

## SUM Conducts Rare Brain Surgery

Bhubaneswar(KCN): In a rare case, claimed to be the first in India and seventh in the world, doctors

Epilepsy recently. The patient, Anil Mahanandia (28) from Jharsuguda, who was suffering

pital in Odisha to conduct Bone Marrow transplantation and live donor liver transplantation.

neurosurgeon, told newsmen. IMS and SUM Hospital, which has been registering footfalls



at the Institute of Medical Sciences and SUM Hospital, faculty of medicine of Siksha 'O' Anusandhan (SOA) here, have successfully conducted an extremely complicated case of Brainstem Cavernoma and Myoclonic

from the serious illness for the last 22 years, has recovered well after the surgery and discharged from the hospital on Friday. This has added a new feather to IMS and SUM Hospital's cap which has already become the first hos-

"This is a rare disease and we have conducted this rare surgery on the patient successfully. If the surgery was not done, it could have led to brain haemorrhage," Prof. (Dr.) Ashok Kumar Mahapatra, Vice-Chancellor of SOA and eminent

of 3500 to 4000 patients daily, has been providing rare medical treatment to address a variety of rare ailments, he said adding patients who had lost all hope of a cure were getting their ailment treated successfully in this hospital. CONTINUED ON: P-7

## 15 cops injured, eight police vans vandalized in scuffle with BJP protestors in Odisha

BHUBANESWAR (KCN): At least 15 policemen, several protesters and photo journalists were injured and eight police vans were vandalised here when BJP activists scuffled with the personnel of the force during BJP Yuva Morcha's 'Assembly gherao' agitation on Thursday over the Kalahandi woman teacher's kidnap and murder case.

the police used the baton at MG Road to disperse them when they attempted to

charge when the saffron party activists threw stones targeting it and damaged

BJP Youth Morcha president Irasish Acharya was taken away from the spot



A rally by the BJP youth wing, which started from the party state headquarters near Ram Mandir, turned violent when

break the cordon to enter the Assembly premises. Police said the force had to resort to lathi

police vans parked near the agitation site. In the melee some photo journalists were hurt.

by the police and later allowed to go on P R bond. "Over 15 police per CONTINUED ON: P-7

## General Bipin Rawat cremated with full military honours, daughters perform last rites

NEW DELHI(KCN): The nation on Friday bid farewell to Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) General Bipin Rawat who, along with his wife and 11 armed forces personnel, died in an IAF chopper crash near Coonoor in Tamil Nadu on Wednesday.

General Rawat was cremated with full military honours with a 17-gun salute as per laid down protocols. Post the playing of the 'Last Post' and 'Rouse' by the tri-services buglers, the funeral pyre was lit by his two daughters, General Rawat, 63, his wife Madhulika Rawat, and 11 other defence personnel were killed when a Mi17V5 helicopter carrying them crashed near Coonoor in Tamil Nadu on Wednesday. Group Captain Varun Singh is the lone survivor and his condition remains critical but stable.

A gun salute is a formal way to honour a dignitary and it varies as per the individual's position, rank and hierarchy. It is performed by firing cannons or artillery. A 21-gun salute, the highest, is fired for heads of state and government. The number decreases with the rank of the recipient of the honour.

Army officers from Nepal, Lanka, Bangladesh join the funeral procession of CDS Gen Bipin Rawat, wife

In the morning on Friday, six officers (2 each from Army, Navy & Air Force) of the rank equivalent of Lieutenant General were the pall (National Flag) bearers. Wreaths were laid by visiting the dignitaries while the mortal re-

mains were laid at the official residence of the CDS at 3 Kamraj Marg.

Later, from his residence to the Brar Square



Ceremonial, the battery of 2233 Field Regiment provided a gun carriage. As many as 99 personnel from all ranks from the Army, Navy and Air Force and 33 members of the tri-services band formed the front escort while 99 personnel from all ranks from the three services acted as the rear escort.

A total of 800 service personnel will be in attendance for the military funeral of the CDS. Among the dignitaries who paid tribute to General Rawat are General Shavendra Silva, Chief of Defence Staff and Commander of the

## Seven Omicron cases among 695 fresh COVID-19 infections reported in Maharashtra, 12 deaths recorded

MUMBAI(KCN): Maharashtra recorded 695 new coronavirus cases including seven Omicron infections in the last 24 hours, the state health department said on Friday evening. The tally of Omicron variant infections found in the state thus rose to 17, it said.

The state also reported 12 new pandemic-related fatalities since Thursday evening. The overall tally of coronavirus cases rose to 66,42,372 and death toll to 1,41,223. On Thursday, Maharashtra had re-

corded 789 new COVID-19 cases and seven fatalities.

were discharged from hospitals, taking the tally of recoveries to

the last 24 hours. Currently 75,290 people are in home



ALSO READ| Seven new Omicron cases in Mumbai, Pune, Maharashtra total now 17

The case fatality rate in the state stands at 2.12 per cent. As many as 631 patients

64,90,936. The recovery rate in the state is 97.72 per cent. As many as 6,66,39,988 coronavirus tests have been conducted so far in the state, including 1,22,665 in

quarantine and 870 are in institutional quarantine. The official release said that as per the latest report from the National Institute of Virology, seven new CONTINUED ON: P-7

## Nationwide 'silent strike' in Myanmar protests military rule

BANGKOK(KCN): Opponents of military rule in Myanmar on Friday held one of their biggest nationally coordinated protests in months, successfully calling on people across the country to shut their businesses and stay at home on International Human Rights Day.

The "silent strike" was staged in cities and towns from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and came at a time of increasing violence in the political crisis triggered by the army's seizure of

power in February and ouster of the elected government of Aung San Suu Kyi.

up and killing 11 civilians whose charred bodies were later discovered by fellow

Myanmar against persistent resistance from anti-military militias.



On Tuesday, there was a widely reported massacre in the country's northwestern Sagaing region in which soldiers were accused of rounding

villagers. The military-installed government has denied its soldiers were involved, but it is staging an offensive in northwestern

In Yangon, the country's largest city, and elsewhere, photos on social media showed normally busy streets empty of traffic on Friday. Usually crowded markets and plazas were quiet hours before the official start of the strike, which reaffirmed the widespread opposition to the army's rule and its disregard for human rights. Min Han Htet, co-CONTINUED ON: P-7

## 22 companies in 2021 Burgundy Private Hurun India 500 hails from West Bengal

Kolkata(KCN): Burgundy Private, Axis Bank's Private Banking Business and

cluded. Amitabh Chaudhry, Managing Director and Chief Executive

lent to 29% of India's GDP and they employ up to 1.5% of the total workforce of the country. What is most heartening is that nearly 10% of these companies are younger than 10 years, representing India's vibrant tech ecosystem. We believe that India's new economy companies will witness greater representation in this list in the times to come. Axis Bank has been a partner to many names that find

The 2021 Burgundy Private Hurun India 500 is a sanguine representation of the evolution of the economy. Kolkata, a haven of art and culture boasts of some of the oldest companies in the country with a median age of 62 years old. A birth ground of some of the most renowned consumer and retail brands in the world, West Bengal is dominated by the FMCG segment followed by Metals &



Hurun India launched the first edition of the '2021 Burgundy Private Hurun India 500', a list of the 500 most valuable companies in India. These companies are ranked according to their value, defined as market capitalization for listed companies and valuations for non-listed companies. Hurun Report India and Burgundy Private launched a further analysis of most valuable non-state-controlled companies from West Bengal in the 2021 Burgundy Private Hurun India 500 List. The cut-off date to arrive at this list was 30th October 2021. This list refers to companies headquartered in India only; state-owned companies and subsidiaries of foreign companies are not in-

cluded. Officer, Axis Bank said: "Burgundy Private is delighted to partner with Hurun India in celebrating India's 500 most valuable companies. We salute the leadership of these companies who have ably steered their businesses through the ravages of the pandemic, adopting new ways of serving their customers and emerging as winners. As India's leading wealth management franchise, Burgundy Private has witnessed this value creation from close quarters. The total value of the 2021 Burgundy Private Hurun India 500 companies is close to INR 228 lakh crore (US\$3tn), which is higher than India's GDP for FY21. The top line of these 500 companies is equiva-



mention in this report, and through our integrated 'One Axis' approach, we look forward to working closely with them as they achieve greater milestones in their journey ahead." Anas Rahman Junaid, MD and Chief Researcher, Hurun India said, "Hurun India is delighted to partner with Burgundy Private, Axis Bank's Private Banking Business to release the 2021 Burgundy Private Hurun India 500.

