

## Bhubaneswar crematorium in 'grave' neglect

BHUBANESWAR (KCN): The capital's major crematorium at Satya Nagar is lying in grave neglect, thanks to the apathy of Bhubaneswar Mu-

the post-Covid phase but a large number of people from the city and its outskirts still depend on it to perform the last rites of their family mem-

of issues. The lone electric burner installed at the crematory lies defunct for most of the days every year owing to frequent tech-

it was subsequently repaired by technicians from Kolkata, the burner's coil was damaged again. "A BMC team had inspected it earlier this month. But we are not sure as to when it will be repaired," said a crematorium staff.

Residents of Satya Nagar said the electric burner had been set up to check pollution in the area as well as to help those who are unable to afford wood pyre for funerals. "These objectives remain unfulfilled due to its frequent malfunctioning," said a local, adding the crematorium needs another electric burner as the existing one had been

CONTINUED ON: P-7



nicipal Corporation (BMC) which has turned a blind eye to the prominent funeral site.

The number of dead bodies being cremated has come down drastically in

bers. From defunct electric burner to a lack of adequate drinking water, bathing facility and sanitation around the funeral pyres, the crematorium is grappling with a number

nical snags and lack of maintenance. Sources said the burner that requires 550-volt power round-the-clock was damaged in August 2020 due to power fluctuation. Though

## BJP alleges deal between BJD and Congress in Padampur bypoll

BHUBANESWAR(KCN): Following the crushing defeat of the party candidate in Padampur bypoll, BJP on Saturday made a serious allegation against the BJD. Leader of the Opposition Jayanarayan Mishra alleged

campaign for the party candidate Barsha Singh Bariha at Padampur only after the deal was finalised, he said. Mishra said the deal was struck at a meeting between the two political parties in Bhubaneswar. He, however, said that

he is not aware of the amount of money at which the deal was struck. Reacting to the allegations of Mishra, BJD vice-president Prasanna Acharya said, "After loss, many weird thoughts come to people's mind. By saying this, we are insulting the voters." Congress

MLA Tara Prasad Bahinipati refuted the allegation and said there was no meeting between the BJD and Congress.



that the BJD won the by-election by striking a deal with Congress.

Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik went to cam-

## India far ahead of China in IT but Chinese firms catching up on IT tech: Chinese IT expert

BEIJING (KCN): India's IT sector, one of the mainstays of its economy, is much ahead of its Chinese counterpart in the global markets but the firms from China are catching up and doing well in e-com-



merce, autonomous driving, AI and cloud services, according to a top Chinese IT executive.

Mike Liu, the author of the book titled 'The Rise of Indian IT', said unlike

CONTINUED ON: P-7

## Dharmendra Pradhan causes a stir with early Assembly poll claim

BHUBANESWAR(KCN): Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan on Saturday caused a flutter in the political circles stating he has heard about the possibility of early

party's performance in the Padampur bypoll in which the BJP nominee lost to the BJD candidate.

In response to a question on the impact of the Padampur loss on the next Assembly and Lok Sabha elections, the Union minister maintained that the polls are eight to 15 months away and the situation would have undergone a lot of changes by that time.

A lot of developments would have taken place by then. Political parties will fight the electoral battle with their own agenda in a democratic set up, he said. Stating that BJP had fought the elections in 2019 with its own strategy, Pradhan said it has emerged as the main Opposition party in

CONTINUED ON: P-7



polls in Odisha. The ruling BJD, however, was quick to respond maintaining that the party is not aware of any such development.

"I have heard that next elections may be held early in Odisha," Pradhan told mediapersons here while responding to queries about the

## Himachal: Sukhvinder Sukhu sworn in as CM, Mukesh Agnihotri takes oath as Dy CM

SHIMLA (KCN): Congress leader Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu became the 15th Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh, while fellow party leader Mukesh Agnihotri took oath as his deputy at a ceremony held in Shimla on Sunday.

The duo were sworn in by Governor Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar.

Congress leaders Rahul Gandhi, Priyanka Gandhi and party President Mallikharjun Kharge were all present at the ceremony. Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot, Chhatisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh

Baghel and Congress leader Bhupinder Singh Hooda were also in attendance at the swearing-in cer-

elections which saw Congress return to power in the hill state.

Sukhvinder Singh

Himachal Assembly. Sukhu said that he is happy that despite being from an ordinary family he is go-



emony. Sukhu, a grassroots politician who rose through the ranks, is a four-time MLA from Nadaun and the head of the election campaign committee in the recently concluded assembly

Sukhu: A fighter who rose through the ranks. Meanwhile, his deputy, Mukesh Agnihotri is a five-time MLA from Haroli and the leader of the opposition in the outgoing

ing to be the Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh. "I am happy that I am going to be CM despite being from an ordinary family. I am thankful to the Congress party and the

CONTINUED ON: P-7

## New CM Sukhvinder, his deputy Mukesh brace for a bumpy road in Himachal Pradesh

NEW DELHI(KCN): The decisive move on new leadership in Himachal Pradesh notwithstanding, the Congress has its task cut out in the hill state as it faces the twin challenge of keeping factional fighting at bay and delivering on ambitious poll promises.

Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu and his deputy will be bracing for a bumpy ride ahead, with the first hurdle being the cabinet formation that reflects the interests of competing pressure groups in the party, principally the one led by incumbent state chief Pratibha Singh.

Allocation of portfolios would be the immediate vexatious issue for the party, with supporters of Virbhadra Singh already feeling sidelined after the elevation of the late chief minister's professed rival Sukhu.

Virbhadra Singh's wife Pratibha Singh may have made all the right noises to start with, but it remains to be seen what bargain she

strikes in order to satisfy her camp.

folio for her son Vikramaditya Singh, who



The buzz is that she has sought a meaty port- returned to the assembly from Shimla Rural.

Sources in the party said the top leadership has agreed to make Vikramaditya Singh a senior minister in the state cabinet.

Organisational unity challenge apart, the Congress government in the state would need to hit the ground running and deliver on the manifesto promises, which appeared to have struck a chord with the voters.

Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu: A fighter who rose through the ranks

The uphill task would be to generate finances for the range of promises which, all put together, would entail an expenditure of around Rs 10,000 crore annually on the part of the state government.

How Sukhu and his team achieve this will be closely watched considering Himachal's massive debt burden of around Rs 65,000 crore till March 31, 2022.

With the state's finances already under stress, the CAG has also warned

CONTINUED ON: P-7



## JSW Starts Free Eye screening in Mines area JSW Foundation and Vision Spring eye to cover 20,000 patients from 56 DIZ villages

Barbil(KCN): First of the many mega free



eye screening camp, organised by JSW foundation, was inaugurated on the Nuagaon dispensary premises on December 11, in Keonjhar district. Vision Spring implemented the mega free eye

screening camp for better vision health of its local villagers.

More than 150 patients were screened for eye ailments during the camp and a few patients with serious eye ailments were also identified. Patients availed free eye checkup by specialists and were also given spectacles. Prescription eye glasses for those with vision correction needs will be custom made and home delivered in 15 days. Most of the patients belong to below poverty line and weaker sections of the society those unable to avail proper eye treatments in their locality.

JSW Foundation's free eye screening camp will be conducted for three months covering its 56 direct impact zone (DIZ) villages. The officials said that free screening and vision correction service will be provided to 20,000 people in three months including children and senior citizens during this period. JSW Foundation had provided similar services in Paradip to 10000 people in the recent past and is simultaneously conducting 10000 eye screenings in Jharsuguda and 5000 eye screening in Kutra area of Sundergarh as well, taking the total number to 45000 eye screening across Odisha this financial year. Both the local administration and people have appreciated this service in remote locations by the JSW group under its corporate social responsibility.

