

Naveen appeals for peace BJP rejects break Slur

Bhadrakh(KCN): Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik tonight appealed the people of Bhadrakh to maintain peace and assured them that stringent action will be taken against those escalating tension.

Naveen's appeal came through twitter post as the Chief Minister is in the national capital for five days.

Bhadrakh town witnessed escalation of tension following failure of the peace committee talks.

In order to tackle the communal violence Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik asked Principal Secretary Home Asit Tripathy and DGP K B Singh to rush to the spot after fresh violence erupted in Coastal Town of Bhadrakh.

Mr.Tripathy after reaching Bhadrakh, took stock of the violent situation. Superintendent of Police Bhadrakh, Dilip Das briefed about the situation.

He said that Curfew was clamped in the town today as fresh violence erupted in some areas after talks for peace failed to resolve the

posting of obnoxious comments on Social Media about Lord Ram and Devi Sita, the District Administration had called a peace committee

One group took out a procession and allegedly raised objectionable remarks that evoked sharp reaction from other sections.

posing problem as the Collector post was lying vacant since 31 March as L N Mishra superannuated from Service from that day. ADM Bhadrakh was kept in Charge of the District.

So the State Government appointed an IAS Officer Gyana Das today and asked him to report on duty today itself.

Mr. Das, who was the Commissioner of Cuttack Municipal Corporation (CMC), has taken charge of DM.

Meanwhile, Union Minister of State for Social Justice and Empowerment Krishan Pal Gurjar, who was scheduled to attend a function in Bhadrakh tomorrow, said he has been informed about the tense situation in the town by the police.

"Unless the situation improves in Bhadrakh, I will not visit the town," he said.

Trouble erupted on 6 April, after alleged abusive comments went viral on Social Media. Angry people, including youth members from Bajarang Dal, VHP and Sri Ramnavami Committee, staged demonstration before the Bhadrakh Town Police Station.

They also lodged the written complaint with the Police and demanded immediate arrest of the culprits.

Meanwhile, President of Bhadrakh Muslim Jamaat Abdul Bari in a statement condemned the alleged remarks about Lord Ram and demanded appropriate action against those involved in such nefarious exercise.

Mr. Bari said people of Bhadrakh are peace loving and there is no ill feeling among the communities so miscreants are needed to be nabbed immediately.

BJP State President Basant Panda, Saffron Veteran Pratap Sarangi, Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan have urged the people to maintain communal harmony in the violent situation.

Bhubaneswar (KCN): BJP today rejected allegations that it was attempting to break the Governing BJD in Odisha to gain power in the 2019 Polls.

BJP Spokesperson Sambit Patra briefing Newsmen here today said the party does not believe in breaking any party to come to power.

He said that "We believe in making things on the lines of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's slogan of Sab ka Saath, Sab ka Vikas."

BJD MP and the party's Chief Whip in Lok Sabha Athagat Satpathy in a recent Twitter post had alleged that the BJP was trying to split the regional party (BJD) on the lines of AIADMK in Tamil Nadu.

Mr.Patra along with BJP National Media in-Charge Anil Balooni was in the Capital City to attend the preparedness meeting for the party's upcoming two-day National Executive Meeting here from April 15.

Prime Minister Mr.Modi, BJP National President Amit Shah and host of senior leaders will attend the meeting.

Stating that the result of the state panchayat poll, held earlier this year, was an indicator for the 2019 General Elections, Mr.Patra said "Lotus will

Budget spending 85K CR

Bhubaneswar (KCN): Odisha Government has spent over Rs.85,600 Crore during 2016-17, while the Annual Budget was about Rs.94, 050 Crore.

Generation of fewer amounts of resources due to low growth in Own Tax and Non Tax Revenue and less flow of funds from Central Kitty has resulted in missing the target, sources admit.

For last few years funds flow from Union Government has slowed down due to scarping of several Centrally Sponsored Schemes, admit officials.

