

Letter to Hon'ble C.M., Odisha

Sub: Reconsidering to make play ground of Kalahandi Univ as temporary bus stand

Dear honourable Chief Minister Sri Patnaik, Playground of Kalahandi University, formerly Govt (A) college Bhawanipatna, has been selected by Kalahandi district administration for a temporary bus stand. This is creating problems and agitation among students and alumni associations. Female students of the University are concerned about drunkards encroaching their space creating problems for them. Similarly, students and nearby residents have raised serious concerns about dust. Temporary bus stand will also damage the playground and affect the study atmosphere of the University. Despite repeated appeals by the students, alumni and registrar, no alternative site has been found. Letter from registrar of Kalahandi University and a news clip are attached for your kind consideration. Thus, your kind intervention is urgently solicited in this matter.

Thank you and best regards

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SER observes Mahaparinirwan Diwas of DR. B. R. Ambedkar

Kolkata (KCN): The Mahaparinirwan Diwas of Bharat Ratna Dr. B. R. Ambedkar was observed with due solemnity at South Eastern Railway (SER) Headquarters, Garden Reach this morning.

Ms. Archana Joshi, General Manager, SER paid floral tribute to the great son of India, Dr. B. R. Ambedkar.

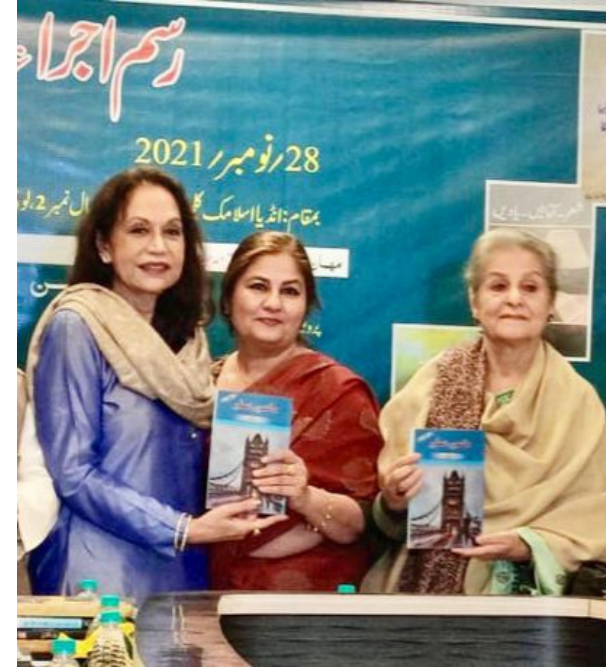
Sri Atulya Sinha, Addl. General Manager, Smt. Zarina Firdausi, Principal Chief Personnel Officer, SER along with

officials of SC/ST Association also paid floral tribute to Dr. B. R. Ambedkar, the father of the Indian Constitution. The Principal Head of the Departments, senior railway officers & staff of SER Headquarters also paid tribute to the illustrious son of India, Dr. B. R. Ambedkar.

The Mahaparinirwan Diwas of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar was also observed at four Divisional offices of Adra, Kharagpur, Chakradharpur and Ranchi.

Five Urdu Books released written by four female writers

New Delhi (KCN): A grand unprecedented celebration of five books' release is celebrated at India Islamic Center in New Delhi. Four prominent Urdu writers, namely



Dr. Rakhshanda Roohi Mehndi's Story collection "Mansoon Store", Mrs. Naima Jaffry's poem Collection "Kuch Yadienaur Kuch Batien", Mrs. Shama Zaidi's article "Jinhey main ney Dekhainhey main neychaha", and Mrs. Azra Naqvi's book "Sher Kitabienaur Yadien".

All the learned ladies are well-known Urdu Writers & poets and have extraordinary recognition in their field. Though all the learned ladies are housemaker, however, Dr. Rakhshanda Roohi is a very well-known and established Urdu & Hindi Writer, her earlier story collection has been translated into

PM Narendra Modi meets Russian Prez Vladimir Putin in Delhi for the 21st India- Russia Annual Summit

NEW DELHI (KCN): The meeting between



Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Russian

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Punjabi. Telefilm "Chilman key Paar" is based on Dr. Rakhshanda's story and the drama "Kahanhai Manzil Rah e Tamanna" is staged on her story.

The Special feature of the celebration is that even both the Chief Guests, Mrs. Kamna Prasad writer feminists, and female activists, and social workers. and Sayeda Saiyidain Hameed, a former member of Planning Commission of India, and writer of 'Quilt and Other Stories' have released the above-mentioned books.

Another important aspect of the function is that this grand function was not sponsored by any organization or funded by any Literary organization or NGO. These self-made ladies didn't compromise their self-respect, though writers' fans and readers offered to sponsor the entire program. They politely refused with thanks.

Dr. Rakhshanda enlightened about her function, she said that she published her book Mansoon Store with her own pockets similarly to the other three writers without any monetary help of any organization or publisher, therefore, all the copyrights are reserved with the authors, not with the publishers. Similarly, the Book release function is also celebrated without anyone's financial help. Since the function followed by high tea. High tea consisted of ample of delicious Kababs, Sweets, Samosas, and Tea and Coffee itself prepared by the learned ladies themselves. Lastly, the function was hosted by the ladies and enjoyed by the male writers. Several Known male writers, poets, and critics embellished the function.

President Vladimir Putin for the 21st India-Russia Annual Summit has begun at the Hyderabad House here on Monday.

This is the first in-person between them since they met on the sidelines of the BRICS summit in 2019 in Brasilia. There have been six telephonic conversations between the two leaders since then apart from the virtual meetings that they've attended for multilateral summits. CONTINUED ON: P-7

Rajendra Chintan Samiti Pays Tribute to India's First President Dr. Rajendra Prasad on his 137th Birth Anniversary

New Delhi: To honor the historic legacy of India's first President Dr. Rajendra Prasad, Rajendra Chintan Samiti organized a program in his remembrance on Friday. Tributes poured in at the mural of Dr. Rajendra Prasad located at Talkatora Road, Parliament Annexe, New



Delhi. It was jointly inaugurated by the former Union Health Minister Dr. Harsh Vardhan and the NDMC Chairman Dharmendra by lighting the lamp and paying his floral tributes to Dr. Rajendra Babu. The former Chief Minister of Haryana Shri Bhupendra Singh Hooda also graced the event.

On this occasion, Dr. Harsh Vardhan said, "Dr. Rajendra Babu took part in the freedom struggle and nation is grateful to his exemplary contributions. He walked shoulder to shoulder with Gandhi Ji and Sardar Patel Ji in the freedom struggle."

Former Haryana CM Shri Bhupendra Singh Hooda said, "Rajendra Babu has a special contribution in the constitution making. He maintained political dignity which and sacrificed his life for nation building. We all pledge to follow his footsteps and remember him on his birth anniversary."

NDMC Chairman Dharmendra said, "Dr.

Rajendra Prasad has set high standards of simplicity and morality. Today we can pay our true tribute to him by following the path shown by him."

The convener of Rajendra Chintan Samiti, Ram Krishna Sharma elaborated the work done by Dr. Rajendra Prasad and said that he was a great freedom fighter and a true patriot. Vijay Shankar Chaturvedi, Vice Chairman,



Rajendra Chintan Committee, said that Dr. Rajendra Prasad made the service of the country his life from the days of freedom struggle and he continued to follow that path for his whole life.

Rajendra Chintan Samiti Organizers Pankaj Sharma, Pulkit Chaturvedi, Educationist Manoj Sharma and hundreds of people paid homage to the statue of Rajendra Prasad.

Educationist Manoj Kumar Sharma said, "Dr. Rajendra Prasad, an icon of patriotism, has made an significant contribution to the Constitution of India. The dream of nation building of the country's first President Rajendra Babu will always be remembered. We are hopeful that his ideals and ideas will guide the generations to come."

BJD Memo on Paika Bidroha

New Delhi (KCN): Biju Janata Dal (BJD) Members of Parliament (MP)s have urged the



Union Government to immediately declare Paika Bidroha as the First War of Independence.

Presenting a Memorandum in this regard the BJD Lawmakers have said that this has been repeatedly demanded and also conceded by the then Union Minister of Human Resource Development. Until this demand is met, the pride and the glory of Odisha and the 4.5 Crore Odias will not allow us to rest for a moment, said the BJD Delegation while presenting Memorandum to the Union Minister of State, Culture, Arjun Ram Meghwal. CONTINUED ON: P-7

Narendra Modi and Russian President Vladimir Putin for the 21st India- Russia Annual Summit has begun at the Hyderabad House here on Monday. This is the first in-person between them since they met on the sidelines of the BRICS summit in 2019 in Brasilia. There have been six

telephonic conversations between the two leaders since then apart from the virtual meetings that they've attended for multilateral summits. The visit is in continuation of the tradition of annual summits held alternately in India and Russia. ALSO READ | India, Russia conclude AK-203 deal, renew 10-year pact for military cooperation Earlier in the day, the two countries on Monday signed an agreement for the procurement of 6,01,427 assault rifles AK-203 through Indo-Russia Rifles Pvt Ltd, under the military-technical cooperation arrangement for 2021-31. Putin had said on Wednesday that he intends to discuss with Prime Minister

opung "specially privileged" Russian-Indian relations. "This partnership brings real mutual benefit to both states. Bilateral trade shows good dynamics; ties are actively developing in the energy sector, innovation, space, and the production of coronavirus vaccines and medicines," Putin had said.