## Three forest staff including ranger suspended in Odisha's Similipal over jumbo death

BARIPADA(KCN): Amid backlash over the killing and burial of elephants in Athagarh and Sambalpur forest divisions, the Forest and Environment department has suspended three forest staff including a ranger for their alleged negligence and involvement in withholding information about the animals' death in Similipal Tiger Reserve.

Following an investigation, Baripada RCCF and Similipal field director T Ashok Kumar suspended Jenabil ranger in-charge Shiv Shankar Samal, forester Chandrabhanu

complaint, a team led by Similipal South deputy director Samrat Gowda was formed and search operations were carried out in the entire Jenabil range on December 8 and 9. Gowda and his team, with the help of a forest dweller, managed to trace the location and found a few small-sized bones from the area.

As the investigation, prima facie found lapses on part of the forest staff of Jenabil, three staff from the range were suspended. "Further investigation into the matter is in



Behera and forest guard Binod Kumar Das. However, the incident that reportedly took place in the core area of the tiger reserve raises serious concerns about wildlife protection in State's largest big cat habitat. It has been reported that Similipal authorities received complaints from forest dwellers of Bakuva village regarding the killing and covering up of a pachyderm in the core area by the field staff on December 7. The villagers alleged that some of the forest staff burnt an elephant and threw the charred remains to a nearby stream to destroy the evidence after poachers killed the elephant and removed its tusks in the core area within the Gurandi beat. Based on the

progress," said Gowda. He said the bones collected from the spot have been sent to the Centre for Wildlife Health at OUAT Bhubaneswar for examination to identify whether they were of the elephant or any other animal.

The incident, meanwhile, has triggered apprehension among local wildlife lovers who alleged inadequate protection measures for wildlife in the Tiger Reserve. They questioned how poachers entered the core area and killed an elephant despite the regular patrolling being carried out. They also demanded that the department must dismiss the staff involved in hiding the evidence.

## Guest lecturer in Odisha moonlights as porter for education of poor kids

BERHAMPUR: Thirty-one-year-old Ch Nageshu Patro from Odisha's Ganjam district works as a guest lecturer in a private college during daytime and at night moonlights as a porter at Berhampur railway station.

Patro moonlights as a porter not to fill his own pocket but to pay salary of teachers, whom he has employed in a coaching centre to teach poor students for free.

As the day begins Patro attends a private college as guest faculty, later in the day he attends classes at a coaching centre run by him for poor students for free. At night he moonlights as porter at Berhampur railway station. Patro said during the covid pandemic instead of sitting idle at home he started teaching poor children for free.

As the number of students increased he set up a coaching centre for students of class 8 to 12.

While he himself taught Hindi and Odia, he hired teachers for other subjects.

lecturer himself. The Rs 8,000 he earns as a guest lecturer in a private college is used by him

circumstances education was a distant dream for him.

Since then Patro has been on a mission to educate as many kids as he can. He doesn't want kids coming from marginalised backgrounds to discontinue their studies due monetary problems of the family.

Patro has been registered as a porter in the railway station since, 2011. He decided to appear for the class 12 examination in 2012 through correspondence course.

After passing the HSC examination, he did his graduation and later his post graduation from Berhampur University. He did all his higher education by self financing, working as a porter at night.

He said nowadays people are using trolley bags and escalators, so earning as a porter or collie has come down and urged Railway minister Aswini Vaishnaw to do something for the porter community working hard at railway stations.



Patro now has employed four teachers at his coaching centre, whom he pays from the money around Rs 10,000 to Rs 12,000 which he earns as a porter at the railway station. "Whatever people think, let them think, I love teaching and want to continue for poor students," Patro told PTI when asked if he felt ashamed while working as a porter, after being a

to run his family which consists of his father and mother who stay at Manohar village in Ganjam district.

Coming from a humble background, Patro could not appear in the high school certificate examination in 2006, as his father who used to graze goats and sheep had a tough time in making both his ends meet, in such cir-

## Bhubaneswar to host Odisha Mining expo

BHUBANESWAR: The state capital will soon host Odisha Mining expo, an exclusive international B2B trade show on global mining and allied industry. The trade show, to be organised from December 22 to 24 at Baramunda ground here, will feature the most cutting-edge and comprehensive collection of mining-related products, services, and supplies from across the globe.

The mining industry in India has grown in recent years, and Odisha Mining is the largest mining exhibition that has helped to bring together the segment's key players. Odisha Buildcon 2022 will also be organised during this period to showcase the construction and building materials sector. Odisha's largest wood and

woodworking exhibition during the expo will also allow exhibitors to showcase their work and attract new customers.

"All types of construction equipment, mining technology, architectural and building items, and wood and woodworking products will be represented by the participating companies," said the organisers.

"These sectors have the potential to have a major impact on GDP growth, foreign exchange earnings, and the competitiveness of end-use sectors like construction, infrastructure, automotive, and electricity by providing them with access to necessary raw materials at affordable prices," said director of Futorex Group Namit Gupta.

## Draupadi Devi Sanskrutik Anusthan celebrated Annual function

Barbil.(KCN): Draupadi Devi Sanskrutik Anusthan,Barbil in the district of Keonjhar, Odisha celebrated its annual function with traditional musical flavour with classical touch. The programme was started with Saraswati bandana. The first performance presented by the students mesmerised the audience. The students enthralled the audience with their dance performances in — Odishi dance and other classical genre. The classical Raga performed by students enriched the audience which the heritage and cultural root of song and music .Keonjhar Dhanraj H.D attended the function as chief guest along with other guest of honour Alok Kumar Patel, Tehsildar,Abhisekh panda , executive officer Barbil Municipality and many other dignitaries of the state and international repute. Senior Odishi Dancer Minakshi Behera,Sangita Panda Hindustani and Odishi vocalist, Dhaneswar Swain ,world famous Madal drummer and Khirod Behera ,sub collector Puri were felicitated

for their extra ordinary contribution to the society, Simultaneously Sunil Das and



Giridhari Lal were too felicitated for their contribution in the field of journalism . Manoj Sahu ,Bini Kar and all staffs of Draupadi Devi Anusthan organised the function.



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# Disney's Marvel unit files lawsuits to keep rights to 'Avengers' characters from copyright termina-

WASHINGTON: Disney's Marvel unit has filed lawsuits to niuses including Stan Lee, Steve Ditko and Gene ship of characters worth billions. Marvel has faced in 1962. Under the termination provisions of copyright



acquire full control of 'Avengers' characters including Spider-Man, Iron Man, Black Widow and others. According to The Hollywood Reporter, the complaints come against the heirs of some late comic book ge-

Colan. The legal document seeks "declaratory relief that these blockbuster characters are ineligible for copyright termination as works made for hire." Reportedly, if Marvel loses, Disney would have to share owner-

terminations from Ditko as well as Larry Lieber's (who worked at Marvel as a writer, too) estate. In August, the administrator of Ditko's estate filed a notice of termination on Spider-Man, which first appeared in comic book form law, authors or their heirs can reclaim rights once granted to publishers after waiting a statutory set period of time. According to the termination notice, Marvel would have to give up Ditko's rights to its iconic character in June

2023, reported The Hollywood Reporter. Larry also filed termination notices to Marvel in May. The heirs of the comic book creators (including Black Widow creator Don Rico) are being represented by Marc Toberoff, who had also represented Superman creators Jerry Siegel and Joe Schuster in an unsuccessful termination attempt against DC which saved off termination by counterclaiming against Toberoff. As per The Hollywood Reporter, Dan Petrocelli represented the publisher at that time and will be representing Disney for the new case. Petrocelli has already filed several lawsuits against Lieber, Don Heck, Patrick Ditko, Don Rico and Keith Dettwiler. The cases will focus on the creation of famous comic book characters and who should be deemed the statutory author. One of the complaints filed on Friday asserted, "Marvel had the right to exercise creative control over Lieber's contributions and paid Lieber a per-page rate for his work." If the plaintiffs win, Disney would have to share profits with the others and hold on to at least a share of character rights as co-owners. As per The Hollywood Reporter, the termination provisions of copyright law only apply in the United States, allowing Disney to continue to profit from foreign exploita-

## 'Kanyadaan' an outdated ritual or important custom? Alia Bhatt's ad sparks debate

The bride, pretty, radiant and in red, sits in front of the sacred fire, her family, the groom and his parents around her, the love flowing like a balmy breeze. And in that arguably most precious moment, she looks into the camera and asks, "why must a woman be commodified through the custom of 'kanyadaan' literally 'donating a daughter'."