However the spending was higher than 2015-16 and evenly spent during the entire year.

bloom at the feet of Lord Jagannath in 2019 elections and

mance before it. But the party won an unprecedented number



BJP will come to power in Odisha."

"There will be Nabakalebara (Change of Body) in Odisha and developmental programs will be executed under leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi," he said.

Claiming that the people of Odisha have been deprived of developmental activities in the last 17 years of Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik's rule, Mr.Patra said even people in rural areas do not get safe drinking water.

Referring to the Uttar Pradesh Assembly election result, the BJP Spokesperson said many people had expressed doubts about BJP's perfor-

of seats and proved all poll pundits wrong, he said. "The 2019 election results in Odisha will also go on a similar line," Mr.Patra said.

"Now, people of the state want the development under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and through the strategy of National BJP President, Mr.Shah," he said.

He urged upon the people of the State to support Mr.Modi and BJP to build a new Odisha in 2019. "Odisha needs Narendra Modi." Mr. Balooni claimed that there is a "Positive Vibration" in the country and in Odisha, and it was in favour of the Prime Minister.

the Chief Secretary has yielded positive results, admit officials.

Review recourses generation and spending by the major development and infrastructure departments were monitored on month to month basis, said a senior official in Department of Finance.

While spending in 2016-17 was less during April, it picked up from May onwards and during June it went up to Rs.9271 Crore and during rainy season spending was less, however on an average monthly spending of over Rs.6000 Crore was recorded during last fiscal, sources said.

While in April, 2016, See Page -7



row triggered by alleged offensive remarks on Social Media on Lord Ram and Devi Sita.

"As fresh violence broke out in several areas of the town, the District Administration imposed curfew in order to bring the situation under control," Mr.Das said.

After the town witnessed violent incidents on 6 April, in protest against the

meeting today, in a bid to restore normalcy and maintain communal harmony.

However, after the peace committee meeting failed to yield any result, a mob clashed with police personnel and pelted stones. Sub-Divisional Police Officer (SDPO), Sudhakar Jena, was injured and a police vehicle was damaged in the incident, police said.

Police resorted to lathi-charge and used mild force to control the situation as attempts were made to violate the prohibitory orders imposed under Section 144 of CrPC.

Road blockades were put at various places, including the High school, Town hall, Bonth and Akhandalamani Chhak.

Absence of a District Magistrate was

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'We are not promoting sex'

Do you think the film industry is welcoming to newcomers like you? It's tough; and it was tough for me. It



ing to newcomers like you? It's really difficult to get into Bollywood – it's a matter of time and the luck factor counts

Taapsee calls Judwaa 2 a challenge, wants to meet original star Salman

She wants to look her glamorous best in the film and says that she has not yet met the stars of the original 'Judwaa.'

Taapsee Pannu has said that her role is neither based on



Karisma's or Rambha's characters from the original film starring Salman Khan.

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Karisma's or Rambha's characters from the original film starring Salman Khan.

Mumbai: Actress Taapsee Pannu wants to explore the commercial film space with 'Judwaa 2' and says she wants to look her glamorous best in the sequel.

Known for her hard-hitting performances in films like 'Baby' and 'Pink', Taapsee set off on her Bollywood journey with David Dhawan's 'Chashme Baddoor' in 2013.

Four years later, she is now set to collaborate with him again for 'Judwaa 2'.

"I will work on my part by making sure I look my glamorous best in the film.

The change of look is

nothing ... I have taken a little long to do the kind of film I really wanted and desired. But it has finally happened and I am here.

Wajah Tum Ho can be termed as your proper debut film. What are your expectations from it?

My expectations are very high because this film has given me everything that I have ever dreamt of. I feel amazing as I have experienced everything I wanted in this film - being a solo lead, performing to the best songs, playing a very strong character.

has been a very long and difficult struggle for me, I have enjoyed my journey though because it was not like I was just struggling and doing

ress says it is not easy to make people laugh.

