

Letter To Chief Minister, Odisha

Dear Honourable Chief Minister Sri Patnaik, Wishing you a happy, healthy, and peaceful new year 2023 in advance.

Sir, you may be knowing that recently Govt. of Telangana celebrated Telangana National Integration Day on September 16 to mark 75th anniversary of accession of erstwhile Hyderabad State to the Indian Union.

Although Odisha was formed on April 1, 1936, large portions of present-day Odisha were not part of Odisha until 1948. Many princely states like Kalahandi, Patnagarh (Balangir), Sonepur, Boudh, Kandhamal, Mayurbhanj, Keonjhar, Gangapur, Bonai, Nayagarh, Dhenkanal, Athamallik, etc. joined the Indian union, on January 1, 1948 and became part of Odisha state.

Recently many of these princely states or Gadajats who became districts of modern Odisha are celebrating the foundation day of their respective districts at the local level. Nevertheless, the formation of a district does not bring any major social, economic, and political changes for the people. Policies are made at the national and state level. District administration just follows those regulations to implement and help in other public distribution or planning at the local level. The sole purpose of making a district is to ease local administration.

The significant and crucial day for these people to celebrate should be the occasion that transformed their lives and made a great positive impact by giving them freedom and empowering them in modern democracy. In general, for the people of the whole of India, it is Independence Day, August 15. However, it was not the case for princely states in Odisha who were monarchy till December 31, 1947. The people in these regions had no power to choose their ruler or leader till 1947. During this period, people were under the mercy of the king. There was limited access to equality among common people. Joining the Indian union, made the Gadajat region to be part of a modern vibrant democracy and become part of Odisha state. This gave the people of princely states the chance to become personally involved with the government by getting voting rights and reducing their chances of exploitation. It has empowered them to be equal and made them access education, health, economy, and infrastructure at the state and national levels, especially for downtrodden people in these regions. It was a complete transformation from exploitation and slavery. Becoming part of India also gave everyone a national level of safety, security, and legal rights.

Therefore, January 1, 1948, bears extraordinary significance for the people of former princely states in Odisha to celebrate and cheer as it made them equal irrespective of caste, creed, color, and religion to access opportunities at the national and state level, especially, tribal and downtrodden people in these regions found a voice in modern India and could able to protect their rights better unlike in the past monarchy system.

I urge you to kindly consider and celebrate January 1 as Odisha Integration Day as it gave a substantial population of Odisha actual independence from a monarchy system to become part of social, secular, and vibrant democratic India.

**Digambara Patra MPhil, PhD
Professor
Department of Chemistry
American University of Beirut
Beirut, Lebanon**

Honourable President of India addressed probationers of 74th Batch of Indian Police Service at SVPNPA Police Officers should keep in mind and demonstrate through action, the five fundamental attributes of integrity, impartiality, courage, competence and sensitivity: Murmu

Hyderabad: The President of India, Honourable Smt Droupadi Murmu addressed the probationers of the 74th Batch of the Indian Police Service at the Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel National Police Academy, Hyderabad on December 27, 2022.

Speaking on the occasion, the President said that when the country is celebrating 'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav', the nation acknowledges the rich contribution of our police force in sustaining and strengthening the world's largest and most vibrant democracy. The Indian Police has also made its huge contribution in preserving the unity of the country. Thousands of brave police personnel have laid down their



lives for the cause of India's internal security. She paid her respects to the IPS officers who sacrificed their lives at the altar of duty.

Addressing the IPS probationers, the President said that police is the most visible organ of the government. When the police force commands trust of the people, it enhances the

image of the government. The police would command respect and trust only when the entire force under them, to the last constable, displays alertness, sensitivity and honesty. She said that right since the beginning of their career, IPS probationers would be in leadership positions. The quality of their leadership would

determine the effectiveness and morale of the force led by them. She advised them to keep in mind and demonstrate through action, the five fundamental attributes of Integrity, Impartiality, Courage, Competence and Sensitivity.

The President said that police forces have to be partners in progress of the country and

transformation of the society. Police officers are going to play the roles of change-agents in India's achieving greater prosperity while ensuring sustainable development, especially inclusion. Inclusion means - inclusion of that last person, the most deprived person, the most vulnerable person. That person should be at the centre of their concerns. She advised them to be sensitive to the plight of the voiceless. She said that Police officers have to ensure that an illiterate poor man living in a remote corner of the country, gets sympathetic support at the local police post. The criminals should tremble with fear at the very thought of the police. But, at the same time, the common citizen should

look at the police as a friend and saviour.

The President said that in line with our stated national priorities, Nari Shakti has to play a major role in achieving the targets we have set for ourselves during the 'Amrit Kaal'. A truly 'Atmanirbhar Bharat', pre-supposes 'Atmanirbhar Nari'. She said that larger participation of women results in better overall development. We should quickly move ahead from the phase of empowering women to the stage of women led development. She urged lady police officers to always help other women, especially the vulnerable. She said that if every woman stands up for the weaker ones among them, the society would experience a great transformation.

Indian Ambassador to Switzerland Sanjay Bhattacharya met Indian Delegation; Social Entrepreneur and Jute Environmentalist Ms Chaitali Das member of Indian ICC delegation to Switzerland

Kolkata, (Tamal Ghosh): Ms Chaitali Das, Social Entrepreneur, Jute Environmentalist and Founder CEO Rakshak Foundation was requested to highlight her views on important business and Environmental issues and she shared her thoughts at the World Economic Forum, Headquarter in Geneva

Followed by 'India Business Week 2022' in Zurich at Hyatt Airport Convention Centre hosted by Indian Embassy in Switzerland. She emphasised in her deliberation mainly over sustainability, use of Indian jute, khadi, cotton in fashion & lifestyle, Social Entrepreneurship & community engagement, conserving environment & heritage, rising of Indian Women at work-inclusive growth at the World Economic



Forum Head Quartered in Geneva and also at the interactive session held at EPLFL Public Research University, Innovation Park, the innovation ecosystem of Western Switzerland, Public Research University Lausanne.

Ms Sushmita Das Biswas, Jt. Director from Indian Chamber of Commerce also spoken about SME & MSME's contribution to Indian Economy. She also proposed to be the nodal office to execute the

collaboration and bilateral business partnership between Indian & Swiss companies. The programmes were well attended by Swiss experts,

Kaushal Kumar from Indian Embassy in Switzerland, Harsh Sangla, Co-Chairman from Confederation of Indian Industries (CII) highlighted upon bilateral business relation, collaboration and mutual growth.

The Indian delegation facilitated by Indian

Chamber of Commerce and Confederation of Indian Industries were invited to the University of Applied Science and Arts Northern western Business School of Switzerland where Chaitali has advocated about eco-friendly lifestyle & the use of jute replacing plastic. She further urged collaboration to fight collectively & effectively evolving as a super power against common challenges posed to people & the planet by the climate threat and to take

action to ensure food security, health security & the future generations ahead.

The 23 members of Indian delegation team representing respective industries and sectors were invited to EPFL Innovation Park, and the innovation ecosystem of Western Switzerland, Lausanne where Chaitali Das proposed Technology collaboration both in Textile & Agriculture.

The Indian delegation team learnt about the Innovation park which

creates synergies that strengthen the innovation culture in Switzerland. The Indian delegation team later joined the luncheon hosted by the Ambassador of India at India House, Embassy in Switzerland after visiting the Palais des Nations United Nation HQ in Geneva as part of 'India Business Week', Embassy of India, Berne collaborated with the University of Applied Sciences Northwestern Switzerland, Olten and organised a seminar on "Cooperation Being The Decisive Key Success Factor For Switzerland" followed by a panel discussion on "Success Factors For Fruitful Cooperation Between India And Switzerland" for the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and Indian Chamber of Commerce (ICC) business delegation to Switzerland

"Cinemar Samabartan" s 7th Edition Announced by WBFJA

Kolkata, (Partha Roy): West Bengal Film Journalists' Association (WBFJA) announced the nomination of the 7th edition of the West Bengal Film Journalists' Association Award 2022 - "Cinemar Samabartan" in Kolkata on 27th December 2022. Shri Shri Shri Mukhopadhyay noted journalist, author was Chief Guest. National award winner actor-director Kaushik Ganguly, renowned actress, Ms. Paoli Dam & popular directors Birsa Dasgupta, Prasun

Chatterjee and renowned film personality Anik Dutta graced the occasion.

There are seventeen award categories in the popular segment, eight award categories in the Technical Award segment and a LifeTime Achievement Award.

"Cinemar Samabartan" is the ultimate gathering of original story tellers, where best talents of Bengali cinema will be awarded. Talents are judged by film-critics or journalists and it is only industry to industry (B2B) award



ceremony. "...Theme of the award ceremony this year: "Where There Is No Imagination, There Is No Horror" to stimulate the imagination and create new perspectives. It is an attempt to enthrall the masses to indulge in their share of fun and excitement in the theatres" said Nirmal Dhar Secretary of West Bengal Film Journalists' Association.

One hundred eleven film were screened & nominated this year in various categories.

Internationally acclaimed award winning actor Shri

Dhritiman Chatterjee who acted in several films of Satyajit Ray as well as in different languages films of renowned directors will be honoured with Satyajit Ray Life Time achievement award.

WBFJA Award is first digitally broadcasted event of the East.

"Cinemar Samabartan" award ceremony will take place on 8th January 2023 at age old "Gem Cinema" in Kolkata.

