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Guidelines for Vote Validation

Bhubaneswar(KCN): In an aim to clear the confusion related to cross voting, the State **Election Commission** (SEC) has issued detailed guidelines for the validation of votes polled during upcoming Panchayat elections. The SEC's clarification comes in the

wake of several que-

ries received by the

Commission regard-

ing the validity of the

Ballot Paper when a

voter has recorded his

vote in the pre-fold

portion and another

vote against one of

the contesting candi-

In his letter to all Col-

lectors, SEC Secre-

tary RN Sahu said

Panchayat Election

Rules says that a Bal-

lot Paper is liable for

Kolkata (KCN): He

Noted Tax Advocate

Narayan Jain felt that

dates.

rejection if votes are recorded in favour of more than one candidate in the fray for the election.

"In the instant case even if the voter has recorded his vote against one contesting candidate and another against a symbol which has been pre-folded before, the

ରାଜ୍ୟ ନିର୍ବାଚନ ଆୟୋଗ, ଡଡ଼ିଶା

STATE ELECTION COMMISSION, ODISHA

intention of the voter

is clear and the same

cannot be considered

as recording vote in

favour of more than

one candidate," said

In such a case, since

the elector has re-

corded his vote in the

pre-fold portion, it is

definitely not in favor

of one of the contest-

Hence, the Ballot Pa-

per voted in favour of

a contesting candi-

addressingmembers

of Rotary Club of

candidates.

Mr.Sahu.

date shall be considered, provided it is not otherwise invalid. The Collectors have been asked to implement the above instruction while counting of votes during the ensuing Panchayat Election, 2022.

Meanwhile, the State Labour and ESI De-

partment has directed

all concerned authori-

ties to ensure that

paid holiday is

granted to the em-

ployees engaged in

various public sector

undertakings, corpo-

rations, establish-

ments, business, trade

and industrial units to

exercise their fran-

chise during the rural

In a letter to all Rev-

enue Divisional

Commissioners

Budget proposals on

direct taxes were

increasing compli-

polls.

Relief and compliance burden- Jain

(RDCs), PSUs, estabmission (SEC). The Commission has

directed that every person employed in any business, trade, industrial undertaking or any other establishment and desiring to vote in the said election shall be granted paid holiday on the date of poll, the Department said in its order.

"Any violation of the particular ESI, Arumugam.

The Panchayat elections are scheduled to be held in five phases on February 16, 18, 20, 22 and February 24 and the votes will be counted on Febru-

lishments, business, trade and industrial undertakings, the Labour and ESI Department has asked to enforce enforcement of the order of the State Election Com-

above instruction will be treated as an offence. The written application by the employees will be sufficient to show their enrolment in a Gram Panchayat," said Secretary, Labor and Chithra

ary 26, 27 and 28. Union Budget offers mixed bag of

expenses resulting in

higher tax. The scope

of TDS has been

No Jab Cert for Darshan

Puri(KCN): From 21 ity at the Shree February, the double dose vaccination cer-

Jagannath Temple

vaccination of a majority of population, the above decision

Shree Jagannath Temple Administration (SJTA), Dr Krishan Kumar here on Monday.

However, Dr Kumar advised all devotees, who want to visit the temple, should have been vaccinated with two doses of Covid-19 vaccine.

The other imposed Covid-19 restrictions like use of sanitizer and masks, social distance will be mandatory for the devotees, he said.

The temple will continue to remain closed on Sunday for devotees for sanitization of the premises.

Administrator of CONTINUED ON: P-7



tificate or Covid negative certificate is no longer required to have darshan of TrinKeeping in mind the improved in Covid-19 situation in the State and double dose

Chatisa Nijog meeting, informed Chief

Informing about the

World Unani Day celebrated to pay homage to Hakim Ajmal Khan in Kolkata

Kolkata (KCN): K.F Trust Memorial Organised a one day

through Unani medicines. Born on 11 February in 1868,



seminar on Unani system of Medicine on 13th February 2022, National Library-Bhasha Bhawan to celebrate the 154th Birth Anniversary and World Unani Day which is a tribute to the legendary scholar and also spread awareness among people about healthcare delivery Hakim Ajmal Khan was a Unani physician, an educationist and the founder of scientific research in Unani System of Medicine founder of Jamia Miliia Islamia University, Delhi and Ayurvedic and Unani Tibbea College, Karol

Bagh- Delhi. The program was

powered by Nature-Unani medicines and veda Group ,in assohighlighted the popuciation with Zpharma larity, importance and (Manufacture of Unani and Ayurvedic native medicines. Medicine) and with Herbo Vedaand - M/s

Special Guest Janab Raza Murad renowned Bollywood

Hamdan Dawakhana

& Distributors.

effectiveness of alter-The Guest Of Honour were Md.Gulam Rabbani (Ministry in Minority Affairs &

Madarasha Educa-

tion Govt.of WB),

Mr.Rukban-ur-



actor graced the occasion by participating in the event with full warmth and shared his experience about

Rahaman (MLA, WB) Dr. Nizamuddin (Vice-president of State Council of **CONTINUED ON: P-7**

PM tries to change UP poll narrative by flagging TMC MP's 'divide Hindu votes' statement

LUCKNOW(KCN): Prime Minister Narendra Modi while exuding confidence that Yogi Adityanath will return to power in UP with thumping majority introduced a new narrative woven around the division of Hindu votes in the poll arena on Monday. The PM expressed concern over a statement by a Trinamool Congress (TMC) MP in Goa where she allegedly talked about dividing Hindu votes to avert their consolidation in favour of one party (read the BJP) in Goa. The TMC MP reportedly gave the statement during an interview.