The ad for a lehenga brand featuring Bollywood star Alia Bhatt as the much-indulged daughter and granddaughter has fired debate on social media platforms and elsewhere on the age-old tradition of giving away the daughter.

Many term it Hindu phobic for casting aspersions on a ritual that is part of the warp and weft of society, others appreciate it for calling out the patriarchy that underderscores the custom and there are those that feel it should have gone even further in its rejection.

"There is a growing number of young women who are beginning to think about the issue, especially as increasing number joins the workforce, has access to ideas (via social media etc) that are critical of 'women as property' concept. This ad reflects that," sociologist Sanjay Srivastava told PTI. In the 1.41 minute ad, Bhatt, the self-assured woman of today who also does a selfie pout with her father while at the 'mandap', recalls her lifetime of 'othering' in a monologue - her fond grandmother saying she would one day go to her own home, her father not reacting when people called her "paraya dhan" (alien property) and her mother calling her a 'chidiya' which would fly away one day.

The Manyawar ad ends with the grooms' parent also joining in in the ritual (though it is unclear whether they too are giving away their son) and Bhatt's bride saying it should be 'kanyamaan' (respect for the girl child) and not 'kanyadaan', and asking, "Am I a thing to be given away?" Her angst finds a wide echo. Actor Dia Mirza, who decided to do away with the rituals of both "bidaii" and "kanyadaan" when she got married to businessman Vaibhav Rekhi, said they wanted the wedding to reflect their "beliefs and not outmoded ideas." "Neither of us believes that women are com-

modities to be given away or 'donated.' Women have agency, selfhood and can make decisions about their lives on their own so my wedding reflected exactly that by not including a ritual like 'kanyadaan'," the actor told PTI.

She even engaged a female priest for her wedding to emphasise gender equality.

"It is time for young couples to define how they want to get married and if their ceremony is truly representative of their personalities and love for each other," said the actor, who is also the United Nation's National Goodwill Ambassador from India.

The ritual of giving away the bride is, of

married. 'Kanyadaan' is like you're giving me away and you have nothing to do with me anymore. You're severing ties like I'm some object basically that you're giving away. My parents did understand it but the issue was 'this is how it is, has been and will be'."

Actor Kangana Ranaut was among those who disagreed. Criticising the ad in an Instagram post, she said, "Humble request to all brands. Don't use religion, minority, majority politics to sell things. Stop manipulating naive consumers with shrewd divisive concepts and advertising. Please stop mocking Hindus and their rituals."

One of the Twitter users echoed similar sentiments.

"Our traditions are not regressive, your mindsets surely are! Kanyadaan is a sacred tradition, where a father/parent parts with their most precious and cherished daughter, a bitter-sweet emotional moment filled with hopes, promises and dreams," the user wrote.

Women's rights activist Shabnam Hashmi said the attacks on the ad "reflects the highly patriarchal mindsets of our society".

"It is a very progressive advertisement and raises important questions of women's dignity and equality," Hashmi told PTI.

Sociologist Shrivastava added that people reacted negatively because there is an increasing intolerance against anything that is seen to question 'Indian traditions'.

The reaction, he said, also reflects a "male anxiety" about the changes that are happening in addition to the current climate where it has become difficult to question anything Indian/Hindu.

There were also those who felt the ad didn't go far enough.

"The idea should not be to perpetuate the custom but to break away from it," said a young woman, who welcomed the ad and the questioning of traditions but would have preferred that it didn't end with the parents of both sides taking part in it.

A radical break would have been more effective in sending out the message, she said.

However, a debate reflects a churn.

And in that sense, any discussion is welcome, even if it has unlikely beginnings in an ad for a bridal lehenga.





## Tax Treatment If Higher Stock is declared to bank

(Contd. from 5 Dec. 2022)

**18. Whether higher stock declared to the bank attracts addition u/s 69:** Different Courts and ITAT benches have held that no addition can be made merely on the basis of difference between stock statement submitted by assessee to bank and stock as per books.

Where book stock was reliable but inflated stock statement was furnished to bank for obtaining higher credit facility, addition cannot be sustained - **CIT v. Veerdip Rollers P. Ltd. [2010] 323 ITR 341 (Guj.)**. SLP filed by Department has been rejected by Supreme Court [2008] 307 ITR (St.) 3.

In **CIT v. Relaxo Footwear [2002] 123 Taxman 322 (Raj.)** held that where Tribunal accepted assessee's explanation that the stock statement submitted to bank was to make it easier to have availed higher credit facility by inflating the stock position to bank, **it was justified in deleting addition on account of the discrepancy between stock shown in the books of account and stock shown in statement to the bank.**

Jammu & Kashmir High Court in **Ashok Kumar v. ITO 149 Taxman 479 (J&K)** held that where stock shown in the books of account is properly verified and valued as per cost, no addition should be made on account of inflated stock statement furnished to bank.

It is immaterial that difference has arisen on account of higher valuation or on account of disclosing higher quantity to bank - **CIT v. Khan & Sirohi Steel Rolling Mills 200 CTR (All.) 595**, Pranab Kumar Dawn v. ITO ITA NO.668/Kol/2010 dated 30.9.2010.

Similar view has been expressed in **CIT v. Apcom Computers (P) Ltd. [2007] 158 Taxman 363 (Mad.)**.

Where the bank has verified the stock but survey has taken place within 15 days and stock found in survey matches with the book stock no adverse inference is warranted based on stock statement filed with bank verified by third party - **CIT, Durgapur v. Shib Sankar Das [2017] 83 taxmann.com 193 (Calcutta)**.

Burden of the AO to establish the

undisclosed income in the hands of the assessee does not

stand discharged merely on bringing out difference between stock statement submitted to bank and assessee's books - **CIT v. Das Industries 303 ITR 199 (All)**, **CIT v. Acrow India Ltd, 298 ITR 447 (Bom)**, **CIT v. Sidhu Rice and General Mills 281 ITR 447 (Bom)**, **CIT v. Sri Padmavati Cotton Mills 236 ITR 340 (Mad)**.

However in special facts courts and ITAT Benches have held that difference between stock statement submitted to bank and stock as per books may be added as unexplained investment - **Swadeshi Cotton Mills Co. Pvt. Ltd. v. CIT 125 ITR 33 (All)**, **Dhansiram Agarwal v. CIT 201 ITR 192 (Gau.)**, **CIT v. Pioneer Breeding Farms 295 ITR 78 (Mad.)**, **CIT v. Ashok Estate Private Ltd. 141 ITR 785 (Ker.)**, **Max Text Chemm Products v. CIT 83 ITD 96 (Pune)**.