Mining. 22 companies from Kolkata have made it to the 2021 Burgundy Private Hurun India 500 list with a cumulative value of INR 7.9 lakh crore. Companies from West Bengal in the 2021 Burgundy Private Hurun India 500 employ 2.3 lakh people, an average of 10,580. 9 have more than 10,000 employees, led by Bandhan Bank with 49,445 employees and Tata Steel BSL with 32,980 employees."

## International Human Rights Day observed at DAV, Kalinga Nagar

Bhubaneswar(KCN): International Human

rights Day was observed with an interactive and enriching session by Dr. Abhinna Kumar Hota, National President, World Human Rights Protection Organisation. Joining the programme organized by the Scout and Guide wing of the school as the Chief Guest, Dr. Hota advised the students to be sensitive and sympathetic towards the environment in order to ensure a safe and bet-

ter world that is conducive to the suste-



ter world that is conducive to the suste-

duced student activism which plays a vital role in bringing

The programme started with welcome address by the Principal Sri Bipin Kumar Sahoo and his powerful message to the students to rise above all considerations that act as unseen barriers among us and come on the path of enjoyment of human rights by all sections of the society. The entire programme was smoothly orga-

nized keeping in view the guide lines of COVID-19 SOPs with the wholehearted cooperation of all the members of staff.



core of all human rights. In his answer to the questions asked by the students, the chief guest expressed his concern over the re-

duced student activism which plays a vital role in bringing

nized keeping in view the guide lines of COVID-19 SOPs with the wholehearted cooperation of all the members of staff.

## Human Rights Day-2021 was observed by International Human Rights Federation, Barbil

Barbil (KCN): The Human Rights Day-2021" was observed by the international Human Rights Federation of Barbil

chief speaker of the meeting. Mr Ashok Kumar Barik, President of the International Human Rights Federation of

sustain human rights while professor Pratap Jena remarked to induct subjects related to human rights in the present

Mohanta, Pradip Dhal Sajjad Allam, Debabrat Barik, Amit Mahant, Sumat Sen, Saroj Mahapatra, ShankarKonar, Purna



branch at Vikas Mahal Barbil. in the district of Keonjhar. Mr Banamali Jena, Principal Barbil college had joined as chief guest while Pratap Kumar Jena,

Barbil branch presided over the meeting. Principal Jena in his speech narrated different possibilities of improvement of human resources in the society. He

pattern of education so that good and conscious citizens can be produced in the country. Sunil Das briefed his experiences on how the rights of human resources are being

Chandra Mohanty, Arjun Jena and many other intellectuals present in the meeting had participated in a subject captioned "Role of intellectual to sustain human rights". The session



professor Barbil college, Sunil Kumar Barla, SI, Barbil Police station joined as a guest of Honour. Sunil Kumar Das, senior journalist, Zee-Odisha had joined as

opinioned for the creation of awareness on human rights among people living in the society. Mr Barla explained various directions of legal provision to

ignored by some corrupt government officials and people have power in the society. Basant Mahant, Mina Behera, Namita Barik, Kamalini

was very interactive and fetch special attraction of public. Prasant Mohanty had coordinate the entire meeting session followed by a vote of thanks.

## Yours Hope Foundation Celebrates Second Foundation Day

Khordha (KCN): Yours Hope Foundation celebrates its sec-

ond Foundation Day in the inmates of old age home at Samantarapur, Khordha. The founder and Chair-

man Mrs. Reena Rani Nayak has faced could not be compared to any other. " The Block

obstacles and challenge's that the Founder and Chairman Yours Hope Foundation Mrs. Reena Rani Nayak has faced could not be compared to any other. " The Block



distributed cooked food in the inmates of the old age home". Speaking at the programme former President and Senior Advocate Khordha District BAR Association Sisir Kumar Parida stated that the

Development Officer, Khordha Rumana Jafri extended best wishes for good life of all the members living there. Their vision is



lighting was also held along with the cake cutting by the inmates. All the members of Yours Hope Foundation Co-ordinate the programme.

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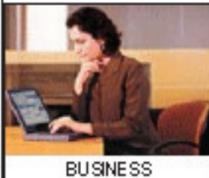
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## Gouri Kishan: Vijay sir is one of the most empathetic people I have met

Gouri Kishan is elated about the progression of her career, and she has every reason to be. The actor, who rose to fame after 96, stars as Savita in Lokesh Kanagaraj's Vijay-Vijay Sethupathi-starrer Master. Moreover, she has just

wrapped up the shoot of Mari Selvaraj's Karnan, starring Dhanush. In this interview, we talk to her about both these films and more. Excerpts from the conversation: The Master Pongal celebrations are still

going on. How do you feel right now? Yes, the celebrations are still on and the film is doing well at the box office. I'm delighted to have been a part of such a big film. Acting with Vijay sir under Lokesh Kanagaraj's direction

was a dream come true! What about this character, Savitha, attracted you? Savitha has her own travel in the film. But, more than my character, it was the script that drew me. It is so strong. Topics like the

lives of juveniles in observation homes are so real and yet so little spoken about. When such a classy filmmaker brings together two big stars for a story that bears so much importance in society, it wasn't a

the most empathetic people I have met. Even when he didn't make a scene, he would stay and give me prompts, and that's only because he wanted me to perform well. He's an example that no matter how

## Priyanka Chopra sends sweet surprise to Nick Jonas as he gears up for 'SNL'

WASHINGTON: As her husband, Nick Jonas is set to make his debut on the

lockdown, surprised Nick with a thoughtful gift. The 28-year-old singer

'SNL' in their living room. Expressing his happiness of receiving the

with this today. thank you @priyankachopra you're the best. SNL here we



popular night comedy showcase 'Saturday Light Live', actor Priyanka Chopra rooted for her partner and sent a sweet surprise to him. The 'Baywatch' actor who has been holed up in London for over a month due to her shoot schedules and

took to Instagram and posted a clip. The clip is from the duo's home in which Chopra got their space back home decorated with balloons that read 'Congratulations, Nick'. The video also showcased an arch of balloons spelled out as

sweet surprise, the 'Chains' crooner said in the video, "So, this happened," and then went on to give his fans a good look at the 'Isn't It Romantic' actor's surprise. Jonas captioned the video as "My wife surprised me (all the way from London)

come!". The 'Fashion' star also shared the SNL announcement on her Instagram Stories, she wrote, "So proud." According to People Magazine, the 'Sucker' singer has been tapped to serve as the host and musical guest for the first time.