"Pure Bangaliana" will be celebrated and only film fraternity and journalists will attend the award ceremony.

In search of Light

Saikat Kumar Basu



We have long been creatures of the dark,
Embedded deep in the
stink mud if our sins.

But then we found a bright source of light
From a lamp that does not go off in rain or
wind

The light is your teachings my Lord,
That teaches us to be true humans !

Rich in empathy and compassion
With the courage to forgive the mistake of
others.

It is the light that shines out our inner divinity

It is the light that hides the darkness of evil
From the joys of selfless service to all!

378 Prince Anwar Shah Road,
Kolkata, West Bengal India

Squeezes I enjoy & squeezes I'm afraid

Dwit David Philip



Me and my child fourteen year's gap,
Me and my husband, more than that,
My child's squeezes, I enjoy,
His squeezes, I often sob and cry.

It's midnight,
Whom to satisfy,
One who feeds me or to the one whom I feed,
It's midnight demand is high.

I feel like dying,
But echo of the tender's voice asking, "maa attend me",
Whom should I call upon,
And who will listen to my cry.
Me and my midnight, we fight for the day.

Surviving just, so that no one snatches my tender one's joy,
But till she becomes twenty one, to go, it's a long way.

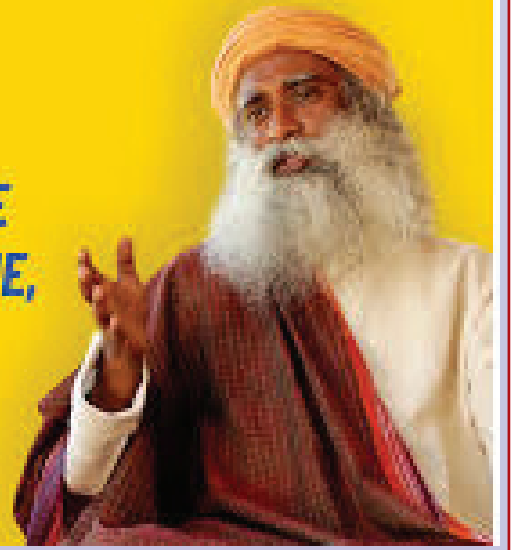
Mines visitors of aeroplanes, trains, volvo buses,
Don't leave me in Jharkhand alone, for me and my child, think of
some projects.

12 December 2022
LD House
Amlatola, Chaibasha
Jharkhand

Quotation of the Day

SADHURU QUOTES

**IF YOU HANDLE
YOUR ENTIRE LIFE
WITH LOGIC ALONE,
YOU WILL END
UP A MESS.**



Culture of Odisha – Explore the Varied and Ancient Heritage of Utkala Region

Religion of Odisha

Odisha is home to Hinduism, Islam, Christianity, Buddhism, and Jainism, among other religions. However, Hinduism is the majority religion in Odisha. Despite the fact that



all other religions have adherents, Odisha boasts the biggest concentration of Hindus among Indian states. Odisha is a nation of religious tolerance, and people of many sects and faiths coexist peacefully, often within the same hamlet, and used to share all of the festivals.

Music and Dance of Odisha

Odisha has a long and illustrious musical culture. Odisha's rich musical legacy is reflected in the figures of dancers and musicians carved on old temple walls. Odissi music is a classical genre that combines all of the ele-



ments found in Hindustani and Karnatic music. Odissi sangita is a synthesis of four types of music, namely dhruvapada, chitrapada, chitrakala, and panchal, as detailed in two treatises produced in the early nineteenth century, namely Sangita Sarani and Sangita Narayana. Jayadev, the saint-poet, renowned composer, and illustrious maestro of classical music, is responsible for most of it.

The Odissi dance, which is choreographed to the best music of Odisha, is claimed to be an attempt to approach God and experience ultimate happiness. As a result, the devadasis, who used to dance to the recital of hymns and bols of talas, kept this dance alive. The Odissi dance emerged from the millennia-old Mahari dance form, which was once performed by devadasi dancers known as maharis at the shrine of Lord Jagannath in Puri. It was

afterwards promoted as Odisha's classical dance genre. Late

Kavichandra Kalicharan Patnaik and Padma bhusan recipient Kelu Charan Mahapatra are among the masters who elevated the dance form to international prominence. To name a few, there's Padmashree Pankaj Charan



Das, and Deba Prasad Das.

In the world of Odisha music and dance, Chhau is a popular dance genre in addition to classical Odissi. It's a warrior dance performed to the accompaniment of indigenous instruments. Today's highly stylized Chhau dance adheres to the essential principles of Bharat Muni's Natya Shastra and Nandikeswara's Abhinaya Darpana. Other dance traditions found in Odisha's rich history and culture include Jatra, Pala, Dashkathia, Gotipua, and Naga-Medha.

Festivals of Odisha

Odisha is a melting pot of cultures, including Aryan, Dravidian, and Adivasi. The majority of the state's festivals highlight some aspect of their cultures and honour their faith throughout the year. There are several festivals that are widely celebrated, but the cel-



ebrations are unique to each place. The Rath yatra is the state's most well-known festival, during which a massive chariot or rath is driven across the state, particularly in Puri, where devotees worship Lord Jagannath. Durga Puja is celebrated all around the state, but especially in Cuttack. Kali Puja, also known as Diwali, is observed in many parts of Odisha. Cuttack's Bali Yatra, held on the full moon day of Kartika, recalls the splendor of Odishan traders in the past. At

Cscope Staff

Cuisine of Odisha

Odiya cuisine uses a variety of locally obtained vegetables, grains, pulses, dairy products, and seafood, as well as fewer spices and oil. Khechidi (rice, lentils, and ghee), Palau (vegetables, dry fruits, and spices), Kanika (sweet rice dish made with dried fruits and ghee),



Ghee rice, and Pakhala (watered rice served with curd and stir-fried vegetables) are some of the famous rice dishes in Odisha. The vegetable and spice-laden Dalma, the plain and uncomplicated Dali, and the delectable and flavorful Besara are just a few of the mouthwatering lentil meals. Santula is a vegetable stew made with onion, garlic, and green chillies in a skillet. Khajuri khata, Amba khata, Ouu khata, dhania-patra, and pudina-patra chutneys are some of the state's well-known chutneys used as condiments in Odishan cuisine. Dahi baigana, a curd and brinjal dish, is a delicious side dish with a tangy, flavorful, and sweet-sour flavour.

Cuisine of Odisha, Malpua sweet
When it comes to sweets, Odisha has a wide variety of desserts, including cheese-based Chhena Poda, Chhena Jhili, Rasamalai, and Chhena Gaja, as well as flour-based Pheni, Jilapi, Malpua, and Kheera Gaja. Pitha, or indigenous cakes, are popular in Odisha. The kitchen of Puri's famous Jagannath Temple is said to be the world's largest, with a thousand chefs working around 752 wood-burning clay hearths known as chulas to feed over 10,000 people every day. Offerings are made

Baripada, the Chaitra Parva, a Chhou dance festival, is held.

to the presiding deities in temples around the region. The Jagannath Temple's prasad is well-known, and it is known as Maha Prasad, which means "largest of all prasads." It is known as chhappan bhog since it has 56 recipes.

Tourism of Odisha

With a 485-kilometre-long coastline, mountains, lakes, natural biodiversity, and rivers,

tourism in Odisha is one of the most important contributors to the state's economy. Odisha is one of India's most important tourism destinations, offering a diverse range of tourist attractions including wildlife reserves, beaches, temples, monuments, the arts, and festivals.

Occupation of Odisha

In Orissa, agriculture is the most common occupation. Agriculture and agriculture-related businesses employ over 76% of the entire working population. In addition, the state is a big producer of fish. Because of the favourable industrial climate in the state, the state has seen an increase in industrial activity. Odisha with its diverse and intriguing cultural traditions exemplified by the iconic Sun Temple at Konark and the respected Jagannath Temple in Puri. Odisha, which is home to 62 tribes, has long been a favourite of visitors and scholars alike. Odissi dance, handlooms, and fine handicrafts give this land a distinct cultural character that has enthralled people from all over the world in the past and will continue to do so in the future.

(To be concluded)

CLASSIFIED

CAUTION

Readers are advised to make appropriate enquiries while responding to advertisements in these columns. The Kalinga chronicle publication does not vouch for any claims made by the Advertisers. The Printer, Publisher, Editor and Owner of The Kalinga Chronicle Publications shall not be held responsible/ liable for any consequences, in case such claims are found to be false.



AUTOMOBILE



REAL ESTATE

SALE

Kawasaki Bajaj in tiptop condition for sale. Contact: 2555326

PURCHASE

Required a Marshal/Commandor / Boleo in good condition. Contact 2555763

SALE

Flats ready for possession before Rathayatra at Puri near Seabeach for sale. Contact : 986 1078308

Residential plots at Pahala close to NH-5 and near Pata Railway Station, Bhubaneswar for immediate sale. Contact : 0674-2556733

Residential plots at

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENT TARIFF

Classified advertisements are released daily. The normal classified advertisement is charged @ Rs. 5/- per word up to maximum number of 50 words. Any extra word will be Rs. 8/- per word. The minimum charges for any classified advertisement is Rs. 100/- . The options for bold lettering and outlining are also available and are charged @ 7/- and 10/- per word respectively. Extra charges for photographs Rs.100/- . For Box No. Rs. 100/-

HIRE

For hiring of Car / Jeep / Bus on monthly basis. Contact : 2555763



BUSINESS

Saving 10,000/- for high return, extra earn and Foreign trip opportunity, 9238904001. Independent business work from home, training in Singapore, 9338014287.