Justice to the Public shall be in the language of public ("Janata ko nyay, janta ki bhasa main") : Bhartiya Bhasa Andolan

New Delhi(KCN): Bhartiya Bhasa Andolan now in the apex stage of success. They have taken the promising spirit to protest on the freedom of the languages of the

we have to work hard day and night, shall work as a way to provide justice to the people of the country in their language. "Really this noble endeavor of Bhartiya Bhasa Andolan team

"why there is no use of Indian Language in Indian Courts including Supreme Court and High Courts?" "Day in, day out, their are unending productive steps being taken by

Singh Dhindsa and Hon'ble MP Gujrat have assured for their total cooperation in the issue raised by Bharatiya Bhasa Andolan." "Through great enthusiasm Bhartiya Bhasa Andolan team is taking a proactive role today in the society by their noble and ideal programme "Aao mile apne sansadon ke saath : Comeon, let's meet with our MPs" from all over the country for the golden future of India. "We must implement the aanchalik and ratriya Raj Bhasa in the respective regional languages of High Courts, and also to give respect of Indian Languages before



country, among the people of the country, on the freedom of our country's languages. Bhartiya Bhasa Andolan team under the bold and dedicated leadership of Rashtriya Adhyakshya Sri Arun Bhardwaj with able monitoring and coordination of its Rashtriya Upadhakshya Mr.Prasanta Varma and Mr.Shankar Jha continuously urging the Hon'ble MP's through their ideal and marvelous programme "Aao mile apne sansadon ke saath : Comeon, let's meet our Member of Parliaments". The dedicated senior advocates in the society are specially engaged in the Bhartiya Bhasa Andolan team work which is the proudful path for all of us. The country shall always remember this organisation, which is continuously moving forward for the public, besides their personal professional works. As the best example of growing steps of Bhartiya Bhasa Andolan team, the Rashtriya Adhkshya Sri Arun Bhardwaj discussed the topic of Bhartiya Bhasa Andolan with Hon'ble Home Minister of the Country Shri Amit Shah and Hon'ble Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh Yogi Adityanath. "Rashtriya Upadh-askhya Sri Prasanta Varma has said to be a part of the selected leadership and activists of the country in the programme "Aao mile apne sansadohn ke saath : Comeon let's meet with our MPs". He also addressed that all of

is quite proudful moment for all of us. Now the country is celebrating 75 years of independence but when will the country stand in its own language? "In the

Bhartiya Bhasa Andolan in India which were in a protracted and projected growth and are in oriented stage. In this context the talented team of



programme of "Comeon lets meet our MPs" Bhartiya Bhasa Andolan team met with Hon'ble MP Shri Pratap Sadangi, Hon'ble MP Sri Bhaskar Rao and Hon'ble MP Sri Juel Oram and discussed this issue at length when all of them assured that they will raise this noble issue even for the State of Odisha, that is Orissa High Court to work in Odia language too and the judiciary in the nation to work in Indian Language. They further assured that soon this question will be raised in the Parliament and they will issue letter to the Honble CM, Honble Governor of Odisha to give respect to article 348 (2) of the Constitution of India and with their leaders as well to unanimously raise this issue for the public at large in Odisha. "Really due to continuous effort of Bhartiya Bhasa Andolan team, for the first time, after 75 year's of independence, the question before the Parliament became

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Bharatiya Bhasa Andolan met the Hon'ble MP of Haryana's senior leader Sri Deependra Singh Hooda, Hon'ble MP of Punjab Sardar Sukhdev Singh Dhindsa who said that he will make the issue of Bharatiya Bhasa Andolan in the forthcoming Punjab election too. Hon'ble MP from Kanpur Shri Satyadev Pachauri has not only assured his best of his support in the issue but has made the historical speech on this issue before Loksabha which is a hot news in the entire country these days. Hon'ble MP of Arunachal East Sri Tapir Rao desired to get the bullet points, so that he will raise the same before concerned officials, executives, Ministers and even before the Parliament of India. Similarly Hon'ble MP of (sitamadhi) Bihar Sri Sunil Kumar Pintu, Hon'ble MP of Pune and Maharashtra Sri Girish Bapat, Senior leadership of Rajasthan and Karuli Hon MP Sri Manoj Rajouria, Hon'ble MP Sardar Sukhdev

Supreme Court including the Rashtriya Rajbhasa Hindi too." "Our Matrubhumi, our Matrubhasa is great for us. We should dedicate ourselves and all of our endeavor shall be for its development. Bhartiya Bhasa Andolan team has prepared a great revolutionary base for the all round development of Matrubhasa and Matrubhumi which has a feeling that despite of our independence 75 years ago, we have not received the independence for Swa Tantra and Swa Bhasa. Thus the second independence which India is seeking now is for its own official languages. Cancellation of Howrah - MGR Chennai mail Kolkata(KCN): The 12839 Howrah-MGR Chennai Mail leaving Howrah today will remain cancelled due to the cancellation of the link train, informed the South Eastern Railway authority today.

Make your winter healthy with Dabur Chyawanprash

Kolkata (KCN): Winter is one of the most awaited seasons in India, but it may also bring a plethora of diseases like Cold - Cough and Respiratory problems to name a few; which are most prevalent in this season & usually occurs due to a low immunity. Chyawan-prash is an

the need to build a stronger immune system to fight against illnesses due to changing season, common bacteria and viruses. The drive was flagged off in Kolkata with a special session conducted for more than 200 kids from Baranagar Welfare Society. The session was

the study revealed that regular use of Dabur Chyawanprash helped reduced the risk of COVID-19 infection by up to 12 times in tested subjects in comparison to control group which was not consuming Chyawanprash. It was also noted that with regular usage of

Aurangabad, Ranchi, Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Chennai and Chandigarh. "Dabur Chyawanprash has been committed to helping every Indian achieve a strong immunity for over 100 years. This initiative is a leap forward towards this commitment. We are concerned about the



around 3000-year-old & well-known Ayurvedic formulation that is used for boosting immunity and helps provide protection against common day to day infections like cough and cold. Dabur Chyawanprash contains many 'Rasayana' herbs which help in prevention of variety of infections through its immunomodulatory effects. As part of its commitment to safeguard the health of the future generations, Dabur Chyawanprash today announced the launch of a mega awareness initiative aimed at securing the health of underprivileged kids across the country. Under this initiative, Dabur Chyawanprash - together with Dr. Parmeshwar Arora, M.D. (AY) B.H.U. Varanasi Gold Medalist & Senior Consultant Ayurveda-- will conduct Immunity awareness sessions to educate children about

aimed at creating awareness among kids to fight illness in winter. The kids were also educated on ways to boost their immunity through basic hygiene and a nutritious diet. Speaking on the occasion, Dabur India Ltd, Marketing Head Health Supplements, Mr. Prashant Agarwal said, "In the era of COVID-19, strong immunity has become the primary need of every individual more than ever before. Dabur Chyawanprash, with the power of more than 40 Ayurvedic herbs like Amla, Ashwagandha, Giloy etc., has always stood for boosting immunity to fight illnesses. To authenticate this, we have completed a large scale, multi centric, clinical study on - Dabur Chyawanprash. This clinical study evaluated the beneficial role of Dabur Chyawanprash as a prophylactic remedy for COVID-19 infection. The findings of

Dabur Chyawanprash, there was up to 6 times lesser severity of COVID -19 infection when compared to subjects in control group. Dr. Parmeshwar Arora, M.D. (Ayurveda), B.H.U., said, "During cycles of seasonal change there is a sudden temperature variation, which leads to illnesses like cough, cold & flu. Enhancing immunity is an effective way to fight illnesses like Cold, Cough, Respiratory problems etc. Dabur Chyawanprash is an effective solution to boost one's immunity needs through changing weather cycles." Under this campaign, Dabur Chyawanprash has joined hands with leading NGOs from 18 cities in India i.e. Varanasi, Prayagraj, Lucknow, Ahmedabad, Amritsar, Jaipur, Bhubaneswar, Kolkata, Patna, Indore, Raipur, Pune,

cold wave that claims so many lives every year. Through this Initiative, we will attempt to reach out to provide protection to underprivileged kids by highlighting the importance of immunity besides providing Chyawanprash to these Kids," Mr. Agarwal added. About Dabur India Ltd: Dabur India Ltd is one of India's leading FMCG Companies. Building on a legacy of quality and experience for 137 years, Dabur is today India's most trusted name and the world's largest Ayurvedic and Natural Health Care Company. Dabur India's FMCG portfolio includes nine Power Brands - Dabur Chyawanprash, Dabur Honey, Dabur Honitus, Dabur Pudina Hara and Dabur Lal Tail in the Healthcare space; Dabur Amla, Dabur Red Paste and Vatika in the Personal care space; and Real in the Foods category.

