

Upasana Bats For Sethi Lauds SBI

Puri (KCN): "Papa has a lot of unfulfilled dreams. I need to realize them," the youthful Upasana had announced in the company her uncle Lalitendu.

Motorcycle borne Lalitendu supporters wound through the busy roads of the city in the new year as if to announce his imminent jump into electoral politics and carry forward the Lulu legacy about which the late Congress leader's daughter Upasana had announced about a month and half of Lulu's death.

Lalitendu Bidyadhar Mohapatra, the brother of departed Congress leader Lalatendu 'Lulu' Bidyadhar Mohapatra appeared set to jump into politics with a show of strength by his sup-

porters and Lulu loyalists here today.



In a move to seek the blessings of the Trinity before officially announcing his intention to carry forward his elder brother's legacy, he joined a large number of his supporter who took in a procession on the Grand Road in the Holy City. While

senior party leader longed to his district. Niranjana Bahinipati diplomatically parried the question on Prasad's absence but the fissure in party was visible during the rally which was also attended by several Anti-Hariprasad activists.

Notably, Bahinipati had alleged during the last rites of the departed leader that he was a sorrowful soul for the way he was removed from the Youth Congress Chief post by the Party High Command which was later denied by Hariprasad who had asserted that Lulu was indeed offered the PCC chief Post which was declined by him on health grounds.

Meanwhile, according to reports from New Delhi today the PCC Chief

along with Leader of Opposition in State Assembly Narsingha Mishra today met Congress Vice President Rahul Gandhi together.

Analysts are attaching a lot of importance to the meeting on the eve of Panchayat polls in the State and claim it could be a move to present a united front impression before the electorate. Notably, nearly two months ago the entire group of Congress legislators under the leadership of Mishra had met Rahul Gandhi after failing to secure a meeting with Sonia Gandhi. The buzz at that time was that a section in State Congress was against Prasad Harichandan continuing as Chief for having 'failed' to take all factions of the party along.

Odisha Implements SC Order

Bhubaneswar (KCN): Odish Government today decided not to allow any liquor shop to operate within 500 Meters of the Highways and issued a direction to the Department of Excise and Works to complete the process of identifying liquor shops located within 500 Meters of highways within the next 15 days.

Chief Secretary Aditya Prasad Padhi, taking into account the direction of the Supreme Court of India on location of liquor shops, asked the officials to implement the Apex Court's order in this regard should be implemented by April 1.

The Chief Secretary directed the Excise department to instruct the Collectors accordingly and a District Level Committee headed by District Collectors will be formed to implement the Order.

Similarly, in 2012, the total number of road accidents was at the same level of 4.9 lakh out of which, around 23,979 mishaps took place due to drunken driving.

Bhubaneswar (KCN): The State Bank of India (SBI), Local Head Office, Bhubaneswar is promoting traditional art and culture of Odisha. So SBI, organised a Palm Leaf Carving cum-exhibition for budding artists of the State, at its premises here from January 3 to 5.

As many as 40 artists from different parts of the State participated and exhibited their talent in the three-day camp, which concluded on Thursday.

The artists were felicitated with Certificates of Participation and Honorarium by State F&ARD and Excise Secretary Bishnupada Sethi, who graced the closing function as Chief Guest.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr.Sethi lauded SBI's initiative to encourage the budding artists in various traditional art forms of the State.

Presiding over the function, SBI Bhubaneswar Circle Chief General Man-

ager BVG Reddy reaffirmed SBI's com-

organised such camps for traditional Patta



mitment to encourage traditional art forms of Odisha.

While urging the artists of the State to diversify the themes of their creations to include mythological and historical contexts from other States of India, and adopt e-commerce to market their products outside the State and the country, Reddy assured that the Bank would render all help in this regard.

It may be recalled that SBI had

Chitra and Canvass Paintings in the previous years.

Hari Shankar Panigrahi, a patron of traditional art forms and Bijay Kumar Parida, renowned artist and teacher, were also felicitated on the occasion. Both Mr. Panigrahi and Mr.Parida appreciated the gesture of SBI in coming to the help of the artists of Odisha, and preserving and promoting the dying and rare art forms.

Fishcofed Goes Digital

New Delhi(KCN): Keeping pace with the rest of India, Apex Co-operative Organization of Fishermen in the country, Fishcofed has

Mr.Dora added in same breath. "A resolution on going cashless in our area of operations and install PoS machine at our out-

but the Government Of India should increase grant-in-aid for a successful running of these seminars," Mr.Dora said.



gone digital.