Modi was addressing a huge poll rally in Akbarpur of Kanpur Dehat where people had converged from 11 adjoining assembly constituencies including Bithoor, Bilhaur, Ghatampur assemblies of Kanpur, Kanpur Rural, Rasoolabad, Rania Akbarpur, Sikandra and Bhognipur, Madhogarh, Orai and Kalpi. At the outset of his 46-minute speech, the PM said that while UP was voting in the second phase of its assembly elections, Uttarakhand and Goa were also witnessing polling.

ALSO READ | Samajwadi Party's ticket policy leaves leaders, allies sulking amid campaign

"I want to bring a very serious issue to the



notice of voters of this country. I read an interview of an MP of Trinamool Congress, Mamata Banerjee's party, wherein she had claimed that TMC had jumped into the fray in Goa and clinched an CONTINUED ON: P-7

the Union Budget offers mixed bag of

compliance burden.

Relief

Belur in Hotel HHI on fine prints in Union Budget. Jain said a few of the

ance burden and some enlarging the scope of disallowance of

widened with a view others to collect more revenue through TDS **CONTINUED ON: P-7**

TORONTO(KCN): A

and

car rally was held in Toronto to celebrate 109th Tibetan Independence Day.

The car rally was organized by RTYC Toronto in Toronto which started from 1624 Queen street west, a Tibetan locality and ended at the Chinese Consulate. On February 13, 1913, the 13th Dalai Lama announced Tibetan independence in the dec-

dence" and since then Tibetans mark February 13 as an important



laration of the "Proclamation of Indepen-

day to educate people on the significance of Tibet's history. Tibet is ruled by the Chinese Communist Party government based in Beijing with local decision-making power concentrated in the hands of Chinese party officials.

Tibet was a sovereign state before China's invasion in 1950 when the People's Liberation Army (PLA) entered Northern Tibet.

BMC drive to ensure 'zero

waste' during social events BHUBANESWAR(KCN):

With weddings and other social functions

being organised in large

numbers in the State

Bhubaneswar Municipal

Corporation (BMC) has

started a drive to ensure

Capital,

Historian, Educationist and Social Worker



Khordha (KCN): President, Khordha Bisub Milan Samiti, Khordha Jilla Bhasha Surakhya Sammilani, Sambad Sahitya Ghara, Aryavart Ancient Academy, Odisha State Brigade School, Trinath Charana

Sansad, Konark sahitya sansad, Palla Saraswati Sishu Mandir, Khordha Itihaas Sankalan Samiti Advisor, Utkal Vikash Parisad, Kalinga Paika Sangathan, Sahid Raghu-Dibakar Smruti Committee, Khordha

Baristha Jilla Nagarika Mancha Vice-President, Sankat Mochan Bidyamandir, Khordha Aaitihasik Member, Samaj Bhasha Odisha Pratisthan, Khordha Head Post Office Advisory Committee Associate Editor, AAMARI SATYA.

During the raid, large

numbers of incrimi-

nating documents,

bill books of 6 differ-

GST Fraud Racket Busted

Bhubaneswar(KCN): The Odisha State CT & GST Enforcement Squad comprising 10 officers, raided the fly ash manufacturing unit and residence of proprietor of Maa Salara Fly Ash Bricks, Cuttack today and detected a GST involving

whereas the finished product i.e fly ash bricks is taxable @12%, a GST official said.

But, during verification, it was revealed that the taxpayer has shown fictitious purchases of cement from places like Keonjhar, Titrtol,



refund of Rs.4.38 Jagatsinghpur,

The refund has been fact that the manufacclaimed under inverted duty structure. It is claimed that huge amounts of ITC have remained unutilized as the main raw material i.e cement is @28% taxable

claiming of erroneous P a n i k o i l i , Sukinda despite the turing unit is located at Cuttack. No proportionate quantities of bricks were also found to be manufactured in proportion to the consumption of cement, the official

ent firms were seized for further investigation. It is suspected that the mastermind has arranged fake purchase invoices without receipt of cement and utilized the ITC to discharge tax & claimed refund of balance ITC. He has not utilized any ewaybill for purchase of the goods, they said. Stating the investigation is in progress, the State GST officials said the details in this regard can be ascertained after completion of investigation. The Commis-sionerate headed by senior IAS officer SK Lohani is taking steps to identify similar other cases of claiming of

erroneous refund. Work on three-lane ROB at Vani Vihar starts

BHUBANESWAR(KCN): Work on the much-awaited three-lane railway overbridge (ROB) at Vani Vihar has commenced after the Rail Vikash Nigam Limited (RVNL) agreed to construct one more two-lane ROB to divert the traffic on NH-16.

As decided, a two-lane ROB will be constructed initially to pave way for the three-lane ROB, the construction of which was delayed due to traffic diversion issues. The twolane ROB will be built adjacent to the existing ROB to divert the traffic on NH 16 through the service

lane towards Rasulgarh Square. Later, the existing two-lane ROB will be dismantled and the threelane ROB will be constructed in its place. After the construction is over, NH traffic will resume permanently on the three-lane ROB and the two-lane ROB constructed earlier will serve as the service road to Rasulgarh. "Issues pertaining to diversion of NH traffic have been resolved. The RVNL has agreed to bear the additional cost of the twolane ROB, whose construction has already been started," said an official of Transport department.