Jagrat Kandhamal celebrated Death Anniversary of Dr.B.R.Ambedkar

Phulbani: On the occasion of the 66th death anniversary of Dr.Baba Saheb Ambedkar, the



founder of the Constitution, Bharat Ratna, a large rally was held on behalf of Jagrat Kandhamal, a leading Organization in Kandhamal district. Satya Narayan Behera the founder and General Secretary of jagrat kandhamal.and Senior Lawyer. On the occasion of Baba Saheb Ambedkar's death on behalf of Jagrat Kandhamal Odisha, a devotional tribute was held under the chairmanship of Prashant Mohanty, President . hundreds of people were presented to give Heartful tribute on the death Anniversary.Dr.Ambedkar

is alive in every hearts of people .The only organization that has recently solved the problem by filing a lawsuit for rights. The chief guest at the meeting was Baldev Behera, executive officer of the municipality, who spoke on how Baba Saheb had suffer untouchability during his childhood education. Guest of Honour Press club president Sri Sunil pattnaik said jagrat kandhamal is the only organization who raise voice for down trodden people and all kandhamal people should support to jagrat kandhamal .AICC member Ghana kumar Shabar as one of the guests said Jagrat Kandhamal is the social organization voice of oppressed and needy of kandhamal and all odisha will know it . the organization should established in every district of Odisha. Similarly, Sunil Bishwal, president of the Kandhamal Media Forum, today advised hundreds of members present that it is only through such a social organization that they can claim their rights in protest of corruption. Arun Nayak Sudra Samaj president Kandhamal, Pastor Union of phiringia's Junesh Digal, joint secretary Ramesh Chandra Pradhan, journalist Aditya Tripathi, Surya Narayan Behera, Khirod Sahani, hundreds of prominent members were present. As Jagrat Kandhamal is a social organization, some of the demands for the benefit of the people of Kandhamal have not yet been fulfilled.jagrat jandhamal will continue demands and graps Rights from the government. finally Ramesh chandra Pradhan given heartfelt thanks to all guest and peoples.

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Gigi Hadid reveals name of her and Zayn Malik's baby girl

WASHINGTON(KCN): Supermodel Gigi Hadid on Thursday (local time) revealed the name of her and Zayn Malik's newborn baby girl - Khai.

According to E!News, the 25-year-old model debuted the unique moniker in a very subtle way -- by adding 'Khai's mom' to her Instagram bio.

The supermodel shared the news exactly four months after announcing their daughter's arrival.

"Our baby girl is here, healthy & beautiful. To try put into words how i am feeling right now

would be an impossible task," Zayn wrote in a September tweet.

together x." Hours later, Gigi posted another glimpse of the

Gigi has kept fans up to date on her motherhood experience, all while sticking to

nia farm for the foreseeable future.

"They feel peaceful staying there for now," the insider shared at the time. "Gigi wants the most privacy for their baby and wants to be able to raise her privately."

The family of three also considers New York City a home base, and over the holiday season Khai got to experience what Gigi described as her 'first snow.'

E!News reported that Gigi and the former 'One Direction' member Zayn, who first sparked romance rumours in 2015, reunited in late

2019 after breaking up earlier in the year. In April 2020, reports surfaced that the couple was expecting their first child together-which Gigi later confirmed to Jimmy Fallon on 'The Tonight Show'. "Obviously, we wished we could have announced it on our own terms but we're very excited and happy and grateful for everyone's well wishes and support," she shared. "Especially during this time, it's a nice silver lining to be able to be home and be together and really experience it day by day."



"The love i feel for this tiny human is beyond my understanding," he added.

"Grateful to know her, proud to call her mine, & thankful for the life we will have

couple's daughter on Twitter. Hadid wrote, "Our girl joined us earth-side this weekend and she's already changed our world. So in love." In the months since,

their commitment to privacy. Shortly after Khai's birth, a source told E! News that Gigi and Zayn planned to stay at her mom Yolanda Hadid's Pennsylva-

'Housefull 4' rakes in Rs 53 crore in first three days



MUMBAI(KCN): Akshay Kumar's "Housefull 4" has earned Rs 53 crore in the first three days of its release, the makers said on Monday.

The Farhad Nadiadwala, how-

ever, believes the film will perform better in the coming days as the festive season has concluded.

Producer Sajid Nadiadwala, how-

ever, believes the film will perform better in the coming days as the festive season has concluded.

ALSO READ: 'Housefull 4' movie review - Akshay

Kumar steals the show in this problematic comedy of errors "The first three days of our film release were like paid previews. People have

come despite the festive season & enjoyed the film.

I think we had the best-paid previews with a total collection of 53cr and our actual weekend starts to-

day," Nadiadwala said in a statement.

The movie also features Riteish Deshmukh, Bobby Deol, Kriti Sanon, Pooja Hegde and Kriti Kharbanda.

Vijay's 'Bigil' crosses Rs 100 crore mark in three days

CHENNAI: Tamil just three days since ongoing festive sea- more massy than



superstar Vijay's Diwali release, "Bigil", has crossed the Rs 100-crore mark worldwide in

its release. The film, directed by Atlee Kumar, is the big Tamil release of the

son. ALSO READ: 'Bigil' review - Thalpathy's 'message' is flawed in this

'Mersal' film Industry tracker and columnist Sreedhar Pillai tweeted: "#Bigil does

it in style in super fast time, crosses 100 cr worldwide in 3 days! Extraordinary! Phenomenal!

ALSO READ: 'Bigil' madness - Rioting charges on 32 Vijay fans in Krishnagiri

Trade analyst and film critic Ramesh Bala wrote on Twitter: "#Bigil has taken more than 100 crs+ Opening at the WW Box Office.

Vijay is known as Thalpathy to Tamil fans and the film continues his winning streak at the box-office. Incidentally, this is his third release

with Atlee after "Theri" and "Mersal". With both earlier films emerging blockbusters, Vijay fans hope "Bigil" will repeat the box-office feat.

ALSO READ: A Bigil-esque script - Two schools in Erode helping girls play their way to success "Bigil" is a sports action film that has Vijay in dual roles as father and son. As the father, he plays a local don and as the son he is the coach of a women's football team. The actor underwent training for the coach's character.

Why does the wealthiest businesswoman need to understand the difference between a promoter and a CEO?

R.K.Sinha

A while back, one must have seen and heard about Falguni Nair, the promoter of the beauty e-commerce company Nykaa. Falguni Nair has become the richest self-made businesswoman in the country due to the phenomenal success of her company's IPO. Falguni Nair has even surpassed Biocon's female founder Kiran Mazumdar Shaw in terms of wealth. Her total assets valuation has exceeded 56 thousand crores rupees.

But if we look away from these figures for a moment, it is expected that she will professionally run her company. She will also have to take great care of the interests of the shareholders of her company and prioritize their well-being. Now Falguni will have to stop running her company like a family-business shop. A singular glance at the Nykaa's board will fill one with utter disappointment. Apart from her, Falguni's husband, Sanjay Nayyar, her son, and her daughter are a part of it. In a board of 8 members, half of the members belong to the same family. If this isn't a prime example of familyism, then what is? Will the blame for familyism continue to be limited to political leaders? Falguni Nair has to understand that any company is successful only when it is run in a professional and structured manner. Only then does a company gain its due share of credibility, respect, and stature, otherwise not. Successful subscription of an IPO doesn't mean that the company has achieved everything. To make a company or group truly successful, it takes a continuous string of unfettered hard work and struggle. For this, the best professionals have to be appointed in important positions.

The promoters of a company like Falguni

Nair's will have to seriously consider the appointment of a professional Managing Director / Chief Executive Officer (CEO) immediately. It is the professional executives who have to implement the vision of the promoter and the board of the company. Apart from India, this is happening in the best companies all over the world. Sundar Pichai in Google, Satya Nadella in Microsoft, Indra

round the clock. The same applies to our very own N Narayana Murthy, Anand Mahindra, Shiv Nadar, and Deepak Nair (HDFC Bank). All of them keep their families away from their companies/groups. No family member is appointed to the post of CEO in their businesses.

They are ardent believers in the fact that a company can only be run in a professional

with her husband and children. Even though no one can question the ability of her husband or her children, it doesn't send out the right message.

Everyone knows that after the economic liberalization, a new class of entrepreneurs is emerging in the country. Like Falguni Nair, Kalpana Saroj's story is also unique. She is a Dalit and the President of Kamani Tubes. She

has previously been honored by the Dalit Business Chamber. Even after coming from the lowest strata of the caste system, she made a place for herself in the world of business and commerce.