Fishcofed Chairman T.Prasad Dora said to Media after the meeting of the Board of Directors held here on January 6.

Demonetization has had no adverse impact on our business and we are on the growth path,

lets has been unanimously taken in the board meeting", said Mr.Dora to Media at the Fishcofed's Headquarters here.

"We will also organize several training camps for the fishermen of the country to educate them how to go cashless;

Recently, IF-FCO, KRIBHCO, and several other Cooperative Organizations organized scores of seminars to educate farmers and people how to go cashless and encouraged them to buy seeds and fertilizers through digital mode of payment.

Talking about the future plans, Fishcofed MD B K Mishra said "we plan to open more than 12 offices by 2020 but without the government support we are not able to do so. He demanded that the government subsidy should be transferred through Fishcofed.

The issue of Service Tax which has been pending before the Union Government for many years should be settled soon hoped Mr.Mishra.

Recently there was a meeting held in the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare on the issue, said sources.

Fishcofed MD Mr.Mishra gave out details of activities undertaken by the cooperative body such as Marketing of CIFAX, dry fish, ornamental fish, mobile vans, setting up training institutes and many other things.

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Priyanka Chopra and Shah Rukh Khan last appeared together in Don 2, which released in 2011.



Shahid Kapoor and Mira Rajput have kept their fans waiting for a long time to give a glimpse of their daughter Misha.

Iulia Vantur all set to go live?

Tif sources are to believe then the Romanian actress Iulia Vantur is going to convince Iulia to perform live in front of many celebrities on Monday. She is had recorded some portion of Salman's popular number Baby KO Bass Pasand Hai



make her stage debut in an award gala. A source says, "The award season is on and the award shows fall over each other to make sure that they come up with some talking point or the other. So, the organisers of this particular award show event, have managed likely to perform with Himesh Reshammiya. Iulia and Reshammiya have already recorded one song together for his upcoming album. Salman too is likely to be present at this event, and it would be interesting to see his reaction." Prior to this Iulia from Sultan. Ever since Iulia has returned in the country to record her song, she has constantly been spotted at various parties with Salman. The duo, however most of the time makes sure that they enter and exit the venues in different cars.



From being a 'Viva!' girl to winning the Best Playback Singer (Female) award for her song 'Jag Ghoomeya' from Salman Khan starrer Sultan, Neha Bhasin bares all about her journey in an exclusive chat.



It has been a difficult year for Malaika Arora Khan. Her split with husband Arbaaz Khan was followed by a lot of controversy and filing of divorce didn't help either. To ring in the New Year, Malaika has taken a break with sister Amrita Arora Ladak and her close friends. The group is all set to welcome 2017 in style, and going by the pictures, Goa beach is treating them well. Malaika Arora Khan shared pictures on her Instagram account and the post made all of us go ga-ga about her and her besties' hotness. In the picture, we see Amrita and Malaika with their back to the camera. She captioned the image as, "Sunsets in Goa with the girls". Take a tour and see more that they are busy doing in Goa. (Source: Photo by Instagram)

'Acting is a lot of responsibility'

When Shamlee starred in Mani Ratnam's Anjali as a child artiste, she never thought she'd continue to act. "I never wanted to pursue films. Somehow, it happened eventually. When I see Anjali on TV, I often smile to myself. Was this little cute kid me? I learnt Bharatanatyam for five years, and gave up. At that point of time, schooling was a lot more fun. Oh, I still remember how I was given some new clothes on the sets, as they took my photographs. It feels funny when I think about my old films. My co-stars had been monkeys, elephants and snakes," she laughs.

She began receiving film offers when she studying in from Class 9. "I used to accompany my sister Shalini and her husband Ajith for award func-

tions. So, people After the shooting,



saw me and asked my dad if I were interested in acting. My school never allowed it though. Slowly, my focus shifted towards art and dancing. I even took up a course in film studies."

After spending time in Singapore for five years, she moved to Chennai. "That's when I got to hear Veera Sivaji's narration.

I went to New York and enrolled in an intensive dance course in one of the top universities. I love jazz, hip-hop and salsa. I was told that the course is for six weeks, but it took four months. In the mean time, the movie promotions had begun, and I couldn't show up for any of them," she adds.