The three-lane ROB at Vani Vihar on NH 16 was proposed to be constructed by dismantling the existing bridge to accommodate the third line between Khurda Road-Barang section of East Coast Railway (ECoR). Of the 34-km project, 27 km of track has been commissioned and the rest seven km stretch between Bhubaneswar and Mancheswar has not been completed due to opening of the old ROB which cannot accommodate the third line.

Although the traffic of NH-16 between Bhubaneswar and Cuttack needs to be diverted to construct the proposed three-lane ROB, the Commissionerate Police did not agree to the traffic diversion plan prepared with the consent of NHAI. A committee was formed to review on possible ways of traffic diversion to facilitate the third line of railway. The committee visited the site and advised to construct a separate twolane ROB adjacent to the existing ROB to divert the NH traffic over it through the service lane towards Rasulgarh Square.

Meanwhile, the State government has started the process for diversion of traffic from the existing ROB to expedite the construction of the three-lane ROB to give passage for the third line.

"The Home department has been asked to take up the matter with the Commissionerate Police for diversion of traffic accordingly. However, movement of vehicles from Rasulgarh side towards Khurda will remain unaffected due to the traffic restrictions," the official added. As proposed, the length of the ROB will be expanded from 18 metre to 46 metre at a cost of Rs 40 crore.

Fake Doc Dupes 14 Women

across India seeking

such matches and

spent most of his

time with one of his

wives at Guwahati,

During the probe,

the police found that

he had married a

woman official of

the Central Armed

Police Forces in

Assam.

Bhubaneswar(KCN): On the occasion of Valentine Day, Commissi-onerate Police have arrested a fraudster on charges of duping 14 women of crores of rupees after marrying them by posing as a senior medical officer.

BHUBANESWAR, TUESDAY, 15 FEBRUARY, 2022

The accused has been identified as Ramesh Chandra Swain (54) alia Bidhu Prakash Swain alias Dr Ramani Ranjan Swain of Bhagabanpur in Kendrapara district. Giving details of the case here at a press conference, Bhubaneswar DCP Umashankar Dash said the accused has been arrested after a lady school teacher of New Delhi filed a complaint before Mahila Thana (women police station) in

Bhubaneswar. The school teacher had married to the accused in 2018 in Delhi Arya Samaj, he said.

During investigation so far, the police have found that Mr.Swain has married at least 14 women between 1982 and 2019 by introducing himself as a deputy director in the Union Health Ministry. He used to build contact with the victims through matrimonial websites.

He is a father of fivechildren of his first wife married in 1982 and second wife married in

> Punjab and collected Rs 10 lakh from her. She also took away

2002, said Mr.Dash. Mr.Swain used to target middle-aged single women who sought companionship and acquired their money before abandoning them. Lawyers, teachers, doctors and highlyeducated women are among the victims,

he said. Mr. Swain used to gain their trust and abandon them after acquiring their money and valuables. He travelled

Rs 11 lakh from the Guru Dwara where the marriage ceremony was held by luring the authority to set up a hospital there, the DCP informed.

Earlier, the accused was arrested by Kerala police in 2006 for cheating around Rs 1 crore from 13 banks. He was also arrested by a task force of Hyderabad police after cheating many students by promising them to give admission in medical colleges.

He had collected about Rs 2 crore from the students including an owner of a nursing home.

sional fraud, we suspect that many other women might be victims of Mr.Swain and may not come out in fear of hampering their social prestige and status. So, if required, we may form a special team of women police officials to identify all victims," DCP Mr.Dash said. A case has been registered against him at the Mahila police station under Sections 498 (A), 419, 468, 471 and 494 of the IPC. The police will also investigate the transaction of the fraud money by bringing him on remand, he added.

The CP has also conducted a search operation Mr. Swain's house and seized 11 ATM cards, 4 Aadhar cards, one Bihar school certificate and other materials being used by the fraudster.

'zero waste' during such events. The drive aims at orienting event organisers against the use of single-use plastic items such as disposable plates, glass, cups and spoons that often get ac-"As he is a profescumulated at the venues. Such waste materials have been prohibited in areas within jurisdiction

> Sahoo. He said the concept of 'zero waste' is also being propagated to minimise wastage of food and segregation of waste generated at the source for proper disposal.

of BMC under Waste

Management Rules,

2016, said BMC deputy

commissioner for sanita-

tion Suvendu Kumar

The 'zero waste' practice is being promoted in religious institutions as well as during social functions such as birthdays, marriages, thread ceremonies and funeral feasts.

"Staff of BMC communication and sanitation wings have started contacting different event organisers beforehand and are reaching out to them at the venues to orient them on segregation and prevent wastage," Sahoo said.