In the corporate world, there are very few self-made women. Usually,

the promoters of companies appoint their wives, daughters, daughters-in-law to the corporate board. The truth is, there are very few women like Falguni Nair, Kiran Mazumdar Shaw, or Kalpana Saroj in India. In a way, they also act as ideal role models for others. Having been inspired by their success, many other women would think about starting their own business.

That is why the media gave so much prominence to Falguni Nayar being the richest woman in the country. Her beauty e-commerce company Nykaa will continue to grow and prosper if it gets sound and professional leadership. Now it depends on Falguni Nair how professional she makes her company. She has to remember that inspired by her success, several young people, especially women, will go on to become entrepreneurs. The nation will keep a close track of her every step.

(The writer is a senior editor, columnist, and former MP)



Nooyi in PepsiCo became CEOs. These are just a few examples that prove that even top-tier companies have understood the difference between a promoter and a CEO.

If one talks about India in particular, promoters and CEOs are distinct individuals in Tata (N Chandrasekaran), Mahindra & Mahindra (Dr. Anoop Shah), Infosys (Salil Parekh), Bharti Airtel (Gopal Vithal), Godrej (Vivek Gambhir), etc. There are dozens of similar examples. If one looks at those groups in which the distinction between a promoter and a CEO is defined, then it becomes evident that the promoters of these companies are visionary.

The Founder and Chairman of Microsoft, Bill Gates's objective is not just to make money. The same can be said about Ratan Tata. They provide guidance to their managers and CEOs while explaining and teaching them the prerequisite of running a successful company. They simply don't sit on their CEO's head

manner. That is why they are widely respected and recognized. Deepak Nair appointed Aditya Puri as the CEO of HDFC. Aditya made HDFC gain a strong footing among the top-tier banks of the nation. The job of the promoter is to find the best professionals. Falguni Nair will have to learn from these stalwarts of the corporate world. Surprisingly, Falguni Nair, who herself has had a long experience in the banking and corporate world, is still running her company in the style of a grocer.

Yes, right now we only look at promoters of groups like Bajaj Auto, Hero Group, Doctor Reddy's, and Sun Pharma. But, no one can deny that they are also doing way better. Changes may take time to come around because the old system has been in play for a long time.

However, Falguni Nair's venture is entirely new. As a startup, she should have set an example and won the admiration of the entire corporate world. But, she has filled her board

Indian Foreign Policy in the Times of the Pandemic

Harsh Vardhan Shringla

We will celebrate the 75th year of our independence in 2022. We have traversed a remarkable journey during these seven decades. The challenges we have faced as a nation, both external and internal, have been and will continue to remain formidable. We do, however, have a list of achievements that is both considerable and impressive. India is a nation on the move. It is evolving and progressing along multiple axes at a very rapid rate. The fundamental challenge facing Indian foreign policy is to ensure that India engages with the international community in a manner that is both consistent and responsive to contemporary realities. In other words, our foreign policy has to be one of continuity and change. The current international environment is particularly challenging. We are living through the greatest shock to the international system since the Second World War. What began as a health emergency has expanded into an economic disruption, a geopolitical shock and a social challenge of unprecedented magnitude. How we deal with these immense difficulties—and whether we are able to transform Indian Foreign Policy in the Times of the Pandemic Harsh Vardhan Shringla.

The current international environment is challenging. We are living through the greatest shock to the international system since the Second World War. What began as a health emergency has expanded into an economic disruption, a geo-political shock and a social challenge of unprecedented magnitude. How we deal with these immense difficulties—and whether we are able to transform some of them into opportunities—will influence our future trajectory as a nation. The author is the Foreign Secretary of India.

We are a country with global interests. We have one of the largest and most able Diasporas. Our economy, and therefore our material well being, is plugged on to global supply chains. We are a powerhouse in the services sectors. We look at the world as a borderless economy with an interlinked marketplace.

India is therefore committed to globalisation. We believe, however, that the pandemic has demonstrated the deficiencies and the limitations of its existing form. It is driven by a purely economic agenda. The Prime Minister in his address to the G-20 has said that globalisation should advance the collective interests of all humankind and should be based on fairness, equality and humanity.

It should be a human-centric process. India has

been a constructive actor in developing an international system that is human-centric. We have worked together with partner countries in sharing our developmental experience. We have undertaken humanitarian assistance and disaster-relief operations over a geographical area spanning from the Pacific to the Atlantic. We have assisted a number of our friends and partners during the current pandemic. We have been a net security provider. We have catalysed the emergence of international organisations with constructive, forward-facing agendas such as the International Solar Alliance and the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure.

We do not live in a moral vacuum. India's aspirations are not just material in nature. We believe not just in "Vasudhaiv Kutumbakam"—the world is one—but also in the principle of "Nishkama Karma", that good needs to be done for its own sake.

Our efforts to shape global thinking and project our perspectives have continued through the pandemic. The Prime Minister has participated in G20 and NAM virtual summits, the Global Vaccine Summit, and the HighLevel Segment of United Nations Economic and Social Council (UN ECOSOC), and convened a virtual meeting of South Asian leaders.

India has been at the forefront of digital diplomacy during the current crisis. In addition to the summits listed earlier, India has had virtual summits with Australia and the European Union. We have participated at the Ministerial level in BRICS, SCO and RIC meetings. The Prime Minister and External Affairs Minister have conducted over 150 digital and virtual meetings during this period. We have We are a country with global interests. We have one of the largest and most able Diasporas. Our economy, and therefore our material well being, is plugged on to global supply chains. We are a powerhouse in the services sectors. We look at the world as a borderless economy with an interlinked marketplace.

Our most important foreign policy objective is captured in our concept of 'Neighbourhood First'. It underlines the renewed primacy we attach to neighbouring countries to comprehensively upgrade and strengthen our relationships. Ties with our neighbours receive the greatest attention as reflected in frequent high-level exchanges; significant improvements in connectivity, economic integration and people-to-people contact; and special focus on neighbouring countries in India's development partnership

program. We have demonstrated our commitment to working in South Asia, including during the pandemic, and in the subregional BIMSTEC frameworks interalia through continuous high-level engagement and through economic and connectivity initiatives. Look East has been upgraded to Act East under which ties with ASEAN countries are being strengthened through improvements in road, maritime and air connectivity with a special focus on connecting our northeastern states to these countries. We have a growing dialogue with ASEAN through multiple channels and rapidly growing multi-sectoral linkages with ASEAN members. We remain actively engaged in other formats such as the East Asia Summit and ASEAN Defence Minister's Meeting (ADMM) Plus. In the last five years, Think West—our outreach to the Gulf and West Asian countries—has become an increasingly important pillar of our foreign policy. Our engagement with Africa, both in political and economic terms, has also intensified. There have been 34 outgoing visits to African countries at the level of the President, the Vice President and the Prime Minister. Over two-thirds of India's Lines of Credit in the past decade have been offered to African countries. Our commitment and our engagement with our key bilateral partners continue apace. India-US relationship has been elevated to a Comprehensive Global Strategic Partnership in recent years. Our engagement is deep rooted, marked by regular high-level dialogue; cooperation in multilateral, plurilateral and global platforms; and a diverse and substantial bilateral agenda. Defence, security and counter-terrorism are important pillars of our partnership. Growing trade and investment in both directions, collaboration in R&D, innovation, healthcare, and space are also crucial components of our agenda. Our Strategic Energy Partnership with the US has emerged as an important contributor towards our energy security.

The European Union is an important friend with whom we have a many layered and vibrant relationship. The 15th India-EU Summit held in July 2020 showcased the firm resolve and vision of the two sides towards realizing a multi-faceted partnership. The commitment is ingrained in the "India-EU Strategic Partnership: A Roadmap to 2025" issued after Summit. Our relationship with Russia has not only deepened in traditional areas of cooperation like defence, space, nuclear, science and technology etc., but has expanded to include non-traditional and new

areas of cooperation like energy, investments and cooperation between states. This year marks the 20th year of IndiaRussia Strategic Partnership and 10th year of 'Special and Strategic Partnership'.

We face a number of challenging situations in our immediate neighbourhood. We will work appropriately to resolve these problems. Our capacities and resources are growing and we will always be prepared to adopt the necessary strategies and tactics when challenged.

We are committed multilateralists. India firmly believes that the path Ties with our neighbours receive the greatest attention as reflected in frequent highlevel exchanges; significant improvements in connectivity, economic integration and people-to-people contact; and special focus on neighbouring countries in India's development We believe that all nations must join hands to address common challenges and achieve common goals. However, multilateralism needs to represent the reality of the contemporary world. India believes that only reformed multilateralism with a reformed United Nations at its centre can meet the aspirations of humanity. We have a challenging and busy multilateral and plurilateral agenda in the coming years. We will join the UN Security Council for a twoyear non-permanent term on January 1st, 2021. We are also due to hold the Presidencies of G20, BRICS and SCO. These are recognition of our enhanced global standing and also opportunities for us to convey our perceptions, our expectations and our priorities.