Maoist face double whammy

Bhubaneswar (KCN): Maoists are now facing double whammy in Odisha as there is progressive decline in recruitment cadre and mass support base is falling fast.

For the first time the Left Wing Extrem-

Similarly except Malkangiri and Koraput Districts, their mass support base is eroded for which they are not getting earlier support with tribals are in no mood to extend their support.

Latest situation

of Koraput and border areas of Kalahandi - Kandhamal - Boudh - Nayagarh, where movement is reported.

During 2016, there are 59 incidents in 11 Districts including 31 Exchange of Fire incidents between

being frustrated targeting the hapless and innocent citizens to generate fear among the common people.

Out of the 19 Maoist Affected districts, which are included in Security Related Expenditure (SRE) Plan Eight dis-

more contacts and real time intelligence, 35 Maoists were arrested and 30 Ultras surrendered to the State Police.

Mass surrender continues in Kalimela, Podia and there is significant gain in Mathili area, said sources in State Police Administration.

Death of 39 Maoists during the Anti Maoist Operations in 2016 has come as a booster for the State Police Forces.

Absence of Central Paramilitary Forces in border areas of Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand is helping the Maoists to consolidate their positions in these areas, feel senior Intelligence officers.

Odisha Government is repeatedly asking for two more battalions of Central Forces and Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) is cool over providing Central Forces, rued a senior official.

Secondly as SRE Grants are not released by the MHA in time, it is posing problem for the State Administration, admit officials.



ists (LWE)s are facing tough time as there is continuous decline in recruitment of young cadre in the State except Niyamgiri area, which is bordering Kalahandi and Rayagada Districts.

In Niyamgiri area, the Maoists are trying to obstruct Industrialization and Mining, which trying to divert attention of youth from Industrialization, said sources.

on Maoists was reviewed here at the recently held Unified Command Meeting, which reveals that Malkangiri, Koraput and Kalahandi are the severely affected Districts, while there is no activity of the Ultras in Districts of Gajapati, Jajpur, Dhenkanal and Sonepur.

Situation is challenging in Cut Off Area of Malkangiri, Nandapur-Padwa Ar-

Special Operation Group (SOG) and Ultras.

And 28 Maoist Violence Incidents occurred and 90 Percent of the incidents are reported from

Malkangiri, Koraput, Kalahandi, Rayagada, Kandhamal, Nuapada and Angul.

Death of 18 Civilians during the current is a cause of worry for the State Administration as the Maoists are

districts of Rayagada, Nuapada, Bolangir, Bargarh, Boudh, Kandhamal, Angul and Rourkela is moderately affected by LWE activities.

Similarly Seven Districts of Nabarangpur, Nayagarh, Deogarh, Sambalpur, Keonjhar, Mayurbahnj and Ganjam are marginally affected by the Maoist activities.

With increase in

A month of demons: At least the chicken are happy with Narendra Modi

BHUBANESWAR (KCN): This is the

was fresh, the markets were in a dazed

enough tenners, twenties and hun-



marriage season in Odisha, a time when chicken are much sought after even if that love is unrequited. The poultry trade ought to have been great business at this time but demonetization has put paid to that. A 2000 buck note in the poultry markets of Bhubaneswar today is unlikely to get you chicken, well, what-ever.

In the first few days after Nov. 8, when the shock of Narendra Modi's kamikaze attack on the 500 and 1000 notes

stupour. Four weeks hence, the markets are still deserted, and the chicken are crowing away to glory.

Manohar Saha, a trader New Indian Express spoke to, said his business is down 20 per cent. "We sold dressed chicken at Rs 160 a kilo in the first week of November. Now we've brought it down to Rs 120 a kg but there's hardly any buyer. My sales have come down from 50 kg a day to 15 kg," he said.

Eggs are happy too. There just aren't

dreds around to buy them. Traders who were selling 30-50 packets of eggs (each containing 30 eggs) are barely able to move 10 packets at a Rs 60 to the dozen.

Consumer Dilip Behera of Jaydev Vihar said he loves chicken but standing for four hours in an ATM queue is not his thing. "We buy two kg of chicken a week. But I don't want to stand in queues before ATMs to have chicken! Yesterday I went into a shop a tried to buy a bird but the shopkeeper wouldn't accept my Rs 2,000 note," said.