"Comedy is a difficult genre, it is not easy to make people laugh. I am keeping myself prepared to have fun. But as it's a new genre

for me to explore I am not going to be over smart in saying that I will be only relaxing," she says.

"Comedy as a genre is difficult and people do not realise its potential. It is the most underrated genre. We get critical acclaim for films like 'Pink', 'Naam Shabana'. But critical acclaim does not give you money," she says.

The actress is open to doing slapstick comedies. "I don't enjoy watching sex comedies be it in Bollywood or Hollywood, so no point in doing it if I don't enjoy it. I don't mind doing slapstick comedies," she says.

Taapsee is now looking forward to the release of 'Naam Shabana' a spin-off from the 2015 hit film 'Baby'.

Produced by Neeraj Pandey and directed by Shivam Nair, the action spy thriller is set to release on March 31.

KOEL ORIYA ACTRESS BIOGRAPHY

Many bengali girls tried their luck in Oriya film industry, but some of them are successful. Actress Koel is one of them. Now she is also married to odia actor Bobby Mishra. They have acted together in 'Tate Bhala Pauchi Boli', directed by Prashant Kumar. After marriage, Koel is acting in Hara Pattnaik's upcoming venture "Om Sai Ram" opposite Budhaditya.



Medha Ghosh



Another Ollywood actress Riya, who is also ruling the silver screen with her fascinating acting and appealing physique, is not behind to other actors when it comes to remuneration. Ollywood industry sources said Riya is getting above Rs 8 lakh for an Odia movie.

Chennai's Integral Coach Factory eyes Metro train market in India

CHENNAI(KCN): here is eyeing the opment Ministry and



The country's leading railway coach manufacturers Integral Coach Factory (ICF) is in touch with the Union Urban Development Ministry and

turer was currently making coaches for the Kolkata Metro and that they wanted to cater to others also after that. "We have an order for 24 trains for Kolkata Metro and want to deliver the first set by March 2019. We want to show that we have done it and want to strongly get into the Metro train market. We are in touch with the Urban Development Ministry and states," he said.

Many Indian states including Uttar Pradesh are mulling

new Metro train routes even as people from Tier II cities like Coimbatore in Tamil Nadu have been seeking Metro service.

Addressing a press meet organised to highlight ICF's performance for the year 2016-17, Mani, however, did not quantify the size of the domestic Metro train market.

LC Trivedi, Chief Mechanical Engineer, ICF, said while the cost of a single metro coach globally was about Rs 10-11 crore, ICF

was trying to cut it by 40 per cent. The focus was on making the coaches indigenously by using locally-procured material for manufacture, he said.

Mani said ICF was also focusing on high-speed trains, called Train 18 which could clock 160 kph, and is likely to be rolled out next March. Further, ICF had export orders for Sri Lanka for 13 trains and the first train was expected to be handed over by the end of this financial

year, he said, adding, more orders were expected from the island nation as well as from Bangladesh.

Detailing ICF's performance for the year 2016-17, he said the annual 'outturn', i.e. number of coaches manufactured, had increased to 2,277 from 2,005 the previous year, registering a 14 per cent growth. The target was 2,400 coaches in the com-

ing years, he said.

The city-based plant was switching over to making modern LHB German design coaches, replacing the conventional "ICF Coaches", especially after the recent Kanpur train accident, he said.

Trivedi said nearly Rs 1,000 crore of capital infusion has been made into ICF in the past three years on modernisation, which had helped increase output.

Wall Street down after weak jobs, Fed comments on banks balance sheet, Syria airstrikes

NEW YORK: Wall Street's three major indexes edged lower on Friday in a choppy session as investors grappled with a weaker-than-expected job report, the U.S. airstrike in Syria and a top Federal Reserve official's comments on trimming the U.S. central bank's balance sheet.

Investors were trying to work out how the developments would affect U.S. President Donald Trump's ability to proceed with his pro-business agenda.