Countering terrorism is one of our most important challenges. India has suffered and continues to suffer from cross-border terrorism. We have been consistent and energetic in our efforts to seek action against those who control, support, fund and shelter terrorists. Our efforts to isolate terrorists and their sponsors have led to increased global support. Our task is, however, far from complete and we need to ensure that the world follows an undifferentiated and unambiguous approach to terrorism. We also need to ensure that politicisation of global mechanisms such as UN listings is avoided, and that the international community finalises a Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism. (To be continued)

The author is the Foreign Secretary of India. Email: psfs@mea.gov.in

Shriyanka Shines In Shooting

Bhubaneswar: Shriyanka Sadangi created history by becoming the first Odia girl to win national

Achyut Samanta congratulated Shriyanka for this stupendous achievement. "It's a great news for

Born in 1995 at Sambalpur, Shriyanka studied in Delhi and is now doing her MBA at KIIT School of Management. She trains and practices at the Gagan Narang Academy, Pune.

In 2010, Sadangi participated in the World Shooting Championship in Germany.

In October 2011 in the Asian Airgun Championship organised in Kuwait, Sadangi bagged a gold medal.

In November of the same year, she won a silver and two bronze medals in individual events at the 55th National Shooting championship.

In January 2012, Sadangi bagged a silver medal in the 10-meter Air Rifle Women category in the 12th Asian Championship held at Doha. She scored 394 out of 400 at the championship in Doha. That achievement made her the most successful

shooter from Odisha. Sadangi's first achievement in the senior category the same year was a silver medal in the 5th Asian Senior Airgun Shooting Championship in Nanchang, China. This was a 10-metre Air Rifle event.

In 2014, Sadangi was selected in the Indian team for the 51st ISSF World Shooting Championship at Granada, Spain.

In 2015, Sadangi won a silver in Asian Shooting Championship in 10m Air Rifle Junior Women's event at Kuwait.

In 2016, she won a silver in 9th Asian Airgun Championship, 10 meter Air Rifle Shooting event in Tehran, Iran. This was the fifth position in the championship.

In 2018, Shriyanka lost the shoot off for gold in women's air rifle, after a close match with Charleen Baenisch of Germany in the International shooting championship.



championship in shooting. In Bhopal, where the Rifle Nationals are taking place, Shriyanka won her first women's 50m rifle 3 positions (3P) crown, finishing the 45-shot eight-woman final with a score of 454.9 points.

BJD MP and founder of KIIT & KISS

Odisha as this is the first time we have got a medal in Shooting. Hope this is the start of a new era of performance for Odisha shooters. I am sure this will inspire a lot of youngsters to take up shooting," said Odisha's Secretary, Sports & Youth Services R Vineel Krishna.

Deadlock Over Mamita Murder

Bhubaneswar: Opposition Congress Lawmakers forced entered into the Speaker's Podium with placards while BJP Legislators trooped into the Well of the House on Monday, demanding the removal of minister DS Mishra over the murder of Kalahandi teacher, leading to chaos in the Odisha Legislative Assembly.

As soon as the House assembled for the Question Hour, the Congress Members climbed the Speaker's Podium with placards, shouting slogans demanding the Minister's resignation.

At the same time, the BJP Members trooped into the Well of the House, leading to chaos.

The Treasury Bench Members also raised from their seats putting on masks of freedom fighter Jayee Rajguru, protesting against the Centre's "refusal" to recognize 'Paika Bidroha' as the first struggle of Independence.

What in fact further irked the opposition members was that MoS Home Mr. Mishra, on behalf of the Chief Minister, who is in charge of the Home department, replied to a written question of BJP Whip Mohan Majhi on the woman



teacher's murder case.

Mr. Majhi had sought to know from the Chief Minister to name the VIPs and their motive to visit the Mahaling college in Kalahandi district a month prior to the murder. He also asked the CM to name the persons who spent night at the college and their links with the murder and the alleged sex scandal.

"The case is sub-judice. On Odisha Government's request, the High Court has nominated former district judge, ABS Naidu, to monitor the investigation into the case," Mishra, who is on the eye of the storm, said in the written reply.

Unable to run the House, Speaker Surjya Narayan Patro adjourned the proceedings till 4 pm. When the House reassembled, it was again adjourned for 30 minutes as the Speaker convened an all-party meeting to break the deadlock.

However, the issue could not be resolved as both the side remained adamant on their stands. While the opposition BJP and Congress stick to their demands of sacking the minister and handling over the case to CBI, the treasury bench members did not accept it.

The difference of opinion between the two sides led to no decision. "Ask the leaders who joined the all-party meeting," Speaker Mr. Patro told reporters after the meeting.

Immediately after the adjournment, the Governing BJD members sat on a dharna near the Mahatma Gandhi statue on the State Assembly premises, protesting against the Centre's move.

On the other side, the BJP Members marched

to the Post Master General's Office and dropped a letter addressed to Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik, urging him to attend the Assembly.

They expressed concern as Mr. Patnaik did not attend Assembly proceedings in the last one and a half years even as he went to tours of the districts despite the pandemic and attending Hockey programs in Kalinga Stadium.

The BJP MLAs also raised questions on Mr. Patnaik's recent video statement, in which he alleged that the opposition parties have politicized the woman teacher's murder.

The opposition has been accusing Chief Minister Patnaik of shielding the Minister of State for Home, who is allegedly involved in the kidnap and murder of the teacher.

While BJP has been demanding a CBI probe into the matter, Congress is in favour of a probe by a High Court-monitored Special Investigation Team (SIT).

In a video statement, Mr. Patnaik had on Friday appealed to the opposition to cooperate and ensure smooth functioning of the House, which has been witnessing chaos leading to adjournments since the beginning of the session.

Congress Legislature Party leader Narasingha Mishra said impasse in the Assembly is not good for democracy and the speaker should take the initiative to resolve the issue.

Strongly objecting to Patnaik's remark of opposition parties politicizing the woman teacher's murder case, CLP leader Narasingha Mishra at a press conference in Congress Bhavan, came down heavily on the Chief Minister.

Reminding Chief Minister Mr. Patnaik that when he was a Union Minister in 1999, he personally arrived at a Mahila Police Station in Cuttack to lodge an FIR and had called an Odisha Bandh, Mr. Mishra said adding: "What he did is not politics. But we are following the Constitution and rules of House business and that is politics."

While rejecting the BJD's allegation that Opposition kept the Assembly paralyzed, Mr. Mishra said before the Supplementary Budget was presented on the first day of the Winter Session on December 1, the Opposition drew the Speaker's attention to the letter and motion they had submitted demanding a discussion on the woman teacher's kidnap and murder case. "But the Speaker didn't allow us to speak on the subject," he said.

This apart, he pointed out that both the Congress and BJP have separately adjournment notices for a discussion on this sensitive matter. "When the House has no business to attend to, the adjournment notices could have been discussed but the BJD government was scared to debate on the issue," he said. BJP's Deputy Leader in the Assembly Bishnu Charan Sethi said, "We will continue to protest till the minister is removed. The chief minister has not accepted any of our demands such as handing over the case to the CBI or sacking the Minister."

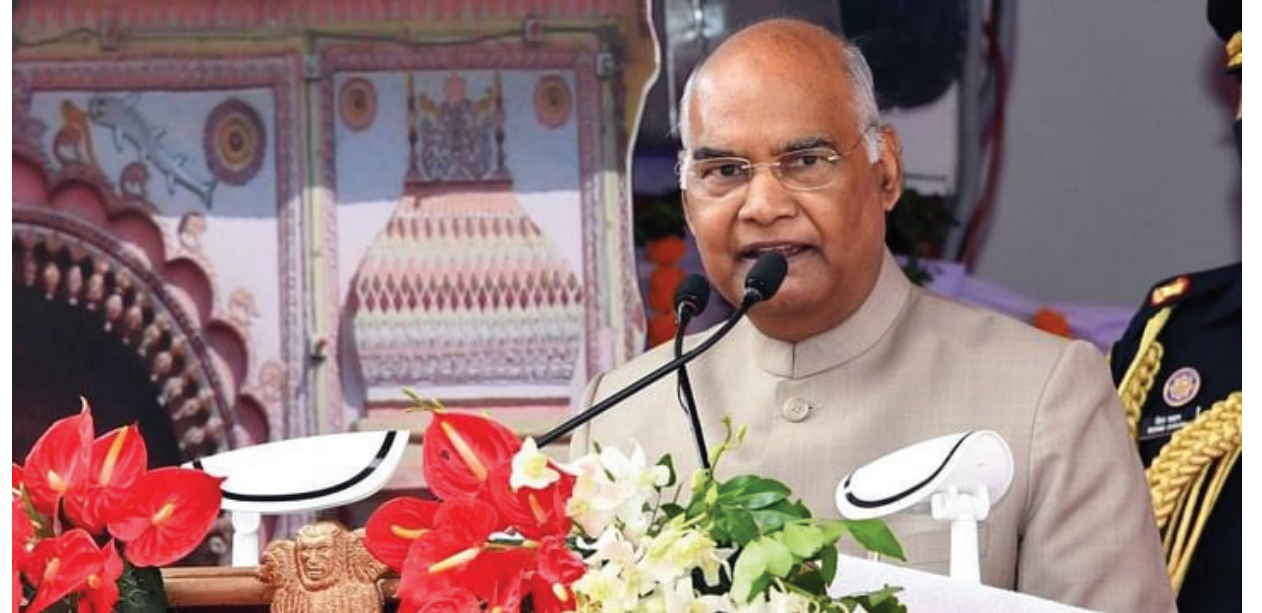
Raigad fort a sacred pilgrimage site for me and all Indians: President Ram Nath Kovind

MUMBAI: Raigad, the hill fort where Chhatrapati Shivaji was coronated, is a sa-

located 166 km away from Mumbai, by ropeway in view of opposition by some

visit the Raigad fort. In 1985, the then President Giani Zail Singh had visited Raigad.

