

Role of professionals vital in proper tax compliance

Kolkata(KCN): Justice Harish Tandon of Calcutta High Court said people had become accustomed with virtual mode during pandemic and thus faceless assessments and appeals are being implemented. However



some teething troubles are there. He was addressing Annual Tax Conference-2022 organised by Direct Taxes Professionals' Association in Hotel Taj Bengal on Saturday. Tax professionals have a vital role in ensuring tax compliance he added.

Justice Md Nizamuddin said that the taxpayers should not face unnecessary harassment for technical snags. Often there were changes of norms and as a result, taxpayers face trouble. The Government needs to improve infrastructure for tax collection he added. Adv Narayan Jain pointed out problems arising in faceless assessments as in some cases high pitch assessments are being made without considering submissions of taxpayer. Likewise desired reliefs are not being allowed in some faceless appeals. Jain added that mindset of faceless officers need to undergo change to do justice to the object of faceless

Odisha BJP MP alleges inappropriate reception to Amit Shah by the state government

BHUBANESWAR(KCN): Bhubaneswar MP and BJP national spokesperson Aparajita Sarangi on Monday expressed strong discontentment over the 'inappropriate reception' to union home minister Amit Shah upon his arrival in the state capital and shot off a letter to Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik seeking appropriate action in this regard.

Sarangi alleged that neither the Minister of State (Home), Ad-



ditional Chief Secretary (ACS) Home nor the Director General of Police (DGP) was at the airport to re-

system as promised by the Prime Minister. Participating in the conference, CA (Dr.) Debashis Mitra, President, Institute of Chartered Accountants of India admired DTPA for holding the conference which is an apt platform for the exchange of knowledge and ideas on subjects of professional relevance. GS Pannu, President, Income Tax Appellate Tribunal said that DTPA is playing a pivotal role by providing a common forum for not only seasoned but also young professionals. Mr. Khalid A. Anwar, IAS, Commissioner of State GST (WB)

explained the issues relating to GST. The Speakers were CA Dr Girish Ahuja, Sr. Adv. JP Khaitan, Adv. Kapil Goel, Adv. NG Khaitan, SM Surana and CA Arun Agarwal. Narayan Jain highlighted the Theme Challenges in Faceless Era and chaired the Brain Trust Session. RD Kakra conducted the first technical session on section 148, 263, section 9B and section 45(4) and virtual digital assets. KK Jain, President welcomed all and briefed the activities of DTPA. Adv. Mamta Binani, Arvind Agarwal, CA DS Agarwal, CA Rajesh Agarwal, Ritesh Vimal moderated different sessions. Vinod Jain, Deepak Choudhury, CA Ranjeet Agarwal, Ravi Patwa, Pawan Patodia Vinod Singhania, Rajesh Agarwal Manjulata Shukla, Madhusudan Kakra, Deepak Jain and others actively participated to make the event successful. A book on Direct Taxes compiled by PR Kothari was also launched. Secretary Barkha Agarwal thanked all.

ceive him. The Bhubaneswar MP said she was also

at union home minister Amit Shah's arrival at the airport as well as at Lingaraj Temple. Shah, who is on a two-day visit to the State to attend programmes in Bhubaneswar and Cuttack was given a rousing reception by the leaders of BJP upon his arrival, at Biju Patnaik International Airport (BPIA) CONTINUED ON: P-7

Marred by frequent disruptions, Monsoon session ends before schedule; Trinamool attacks Modi government

NEW DELHI(KCN): The Monsoon session of Parliament ended on Monday, four days ahead of schedule, after continued disruptions during the last three weeks over issues like price rise, suspension of 27 MPs, the controversial "Rashtrapatni" remark and the Enforcement Directorate's action. Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha, which were adjourned sine die this afternoon, saw the passage of seven and five bills, respectively, during the session which was to end on August 12. While Lok Sabha saw a total of 16 sittings that lasted for 44 hours and 29 minutes, the upper house met for 38 hours with as many as 47 hours lost due to disruptions, an issue flagged by outgoing Chairman Venkaiah Naidu who has frequently expressed unhappiness over the stalling of proceedings.

Rajya Sabha also bid farewell to Vice President Naidu, whose tenure ends on August 10. During the next ses-

five-year term as vice president of India and Rajya Sabha chairman and said the attendance of members in the House in-

Modi said Independence Day this year would be celebrated with the president, vice president, Lok Sabha speaker and



sion, Rajya Sabha proceedings would be chaired by Jagdeep Dhakhar, who will take over on August 11. Members cutting across party lines recalled the contributions of Naidu, noting how he inspired and allowed them to speak in their native languages. Prime Minister Narendra Modi said his witty one-liners were "revered, and never countered". He hailed Naidu's highly productive

creased during his tenure. The prime minister said a record 177 bills were passed or discussed during these five years. "Your one-liners are wit-liners and win-liners as well. There is nothing left to be said after that. Your every word is heard, preferred, revered and never countered," said the prime minister, imitating Naidu's trademark style of making incisive, witty and rhyming remarks.

prime minister who were all born in independent India and were from very humble backgrounds. In his remarks, Naidu said people expect Parliament "to discuss, debate and not disrupt" and appealed to members to maintain "decency, dignity and decorum" so that the image and respect of the house are maintained. He also urged members not to pass bills amid a din but to follow the high standard CONTINUED ON: P-7

CM Naveen Patnaik urges centre to make Odisha special focus state

BHUBANESWAR(KCN): Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik on Sunday urged the Centre to make Odisha a special focus state and allocate funds for disaster proofing. Addressing the governing council meeting of the NITI Aayog presided by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in New Delhi, the Chief Minister said as the State is impacted almost every year by natu-

ral disasters, it is important to have disaster resilient infrastructure CONTINUED ON: P-7



BJP Rule to continue after 2024

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Saffron Veteran and Union Minister Home Affairs Amit Shah Monday expressed confidence that the BJP under leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi will form government after 2024 general elections with the party securing two-third of the majority. Shri Shah also claimed that the BJP will form government in Odisha after the ensuing Odisha Legislative Assembly elections sched-

uled to be held in 2024. The BJP Veteran said it while attending a function marking a book reading session and launch the Odisha edition of 'Modi@20: Dreams Meet Delivery'. The book highlights the achievements of Shri Modi during the last 20 years as Gujarat Chief Minister and then Prime Minister. Though BJP is often described as a political party in Hindi speaking region of the country, Shri Shah said the saffron

party has formed governments in the north-eastern states,

will form government in Odisha next time," Shri Shah said.

after a gap of 30 years installed a government at the centre

majority in 2014. The BJP's victory journey is continuing and

leader's hard work, dedication and selfless service to the people of India, he said. Not naming any political party, Shri Shah said: "Modi ji targeted three aspects which destroyed Indian politics and took it to the path of destruction. They were: politics of dynasties, appeasement and above all corruption." While dynasties politics were checking the politics of performance for which many desir-

able leaders become undesirable, appeasement policy ensured that the benefits go to some specific categories and not to people as a whole and corruption damaged the economic fabrics. Stating that the country was stung by corruption to the tune of Rs 12 lakh crore before BJP-led NDA came to power in 2014, Shah claimed that bold steps taken by Modi has dealt a death blow to corruption and paved the CONTINUED ON: P-7



Gujurat, Karnataka and Maharashtra. "We

Noting that the people of India

headed by Narendra Modi with 2/3rd ma-

be repeated in 2024 elections due to its

Administration envisaged discontent of public during evacuation of illegal encroachment



Barbil(KCN):Local administration envisaged protest by the people of Ward No. 15 in Sundura Basti area under Badbil Municipality of Keonjhar district while attempting to evict the encroached land. According to reports, some tribal community people were occupying and using the vacant land adjacent to their registered land in this area. They have been occupied these land since long .Having

received a complain the local administration led by Tahsildar Alok Patel went to the place to remove the encroachment . Though administration had deployed police personnel ,the inhabitants were seen arguing Tehsildar Patel. During this forcible occupation, there was an argument with the usurper. It has been reported that the administration returned without evacuation until the end.

CITU and allied party marked "Kranti Diwas" differently at Barbil

Barbil (KCN):9th rally .Under the leadership of Indramani Behera a

administration .They "onset of raise voice against dictatorship is price rise, viciously attacked



Diwas or the Quit India Movement, during World War II, demanding an end to British rule in India. To mark the occasion communist led CITU,AIKS and ALAWA organisation in Barbil of Keonjhar district in Odisha organised a

senior leader of CITU party hundreds of party workers did a march in the city to protest against inflation and unemployment, These leaders not only hit the streets but were also engaged in dramatic stand-offs with the local

unemployment and imposition of goods and services tax (GST) on essential commodities . Accusing ruling government and Central government, Indramani said "anybody who raised people's issues and stood up against the

Training Of Excise Officers Organized Through Virtual Mode

Khurdha (KCN): One day seminar on Narcotics and Psychotropic substance Act. was organized by the Excise Directorate, Odisha, Cuttack, through virtual mode, where in all the Excise Officers of the state took part. During inauguration the Excise Commissioner, Ashish Singh, briefed all to participate proactively and implicates the law properly during the search, seizure and investigation. He instructed all the Excise Officers to go through the latest judgements of High Court and Supreme Court on NDPS, Act. He told that with the accused person resorting to new tech-

nology in illicit trafficking and the change in law, it is imperative for all to be knowledgeable for observing the mandatory provision of the Act. and for adducing evidence in court. Sri Sarat Chandra Samanta, Public Prosecutor, Khordha highlighted on different provision of NDPS Act. the lacunae in filling papers adducing evidence in the Court of law and advised the Excise Officers to follows the provisions strictly. Praveen Chandra Tripathy, Dy. Superintendent of Police, STF, BBSR, explained the provisions of pre-trial disposal of drug's and forfeiture proceeding under NDPS Act.