MATRIMONIAL

BRIDE WANTED

Wanted bride for Khandayat Boy, 37plus, Caste no bar, 0674-2555763

GROOM WANTED

Wanted Groom any service / business family for a Brahmin Girl. Contact 2555226

Gohira Chhak in front of CV Raman Engineering College beside NH-5, near Tamardo. Contact : 9238691168

PURCHASE

Simplex / Duplex building at BBSR contact : 9437002509

ACCOMMODATION WANTED

Required Single / Double / Triple Stored North/East facing building at Puri . Contact 9437143483



TOURS & TRAVELS

We provide luxury coach buses (16,25,32,41,52 seater) for Picnic, Excursion, Marriage. Maa Santoshi Travels, Contact : 9861079437 For Luxury Passenger vehicle, Contact : Sagacity Tours & Travels, Acharya Vihar, Bhubaneswar, Ph. 2540219

WANTED

Required Driver/Peon/ Attendant/ Aya

Please Contact-8984600400

ACCOMMODATION WANTED

Required double/Single/ Multi storied Bungalow type North or East Facing Independent building At-Nayapalli, Jayadev Vihar, V.S.S. Nagar, Mancheswar, Rasulgarh, Sallashree Vihar, Niladri Vihar.

Please Contact- 8338870595

This is when 'Ponniyin Selvan's' second part will release



The second part of Ponniyin Selvan is set to release on April 28, 2023, the makers announced on social media on Thursday, while sharing a small teaser of the film featuring its primary

characters. Ponniyin Selvan has been conceived as a duology, with the first part released in September. Directed by filmmaker Mani Ratnam, Ponniyin Selvan is adapted from Kalki's novel

by the same name. Backed by Madras Talkies and Lyca Productions, Ponniyin Selvan features an ensemble star cast including Jayam Ravi, Vikram, Karthi, Trisha, Aishwarya Rai,

Sarath Kumar, Prakash Raj, Aishwarya Lekshmi, Jayaram, among others. Ponniyin Selvan has music by AR Rahman, with cinematography by Ravi Varman. Sreekar

Prasad handles the editing. Like the first part, the sequel will also release in Tamil, Hindi, Telugu, Malayalam and Kannada. Ponniyin Selvan has been a long-standing dream by the Tamil

cinema, from MGR to Kamal Haasan attempting to materialise it. The first part opened to positive reception and became one of the commercially successful Tamil films in 2022.

Vijay Raghavendra, Dharma Keerthiraj and Sanchita Padukone team up for a romantic crime thriller



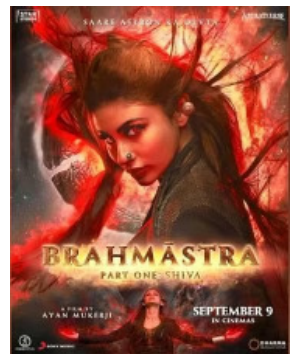
Director DG Umesh Gowda, noted for his films Navarangi and Halli Panchayati, is next helming a romantic crime thriller. Titled O Manase, the film stars Vijay Raghavendra, Dharma Keerthiraj and Sanchita Padukone as the leads. While Vijay Raghavendra plays the

role of a cop, the other two will be seen as college students. The film's shoot has already been completed, and the makers recently released its trailer. Vijay Raghavendra finds the story written by Ramesh Handrangi fascinating. "It's intriguing

how the story blends crime and love." O Manase, produced under the banner of Sri Friends Movie Makers, has cinematography by MR Seenu, and editing by Srinivas P Babu. The action-heavy film has stunts choreographed by Thriller Manju, Different Danny, and Bande Chandru.

2022 in Review: Hindi Cinema's Breakout Talents

It was a fascinating year for Hindi cinema and web series. While the old guard continued to stand tall, albeit, in spurts, it was the chance for the young brigade to find their place under the spotlight. And while all of them tried, here are some of the year's brightest talents from Hindi cinema and OTT who managed to leave a strong impression



Manish Paul (actor, Jugjugg Jeeyo) A popular TV host and comedian, Manish Paul has been doing bit parts in Hindi films for a while. His 2013 debut, Micky Virus, went largely unsung—something that is corrected by his extended comic turn in this year's Jugjugg Jeeyo. In a succession of blingy, outlandish outfits, Manish delivered

the laughs in this brassy family dramedy. His description of Anil Kapoor's resurgent libido—"ab papaji bare ho rahe hai"—is truly hilarious.

Jasmeet K Reen (director, Darlings) Jasmeet K. Reen's directorial debut Darlings is the only good Hindi film this year that is not all soft edges. The film, packaged as a noirish crime comedy, takes its time delineating the patterns of abuse. Jasmeet has a keen eye for casting and production design. It will be interesting to see what she does next—maybe helm a sprawling hinterland web series with a women-led cast.

Achint Thakkar (composer, Monica, O My Darling) Vasan Bala's Monica, O My Darling is indubitably Soundtrack of the Year. Young composer Achint Thakkar—who also worked on Scam 1992 and Rocket Boys—offers an embarrassment of winners, from retro ear-worms like 'Bye Bye Adios' and 'Suno Jaane Jaan' to the sublime 'Farsh Pe Khade Khade'.

Bollywood music directors have been looking backwards for years. Few have displayed such originality and heart.

Faisal Malik (actor, Panchayat S2) In the first season of Panchayat, the gaily Faisal Malik, as 'up-pradhaan' Prahlad Pandey, is the banter buddy of Phulera regulars. By the end of season 2, Faisal, best known for his role as the portly cop in Gangs of Wasseypur - Part 2, brings an ominous stillness to the series' general frolic. You don't want to be there when the laughter stops.

Mouni Roy (actor, Brahmastra Part One: Shiva) Mouni Roy's impassioned performance as Junoon in Ayan Mukerji's superhero fantasy epic is exemplary. As the primary antagonist, she holds her own in face-offs with seasoned actors like Shah Rukh Khan and Amitabh Bachchan. She brings conviction to a part that revels in comic-book villainy. We hope her fiery red eyes make a reappearance in Part Two.

Nail Care in Winters



Shahnaz Husain

Do you have dry, cracked, splitting brittle fingernails during the winter months?

It's not just your skin that dries out during the winter months; your nails do too! As soon as there's even a hint of chill in the air, your nails start to chip and flake.

If you are experiencing slow nail growth, brittle nails, nail breakage, nail splitting, and other nail problems nowadays, winter is to blame here as well. People often take special care of their hair and skin during chilling weather, but forget to take care of their nails.

Nails are part of

the integumentary system (skin) of your body and they develop from the outer layer of your skin called the epidermis. The exact same cells that form the outer layer of your skin also form your nails. These cells harden more in your nails, but structurally they share many common features and needs.

Natural oils hold together the different layers of your nails, so cold and dry winter months and lots of hand washing with harsh soaps will dry out this natural "glue." It's very similar to the dry skin you experience during the winter months.

The same concept to fix dry skin can be used for dry nails, but different formulations are recommended because of the unique structural properties of your nails.

Here, are easy winter nail care tricks to make sure your

nails stay long and strong.

One easy to way counteract cold weather? With a nice warm pair of gloves.

Protect your nails by wearing a nice warm pair of rubber gloves for your washing chores. This is when you are gardening, house cleaning, washing dishes, or using harsh chemicals.

When you wear gloves, you protect your nails from getting dry and at the same time, keep dirt out of your nails. Massage a cream, oils, or ointments to dampen the skin around the nails after washing chores.

Doing so can protect your nails from breakage and help locking in moisture to help preserve the cuticle seal and strengthen the nail itself.

For dry hands and nails, massage almond oil on the hands and around the nails too, in order to soften the cuticles.



The cuticle (skin surrounding the nail) should be kept soft and smooth. Otherwise, it sticks to the nail and gets dragged as the nail grows. This causes the skin to get stretched and torn. The skin can even become infected if this happens. Daily massage is even more important during the dry winter season.

For moisturizing your nail, take 1 tablespoon of almond and castor oil, and mix a little hand cream in it. Massage the mixture into your hands. Follow up with

moisturizer and treat yourself to a weekly hand at-home treatment mask.

Never cut, push back, or try to get rid of cuticles altogether. In fact, the cuticle is the nail's natural protective seal. Moisturizing the cuticles with cream or oil helps protect and strengthen your nails helping stimulate nail growth, and bringing blood and nutrients to maintain healthy nails.

Cuticle oils will penetrate into the deeper layers of the skin and hydrate the

cuticle, skin, and nail area, and help in preventing breakage of the nails.

Once a week soak the nails in lukewarm water for a few minutes and afterwards apply the cream to the nails. Massage them, so that it helps to soften the skin and lock in the moisture by wearing cotton gloves for at least an hour. Then push the cuticles back gently using a cotton bud. Never use sharp instruments to clean under the nails.

For strong and healthy nails, include adequate protein and calcium in your diet.

Take skimmed milk, yoghurt, cottage cheese (paneer), fish eggs and sprouts. Follow a ten-day programme of taking gelatin. Dissolve one teaspoon of gelatin in a little boiling water. Cool the water and add it to fruit juice. Have this daily for ten days.