Mohol. During his visit to Maharashtra from December 6 to 9, the



cred pilgrimage site for all countrymen, President Ram Nath Kovind said on Monday. The President began his four-day tour of Maharashtra by visiting the Raigad fort, the erstwhile capital of the Maratha kingdom, and paid respects to Chhatrapati Shivaji. President Kovind reached the hill-fort,

groups to the landing of his helicopter on the historic fort. He also visited the Jagdishwar temple and the samadhi of Chhatrapati Shivaji. "For me and all Indians, this fort of Raigad is a sacred pilgrimage site," President Kovind said.

Kovind became only the second president to

Shivaji Maharaj was coronated as Chhatrapati on the Raigad fort in 1674. President Kovind arrived at Pune Airport and was welcomed by Maharashtra Governor Bhagat Singh Koshiyari, Home Minister Dilip Walse Patil, Minister of State for Protocol Aditi Tatkare and Mayor Murlidhar

President will visit the Air Force Station in Lohegaon in Pune on Tuesday, witness a flying display and interact with air warriors. He will present the President's Standard to the 22nd Missile Vessel Squadron in Mumbai on Wednesday, the Rashtrapati Bhavan had said on Sunday.




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59th Home Guard Day celebrated at Khordha

(Khordha) 59th Home Guard Day Celebrated at District Reserve Police Line, Taratua, Khordha. Speaking on the oc-



casions Superintendent of Police and while Bombay province in 1946. Apart



Commandant Home Guard, Khordha, Sri. Raj Kishore Dora Said " the home guard play an impor-

State Monitoring Omicron Situation

Bhubaneswar; While assuring people amid Omicron threat, Minister Health & Family Welfare, Naba Kishore Das said

foreign returnees from different districts for genome sequencing to ascertain the presence of Omicron variant. All these

officials informed that about 320 returnees, nearly 40 per cent of the total arrivals, are untraceable. As these returnees

10,50,354, a health department bulletin said. The death toll rose to 8,423 as one more person from Puri dis-



there is no need to panic and the State Government is monitoring the situation closely. "The WHO is conducting a study on the new variant and very soon the effectiveness of our vaccines against the variant will be known," Mr.Das said. Amid the Omicron threat, 246 samples of returnees from at-risk countries in Odisha were sent to the Institute of Life Sciences (ILS), Bhubaneswar for genome sequencing, an official said on Monday. According to sources, over 800 persons returned to the state from foreign countries since the detection of the Omicron variant of Covid-19. "We have received 246 samples of the

persons were found Covid positive during the RT-PCR test. The results will be known in the next two or three days," said director, ILS, Ajay Parida here. Earlier, genome sequencing of 141 samples of foreign returnees was conducted. However, fortunately, not a single sample was found to be an Omicron variant, he said. As per protocol, Dr.Parida said, another round of RT-PCR test of the samples will be conducted before carrying out the genome sequencing. The samples whose CT value is less than 28 will be picked for genome sequencing, he said. Meanwhile, Department of Health & FW

have submitted wrong addresses and contact information in the Air Suvidha portal, the government is unable to trace them, the officials said. Public Health Director Niranjan Mishra said: "Information provided by the Centre on foreign returnees is being shared with the district administrations and accordingly, testing and tracing are being conducted." He appealed to the people who have returned from at-risk countries to undergo RT-PCR test for the safety and well-being of their families. Odisha on Monday registered 105 fresh COVID-19 cases, 84 less than the previous day, with the tally increasing to

district succumbed to the disease, it said. 53 other COVID-19 patients have died due to comorbidities, the bulletin said adding 19 children were among new patients. Odisha now has 2,205 active cases, while 10,39,673 people, including 212 in the last 24 hours, have recuperated from the infection. At least 50,267 samples were tested during the period, and the positivity rate was at 0.21 per cent, it said. Nearly 2.81 crore beneficiaries in the state have received the first jab of COVID vaccines, and over 1.64 crore people have been administered both doses.

Public hearing for Khandbandh iron ore mines of ShreeMetallicsLtd held successfully

Barbil (KCN): The public hearing on environmental clearance of

Dalpahar settlement. This mine is under Shree Metallic Limited and is spread

affected about this public hearing. People are opposing this public hearing.

hearing on the notice board of the local panchayat, Joda block or Barbil tehsil office. No public hearing banner or poster was displayed in the affected area one local commented. According to Pushkar Chandra Behera, officer of Kendujhar Regional Pollution Control Board, information about the public hearing has been given through advertisements in national and local newspapers. People



Khandbandh Iron Ore Mines located in Khandbandh village located adjacent to Baitarani reserve forest under Barbil tehsil of Kendujhar district is held today. The hearing was successful with a assurance of the company authority to look into the demand of public like development of road infrastructure ,Ambulance facility, Education ,provision for adequate drinking

over an area of 35.774 hectares.

According to the Union Environment



With an increase of 0.702 to 1.5 million

Ministry, the information of the

are reading newspapers and getting information. We are doing this MoEF work and we have no role in it. Those who are aware getting the information, the rest of the people are not showing any interest to know about the public hearing. However, the meeting was concluded with massive support in presence of SDPO, Himansu Sekhar Behera, Tahsildar Alok Patel with huge police protection. Susama Bilung, ADM had presided over the meeting.



water and employment of local youths. The place of public hearing has been fixed at Baitarni Reserve forest (A) 3 km from Khandbandh village and 20 meters from Covid-19 situation improving: Odisha on Centre's concern BHUBANESWAR: The State government has reacted sharply to the concern flagged by the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare on the rise in new Covid cases and the drop in testing across Odisha. Additional Chief Secretary of Health RK Sharma said Covid indicators in Odisha are better than the national average. While the State's positivity rate is around 0.4 per cent (pc) against the national average of 1.1 per cent, Odisha is testing 4,542 samples per one lakh population compared to 2,685 in the country, he said.

tonnes per annum, the mining capacity of this mine including installation machines for crushing and screening. Local people alleged that no information has been given to the local

public hearing should be given wide publicity among the people of the local affected area by the State Pollution Control Board. But there was no information of public

Er Extends validity of season tickets expired during lockdown period

Kolkata (KCN): As per the Government of West Bengal's directives o-n COVID-19 protocol, normal local train services were suspended from May 6, 2021 to October 30, 2021 over Eastern Railway (ER). Now, The Railway authority has decided to allow extension of validity of season tickets through UTS from December 9, 2021 stated the ER authority.

days lost due to suspension of train services for the period from May 6, 2021 to October 30, 2021. The passengers who are having valid season tickets for the said period will be entitled to get the leftover days for extension of validity of season tickets through UTS from December 9, 2021 stated the ER authority.

Resumption of PRS facility at Beldanga station

Kolkata(KCN): The Eastern Railway authority has announced today that the Passenger Reservation System (PRS) ticketing facility at Beldanga Station, which was closed since December, 2019, will be resumed from tomorrow.

Cancellation of Howrah - Kanniyakumari express

Kolkata (KCN): In view of Cyclone Jawad, the 12665 Howrah-Kanniyakumari Express leaving Howrah today will remain cancelled due to want of rake informed the South Eastern Railway authority.

Over four lakh income tax returns filed daily as deadline nears

NEW DELHI: As the income tax return filing deadline is getting closer, the e-filing website of the Income Tax department is seeing over 4 lakh returns being filed every day, and the number is increasing

nual Information Statement (AIS) through the e-filing portal to verify the accuracy of the TDS and Tax Payments and avail of pre-filing of ITRs.

"It is important for taxpayers to cross

(24.42 lakh), 8.7% is ITR3 (26.58 lakh), 23.12% are ITR4 (70.07 lakh), ITR5 (2.14 lakh), ITR6 (0.91 lakh) and ITR7 (0.15 lakh).

Over 52% of these ITRs are filed using the online ITR form

and as a partner in a firm. ITR 5, 6 and 7 are for firms and corporates.

In November, 48% of the verified ITRs 1, 2 and 4 had been processed on the same day.