Giving your kitchen showstopper-esque vibe

Kolkata (KCN): A kitchen is the most intense and hardest working room in the house. Spending more time at home during the pandemic has allowed consumers to become more creative with their cooking and boosted their confidence in the kitchen. Kitchen is also one of our most used living spaces and it's not just restricted to cooking alone. It plays a crucial role in helping us unwind after work, entertain family and friends, or catch up with our loved ones over a nice evening meal. While you may not think about it, your kitchen is a great place to add decorative yet functional elements like modern tools and accessories that bring in style, aesthetics and innovation while being mindful and responsible. thinKitchen.in, an omnichannel retailer offering global, premium kitchen and homeware brands shares few quick ways to give the kitchen a facelift: Clutter-Free Kitchen spaces: If you have a Pinterest board of your favourite kitchens or when you browse through social media, you'll see that most great-looking kitchens seem like they are barely used. The counters are totally clear and you see no trace of appliances like toasters. The secret to a clutter-free kitchen is a space roller and pull-down shutters – they help you help conceal everything you would like to keep out of sight.

Amplified thump sends bullets to 'lock-up'



Barbil .(KCN): It was the muffled thud — a majestic sound — that lured bullet lovers to choose the royal Enfield over other motorbikes. However, many riders decided to change the manufacturer-given muffler for a more louder, noisier silencer. A case has witnessed to an

incident in Barbil .As per report On dt.03.08.2022 one Manti Singh of Ward No-04 under Barbil police station complained that some under age youths were racing with their Bullet Bikes at Cinema Hall to High School road and making lot of noise. Kuldeep Singh,his brother

advised them to stop such noise inside residential area at late night. These boys started arguing them and called their friend over phone. They also threaten him. Based on his report police enquired the matter and arrested Manjeet Chourasia, Adarsh Chourasia and Sonu Gupta of ward no.4

and 10 respectively and forwarded to court.A bullet bearing regd no OD 09 P4197,One Apache motorcycle OD 09G 0972 ,one bolero bearing Regd no OR 02BA 3779 .Another accused N i r a j chaurasia,absconded since after the occurrence said Barbil police.

Don't let monsoon play spoilsport: Tips to ensure your clothes stay moisture and germ free

Kolkata (KCN): Who doesn't need little respite from the terrible summer heat? However, monsoon also brings with its own share of laundry woes. Every year, around this time, our cupboards start to emit a foul, musty, damp smell that is usually a consequence of the monsoon humidity. Just like the body and skin requires extra care during monsoons to avoid infections, similarly, our wardrobes also require certain changes to deal with the issues that come with the rainy season. Dampness and mould are the downside of monsoons. Fungus, mold or mildew growth on clothes may survive for weeks to months and is not only embarrassing but also hazardous for health and therefore taking steps of precautions is the best remedy to keep your home happy while saving yourself from the chaos. Here is a list of simple tips to get rid of the smell so that your wardrobe starts to feel fresh again:

frequency at which we wash clothes during the season. Using a clothes disinfectant like Savlon Clothes Disinfectant and Refreshing Spray can come in handy if we wish to not wash clothes every day (especially garments that are worn every day including school uniforms, sarees, or layered fabrics like blazers). This spray does not contain Bleach, is gentle on clothes & it not only kills 99.9% virus & germs* like molds, fungi and odour-causing bacteria on your clothes but also leaves clothes smelling fresh up to 72 hours#.

- Try washing your clothes inside out: Another way to get rid of the musty smell during the rainy season is to wash your clothes inside out. This is due to the fact that perspiration and filth prefer to stay to the insides of your clothes rather than the exterior.
- Using clothes disinfection: Monsoon can sometimes mean days with limited sunshine. This of course dictates the

- Drying clothes properly: Leaving clothes to dry on terrace or balcony is not ideal during monsoon. Moreover, drying clothes inside the house can result in a lot of humidity, which is both unhealthy and inconvenient. It will also result in your clothes being only partially dry. To make sure you don't end up leaving your clothes damp:
- Place a bag of salt or rice in the room where your clothes dry. Salt absorbs moisture and keeps the air of your room dry, which makes it easier for your clothes to dry faster.
- Always use the dryer of your washing machine before hanging your clothes to dry. Also, use hangers whenever possible as clothes that are spread out dry faster.

Kitchen tools as design elements -Maximise utilitarian purchases by investing in tools that serve a function and an aesthetic. Get a big chopping block that's colourful and edgy or a knife set that looks appealing and leave them in a corner of the counter



as decor elements. Options like Richardson Sheffield's knife sets are made from carefully selected materials, with on-trend designs can give your counter top Insta-worthy vibrance. You could also get water tumblers in bold metallic tones like the once from Zoku to spruce up the water filter

area. A vase can be the answer—Unpopular opinion, but there are always nooks in the kitchen we don't know what to do with. Consider adding drama to these corners with a bold vase like the one's from Dartington with some decorative barley stem propped in. This gives you a healthy confluence of bold and chic while sticking to the kitchen theme. Add in some cool storage jars: There is always that see through glass cabinet in the kitchen that gives away the secrets of your ways. Use this space to add colour and drama by filling up your staples in clear glass storage jars. See through Brabantia jars gives the space a neater look and the way you arrange them can be no less than a clever installation. Clever lighting: Accents of light always gives a space a glammed-up look and feel. Install some LED strips inside cabinets or over countertops to eliminate shadows and immediately make your kitchen look like it's gone through an upgrade. Add some great looking serve ware: Invest in some cool serve ware to give a luxe feel to the kitchen or the dining area. A colourful salad bowl, like KitchenCraft bowl can make a world of difference to how you feel about cooking and eating.

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Signing 'Indian 2' has been a step up in my career, says Kajal Aggarwal



CHENNAI (KCN): Actress Kajal Aggarwal, who teams up with actor-filmmaker Kamal Haasan for the first time in the upcoming Tamil film "Indian 2", says signing the project has been a step up in

her over a decade-long career.

Last seen on screen in Telugu film "Kavacham", Kajal has already begun prepping for her role in "Indian 2".

"I'm really thrilled to be part of

the project. I'm quite excited about my role and the skills I will get to learn on the job. I see signing 'Indian 2' as a step up in my career," Kajal told IANS along the sidelines of the launch of beverage brand 7Up's

new campaign, 7Up Ponneram.

Ponneram translates to golden times in English. Kajal said her career's golden times started when she signed S.S. Rajamouli's "Magadheera".

"My golden times started when I signed 'Magadheera'. I have seen many ups and downs in my profession but it was only after I did 'Magadheera' did my career catapult to the next league. It earned me a lot of recognition which I enjoy even today," she said.

Talking about what excited her most about the association with 7Up, Kajal said: "It's a brand a lot of us can easily identify and relate with. I like the fact that it's a very clear beverage. It's also a drink that lets you take a step back and chill. I treat success or failure by taking a step back and I believe it gives you a lot of clarity."

On the career front, Kajal is keenly looking forward to the release of "Paris Paris", the Tamil remake of Kangana Ranaut's "Queen".

"Paris Paris" will be Kajal's first release of 2019.

"When I was offered the 'Queen' remake, I saw it as a story that can be explored in many languages. It's a simple story of a simple girl that I could connect with on many levels. I'm sure there are a lot of girls across different parts of Tamil Nadu who will relate to this story and I'd be glad if this film empowers them," she added.

From 2.0 to Raazi, top 10 Indian movies based on worldwide gross

2018 has been an eventful year for Indian cinema. From Sanju to Sarkar, the industry faced a row

of controversies. Yet some movies shined amid the storm.

declared as 'double blockbuster' film. The movie showed the different phases of the controversial

ing Rs 293 crore. 4. Race 3: 'Our business is our business, none of your business' line

and the government freebie schemes.. A few scenes were deleted from the movie too. The matter was

ceived hilarious reactions on social media as well. Later, Aamir Khan apologised for failing to entertain

but it leaves you with a thought to ponder. 9. Rangasthalam:

With the right mix of content for a commercial flick, Rangasthalam made it big in the box office by collecting Rs 151 crore. The story is about how a young man with hearing impairment and his brother decide to dethrone their village's president who's been ruling the village for 30 years.

10. Raazi:

An adaptation of Harinder Sikka's 'Calling Sehmat' novel, Raazi is based on the true story of an Indian spy, who gets married into a Pakistani family of military officials to spy on Pakistan during the Indo-Pak war of 1971. It's easily Alia Bhatt's career best. The movie minted Rs 121 crore in the box office against the budget of Rs 30 crore.

It's been a great year for Indian cinema which took us on a journey of emotions, from laughter to tears, sometimes of joy. Though a lot of films didn't make it to this list, good films silently made it into the hearts of the audience.