Madras High Court in the case of **CIT v. N. Swamy [2000] 241 ITR 363 (Mad.)** held that the assessee's income is to be assessed on the basis of the material which is required to be considered for the purpose of assessment and ordinarily not on the basis of the statement which the assessee may have given to a third party unless there is material to corroborate that statement of the assessee given to a third party, even if it be a bank. **The mere fact that the assessee had made such a statement by itself cannot be treated as having resulted in an irrebuttable presumption against the assessee. The burden of showing that the assessee has undisclosed income is on the revenue.** That burden cannot be said to be discharged by merely referring to the statement given by the assessee to a third party in connection with a transaction which was not directly related to the assessment and making that the sole foundation for a finding that the assessee has deliberately suppressed his income.

**19. Whether entire undisclosed sale can be treated as income:** The entire sale proceeds cannot be regarded as profit or treated as undisclosed income of the assessee. It is the net profit rate which is to be adopted - **Manmohan Sadani v. CIT [2008] 304 ITR 52 (MP)**.

**20. Whether maintenance of books of account is necessary for making addition u/s 69:** Section 69 provides that where in any

**Narayan Jain**

financial year immediately preceding the

assessment year the assessee has made investments which are not recorded in the books of account, if any, maintained by him for any source of income and if A.O. does not find satisfactory explanation from the assessee, then the value of investments may be deemed to be the income of the assessee of such financial year.

Madhya Pradesh High Court in **Dr. Prakash Tiwari v. CIT [1984] 148 ITR 474 (MP)** held that where the assessee has not maintained books of account and additions are made towards unexplained investments, the additions made would be sustainable u/s 69 and not u/s 69B. It was held in the case of **CIT v. Smt. Bandana Roy [2002] 123 Taxman 237 (Gau.) (Mag.)** that for purpose of making an addition towards unexplained investment in construction, AO is under legal obligation to examine books and vouchers maintained by assessee in support of cost of construction shown by him.

Similar view has been expressed in **CIT v. Ambience Hotels & Resort Ltd. 83 CCH 021 (Delhi HC)**.

**21. Where assessee admitted undisclosed profit during survey and retracted the same at the time of assessment on the ground that admission was due to mental pressure and coercion, can A.O. make an addition on the basis of the confession given during survey without any basis:** It is settled law that whatever statement is recorded under section 133A is not given any evidentiary value obviously for the reason that the officer is not authorised to administer oath and to take any sworn statement which alone has evidentiary value as contemplated under law - **CIT v. S. Khader Khan Son [2008] 300 ITR 157 (Mad.) affirmed by Supreme Court in 210 Taxman 248 (SC)**.

**CBDT Instruction dated 10th March, 2003** vide No. F. No. 286/2/2003/IT (Inv) has stated -

*"Instances have come to the notice of the Board where assessee have claimed that they have been forced to confess the undisclosed income during the course of the search & seizure and survey operations. Such confessions, if not based upon credible evidence, are later retracted by the*

*concerned assessee while filing returns of income. In these circumstances, such confessions during the course of search & seizure and survey operation do not serve any useful purpose. It is, therefore, advised that there should be focus and concentration on collection of evidence of income which leads to information on what has not been disclosed or is not likely to be disclosed before the Income Tax Department. Similarly, while recording statement during the course of search & seizure and survey operations, no attempt should be made to obtain confession as to the undisclosed income. Any action on the contrary shall be viewed adversely.*

*Further, in respect of pending assessment proceedings also, Assessing Officers should rely upon the evidences/materials gathered during the course of search/survey operations or thereafter while framing the relevant assessment orders."*

The statement of the assessee cannot be made the sole basis for addition without any material evidence and there is no provision in the statute to prevent the declarant from retracting his statement. The A.O. cannot make an addition without bringing any adequate material on record to prove the real income to be as admitted by the assessee in the course of survey. The A.O. must examine the correctness of the statement before making the addition - **ACIT v. A.T. Associates 99 TTJ (Nag.) 74**.

**22. Where the gold ornament seized does not tally with the description of jewellery submitted before the department and the assessee is unable to produce bills or any other evidence for remaking, but the jewellery found in the course of search is less than the disclosed jewellery:** Jodhpur Bench of ITAT in the case of **DCIT v. Arjun Dass Kalwani [2006] 101 ITD 337 (Jodh)** held that the assessee had been assessed for more jewellery than those found in the course of search for earlier year under Wealth Tax Act, merely because the assessee could not furnish the evidence of remaking, it cannot be said that these jewellery are unexplained investments of the assessee. No addition u/s 69 is called for.

(Narayan Jain is former Secretary General of AIFTP and author of the books "How to Handle Income Tax Problems" and "Income Tax Pleading & Practice" with CA Dilip Loyalka).

## A girl from Mumbai is making strides in the field of pharmaceutical marketing globally

An inspiring story of Hemal Somaiya, an Indian national making breakthroughs globally with her pharmaceutical marketing and machine learning knowledge, making our country proud. At the age of only 32, she has worked across top 5 Pharmaceutical companies leading their entire marketing divisions globally. She is now the Head of Omnichannel Marketing of an innovative ground breaking machine-learning marketing platform company, PharmaForceIQ that allows the launch of pharmaceutical drugs globally in a more effective and efficient manner saving multiple patient lives. The platform allows to identify when a patient is

in a specific physician's office in real time and then immediately targets that right physician at that right time using very personalized marketing and sales channels and personalized messages. This hyper-targeted approach to physician and patient education and

engagement has proven to significantly reduce media waste, increases ROI and track Rx lift at individual physician level. PharmaForceIQ today works with the top 20 global pharmaceutical companies across multi-billion dollar brands and has proven to

show very strong results. Under her leadership, PharmaForceIQ has seen a huge demand from large global top 20 pharmaceutical companies for their platform. In less than 2 years, PharmaForceIQ is doing over Rs. 50 crores in annual revenue and is estimated to show 3x growth by end of 2023. The company has established its presence and a suc-

cessful team in India, Europe and America with its headquarters in Boston, Massachusetts. Hemal comes from a business family and has been truly inspired by her dad, Subhash Bechardas Somaiya, a successful interior decorator and designer in

bibed creative thought process in her. She got a dual masters degree in business and clinical regulatory affairs from Los Angeles, USA. Additionally, she also has received education from MIT - Massachusetts Institute of Technology on entrepreneurship and innovation which is one of the top institutions in the world. Her mom, Geeta Somaiya, having a degree in psychology always propelled self learning and creativity in Hemal leveraged heavily as she worked across multi-national global marketing companies such as AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals and Merck Pharmaceuticals leading their Marketing divi-

sions. She has influenced and evolved marketing in the pharmaceutical industry globally over the last 5 years and has been considered a global key opinion leader who is invited as a speaker across multiple global conferences, as well as on podcasts to mentor, coach and propel the pharmaceutical industry and her peers to be most effective and efficient in ensuring that patients receive the right medicine at the right time saving multiple patient lives. Her innovative approach of combining science with artificial intelligence and machine learning has made strides and won accolades across the industry.



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## BJD announces 'Mission 125' for 2024 polls

BHUBANESWAR: After an emphatic victory in the Padampur bypoll, BJD on Saturday announced 'Mission 125' for the 2024 Assembly election. BJD will win at least 125 out of the 147 seats in 2024, former minister and chief of election manager of the party in the Padampur by-election Sushant Singh told mediapersons. He said the party will also win more than 30 Assembly seats out of the total 36 in western Odisha.

Stating that chief minister Naveen Patnaik's popularity and well-planned strategy ensured such a spectacular victory in the Padampur bypoll, Singh said that the party will request him to contest from western Odisha in 2014 election. He also said that the CM is again likely to visit Padampur in January.