Officials of the Fisheries and Animal Resources Development Department confirmed that the poultry business has taken a huge hit. "People would rather forego their chicken than their small cash," said an official.

Odisha produces 76,000 metric tonnes of chicken meat daily and 52 lakh eggs.

Sensex, Nifty edge up; on track for best weekly gain since September

MUMBAI(KCN): Indian shares rose slightly on Friday, heading for their biggest weekly gain in more than three months, as additional stimulus from the European Central Bank helped offset disappointment about the Reserve Bank of India's decision to hold rates.

Banks were among the leading gainers, despite the RBI's surprise rate move after it reversed an order that had forced lenders to surrender all their extra cash and place it under the cash reserve ratio.

Global sentiment was also buoyed after Wall Street hit record highs on Thursday and after the ECB extended its asset-buying programme for a longer period than many analysts had expected, though it trimmed the size of its purchase.

Asian shares, however, edged down on Friday with MSCI's broadest index of Asia-Pacific shares outside Japan dipping 0.3 percent.

GST jurisdiction a difficult issue, hopeful of April roll-out: Arun Jaitley

NEW DELHI (KCN): Pinning hopes on quick resolution of the "difficult issue" of tax jurisdiction with states, Finance Minister Arun Jaitley today said that Goods and Services Tax regime will be rolled out from April next year.

Jaitley said the implementation of GST is bounded by a calendar deadline as the Constitutional Amendment provides that the existing indirect tax regime can continue only till September 16, 2017.

"It (GST jurisdiction) is a difficult issue. But I have always believed that in politics, logjams exist only to be resolved and in this case we have a calendar deadline. We are hoping that all will be resolved and we should be able to implement it by April 1," he said at the Petrotech conference here.

Jaitley said that the Centre and states are working out the mode of tax administration under which a tax payer would be assessed only once and that assessment has to be accepted by both the taxing authorities.

The all powerful

GST Council in their three successive meetings failed to break the deadlock over administrative control on assessees in the new tax regime.

"The Constitution Amendment

future," he said.

As per the GST Constitution Amendment Bill, which was notified on September 17, 2016, the government is required to complete the process of implementation of

work out a middle path.

The finalisation of these laws will pave the way for introduction of GST legislations in the ongoing Winter Session of Parliament, which



passed earlier this year says that the old taxation system can only be continued for a year. And that is one year from September 16, 2016. So from September 16, 2017, with regard to the old taxation system, the curtains will be down and the constitutional necessity of switching over to a new system does arise," Jaitley said.

"This issue of empowerment, which is essentially an administrative issue, is not a very impossible issue to resolve. I am quite certain would get resolved in near

GST within a year.

Jaitley said most of the issues as far as GST is concerned has been sorted out and the final drafts of legislations are being discussed.

The GST Council, which has Union Finance Minister and state representatives as members, met last weekend to discuss the tax jurisdiction, the model GST law, Integrated GST (IGST) law and compensation law. But consensus eluded the meet.

The Council will meet again on December 11 and 12 to

ends on December 16.

In November, the Council agreed on a four-slab structure - 5, 12, 18 and 28 per cent - along with a cess on luxury and 'sin' goods such as tobacco. States like West Bengal, Kerala, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh and Tamil Nadu have insisted on exclusive control over small taxpayers, who earn less than Rs 1.5 crore in annual revenue, for both goods and services. But Centre is reluctant to divide the assessment on the basis of turnover.

From Dec. 10, old Rs. 500, 1,000 notes cannot be used to buy railway, bus tickets

NEW DELHI (KCN): Old Rs. 500 and Rs. 1,000 notes will not be accepted at railway ticket counters, ticket counters of

tions were earlier supposed to be in effect till December 15.

The exemptions that remain till December 15

maintained by the Archeological Survey of India, any fees, charges, taxes or penalties payable to the



government-run buses, for making payments for railway catering services and for purchasing suburban and metro rail services from December 10, according to an official notification issued on December 7.

These exemp-

include payments at Government hospitals, pharmacies, consumer cooperative stores, government-run milk booths and at crematoria and burial grounds.

Other exemptions include payments for LPG gas cylinders, tickets for any monument

government, utility payments, payments for the purchase of seeds from government outlets, government school fees up to a limit of Rs 2,000 a student, government college fees, and payments for pre-paid mobile top-up up to Rs 500 per top-up.