## Kareena Kapoor, Saif Ali Khan welcome second child; thank well wishers for love and support

MUMBAI: Bollywood star Saif Ali Khan, who welcomed his second child, a baby boy, with actor-wife Kareena Kapoor Khan on Sunday, thanked well wishers for their love and support.

The star couple had announced the pregnancy in August. Their first child, son Taimur Ali Khan, is four. Saif (50) said that both the baby and Kareena were healthy. "We have been blessed with a baby boy. Mom and baby are safe and healthy. Thank you to our well wishers for their love and support," the "Tandav" actor said in a statement. Kareena, who was admitted to the Breach Candy Hospital early morning, gave birth around 9 am. "She has delivered a baby boy in the morning around 9 am. I'll be visiting them soon," Kareena's father, vet-

eran actor Randhir

mama once again!

Riddhima shared a

news ever". "Con-

boy was named



Kapoor told PTI earlier in the day. Family members and industry colleagues took to social media to congratulate the couple. Actor Karisma Kapoor took to Instagram and shared a throwback picture of her younger sister, Kareena as a child, in the arms of their father. "That's my sis when she was a new born and now she's a

And I'm a masi (aunt) again so excited," Karisma captioned the picture. Actor Neetu Kapoor posted a picture of herself with niece Kareena, along with actor son Ranbir and daughter, fashion designer Riddhima Kapoor Sahani. "Congratulations Kareena and Saif. One more addition to the cuties," she wrote in the caption.

picture on Instagram and wrote, "Congratulations Bebo and Saif. It's a boy." Fashion designer and close friend of the couple Manish Malhotra tweeted, "Congratulations to my dearest #KareenaKapoorKhan and fabulous #SaifAliKhan." Actor Neha Dhupia extended her wishes to the couple and said it was the "best

gratulations, @kareenakapoorkhan, Saif and Taimur," wrote actor Dia Mirza on her Instagram Story. Kareena (40) and Saif welcomed their first child, Taimur on December 20, 2016. Taimur has been an Internet sensation ever since his birth and is followed by the paparazzi round-the-clock. Back then, soon after the baby

Taimur, people on social media had started questioning the origins of the name. Saif tied the knot with Kareena in October 2012 after a five-year courtship. He was previously married to actor Amrita Singh, with whom he shares actor-daughter Sara Ali Khan (25) and son Ibrahim Ali Khan (19).

## The Founding Fathers, by incorporating Articles 226 and 32, reintroduced the dual system of administration of justice which was abolished in England in 1875, having proved to be counterproductive

Mathews J Nedumpara

Common people, often reassured by news reports where the High Courts under Article 226 and even the Supreme Court under Article 32 come to the rescue of common people who are denied justice by the government and its instrumentalities, are granted instant and hustle free justice institute writ petitions when they face similar injustice. Except for a few High Courts like that of Kerala where relief under the writ jurisdiction is granted without being confronted by questions as to the maintainability of the petition for the petitioner not having exhausted the "alternative remedies", realise that reality is different from perception. In High Courts like the Bombay HC, Delhi HC, even Madras, Punjab & Haryana HC and Gujarat HC, of which I am fairly familiar, majority of the writ petitions are dismissed in limine on the ground of non-exhaustion of alternative remedy.

I have often found lawyers, instead of advising their client to institute a civil suit, for the Civil Court is the court of plenary jurisdiction, competent, empowered and duty bound to adjudicate any dispute under the sun of a civil nature, unless barred, or where forums like the DRT, NCLT, Provident fund tribunal, etc. are created in substitution of the Civil Court, challenge the order of the HC in the Supreme Court under Article 136. Such SLPs are dismissed by one-line orders. This exercise would cost the litigant enormously, and many would give up their pursuit for justice. The few who still place hope in the judiciary would then institute a suit or approach the forum created in substitution of the Civil Court. Their plea for interim injunction or other protective orders are rejected on the premise that their plea before the High Court and SC was lost. The fact that the High Court or SC did not adjudicate the case and, therefore, there is no bar of res judicata or estoppel is lost sight of, in some cases particularly because the judgment of the High Court dismissing the plea for want of maintainability is a voluminous one, giving the impression that the Court has decided the case on its merits. A very meritorious case is thus lost solely because the litigant had an 'alternative remedy' which he had not exhausted before he approached the High Court! Most of the lawyers would advise the litigant to invoke Article 226 because it is a common practice to file writ petitions involving the determination of disputed questions of fact. Invariably, in all cases, a suit will lie and where a suit will not lie, an action will lie before the tribunal/forum created in substitution of the Civil Court. A situation where instead of a writ, no suit will lie or an action will not lie in a tribunal/forum created in substitution of the Civil Court does not exist. Yet, sometimes even litigants insist that a writ be filed instead of instituting a suit or appropriate proceedings in the tribunal or forum created in substitution of the Civil Court. They do so because they are told that the sky is the limit of the jurisdiction of the High Court under Article 226 and that the long arm of justice will reach out to remove injustice wherever it is. But the reality is different. Most often, the judges on their own dismiss petitions in limine, namely, without issuing notice to the opposite party, on the ground of non-exhaustion of 'alternative remedy'. In other cases it is dismissed when the



opposite party enters appearance and raises the plea of non-exhaustion of the alternate remedy. Sometimes an additional plea that no writ will lie because the Respondent is not a state or its instrumentality is raised. In short, justice is denied because the litigant had approached the wrong forum, taking us back to the pre-1875 where a common law court would decline injunction, specific performance, etc. because such remedy could be sought in the Chancery court and where a Court of Equity would deny damages, because such remedies would lie only in the common law courts. As I said before, it is difficult to imagine of cases where there does not exist an alternate forum, often termed as remedy, though incorrectly. And therefore, whether to admit a writ petition or grant relief, inspite of the existence of an "alternative remedy" falls under the province of the discretion of the judge. I am afraid to say, except in cases where the litigants are represented by lawyers who enjoy great 'face value', writ petitions are dismissed. I would say mercilessly, on the ground that the party has an "equally efficacious alternative remedy", and sometimes that the Respondent is not a state or instrumentality of the state and therefore, no writ will lie. The net outcome is that, except in a few cases where the writ petitions are entertained and relief is granted, in majority of cases, at least in the major high courts, which face a great influx of petitions, the litigant who had approached the court placing unstinted faith in it, is denied justice. This denial of justice to individual litigants remains to be their personal grief, because unlike governmental decisions which affect the public at large, where any injustice would lead to protest, the injustice at the hands of the judiciary remains to be the sorrow of individual litigants. Article 226 has unwittingly become an instrument of denial of justice. I do not know how many lawyers and judges would have noticed this unfortunate truth, the fallout of the concept that the jurisdiction under Article 226 is discretionary and that the existence of an efficacious alternative remedy would justify denying the jurisdiction. The terms 'forum' and 'remedies' are well defined in law. Forum means the court or tribunal where a party aggrieved could seek justice and enforce the remedies the law will provide him where his rights are infringed. The word 'remedy' in jurisprudence would mean common law, equitable and declaratory remedies. I have gone through a large number of the judgements from the 1950s till date, which in categorical terms declare that the jurisdiction under Article 226 is equitable and discretionary, and that the existence of an efficacious alternative remedy would be a ground for declining the jurisdiction. Invariably, all, even the most eminent of judges, have used the terminology "alternative remedy", while what they have meant is an alternative forum, a civil court or a tribunal, where the writ petitioner could have instituted a suit or initiated an action. The question then is, how the eminent judges could all use a wrong terminology, ie. alternative remedy, instead of alternative forum. To understand why the eminent judges so erred and the calamitous consequence of this error, one needs to trace the English legal history.