The former minister said that the BJD had won 114 seats in the 2019 election due to some miscalculations which will be taken care of this time around. He said

in western Odisha districts the BJD has won only 23 seats. But this time tickets will be given to persons based on ground report and win probability, he added.

However, unfazed by the defeat of its candidate by a huge margin, BJP said it is hopeful of forming government by securing two third majority in the next Assembly election. Dismissing BJD's optimism, leader of Opposition Jayanarayan Mishra said BJP has already started preparations for the 2024 election and is hopeful of forming government with two-third majority. Stating that the party is not working with any mission, Mishra said it is focusing on all the 147 Assembly seats in the state.

Congress also claimed that the party's performance will improve significantly but may not form government after the next election. The Congress will win around 65 Assembly seats in the state while BJD's tally may be reduced substantially, Congress MLA Suresh Kumar Routray said.

## PM Modi inaugurates Phase-I of Nagpur Metro rail project, takes train ride

Nagpur: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday inaugurated the first phase of the Nagpur Metro rail project here and travelled in the train with students.

He also laid the foundation stone of Phase-II of the metro project.

The prime minister took a ride in the metro train between

After disembarking at Khapri station, he flagged off trains on the Orange and Aqua lines of the project. There are 36 stations under Phase-I of the project, which covers a distance of 40 km. This project has been developed at a cost of more than Rs 8,650 crore, officials said.

Phase-II of the

(Kapsi) in the east and Hingna in the west. It comprises 1.2 km at-grade with two stations and 42.6 km elevated with 30 stations.

The Reach-II route of the first phase stretches from Sitabuldi Interchange to Automotive Square and the total length of route is 5.8 km. The

senger service, along with two metro stations of Kasturchand Park and Zero Mile Freedom Park on August 20, 2021, a release said.

The Reach-II section runs parallel to Kamptee Road, which is one of the busiest roads in the city.

The four-layer trans-

year, said Maha Metro, which is implementing the project.

"Overall, 32,000 Height Strength Friction Grip (HSFG) bolts were used in the 800 tonne girder. Similarly 80,000 bolts were used in the complete structure. The top-most part of steel girder is at a height of 32 meters from



## Alleged Lockerbie bombmaker in US custody: Scotland

LONDON: A Libyan man accused of making the bomb that destroyed a Pan Am flight over Scotland in 1988 is now

involvement in a 1986 attack on a Berlin nightclub.

Only one individual has so far been prosecuted

for the bombing of Pan Am flight 103 on December 21, 1988,

which claimed 270 lives. Former Libyan intelligence officer Abdelbaset Ali Mohmet al-Megrahi spent seven years in a Scottish prison after his conviction in 2001. He died in Libya in 2012, always maintain-

ing his innocence. "The families of those killed in the Lockerbie bombing have been told that the suspect Abu Agila Mohammad Masud Kheir Al-Marimi ... is in US custody," a spokesperson for Scotland's Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service said.

"Scottish prosecutors and police, working with UK government and US colleagues, will continue to pursue this investigation, with the sole aim of bringing those who acted along with al-Megrahi to justice."

Zero Mile Freedom Park and Khapri stations with some students. Before boarding the train, he visited an exhibition on the project at the Zero Mile station. Models related to metro projects were on display at the exhibition.

project will be developed at more than Rs 6,700 crore. It will have 32 stations and cover a distance of 43.8 km, they said.

The second phase extends to Kanhan in the north, Butibori MIDC in the south, Transport Nagar

Reach-IV stretches from Sitabuldi Interchange to Prajapati Nagar with a total length of 8.30 km. The 1.6 km long section between Sitabuldi Interchange and Kasturchand Park ? part of Reach-II ? was opened for pas-

portation system includes the existing road and the railway track over it. Flyover and railway track are the next two levels. History was created and these major records were scripted with the launching of girder on February 4 this

the ground. For the first time in the history of Indian Railways, 22-meter wide steel girder was launched across railway track. Such a four-layer transportation system is being constructed for the first time in the country," it said.

## Bengaluru to host first meeting of G20 Finance Track under India's G20 Presidency

New Delhi: Bengaluru is all set to host the first meeting of the G20 Finance Track under India's G20 Presidency. First G20 Finance and Central Bank Deputies Meeting are scheduled to be held in Bengaluru on December 13-15 2022, said Ajay Seth, Secre-

meetings from one of the finest metropolitan cities of India, known for its high-tech industry.

"The G20 provides a very effective forum for global economic discussions and international policy cooperation. Besides the

Seth said that as Prime Minister has said in his address at the Bali G20 Summit that the need today is that the benefits of development are universal and all-inclusive, Ministry of Finance has imbibed this idea in the G20 Finance Track agenda.

and Central Bank Governors Meeting in February, in Bengaluru," said Seth.

Secretary said that we are going to have focused discussions over a wide range of contemporary and forward-looking issues. These include global macroeconomic issues, strengthening the international financial architecture, and financial sector issues such as financial inclusion, infrastructure financing, health financing, sustainable finance and international taxation.

Secretary said that through the theme of One Earth, One Family, One Future, India has put together very inclusive, people-centric and action-oriented priorities. Ministry of Finance, through extensive consultations, has curated a robust agenda which will ultimately feed into the G20 Leaders Declaration when Prime Minister hosts the G20 Summit next year.

Seth said that we are hopeful that under the guidance of the Finance Minister and the Governor, RBI, our G20 Finance Track outcomes will aid sustainable and inclusive growth for all and bring more resilience to the global economy.

We also hope this year's G20 Finance agenda will improve our collective preparedness for future challenges and needs, especially for developing and vulnerable economies.

Through nearly 40 meetings, spread all over the country, covering various working groups and 4 Ministerial level meetings, we will endeavour to add significant value to the global economic discourse.

Seth said that these meetings will also provide our guests with an opportunity to witness India's economic successes. And, of course, the visitors will experience India's cultural richness and diversity.

We are thankful to the city of Bengaluru and the State of Karnataka for hosting this very crucial meeting, he said.



tary, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance in an exclusive interview with ANI.

Seth said that this is a very exciting moment. Bengaluru will host the first meeting of the G20 Finance Track under India's G20 Presidency. We are starting the Finance Track

G20 members, we have invited several other countries and international organisations" he said.

Secretary said that the opportunity to be at the helm of this major global economic grouping for one year, comes at a time when India is the fastest-growing large economy.

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and Governor RBI Shaktikanta Das will be leading the Finance Track under India's G20 Presidency.

"We are going to kick start the discussions at the level of Finance Deputies, and later we have planned a G20 Finance Ministers



## Nandankanan Zoo ropeway likely to be ready in a month

BHUBANESWAR(KCN): The aerial ropeway project in Nandankanan Zoological Park (NZP) is likely to be made operational within a month, informed officials on Saturday. Chief Secretary Suresh Chandra Mahapatra who reviewed various projects at the zoo asked officials to ensure operational of the project in one month.

Mahapatra reportedly gave the order in view of the increased tourist footfall in the zoo in the current season. The ropeway is expected to cater to around 3,000 tourists a day. The project work had started in October last year following an agreement of Nandankanan with Kolkata-based Damodar Ropeway Infra Limited (DRIL). The deadline for making it functional was 18 months.

The project is being implemented on PPP mode at an investment of Rs 13 crore. The ropeway is be-

ing constructed with mono-cable pulsed over 626 metre with two towers. While 12 cabins will be operated, each of these will have the capacity to accommodate three persons.