Monthly Poets' Meet of Biswayan Sahitya Sansad

CN):Biswayan

Sansad

Kolkata

Sahitya

,Kharagpur ,West Bengal organized monthly edition of poets meet on Google Meet and Youtube simultaneously .The programme opened with the chanting of hymn in Sanskrit and Odia by Biswojit Sir. Dr.Gagan Chandra De read out his poem in own lucid style .Other poets like Barun kumar Das ,Suresh Kumar Sahoo ,Duryadhan Pradhan read their respective poems in Odia .It was Duryadhan Pradhan whose both Odia and Sambalpuri poems reaped massive response from all. Niranjan Behera joined late but mesmerised all with his poem based on parody relating to election .The entire programme Cohoisted by Biswojit Pattanaik Duryadhan Pradhan .Sanatan Mahakud read poem and placed a concise analysis of poems read in the Meet .An earnest request was placed before all for the contributions for the next multlingual issue of Biswayan .With the exchange of warm greetings programme came to

Barbil citizen paid tribute to the martyrdom of Pulwama attack

Barbil (KCN):Today, February 14,The National Day celebration committee rememwho lost their lives on this day in Pulwama. We will always remain indebted to them and their the 2019 Pulwama terror attack on Monday. 40 Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) personnel

NDCC Pratap Das, writer Rajkishore Dash, Karmkar, Asish Mishra, Boby Singh, Kamal Sharma and



bered the martyrdom of the Indian brave hearts who lost their lives on this day in Pulwama. The citizen of Barbil gathered at Vikas Mahal paid heartfelt tribute to all our brave soldiers families for their supreme sacrifice #PulwamaAttack Dillip said Mishra. Several luminaries of Barbil have paid homage to the Indian soldiers who lost their lives in

sacrifice in the cowardly terrorist attack of Pulwama. Paying tribute to CRPF jawans killed in the Pulwama attack ,former Chairman DillipMishra,convenor

had made the ultimate

volunteers different women and voluntary organisations paid the tribute by way of lighting candles and mourned for the great sacrifice of the departed soul.

an end.

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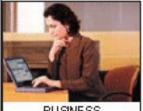
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Uday Adhikari honored with 'India SME Excellence Award-2021' by Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari

Mumbai (Sanjay Mumbai. In which Koshyari. On this industry for the se- in supply of elec-Sharma Raj): An Uday Kashinath occasion, Chairman cure channelization tricity e.g. casing-

INDIA SME EXCELLENCE AWARDS

and a penchant for

PRIDE OF MAHARAS



event was organized jointly by 'SME Chamber of India Maharashtra Industrial' and 'Empowering SMEs for Global Competitiveness Economic Development Association' on 13th February 2022 at Raj Bhavan,

Adhikari, Chairman of 'Al-Aziz Plastics Private Limited', has been awarded 'India SME Excellence-Award-2021' under the 'SME of the Year-Innovation and Inventions' category by Governor

Uday Adhikari and MD Sagar Adhikari of Al-Aziz Plastics Private Limited thanked everyone. Al-Aziz Group has fiercely embraced limitless innovation since its inception in 1988 to revolutionize the hardware

of electricity, water, and gas. The Company has created a respectable intellectual property portfolio with patents, design registrations and has also applied for patents in multiple countries world over. Their product innovations caping and accessories, replaces use of wood, thus help in saving trees.

The Company's latest innovation in water and gas distribution helps in saving important and critical resources for the Government organizations.

design & precision engineering, they have been able to redefine the industry standards. With Limitless Innovation as their core, they have set new standards for higher functionalities finely balanced with qual-

ity and aesthetics. '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

Samji-directed film ever, believes the film will perform better in opened on October 25 to mixed reviews. the coming days as the festive season has On the first day, the film raked in Rs concluded.

ALSO READ: Producer Sajid 'Housefull 4' movie Farhad Nadiadwala, how-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

come despite the festive season & enjoved the film.

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

day," Nadiadwala said in a statement.

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

crore mark in three days

CHENNAI: Tamil superstar Vijay's Diwali release, "Bigil", has crossed the Rs 100-crore mark worldwide in just three days since its release.

The film, directed by Atlee Kumar, is the big Tamil release of the ongoing festive season.

ALSO READ: 'Bigil' review -Thalapathy's 'message' is flawed in this more massy than 'Mersal' film

Sreedhar Pillai tweeted: "#Bigil does it in style in super fast time, crosses 100 cr worldwide in 3 days! Extraordi-

19.09 crore.

nary! 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

Industry tracker 100 crs+ Opening columnist at the WW Box Office.

> Vijay is known as Thalapathy 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:

Bigil-esque sports action film son he is the coach

"Bigil" is a cal don and as the script - Two schools that has Vijay in of a women's foot-



in Erode helping girls play their way to success

dual roles as father and son. As the father, he plays a lo-

ball team. The actor underwent training for the coach's character.

Popular people's Daily of Odisha

Hyundai's actions should not disrupt India-South Korea relations

In light of the manner in which South Korea has consistently increased its investment in India, the act of sharing a social media post by the Pakistani unit of Hyundai on the occasion of Kashmir Solidarity Day must not



be paid attention to. India has already summoned the Ambassador of South Korea and lawfully explained that such a post is completely unacceptable by the Republic of India. Kashmir is and shall always remain an

integral part of the country. There cannot be any compromise when it comes to this. The next course of action is to leave it to the government of South Korea to decide how to deal with the management of Hyundai.

The bright side is that South Korea has also expressed profound regret about the situation. Hyundai Motors India Limited has a sprawling business in India with several manufacturing units. It must realise that it has committed an unforgivable mistake. Their actions are equivalent to an Indian company operating in South Korea taking the side of North Korea regarding a South Korea-North Korea dispute. As that would be unacceptable to the South Korean government, so are the actions of Hyundai to India.