A weekly manicure keeps nails in good condition. For a home manicure, first, remove old nail varnish. To cut nails, use a nail clipper. Then shape them with an emery board. File in one direction only. Soak the hands in lukewarm water for 5 minutes after adding a few drops of shampoo. Use a soft brush to clean your nails.

If you have nails which break easily, avoid frosted nail polish. If there is any infection or pain, avoid filing the nails and using nail polish. Get medical attention first. Fungal infection of the nails is quite

common. Sometimes, the nails acquire a yellowish tinge, due to wearing nail polish constantly. Sun exposure and some pastel colours can leave a yellowish tinge. For protection, use clear, transparent nail polish as a top coat. UV-resistant top coats are also available. To protect the nails apply a transparent base coat first and then apply the colour of your choice.

To get rid of the yellowish tint on the nails, scrape the surface of the nail with the finest-grain side of an emery board so that the nail is not damaged. Then apply UV-resistant or clear polish for protection. The nails can also be "buffed" or rubbed with a piece of chamois leather.

The author is an international fame beauty expert and is called the herbal queen of India

RATH YATRA, PADYATRA AND HECTIC POLITICKING



M.R.LALU

Seriously responding to its electoral decline and addressing a generational desperation that it began to suffer from its earth-shattering debacles since 2014, the foot march of the Congress leader across India seems to have gained a noticeable momentum. The party wishes to turn this long march into an event, evidently an enabler to shake away its lethargic premonitions. And true to its core, it needs a genuine revamp that has become a dire necessity which nobody in the party would stop to focus on while its Himachal victory came as a sigh of relief. It has no choice left but to prove its mettle and significance which otherwise would reduce into an irretrievably hallucinatory political disorder. The intention is genuine and the modus operandi seems to attract attention. But the semantics of

nationalism framed by the opposite side appear to be delving deeper with a large number of India's electorate kneeling for it with admiration and acceptance. The irresistible popularity of the Prime Minister is a haunting reality that most of his opposition tries to brush aside with a weird disdain. Though the outcome is unpredictable, the rejuvenation process the Congress thought to materialise through the foot march has a legitimate justification.

Another yatra which began on 25 September 1990 from Somnath was of equal significance for the BJP as the Bharat Jodo Yatra is for the Congress. Lal Krishna Advani's Rath Yatra travelled three hundred kilometres a day with religious sentiments outpouring for a Ram temple in Ayodhya. From the Gandhian padyatra to Advani's Rath yatra to the Bharat Jodo Yatra of Rahul Gandhi, all the yatras had the leaders standing up for a particular cause and communicating with the country's populace on the ground. While Gandhi's revolt was against colonialism, Advani advocated for a cultural renaissance and Rahul Gandhi stood against

everything that Advani stood for. BJP's plan was to revive its electoral significance by raising the bar of acknowledgement of its ideology among the Indian voters, especially the Hindus. The momentum that the aggressive yatra could create and the electoral prospects that the BJP could grab in the next elections were evidently a proof of acceptance for the emergence of a Hindu nationalist sentiment. The subsequent elections took the country through a fractured mandate and a new regime of coalition politics became normal. Igniting its electoral rejuvenation, the BJP could maintain the thrust of its ideology all into the days of the Modi upsurge and the party's unprecedented electoral success in 2014 has become a milestone that its historians would profoundly narrate with elegant vocabulary.

Repercussions of the Rath Yatra remained for decades and the saffron emergence in Indian politics was not only weakening the Congress alone but the right-wing narratives which were amorphous once, turned out to be



potentially capable of bringing stormy paradigm shifts in politics in the Indian subcontinent. A large part of the country preferred to reject the political untouchability that the BJP suffered and went ahead with a seemingly quixotic ideological mission that the party put forth and that was the real turning point that the Indian political scenario witnessed almost aghast and with inexorable perplexity. To chase and defeat the nationalistic surge that the BJP under Modi began to systematically push the country into, became a herculean task for the deeply divided opposition. Desperation mounting to an alarming level is manifest when the political opposition in

India fails to stand with the government while the Chinese aggression sneaks across the country's borders.

Delinquency by the elected representatives in the parliament and outside on the Chinese aggression helps the internal rift to break open and China for all reasons would have the last laugh when it keeps its giant neighbour India on the edge. Unable to seek consensus on issues of national security, the democratic credentials of the largest democracy exposes its hypocritical intonation of patriotism. But disregarding the opposition parties' sentiments the ruling class would further fail to justify their stand. While an ideological mask is

what the foot march headed by Rahul Gandhi would conceal his real intentions with, the expected political implication is the revamp of his party. His emergence as an aggressively capable contender to Modi before 2024 is a hidden adage that the family and the party cadre must be chanting all through. But his making unsubstantiated remarks on the border faceoff with China would ultimately give the BJP the stick that it can flog the Congress throughout the coming elections. Irrespective of political differences the parties in the country should have come along the government sending stringent messages for the dragon. India's political elite often

fails to dismantle its blaming-and-shaming of the country for trifling dividends.

The celebrated objective of the Bharat Jodo Yatra is to symbolically unite the genuine emotion of Indianness beyond the boundaries of religion, region and the politics of hatred. At least for someone who believes in its narratives, the Congress is trying to say that the BJP's rule in the country since 2014 has destroyed India's essential oneness. Maybe this is a sheer desperation that the Congress has been forced to come up with. The question pops up with certain relevance is would Rahul Gandhi's yatra emerge as a platform for a grand alliance before India's 2024 elections. Trying to reinvent its leader's image by bypassing the media, the Congress' plan to hit the streets could have become a decent effort, but badmouthing the government and Narendra Modi on the Chinese aggression will be an unpopular move by the Congress and its Bharat Jodo campaign would expose its lack of clarity on national security. Certainly, the Congress appears to be desperately failing to demystify its nationalistic ethos. Advani's Rath Yatra

specifically intended to bring political prospects to his party through aggressively campaigning on a spiritual subject. Sporadically shifting its dogmas time and again, the BJP has left its spiritualised revolution with victory coming its way in Ayodhya and its patriotic impulses in the Modi regime is undoubtedly capable of accelerating its political fortunes further. That is the reason why the ordinary citizens of India are still not ready to take the opposition parties seriously when it comes to their lamentations on the Narendra Modi government's lethargy on the nation's security. If Rahul Gandhi fails to read the patriotic impulses that unite the Indian populace, baseless accusations on the prime minister on his sincerity on India's security would backfire the Congress once again as it did during the Balakot strike and his yatra would turn out to be a gimmick-a time-pass.

(Freelance Journalist/Author of "India @ 75-A Contemporary Approach") Meppurathu House Puthusserimala P.O Ranni Pathanamthitta District Kerala State

UP: Urban local body polls only after reservation to OBCs, says CM Yogi

LUCKNOW: The Urban Local Body polls seem to be heading for a delay in the state as, contrary to Allahabad High Court's Tuesday or-

issued on Tuesday, UP CM Yogi Adityanath said that the state would form a commission to ensure reservation to OBCs on the basis of

Upadhyaya and Justice Saurabh Lavania said until the "triple test/conditions" mandated by the Supreme Court was completed in all re-

state government's stand of moving to the Supreme Court if needed.

Minister Ashish Patel, the executive president of BJP ally Apna Dal (S), claimed that it would not be proper to hold civic polls without an OBC quota. "We (Apna Dal -S) are also studying the HC order and will not shy away from moving apex court if necessary to protect the rights of OBCs," said Patel.

ALSO READ | Electoral politics vs affirmative action: Quota test for BJP ahead of 2024 polls

In UP, BJP has been banking upon the support of non-Yadav OBCs to a large extent in the previous elections. In the 2022 assembly polls, around 64 per cent non-Yadav OBCs voted for the ruling party.

Following the High Court order, Samajwadi Party (SP) chief Akhilesh Yadav called the state government "anti-OBC reservation" and accused it of shed-

ding 'crocodile tears' on the issue.

Taking to Twitter, the SP chief said, "Today the BJP has snatched the right of reservation from OBCs, tomorrow it will also strip the SC/ ST of their right ensured to them by Baba Saheb Ambedkar."

SP national general secretary and party's Rajya Sabha member Prof Ram Gopal Yadav took to Twitter to raise questions over the Yogi government's intent to hold civic polls in the state. Ram Gopal Yadav accused the state government of not contesting the case properly in court. He called the court order allowing the civic polls without OBC reservation as 'unfortunate'.

Alleging it a plot of the Yogi government, the SP leader accused it of not presenting the facts in the court deliberately. "This is how the UP government has stripped 60 per cent population of the state of reservation," said the SP leader in his Twitter post.

Assassination bid on former Pakistan PM Imran Khan 'well-thought-out conspiracy', says JIT

LAHORE: The assassination bid on Pakistan's former prime minister Imran Khan during his long march to Islamabad last month was a "well-thought-out conspiracy," according to the Joint Investigation Team (JIT) probing the incident.

Khan, the chairman of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf, suffered bullet injuries in the right leg on November 3 when two gunmen fired a volley of bullets at him and others standing on a container-mounted truck in the Wazirabad area (some 150-km from Lahore), where he was leading the long march to press for snap polls. Briefing the media on the findings of the JIT headed by Lahore police chief Ghulam Mahmood Dogar, Punjab Home Minister Omar Sarfraz Cheema said on Monday that the gun attack on Khan was an "organised one and well-thought-out conspiracy."