Meanwhile, the chief secretary reviewed other developmental works at Nandankanan and ordered expansion work of the zoo in 604 hectare Chudanga reserve forest and Krishna Nagar protected forest within the zoological park at the earliest. The zoo has planned expansion of safaris for tigers, lions, bears and other herbivore animals in the extended area.

Mahapatra also visited the botanical garden and reviewed the restoration work of Kiakani lake. The lake and the garden is being restored at an investment of Rs 9 crore. Boating facility will also be created in the lake for tourists.

## Agriculture research centre soon in Mayurbhanj: Bishweswar Tudu

BARIPADA: An agriculture and horticulture centre will soon be set up in Mayurbhanj district to help farmers, said Minister of State

Slamming the state government, Tudu said the multipurpose Subarnarekha Irrigation Project, which remains incomplete, has not been able to meet the irrigation needs of the district. Even when Jharkhand is not releasing even a drop of water to the project, the Odisha government too has not yet taken any steps to resolve the issue.

Tudu was at the 23rd felicitation ceremony organised by Babulal Agrawal Memorial on Saturday when he also said the Centre will intervene in the matter by calling a three-level committee (TLC) meeting among officials of both states. The Centre has approved restoration of 13 water bodies out of 19 in the district and tender for five have already been floated. The Union government has allocated Rs 1,000 crore for development of Smibrukhsa, Devkund, Barehipani and Khiching in the district as tourist destinations, Tudu added. "If the BJD government tries to obstruct any development work taken up by the Centre, we will directly intervene and implement the projects without any assistance from the state government," Tudu said. He also informed the layout ceremony of Amarda airstrip in Rashgobindpur will be conducted in January.



for Jal Shakti and Tribal Affairs Bishweswar Tudu. Speaking to mediapersons here on Saturday, Tudu said Mayurbhanj is the largest district of Odisha and has vast tracts of agriculture land on which paddy and non-paddy crops are cultivated during both rabi and kharif seasons. "Several old and traditional methods of cultivation have vanished due to lack of interest of farmers. This apart, small farmers have given up agriculture since the government started giving them rice of Rs 1 a kg," he said. The minister further said in order to motivate farmers, good quality seeds and saplings of various crops are needed. This will be possible once the research centre comes up in the district. He urged Mayurbhanj collector Vineet Bhardwaj to provide land for the centre.

## Carcass of female elephant found in Kuldiha sanctuary

BALASORE/ANGUL: The carcass of a female elephant was found near Kadamsole vil-

spotted on the carcass, he added. However, the locals suspected it to have



lage within Nilagiri range of Kuldiha Wildlife Sanctuary on Saturday. The carcass of the elephant was spotted by some locals in the morning.

On being informed, forest personnel along with assistant conservator of forest (ACF) Shoven Chand, range officer Ananta Jena and a veterinary team from Nilagiri reached the spot for conducting autopsy on the carcass. The samples collected from the carcass were sent to a laboratory for testing to ascertain the exact cause of the elephant's death. The carcass was buried at the spot. Jena stated that the age of the female elephant was around 15 years and problems relating to old age might have caused its death. No injury had been

fallen from a hill and died of internal injuries. It appears the elephant was pregnant, they said. In another incident, a 48-year-old woman was killed by an elephant in Kapilash wildlife sanctuary on the day. ACF Subrat Kumar Patra said the victim, Jhulu Nayak of Krishnakumarpur village had ventured into the sanctuary to collect wood when she was trampled to death by the elephant. Jhulu's body was spotted by some villagers in the evening.

Patra said the deceased's family was paid ₹40,000 for funeral expenses and the compensation will be paid after documentation is complete. Jhulu's body has been sent to a government hospital for postmortem.

## Odisha: Young scientists showcase models at CBSE regional science exhibition

BHUBANESWAR: A junior and senior category with 109 exhibits on display help increasing scientific temper and creativity among the man Raghunath Mishra and principal Sandhya Jena also



bition-2022 was organised on the premises of BJEM School here to allow the young scientists from 66 CBSE-affiliated schools across Odisha to display their exhibits on the theme 'Technology and Toys.' The exhibition organised in both

cluded on Saturday. The top seven exhibits from each category were also selected to participate in the National Level Science Exhibition. CBSE deputy secretary Akhilesh Kumar joined the inauguration ceremony as the chief guest and said the exhibition will

budding scientists. Joining the valedictory session of the exhibition as the chief guest, associate professor of IIT-Bhubaneswar Debadatta Swain advised the students to stay more focused on the process rather than the outcome. BJEM School chair-

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## G20 Finance Track to kickstart from Dec 13 in Bengaluru

NEW DELHI: The G20 Finance Track meetings under India's presidency will start on Tuesday and deliberate on various matters of global relevance, including infrastructure development, sustainable finance, global health, international taxation and financial sector issues.

India assumed the G20 presidency on December 1 from Indonesia. The G20 Leaders' Summit will be held in New Delhi in September 2023.

The first G20 Finance and Central Bank Deputies (FCBD) meeting, jointly hosted by the Finance Ministry and the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), is scheduled to be held during December 13-15 in Bengaluru.

The meeting of the G20 Finance and Central Bank Deputies will be co-chaired by Economic Affairs Secretary Ajay Seth and RBI Deputy Governor Michael D Patra, the finance ministry said in a statement.

Their counterparts from G20 member countries, and from several other nations and international organisations invited by India, will participate in the meeting.

The G20 Finance Track discusses key issues of relevance for the global economy, encompassing the global economic outlook, the international financial architecture, infrastructure development and financing, sustainable finance, global health, international taxation and financial sector issues,



including financial inclusion, it added.

In the Bengaluru meeting, discussions will focus on the agenda for the Finance Track under the Indian G20 Presidency.

This includes reorienting international financial institutions to meet the shared global challenges of the 21st century, financing cities of tomorrow, managing global debt vulnerabilities, advancing financial inclusion and productivity gains, financing for climate action and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), a globally coordinated approach to unbacked crypto assets and advancing the international taxation agenda.

On the sidelines of the meeting, it said, a panel discussion will be held on 'Strengthening Multilateral Development Banks to Address Shared Global Challenges of the 21st Century'.

A seminar on the 'Role of Central Banks in Green Financing' will also be held.

In a recorded video message, Seth said, "Prime Minister (Narendra Modi) in his address at the Bali G20 Summit said that the need today is that the benefits of development are universal and all-inclusive.

Ministry of Finance has imbibed this idea in the G20 Finance Track agenda.

"The Prime Minister has also given us a vision that India will strive to ensure that the G20 acts as a global 'prime mover' to envision new ideas and accelerate collective action over the next year," Seth added.

The G20 Finance Track, led by finance ministers and central bank governors of G20 countries, focuses on economic and financial issues.

We must become voice of Global South, says Jaishankar as India assumes G20 Presidency. It provides an effective forum for global economic discourse and policy coordination.

The First Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors Meeting will be held during February 23-25 in Bengaluru.

The Indian G20 Presidency's theme of 'One Earth One Family, One Future' will guide the G20 Finance India's G20 Presidency will boost global economy, open Internet: Sundar Pichai

Approximately 40 meetings of the Finance Track will be held in several locations in India, which include meetings of G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors, he said, adding the discussions in the G20 Finance Track will ultimately be reflected in the G20 Leaders' Declaration.

India has assumed the G20 presidency at a time of multiple challenges, which include scarring from the COVID-19 pandemic, sharpened geopolitical tensions, rising food and energy security concerns, growing debt distress, inflationary pressures and monetary tightening, among others, it said, stressing that a key role of the G20 is to provide guidance in dealing with such challenges.

During India's G20 presidency, it said, supporting the countries most in need and reflecting the concerns and aspirations of developing countries will be at the forefront of the G20's efforts.