Kashmir is an indissoluble part of India, and Hyundai should be sticking its nose in the Indo-Pak Kashmir dispute. However, as the South Korean government has apologized on behalf of Hyundai, it is time to forget this bitter controversy and move ahead. Dragging the issue further shall benefit no one.

Another thing worth remembering is that South Korea's attitude towards India has always been respectful and amicable. South Korea, being a country that worships Lord Buddha, views India as a holy country. Every

year innumerable South Korean pilgrims visit India to

offer prayers at the pilgrimage sites associated with Lord Buddha.

However, only a few people know that Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore is a highly admired poet in South Korea. In 1929, he also wrote a poem on the glorious history of Korea. South Korea was acquainted with Gurudev Rabindra Nath Tagore for the first time when he received the Nobel Prize for his extraordinary work of literature 'Gitanjali' in 1913. The process of translating Tagore's

R.K. Sinha

inaugurated soon (postponed due to the outbreak of Covid-19). The Korean War

Memorial is to be

Memorial has been established at Thimayya Park in Delhi Cantt. In the war between South and North Korea, 22 countries, including India, supported South Korea. A statue of Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore has been installed in it.

Those who know the history of India-South Korea relations know that General Kodandera Subayya Thimayya had given frequent inputs to South Korea during the Korean War, which Yamaha of South Korea have enormous factories in Greater Noida. Despite the Covid-19 pandemic, about five dozen South Korean companies invested in India.

In the time to follow, the management of Hyundai will have to be more careful and sensitive in its actions. They will have to refrain from commenting on issues involving foreign policy. Hyundai Motors India Limited is the second-largest car manufacturer in the country. It entered the Indian automobile market in 1996 and launched its first car in India in the form of Hyundai Santro in 1998. Since then, Hyundai has been successfully

> operating in India. Hyundai is well aware of how significant the Indian market is to it. It also exports cars made in India to Africa, the Middle East, Latin America, Australia, and the Asia Pacific. Hyundai has launched a total of 17 models in India.

The Honourable Prime Minister Narendra Modi Ji visited South Korea two years ago. He was honoured with the Seoul Peace Prize during that visit. Prime Minister Modi also had discussions with South Korean President Moon Jae-in on bilateral relations, including strategic issues. Of course, Modi's visit strengthened India's remarkable strategic partnership with South Korea and added a new dimension to the 'Look East Policy.' Needless to say, after careful consideration of all these aspects, we have to ignore the tweets of Hyundai Pakistan and continue to understand that South Korea has always been a friend to India. It shall be in the best interest of both parties involved to maintain a congenial

association. (The writer is a senior editor, columnist,



literature into the Korean language began soon after, and in this way, the people there understood the literary works of this great writer-thinker. The translation of "Gitanjali" was published in South Korea in 1920.

South Korea has had a sense of gratitude towards India because of the unwavering support India offered in one way or another in the Korean War. The Korean War (1950–53) began with the invasion of South Korea by North Korea on 25th June 1950. That was the first and most terrible conflict in the Cold War Era. On one side, North Korea was aided by Communist Soviet Union and Communist China. On the other hand, South Korea was supported by America among other nations. Owing to India's support in that war, South Korea has also built a war memorial in India's capital city, New Delhi. The Korean War

proved extremely useful in those crucial times. He was a policy expert and was affectionately called General Timmy. He served as the Chief of Army Staff of India from 8th May 1957 to 7th May 1961. Thus, South Korea and India have always had a cordial relationship.

If we talk about the investment of South Korean companies in India, then in the last four years, South Korea's investment in India reached Rs 2.69 billion in 2021, as compared to Rs 1.39 billion in 2017. Cities like New Delhi, Gurugram, Noida, and Mumbai are becoming the preferred destinations for South Korean citizens and companies. Thousands of Korean citizens live here. Dozens of popular South Korean companies like Samsung Electronics, Hyundai, LG Electronics, Doosan Heavy Industries have been operating in India. Companies like LG Electronics, Moser Baer,

and former MP)

Imprisoned in the Veil of Rigidity

Classrooms are not to be split in the name of religion. But the hijab row in Karnataka has probably done the division as students with hijabs and saffron scarves thronged to the streets in protest. The controversy has crossed



the boundaries of the country with an inimical Pakistan summoned the Indian

envoy diplomatically warn and explain him as to how solid is the Islamic Republic's

support for the agitating girls of India. The Taliban and many of its sympathizers have showered admiration for the girls for their courage to bring the agenda to the forefront. Who wins the controversy by dividing young men and women in the lines of religion in a classroom? Education, a fundamental right of every child, should remain an aspect of learning. But it seems a bunch of radical elements is fanning the issue into flames by surreptitiously playing a puppet show planting girls in veils on the front. We can't forget interventions made previously by such elements to radicalize the populace which is mostly a patriarchy in essence and nature and function. They were the people who issued a fatwa against Sania Mirza for her playing in skirts. They wanted her to cover her body to look like typical ideal Muslim woman.

The young women protesting in Karnataka said that to be in the hijab is their fundamental right. If that is the case, educational institutions cannot maintain regulations to uphold uniformity among students. To what extent dress in schools and colleges can be a personal choice? And why should there be uniformity among the students? If institutions are unable to maintain a set of rules for their better

functioning, would the teaching learning system function the

way it should actually do. Interestingly, it is only a small number of students among the minority community seen to be protesting. The absence of a larger segment of the student population from this agitation should be telling us the nasty plans of some radicalized elements purposefully trying to push the agitating girls onto the roads. A well-planned movement guided and orchestrated by elements to bring chaos in the society with political interests is seemingly gaining momentum. Are the girls playing a drama out to what has been deliberately scripted for?

