helped me in learning from the overseas player and helped me improve in all these aspects of my game.”

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The seasoned Shiva Thapa, Deepak Bhorla and Nishant Dev will be among nine Indian boxers fighting it out for Paris Olympic berths at the 1st World Qualification Tournament, starting in Busto Arsizio, Italy on Sunday. Seven men and two women from India will be aiming to secure Olympic berths at the qualifiers being conducted by the Paris 2024 Boxing Unit (PBU), an ad-hoc body created by the International Olympic Committee Executive Board. The tournament has 49 quota places on offer and a boxer will be assured of a Paris ticket after reaching the semifinals. In the women’s 60kg category, however, there will be a box-off between the losing semifinalists to decide the Olympic berths as only three spots are available. While several boxers have already obtained quota places via their respective continental events, there are many world-class pugilists

including Colombia’s Yuberjen Martinez and Tomoya Tsuboi of Japan in the men’s 51kg, reigning 57kg world champion Makhmud Sabyrkhan of Kazakhsan and Olympic silver medallist Yoel Finol of Venezuela, who will be keen to seal the deal in Italy this month. India’s hopes will be spearheaded by the trio of 2023 world championship medallists — Bhorla (51kg), Mohammed Hussamudin (57kg) and Dev (71kg). Bhorla and Dev have emerged as strong contenders in their respective weight classes over the last year. Two-time Commonwealth Games bronze medallist Hussamudin will be back in the ring for the first time since last year’s world championships, having undergone a surgery on his left knee. Expectations will be high from the six-time Asian Championship medallist Thapa (63.5kg) as well as former Asian champion Sanjeet (92kg).



Super heavyweight boxer Narender Berwal (+92kg) is also a strong contender. He came the closest to clinching a quota among all Indian male pugilists at the Asian Games, which was the first qualifying

event for the boxers from the continent. Among women, Jaismine Lamboria will have her task cut out in the women’s 60kg category. She was given strong competition by Simranjit Kaur

at the nationals in December and the CWG bronze medallist will have to up her game for a favourable outcome. Former youth world champion Ankushita Boro

(66kg) has been given a chance over Arundhati Choudhary, who had defeated the Assam boxer in the final of the nationals in December. Two-time world champion Nikhat Zareen (50kg), Preeti Pawar (54kg), Parveen Hooda (57kg) and Tokyo Olympics bronze medallist Lovlina Borgohain (75kg) have already secured their passage to Paris. This is, however, not the last chance for boxers to qualify for the Paris Games as the last qualifying event will be held in May-June in Thailand. India had nine boxers competing at the Tokyo Olympics, which yielded one medal — a bronze by Borgohain.

SQUAD:

WOMEN: Jaismine Lamboria (60kg), Ankushita Boro (66kg). **MEN:** Deepak Bhorla (51kg), Mohammed Hussamudin (57kg), Shiva Thapa (63.5kg), Nishant Dev (71kg), Lakshya Chahar (80kg), Sanjeet (92kg), Narender Berwal (+92kg).

FIA president: Red Bull boss Christian Horner controversy ‘damaging sport’

AP ■ SAKHIR (BAHRAIN)

The president of Formula 1’s governing body told the Financial Times the controversy around Red Bull team principal Christian Horner is damaging the sport but that the FIA won’t conduct its inquiry unless it receives a complaint. Ahead of Saturday’s season-opening Bahrain Grand Prix, Mohammed Ben Sulayem said any complaint lodged with its compliance officer would be investigated. But, it had not received one related to Horner’s situation and would not “jump the gun,” the newspaper reported. “It’s damaging the sport,” Ben Sulayem told the newspaper, which added that he was speaking Friday after a meeting with Horner. “This is damaging on a human level.” On Wednesday, the team’s parent company dismissed a complaint of alleged misconduct by



Horner toward a team employee. A day later during practice for the Bahrain Grand Prix, a file alleged to contain evidence against Horner was emailed to nearly 200 people in the F1 paddock, including Liberty Media, F1, the FIA, the other nine team principals and multiple media outlets. The authenticity of the files has not been verified by The Associated Press; the file came

from a generic email account. Horner has denied wrongdoing and said in a statement issued Thursday that he would not “comment on anonymous speculation.” Three-time defending champion Max Verstappen said after qualifying for pole position Friday that Horner was “fully committed to the team” but that his team principal was also “probably a little bit distracted.