He said the JIT investigation found that more than one attacker tried to assassinate 70-year-old Khan in the rally. Police had arrested the prime suspect, Muhammad Naveed, who has been in the JIT custody on physical remand till January 3 for interrogation. The minister said Naveed is a "trained assassin and he was present at the crime scene with his accomplices." He said Naveed also failed a polygraph test.

ALSO READ | The politics behind Imran blaming Pakistan govt and army for his shooting

Naveed had told police he wanted to kill Khan as music was played during Azan time during his long march/rally. Naveed's cousin Muhammad Waqas has also been in the JIT's custody till January 3 for a controversial social media post. Waqas on November 3 had tweeted "something big is going

to happen today in Imran Khan's rally".

Khan had blamed Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, Interior Minister Rana Sanaullah and Major General Faisal Naseer of ISI for hatching a plot to assassinate him.

The Punjab police had registered the FIR in connection with the assassination attempt on Khan but didn't mention the high-profile suspects including ISI's top man Khan held responsible for the attack.

Khan dismissed the FIR, saying without nominating Sharif, Sanaullah, and ISI Counter Intelligence Wing head Maj-Gen Faisal in the FIR it is a mere "piece of trash".

READ MORE | Focus Pakistan: PM Shehbaz, Imran Khan & priorities of new Army Chief

The Punjab police said they nabbed Naveed from the crime scene and he had confessed to his crime. Naveed in his confessional statement said that he wanted to kill Khan as music was played during Azan time during his long march.

Indirectly blaming the powerful military establishment, Khan had said: "I wonder if I, being former Prime Minister of Pakistan, can't get an FIR registered in connection with the attack on me and other PTI workers what will happen to the common man."

He claimed that Naveed is a trained shooter and there was another shooter who opened fire on him from another direction.

The JIT has so far recorded the statements of the policemen and PTI workers who were present close to Khan at the time of attack on him.

Khan is recovering from his wounds and currently residing at his Lahore's Zaman Park residence.



der, the Yogi Adityanath government is contemplating going for the elections only after fixing quota for OBCs through a triple test process in the civic bodies.

Reacting to the order passed by the Lucknow Bench of the Allahabad High Court allowing Urban Local Body elections in the state without OBC reservation in civic bodies, the Uttar Pradesh government said that it would not go for the polls without fixing quota for OBCs.

In a press statement

a "triple test" process and that the Local Body elections would be conducted only after providing reservations to OBCs.

CM Yogi said the authorities were going through the High Court order in detail and the state government would consider all the legal aspects associated with it. The state government would move the Supreme Court, if necessary, said the UP CM.

Earlier in the day, in an order, a Division Bench of Justice Devendra Kumar

spects by the state government, no reservation for the Backward Class of citizens should be provided.

UP Deputy CM Keshav Maurya said that the decision over Urban Local Body polls would be taken only after consulting the legal experts in connection with the High Court order. "However, there would be no compromise over the rights of OBCs," said Maurya.

State Urban Development Minister AK Sharma also made similar claims and reiterated the

COVID-19 vigil: Mock drills held in hospitals across country to check readiness

NEW DELHI: Many hospitals across the country held mock drills on Tuesday to check the preparedness of health facilities to deal with any spurt in COVID-19 cases, with Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya saying it was important to gauge the operational readiness of equipment and human resources.

Mandaviya oversaw the drill at the Centre-run Safdarjung Hospital here, while health ministers reviewed the drill in their respective states.

The Centre has asked states and union territories to conduct the drill as part of precautionary measures following an increase in infection in China and other countries.

Officials said the mock drill focused on parameters such as the availability of health facilities in all districts, the capacity of isolation beds, oxygen-supported beds, ICU beds and ventilator-supported beds, and optimal availability of doctors, nurses, paramedics, AYUSH doctors, and other frontline workers, including ASHA and Anganwadi workers. Mandaviya said the drill was necessary to know how prepared our hospitals are.

Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya speaks with a doctor during a mock drill for COVID-19 preparedness, at Safdarjung hospital in New Delhi, Tuesday, Dec. 27, 2022. (Photo | Shekhar Yadav, EPS)

"Covid cases are rising all over the world and India might witness a spike in cases too. Hence it is important that the entire Covid infrastructure in terms of equipment, processes and human resources are in a state of operational readiness," he stated.

Clinical readiness at hospitals is crucial, Mandaviya said while noting that government, as well as private hospitals, are undertaking mock drills. Cautioning against complacency, he urged everyone to follow Covid Appropriate Behaviour.

He also asked people to refrain from sharing unverified information and ensure a high level of preparedness.

ALSO READ | Don't expect surge in Covid cases at the moment: India's top virologist

A Ventilator is being set up as part of the Mock drill conducted at MN Aread Hospital in Malakpet, Hyderabad on Tuesday, Dec. 27, 2022. (Photo | Vinay Madapu, EPS)

India recorded a single-day rise of 157 new COVID-19 cases, while the count of active cases of the disease has marginally decreased to 3,421, according to Union Health Ministry data updated on Tuesday.

In the national capital, the drill took place at the LNJP Hospital and other government-run facilities. Some of the private hospitals are expected to take up the exercise later in the day.

Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia, who also

holds the health portfolio, visited the Delhi government-run Lok Nayak Jai Prakash Narayan (LNJP) Hospital around noon to assess the drill.

"The Delhi government is prepared for any kind of emergency. At LNJP, there are 2,000 beds and 450 of them are marked for COVID-19. If a need arises, we can dedicate all 2,000 beds for COVID-19... we can also increase this number by using nearby banquet halls and add an additional 500 beds for COVID-19, so there would be no shortage," Sisodia told reporters at the hospital.

The deputy chief minister asked people not to panic, saying primary data suggests that the new BF.7 sub-strain of the coronavirus, which is causing a surge in infections in other countries, is similar to previous variants.



"Compared to previous times, oxygen availability has increased 10 times, five PSA plants have been set up here. And ventilators are also present. Today, a mock drill was conducted, how patients can be attended to and shifted to desired location within five minutes was observed," he added. An official said COVID-19 testing in the city is also likely to be ramped up soon.

COVID mock drill conducted at the KAPV medical College in Tiruchy, on Tuesday, Dec. 27, 2022. (Photo | M K Ashok Kumar, EPS)

At present, around 2,500 to 3,000 tests are being conducted daily in the city. Delhi has recorded over 2,007,000 Covid cases and 26,521 deaths since the pandemic started in early 2020.

The number of daily cases has remained below 20 and the positivity rate below one per cent since mid-November, according to official data.

Dr B L Sherwal, the Medical Superintendent of the Safdarjung Hospital, said, "All symptomatic patients shall be screened, assessed and tested right

there in the Covid centre. The report shall be made available within one to two hours following which the decision on admission or discharge shall be taken. Till that time the patient can be monitored. All beds have oxygen facilities."

Four international travellers from Myanmar, who tested positive for Covid at the Delhi airport, are admitted to the Safdarjung Hospital and their samples have been sent for genome sequencing "They were asymptomatic. They will be discharged once they test negative," Dr Sherwal informed.

ALSO READ | COVID-19 scare: Demand for booster vaccination rises

In Uttar Pradesh, Deputy Chief Minister Brajesh Pathak visited a hospital in Lucknow to ascertain its preparedness to deal with any eventuality.

Uttar Pradesh recorded two COVID-19 cases in Unnao and Agra districts among persons who had recently returned from abroad. "A mock drill is being conducted across all Covid hospitals in the state to check their preparedness. I personally checked the Covid management (facilities), oxygen flow and ventilators at Lucknow's Balrampur Hospital. Everything is working fine. A mock drill is being conducted for medical, paramedical and nursing staff on how to function in case of an emergency," Pathak, who is also the state's health minister, told reporters.

A COVID-19 swab sample test being conducted as part of a mock drill held at the Coimbatore Medical College and Hospital on Tuesday. (Photo | S Senbagapandiyam, EPS)

At least one senior officer, MLA or minister is present at the drills in hospitals across the state.

COVID-19 is there in other countries but there is no scare in Uttar Pradesh at this point, Pathak said. In Mumbai, medical facilities including the civic-

run Seven Hills Hospital (having 1,700 beds) and Kasturba Hospital (35 beds), government-run Cama Hospital (100 beds), St George Hospital (70 beds), Tata Hospital (16 beds), and Jagjivan Ram Hospital (12 beds) conducted the mock drill.

The state-run JJ Hospital said it will be conducting the mock drill.

To diagnose and track COVID-19 cases, the city has a daily testing capacity of 1,35,035 at 34 hospitals and 49 laboratories, according to the release. Madhya Pradesh saw such drills being conducted in all government medical institutions in the state.

State Medical Education Minister Vishvas Sarang said the COVID-19 situation in Madhya Pradesh was under control and not a single positive case was reported from the state in the recent past.

"We are ready to deal with any situation. The drill was conducted to check the preparedness of oxygen generation, Intensive Care Unit, Paediatric Intensive Care Unit, oxygen supported beds, medicines," Sarang said while appealing to all to follow COVID-19 appropriate behaviour.

As of Monday evening, active COVID-19 cases in Madhya Pradesh stood at four and there was no report of any new positive case from the state, officials said.