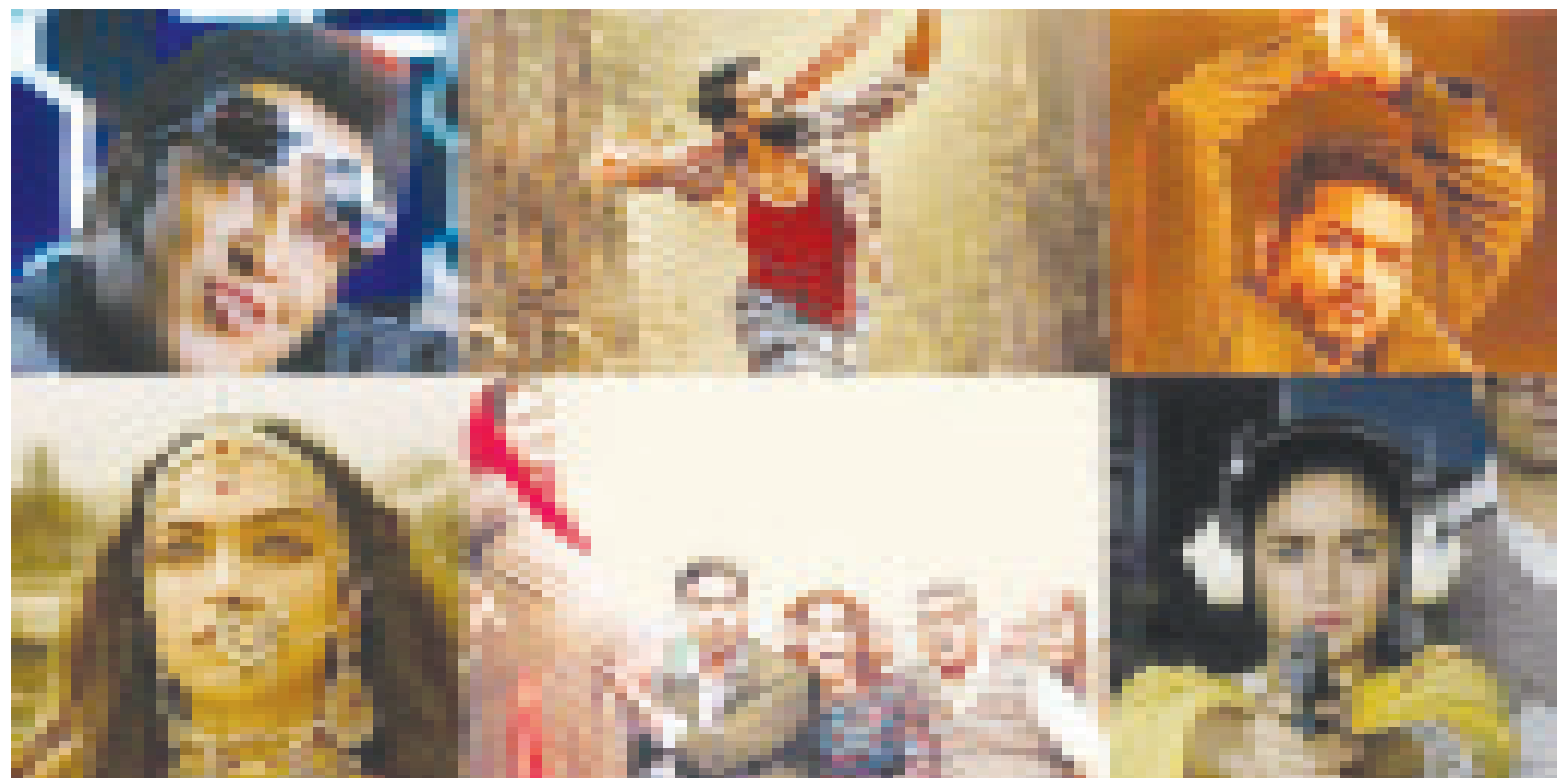
Just 'normal' to exclude women in decision making process: Adil Hussain

MUMBAI (KCN): Actor Adil Hussain has offered support to the growing group of female artistes who are asking the reason for women's absence from the Bollywood delegation of producers and actors that recently met Prime Minister Narendra Modi to discuss issues faced by the film industry.

On Tuesday, an 18-member panel, including Akshay Kumar, Karan Johar, Ajay Devgn, Siddharth Roy Kapur, Ritesh Sidhwani and CBFC chief Prasoon

Joshi, met Modi to discuss how to take the entertainment industry to the next stage.

The meeting of the delegation came under fire on Wednesday for its exclusion of female representation with some activists and filmmakers pointing out that it was 2018 and asking, "Where are the women?" Adil took to Twitter to criticise the panel that met the prime minister, saying it has become the habit to exclude women from the decision making process.



of controversies. Yet some movies shined amid the storm.

According to IMDb, here's the list of ten movies that performed well in the box office last year.

1. 2.0:

It won't be an exaggeration to call 2.0 as India's 'Superhero' movie. True to that, Kollywood and Bollywood superheroes Rajinikanth and Akshay Kumar played the lead roles in the movie. The movie has so far earned over Rs 700 crore worldwide already and is still running successfully in theatres. Directed by Shankar, who's known to make magnificent movies, 2.0 comes with a social message for people on why one should reduce the use of mobile phones. Also, it is the first Tamil film to enter the 700 crore club. If you haven't watched the film yet, book your tickets right away!

2. Sanju:

Sanjay Dutt's biopic 'Sanju' minted Rs 340 crore at the box office and was

actor Sanjay Dutt, which really didn't go well with some organisations. RSS openly criticised the movie in their mouth-piece 'Panchjanya.' However, the movie became a huge hit in no time. It's definitely Ranbir Kapoor's best work ever. The movie was a comeback for both the reel and real Sanjus.

3. Padmaavat:

Initially scheduled to be released in 2017, the movie was caught in a row of controversies and finally got released early this year in January. Set in medieval Rajasthan, the story revolves around the life of Queen Padmavathi, which drew the flak from right-wing groups. Unlike the claims by the religious fanatics, the movie actually portrayed queen Padmavati in the best light. However, the film's team was asked to remove a few scenes from the movie before its release. Despite the fuss, the movie became a blockbuster at the box office, earn-

ing Rs 293 crore. 4. Race 3: 'Our business is our business, none of your business' line

5. Sarkar:

Sarkar's plot is about a successful businessman from the USA coming to India to cast his vote in election day. To his shock, he finds out that his vote has already been cast by someone else. So he decides to take up a political battle against the miscreants and how he survives the race makes the rest of the story. Directed by AR Murugadoss, the movie got into a huge row and was criticised by the ruling Tamil Nadu government for allegedly misrepresenting AIADMK's late leader J Jayalithaa

later settled in Madras HC. It was much hyped that actor Vijay may begin his political career after this movie. Sarkar was well received by the Tamil audience and it made Rs 151 crore in the box office.

6. Baaghi 2:

This Tiger Shroff-Disha Patani starrer failed to impress audience due to its poor storyline line. Despite that, the movie minted Rs 161 crore in the box office and became a blockbuster. The story is about an army man trying to save his ex-lover's kidnapped daughter. The Baaghi series will have a third part 'Baaghi 3,' which will be out on March 6, 2020.

7. Thugs of Hindostan:

The film set in the 18th century earned Rs 130 crore in the box office against the 275 crore budget ending up a huge disaster at the box office despite having strong star cast including Aamir Khan, Amitabh Bachchan, Katrina Kaif. The film re-

Festivities of August and a war on the horizon

As I write this, war clouds are hovering over the tiny island nation of Taiwan and its giant neighbour People's Republic of China. The world is watching



with awe as Nancy Pelosi flies back from Taiwan with the conviction that the dragon is unpredictable and untrustworthy. Would the gigantic dragon spew fire on its tiny neighbour? Can the world afford one more war simultaneously fought as a gargantuan country mercilessly pouncing on its tiny neighbourhood? We need no scholastic definitions to define the catastrophe that a war is capable of unleashing. Between Russia and Ukraine, the modern generation of the day got much of its knowledge as to what a war would look like. Certainly the world is not growing into a better place for human concomitance and war draws lines between generations with history gleefully narrating the level of bloodshed that wars have shaken the world with. Though peaceful, India is also susceptible to the tremors of war with their social and economic implications sticking out firm and the geopolitical ramifications surface. Amid the fury of raging wars, for Indians, July month was full of excitement and expectations. They rejoiced at the selection of a personality, who with her umbilical beginning with the downtrodden folk of the country, the tribal communities; could rise to hold the office of the President of India. The great tribal traditions of India are sure to get a boost and a scope of rejuvenation as Draupadi Murmu holds the chair of the highest constitutional office in the country.