FIFA rules panel scraps plan for blue cards

AP ■ LOCH LOMOND (SCOTLAND)

There will be no blue cards shown in soccer, FIFA president Gianni Infantino said Saturday ahead of the annual meeting of the sport’s rule-making panel. The rules panel known as IFAB is due to look at extending trials of “sin bins” at low-level games. But beyond that, the idea aired a month ago of adding blue cards to referees’ pockets with their red and yellow to remove players from the field for several minutes has been scrapped. “Let me be clear — it’s a red card to the idea of blue cards,” Infantino told reporters in a video clip posted overnight on his Instagram account. “There will not be any blue cards used at elite level.” “This is a topic that is non-existent for us and FIFA is completely opposed to blue cards,” Infantino said at a lakeside hotel that will host the meeting near Glasgow. Sin bins were introduced in grassroots soccer in the 2019-20 season to try to reduce dissent and increase fair play. The idea has been unpopular with English Premier League coaches who believe teams will use defensive and negative tactics if a



player is removed for 10 minutes. However, the new suggestion of using blue cards to send players to sin bins was met with widespread derision. The IFAB panel is made up of officials from FIFA and the four British soccer federations. FIFA has four votes and the federations of England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales each has one. Six votes are needed for a proposal to pass. Sin bins are used in rugby for a variety of fouls. Ice hockey similarly whistles penalties that send players to the “penalty box.” Infractions such as tripping are two-minute penalties that give the other team an advantage called the “power play” that creates more goal-scoring opportunities.

“I really believe that what I do as an actress is my God-given talent. This is my calling, not my career”
— Angela Bassett



HUMA QURESHI, the acclaimed Indian actress, has carved her niche in the film industry with her remarkable talent and versatile performances. Her breakthrough role in Anurag Kashyap’s crime thriller Gangs of Wasseypur garnered widespread acclaim, establishing her as a force to reckon with in Bollywood. Known for her ability to portray complex characters with nuance and authenticity, Qureshi has since delivered captivating performances in web series like Laila Maharani. Beyond her acting prowess, she advocates for social causes and gender equality, using her platform to address important issues. Huma Qureshi continues to captivate audiences with her talent, proving herself as one of the most compelling actresses of her generation. She spoke to the **PIONEER** about her craft and career

ACTRESS OF DEPTH AND VERSATILITY



I WAS INTO THEATRE IN COLLEGE AND THAT’S WHERE I DISCOVERED MY LOVE FOR ACTING. I MOVED TO MUMBAI WITH THE INTENTION OF BECOMING AN ACTOR. IN MY INITIAL DAYS IN THE INDUSTRY, I DID A COMMERCIAL WHICH WAS DIRECTED BY ANURAG KASHYAP AND HE OFFERED ME GANGS OF WASSEYPUR. THAT’S HOW MY JOURNEY IN CINEMA WAS KICKSTARTED

CAN YOU share a bit about your journey into the film industry and how you got your start as an actress?

I was into theatre in college and that’s where I discovered my love for acting. I moved to Mumbai with the intention of becoming an actor. In my initial days in the industry, I did a commercial which was directed by Anurag Kashyap and he offered me Gangs of Wasseypur. That’s how my journey in cinema was kickstarted.

What motivated you to pursue a career in acting?

In school I used to keenly participate in extra-curricular activities. Whether it was elocution, debates or plays. When I went to college, I was deeply attracted to theatre and was bitten by the acting bug. I moved to Mumbai with the dream of becoming an actor.

Of all the roles you’ve played so far, which one has been the most challenging, and why? I have played roles which have challenged me as an actor and made me push myself out of my comfort zone. It’s difficult to choose any one role. I thoroughly enjoyed playing both Mohsina and Jhilmil even though they belong to completely different worlds. In the recent past, whether it was Tarla, Monica, Shalini or Rani Bharti - they are all strong women who will not be deterred by society or it’s norms and will rise above their circumstances with sheer will power and be unapologetic about their ambitions.

Can you tell us about any upcoming projects that you are excited about?

The third season of Maharani will be streaming soon. I think this is one of the only shows which has a female protagonist and has been commissioned for the third season. I am really looking forward to how people receive it.