ALSO READ | New guidelines: Ensure oxygen supply, RT-PCR mandatory for passengers

Beds and necessary medical equipment were kept ready for patients as part of the mock drill at the Rajiv Gandhi government general hospital, in Chennai on Tuesday, Dec 27, 2022. (Photo | R.Satish babu, EPS)

Officials in West Bengal said the mock drill was conducted at Kolkata-based hospitals including MR Bangur Hospital, Infectious Diseases and Belegata General Hospital, Medical College Hospital Kolkata, RG Kar Medical College and Shambhunath Pandit Hospital besides Dr BC Roy Post Graduate Institute of Paediatric Sciences.

All private hospitals in the city and one hospital each in the districts are also taking part in the drill, the official added.

"We are ready to face any situation in case there is any surge in COVID-19 cases. It's an exercise to keep a check on our preparedness. At the moment, the COVID-19 contagion is totally under control and there is no reason to panic. The state has enough testing facilities and we are ready to face any situation," Director of Health Services (DHS) Siddhartha Niyogi told.

Karnataka Health Minister K Sudhakar said Covid response mock drills are in place in all districts and talukas across the state He said the BF.7 variant of COVID-19 is transmissible with low virulence, but emphasised that senior citizens, children and pregnant women must remain cautious.

1509 CR for Agriculture

Bhubaneswar: For the development of agriculture, the State Cabinet on Tuesday approved two schemes under which the Government will spend Rs 1509.43 crore to boost agriculture activities in the State.

The Cabinet has approved for provision of Rs.1142.24 crore for four years from 2022-23 to 2025-26 for implementation of the State Sector Scheme-Development of Potato, Vegetable and Spices with the involvement of women SHGs and Farmer Producer Organization (FPOs), Chief Secretary SC Mahapatra.

The scheme is introduced with the objective to provide financial assistance to the farmers for the cultivation of potato, onions, hybrid vegetables, and spices in order to make the state self-sufficient in the production of five vegetables (potato, onion, tomato, cauliflower & cabbage) along with an increase in area and production under spices, he said.



It will provide ample scope for employment generation in rural areas and augmentation of the income of the farmers. The present dependency of the state on other States for vegetables like potatoes, onions, and seed spices will be brought down and the state will be self-sufficient, he said.

Similarly, the State Government has approved Rs. 367.19 crores for five years from 2022-23 to 2026-27 for implementation of another State Sector Scheme-Empowerment of Women in Agriculture-Promotion of Entrepreneurship for Women SHG.

Mr.Mahapatra said this scheme will ensure sustainable income generation of women beneficiaries/WSHGs & the state shall emerge as the net exporter of mushroom & high value flowers over the mission period.

Similarly, the Cabinet has approved the proposal of extension of State Government grant-in-aid to eligible employees of new-Aided non-Government High Schools, Upper Primary (ME) Schools and Madrasas on the basis of Odisha Revised Scale of Pay Rules,

If Congress doesn't save democracy, Modi, BJP will take country towards dictatorship: Kharge

MUMBAI: Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge on Wednesday claimed that if the



party workers did not save the democracy and Constitution, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the BJP and RSS will take the country "on the path of dictatorship."

Kharge was speaking at a public meeting here to mark the 138th foundation day of the Congress.

The Congress was born in Mumbai, he noted, adding that if the party workers did not remain strong and united, free debates and expression of views will cease in the country. Congress workers should expose the falsehoods peddled by the Bharatiya Janata Party, he said, adding, "It is the duty of each and ev-

ery Congressman to preserve our democracy and Constitution."

"If we do not do that, the BJP, RSS and prime minister Modi will destroy the country and take it on the path of dictatorship," Kharge added.

Kharge attacks govt, says society being divided by hate

Food security, the white revolution and green revolution were the Congress's legacy, and yet the BJP questions what it did in 70 years, he said.

"The Congress protected and preserved the Constitution, which is why Modi is PM today," he said.

The present Maharashtra government came to power through "theft" as MLAs were stolen and "put in a washing machine," Kharge said.

The BJP chooses leaders from the freedom movement selectively with an eye on votes, he alleged. "I want to ask the BJP if they had the photos of Gandhi, Patel, Netaji Bose, Ambedkar ten years ago," he said.

The Bharat Jodo Yatra has energised the Congress, he said, while asking whether the government was using the excuse of COVID-19 to stop it.

Another tender worth Rs 357.92 crore has been approved by the Cabinet for execution of mega piped water supply projects to provide safe drinking water in Angul district out of JJM funding. By execution of the project, around 2,32,189 people of 277 villages under 48 GPs of 2 Blocks of the District will be benefited. The work is targeted for completion within a period of two years.

The Cabinet has approved the tender of Rs.344.67 crore and Operation & Maintenance cost for five years amounting to Rs.3.42 crore for Construction of in stream structure across river Mahanadi at Choudhury Gada in Jagatsinghpur district and across river Paika at Tikhiri in Kendrapara district. The work is planned to be completed in 36 months.

The Cabinet has approved the tender of Rs.220.67 crore in favour of Rourkela Steel Plant (SAIL) towards water dues. As the RSP has constructed Mandira Dam on its own cost, the Government has decided to waive off the interest on the principal water dues.

The Cabinet has approved the principles for One Time Settlement (OTS) of arrear water rate dues of all stakeholders on the recommendations of a High Power Committee (HPC).

Fourteen industrial, commercial and other establishments had filed 21 cases in the High Court challenging the State Government's order to pay water dues.

Arrear water rate on 21 industries has been locked-up over decades due to pending court cases. Besides these 21 industries, 645 industries also have arrear water rates pending with them. Non-realization of such arrears has tremendous effect on the State exchequer. On one time settlement, the State would realize Rs.1219 crores approximately, he informed. The State Cabinet has also approved the

Environment Award to Prof. Panigrahi

Bhubaneswar(KCN)The secretary of Orissa Environmental Society, Dr. Jayakrushna



Panigrahi has been bestowed with Prof. Manmohan Mohanty Environment Award by the leading cultural organization, Nimapara Sahitya Sansad. In the inaugural session of its 9th annual national literary festival, the Sansad has felicitated some experts in the fields of literature, social service, environment and

sculpting for their admirable contributions. The former Professor and HoD of Geology, Utkal University, Dr. Mohanty was a well-known environmentalist who was involved in many conservation initiatives and was a role model for the youth. The recipient of the award instituted in his memory, Dr. Panigrahi has been working for the protection and conservation of the environment, and awareness generation among the public regarding this for the last three decades. For providing information on diverse environmental issues and enhancing people's commitment, he has been playing his role being associated with the print and electronic media. As a member of some committees of the Forest, Environment and Climate Change Department, he has also been making his contributions.

Israel spy agency warns of deeper Iran-Russia arms ties

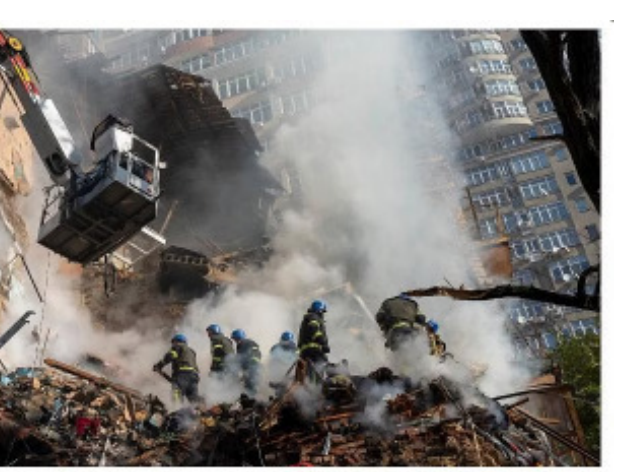
JERUSALEM: Iran is seeking to expand the supply of advanced weapons to Russia, the head of Israel's Mossad spy agency said Thursday, according to local media.

The warning from David Barnea comes after the United States earlier this month expressed alarm over a "full-scale defence partnership" between Tehran and Moscow, which invaded Ukraine last February.

Tehran in November admitted it had sent drones to Russia, but insisted they were supplied before the invasion.

"We warn against Iran's future intentions, which they are trying to keep secret, to deepen and expand the supply of advanced weapons to Russia, to expand the uranium enrichment project and to intensify their attacks against friendly Muslim countries in the region," Barnea was quoted as saying during a ceremony for the Jewish Hanukkah holiday. In late October, Israeli President Isaac

Vassily Nebenzia responded at the Security Council that Russia's military-industrial complex



Ukraine, Britain's Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office said. Iran's foreign minis-

try on Sunday said in a statement it would not "seek permission from anyone" to expand relations with Russia. "Cooperation between Iran and Russia in various fields including defence is expanding within the framework of common interests... and is not against any third country," foreign ministry spokesman Nasser Kanani said. Iran and Israel have for years engaged in a shadow war. Israel accuses Iran of seeking to acquire a nuclear weapon, which Tehran denies.

Civil aviation witnessing recovery, domestic passenger growth to continue: Union Minister Scindia

NEW DELHI: The country's civil aviation sector is witnessing a very strong V-shaped recovery with encouraging domestic passenger numbers, and the growth will continue in the coming years, Union Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia said on Wednesday.

After being significantly hit by the coronavirus pandemic, the sector is on the recovery path and the daily domestic air passenger traffic has been above the 4-lakh mark for the past few weeks.