The Chancery jurisdiction, nay the Chancery Court came into existence as a parallel system of administration of justice, particularly since the 16th century, because the common law courts were too bound by precedents and procedures, leading to people complaining to the King, the fountain of justice. Ini-

tially the king personally heard their grievances and interfered with the decrees of the common law courts. The king himself deciding was disapproved. Chief Justice Coke, quoting Bracton, asserted that the King is under no man, but under God and the law. In the turf war between the common law courts and the chancery courts, the later gained predominance. It was said that the Chancellor shall not know the common law, and was not bound by its procedures. The Chancellor was often a bishop who decided based on the concepts of justice, equity and good conscience. The Chancellor gave reliefs like injunction, specific performance, set off, counter claim, etc. It's procedures were simple, no specific relief was even required to be sought. The Chancellor could mould the reliefs. The two streams of justice administration ran parallel without its waters ever getting mixed. Parliamentarians/reformers like Bentham believed that two systems of courts is counter productive and would lead to injustice and delay. As a result of their efforts, the Common Law Procedure Act of 1854 and the Chancery Amendment Act of 1958 were enacted and as a result thereof, the court of equity could grant the remedies which common law courts alone could have granted and vice versa.

The Judicature Acts of 1873-5 brought an end to the dual system. Thereafter, there remained only one stream of administration of justice which could grant all remedies, common law, equitable and declaratory. Even before the two systems were fused into one in England, by virtue of the Code of Civil Procedure of 1859, one single system of administration of justice came to be introduced for the dominion of India. However, there was an aberration.

The Supreme Courts of Calcutta, Madras and Bombay were established in the years 1774, 1800 and 1823, respectively. The Supreme Courts were vested of jurisdiction akin to the King's bench in England, namely, empowered to issue various writs like certiorari, quo warranto, etc. In England, the High Courts, namely, the Chancery courts, Kings bench, etc. vested of civil jurisdiction, capable of granting common law, equitable and declaratory remedies was established only in 1875 by the Judicature Acts of 1873 and 1875. However, in India, with the enactment of the Code of Civil Procedure of 1859, the Civil Courts came to be vested of the jurisdiction to grant common law, equitable and declaratory remedies, all. In 1861, the High Courts Act was enacted, and with it, the three Supreme Courts ceased to be in existence. The High Court Act did not confer any writ jurisdiction on the High Courts so established. By virtue of Section 491 of the CrPC of 1898, the High Courts could issue a writ of habeas corpus, I must clarify.

The High Courts of Bombay, Calcutta and Madras continued to exercise the writ jurisdiction within the presidency towns of Bombay, Calcutta and Madras because by virtue of the charter by which they were established, they were exercising writ jurisdiction within the presidency towns, being vested of the very same jurisdiction of the Kings bench (where the King was symbolically present). In short, prior to independence, while the High Courts of Bombay, Calcutta and Madras exercised the writ jurisdiction, other High Courts did not, except the writ of habeas corpus for which they were specifically empowered. There was really no need for the High Courts expressly being vested of the writ jurisdiction, because under the CPC, as civil

courts of original jurisdiction, the High Courts had all the power to grant all remedies, common law, equitable and declaratory which certainly would include the power to issue writs. However, the High Courts established under the High Courts Act of 1861 did not exercise any writ jurisdiction, going by the nomenclature. But in reality the High Courts and the Civil Courts subordinate to it, within the framework of the CPC, indeed did grant all remedies. But the writ jurisdiction exercised by the three said High Courts was extremely popular, inspite of the limitation that the Madras HC cannot issue a writ to Madurai or Bombay HC beyond Bombay Islands. When the constitution was framed, it was therefore felt desirable to confer the writ jurisdiction on all High Courts and the Supreme Court, and like the Kings bench having jurisdiction all over England, to the Supreme Court. Article 32 and 226 was thus incorporated. However, nobody ever realized that to enact Articles 226 and 32 would mean to reintroduce the dual stream of justice which was abolished by the Judicature Act of 1875 in England, it having been found to be counter-productive. Nobody then, ever thought that it would lead to forum shopping, in as much as that it is open to a litigant, to decide for himself, whether to institute a suit, often in a subordinate Civil Court, or to institute a writ in the High Court, or that a wealthy litigant would engage a lawyer who manifestly commands greater 'face value'. The founding father's cannot be blamed for that, for it is humanly impossible to foresee everything about the future.

Before the Judicature Act of 1875, the words remedy and forum had no distinct meaning. Because the remedy, for instance, of injunction or certiorari or mandamus, cannot be granted by the common law courts. The litigant would plead before the Chancellor that he has no efficacious alternative remedy, for say, injunction or specific performance, because he cannot plead so in the common law court. That is why he was required to plead, where he seeks a writ before the Chancery court, that he has no alternative remedy.

The situation today, with the enactment of the Code of Civil Procedure of 1859 and its substitution by the Code of 1903, the Civil Court has all the powers to grant the common law, equitable and declaratory remedies, including to declare an Act of Parliament as unconstitutional, unless barred. There was no need for Article 226 or even Article 32. The fact that the incorporation of Articles 226 and 32 would amount to the reintroduction of two streams of justice, here a Civil Court of plenary jurisdiction, empowered to adjudicate any questions of fact and law, which also provides for adequate mechanism for correction of error was completely lost sight of.

Our justice delivery system is at dire straits. Article 226, so far as the common litigant is concerned, often means denial of justice at the very threshold itself. It is only apposite to quote the latin maxim, *optimum esse legem, quae minimum reinquit arbitrio iudicis; id quod certitudo ejus praestat*, namely that the best legal system is the one which gives least discretion to the judge and the best judge is the one who exercises his discretion the least. Article 226 which leaves everything to the discretion of the judge, whether even to entertain a plea, has become a synonym for denial of justice.

The author is the President of NLC (National Lawyer's Campaign for Judicial Transparency and Reforms) and Sr. Advocate, High Court of Bombay.

## Kathak exponent sets out on global mission to promote dance on digital media

Ritwik Mukherjee

Hailing originally from Kolkata and now settled in Los Angeles, US, she is a trained Kathak dance exponent, dance choreographer and performer. She is now out on a mission—to promote Indian classical dance form-



'Kathak' all over the world, starting with the US. As member of

how it is involved in our everyday routine, and how it works to improve our life. Paramita Bhattacharyya, a "Prabhakar" degree holder from 'Prayag Sangeet Samiti' and who has specialized in 'Lucknow gharana' style of Kathak, has also started her own

personality as because it relates to the language of mind, body and soul. Trained under the living legend, the Kathak maestro Padma Vibhushan Pt. Birju Maharaj ji, Pt. Brojen Mukherjee and Pt. Ashimbandhu Bhattacharjee, Paramita is now experimenting with the 'abhinaya' portion of the dance form-



Kathak training institute in Los Angeles with the firm belief that traditional classical art form can help people enhance their life and

'Kathak', and other artwork as possible and thus improvise my composition to make it exclusively mine and my artwork," says

Paramita.

The danseuse from Kolkata is also working on various forms of exchange of cultural ideas with different other dance exponents from around the world to find ways of how to deliver socially relevant messages to people through dance for the benefit of people and the world. A former

radio jockey and TV show host of India's National Channel, Delhi Doordarshan, Paramita also won "Mrs. India - Asia USA - Award of Excellence 2017". Next course of action? "I am now trying to do more work for dance and artistic work as wide and diverse as possible. There are opportunities to explore more options to pursue and continue my art work through dance in digital media," says Paramita.