Classroom is a mini representation of the diversity of the society. And education, going beyond the pages of the textbooks, demands this mingling of minds, existing amicably together when the outer world is split on religious lines or on any other issue. A teacher, who is also a facilitator, manages to take his students from various backgrounds to work together and help them perfect their efforts to go beyond the dividing ideas and sentiments and build their future. Inclusive nature of a classroom is what gives it a learning environment. Therefore, a teacher can never think in any discriminatory lines. If the agitators and the one who confronts them are purposefully taken out to the streets to help someone make a political mileage, or a group of radicals playing hide and seek behind the veil, they are going to seriously damage the learning atmosphere of the institutions. What is essentially applicable for any learning atmosphere is to maintain an ambiance of learning together by the teaching community and the learners. Together they have to unpack the order of hypocrisy that exists in a society. But what happens in Karnataka and other parts

M. R. Lalu

of a trend dangerously raising its ugly hood to disrupt the amiability in the society.

of India is an example

Arguments on how mandatory is hijab in Islam has always been there. To the religious scholars, it is not a personal choice but an obligatory exercise which the religion strictly demands from its women. The December protests started when eight girls tried to enter the school in hijab in Karnataka and they were subsequently stopped by the management. The argument made in defense was probably that the teachers in the institute were males. This argument itself is inflammatory because the education sector has a large number of males employed in it. Should we be doubtful of our male teachers? What is happening in Karnataka and other parts of India is contradictory to what happened in Afghanistan, where the women who fought against the veil of suppression were brutally killed. Priyanka Vadra's assertion on what seems to be an inflammatory issue, was tragically irresponsible. For her, the girls of agitating age can wear whatever dress they like. Going to the extent of saying, girls if wished to go in bikinis to their learning centers, should be allowed to exercise their freedom, was totally cynical and reckless. If the agitation is attempted to be justified in the name of religious identity, being a secular country, cries for recognition of the religious identity in educational institutions will be heard from other religions too. Pujas, festivals and practices of various kinds will step into the campuses and the atmosphere of learning will give way to intimidation on religious identity.

Entry of the Campus Front of India (CFI), the student wing of the Popular Front of India (PFI) into the anger-show is making the intention of the agitation doubtful. Both PFI and CFI are accused for their culpable involvement in anti-national activities. Recently, members of its political arm SDPI were arrested for an ABVP worker's brutal murder in Kerala's Kannur. The CFI is reported to have managed to gather hundreds of burqa clad girls in a short time to make the defensive move stronger in Karnataka. This must be probed well before the whole thing turns out to be an ugly mess. Islamic Republics like Saudi Arabia have eased their radical norms which curtailed the rights and freedom of women. When it comes to the homogeneousness applicable in the dress code of the students, nothing, not even religions, should become an element of interference in the process of education. But the intensity of the radical interventions behind the agitation is clear. The agitating students choosing hijab over education shows how the machinery of radicalization works in a secular country like India. Those who say that hijab is a personal choice should also know the story of the Iranian woman who pitched a lone battle against a radical ruling establishment to free herself from the suffocation of the hijab. Masih Alinejad was alone when she started her fight against the radicalised patriarchy who suppressed her in the name of religion. Soon she found more women swarming around her to stand for the cause. She had encouraged other women to speak for their freedom. Hijabs and saffron scarves are mere symbols of religious extremism taking center stage today. Setting narratives to judge every single act of radicalization and by hiding behind what they call a socio-religious cause, the antinational elements can attempt to advance towards a total disruption.

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e-Receipt Scripts Success

Bhubaneswar: With a full-fledged electronic receipt (e-Receipt) of the Integrated Financial Management System

during the pandemic period, officials say. Principal Secretary Finance Vishal Dev recently took stock of the digital payment



(IFMS) in operation, at least 95 percent of the State Government's receipt is made through this digital system is scripting success. e-Receipt of IFMS provides a platform

e-Receipt of IFMS provides a platform to the citizens and the taxpayers to deposit State Government dues and taxes online mode without physically visiting any Government offices or Banks. It is helping out the citizens

receipts and payments in all the State Government Offices. Senior officials attended the review in which it came to fore that Electronics Disbursement of IFMS manages 100 percent of State Government's payments.

system of payment in

Electronic disbursement facility enables transferring of amount directly to beneficiary's accounts using e-Kuber platform of Reserve Bank of India through National Electronic Fund Transfer (NEFT).

To enhance the service delivery a new facility –Bulk Disbursement–has been introduced and the facility is beneficial for those departments, where the numbers of beneficiaries are huge like scholarship, ex-gratia etc.

This is a complete automated system starting from preparation of sanction order, online bills, pay-order till advice generation and payment to beneficiary which helps in facilitating scheme-based direct transfer benefit (DBT). State DBT Portal has been integrated with DBT Bharat Portal for month wise data sharing of 25 centrally sponsored schemes and State schemes, an official said. In the meantime, standard operating procedure (SOP) for DBT implementation has been prepared and circulated to concerned scheme implementing Departments, the officials said.

Similarly for e-Receipts, the system has been integrated with

various public and private sector banks and payment gateway to receive State Government dues.

More and more departments are using this facility and it is helping the citizens and taxpayers for payment of State Government dues and taxes online.