Against the backdrop of congestion at airports that have now eased, the civil aviation minister also said efforts have been made to ensure that airport operators put in place steps that will allow the decongestion of airports.

In an interview with PTI, Scindia said the domestic passenger numbers are very encouraging and already, the number is around 111 million till November this year.

"I believe that the civil aviation sector has rebounded and what we in economic parlance say V-shaped recovery. A very strong V-shaped recovery. I do believe that (with the) value proposition that airlines and airports offer our customers, we are seeing greater participation and a greater desire to travel by air which is why we are looking at these very high numbers. I am very confident that this growth in India will continue in the years to come," he said.

On Tuesday, the number of departing domestic air

passengers stood at 4,15,426 while the number of departing domestic flights was at 2,883, as per the latest data from the civil aviation ministry.

"Though there is a great amount of jubilation at crossing the pre-Covid 2019 number of roughly 4.15 lakh passengers per day consecutively in the last two weeks and at 4.35 lakh on December 24, I would lay more emphasis on the fact that if you look at the numbers throughout the year, in 2019, we were close at around 144 million passengers (domestic)."

"On a pro-rata basis till November, we were looking at around 95 million...today, at the end of November, we are already at 111 million, so we are up 15 per cent from that number on a consecutive basis till November," he said.

About the current coronavirus situation worldwide and its shadow on the civil aviation sector, Scindia said Covid is always a concern.

"The very fact that we have very high Covid numbers across the world today from China to South Korea to Japan to European countries, it is certainly a concern." "We have to be careful, which is why we have put in place what the health ministry requested us and mandated us for 2 per cent screening of all passengers coming into India. Fortunately, we are not seeing that high positivity numbers at least currently...I think we need to still wait and watch the situation," he said.

World economy faces more pain in 2023 after a gloomy year

PARIS: This was supposed to be the comeback year for the world economy following the Covid pandemic. Instead, 2022 was marked by a new war, record inflation and climate-linked disasters. It was a "polycrisis" year, a term popularised by historian Adam Tooze.

Get ready for more gloom in 2023.

"The number of crises has increased since the



start of the century," said Roel Beetsma, professor of macroeconomics at the University of Amsterdam.

"Since World War Two we have never seen such a complicated situation," he told AFP. After the Covid-induced economic crisis of 2020, consumer prices began to rise in 2021 as countries emerged from lockdowns and other restrictions.

Satyajit Das Column: Global reckoning is unavoidable; we will now have to sit down to a banquet of consequences

Central bankers insisted that high inflation would only be temporary as economies returned to normal. But Russia's invasion of Ukraine in late February sent energy and food prices soaring.

Many countries are now grappling with cost-of-living crises because wages are not keeping up with inflation, forcing households to make difficult choices in their spending. Central banks have played catch-up. They started to raise interest rates this year in an effort to tame galloping inflation -- at the risk of tipping countries into deep recessions, since higher borrowing costs mean slower economic activity.

Inflation has finally started to slow down in the United States and the eurozone.

Careful spending

Consumer prices in the Group of 20 developed and emerging nations are expected to reach eight percent in the fourth quarter before falling to 5.5 percent next year, according to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.

The OECD encourages governments to provide aid to bring relief to households.

In the 27-nation European Union, 674 billion euros (\$704 billion) have been earmarked so far to shield consumers from high energy prices, according to the Bruegel think tank.

Germany, Europe's biggest economy and the most dependent on Russia energy supplies, accounts for 264 billion euros of that total. One in two Germans say they now only spend on essential items, according to a survey by EY consultancy.

Rising interest rates have also hurt consumers and businesses. Both the US Federal Reserve and European Central Bank began to slow the pace of their rate hikes in December, but signalled they still need to go higher to get a grip on inflation. Economists expect Germany and another major eurozone economy, Italy, to fall into recession. Britain's economy is already shrinking. Rating agency S&P

Global foresees stagnation for the eurozone in 2023.

But the International Monetary Fund still expects the world economy to expand in 2023, with growth of 2.7 percent. The OECD is forecasting 2.2-percent growth.

End of Empire – 1: World of divides and why India may adapt to a more closed economy better

The easing of Covid curbs in China is raising hopes for the revival of the world's second-biggest economy and major driver of global growth.

The curbs had torpedoed China's economy and sparked nationwide protests.

China signalled this week that it was reopening to the world as it announced that it would end quarantines for overseas arrivals from January 8.

Climate costs But for Beetsma, the biggest crisis is climate change, which is "happening in slow motion".

Natural and man-made catastrophes have caused \$268 billion in economic losses so far in 2022, according to reinsurance giant Swiss Re. Hurricane Ian alone cost an estimated insured loss of \$50-65 billion.

Floods in Pakistan resulted in \$30 billion in damage and economic loss this year.

Governments agreed at United Nations climate talks (COP27) in Egypt in November to create a fund to cover the losses suffered by vulnerable developing countries devastated by natural disasters.

But the COP27 summit ended without new commitments to phase out the use of fossil fuels, despite the need to cut greenhouse gas emissions and slow global warming.

"It is not an acute crisis but a very long-term crisis, protracted," Beetsma said.

"If we don't do enough, this will hit us in unprecedented scale."

Do disinvestment plans need a reset?

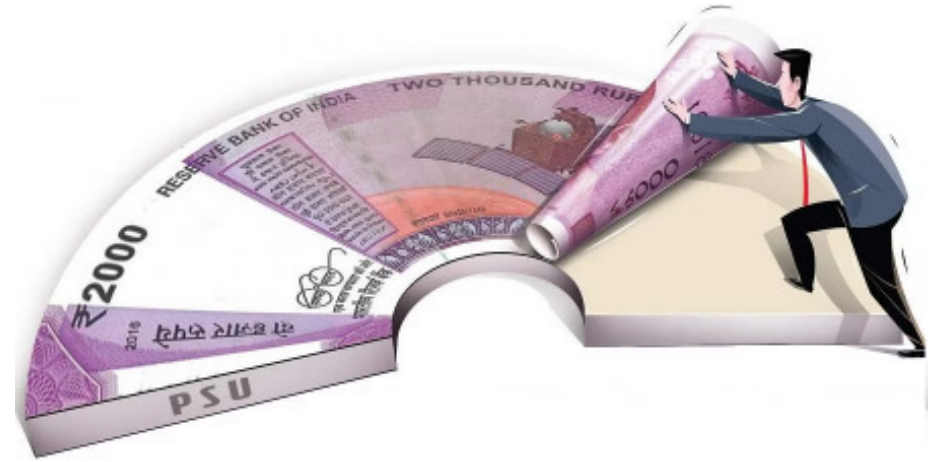
NEW DELHI: It was touted as a game changer but big-ticket privatisation has been a mixed bag as the government faces unanticipated challenges of lukewarm investor response, employee union agitation and legal hurdles. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's often-repeated statement 'the government has no business to be in business' guided the drawing up of an ambitious privatisation pipeline.

transactions, the government needs to set realistic disinvestment targets in budgets, sources said.

The biggest test in 2023 would be the strategic sale of IDBI Bank where the government and LIC together are selling about 61 per cent stake, out of the current holding of 95 per cent.

The sale would fetch around Rs 30,000 crore to the exchequer at the current market price.

Next year, one of the challenges before the government would be to go ahead with the strategic sale of Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd (RINL) or Vizag Steel, where the privatisation move is being



While Air India sale succeeded, Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd (BPCL) divestment failed.

Tata Group acquired debt-ridden Air India last year but the government had to call off two transactions -- BPCL and SAIL's Bhadravati Steel Plant --- due to lack of buyer interest, and terminated the strategic sale of Central Electronics Ltd (CEL) as the successful bidder was disqualified for non-disclosure of pending legal cases.

The sale of Pawan Hans too is in limbo as the successful bidder has a pending NCLT case against it.

The government in the current fiscal (April-December) has raised about Rs 31,100 crore from CPSE (Central Public Sector Enterprise) disinvestments as against the full-year budget target of Rs 65,000 crore.

In the last four years, the government has missed the disinvestment target set in the budget by a wide margin.

More than half of the proceeds raised so far from disinvestment came from the Initial Public Offering (IPO) of Life Insurance Corporation (LIC).

The government sold a 3.5 per cent stake at Rs 949 per share, helping the government raise Rs 21,000 crore. The scrip, however, got listed at Rs 872.

Since the listing, LIC share price has remained lower than the IPO issue price and is currently trading at around Rs 659 apiece. Considering the fact that there is little scope for further minority stake sales in bluechip PSUs (Public Sector Undertakings) and the problems in executing strategic sale

vehemently opposed by employee unions.

Although the government has been narrating the turnaround success story of NINL, which was bought by Tata Steel Long Products for Rs 12,100 crore earlier this year, RINL privatisation still remains a challenge as employees demand it be given to a PSU company.

The sources said that in case the government fails to privatise RINL, it may have to be closed down in a couple of years because of mounting losses.

In 2023, the government is likely to conclude the strategic sales of Shipping Corporation, Concor, BEML, NMDC Steel and HLL Lifecare.

The major ones like SCI, Concor and BEML are in the process of demerging their non-core businesses following which financial bids would be invited from interested buyers. Deloitte India Partner & Leader - Government & Public Services Arindam Guha said investor interest is primarily dependent on specific factors like ring-fencing of the CPSEs' existing liabilities, its attractiveness in terms of sector of operation, existing customer base/ assets/ facilities, pass through mechanism for any rights from the administrative ministry if applicable.