August has brought joy unspeakable to the farming folks in India as one among them; the son of a farmer has become the Vice President of the country. Jagdeep Dhankar is all set to hold his noose tight in the upper house of the parliament, the Rajya Sabha. The country would witness mounting distress among the opposition and hullabaloo disrupting the proceedings of the house. Let us expect a great deal of tutoring from the new chairman with his legal expertise strengthening the normal routine of the house. August also brings indescribable happiness as the month is loaded with numerous festivals and the festivities certainly give the people of the country a genuine cause to come together. Independence Day this year comes with a distinct jubilation and splendour. Seventy Five years of

Quit India Day reminds us of the greatest leader in the history of our country

August 8 is celebrated as Quit

Vinod Chandrashekhar Dixit



India Movement day. On this day, Father of the nation, Gandhiji gave a call to the masses and urged them to raise their voice against British and asked them to "Quit India". Gandhi kick-started the Quit India movement on August 8, 1942, at the All India Congress Committee meeting in Mumbai's Gowalia Tank Maidan. He also infused it with the spirit of his phrase "do or die". On August 9, 1942 the Quit India Movement began which later triggered the British leaving the country and India attaining independence on August 15, 1947 a few years later. "Quit India" slogan is credited to another Congress leader, Yusuf Meherally, who is said to have come up with the phrase at a meeting of Gandhi's close associates in Mumbai some time before the launch of the movement. At the time, 39-year-old Meherally was the mayor of Bombay – the first socialist to be elected to the post. Quit India day is observed every year on August 9 to mark the anniversary of Quit India movement. It was Mahatma Gandhi, who inspired the people of this vast nation to raise their voice against the oppressive British rule in a non-violent manner through this movement. The Quit India Movement also known as India August Movement or Bharat Chodo Andolan was launched at the Bombay session of the All India Congress Committee (AICC) by Mahatma Gandhi on August 8, 1942, it is also known as August Kranti or August Movement. In early hours of 9th August, all the top leaders - Gandhi, Nehru, Patel, Azad were arrested and Congress was declared an unlawful organization. Mahatma Gandhi delivered his speech marking the beginning of the Quit India Movement in Mumbai's Gowalia Tank Maidan also known as August Kranti Maidan. Besides Gandhi's ideology of non-violence and technique of Satyagraha, it

India's development as a multicultural, secular and civilized society

M. R. LALU

speaks a lot about its evolution as a nation. This year, with the Prime Minister's appeal to add more flavour of patriotism in the festivities with his Har Ghar Tiranga campaign; India is all set to celebrate the festival with beauty, fervour and tradition. A moment of gathering and recollection of our struggles to walk into the freedom - we as a nation, had probably gone through the cruellest of experiments and the imprint of the wrath that the invasion had on our psyche cannot be easily eradicated and the Tiranga abhiyan is sure to keep the fire of patriotism burning. The national flag, being hoisted on every rooftop would generate a sense of belongingness breaking the barricades of differences.

Adding to the essence of India's oneness, brotherhood and kinship, comes Raksha Bandhan. A ceremony to cement the relationship between brothers and sisters, Raksha Bandhan is celebrated on the full moon day of Shrawan month and of course it comes in the month of August. The rakhi ritual signifies the bond of protection, obligation and care. The eternal love that it invokes between brothers and sisters probably gathers holy emotions of oneness and the society strengthens its impulse of togetherness, depleting inconsistencies and inconveniences. Like Independence Day, this colourful festival with traditions of yore holds the essential power to transform the country into a unit of connectedness. Excitement of August does not end with Independence Day and Raksha Bandhan alone. Janmashtami comes with great pomp and gaiety in the month. Across the country festivities will be active to celebrate the divine appearance of Lord Krishna. From Mathura to Guruvayoor, with varying traditions, temples dedicated to Lord Krishna across the country hold different rituals and religious processions. It is a blissful occasion to celebrate the birth of Lord Krishna who dared to advice a mentally retarded Arjuna in the gruesome battlefield of Kurukshetra. The Mahabharata brings a great deal of lessons suitable for the modern times eternally penetrating into the social strides of modernity. The advent of Krishna brings equal amount of jubilation and recognition for being candid on finding solutions to the complexities of life. Little children in the disguise of Lord Krishna and his divine companion Radha walk in tune with the music of a divine elation in the streets of India. Krishna,

was the strategy of struggle - truce - struggle that

accelerated and sustained the urge for freedom and enabled India to achieve freedom in 1947. The efforts of Cripps mission bore no fruit and the prices of essential commodities were soaring high and the day does not appear to be far off for the deliverance from the British imperialism. With the arrest of all the national leaders, there was nobody to guide the popular agitation. The All India Congress Committee that met in Bombay in August ratified this decision to go in for struggle. In his speech Gandhi made it very clear "I am not going to be satisfied with anything short of complete freedom. May be, he (the Viceroy) will propose the abolition of salt tax, the drink evil. But I will say nothing less than freedom". Our PM Modi has also termed the month of August as a month of revolution as the non-cooperation movement was launched on 1st of August 1920, Quit-India movement on 9th of August 1942 and on 15th August 1947 India became independent. The Quit India day is a way of commemorating the brave soldiers of the Indian freedom movement. Functions are organized in numerous schools across the nation to educate the younger generation about the great sacrifices made by the martyrs and the leaders of the nation to make India independent. Let us remember that the Quit India movement was the spontaneous participation of the masses compared to the earlier non-cooperation and civil disobedience movements. The Quit India Movement was an important milestone in the Indian freedom struggle. Under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi, people across India came together to uproot imperialism. Gandhi was a great strategist of the 20th century mass political mobilization process motivated by self-reliant rule of the masses through more of non-violent means.

B-15 Jyoti-Kalash Society, Jodhpur Tekra, Satellite, Ahmedabad

through his great gestures of attachment and respect towards his childhood friend Sudama, taught us the relevance of equality in a society.

The festival that needs no narration is Ganesh Chaturthi. Beautiful Ganesha idols, reminding us with a great amount of wisdom that Lord Ganesha was known for, fundamentally bring us the glory of empathy in life. The clay models of the Elephant God turn out to be the depiction of the great characteristics that he came into the world with - like intelligence, obedience and logical interventions. He still stands as a perfect example of devotion that a child can exercise to his parents. History attributes credit to the founder of the Maratha Empire Chatrapati Shivaji for his beginning Ganesh Chaturthi as a worship ceremony. By transforming Lord Ganesha's birth celebrations into a public event with mass gathering, Bal Gangadhar Tilak wanted the essential oneness of Indians to replicate once again against the colonial dominance of the British. This experiment had literally transformed the collective imagination of Indians in the direction of a well meaningful mobilisation against the cultural invasion of the west. Much has been added to the pomp and gaiety of all the festivals that India has been culturally

interwoven with. And the woofs of cultural eminence generated through colourful festivals in the loom of tradition and modernity in India could successfully detoxify the essence of alienating thoughts that India has been deplorably subservient of. Markets and internet are afloat and aplenty with national flags and rakhis. Everything, from clothes to bangles to pen to pencil is a new tricolour design. New trends dominate the social media and profile pictures unequivocally turn patriotic with the symbol of national unity the tricolour becoming omnipresent and forget not - India is changing. The Prime Minister is taking the lead in this pursuit of patriotic jubilation. August obviously makes us recall the Mahatmas, the Netajis and the Bhagat Singhs. Among the rising powers, India is embellishing its embroidery of success with its Atma Nirbhar initiatives. The festivities of August should take us further to the realm of extreme efficiency and self sufficiency. War is still looming on the horizon but for India, it is a season of festivities.

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Primacy of primary education

Universalisation of education must be taken into account not

Pratap chandra sahu

schools are in single roomed. Where one class is held each

merely the issues of maximising enrollment and setting up new schools but also going into quality content at the primary and upper primary level. The content and imparting of education at primary and upper primary level becomes of the highest quality, then the excellence of our educated man power would be the general rule rather than an exception. If at all quality needs to be ensured hundred percent at any level in our educational hierarchy, it is at the primary level, where the impressionistic mind of the child is moulded for future development. Due to lack of our lethargy, inertia, initiative on the part of bureaucracy and paucity of imagination some drastic changes (steps) would not functioned although it was passed. Prior to that case a survey was being conducted in nine educationally backward states to determine the factors responsible for poor students enrollment at the elementary level and to come up would alternative to improve the situation. In those states, the survey would examine to the extent up to which poverty has inhabited universalisation of primary education. To improve the quality education the govt. of India implemented in a very broad way throughout the country the system of non-formal education to combat the high rate of drop-out in primary and middle schools. It is believed to achieve universalisation of elementary education, which had been eluding the country inspire of concerted efforts during that four to five decades. In the non-formal education system although some problems solved, but it was post-poned the programme as it was expensive and not fruitful. Major thrust of non-formal education was being given in the backward states i.e. andhra, jammu & kashmir, odisha, Rajasthan, u.p, westbengal, Bihar and madhya pradesh, which account for 80% of students enrolled. The central govt. had given special interest to innovate experiments & projects in non-formal education. The govt. had to set up educational centres for the age 3 to 6 years old especially in the rural areas as adjuncts to primary and middle schools. These centres would not only develop school going habits among pre-school age group children, but would also enable the care takers of such children mostly girls to attend school leaving their charges in the care of the centre and thus remove a major drop-outs. It is estimated that at present near about four crores of people in India do not have primary schooling facilities within in one km of their homes. The objective of providing free and compulsory education to all children up to age 16 years for under the constitution of India would be fulfilled envisages to achieve the target of hundred percent enrollment in primary level. It is rather unfortunate that present educational system has some how elicit in nature with 60% of high schools & college students coming from top 20% from our society. Its heavy pushout & drop out rate is 40% of the pupils, who enter class one and they are pushed & dropped out before class fifth which happened to be the time when the minimum literacy skills can be acquired. 80% of our