Different payment modes like Debit Card, Credit Card, Internet Banking and UPI are available for the purpose, the officials added.

As 99 percent (4.48 Crore) of Aadhaar Enrolment is completed in Odisha, more and more Schemes are needed to have cent percent Aadhaar seeding.

Similarly, Odisha Public Asset Monitoring System (OPAMS) is being set up on a priority mode. It is a web portal, which can provide geospatial data service to the departments of the government and help in recording data on both legacy assets as well as current assets.

All the departments will appoint Nodal Officers who would act as a Super Administrator in the Asset Database for validating the asset data pertaining to establishments under their organization, the officials said

Couldn't offer prayers at Jalandhar temple as authorities unable to make arrangements: PM Modi

JALANDAR: A month after he cut short his Punjab visit due to a security breach in Ferozepur, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday said he was unable to pay a visit to a temple here as local authorities could not make necessary arrangements.

Such is the situation of the government in Punjab, the prime minister said while hitting out at the Congress, and asserted that he will come to Jalandhar again and pay obeisance at the Devi Talab Mandir.

Modi was addressing a physical poll rally in Jalandhar, his first in Punjab since Janu-

was not allowed to fly as "the Congress' namdar and its yuvraj (prince), who was just an MP," had a programme near Amritsar.

"I got delayed by more than an hour in reaching Pathankot. When I reached Pathankot, my helicopter was not allowed to fly. Why? Because their yuvraj was visiting some other place in Punjab," Modi said in an apparent reference to Congress leader Rahul Gandhi.

"Such misuse of power used to happen for one family. In 2014, my helicopter could not



ary 5 when he returned from the state without attending any event, including a public meeting, after his convoy got stuck on a flyover due to a blockade by protesters in Ferozepur.

The prime minister said it was his desire to pay obeisance at the Devi Talab Mandir, but the police and the administration here said they will not be able to make arrangements". "They said you leave by helicopter, such is the situation of the government here...But I will come here again and pay obeisance at the temple," said Modi as he addressed the gathering ahead of the February 20 polls to the 117-member state assembly.

Asserting that the BJP-led alliance will form the next government in the state, he said a new chapter of development will start, and mocked the Congress over the infighting in its Punjab unit.

The party (Congress) is "disintegrating" and its leaders are exposing it, he said, adding the party had deep animosity with Punjab and Punjabis, and created thousands of obstacles for those who wanted to work.

"In Punjab, the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) will form government. In Punjab, a new chapter of development will start. I want to assure people, especially the youth, that for their brighter future, we will not leave any stone unturned," said Modi, who had on February 8 addressed a virtual rally for the polls.

The country is moving ahead with the pledge of a new India and it can be realised when there will be a "Nawa (new) Punjab", he said.

It will be that "Nawa Punjab in which traditions and development will go together, one which will be free from debt and full of opportunities, where every Dalit will get respect and honour and at every step there will be equal opportunity, that Nawa Punjab where there will be no scope for corruption and mafia, and rule of law will prevail," he said, asserting the BJP-led NDA has a vision for a new Punjab.

On the Congress infighting, Modi asked the gathering if those who fight among themselves can give a stable government.

The Congress policies have destroyed industries and affected employment in Punjab, he said.

History is witness that the Congress can never work for Punjab, he said and also attacked the AAP, saying some people have come here to play a game of lies and they talk about making Punjab drugs free but are experts in opening liquor vends on streets. "I want to save the young generation," Modi said as he talked about the drug menace. Recalling his 2014 Lok Sabha poll campaign as the BJP's PM candidate, he said his plane

fly after sunset. My two programmes in Himachal Pradesh at that time had to be cancelled. It has been the deeds of the Congress to stop its opponents. For the last 50 years, it has been doing this against its rivals," he said as he took a dig at the Gandhis.

The BJP is contesting the elections in alliance with Amarinder Singh's Punjab Lok Congress (PLC) and Sukhdev Singh Dhindsa's Shiromani Akali Dal (Sanyukt). Dhindsa and Singh were also present at the rally. Punjab is a border state and its security and peace is necessary for India's unity and integrity. Hence, Punjab needs a strong government that can take serious steps for its and India's security, he said.

Referring to Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, Modi, without naming her, said she recently said Singh did not listen to the party and instead worked with the Centre.

She had on Sunday at a rally said the Singhled Punjab government had to be replaced as it was being run by the BJP and the BJP government from Delhi.

"This is a clear admission of trying to remote control the state government," Modi said, adding Singh worked with the Centre in true spirit of federalism, but when he refused to take the "family's diktats", it removed him.

Singh was removed by the Congress as CM last year, and later after quitting the party, he formed the PLC. He was replaced by Charanjit Singh Channi.

"There may be any (party's) government in states, but we believe in the federal structure and it is the duty of the Centre to work for a state's welfare.

But if any family tries to run governments by remote control and not care about the Constitution, then it will create tension in the country. This family is doing just that," he said.

Modi said "paap ka ghara jab barta hai toh phoota bhi hai aur Congress ko uske karmo ki saaza mil he rahe hai (Congress is getting punishment for its deeds)".

The BJP has kept Punjab's interest above its coalition rights, he said and pointed out that in 2007, the SAD fell short of majority and the government would not have been possible without the BJP's support. He said the coalition norms demanded that the deputy CM be from the BJP.

"But Badal Sahab (Parkash Singh Badal) instead made his son (Sukhbir Badal) the deputy CM and the BJP accepted it in the interest of Punjab," Modi said.