Of the verified ITRs,



every passing day. The income tax department in a statement on Sunday said that more than 3 crore income tax returns (ITRs) have now been filed on the new e-Filing portal as on 3 December 2021.

The department has advised all taxpayers, who are yet to file their Income Tax returns for assessment year (AY) 2021-22 to file their returns at the earliest to avoid last minute rush.

It has also exhorted the filers to view their Form 26AS and An-

check the data in the AIS statement with their Bank passbook, interest certificate, Form 16 and Capital gains statement from brokerages in case of purchase and sale of equity/Mutual funds etc," said the statement from the tax department.

According to the I-T department, return filing has increased to 3.03 crore ITRs for assessment year 2021-22.

Of the 3 crore returns files so far, 58.98% of these are ITR1 (1.78 crore), 8% is ITR2

on the portal and the balance are uploaded using the ITR created from the offline software utilities.

TR 1 is filed by individuals with income from salary/pension, one house property and other incomes. ITR 4 is for individuals who have income from business or profession.

ITR 2 is for individuals who have income from salary/pension, capital gains and foreign assets while ITR 3 is for individuals with income from business/profession

more than 2.11 crore have been processed and over 82.80 lakh refunds for AY 2021-22 have been issued.

Around 2.69 crore returns have been e-verified, out of which more than 2.28 crore are through Aadhaar based OTP. The government had extended the deadline - which normally is 31 July -- for filing of returns several times, earlier due to Covid-19 and later due to technical glitches in the new e-filing portal.

Investing in time of uncertainty over Omicron

Just as the Global and Indian economy were finding their feet and people started to move out cautiously, we now have a whole new scare related to the Coronavirus pandemic. Governments are imposing restrictions again and every-

this time. Most virus mutations are insignificant and do not alter the transmitting ability. However, once in a while the mutation is significant enough to change all that. This happened with the

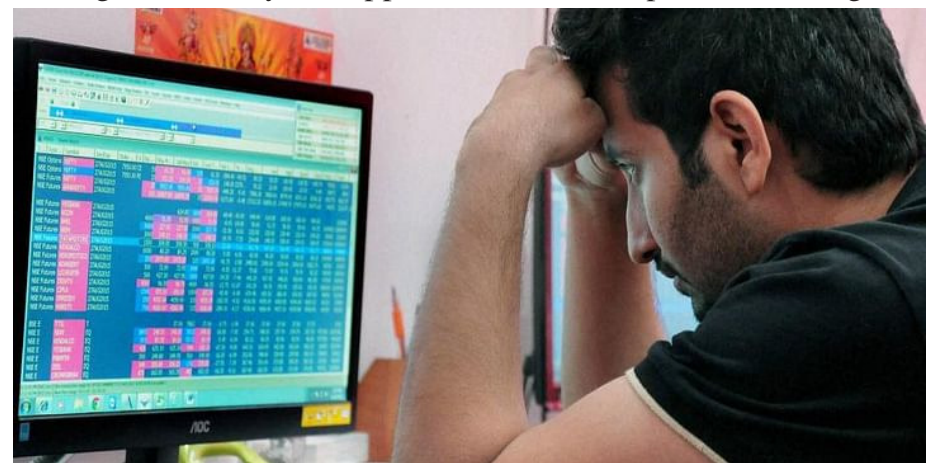
learnt to deal with it. We now have to learn to live with it.

I remember 20 years back, post the IT bust in Y2K (year 2000), the BSE Sensex was trading at about 3,000 and falling rapidly every day, about 100 points. A colleague at

flect the same fear and euphoria at various points in time and therefore get overvalued in bull runs and undervalued during bear times. However, there are limits to this and these are set by the fact that valuations like the Price to Earnings multiple (P/E) cannot go to infinity and can neither fall to zero.

As Benjamin Graham once said 'In the short run the markets are a voting machine but in the long run they are a weighing machine'. Thus, if you wait long enough the valuation of a good company will bounce back after a fall.

Eventually, these ups and downs will even out and hopefully the pandemic will become endemic. In the interim, keep a keen eye on the fundamentals and if you do find good companies trading cheap due to a gloomy overall outlook, take a longer term view and seriously consider investing during such challenging times.



one is worried. Viruses mutate all the time, which is why people catch 'the flu' every year despite the fact that recovering from a particular strain builds antibodies (which is true for Coronavirus too). Every time the virus is transmitted to a new host, it has the possibility of mutating. With a raging pandemic and millions of people being infected around the Globe, the opportunity to mutate has been so many more

Delta variant and is expected to happen with the Omicron variant. What matters now is the response to the virus. For markets, these ups and downs and the uncertainty is nothing new. Multiple positive and negative factors keep taking the markets up and down in waves, similar to the waves we are seeing of the pandemic. This kind of risk is more accounted for in the stock markets than in real life. Investors in the markets have

work commented saying if the markets keep falling like this, they will be at Zero in one month's time. Fortunately, that did not happen and the markets are 20x in 20 years from there. However, the point is we tend to think in straight lines while extrapolating while markets (and life) move in cycles. When things are going bad we start fearing the worst and when all is hunky dory, we start painting blue sky estimates. Markets re-

Odisha Missing Tourist Circuit Funds

Bhubaneswar: While Odisha has huge potential on Eco, Wildlife, Tribal, Buddhist and Spiritual fronts, the State has not been able to receive funds for these Circuits.

The Coastal State, which is a major tourist destination, having diversity of tourist attraction, it has only been able to receive funds for development of one Coastal Circuit long ago. While Ministry of Tourism promoting holistic destinations, the Union Government has promoted several Circuits, Odisha has received funds for development of one Coastal Circuit.

Ministry of Tourism has sanctioned several Coastal Circuits in the States including in Odisha to attract tourists.

Ministry of Tourism has approved Coastal Circuits in Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Puducherry, West Bengal, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Goa, and Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

Odisha, being a prominent Coastal State having lot of potential to attract tourists have been sanctioned funds to promote tourism in Coastal Zones of Gopalpur-Barkul-Satapada-Tampara.

These places are attracting tourists in a big way and in order to develop infrastructure and basic amenities funds are sanctioned and released in phased manner, said official sources. While Ministry of Tourism had sanctioned Rs.70.82 Crore for the purpose, Rs.56.65 Crore has already been released to the Odisha Government.

While Andhra Pradesh has been sanctioned two Coastal Circuits, Odisha has got one. West Bengal has received a Coastal Circuit for development of Beach Circuit of Udaipur-Digha-Shankarpur-Tejpur-Mandarmani-Fraserganj-Bakkhlai-Henry Island.

Beaches of Mandarmani, Digha and Udaipur are adjacent to Odisha Coast and in fact Odisha needs another Coastal Circuit for development of beaches of Udaipur-Kasafal-Balaramgadi-Talasari-Chandipur, pointed out a former Additional Chief Secretary, who was long time, was in charge of Tourism Department of Odisha Government.

Apart from promoting Coastal Circuits, Ministry of Tourism is promoting Eco Circuits, Tribal Circuits, Wildlife Circuits, Heritage Circuits, Buddhist Circuits, Desert Circuits, Himalayan Circuits, Ramayan Circuits, Spiritual Circuits, and Rural Circuits to promote tourism in the Country.

In fact, Odisha has potential to receive funds for Tribal, Buddhist, Heritage, Spiritual, Eco and Wildlife Circuits.

While Chhattisgarh has received funds for Tribal Circuit, though Odisha has rich Tribal Heritage to showcase, it has not been funded by the Union Government.

Similar is the case of Buddhist Circuit, in fact Odisha is famous for Buddhist Monuments spread over the State and it attracts large number of International tourists to these places of Buddhist interest.

So far Eco Circuits and Wildlife Circuits are concerned; the State has fabulous eco-tourism potential and rich bio-diversity, which is attracting one of the largest number of tourists to the sites.

However Odisha has not been able to receive any sanctions other than Coastal Circuit, pointed out a senior official.

PM Narendra Modi meets Russian Prez Vladimir Putin in Delhi for the 21st India- Russia Annual Summit

Continued from page-1

The visit is in continuation of the tradition of annual summits held alternately in India and Russia.

India, Russia conclude AK-203 deal, renew 10-year pact for military cooperation Earlier in the day, the two countries held their first 2+2 Ministerial Dialogue.

The two countries on Monday signed an agreement for the procurement of 6,01,427 assault rifles AK-203 through Indo-Russia Rifles Pvt Ltd, under the military-technical cooperation arrangement for 2021-31.

Putin had said on Wednesday that he intends to discuss with Prime Minister Narendra Modi new "large-scale" initiatives on further developing "specially privileged" Russian-Indian relations.

"This partnership brings real mutual benefit to both states. Bilateral trade shows good dynamics; ties are actively developing in the energy sector, innovation, space, and the production of coronavirus vaccines and medicines," Putin had said.

BJD Memo on Paika Bidroha

Continued from page-1

Memorandum said that this is to bring to your kind notice that "Paika Bidroha" also known as the Paika Rebellion took place in 1817, which was India's first organized armed rebellion against the British raj. This was the First war of Independence for India which was 40 years before the revolt of 1857, which was later termed as 1st War of Indian Independence against British Colonialism.