day. A dispassionate assessment expansion of education in India reveals the defects contradictions which have plunged the entire educational device. One major contradiction was between the proclaimed goal of orienting education to prepare citizens for active democratic participations and the refusal to treat education as a fundamental right of citizens. Consequently the policy has resulted in including the overwhelming mass of citizens from having access to even elementary education. Today education is free and compulsory for all up to class +2 in almost all states and union territories. Unless we give the right to education to every citizen we cannot accelerate the rate of literacy in this country. While in countries like ours the problem of providing primary education on a national scale appears to be so difficult to solve in Japan the objective was fulfilled easily making education rural based up to highest level. The educational structure of Japan is as pyramid rather than as a pillar on the other hand the number of students at a higher educational institutions in India is 4% of the age group but it is only 1% in Japan. This is evident of the emphasis given by an industrially advanced country like Japan, elementary educational system given much importance. On the other significant contradiction in our educational policy is that when education is proclaimed to be an instrument for bringing about equality in practice it has systematically sharpened and deepened in qualities. Education even at the lower level has been left by the govt. as a commodity to be purchased. Entry into the institutions availability of books, dress, etc. many other financial benefits, who want to secure education. Ever since of independence of the country there has been a craze for all kinds of higher education as it became a passport for higher jobs. The total concentration of the bureaucracy has been strengthening higher education. Gradually costly fees overcrowding donation and other unhealthy practices have transferred to educational institutions into massive factories producing men and women with dubious degrees and without much merit by. It has not been appreciated that for bringing about social change & justice the major thrust should be on primary education, because it is content and formalism to scare away the children of poor and backward pupils. The constraints of the huge number of children and large amount of money involved should not come in the way of launching up on the nation wide campaign for removing illiteracy. Since 1970 the enrollment in degree level has grown up to 16 times, in p.g. level 7 times, in higher technical institutions 10 times but in primary only 3 times. Thus the enormous expansion of subsidised higher education has benefited mostly the upper incoming groups. Now-a-days the transformations are going on in high schools. So as to give much importance to primary level is essential.

Nabarangapur

Indian Army to hold exercises with Oman and Vietnam in August

NEW DELHI: In its bid to bolster military ties, Indian Army soldiers are scheduled to hold exercises with the Army personnel of Oman and Vietnam, the two countries which are strategically significant for India.

As per the Indian Army 4th edition of the exercise AL Najah with the Royal Army of Oman will be held at the foreign training node of Mahajan Field Firing ranges (Rajasthan) from 1 to 13 August in which 60 personnel from Sultan of Oman Parachute Regiment will hold exercise with Indian troops from 18 Mechanised Infantry Battalion.

The Indian Army on Sunday said, "The scope of the exercise includes professional interaction, mutual understanding of drills & procedures, the es-



establishment of joint command & control structures and elimination of terrorist threats. The joint exercise would focus on Counter Terrorism Operations, Regional Security Operations and Peace Keeping Operations under United Nations charter apart from organising joint physical training schedules, tactical drills, techniques and procedures."

The exercise aims to enhance defence cooperation and will further manifest in enhancing bilateral relations, added the Indian Army.

These exercises with the two countries will add to the existing strong defence ties.

The Sultanate of Oman is a strategic partner of India in the Gulf and an important interlocutor at

the Gulf Cooperation Council (AGCC), the Arab League, and the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) fora.

India-Oman Defence cooperation has emerged as a key pillar of the strategic partnership between the two countries.

The other exercise is with Vietnam which "is an important partner in India's Act East policy and Indo-Pacific policy", the Army said.

The 3rd edition of Vietnam-India bilateral army exercise "Vinbax 2022" at Chandimandir will be held from 1 to 20 August.

A 45-member Vietnam People's Army Contingent comprising Medical and Combat Engineers are scheduled to exercise with Indian Army troops of the 105 Engineer Regiment.

As per sources, "The theme this year is deployment and employment of an engineering company and a medical team as part of UN Contingent for peacekeeping operations".

The exercise is a sequel to a previously conducted bilateral exercise in Vietnam in 2019 and will be a major milestone in strengthening bilateral relations, the sources added.

In June, Indian Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and Vietnam's Minister of National Defence General Phan Van Giang in Hanoi had signed the Joint Vision Statement on India-Vietnam Defence Partnership towards 2030, which will significantly enhance the scope and scale of existing defence cooperation. A Memorandum of Understanding on Mutual Logistics Support was also inked in the presence of both the Ministers.

The continuous military exercise between the three nations has developed trust and has brought maturity to the relations, the Army said.

Oman provides operational support to the Indian Navy for anti-piracy missions in the Arabian Sea. India had access to the Duqm port in Oman, which strengthened India's capability and maritime strategy in the Indian Ocean Region.

Army Chief meets Bhutan King in Thimphu; focus on boosting enduring strategic ties

NEW DELHI: Chief of Army Staff Gen Manoj Pande has met Bhutanese King Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck and other top civil and military leaders of Bhutan in Thimphu with a focus on boosting "en-

ments. Earlier this year, India restricted the export of the two commodities to strengthen India's food security. The Army Chief called on the King on Saturday besides meeting Jigme

junction. In 2017, the Indian and Chinese armies were locked in a 73-day stand-off at the Doklam tri-junction after China tried to extend a road in the area that Bhutan claimed belonged to it.

interests. In the last few years, India has been focusing on strengthening its infrastructure along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) including in the Sikkim sector. In October last year, Bhutan and China signed an agreement on a "three-step roadmap" to expedite negotiations to resolve their festering boundary dispute. Bhutan shares an over 400-km-long border with China and the two countries have held over 24 rounds of boundary talks in a bid to resolve the dispute.



during" strategic ties. Gen Pande was on a visit to Bhutan in the backdrop of growing concerns in India over China's relentless attempts to expand military infrastructure around Bhutanese territory in the Doklam plateau.

People familiar with Gen Pande's engagements in Bhutan said regional defence and security challenges, Chinese activities in the plateau and adjoining areas and ways to enhance bilateral defence cooperation figured in his talks.

The Army Chief's visit to Bhutan coincided with India's decision to authorise the export of 5,000 metric tonnes of wheat and 10,000 metric tonnes of sugar to Bhutan as per Thimphu's require-

Singye Wangchuck, the Fourth King of Bhutan. "General Manoj Pande #COAS called on His Majesty the King of Bhutan Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck and discussed aspects of enhancing the enduring bilateral relationship between the two Nations," the Army said in a tweet.

It said he was also accorded an "impeccable Guard of Honour" at Thimphu. New images show China has built a full-fledged village near Doklam

The people cited above said Gen Pande held extensive talks with his Bhutanese counterpart Lt General Batoo Tshering on all key issues including the overall situation in the Doklam tri-

Gen Pande also met with the Indian officials engaged in capacity-building of the Bhutanese military. India has been significantly extending support to Bhutan's armed forces including in areas of training.

The Army Chief's visit to Bhutan came days after new satellite images emerged showing China constructing a village east of the Doklam plateau on the Bhutanese side, a region that is considered important for India's strategic interest.

After the images came out, the Ministry of External Affairs said India keeps a constant watch on all developments having bearing on national security and takes necessary measures to safeguard its

The Doklam tri-junction is considered important from the point of view of India's security interests.

The India-China stand-off in the Doklam plateau in 2017 even triggered fears of a war between the two nuclear-armed neighbours.

Bhutan said the area where China attempted to build the road belonged to it and India supported the Bhutanese claim. India had strongly opposed the construction of the road at the Doklam tri-junction as it would have impacted its overall security interests.

The India-China face-off was resolved following several rounds of talks.

'Gehri dosti' says PM Bennett as Israel and India mark 30 years of diplomatic ties

Jerusalem: Israel and India have a "gehri dosti" (deep friendship), Israeli Prime Minister Naftali Bennett has said and thanked his Indian

partnership, a deep cultural connection, and military and economic cooperation," he said.

Though India had recognised Israel on

tween Israel & India. We celebrate a strong partnership, An incredibly deep friendship, & optimism for the future!". He wrote in Hindi,

between us is age-old.

"For centuries, the Jew community has stayed in India in a harmonious environment without any discrimination and has grown. It has made an important contribution in our developmental journey," Modi said.

On Friday, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and Israel's foreign minister Yair Lapid penned op-eds in an Israeli and an Indian newspaper

emphasising that "friendship and trust" are not only positive traits, but also "real assets" with which the two countries have worked together to "deepen their roots" for the last three decades, expressing hopes that their achievements together will continue to bear fruit.

The celebrations to commemorate 30 years of diplomatic ties are likely to continue through the year but anniversary celebrations have been marked by illumination of historic sites in both countries - the Gateway of India and Teen Murti Haifa Chowk in India and Masada in southern Israel's Judean desert which is a popular tourist site.



counterpart Narendra Modi for his "deep commitment" to the "strong and robust friendship".

Describing the opportunities of collaboration between the two countries as "endless", Bennett, in a special video message released on Saturday evening, stressed that "the ties between Israel and India are strong and together they will only grow stronger", as the two nations celebrated 30 years of establishment of diplomatic relations.