The market rallied sharply after Trump's Nov. 8 election on his promises for tax cuts, spending and lighter regulation, but investors increasingly have been questioning whether the proposals would ever materialise.

"You had so many confusing things happening today. The employment number was certainly surprising. The U.S. airstrike was surprising. People were trying to figure out what that meant," said Rick Meckler, president of investment firm

LibertyView Capital Management in Jersey City, New Jersey.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average was down 6.85 points, or 0.03 per cent, at 20,656.1, the S&P 500 lost 1.95 points, or 0.08 per cent, to 2,355.54 and the Nasdaq Composite dropped 1.14 points, or 0.02 per cent, to 5,877.81.

All three indexes ended slightly lower for the week. Six of the S&P's 11 major sectors ended down on the day.

U.S. employers added about 98,000

jobs in March, the fewest since last May and well below economists' expectation of 180,000, as bad weather hit construction hiring. However, wage growth edged up and unemployment fell.

New York Fed President William Dudley on Friday shed more light on the U.S. central bank's developing plan for when to stop replacing bonds that expire in its portfolio, how to execute it, and how far it would ultimately shrink its balance sheet.

U.S. Treasury yields rose after Dudley's remarks, which helped push equities lower, according to Paul Zensky, chief investment officer, Multi-Asset Strategies and Solutions, at Voya Investment Management in New York.

LibertyView's Meckler said Dudley's remarks were not earth-shattering but "small statements are having a magnified affect because investors are worried."

The United States, in a pre-dawn

strike, fired missiles at an airfield from which it said a deadly poison gas attack was launched this week.

In the coming days it "will be interesting to watch to see if (Syria) does grab more attention from the White House and delay some of these other issues and programs they are trying to get passed through here," said Sean Lynch, co-head of global equity strategy at Wells Fargo Investment Institute in Omaha, Nebraska said.



while in August it went down to Rs.5544 Core due to rains and later in September spending recorded hike to Rs.6308 Core, said sources.

It went slightly down to Rs.6118 Core in October, however the impact of Demonetization in

November resulted a nosedive in spending to Rs.5966 Core.

Scarping of old high value notes of Rs.1000 and Rs.500 resulted slump in spending. For days together the State Government faced tough time to handle such a crisis, when availability of new currency note posed a serious problem.

However it picked up in December and spending was Rs.9239 Core. And during last January, February and March spending was over Rs.26,000 Core said sources.

In these three months were higher spending was registered as the infrastructure development departments were taking up projects on a time bound manner, said sources.

Softbank-backed Ola ramps up electric vehicles push in India

NEW DELHI(KCN): Indian ride-hailing firm Ola, backed by Japan's Softbank Group, is preparing for a large-scale rollout of electric vehicles by next year even as it runs trials on the viability of the business model, Chief Executive Bhavish Aggarwal said.

Ola will pilot a few thousand electric vehicles in several Indian cities this year and, "after that we will be scaling it up in a major way," Aggarwal said in an interview on Friday.

The company will also invest in setting up charging stations in the pilot cities, he said, without saying how much Ola would invest in its

electrification drive. Ola's push comes



as sales of electric vehicles in India have remained slow, despite government incentives to curb pollution.

In the year ended March 2016, 22,000 electric vehicles were sold in India, whereas sales of conventionally fuelled vehicles crossed 20 million units in the same period.

India is targeting

6 million electric vehicles on the road by

2020, but high battery costs, a lack of charging stations and the limited range of the vehicles is still a deterrent.

Aggarwal, however, has the backing of one of Ola's biggest investors - Softbank.

In December, Softbank Group chairman Masayoshi Son said Ola may introduce one million

electric vehicles in India over the next five years, according to local media reports.

"We're able to leverage their (Softbank's) network and scale of operations around the world," Aggarwal said, adding that Ola was also talking to automakers globally about strategic tie-ups.

In India's \$12 billion taxi market where Ola vies with ride-hailing giant Uber, the push into electric vehicles is also a way for the Indian start-up to lower the cost of car ownership, once battery costs start to come down.