Mr. Ritwik Mukherjee is a Kolkata based Freelance journalist.



the International Dance council of the UNESCO, she has been travelling many parts of the world, demonstrating Indian dance to the foreign audience, writing about dance and how it relates to our mind, body, soul,



# 100 Cr for Fisheries

Bhubaneswar: Odisha has received nearly Rs.100 Crore for development of inland fisheries and aquaculture under Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY). While Coastal States are the major beneficiaries, Odisha, being one of the coastal states has received Rs.99.63 Crore from Center under PMMSY. Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying is implementing a flagship scheme namely "Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY)" with highest ever estimated investment of Rs.20,050 crore in fisheries sector for a period of 5 years with effect from the financial year 2020-21 including inland fisheries and aquaculture. Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying, Parshottam Rupala said in the Rajya Sabha in a written reply on



10 December.

In the meantime, the Department of Fisheries in the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying during the last financial year 2020-21 and current year 2021-22 accorded approval to the proposals of the Government of Odisha at a total cost of Rs. 440.56 crore under PMMSY for development of fisheries and aquaculture sector in the State. The scheme intends to address critical gaps in fish production and productivity, quality, technology, post-harvest infrastructure and management, modernization and strengthening of value chain and traceability in inland fisheries and aquaculture sector.

## Odisha CM lays foundation stone for fertiliser making hub

BHUBANESWAR / BERHAMPUR: New investments in Odisha despite the pandemic situation and economic slowdown have proved the confidence in the State government's industrial policies, said Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik on Thursday, December 9, 2021. Laying the foundation for a glo-

mination for multiple sectors of industry. Naveen said Smartschem Technologies Ltd (STL) is one of India's leading manufacturers of NPK and specialty fertilisers. The project will help in the growth and development of the region. He assured complete facilitation support to the project from the

PMMSY inter-alia includes range of activities such as reservoir cage culture, river ranching, fish seed stocking in natural water bodies and providing livelihood and nutritional support for fishers' families including inland fishermen during fishing ban/lean period for conservation of fisheries resources

The Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying has been implementing various schemes/programs for development of fisheries including inland fisheries and aquaculture.

The Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) on Blue Revolution: Integrated Development and Management of Fisheries implemented from 2015-16 to 2019-20 for development of fisheries in the country.

The CSS inter-alia, extended financial assistance for creation of fisheries infrastructure including inland fisheries and aquaculture such as installation of cages in reservoirs, construction of ponds for brackish water and freshwater aquaculture, establishment of fish brood banks, hatcheries, fish feed mills, develop-

ment of post-harvest infrastructure like Ice plants, Cold Storages, Ice plants- cum-cold storages and development of Fish Landing Centre in Reservoirs.

A dedicated fund namely, 'Fisheries and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund' (FIDF) with a total fund size of Rs.7,522.48 crore has been created for providing concessional finance for creation and strengthening of fisheries infrastructure facilities including in the field of inland fisheries and aquaculture. Extension of Kisan Credit Card (KCC) facility to fishers and fish farmers to help them to meet their working capital needs for fisheries and aquaculture.

work has enhanced the company's confidence in the State government. "TAN is an important raw material that will fuel the infrastructure, economy and development of the nation. We look forward to reduce our dependence on imports and Gopalpur Industrial Park's strategic location will

Boasting of the best-in-class technology from Casale which will ensure that it is the safest plant with lowest possible emission, the project is expected to be completed by August 2024. Around 50 per cent of the engineering work has already been completed and the piling work will begin from January,



bal-scale Technical Ammonium Nitrate (TAN) manufacturing complex at Gopalpur in Ganjam district virtually, the CM said the project is another example of the State's continuing dominance as a premier investment des-

State government. Joining from Pune, Chairman and Managing Director of STL Sainesh Chimanlal Mehta said Odisha's consistent push for industries and the transformation initiative through 5T frame-

help us do that quickly in the near future," Mehta said. The project to be set up with an investment of Rs 2,200 crore with a capacity of 377 KTPA will create employment opportunities for over 1,700 local people.

2022. A 100 per cent subsidiary of Deepak Fertilisers, STL is the 5th largest producer of TAN. It will provide a huge boost to various sectors like agriculture, industry and mining in the State.

# Rest of the winter in Odisha to see warmer nights, colder days

BHUBANESWAR: Rest of the winter is likely to see warmer nights and colder days in Odisha. That's what the India Meteorological Department's (IMD) seasonal outlook for December, January and February says. There is 35-45 per cent probability that minimum (night) temperature will be above normal during the three months. Similar is probability for maximum (day) temperature to re-

per cent probability that Odisha will receive above normal rainfall in December.

The State has already recorded above normal rainfall between December 2 and 9. It received 26.9 mm rainfall in last eight days against the normal of 1.4 mm during the same period.

"Currently, the interactions of warm and moist easterly winds with cool and dry northwesterly winds have led to overcast conditions in



the State," Assistant Professor of School of Earth Ocean and Climate Sciences, IIT-Bhubaneswar Dr Sandeep Pattnaik told The New Indian Express.

The prevailing La Nina conditions in the Pacific Ocean have led to frequent rain-bearing weather systems

impacting the southern India regions and creating sustained cloudiness and showers over Odisha. Overcast conditions lead to rise in night time temperature and fall in daytime temperature, he added.

The World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) had stated a few days back that La Nina which has developed for the second consecutive year will impact rainfall and temperatures across the globe.

Despite the cooling influence of La Nina, many parts of the world are expected to be warmer than average because of climate change.

main below normal during the three month period. The IMD said, currently the sea surface temperature and atmospheric conditions over equatorial Pacific Ocean indicate weak La Nina conditions.

The conditions which cause frigid winters in the country are likely to strengthen and peak to moderate conditions during this winter season up to February.

However, rainfall activity is expected this month which will lead to a rise in night temperature and fall in day temperature, said weather experts. IMD has said there is 35-45



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## Odisha Prisons Formation Day Observed at Khordha



Khordha (KCN): Second Odisha Prison's Formation Day Observed in the Premises of Sub-Jail Khordha. It will be annual feature for all prisons and correctional services of Odisha state to celebrate causes of Human Rights. This will be

done specially for prisoners within the ambit of guidelines prescribed by NHRC, various courts etc. As token of acknowledgment of performance of prison's & correctional service staff were today appreciated by the guest.

MLA, Khordha, Joytrindra Nath Mitra, Ex-MLA, Khordha, Dr. Dillip Srichandan, Sub-Collector, Khordha, Superintendent of Police, Khordha Raj Kishore Dora, President Khordha, District BAR, Association, Ajit Kumar Pattnaik, Advocate

Manoj Pradhan, President New Thinking Forum Narendra Prusty were present. All Staff's committed themselves to spread cause of Human Rights of under trial prisoners, convict's within the purview of Rules, guidelines of government etc.

## Mahanadi inflow to Odisha drops as Chhattisgarh sets up 516 barrages

BHUBANESWAR: Inflow of water into the Odisha part of the Mahanadi has reduced considerably over the last three de-

Bahinipati (Congress) in the Assembly on Thursday, Minister of State for Water Resources Tara Prasad Bahinipati

water inflow reduced by 37 pc. Following this, inflow of water into Hirakud dam has significantly dropped.