How do you think the film industry has evolved during your career, especially in terms of roles for women and what changes would you like to see in the entertainment industry, particularly in Bollywood?

It’s important for every actor to figure out their own path. There always will be a plethora of roles to play and actors must

choose roles that work for them. The parameters for choosing roles are one’s own. The sets have more women in all departments of filmmaking. Even though it’s still not a level playing field, for example, the pay gap between male and female actors is still an issue, the industry has space for everyone and is constantly evolving

How do you approach preparing for a new role? Are there any specific methods you follow?

Not really. For me, reading the script multiple times helps. I just follow the script and the director’s vision. Of course as an actor I improvise where it makes sense. But, essentially, I rely on the script for shaping my role.

Balancing personal and professional life can be challenging. How do you manage to maintain that balance? What are your favorite ways to unwind and relax when you’re not working? I love sleeping. On days when I am not shooting, I am usually catching up on my sleep or hang out with my friends and family.

In recent years, many actors have become advocates for social issues. Are there any causes that you are particularly passionate about? How do you see your platform as an actress contributing to social change or awareness? I made a film which addressed body shaming called Double XL. As an actor one is expected to fit a mould but I have never adhered to that. My film was about how the skills a person has is far superior and what matters more than the looks or the how much they weigh. There has always been a lot of pressure on women to look a certain way and I have always advocated against that thought process.

What advice would you give to aspiring actors who are looking to enter the film industry?

Every individual’s journey is different and they have to write their own story. What worked for me might not work for someone else. Focus, determination and resilience are key qualities.

Are there any lessons you’ve learned in your career that you wish someone had told you earlier?

I am glad that I got the opportunity to be on the journey and experience it for myself.



I LOVE SLEEPING. ON DAYS WHEN I AM NOT SHOOTING, I AM USUALLY CATCHING UP ON MY SLEEP OR HANG OUT WITH MY FRIENDS AND FAMILY







Jewellery

THAT REFLECTS YOUR STYLE

Recognised for its enduring value and cultural significance, handcrafted jewellery continues to be a preferred choice among discerning individuals looking to make meaningful and lasting investments in precious metals and stones. As the wedding season approaches, we speak to jewellery expert **GUNJAN SONI** about the latest trends. By **NIVI SHRIVASTAVA**



BRIDAL BLING

KNOWN for its stunning bridal pieces and intricate sets, the House of MBJ is famous for designing statement necklaces, traditional mangalsutras, chandbalis, jhumkas and chandelier earrings, and beautifully crafted maang tikkas. Speaking about the latest trends for brides, Gunjan informs, “We understand the importance of making every bride’s special day even more magical. We offer a curated selection of bridal jewellery that captures the essence of timeless elegance and contemporary flair. In terms of specific styles, we specialize in traditional, antique, and modern designs, ensuring that there’s something for every bride’s taste and preference. Whether

you’re looking for a classic Kundan or Gold set, a regal Polki ensemble, or a modern diamond-studded piece, our bridal collection is designed to cater to diverse style sensibilities. Each piece is meticulously crafted to complement the bride’s attire and enhance her natural beauty on her wedding day.”

As for the latest trends in bridal jewellery, the market is currently witnessing a surge in demand for contemporary yet traditional designs. Brides are gravitating towards statement pieces that blend cultural aesthetics with a modern twist. Adding further, Gunjan says, “Personalized and customizable jewellery is gaining popularity, allowing brides to add a personal touch to their bridal ensembles. For brides who

appreciate versatility, convertible jewellery is a trend to watch. Pieces that can be worn in multiple ways, such as detachable necklace pendants or convertible earrings, provide brides with the flexibility to create different looks throughout their wedding festivities. This year, we have launched the AZRA bridal collection, which aims to transport wearers to a world of timeless charm and magical allure. Each piece in this collection is meticulously crafted to capture the essence of elegance, sophistication, and grace. The collection showcases an array of exquisite gemstones, including radiant diamonds, lustrous pearls, and vibrant colored gemstones, each carefully selected for its exceptional brilliance and symbolic significance.”