The Finance Ministry and the RBI will steer the G20 Finance Track agenda in an inclusive manner aimed at addressing the global economic needs of today as well as preparing for a better tomorrow, it added.

## India far ahead of China in IT but Chinese firms catching up on IT tech: Chinese IT expert

Continued from page-1

the Indian firms, who still have a sway in the global markets, especially in IT outsourcing, China's software revenue is mostly from home.

He said that over 95 per cent of China's IT earnings come from the domestic Chinese market. "In the global IT market, India is leading much ahead of Chinese market players," he said.

"The Chinese companies are not a threat to the Indian firms in the global markets," Mike, one of the rare Chinese IT executives who worked with the top Indian company Infosys for years, told PTI here ahead of his book launch.

The book that provides an insight into the Indian and Chinese information technology development over the decades has been just published in the Chinese language.

It will be published in English soon.

Mike was the first Chinese-born country head of Infosys and worked both in Indian and Chinese firms, besides multinational companies like HP.

According to a recent report by China's Ministry of Industry and Information Technology (MIIT), China's software business revenue from January to July this year reached 5.456 trillion yuan (USD 797.26 billion), a year-on-year increase of 10.3 per cent.

IT sectors in both countries contribute about eight per cent to their GDPs, though China's IT revenues are far higher considering the size of the Chinese economy, Mike said.

While Indian IT firms ruled the global markets, the Chinese firms have established dominance in technology, he said.

He said the Chinese firms have a long way to go to make a dent in the global international markets.

"I foresee Chinese players still have a long learning curve to compete in the English market. Chinese people often ask, why have Indians become so predominant in business in America? The typical view is Indians speak good English. But that is maybe one per cent of the factor," he said.

For their part, the Chinese companies need to learn many things such as mindset, management systems and governance, he said, adding that an abundant supply of human resources in IT was key for India's success.

He said the Indian IT phenomenon is not made possible through either deregulated efforts or government subsidies and policies but due to the strong conviction by the Indian tech leaders and software engineers to make a difference.

However, on the tech front of IT and innovation, China has taken the lead, he added.

"The scenario has changed today. The Chinese companies have become a global phenomenon in the B2B and doing well not only in e-commerce but autonomous driving, AI, and cloud services, where you don't see Indian players, unfortunately, having had the same impact," Mike said.

Chinese firms like Huawei, Alibaba, Baidu and Tencent made a big leap in technology development, while the Indian IT sector is broadly confined to software outsourcing, spending little on innovation and R&D, he said.

On India's constant complaint that China is not providing market access to Indian IT firms, he argued that the issue of market access should not be an excuse for Indian IT firms' inability to penetrate Chinese markets.

While keeping their focus on English language global markets, it is time for the Indian firms to shift their focus to non-English speaking markets such as China to rework their strategy to tap big future revenues, he said.

"The question for Indian IT companies now is how to break into fast-growing non-English speaking countries," he said.

"Market access alone is something of an easy excuse. If you are determined to engage in a market, then you will figure it out," he said while highlighting the success of firms like HP in which he worked earlier and made big inroads into the Chinese markets.

For years, China has been stonewalling Indian demand to provide market access to its biggest products in the IT and pharmaceutical firms which struggled to make headway in the Chinese markets despite their global success.

Mike argues that while the Indian IT firms are doing well in the multinational firms based in China, they made limited headway into the burgeoning Chinese market adopting a "cost-conscious" strategy and looking for short-term returns.

"You cannot have the same formula to work in two very different, highly complex markets and societies," he said.

## Himachal: Sukhvinder Sukhu sworn in as CM, Mukesh Agnihotri takes oath as Dy CM

Continued from page-1

Gandhi family for giving me this opportunity. My mother never stopped me from being in politics. I have reached here today because of her blessings," said Sukhu.

The Congress wrested power from the BJP in the hill state winning 40 of the 68 assembly seats. The polling was held on November 12 and the results were declared last Thursday.

Several leaders including state Congress chief Pratibha Singh, the wife of former Himachal Chief Minister Virbhadra Singh, and their son Vikramaditya Singh, who also won his election, were also in contention for the CM and Dy CM's post.

This was the first state election since the demise of Virbhadra Singh in July 2021.

## Bhubaneswar crematorium in 'grave' neglect

Continued from page-1

installed way back in 1999. Besides, two burners could be run alternatively to reduce load.

Electric burner, however, is not the only issue. The cremation, despite being the biggest and major funeral site in the state capital, doesn't have proper bathing facility on its premises. An artificial pond constructed in 1999 has been lying defunct since the outbreak of Covid and is yet to be restored. The sanitation within the crematorium ground is equally grim. Apart from overgrown bushes and shrubs, trash can be found strewn around the funeral site, as the crematorium lacks a designated space for proper disposal of funeral waste.

Moreover, a decision on demand of residents for shifting of the crematorium to another location is yet to be taken. Anuradha Dash, a resident and member of Satya Nagar Ladies Club, said the civic body should involve local community in managing the crematorium ground effectively till its relocation is finalised.

Meanwhile, a senior official of the civic body informed that during a recent meeting, BMC commissioner Vijay Amruta Kulange had sought a detailed list of crematoriums in the city for their renovation and restoration in a phased manner. Accordingly, the renovation work of the Satya Nagar crematorium will also be taken up shortly, he said.

## Dharmendra Pradhan causes a stir with early Assembly poll claim

Continued from page-1

Odisha.

Pradhan, however, admitted that the party did not achieve its goal in the Padampur bypoll and accepted the people's verdict. But he targeted the ruling BJD for trying to spread a message that the BJP has shown disrespect towards women. "They should keep it in mind that the BJP got over 78,000 votes in Padampur. People from all sections including women voted for the party," he said.

Referring to the statements coming out from the BJD camp after the victory, Pradhan said it is quite natural for the winner to boast and remain upbeat. Claiming that the people of Odisha have faith in Prime Minister Narendra Modi's commitment towards the development of the state, he said BJP has been following its own policies aimed at the progress of the state and welfare of its people.

Stating that the prime minister has emerged as the champion of women empowerment by launching several programmes for their upliftment, Pradhan said the BJP is fully aware of its responsibilities towards the state and its people and it will discharge its duty sincerely.

Meanwhile, BJD spokesperson Prasanna Acharya said that it was the BJP that had called early polls in 2004. "The Union minister might have referred to plan of the Centre to conduct early parliamentary elections. It is also possible that he said this to encourage party workers after loss of BJP in Padampur bypoll," he said.

## New CM Sukhvinder, his deputy Mukesh brace for a bumpy road in Himachal Pradesh

Continued from page-1

that the state government utilised 74.11 per cent of borrowed funds for the repayment of previous borrowings (principal) and 25.89 per cent for capital expenditure.

As per the CAG's latest report tabled in the state assembly for 2020-21, around 39 per cent of the debt (amounting to around Rs 25,000 crore) is payable in the next two to five years.

Implementing the lofty promises made by Congress is going to be a challenging task, including providing one lakh jobs in the first year and a total of five lakh jobs in the five-year term. The immediate task would, however, be to fill the state's 62,000 vacancies in various government departments, which will also push up the employee cost.

The promise of giving Rs 1500 to every adult woman in the state would entail Rs 5,000 crore expense annually. Coupled with that the promise of free power of up to 300 units to every household will entail expenses of another Rs 2,500 crore annually while catering to around 15 lakh households, the sources said.

As per the budget estimates for 2022-23, the total receipts and cash expenditure are estimated at Rs 50,300.41 crore and Rs 51,364.76 crore respectively. The Revenue Deficit in 2022-23 for Himachal is likely to be Rs 3,903.49 crore and the Fiscal Deficit is expected to be Rs 9,602.36 crore.