After that, there was a drastic reduction in water inflow because of construction of a large number of barrages by the Chhattisgarh government. While water inflow reduced by 65 pc in 2016-17, it was 61 pc in 2017-18 and 57 pc in 2018-19.

The Minister said that the State government has taken several steps to resolve the longstanding water dispute between the

two neighbouring states. A statutory complaint was filed before the Centre in 2016 under the Inter-State River Water Disputes Act-1956. The original suit was filed in the Supreme Court. As per the Centre's notification issued on March 12, 2018, Odisha has been placing its demand before Mahanadi Water Disputes Tribunal on different occasions. In the Tribunal, states like Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Jharkhand, Odisha and Chhattisgarh have been made parties.



cadec as Chhattisgarh government constructed about 516 barrages in the upper catchment area of the river. In a written reply to a question from Tara Prasad

said that the inflow of water to Mahanadi river during the non-monsoon period has reduced by four per cent (pc) between 1991 and 2005. Thereafter till 2016,

## Ecorwwo, Sambalpur extends helping hand to Sir Issac Santra Bal Niketan & Matru Bhawan inmates



Sambalpur (KCN): As a part of its continuous efforts towards helping the society, East Coast Railway Women's Welfare Organisation, Sambalpur under the leadership of Smt. Isha Malik, President of ECoRWWO, Sambalpur and other members donated a TV set with Blankets, Napkins, and Food items to the inmates of Red Cross Parbati Giri Matru Bhawan, Phuljharan, Sambalpur. ECoRWWO also distributed Food items to the orphans of Sir Issac Santra Bal Niketan, Phuljharan. ECoRWWO a philanthropic and charitable organisation always engaged for the upliftment of Railway Employees and also orphans and destitutes.

## A youth drowned to death in river Karo at Barbil



Barbil (KCN): A youth aged about 27 years named Sanu Mahakud of Santbahal village gets drowned in River Karo today. As per information the deceased had gone to the Karo river near the Nuaduba water pump to wash his clothes. According to Neighbors he had epilepsy. He is thought to have drowned while taking bath in the river owing to epilepsy. Along with the fire brigade, locals have recovered the body of the deceased and taken it to the hospital. The doctor pronounced him dead at the scene.

## Properties of Nature-based Solutions Help in Improving Mental Health during Covid 19 Pandemic among Urban Residents of India Proves a Study

Kolkata (KCN): Non-pharmaceutical interventions like stay-at-home orders, cancellations of events, work from home, etc. were the first line of defence to combat the spread of highly transmissible infection Covid-19. But these interventions created whole new situations that urban residents needed to cope with, which, many often created mental distress, especially during the lockdown period, when people lived in utter uncertainty- one hand there were severe life losses, on the other hand the economic instabilities. In such a situation, a study was conducted by Dr Shalini Dhyani, Senior Scientist, CSIR-National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI) along with Mrittika Basu, Scientist, Laboratory of Sustainable Rural Development, Graduate School for Global Environmental Studies, Kyoto University, Kyoto, Japan, Dr Rajarshi Dasgupta & Dr Pankaj Kumar, Senior Policy Researchers, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies. The study revealed that properties of nature-based solutions in the form of home gardens with increasing time spent from less than 10 min to more than 2 h, there, decreased the score of stress and anxiety and overall Depression, Anxiety and Stress Scale (DASS)-21 in an individual. Covid-19 is unique due to the extent, magnitude, and rapidity of its spread. In addition to the direct health impacts, there are enormous collateral damages caused by the responses to combat the pandemic like the closure of schools, workplaces, public and private entertainment spaces like parks, cinemas, theatres, restaurants, shopping malls, etc, restricted socialization and restrictions on travel. One of the most critical 'collateral damage' is the impact on the mental health of not only the health and frontline workers but also for the vulnerable population like elderly people and individuals suffering from chronic illness and the general population who must undergo significant changes in their lifestyle to cope with the 'new normal'. Mental health impacts of COVID-19 have already gained widespread attention in the academic arena with experts highlighting the urgency and need for proper intervention measures. In addition, dense urban areas, both megapolises like Kolkata and secondary cities, are found to be infection hotspots.

The Initial studies on the impact of Covid-19 on the public reported widespread psychological distress including anxiety, loneliness, depression, and financial concerns. The threat of losing jobs, financial worries, work from home pressures, physical and social distancing created loneliness among the individuals which also contributed to the mental unhappiness. Previous studies on mental health emphasized the importance of access to green space in relieving stress and anxiety, and uplifting mood and positive thoughts. However, depending on the situation of the pandemic in different countries, different levels of lockdown are enforced and access to outer green spaces like parks, playgrounds or community grounds has been moderately or strictly restricted. The immediate greenness around a home is also reported to improve human health and a home garden provides this greenness and appears to also be beneficial. There is increasing evidence that horticultural therapy including gardening, provided sub-

stantial human health benefits like reductions in depression, anxiety, and body mass index, as well as increased in life satisfaction, quality of life, and sense of community. Availability of home gardens provided an opportunity to relax and unwind with access to sunshine and fresh air which has several reported health benefits including sleeping patterns and mood enhancement. Home gardens



produced aesthetic, spiritual and different health benefits also including physical and mental health benefits. The physical exercise carried out while gardening activities like watering, weeding, pruning, etc. are valuable from the point of physical health while mental health benefits like aiding in recovery, stress reduction, and cognitive functioning are well-reported.

The study suggested that urban households with home gardens or terrace gardens faced comparatively lesser mental distress during the enforcement of stay-at-home orders than households with no home gardens. Time spent on gardens was reported to influence emotional outcomes like anxiety, anger, sadness, contentment, etc, and other dementia-related behaviour like aggression. The questionnaire survey was administered online through Survey Monkey® for two weeks at the end of May 2020. The survey comprised 19 questions divided into three sections (Supplementary material). To collect as many responses as possible across different cities in India, the survey was administered in English.

The study, conducted with urban residents from different cities in India, including Kolkata showed that home gardens negatively moderated the positive relationship between the number of days at home and mental distress. This signified the role of home gardens in lowering the Covid-19 induced mental distress. Though the composition of home gardens did not have any significant impact on the association, active interactions through working in home gardens significantly moderated the relationship between mental distress (except depression) and the number of days confined at home due to the enforcement of stay-at-home orders.

## 17% Growth in Freight loading by South Eastern Railway

Kolkata (KCN): South Eastern Railway (SER) has loaded 126.45 Million Tonnes of originating freight in the first eight months i.e. April to November of the current financial year (2021-22), as against 108.11 Million Tonnes loaded in

the corresponding period of last year, registering a growth of about 17%. There is also a rise of 21.45% in originating freight revenue in comparison to the first eight months of the last fiscal. During April to November 2021, the revenue

generation from originating freight loading has been Rs 10474 crores against Rs. 8624 crores in same period of the previous year. The main commodities of Freight loading during the first eight months of 2021-22 were Iron ore, Coal, Pig iron & Finished Steel, Cement, Fertilizer, Petroleum Products etc. SER has loaded 70.27 Million Tonnes of Iron ore during this period, which is 7.50% more than the corresponding period of previous fiscal.

## Better.com CEO sorry for mass firing via Zoom call

NEW DELHI: The chief executive of- for the individuals who were affected communicating it I blundered the ex-



ficer (CEO) of and for their con- ecution. In doing

mortgage lender Better.com has apologised for the way he handled layoffs at the company after a video of him firing 900 people last week in a three-minute long Zoom call went viral on social media. "I realise that the way I communicated this news made a difficult situation worse," Garg said in a letter.