EVERYDAY ELEGANCE

APART from bridal sets, contemporary jewellery with modern aesthetics is also a huge hit among young buyers, who love sporting layered necklaces for both festive and daily occasions. For festive styling, Gunjan recommends, “Consider mixing various lengths and styles of layered neckpieces with Indian wear, while delicate and dainty options work seamlessly for daily wear. Statement earrings with intricate details and vibrant gemstones are perfect for adding glamour to festive attire, while smaller, more subtle statement earrings can elevate daily outfits. Stackable rings and bracelet stacks remain en vogue, allowing for creative expression in both festive and daily ensembles. Choker necklaces, especially those with unique detailing, effortlessly enhance traditional outfits for celebrations, while simpler versions make for stylish daily accessories. Personalized jewellery, such as pieces with initials or significant dates, adds a sentimental touch suitable for both special occasions and everyday wear.”

A BLEND OF TRADITION AND MODERNITY

Currently, young jewellery buyers in India reveal a strong affinity for contemporary designs that seamlessly merge tradition with modernity. Brands have noticed a particular fondness for minimalist pieces that effortlessly complement everyday wear. Versatility is paramount, as youngsters look for designs that effortlessly transition from casual to formal settings, meeting diverse lifestyle needs. Gunjan reveals, “Our customization options allow for personalization with initials or birthstones and resonate deeply with this dynamic demographic seeking self-expression. We prioritize ethical and sustainable practices in jewellery production, aligning with the heightened environmental consciousness among young consumers. Collaborations with influencers and celebrities, along with our commitment to affordability and technology integration such as virtual try-ons, enrich the shopping experience for our patrons. While embracing contemporary trends, we also honour the cultural significance of jewelry, offering pieces that celebrate India’s rich heritage.”





ARTIST’S TRIBUTE TO AMBASSADOR OF HOPE

75 Portraits of Prime Minister NARENDRA MODI Unveiled in Delhi



DR Avinash Kate, the Dean of Shantamani Kala Kendra at Jain University, has embarked on an extraordinary artistic endeavour by creating 75 emotion-filled portraits of Shri Narendra Modi, the Prime Minister of India. These diverse portraits, capturing various facets of Shri Modi’s work, emotions, and devotion to ‘Bharat Mata’, have been meticulously crafted on canvas using acrylic colors. The exhibition, which also includes a compilation detailing Modi’s journey as the Prime Minister, was unveiled to

commemorate his leadership and representational role in shaping the modern India. This unparalleled artistic feat marks a global first, with no other artist having created such an extensive series of portraits of a single individual in various forms. Dr. Avinash Kate dedicated three months of tireless effort to this meditative process, indirectly guided by spiritual influences, adding a profound dimension to the creation of these soulful portraits. Reflecting on the exhibition, Dr. Avinash Kate expressed, “The inspiring leadership

and unwavering commitment of our esteemed Prime Minister have been a constant source of motivation for me. This collection serves as a depiction of his emotional journey, portraying him as a true ambassador of hope.” Acknowledging the support received, Dr. Chenraj Roychand, Chancellor of JAIN (Deemed-to-be University), stated, “The collection provides a unique glimpse into Dr. Kate’s inner imagination, capturing the essence of Shri Modi’s emotions, whose leadership has not only shaped the

present but is paving the way for a future where India stands tall on the global stage.” The exhibition, held at the Constitution Club, New Delhi, attracted a significant number of art enthusiasts and prominent figures directly involved in the project, including Dr. Chainraj Roychand (Chairman of Jain University) and Dr. Gani Rajendra Vijay Maharaj (Founder of Sukhi Foundation Parivar, tribal Jain saint), among others. For his commitment and dedication, Dr. Avinash Kate has received numerous prestigious