"There is something I wanted to tell to all of the people of India. Israel and India have a "gehri dosti", Deep Friendship. Today we honour 30 years of diplomatic relations between Israel and India. Thirty years of a wonderful

September 17, 1950, full-fledged diplomatic relations between the countries were established on January 29, 1992.

"I would like to thank my dear friend, Prime Minister Modi, for his leadership and deep commitment to this strong and robust friendship.

"Our countries may be different in size but we share much in common - our rich history, the inherent warmth of our peoples, and our cutting edge innovation and technology", the Israeli prime minister said amidst a series of activities under way to mark the occasion.

The video was tagged to a tweet which said, "Today, we celebrate 30 years of diplomatic relations be-

"Together we will continue to achieve more remarkable achievements".

In New Delhi, Prime Minister Modi, in his special video message, said there cannot be a better time to set new goals for taking forward India-Israel relations and asserted that the importance of the relationship has increased amid significant changes in the world.

Modi said people of India and Israel have always shared a special relationship.

"This day holds importance in our relationship as full diplomatic ties were established between the two countries 30 years ago. A new chapter between the two countries had begun. It was a new chapter but history

MCL eyes 270 MT Talcher Coal

New Delhi: The Union Government has planned to produce 269.79 Million Tonnes of coal from only Talcher area by

Informing about physical progress of construction of coal rail corridor by Mahanadi Coal Railway Limited

Phase-I is in an advanced stage by IRCON with physical progress of 95 per cent.

The project will start



2030, Union Coal and Mines Minister Prahlad Joshi told Rajya Sabha on Monday.

Replying to a question of BJD MP Prashanta Nanda, the Union Minister for Coal and Mines said the Government has planned to produce 182.29 MT of coal from CIL coal blocks and 87.50 MT through non-CIL coal blocks, he said.

(MCRL) in Talcher coalfield area, Mr. Joshi said the inner rail corridor for a length of 68 km is being constructed by MCRL in two phases.

In Phase-I: Angul-Balram rail link (14 km) and in Phase-II: Balaram-Putugadia-Jarapada-Tentuloi rail link (54 km) will be covered.

Construction of the entire 14 KM of

commissioning soon while land acquisition is under process for the second phase. Land acquisition is being done under Railway Amendment Act 2008. A gazette notification for tenancy and government non-forest land was published on 10 June 2022, he said.

Stage-I forest clearance was obtained on 03 December .2021. Compliance with ob-

servation for Stage-II clearance has also been submitted, the Union Minister said, adding, site specification wildlife management plan has also been approved by Principal Conservator of Forest (Wild life), Bhubaneswar on 21 June 2022.

This project is intended to provide a common rail corridor for evacuation of coal from both CIL and non-CIL coal blocks in the Talcher coal field area.

This project will also provide multiple entries and exit points for coal rakes for faster evacuation of coal and decongest the Indian railway system by avoiding concentration of rakes at limited entry and exit routes from Talcher coal field, he added.

Chinese oil giant Sinopec likely to enter Sri Lankan fuel market amid Beijing's debt-trap



BEIJING: As Sri Lanka continues to remain in the Chinese debt trap, the biggest petrochemical company in China, Sinopec, is likely to start retail operations in the Lankan fuel market, local media said citing sources.

The sources said that Sinopec is likely to enter Sri Lankan market for importing, distributing and selling petroleum products, reported Daily Mirror.

This comes as Sri Lankan Cabinet Ministers in the month of June approved a proposal to allow more companies from oil-producing nations to import oil and start retail operations in Sri Lanka.

The proposal was tabled by Power and Energy Minister Kanchana Wijesekera.

It is pertinent to note that the economic crisis which is the worst in Sri Lanka's history has prompted an acute shortage of essential items like fuel. Long queues at fuel stations in Sri Lanka are the new normal and prices fluctuate subject to availability.

The economy of the country is bracing for a sharp contraction due to the unavailability of basic inputs for production, an 80 per cent depreciation of the currency since March 2022, coupled into a lack of foreign reserves, and the country's failure to meet its international debt obligations.

This recent decision to let the Chinese enter in Sri Lanka's fuel retail operations is prompted by a severe foreign ex-

change shortage. At present, 90 per cent of Sri Lanka's fuel supply is through the State-owned Ceylon Petroleum Corporation, and the remaining 10 per cent by Lanka Indian Oil Corporation (IOC). Sinopec is already present at the Port of Hambantota where it operates an oil depot. Since the beginning of 2022, Sri Lanka has experienced an escalating economic crisis and the government has defaulted on its foreign loans. The United Nations warned that 5.7 million people "require immediate humanitarian assistance." While Sri Lanka faces its worst economic crisis since independence with food and fuel shortages, China has turned a blind eye to the crisis and shifted the blame to

the borrower, a media report said. Amid the pandemic, the country was trying to rebuild its economy, but the tourism industry was hit badly, an article in the Global Strat View think-tank read. Tourism in Sri Lanka supports 10 to 15 per cent of the economy. The effect of the COVID-19 crisis, the loss of tourists, high government expenditure and tax cuts depleting state revenues, and the use of money for initiatives with minimal returns have all contributed to Sri Lanka's economic meltdown. Sri Lanka turned to China for help and asked for USD 1 billion loan to meet repayments, and a USD 1.5 billion credit line to buy Chinese goods, however, no progress was attained even after months of negotiations.

Farmers 'seize' office property of Gujarat government entity over pending land compensation

AHMEDABAD: A group of farmers took possession of movable assets, including computers and printers, of the Sardar Sarovar Narmada Nigam at its Gandhinagar office in Gujarat in a bid to recover their long-pending dues as ordered by a civil court. The farmers hailing from the Vadodara district had given their land to the state government for the construction of the Narmada canal over 34 years ago, but have yet to receive the full compensation, their advocate said. They took possession of at least nine CPUs, an equal number of monitors, and five printers belonging to the Sardar Sarovar Narmada Nigam Ltd (SSNNL) on Saturday.

Videos of the farmers in action surfaces on social media on Monday. Some farmers of Abhol village in Padra taluka of the Vadodara district came to the SSNNL's office with an "attachment warrant" issued in favour of the farmers by a civil court in Padra earlier this month, said their advocate R D Parmar.

"A total of 27 farmers of Abhol village were not paid the full compensation by the SSNNL even after 34 years have passed since their land was acquired. The civil court had issued an attachment warrant asking farmers to seize the movable assets of the Nigam and recover their dues by auctioning these assets," said Parmar.

He said farmers came to the SSNNL's office in the secretariat complex in Gandhinagar on Saturday and seized computers and other peripherals worth nearly Rs 3 lakh.

"We have executed only two warrants so far. We still have 25 warrants. This seizure will continue if the officials do not pay the compensation of Rs 68.92 lakh," Parmar added.

Neither the minister of the concerned department nor officials of SSNNL were available for comment. Parmar said the SSNNL had acquired agricultural land of 27 farmers of Abhol in 1988 to build the Narmada canal.

"At that time, the SSNNL, following a High Court



directive, had agreed to pay Rs 1,625 per 'arey' (one arey equals to 100 sq meters) as compensation. Instead of making a full payment, the Nigam paid compensation at the rate of Rs 1,400 per 'arey' to each of the 27 farmers in 2005. This was Rs 225 less than what was decided in the court (Rs 1,625) after litigation," said Parmar.

"That pending due came to nearly Rs 1 lakh to Rs 5 lakh for each farmer. With the interest, the total dues as of today stand at Rs 68.92 lakh after 34 years. Since SSNNL was not showing any interest in paying the compensation, the civil court in Padra had issued an attachment order in 2019," said Parmar. He said the court had dismissed the SSNNL's review petition earlier this month and once again issued attachment warrants so that farmers can seize the movable property and recover their dues by selling it.

Netaji's kin detained, four arrested ahead of controversial right-wing event in Varanasi



PRAYAGRAJ / VARANASI: Rajshree Chaudhary Bose, who traces her lineage to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, was taken off a train and detained while she was on her way to take part in a controversial right-wing event in Varanasi. Police also arrested Vishwa Hindu Sena

president Arun Pathak and his four associates at Assi Ghat in Varanasi's Bhelupur police station area, sources said.

Bose, who heads the Akhil Bharatiya Hindu Mahasabha, had been invited as the chief guest at the Sena event, police said on Monday. Police said Vishwa

Hindu Sena and Shiv Sena had announced they will conduct a 'jalabhishek' at the Gyanvapi mosque, located next to the Kashi Vishwanath Temple.

They claim that a Hindu temple originally stood at the mosque site.

Bose was travelling from New Delhi and was asked to get off

the train at Prayagraj on Sunday.

She was then detained at a guest house at the reserve police lines and continued to be there on Monday.

Kashi Deputy Commissioner of Police RS Gautam said an alert had been issued in view of the event announced by the right-wing groups.



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Billionaire Mukesh Ambani draws nil salary for second year in row citing pandemic

NEW DELHI: Mukesh Ambani for the second year in a row drew no salary from his flagship firm Reliance Industries in the last fiscal as he voluntarily gave up remuneration in light of the pandemic hitting the business and economy.