"I failed to show the appropriate amount of respect and appreciation offs, but in com- 15 cops injured, eight police vans vandalized in scuffle with BJP protestors in Odisha

Continued from page-1

sonnel have been injured due to stone pelting and three of them were admitted to Capital Hospital for treatment. Action will be taken against those who were involved in the attack on police personnel on duty as per the law," Commissioner of Police, S K Priyadarshi told reporters after visiting the injured policemen in hospital.

BJP state president, Samir Mohanty criticised the police for its "brutality" against the party's youth wing activists.

He alleged that the police baton charged peaceful demonstrators who were demanding sacking of Minister of State for Home D S Mishra and handing over the lady teacher murder case to CBI.

Acharya claimed that many party activists have sustained injuries and were being treated in different hospitals.

Mohanty too visited Capital hospital and enquired about the health conditions of the party activists under treatment there.

"The fight will not end. We need justice. The holy land of Lord Jagannath will never tolerate the criminal mindset of this BJD govt. CM has to take action against the criminal minister @DSMishraKLD & @jenapratap66," the BJP Odisha said in an official twitter post.

While Mishra is alleged to have a close relation with the prime accused in the murder of the lady teacher, Law Minister Pratap Jena's name had figured among the 13 accused persons in the FIR lodged in the murder of two BJP leaders at Mahanga in Cuttack district in January this year.

The ruling BJD also hit the streets here on Thursday against the Centre over the rise in prices of fuel and other essential commodities.

The party activists took out a motorcycle rally which disrupted vehicular movement.

BJD also blamed the BJP-led government at the Centre for rise in unemployment.

The Centre has betrayed the people by making false promises and they are now facing difficulties due to the rise in the prices of essential commodities amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, BJD MLA Snehangini Chhuria said.

employee. Garg came under criticism across the world for the way he communicated the layoff decision to the 900 employees just ahead of the holiday season.

The sacked employees, mainly in the US and India, comprised about 9% of the digital mortgage lender. TechCrunch speculated that the lay-offs may have been a condition for Better.com's backers — which include SoftBank — greenlighting a sooner-than-expected cash infusion of \$750 million. Several Indian CEOs also expressed shock and criticised the lay-off incident on social media.

Founded in 2016 and headquartered in New York, Better.com offers mortgage and insurance products to homeowners through its online platform.

## Nationwide 'silent strike' in Myanmar protests military rule

Continued from page-1

funder and spokesperson of the Alliance of Student Unions Yangon, said the strike by itself might not make a significant difference.

"But by showing their unity, the strike is a success for the people who are waging psychological warfare against the military dictatorship," he said.

Solidarity appeared strong among operators of even the smallest shops in Yangon, but at least a few apparently paid a price for their defiance, as photos posted on social media showed fittings such as tables and chairs confiscated by security forces from some.

Since Thursday, authorities had announced in some neighborhoods that action would be taken against shops which close without an acceptable reason.

A shopkeeper from the market in Muse in northern Shan state said the official Township Development Committee threatened over a loudspeaker on Friday morning that it would take action against closed shops.

"They announced in the town that they would shut down our shops for a month if we went ahead and closed the shops and markets without any reason. But we don't care. It is the time to show our unity," said the vendor, who asked to remain anonymous for fear of retribution from the authorities.

Protesters wearing black attire, as suggested by strike organizers, marched silently in Shwedo in Sagaing region. People at home, also dressed in black, posted selfies showing them holding small handmade posters.

"We own our town. Our city, our rules. Staying silent or active is our choice. Never be allowed to rule," was written on one. "Take back our human rights by revolution," read another.

People also held up three fingers, the resistance salute adopted from "The Hunger Games" movie series.

There was at least one pro-military march in Yangon, according to photos on social media that showed about 100 demonstrators holding small flags and posters reading "Counter-Terrorism and Support the Military."

## DoT to deactivate extra SIM of subscribers beyond nine connections

NEW DELHI: The Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has issued an order to re-verify the

flagged for re-verification," the DoT order said. LSA refers to Licensed Service Area.

the flagged number will be deactivated within 60 days to be counted from December 7.

ber has been flagged by any law enforcement agencies or financial institution or identified as a pesky caller then the outgoing facilities will be suspended within 5 days, incoming within 10 days and complete disconnection within 15 days in case no one turns up for verification.

"The said timelines shall be regularly intimated by the TSPs to the subscribers of flagged mobile connections via SMSs/IVRS/e-mail/app or any other available methods. The subscribers shall also be regularly intimated about the reason for barring of services," the order said.



SIM of subscribers holding beyond nine connections across India, six connections in the case of Jammu and Kashmir, North East and Assam, and to disconnect in case of non-verification. The subscribers will be given the option to choose the connection they want to retain and deactivate the rest of the connections, according to the order issued on December 7.

"If during the data analytics carried out by DoT, it is found that an individual subscriber is having more than nine mobile connections (six in the case of J&K, NE and Assam LSAs) across all the TSPs (telecom service providers), all the mobile connections will be

The order comes from DoT to check incidence of financial crimes, pesky calls, automated calls and fraudulent activities. The DoT has asked telecom operators to remove all the flagged mobile connections from the database that are not in use as per the rule.

The outgoing (including data services) facilities of the "flagged mobile connection shall be suspended within 30 days" and "the incoming service shall be suspended within 45 days" in case subscriber has turned up for verification and exercises his option to surrender, transfer to disconnect mobile connections.

In case no subscriber turns up for re-verifi-

"In case of a subscriber who is on international roaming or with physical disability or hospitalisation, additional 30 days will be provided," the order said.

However, if the num-

## SUM Conducts Rare Brain Surgery

Continued from page-1

Prof. (Dr.) Mahapatra said the patient was experiencing frequent hiccups and trembling besides abnormal body movements affecting his face, tongue, abdomen and thigh with the frequency of more than 30 per minute. He was unable to eat, sleep or stand. He could not get any relief after being treated in several hospitals within the state and outside.

When he came to IMS and SUM Hospital, the case was immediately diagnosed to be a case of Myoclonic Epilepsy by Senior Neurologist Dr. Surjyaprakash S. Choudhury and treatment was started. Further investigation revealed that Mahanandia had a tumour deep inside the brain (Brainstem Cavernoma) which was a rare condition and it required surgery which was too complicated and risky.

However, a team led by Neurosurgeon Dr. Atmaranjan Das conducted the seven hour long surgery on November 26 to successfully remove the tumour, he said.

According to research publications, this surgery was the seventh such case in the world and first in India. Surgery was not attempted anywhere in the country for addressing such cases before, Dr. Das said.

"It was a surgeon's intuition that led me to take up the surgery. It was extremely challenging but our team was willing to take the risk," he said adding "we opted for brain mapping—3D modeling technique used to visually represent nerve tracts using data collected by diffusion MRI and it worked."

Just a day after surgery, the patient was absolutely free from hiccups and was able to walk which could be said to be a miracle in medical science. "He not only got a new life, but was able to eat and sleep properly. In fact, he walked out of the hospital when discharged," Dr. Das said.

Mahanandia's family members were thankful to Dr. Das, Dr. Choudhury and the team comprising Dr. Iswar Behera, Dr. Sudeep Mohapatra, Dr. Sumirini, Dr. Abhijit Acharya, Dr. Ranjita Acharya, Dr. Sumita Swain, Dr. Jeeban Pratik Khatua, nurses and medical staff of the hospital.

This has demonstrated that Odisha is not behind the rest of the world in taking up such difficult surgeries and IMS and SUM Hospital now matches international standards where all advanced equipment and technology is available, Dr. Choudhury said.