The company is expected to be prof-

itable in 18-24 months, Aggarwal said.

LEAP OF FAITH

In the next few weeks the first wave of electric vehicles under Ola's pilot scheme, including two-wheelers, rickshaws and cars, will roll out in the southern state of Telangana and Nagpur city in central India.

The main challenge for Ola is the lack of charging stations and the limited range of vehicles given taxis travel about 150-200 km daily.

Aggarwal said for the pilot Ola was using modified versions of existing models, but its goal remained to operate a vehicle for an entire

RBI projects inflation to rise to 5 percent

MUMBAI(KCN): The Reserve Bank today projected retail inflation to increase to 5 per cent in the second half of the current fiscal citing risks of El Nino impacting the monsoon and one-off effects of the Goods and Services Tax.

"For 2017-18, inflation is projected to average 4.5 per cent in the first half of the year and 5 per cent in the second half," said the RBI's first bi-monthly monetary policy statement for 2017-18. Risks are evenly balanced around the inflation trajectory at the current juncture and there are upside risks to the baseline projection, it said.

A proactive sup-

ply management will play a critical role in staving off pressures on headline inflation, it added. RBI further said that a prominent risk could emanate from managing the implementation of the allowances recommended by the 7th Central Pay Commission (CPC).

Also, upside risk arises from the one-off effects of the GST, said the policy statement. The new indirect tax regime is likely to be implemented from July 1. On the downside, RBI said international crude prices have been easing recently and their pass-through to domestic prices of petroleum products should alleviate pressure on headline inflation.

Virat Kohli chosen as captain of Cricket Australia's ODI team of the year

Accolades continue to pour in for India's dynamic Test captain Virat Kohli, who was today named skipper of Cricket Australia's ODI team of the year which also featured young yorker specialist Jasprit Bumrah.

Kohli, who was earlier also picked captain of the ICC's ODI team of the year, was preferred over Australia's Steve Smith. Smith was, however, picked in the 'All-Star' team.

"India's skipper played only 10 ODI matches in 2016, but he again underlined his status as one of the best in the 50-over format," CA said in a statement.

"The right-hander scored 45 or more in eight of his 10 innings for the year, notching back-to-back centuries in a run feast against Australia in January and

then a magnificent 154 (not out) in a suc-

CA said Bumrah made the cut riding

ing to a minimum that impressed us the

dia, captain), David Warner (Australia),



successful pursuit of 289 against New Zealand, more than half of his team's total.

"He now averages an incredible 90.10 in 59 successful run chases for India, and has been out in the middle for the winning runs on 20 occasions," it added.

on his consistency.

"India's unorthodox paceman Jasprit Bumrah was a stand-out in 2016, his first year as an international player.

"While nine of his 17 wickets for the year came against Zimbabwe, it was his ability to keep scor-

most; he conceded more than 40 runs in an innings just once all year and his extraordinary economy rate of 3.63 is easily the best in the world for 2016," the CA stated.

Cricket Australia's ODI Team of Year: Virat Kohli (In-

Quinton de Kock (wk) (South Africa), Steve Smith (Australia), Babar Azam (Pakistan), Mitchell Marsh (Australia), Jos Buttler (England), Jasprit Bumrah (India), Imran Tahir (South Africa).

Sunil Chhetri wants unified league in India

Amid uncertainty over the proposed merger of Indian Super League (ISL) and I-League, ace striker Sunil Chhetri today said a unified league will open up windows for the national team to play in more FIFA friendlies and give a shot at improving its ranking.

"I want to play all 13 FIFA dates in a year. We need that. That's where the unified league is going to come in handy. We should prioritise that, and ensure the national team gets a

year. "You can say that 2016 was my finest. It went well for the national team, started by winning the SAFF Cup, we reached the finals of AFC Cup, we reached the semis of ISL. I think it was a fruitful season," Chhetri said.