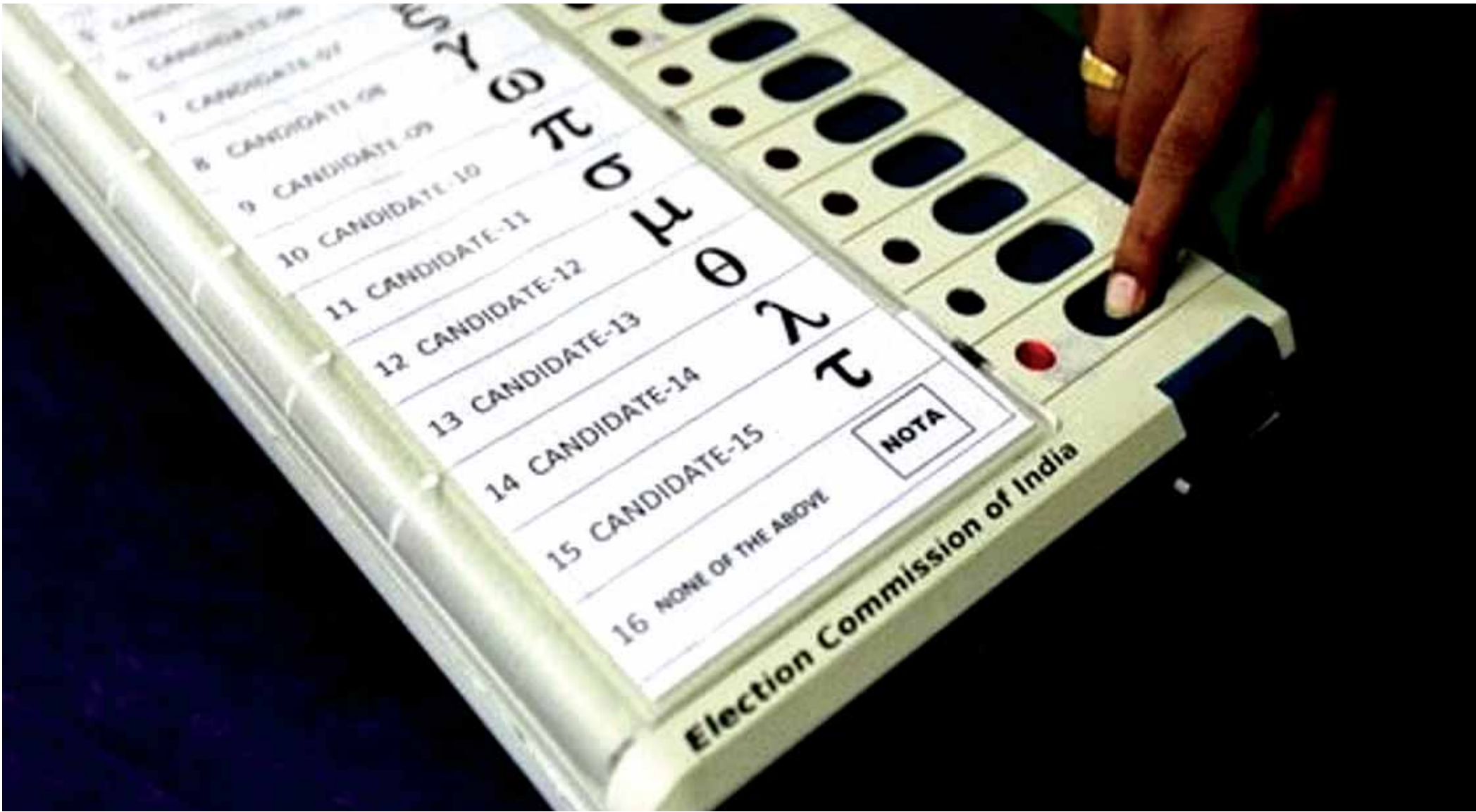
awards and honors, including recognition in world records, international records, and the Limca Book of Records. Shantamani Kala Kendra, where the exhibition took place, stands as a testament to the university’s commitment to promoting various art forms, including Fine Arts and Performing Arts, while JAIN (Deemed-to-be University) continues to be recognized among the top educational institutions in India, fostering a learner-centric environment that encourages innovation and entrepreneurship.

NOTA: THE SILENT REVOLUTION OR THE ILLUSION OF CHOICE?



ASTHA RANJAN

NOTA CONTINUES TO BE A TOOL OF DISSENT IN THE ELECTORAL DEMOCRACY. IT EMPOWERS THE ELECTORS TO REGISTER THEIR DISCONTENT WITH THE POOL OF CANDIDATES WHILE MAINTAINING SECRECY, THUS PERSUADING PARTIES TO FIELD BETTER CANDIDATES