This case would now be published in various national and international medical journals. The expensive surgery was conducted free of any cost as the patient was covered under the state government's Biju Swasthya Kalyan Yojana scheme. Dr. Srikanta Kumar Sahu, Head of the department of Neurology, was present at the press conference.

## Seven Omicron cases among 695 fresh COVID-19 infections reported in Maharashtra, 12 deaths recorded

Continued from page-1

Omicron cases have been reported in Maharashtra -- three in Mumbai and four in Pimpri Chinchwad Municipal Corporation in Pune district. "Due to this, the total of Omicron positive cases in the state increased to 17," it added.

The statement said that the three new patients from Mumbai were all male, aged 48, 25 and 37 years with recent history of travel to Tanzania, UK and South Africa-Nairobi, respectively. Four new patients from PCMC limits are contacts of a Nigerian woman who was earlier confirmed as an Omicron case.

The release said that of the seven new Omicron patients, four were fully vaccinated and one had received a single dose of the coronavirus vaccine. One adult patient was not vaccinated, while another is a three-and-half-year-old child and thus not eligible for inoculation.

Four of the new patients are asymptomatic while three have only mild symptoms, the official release said. Meanwhile, 11 districts and five civic bodies in Maharashtra did not report any new COVID-19 case in the last 24 hours.

The Mumbai division, which comprises the city and satellite townships, reported 327 cases and five deaths. The Pune division reported 214 new cases, Nashik division 68, Kolhapur 16, Akola four, Nagpur 10, Latur 33 and the Aurangabad division 23 new cases.

Nagpur and Aurangabad divisions did not report any fatality during the day. Maharashtra's coronavirus figures are as follows: Positive cases 66,42,372, fresh cases 695, death toll 1,41,223, recoveries 64,90,936, active cases 6,534, total tests 6,66,39,988.

## Delhi's Yash Dhull to lead India U-19 squad in Asia Cup

NEW DELHI: Delhi batter Yash Dhull will lead a 20-member India squad in the upcoming Under-19 Asia Cup scheduled to be held in the UAE from December 23, the BCCI announced on Friday. There will be a preparatory camp in Bengaluru ahead of the tournament and the governing body also named a 25-member squad for the same, which includes five standby players. "The selectors have also announced a 25-member squad for a preparatory camp at the National Cricket Academy in Bengaluru from December 11th-19th ahead of the ACC event." Dhull was a leading run-getter in the Vinoo Mankad Trophy earlier this year. He averaged 75.50 for his 302 runs for the DDCA in the five matches that the team played during the tournament.

The Board, however, said that India's squad for the U-19 World Cup slated for January-February next year in the West Indies will be announced later. Two-time defending champions India have won the ACC U-19 Asia Cup six times in the last eight editions, while sharing the trophy with Pakistan in 2012. India U-19 Asia Cup squad: Harnoor Singh Pannu, Angkrish Raghuvanshi, Ansh Gosai, S K Rasheed, Yash Dhull (Captain), Anshwar Gautam, Siddharth Yadav, Kaushal Tambe, Nishant Sindhu, Dinesh Bana (wk), Aaradhya Yadav (wk), Rajangad Bawa, Rajvardhan Hangargekar, Garv Sangwan, Ravi Kumar, Rishith Reddy, Manav Parakh, Amrit Raj Upadhyay, Vicky Ostwal, Vasu Vats (subject to fitness clearance).

## Former women's world No 1 Amelie Mauresmo named as new French Open director



PARIS: Former women's number one Amelie Mauresmo was on Thursday named director of the French Open, replacing Guy Forget. Mauresmo will be in place until at least 2024, French tennis

federation president Gilles Moretton said. A two-time Grand Slam winner (Australian Open and Wimbledon in 2006) and 2004 Olympic singles silver medalist in Athens, the 42-year-old

Mauresmo expressed her "pride" at being named director of Roland Garros, the premier claycourt tournament in the world and federation's principal source of revenue.

Forget, who'd been in place since 2016 and also overseen the Paris Masters since 2012, was nearing the end of his contract but turned down potential offers, according to Moretton.

## Empowering Babar Azam, instilling fearless approach brought positive outlook: PCB chairman Ramiz Raja

LAHORE: PCB chairman Ramiz Raja said empowering skipper Babar Azam and instilling a fearless approach has helped Pakistan cap off a successful two-month tour of the

United Arab Emirates and Bangladesh. As I had said 'I want to fix Pakistan cricket's GPS', it meant empowering the captain and instilling fearless cricket, which is why you are seeing a positive change in the team's outlook." The loss in the nine T20Is was against Australia in the semi-finals of the T20 World Cup, while wins in the two Tests saw Pakistan gain 24 crucial ICC World

Test Championship points. "The Pakistan team has displayed wonderful cricket in Bangladesh, and I want to congratulate them for that," Raja said. "In terms of cricket,

good and everyone is playing for Pakistan in this side." Raja said Pakistan is becoming more consistent. "This is what Pakistan's cricket is; they create drama, they have unlimited



potential, but they only lack consistency. But, now, we are seeing them becoming consistent...We have strong and challenging series coming up. "I welcome West Indies to Pakistan, we have great form in T20Is, and are a mid-tier team in the ODIs as we are ranked fifth. As a mid-tier team, you can do a lot of experimentation. And after the HBL PSL, we have Australia coming."

Bangladesh is a tough destination, because they curate pitches on which they nullify and neutralise big sides. They have firm grip on the spin department and they also play it very well. "We must appreciate Pakistan for not losing the focus after the T20 World Cup and for their swift shift from the T20 to Test format. In the end, the results were outstanding. The dressing room atmosphere is

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## Women's football in India is rising: IM Vijayan

KOZHIKODE: The national women team's ascendancy was on display during the recent exposure tour of Brazil, said Indian football legend IM Vijayan, who believes that adding competition between players will further help in the growth of the game in the country. India had played against Brazil, Chile and Venezuela in a four-nation tournament as part of its preparation for the AFC Asian Cup to be held in India -- Mumbai and Pune--from January 20 to February 6. While India lost all their three matches but the highlight of the tour was the one-goal that they scored against mighty Brazil, who are the 2007 World Cup runners-up. "The way India played against Brazil was impressive. We scored a goal against the top team globally which shows that women's football in India is rising," the 52-year-old Vijayan, a former India men's team captain, said in a release issued by

AIFF. "Our team has improved a lot and the federation is also trying hard to give them the much needed exposures." "India is hosting the Asian Cup next year and everyone is trying hard to build the team

he quipped. The two Indian footballers were also present at the stands to support the girls on the final day of the Senior Women's National Football Championship. Defending champions Manipur claimed their 21st

"I am so happy to see that 32 teams participated with so many young talents. I have come here for the first time to watch the girls play and I really enjoyed the brand of football they showed. "In our times, scoring was very easy for the



and play good football. I am very happy to see everyone is contributing to the growth of women's football to take Indian Football forward together." India international M Suresh also echoed his sentiments. "Indian women's team is in a good phase now. The way they performed against the top teams was a treat to watch,"

crowns after a dramatic penalty shootout win over Railways in the final on Thursday. "The way AIFF and Kerala Government has organized the championship is commendable despite the COVID situation. It shows how each and every one is working towards the growth of Indian Football," Vijayan said.

teams but now the competition has become tougher which is needed for the growth of women's football in India." AIFF General Secretary, Kushal Das also hailed the efforts of all the state federations and the Government of Kerala involved to make the championship a success.



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