"I have very small time targets, say 10 days, one week. I am only thinking about the Lajong (I-league) game, we are playing them at home. That's my target." Asked if

then think about the final journey."

Asked if Indian football should take a leaf out of Bengaluru FC's book – they have won two I-league titles and one Federation Cup since making their debut three seasons ago, Chhetri said, "We are doing the right things, trying our best, all of us are in sync, from owner Sajjan Jindal to the ball boy.

Asked about the small gap between Bengaluru FC's I-league game on January 27 and AFC



Suresh Kalmadi, Abhay Chautala made life president of Indian Olympic Association

In a significant development, former IABF President Abhay Singh Chautala was

Malhotra, who served as acting IOA chief between 2011 and 2012, was made the

ment, was a powerful sports officials in his heydays. He was the president of Asian

ciation from December 2012 to February 2014 when the IOA was suspended by the

Chautala had served as president of erstwhile Indian

chance to play more games. Hope we play bigger opponents and away from home as we have done really poorly as a nation away from home. Win or lose, that will at least give us a chance to improve as a footballing nation," Chhetri said.

"Who would not like to see a merger. One league with more teams, more months is what we all wish for. There are few technicalities and I am sure they are looking into it. Eventually we will see one league. A unified league."

Having won the SAFF Championship as national team member, reached a historic AFC Cup final with Bengaluru FC and semifinal in ISL with Mumbai City FC, Chhetri called 2016 his finest

Indian players should strive to play club football overseas, Chhetri said, "If the players have reached a certain level and he thinks he can improve more, then he should go. Not only in India it's everywhere. Gurpreet has done it very nicely, I have seen him grow up."

When told about Praful Patel's desire for India to qualify for 2022 World Cup, he said, "I think we have to come in the first 10 in Asia first. To come to 10 is going to be so, so difficult. Thailand was with us but now they are playing in the last qualifying round though they are getting hammered by some teams. We have to qualify for the Asia Cup and stay there, try to get 15th, 16th position in Asia and

Champions League play-offs match on January 31, Chhetri said, "We would love to play on the weekend. With only five months to finish I-League and then there is AFC I think it is difficult. You can't blame them (I-League)."

Chhetri was asked to compare between former Bengaluru FC coach Ashley Westwood and current manager Albert Roca.

He said, "There are lots of similarities with the way they want to win and a lot of differences with the way they want to attack. I learnt so much from them. We have been the best team in the country in the past three seasons if I may say so. They have very different styles but winning mentality is there."



on Tuesday made honorary life president of the IOA, along with ex-IOA chief and 2010 CWG corruption scandal tainted Suresh Kalmadi. Chautala served as president of the IOA from December 2012 to February 2014 when it was suspended by International Olympic Committee.

Before Kalmadi and Chautala, only Vijay Kumar

Life President, according to IOA's official website.

Kalmadi served as IOA president from 1996 to 2011 and was jailed for 10 months for his involvement in the 2010 Delhi Commonwealth Games corruption scandal but later released on bail.

The Pune-born administrator, also a former Congress Member of Parlia-

Athletics Association for 13 years from 2000 to 2013. He was last year made Life President of the Asian athletics body last year.

Kalmadi, now 72, was also a member of the powerful ruling council of the International Athletics Federation (IAAF) from 2001 to 2013.

Chautala served as the president of Indian Olympic Asso-

parent International Olympic Committee for fielding charge-sheeted candidates at the elections. His election as IOA chief was annulled by the IOC.

Only after the IOA Constitution was amended to ensure that charge-framed candidates are not allowed to contest elections, the IOC revoked the suspension on IOA in February 2014.

Amateur Boxing Federation which was terminated from recognition in the world body AIBA in 2013 for possible manipulation in IABF elections.

Recently, he was elected as president of one rival faction of the Haryana Olympic Association, which was reportedly given recognition by the IOA.



PV Sindhu bagged a silver medal at the Rio Olympics. (Source: AP)