The restoration of the old pension scheme, which has been the biggest promise that helped the party romp home to power, is also a challenging task considering that other Congress-ruled states of Rajasthan and Chattisgarh have not been able to implement them.

How a battered and bruised Congress found love in Shimla

Though Prime Minister Narendra Modi has assured that there will be no hindrance to the development of Himachal Pradesh even though the BJP lost power there, getting funds liberally from the BJP-ruled Centre may also be difficult for the Congress.

On Saturday, Sukhu said all stakeholders will be taken on board while taking important decisions. "We want to change the system. Give me some time. We need to work hard to bring in a new system and new thinking," he said.

The Congress made several ambitious promises ranging from a free once-in-four-year pilgrimage for all elderly to a dedicated budget for the promotion of religious tourism in every assembly constituency, as the manifesto included a stand-alone segment titled - "Devsthan and Tirth Yatras" (Temples and Pilgrimages).

The loftiest promise in this section is a pledge of free pilgrimage to any shrine of choice for all elderly in the state. Congress promised to foot the bill for such a trip every four years. It included a provision for attendants to accompany the elderly on such trips.

A "Dev Bhumi Vikas Nidhi", a fund that entails dedicating budgeting for each assembly constituency to promote religious tourism, has also been promised.

The Congress had made ten promises to the people of Himachal Pradesh which include the restoration of the old pension scheme in its first meeting of the state cabinet, besides giving Rs 1500 to all adult women in the state.

It also sought to woo the poor by promising 300 units of free power to all households and five lakh jobs to the youth. The party also pledged to form a Rs 680-crore StartUp fund that would include Rs 10 crore for each of the 68 assembly constituencies to provide self-employment opportunities to youths.

The 52-page 'Pratigya Patra - Himachal, Himachaliyat aur Hum' also promised a special budget to MLAs to promote religious tourism, one job per family to those affected by power projects and urban MGNREGA jobs to the unemployed.



## South American football chief uses legendary names to push for 2030 World Cup bid

DOHA: South America's football chief said Sunday that FIFA should honour the legacy of Pele and Diego Maradona by awarding the centennial 2030 World Cup to the continent.



With competition intensifying before the global body decides on the event in 2024, Alejandro Dominguez said there should be less focus on "money" in the process. Uruguay, which held the original 13-team World Cup in 1930, has linked up with Argentina, Chile and Paraguay to bid for the 2030 event, which will be the second with 48 teams.

The main challenge is a joint bid from Spain, Portugal and Ukraine, which has European governing body UEFA's backing. Reports have said Saudi Arabia could launch a bid with Egypt and Greece.

Asked at an event honouring the ailing Pele whether the former Brazil star or the legacy

of late Argentina great Maradona could help sway the decision, Dominguez said FIFA had to choose between football and money.

"The question is for FIFA -- what do they plan to do with the history created by Pele and later Maradona?" said the head of CONMEBOL, the South American confederation.

"It really should be back to the roots because football is not just about money. It should not be about the competition of who puts up the most money for a World Cup."

"It should also be about recognising who made this party possible," Dominguez added, referring to Pele and Maradona, as well as Uruguay as hosts of the first World Cup.

Dominguez said CONMEBOL had also proposed that Brazil change its national shirt to honour Pele, 82, who was hospitalised this month as he battles cancer.

The badge on the shirt has five stars at the top to mark each of the country's World Cup wins. Pele was in the winning team three times.

Dominguez said the proposal was for Brazil to "change three of their stars for three hearts, in homage to the king."

## 'Truly special': Ishan Kishan, India's new batting dynamite

NEW DELHI: Ishan Kishan has raised expectations that India can turn around their flagging white-ball fortunes after the baby-faced assassin blasted the world's fastest ODI double century and said he could have reached 300.

India have not won an international tournament since 2013 and their 10-

producing a 290-run second-wicket stand with Virat Kohli to power India to 409-8.

It was the tattooed, ear stud-sporting Kishan's first ODI century and the numbers and records stacked up in Kishan's knock, the quickest double ODI ton in 126 balls.

"The innings you played today deserves double

whopping \$2 million in the February auction this year. But he did not set the IPL on fire and with patchy international form missed being part of the Twenty20 World Cup in Australia where India crashed out in the semi-finals to eventual winners England.

'In the zone' Standing at five feet six inches (1.68 metres),

into the limited-overs side.

Indian batsmen including new white-ball sensation Suryakumar Yadav and Kishan seem to have the mindset to play a fearless game and bring India some international silverware at last.

"When I got out, 15 overs were left. That's 90 balls. If you play 45



wicket loss to England at the Twenty20 World Cup last month prompted much soul-searching. Next year they will host the 50-over World Cup.

But on Saturday Kishan, 24, gave India something to cheer about, with the diminutive left-handed opener smashing a 131-ball 210 laced with 24 fours and 10 sixes against Bangladesh in Chittagong. Kishan only played because skipper Rohit Sharma was injured but he grabbed the opportunity with both hands by

the appreciation too," cricket icon Sachin Tendulkar wrote on Twitter. Batting great VVS Laxman tweeted: "What a phenomenal display of ball-striking... To get a double hundred in any format is awesome, to do so inside 35 overs is just mind-boggling! What a talent! I am sure this is the start of something truly special."

An Indian Premier League sensation, Kishan, a wicketkeeper-batsman, was retained by Mumbai Indians for a

Kishan comes from Bihar but played for his neighbouring state of Jharkhand in domestic cricket. He captained India to the 2016 Under-19 World Cup. His career now gets a new wind with his sensational knock ahead of next year's 50-over World Cup in India as the hosts hunt for a demolishing batting combination in the "bazball" era.

The term bazball is homage to the nickname of new England Test coach Brendon McCullum whose ultra-aggressive approach has filtered

balls, it's easy to get another hundred when you are that set," Kishan said after India's 227-run win. "Bowlers are under pressure. I was in the zone to get 300, but unfortunately, I didn't... But it was a special one to get my name up there with so many legendary players." Kishan, who has played 10 ODIs since making his debut last year, is only the fourth Indian batsman to score a 50-over double ton after Rohit -- who has done so three times -- Tendulkar and Virender Sehwag.

## Advantage Becker: Tennis star jailed in fraud case set to be deported to Germany, says report

Former tennis star Boris Becker is set to be deported to Germany next week. The 54-year-old six-time Grand Slam champion

Becker is expected to return to Germany next week and will not have to serve his remaining sentence, reports Daily Mirror.

countries before their release date in an effort to reduce pressure on British jails and save money. The report quoted

Becker has lived in Britain since 2012 but will be deported as he does not have British citizenship. It is understood he will not be



was jailed in April this year over charges relating to a 2017 bankruptcy. He was sentenced to two-and-a-half years in jail for charges including concealing 825,000 euros (USD 866,500) of debt and shares in a tech firm.

However, with less than eight months of the sentence served,

The three-time Wimbledon champion is being held in HMP Huntercombe in Oxfordshire where foreign nationals are detained ahead of deportation.

The 'exclusive' report in the Mirror reveals that Becker is qualified for a fast-track scheme that sends criminals to their home

Becker's former spokesman as saying last month: "We are pleased for Boris that he may qualify for an early release and be able to travel to Germany, albeit England has been his home for many, many years. I'm sure it will mean a lot to him and his family to be reunited for Christmas."

eligible to apply to return to the UK as a visitor until his full sentence has expired. The report said a foreign inmate can have up to a year cut from their sentence under the Early Removal Scheme. More than 1,100 criminals were deported under the scheme in 2020-21.




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