It's impeccable to christen NOTA in the truest sense of the word as the 'Sankat Mochan' of democracy in political Lanka, as each vote deserves a political Ayodhya, not a chaotic Lanka. With the 2013 judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India (PUCL v. Union of India), a firm position was set that in an exceedingly legal system, electors must be given the right to reject, which owes its genesis to freedom of speech and expression (Art. 19(1)(a)). However, this was substantially necessitated on account that secrecy of casting a vote was duly recognised under the provisions of the Representation of People's Act, 1951, and the Conduct of Election Rules, 1961, as being fundamental to free and fair elections. The 170th Report of the Law Commission, 1999, while laying down the chassis of NOTA,

recommended a method to ensure the purity of elections, keep out criminals and other undesirable elements, and minimise the role and importance of caste and religion. Pursuant to this, no candidate could be declared returned unless he obtains at least 50% of the votes cast, and to determine such a percentage, even the negative vote would be treated as votes cast. The report also recommends a 'run-off' and fresh election if candidates fail to secure the requisite percentage. This was endorsed by the Background Paper on Electoral Reforms, 2010. Even in Columbia, blank votes are considered to be valid ones and there stands similar provision to this effect. However, in its press release dated October 28th, 2013, the Election Commission of India clarified while referring to provisions of the Conduct of

Elections Rules, 1961 (clause (a) of Rule 64) read with the Representation of the People's Act, 1951 (Section 65), that even if the number of electors opting for NOTA option is more than the number of votes polled by any of the candidates, the candidate who secures the largest number of votes has to be declared elected. This implies that even if 99% of the electors rejected the candidature of all the candidates, conversely, in defiance of their mandate, the candidate who managed to secure just 1% of the votes could be declared to be returned. This serves as a testimony of NOTA having no electoral value in India, ergo, there's no wrong in deeming it nothing more than a protest vote. Be that as it may, to justify the forthcoming quote "Not all battles are fought for victory. Some are fought simply to tell the world that someone was there on the battlefield"

(Ravish Kumar) in an electoral democracy could set the stage for catalysing NOTA as just a token of gesture which is bound to be unjust. Nevertheless, NOTA continues to be a tool of dissent in the electoral democracy. It empowers the electors to register their discontent with the pool of candidates while maintaining secrecy, thus persuading parties to field better candidates. In the 2018 Assembly election of Madhya Pradesh, NOTA bagged fifth largest tally of votes polled (1.42%) which was more than SP (1.3%) and AAP (0.66%). Similarly, in Karnataka, NOTA secured more votes than BSP and CPI (M) which are national parties. The figures are indicative of the significant usage of NOTA in numeric sense, however, its impact still remains insignificant. The State Election Commission of Haryana deviated from the

practice of Election Commission of India during the Municipal Elections. A notification dated November 22nd, 2018 by the SEC, Haryana deemed NOTA to be a 'Fictional Electoral Candidate'. It further went on to state that if a situation arises where NOTA receives the highest number of votes, then a fresh election would be conducted. All candidates who received lesser vote than NOTA would become ineligible from contesting the re-election. Similar notification was also published by the SEC, Maharashtra in the same year. In yet another development from the past, the Supreme Court issued a notice to the Centre and the ECI on March 15th, 2021 on a PIL which sought a direction to the poll panel to nullify an election result and conduct a fresh poll if the maximum votes in a particular constituency were for NOTA.

For a democracy to survive in its true form it is essential that the best available men should be chosen as people's representative and if electors find none from the roster to be suitable enough, negative voting is necessitated. However, the rationale behind the 2013 judgement of the Apex Court has failed to bear fruits. In a vibrant democracy, voter's choice must be of paramount and if they palpably reject all the contesting candidates, their choice should be empowered by way of a fresh election. In the existing scenario, if we picture the electoral stage as a grand theatre; NOTA plays the role of a silent spectator, leaving no tangible mark on the political drama. Thus, even with the popularity of NOTA among the electors experiencing a significant rise over the years, the question of whether it is 'revolutionary' or mere 'illusionary' lingers.