In its latest annual report, Reliance said Ambani's remuneration for the financial year 2020-21 was "nil".



In June 2020, Mukesh D Ambani, the Chairman and Managing Director of Reliance Industries, voluntarily decided to forego his salary for the year 2020-21, in light of the COVID-19 outbreak in India, which exacted a huge toll on the societal, economic and industrial health of the nation.

He continued to forgo his salary in 2021-22 as well. In both these years, Ambani did not avail of any allowances, perquisites, retiral benefits, commission or stock options from Reliance for his role as the Chairman and Managing Director.

Prior to that, the Chairman and Managing Director had his salary capped at Rs 15 crore from 2008-09 in order to set a personal example of moderation in managerial compensation levels.

The Rs 15 crore salary in 2019-20 was the same as in the previous 11 years. Ambani has kept salary, perquisites, allowances and commission together at Rs 15 crore since 2008-09, forgoing over Rs 24 crore per annum. Income Tax Appellate Tribunal relieve for Anil Ambani in yacht customs duty case

"In light of the COVID-19 outbreak in India, which has exacted a huge toll on the societal, economic and industrial health of the nation, Mukesh D Ambani, the Chairman and Managing Director, has voluntarily decided to forego his salary," the company had said in June 2020.

The remuneration of his cousins Nikhil and Hital Meswani remained unchanged at Rs 24 crore but

CM Naveen Patnaik urges centre to make Odisha special focus state

Continued from page-1

to protect the State and its people from the vagaries of nature.

The Chief Minister also raised the issue of Central neglect and said that Odisha has the lowest density telecom, railways and banking infrastructure. "Historically we have been neglected in the subjects in the Central list including telecom, railways and banking. We have the lowest density in all these crucial infrastructures and I would urge the Centre to give special focus to Odisha," he added.

Stating that the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana has some implementation issues because of which genuine farmers have remained deprived in some cases, Chief Minister said and adding NITI Aayog may study this and suggest ways to protect the interest of farmers.

Referring to the rural housing scheme, Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY), Naveen said most of the tribal and KBK districts have been bypassed from the new allocation. He requested the Centre to immediately resolve this issue and allocate houses as the Odisha government has complied to all the queries raised in this regard.

He suggested that the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) should be transformed and AMSAR Act amended to make the systems in the country on par with global benchmarks as conservation and preservation systems have changed globally both in terms of technology and legal framework. This will greatly help in protecting heritage sites including Konark, he added.

He appreciated the role played by the Prime Minister as the then Chief Minister of Gujarat in protecting and conserving step wells in Gujarat including the 'Rani Ka Vav' listed as a UNESCO heritage site.

Stating that India is at the crossroads of becoming a great economic superpower rooted in inclusive growth and NITI Aayog can play an important role in facilitating this.

He also maintained that NITI Aayog should resolve disputes arising in the implementation of Central schemes as this will promote cooperative federalism and speedy implementation of schemes. "We all accept that the State and Central governments are political entities and sometimes there are disputes in the implementation of Central schemes," he added.

this time it included a Rs 17.28 crore commission. Executive Directors PMS Prasad and Pawan Kumar Kapil saw their remuneration fall marginally.

While Prasad drew Rs 11.89 crore in 2021-22, down from Rs 11.99 crore in 2020-21, Kapil got Rs 4.22 crore, lower than Rs 4.24 crore in the previous year. The payment of Prasad and Kapil included "performance-linked incentives for FY 2020-21 paid in FY 2021-22," the annual report said.

Ambani's wife Nita, a non-executive director on the

Odisha BJP MP alleges inappropriate reception to Amit Shah by the state government

Continued from page-1

here in a special flight Sunday night.

Top leaders of the party including BJP state party president Samir Mohanty, national vice president Bajjayant Panda and the Bhubaneswar MP were present at the airport to welcome him.

"A huge number of people from different parts of the Bhubaneswar were there to welcome him and express their gratefulness towards him for his visit. However, with a heavy heart I am informing that neither the MoS (Home), ACS (Home) nor the DGP was present to pay respect and receive the Union Home Minister at the airport," Sarangi wrote in her letter to the Chief Minister.

"It is surprising that the state government behaved in such a callous manner. This kind of behaviour reflects the culture of an institution," she wrote, while asking the CM if this was right.

The Bhubaneswar parliamentarian sought appropriate instruction by the Chief Minister's Office to ensure that such actions are not repeated.

Speaking media Sarangi said she was in administrative service for a long period and knows there is a protocol for everything. "The State government has breached the protocol," she alleged.

Meanwhile, both the union home minister and the Chief Minister shared stage at the 'Amruta Utsav' of The Prajatantra in Cuttack.

BJP Rule to continue after 2024

Continued from page-1

way for transparency and honesty. "Modi ji ensured end of all the bad elements of politics and therefore accepted by the 130 crore people of India," he said adding that with end of such politics, Modi ji established politics of performance with a focus on good governance.

Elaborating on the politics of dynasties, Shri Shah said Modi ji gave an opportunity to the people neglected since decades. In his first term, he made a dalit leader Ram Nath Kovind as the President of Indian and now a tribal woman from remote Odisha village Droupadi Murmu is the "Mahamahim Rashtrapati."

Noting that there not a single tribal woman in the Constituent Assembly even after 75 years of Independence, Shri Shah said Murmu's election as the 15th President of India has made the poor and tribal proud. He said in the process, the democracy in India is now deep rooted under Modi leadership and parties focusing on dynasties should realize that they need to change or perish.

Shri Shah also noted that prior to NDA government, the country witnessed policy paralysis and internal security was often in danger. Terrorists used to unleash terror at will killing innocent people while none dared to challenge them. However, Shah said the confidence of the countrymen was restored after Modi became the Prime Minister, the enemies of the nation were targeted and eliminated in their land also.

He said Shri Modi has not celebrated Diwali with his family, but with the jawans providing security to the nation round the clock.

Describing Shri Modi as a statesman, a team leader, a reformer, a thinker and a "Upabhog sunya swami" (master without luxury), Shri Shah said his one call for a Janata Curfew during corona pandemic was observed by people in letter and spirit without any government notification.

"Prime Minister Shri Modi has elevated the status of India in the international sphere besides addressing major challenges faced within the country," Shri Shah said concluding that the book on Shri Modi contains much less contents than the actual.

company's board, earned Rs 5 lakh as a sitting fee and another Rs 2 crore commission for the year.

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She had in the previous year got Rs 8 lakh sitting fee and another Rs 1.65 crore commission.

Apart from Ambani, the RIL board has the Meswani brothers, Prasad and Kapil as whole-time directors. Besides Nita Ambani, other non-executive directors

Marred by frequent disruptions, Monsoon session ends before schedule; Trinamool attacks Modi government

Continued from page-1

dards of conduct.

While adjourning the House also, he lamented that over 47 hours were lost due to disruptions in the upper house that prevented members from raising issues of public importance.

Brushing aside speculation, Naidu said, "People now often talk -- either president, otherwise dissident or a resident. I am not going to all these three."

"I never aspired to be the president, never become a dissident and will never be confined to the residence. I would be moving around. Going around, meeting you all, greeting you all and talking to you on larger issues. I would not get into politics. We are all working on our way, We are not enemies, we are rivals," Naidu said.

While some Opposition members urged him to pen an autobiography, Leader of Opposition in Rajya Sabha Mallikarjun Kharge appreciated how Naidu functioned despite being "under pressure".

Naidu turned emotional when Trinamool Congress MP Derek O'Brien narrated an incident from the Vice President's early life when he lost his mother as a one-year-old. Before adjourning Rajya Sabha, which he presided over for the last time, Naidu said the house had 16 sittings during which it conducted business for more than 38 hours.

Five government bills were discussed and passed.

"However, more than 47 hours were lost due to interruptions which is a sad reflection of the functioning of the upper house of Parliament," Naidu, who was presiding over his last session, said.

"The session was characterised by regular and continuous disruptions which deprived members of the opportunity to discuss matters of urgent public importance and seek accountability of the executives through questions," he noted.

Government sources said that the members of various parties were in favour of the earlier conclusion of the session as they wanted to visit their constituencies due to upcoming festivals.

However, Trinamool Congress MP Derek O'Brien hit out at the government for cutting short the Monsoon session.

"This is the seventh consecutive time the parliament session has been cut short."

"Stop mocking #Parliament. We will fight for its sanctity and prevent PM Narendra Modi and Amit Shah from turning this great institution into the Gujarat Gymkhana," O'Brien said in a tweet.

Proceedings were disrupted since the start of the Monsoon session, as opposition parties protested to press for an immediate discussion on issues like price rise and GST and later over the suspension of 23 Rajya Sabha members.

Four members of Lok Sabha were also suspended.

Congress members also protested against the Enforcement Directorate's action against the Gandhis and other party leaders in the National Herald case.

During the session, the Lok Sabha witnessed an acrimonious debate on the issue of price rise.

Also, Congress Leader Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury's 'Rashtrapati' remark on President Droupadi Murmu led to several adjournments as a war of words broke out between opposition and treasury benches.