This battle was fought under the leadership of Baxi Jagabandhu of Odisha. The legend of the heroics of Baxi Jagabandhu as well as the valiant Paikas of Odisha continues to inspire the 4.5 crore Odias since the last two centuries. It is time, that this struggle and sacrifice by a generation of Odia people got its due place in the annals of history.

The Paika Bidroha led the path in energizing and mobilizing the people of India and created strong resistance against the British raj, which ultimately led to the British having to leave India and India gaining its independence from foreign rule.

On 18 July, 2017 the Odisha Cabinet of Ministers led by Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik, passed a resolution to declare Paika Bidroha as First War of Independence.

On 19 July 2017, CM Naveen Patnaik wrote a letter to then Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh requesting to declare Paika Bidroha as the first war of Independence. The people of Odisha wholeheartedly supported this proposal and were overjoyed that finally the rich heritage and culture of the land of Paikas would be rightly recognised which it richly deserves.

On 20 July, 2017, a massive Bicentenary Celebration of the heroic Paika Bidroha was held at New Delhi which was inaugurated by the then President of India Pranab Mukherjee in the presence of Chief Minister of Odisha Naveen Patnaik. There also the demand for declaring the Paika Bidroha reverberated and echoed. People of Odisha across all walks of life were ecstatic and hopeful that Paika Bidroha would be declared as the first war of independence.

On 23 October, 2017, the then Union Minister of Human Resource Development Prakash Javadekar in a press meet at Bhubaneswar announced that "Paika Bidroha will find a place as the First War of Independence against the British Rule in the history books. The students shall learn factual history of 1817."

This brought great happiness to the people of Odisha that after long years of struggle and with the leadership of Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik, finally the Centre had agreed to the proposal of Mr. Patnaik to declare the Paika Bidroha as the First War of Independence.

However, people of Odisha were shocked, anguished and pained when they recently came to know that the Centre had refused to declare Paika Bidroha also known as Paika Rebellion as the First War of Independence. In reply to an Unstarred Question No. 485 of 2nd December, 2021 in the Rajya Sabha, Parliament of India, the Union Minister of Culture, Government of India has mentioned that "Paika Rebellion cannot be called the First War of Independence."

Further painful is the reply, that this historic Paika Bidroha would be reduced to just a 'case study' in the Class-8 history textbook of NCERT which deals with the 1857 event, thereby rendering this momentous Paika Bidroha just as a footnote to the 1857 event. BJD MPs said that "We, the elected people representatives of Odisha have been receiving hundreds of calls from Odias from Odisha, India and across the world who consider this reply as a slight and insult to the rich history and culture of Odisha. This is a massive damage to the "Odia Asmita, Odia Itihaas, Odia Sanskriti, Odia Sabhayata, Odia Ayitiha and Odia Parampara." The 4.5 crore people of Odisha as well as proud Odias across the world are aggrieved by this grievous injury to their Odia identity and history".

They said "We strongly demand along with the 4.5 crore people of Odisha, that the Government of India must immediately declare Paika Bidroha as the First War of Independence as has been repeatedly demanded and also conceded by the then Union Minister of Human Resource Development. Until this demand is met, the pride and the glory of Odisha and the 4.5 Crore Odias will not allow us to rest for a moment".

Captain Kohli throws weight behind Rahane, but says will take a call after meeting with selectors and Dravid

CHENNAI: With a difficult tour of South Africa looming — the only country where India are yet to win a Test series — Test captain Virat Kohli has thrown his weight behind under fire Ajinkya Rahane. On a day where India defeated New Zealand at the Wankhede Stadium by a massive 372 runs to go atop the ICC Test rankings, Kohli admitted there will be discussions about the middle-order, but will not take any decision owing to outside pressure.

In a series where the spotlight remained firmly on Rahane and Cheteshwar Pujara, the experienced duo continued with their lean patch and failed to touch 50 even once. If that in itself wasn't enough to raise doubts over their spot, Shreyas Iyer's impressive show in the two matches, where he

even scored a century batting at No 5 in his debut Test, has only added more pressure on the duo. When Kohli returned for the

However, the situation will change when the team lands in Centurion for the first Test where everyone is fit and

alongside Iyer. Despite their recent performances, what seems to be counting in favour of Rahane and Pujara is that, the

day, Kohli said he would continue to back his No 3 and 5. "I can't judge Ajinkya's form. No-body can judge

made impact performances in difficult situations and important Test matches in the past. We don't entertain this kind of at-

with all the pressure, the difficulties of living in a bubble-life has also not helped them. The duo, who only play long format, have not even had the opportunity of playing any first-class matches which players have used in the past to keep their rhythm flowing. In case of these two it has been start-stop, where continuity becomes an issue. In that sense, once they return from South Africa tour, the two may be asked to play in Ranji Trophy before the Sri Lanka Tests commences on February 25.

"We can't expect this kind of balance from those outside; where those who are singing praises will be asking for a player's head in two months. We don't react that way ever, nor will we do it in the future because we know how much effort and hard work a person put in to get into a positive mental space, and we will

support it. Be it Ajinkya or whoever. We will never take decisions based on the outside atmosphere."

That said, Kohli also revealed that he is set to meet the selectors and head coach Dravid as India now have alternatives who are lined-up. That India want a clear role is understandable because uncertainties about the role could prove detrimental. With regards to Iyer and Gill, Kohli said any decision would be taken only after discussions. "That's a discussion that needs to take place: who we think are specialists in certain positions. These are not the things I can sit here and answer in a press conference. You need discussions on these, you need to analyse what is best for the team and the individuals as well, and come to a common conclusion," Kohli added.



second Test, he was supposed to take a decision on who will make the middle-order cut at Wankhede, but injury to Rahane meant there was no need for it.

available. With KL Rahul and Rohit Sharma being the first-choice openers, India now also have Shubman Gill as an option to consider for the middle-order

duo have crucial contributions when the chips are down, an aspect India don't want to miss in South Africa. Speaking at the end of the match on Mon-

anybody's form, for that matter," Kohli said. "Because only an individual knows what part of his game he has to work on. But, as I have said in the past, it is important to back those players who have

mosphere in the team that a player starts worrying about 'what next' the moment he is under a little bit of pressure." Within the team management and the selectors, there is also acknowledgment that

anybody's form, for that matter," Kohli said. "Because only an individual knows what part of his game he has to work on. But, as I have said in the past, it is important to back those players who have

Naveen Lauds Hockey Organizers

Bhubaneswar: Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik lauded the organizers including State Government officials for successful completion of the FIH Odisha Hockey Men's Junior World Cup 2021 despite several challenges including cyclone Jawad. The tournament,

which started here at Kalinga Stadium on November 24, ended today with Argentina lifting the title. Lauding the efforts of the organizers, Mr. Patnaik said, "Firstly, I congratulate the winners of the prestigious FIH Odisha Hockey Men's Junior World Cup 2021. I also extend greetings to all the participating teams who played in the true spirit of the game." He also congratulated the hosts Hockey India and the officials of Odisha government who en-

sured this event was a big success and they established all the Covid-related protocols to ensure a safe playing environment was provided to the young and rising stars of world hockey. Stating this was the first big international hockey tournament being held in India after the Covid-19

world hockey. He also presented a replica of the Junior World Cup to the Minister Sports and Youth Services Tusharkanti Behera as well as Vishal Dev, Principal Secretary, Finance, and R Vineel Krishna, Secretary, Department of Sports and Youth Services.

nate to have unparalleled support from the Chief Minister as well all the officials involved in making this event a big success. There were several challenges that were overcome to host this tournament in a safe manner. I extend my deepest gratitude to Chief Minister as well as all

the officials from the Odisha State Government for their efforts in making this a grand success," he said. With hockey returning to its hub in Bhubaneswar which has hosted several international tournaments including the FIH Men's World Cup in 2018, the officials of both Hockey India and Odisha government ensured safe playing environment was provided for players from 16 top countries as well as officials from various nations.



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pandemic which halted all sporting events in March 2020, he said, "I am very proud that we have witnessed successful completion despite several challenges including cyclone Jawad." The FIH President Dr Narinder Dhruv Batra, presented a replica of the Junior World Cup trophy to the Chief Minister as a gesture of deep appreciation for all the support extended by the Odisha State Government to host this prestigious event for rising stars of

Thanking all the officials from Odisha State Government who worked round-the-clock to make this event a grand success, Gyanendro Ningombam, President Hockey India said, "It was absolutely delightful to see hockey return to its favourite hub — Bhubaneswar, Odisha which has now become synonymous to world hockey for its incredible infrastructure as well as the hockey-loving people of the state." "We are very fortu-

nate to have unparalleled support from the Chief Minister as well all the officials involved in making this event a big success. There were several challenges that were overcome to host this tournament in a safe manner. I extend my deepest gratitude to Chief Minister as well as all

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