Adaptability is key in today's ever-changing business landscape, and many businesses struggle to keep up with rapid changes. That's where composable architecture steps in as the game-changer. Composable architecture is like the Lego bricks of digital transformation. Brands can create independent, reusable, and scalable building blocks, mixing and matching them to fit their needs. The best part? It's fast. Brands can try new solutions, make changes, fail fast, and learn from failures quickly, making their business more agile. Take the Netflix vs Blockbuster case. Netflix embraced change early on, initially delivering DVDs by mail and then swiftly transitioning to a streaming platform. On the contrary, Blockbuster failed to adapt promptly. Even though they understood that Netflix's approach was the future, they didn't evolve quickly enough. As a result, Blockbuster couldn't keep pace and eventually faced failure. It's a lesson that being late to adjust can lead to significant consequences. The result? Blockbuster went bankrupt, while Netflix became a leader in online entertainment. The lesson? Digital transformation is no longer a choice; it's a necessity. To stay ahead, brands need a flexible and agile architecture, making composable architecture the future of digital transformation. And it comes with benefits:

The Role of Composable Architecture in Your Digital Transformation Journey

VELOCITY

One big plus of composable systems is how quickly you can get things done. Gartner predicts that by 2024, 70% of big and medium-sized companies will focus on composability to make their apps easy to put together. Teams using composable web setups show real business benefits, like faster go-to-market time.

AGILITY:

Composable architecture involves assembling systems through loosely coupled components, creating a modular structure with easily combinable, detachable, and reusable parts. Furthermore, composable architecture minimizes vendor lock-in to a great extent, allowing brands to build piece by piece. If one vendor doesn't have the required technology, a brand can get it from another, creating a customized structure using best-of-breed technologies.

SECURITY

Maintaining and updating codebases in monolithic



MAYANK MISHRA

Brands can create independent, reusable, and scalable building blocks, mixing and matching them to fit their needs. The best part? It's fast. Brands can try new solutions, make changes, fail fast, and learn from failures quickly, making their business more agile



structures affects the entire system. However, composable architectures allow alteration in each component independently, making the process far less cumbersome and risky to deploy.

REUSABILITY

The key benefit of composable architecture is the ability to reuse components. The modular

system reuses and connects standards and patterns through APIs. With reusability as a central focus, any existing modules can be reused or serve as the foundation for a new application or service. Furthermore, reusability of components lowers the development costs to a great extent.

QUICKER INNOVATION

Legacy systems are complex to handle and need lots of time and resources to change, keep up, and improve. Besides, multiple teams have to be involved in the entire process.

Composable architecture offers a more manageable IT upgrade setup, allowing seamless integration and feature launches. With composable architecture, IT can focus on developing new ideas and giving customers a better experience instead of dealing with routine tasks like marketing and maintenance.

OMNICHANNEL CAPABILITIES

A flexible digital experience platform (DXP) combined with a headless content management system (CMS) makes creating and sharing content smooth. This allows marketers to keep a consistent presence on various digital platforms and devices, all from one central place. They can quickly and easily improve and send out campaigns to reach their target audience wherever they are.

While the many benefits of composability make it desirable

for significant brands, they must first check if they have the proper framework to adopt a composable architecture. This can be done using MACH.

MACH

- M — Microservices: Independent services connected via APIs.
- A — API-First: APIs linking applications or services.
- C — Cloud-Native: Applications designed for the cloud, ensuring scalability.
- H — Headless: Decoupling front-end and back-end for flexibility.

As the business ecosystem changes, companies are figuring out that composable architecture is not only the future for business continuation but also a smart move as it makes everything work better.

Companies like Walmart, Asics, Mantel, and Shell have adopted composable architecture for efficient operations. It's not just a trend; it's the usual way of doing things now.

Digital transformation is not a one-time destination; it's an ongoing journey. The process is similar to building a stack of blocks- each piece added on-demand as your business grows. Composable architecture is the foundation of your digital transformation journey. So adopt it now and make the transformation agile and enjoyable.

(The writer is VP of Engineering, Contentstack)



Lucky number 2 | **Lucky colour** See Green
Lucky day Monday

Lucky number 14 | **Lucky colour** Black
Lucky day Thursday

Lucky number 1 | **Lucky colour** Maroon
Lucky day Sunday

Lucky number 21 | **Lucky colour** Mustard
Lucky day Saturday

Madhu Kotiya is a tarot card reader, spiritual healer, and Founder, MShezaim Institute of Tarot and Divination. Contact details: madhu@indiatarot.com, www.indiatarot.com, M: 9873283331

Detoxify the negatives to optimise the potential

The writer is an astrologer, vastu consultant and spiritual counsellor. Connect with him at
Tel: 91-11-9818037273/9871037272
Email: bharatbhushanpadmadeo@gmail.com