The issue reached a flash point when Union Minister Smriti Irani sought an apology from Congress President Sonia Gandhi.

include Dipak C Jain, Raghunath A Mashelkar, Adil Zainulbhai, Raminder Singh Gujral, and Shumeet Banerji, former SBI chairperson Arundhati Bhattacharya and former CVC KV Chowdary.

While all independent directors got a Rs 2 crore commission, Yasir O Al-Rumayyan, Managing Director and a Board Member of PIF - the sovereign wealth fund of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, got Rs 1.40 crore. He was appointed to the board with effect from July 19, 2021

A post-adjournment chat between Gandhi and senior BJP MP Rama Devi in Lok Sabha on the demand for an apology had turned ugly after Irani intervened in the conversation and was seen gesturing at the Congress chief.

Addressing the House, Naidu said that out of 235 starred questions, only 161 could be answered orally and Question Hour could not be taken up in seven days.

He said only 25 matters could be raised by members with the permission of the Chair and only 60 special mentions could be made during the entire session.

"Only five government bills were discussed and passed during the session, 27 private members were also introduced and only one private member bill regarding the right to health could be partly discussed during the entire session. No private member resolution could be taken up," Naidu said.

During the day, Rajya Sabha also passed a bill to convert the National Rail and Transportation University, a deemed-to-be-university, into Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya, an autonomous central institution.

Adjourning the lower house sine die, Speaker Om Birla informed that during this session, a total number of 16 sittings were held which lasted for about 44 hours and 29 minutes.

During the session, the Lok Sabha passed seven legislations including The Indian Antarctic Bill, The Family Courts (Amendment) Bill, The National Anti-Doping Bill, The Wild Life Protection (Amendment) Bill, The Central Universities (Amendment) Bill, and The Energy Conservation (Amendment) Bill.

Referring to the Question Hour, Birla said that oral answers were given to 46 starred questions during the Session.

The members raised 318 matters of public interest before the House under Rule 377.

During the Zero Hour, members raised 98 matters on various important issues.

Trinamool Congress MP Derek O'Brien on Monday hit out at the government over its decision to cut short the Monsoon session of Parliament.

Both Houses of Parliament were adjourned sine die on Monday.

"This is the seventh consecutive time Parliament session has been cut short. Stop mocking Parliament. We will fight for its sanctity and prevent PM Narendra Modi and Amit Shah from turning this great institution into the Gujarat Gymkhana," O'Brien said in a tweet. In fact, in a tweet on August 4 O'Brien had predicted Parliament would be stopped ahead of schedule.

"The talk on Parliament Street is that the government is keen to cut short the Monsoon Session and end it on August 8, instead of August 12. Bad. Why is the Narendra Modi government running away from Parliament," he had tweeted.

On Monday, in his farewell speech for outgoing Vice President Venkaiah Naidu, O'Brien had a series of queries lined up, which he hoped would be answered in Naidu's autobiography.

"In March 2013 M Venkaiah Naidu (then Oppn MP) led a discussion in RS on phone tapping. One day in his autobiography he may tell us who forced him to deny the Opposition the right to discuss Pegasus," he said in a tweet tagging a video of his speech on the farewell to the outgoing Vice-President.

"In Sep 2013 M Venkaiah Naidu made a passionate speech on petrol and diesel. One day he will tell us in his autobiography why from 2017 #PriceRise," the Trinamool Congress MP said in another tweet tagged to another video of his speech.

"Rajya Sabha passed the (draconian) Farm Bills in Sep 2020. One day M Venkaiah Naidu will tell us in his autobiography why he, coming from an agricultural family, was not on the Chair that day," O'Brien tweeted.

Neymar leads Paris Saint-Germain to big opening win in French league

PARIS: An unplayable Neymar notched a goal and three assists to lead Paris Saint-Germain to a 5-0 win at

time, Neymar fed Messi, whose shot was saved by goalkeeper Mory Diaw. PSG slowed down a bit in the second half

Chasing a record 11th league title, PSG missed Kylian Mbappe, who is nursing a groin problem, and Renato Sanches, who was signed on

Strasbourg forward Habib Diallo pulled one back in the 65th by heading in a cross from Thomas Delaine. Monaco and



Clermont in the French league on Saturday.

Lionel Messi also made a big contribution with two goals and an assist.

Neymar troubled Clermont with his movement and skills. In the seventh minute, he pounced on a low cross from Achraf Hakimi to have a first-time effort deflected out by Alidu Seidu.

Two minutes later, Pablo Sarabia squared the ball back for Messi, who flicked it toward Neymar. The Brazil forward controlled the ball before burying it into the bottom corner.

PSG capitalized on a fast break in the 26th when Neymar found Achraf Hakimi, who fired into the top corner.

Neymar set up the third goal with a pinpoint free kick for Marquinhos, who headed home in the 39th.

On the stroke of half-

against a Clermont side which narrowly avoided relegation last season.

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Messi still made it 4-0 in the 80th. He played a one-two with Neymar before netting with a low strike.

The Argentina superstar sealed the win in the 86th by chesting down a ball over the top from Leandro Paredes to score with an overhead kick.

"What I have liked is the team's desire to win the ball back very quickly, to play with a lot of intensity," PSG coach Christophe Galtier said. "Leo reacts very quickly when possession is lost, and Ney has also made efforts in his defensive positioning to help the team stay very compact and win the ball."

Thursday and lacked match fitness.

PSG left out of its matchday squad some high-profile players it reportedly wants to move out: Mauro Icardi, Julian Draxler, Ander Herrera, Idrissa Gueye, Rafinha, Thilo Kehrer and Layvin Kurzawa.

Meanwhile, Krepin Diatta and Sofiane Diop scored for a weakened Monaco to prevail at Strasbourg 2-1.

In a clash between contenders for European spots, Diatta opened the scoring with a powerful volley from the edge of the box in the 43rd. The Senegal winger could have added another goal in the 48th but Strasbourg goalkeeper Matz Sels saved his chip.

Diop, a France Under-21 international, doubled the lead by converting a rebound in the 53rd after Sels palmed away a deflected cross from Gelson Martins.

Strasbourg finished third and sixth, respectively, last season.

Sels limited the damage by denying Martins in the 35th, diverting onto the post a close-range effort from Jean Lucas in the 61st, and saving a downward header from substitute Maghnes Aklouch in the 85th.

Monaco goalkeeper Alexander Nubel preserved the win in injury time by stopping a point-blank shot from Adrien Thomasson.

"We had chances to lead 3-0 and 4-0," Monaco coach Philippe Clement said. "It's a matter of experience. It's normal with young players, they must learn lessons, they must gain experience in such situations."

Monaco missed the suspended Kevin Volland and Aleksandr Golovin, the injured Takumi Minamino, Benoit Badiashile and Myron Boadu, and an ill Caio Henrique.

CWG: PV Sindhu lights up final day with gold in badminton singles



BIRMINGHAM: India's badminton ace PV Sindhu won her maiden singles gold at the Commonwealth Games defeating Michelle Li of Canada 21-15, 21-13 on the last day of the quadrennial event in Birmingham on Monday. The 27-year-old two-time Olympic medalist Sindhu, who was unsuccessful in the previous two attempts, settling for

silver at the 2018 Commonwealth Games in Gold Coast and bronze at the 2014 Glasgow Games, finally broke the jinx with a commanding performance against an opponent ranked 13th in the world. While world No. 7 Sindhu held the edge going into the title clash, a win was not a foregone conclusion given that her opponent was a former

singles gold medalist at the 2014 Commonwealth Games in Glasgow. Before the clash on Monday, Sindhu held an advantage over the Canadian having won eight of the 10 matches. In fact, Sindhu had played Li twice this year and defeated her on both occasions. The opening game was keenly contested with the scores level at 4-4. Using her

height and penetrating smashes to great effect, Sindhu took a 14-8, finally winning the opening game 21-15. Sindhu won the second game with relative ease, taking an 11-6 lead at the mid-game interval. With Li continuing to find the net on returns, Sindhu made it 19-13. The Indian won the championship point and the gold as Li sent a return wide after a good rally.

Setback for Rohit and co as Bumrah ruled out of Asia Cup with back injury

NEW DELHI: Senior fast bowler Jasprit Bumrah is set to be ruled out of the Asia Cup T20 tournament with a back injury, which would require some time to heal.

The Indian squad for the continental championship will be selected on Monday, but it is still not clear if the official announcement will happen on the day.

Bumrah last played in the ODI away series against England before being rested from the rubber against West Indies and the upcoming one against Zimbabwe.

However, it is understood that the back issue will keep him out for some time and he will need to do rehabilitation work at the National Cricket Academy in Bengaluru before being deemed fit for the white-ball home series against Australia and south Africa in September-October.

Bumrah had had similar issues a few years ago and was out for a considerable amount of time.

Currently, the pacer is holidaying with his family in the United States.

Bumrah's injury is a setback for the Indian team as he would need some matches to get into the groove after a long lay-off which will be more than two months.

While he is an automatic choice as and when he makes a comeback, the same can't be said about someone like Avesh Khan, who, if given a chance in the Asia Cup, would like to prove his worth to remain in the mix.



"Jasprit Bumrah has a back injury and will not play in the Asia Cup. He is our main bowler and we would like him to be back in action before T20 World Cup. We can't risk him in Asia Cup and the injury could aggravate," a senior BCCI official told PTI on the condition of anonymity.




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