"Transaction structure plays a key role in determining the time frame. For example, any merger or demerger requires approval from multiple authorities, thereby requiring significant time whereas an asset or business sale may take lesser time. It is therefore important to opt for a structure which minimises time for the sale," Guha said.

Auto LPG can play a role in India's fuel mix, energy security

NEW DELHI: With natural gas prices surging globally and supply chain concerns plaguing the EV rollout pace, Auto LPG can play a role in India's transition to a low carbon economy and fit in the fuel mix, industry body IAC said Wednesday.

With India poised to become a USD 5 trillion economy in the coming years, energy or fuel security has assumed greater importance. Auto LPG is the third most widely used transport fuel in the world after petrol and diesel.

It has zero global warming potential,

while over 60 per cent of electricity in India still comes from coal.

In a statement, IAC said the government has taken a number of measures, including diversifying the energy basket and promoting alternatives, but the focus is more on pushing an EV-driven mobility system to move away from carbon-based petrol and diesel and achieving a cleaner environment.

"But, now that a full-fledged war has been underway involving a key global energy producer and exporter on top of already prevailing

pandemic-induced global energy supply



disruptions, energy security has become an even more dire and pressing issue. In this backdrop, should the government not consider other

alternative fuel options for mobility,

such as auto LPG, in tandem with its pronounced focus on EVs?" it said. Pursuit of an auto LPG-based mobility system

simultaneously with the EV push would

help in achieving clean mobility as well as the larger energy security objective, it said. "Not acknowledging other alternative fuel

options such as Auto LPG, which could

have possibly furthered the cause of clean mobility even more effectively, is concerning," said Suyash Gupta,

Director General, Indian Auto LPG Coalition (IAC).

He said well-to-wheel emissions from LPG are far less than those from electricity. "To expect EV vehicles to create that clean mobility impact in the immediate term is not the case. In fact, with the larger global energy landscape having been redrawn in the last decade on account of the US transitioning from one of the largest energy importers to a net energy exporter, the supply-related concerns on LPG have all but vanished," he said. He said the landmark

Ujjwala scheme aimed at providing cooking gas LPG to poor households in the remotest corners of the country has been a huge success. "In order to implement this programme, several import terminals have been set up on both the eastern and the western coast of the country and thousands of kilometres of pipelines had anyways been laid in order to facilitate country-wide distribution of LPG. Now that Ujjwala has achieved nearly 100 per cent coverage, this new infrastructure could be put to good use for auto LPG distribution and sale network," he added.

Dhawan dropped from ODI squad for Sri Lanka series

New Delhi: Shikhar Dhawan has been dropped from the ODI squad for the upcoming series against Sri Lanka, the BCCI confirmed on Tuesday (December 27) while announcing the two white-ball squads. Dhawan has been battling poor form in the ODI format this year. His average of 34.40 and strike rate of 74.21 in 2022 is the lowest he has registered ever since his comeback in 2013. The recent performances of Shubman Gill and Ishan Kishan also proved to be a decisive factor. While Gill has averaged over 70 with a strike rate of 102.57 in 2022, Kishan recently became

just the fourth Indian batter to smash a double ton in ODI cricket. The call to drop the veteran has now thrown his future in international cricket into doubt given he turned 37 earlier this month.

Meanwhile, the selectors have also omitted Rishabh Pant from both the squads. The wicketkeeper-batter didn't feature in the ODIs in Bangladesh as well. Hardik Pandya will lead India again in the shortest format after being named skipper for the series in New Zealand immediately after the T20 World Cup. The allrounder makes a return to the ODI squad



as well and has also been elevated as the vice-captain in the format despite KL Rahul's presence in the squad. Middle-order batter Suryakumar Yadav will be Hardik's deputy in the T20I setup.

Rahul, alongside Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli, will not feature in the T20Is but the trio will return for the ODI matches. The selectors have also included uncapped pacers Shivam Mavi and Mukesh Kumar in the squad for the three-match T20I series. Bhuvneshwar Kumar and Mohammad Siraj, who were a part of the squad in New Zealand, have made way

for the uncapped duo. Kuldeep Yadav has lost his spot in the T20I squad but has been picked for the ODIs.

Ruturaj Gaikwad and Rahul Tripathi return to the T20I squad in place of Shreyas Iyer and Pant. Now that Dhawan is left out, Gill has returned to the 50-over set-up after being ignored for the Bangladesh series. Allrounder Ravindra Jadeja doesn't feature in both the squads as he continues his recovery. The series kickstarts on January 3 in Mumbai. The ODIs will be played on January 10, 12 and 15. T20I squad: Hardik Pandya (C), Ishan Kishan (wk), Ruturaj

Gaikwad, Shubman Gill, Suryakumar Yadav (VC), Deepak Hooda, Rahul Tripathi, Sanju Samson, Washington Sundar, Yuzvendra Chahal, Axar Patel, Arshdeep Singh, Harshal Patel, Umran Malik, Shivam Mavi, Mukesh Kumar.

ODI squad: Rohit Sharma (C), Shubman Gill, Virat Kohli, Suryakumar Yadav, Shreyas Iyer, KL Rahul (wk), Ishan Kishan (wk), Hardik Pandya (VC), Washington Sundar, Yuzvendra Chahal, Kuldeep Yadav, Axar Patel, Mohd. Shami, Mohd. Siraj, Umran Malik, Arshdeep Singh.

Fractured finger rules Cameron Green out of Sydney Test



Sydney: Cameron Green will miss the New Year's Test in Sydney against South Africa, Cricket Australia have confirmed. Scans revealed that the all-rounder has a small fracture to the index finger on his right hand. He will not bowl in the remainder of the ongoing

Boxing Day Test but will be available to bat. The 23-year-old Green was struck on the finger by an Anrich Nortje delivery late in the second day's play in Melbourne on Tuesday (December 27). He was tended to by the team doctor and subsequently retired hurt, the second

player to walk off on the day after double-centurion David Warner, who suffered a bout of cramps. Green's unavailability with the ball complicates Australia's victory push in Melbourne despite their dominant position in the game. The hosts already have Mitchell

Starc nursing his fingers after injuring them while fielding on the opening day of the Test. Incidentally, it was because of Starc's injury that Green got an extended bowl and wound up with his first Test match five-wicket haul.

The all-rounder will now don the whites next on the marquee away series against India, leaving Australia with a selection decision to make for the New Year's Test. They could go shift the balance one way or the other by picking an extra batter or a bowler. Alternatively, they could even call up Western Australian all-rounder Aaron Hardie, who turned heads with a superb 174* in last season's Sheffield Shield Final and put in excellent performances for the 'A' side on the winter tour of Sri Lanka.

Cristiano Ronaldo-less Manchester United beat Nottingham Forest, but team want striker to replace Portugal star

New Delhi: As Erik ten Hag confirmed Manchester United's ongoing search for a new striker, his existing ones made up for Cristiano Ronaldo's departure in a 3-0 win against Nottingham Forest on Tuesday (December 27). Marcus Rashford and Anthony Martial struck first-half goals in the game at Old Trafford as United moved to within a point of fourth-place Tottenham. However, if United's manager is to guide his team to a top-four finish in his first season at the club, he is likely to need more firepower to cover the exit of Ronaldo, who had his contract terminated last month. Substitute Fred completed the scoring in the 87th minute — but Ten Hag was frustrated by a host of missed opportunities.




"We have to score more goals," he said. "We created so many chances and it takes us just before the end to score the third goal. We need to take this moment earlier." Rashford struck his 10th goal of the season and Martial scored his fifth in only five starts to highlight their potential as a partnership. But Ronaldo's exit following his explosive interview with Piers Morgan has left Ten Hag with limited options in attack. United was linked with


a move for Netherlands international Cody Gakpo, who was one of the standout performers at the World Cup. However, PSV Eindhoven announced it had agreed to sell the forward to United's top-four rival Liverpool. "I don't talk about individual cases. We are looking for offensive players, we are looking for a striker," Ten Hag said. "It would be good because of all the games coming, we are playing every third day and it is tough. I think we are always in the market, but it has to

match the sporting criteria, but also the financial criteria. We do what we can to bring in any player we can."

United's attempts to bring in a top quality forward in January could be hindered by the potential sale of the club after owners, the Glazers, confirmed their willingness to consider giving up control. It is possible Ten Hag could have to explore a loan move to help bolster his forward line. "For the progress of the team we need to be more clinical, our players can score, you can see that," he said. "Martial is a goalscorer, Rashford is a goalscorer, Bruno (Fernandes) will score goals. We have a lot of players who can score goals but we have got to be ruthless."



2023-2024



ADMISSION OPEN

Maharishi Public School, Baripada

STD-NURSERY TO VIII

ENROLL YOUR CHILD TODAY

(Special discount for new admission before 15.03.2023)

- Find the Difference
- Small Classes
- Experienced, trained & loving teachers.
- Individual attention to each child.
- Regular meditation and yoga.
- Unique exam system, evaluation & Principles etc.

25% reservation as per RTE Act (2009)

MAHARISHI PUBLIC SCHOOL

Baghra Road, Baripada

For details

Contact :

Call-9438102188, 06792-255227

Time : 8.00 A.M. to 12.00 noon

E-mail- mps.bpd@gmail.com

Find us on

Facebook.com/Mps, Baripada