On the 1984 anti-Sikh riots, he said the Congress instead of punishing the culprits, had rewarded them with ministerial positions.

1,000 complaints filed against Rahul Gandhi: Assam BJYM

GUWAHATI: Assam BJP Yuva Morcha on Monday claimed that its activists have filed more than 1,000 complaints against Congress leader Rahul Gandhi at various police stations in the state over one of his tweets.

It was, however, not immediately known if any case has been registered by any police station against these complaints.

A special DGP of Assam Police said that the state has a total of 329 police stations, 293 outposts and 151 patrol posts. Though a complaint can be filed in outposts and patrol posts, the case will be registered only at a police station.

Assam BJYM media convenor Biswajit Khound while claiming that more than 1000 complaints have been filed by the Morcha's activists, did not share the names of police stations or districts where it was done or any other detail.

The BJYM in a statement claimed that the

senior Congress leader in his tweet had allegedly excluded the north east region while describing India.

"Gandhi mentioned India as stretching from Kashmir to Kerala and Gujarat to West Bengal, thereby eliminating Northeast from India.

It carried a threat to

grand old party, Khound alleged. "The Congress party is unfortunate for India and Rahul Gandhi is India's problem,"

the statement said. A BJP spokesperson said that the state unit of the party's Mahila Morcha also filed several complaints against Gandhi at different police stations.



India's geographical integrity and security," Khound said in the statement.

In one of the purported complaints filed with the police and shared with media, the BJYM alleged that Gandhi's tweet indirectly supported China's claim that north east, especially Arunachal Pradesh, is part of it. His tweet expressed the "separatist mentality" which showed the ideology of the

Gandhi had on February 10 tweeted about the diversity and strength of India.

"There is strength in our Union. Our Union of Cultures. Our Union of Diversity. Our Union of Languages. Our Union of People. Our Union of States."

"From Kashmir to Kerala. From Gujarat to West Bengal. India is beautiful in all its colours. Don't insult the spirit of India," he had said on the microblogging platform. The filing of com-

plaints by Assam

BJP's different wings

comes after the stu-

dent and youth wings

against

Gandhi

of the Congress lodged several FIRs across different states against state Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma over his controversial remark on Gandhi's father. During a rally in pollbound Uttarakhand on February 11, Sarma had attacked Gandhi for demanding proof of the September 2016 surgical strike and questioning the efficacy of the anti-Covid vaccines. He had even asked whether "BJP had ever demanded proof of Gandhi being the son of former prime minister Rajiv Gandhi".

This had led to a huge controversy with several opposition parties, including chief ministers, criticising the "deplorable" statement made by Sarma.



Sri D.B.Kasar, IG-cum-Principal Chief Security Commissioner, South Eastern Railway holding a Press Meet on achievements of Railway Protection Force of South Eastern Railway today (08-02-2022) at SER Headquarters, Garden Reach.

Tudu Bats for Amarda Airport

Bhubaneswar: Union Minister Bishweswar Tudu on Sunday said



he is hopeful that the Centre will give its nod for turning the now-defunct Amarda Road Airstrip in Odisha's Mayurbhanj district, which was operational during World War-II, into a modern airport.

Mr. Tudu said the airstrip is located 225 km from state capital Bhubaneswar and only 90 km from the Kalaikunda air force station, and can be used for commercial and defence purposes.

"I have taken up the matter with Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and Civil Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia. Both of them have found the place suitable for a modern airport as it is strategically located," Union

Minister said. A team of experts from the Airports Authority of India has already visited the site, and "we are hopeful that the authorities will soon accord a no-objection certificate", said the Union Minister of State for Tribal Affairs and Jal Shakti.

land Rasgovindpur block falls under the purview of the defence ministry and it needs to be handed over to the civil aviation

ministry, he said. The Amarda Road Airstrip, once it turns into an airport, will cater to an estimated 82 lakh people, mostly in north Odisha, South Bengal and East Jharkhand. Union Minister said the proposed airport will also address the requirements of key institutions like the Integrated Test Range at Chandipur in Balasore district and IIT-Kharagpur in West Bengal. "If the airstrip becomes operational, it can be used for both com-

The 1,000-acre piece mercial and defence purposes, akin to the airports in Pune and Guwahati," Mr.Tudu said.

BHUBANESWAR, TUESDAY, 15 FEBRUARY, 2022

The Rasgovindpur Airstrip (as it is known today) has a short but "secret illustrious history", which has never been made public, said war historian Anil Dhir, adding, it had the "longest runway in Asia, over 3.5-km long". "Today, if you look at

the silent runway lying mostly vacant apart from a few odd cows grazing, it would be difficult to associate the airport with activities of any kind. But, this airstrip played a very important role in Indian defence during World War-II," Dr.Dhir said.

secures sweeping victory in Bengal corporation polls

KOLKATA: The Trinamool Congress secured a sweeping victory in the elections for four municipal corporations.

The BJP failed to stage impressive performance in Siliguri Chandernagore civic bodies.

Expressing her gratitude to the elector-Mamata ates, tweeted, "It is once again in overwhelming victory of Ma, Mati, Manush. My

Siliguri corporation since it came to the power in 2011. The Left Front failed to retain the civic body that it had ruled for 45 years.

In the 226 seats of the four civic bodies,

lowed to file nominations. The people of Bengal will give a befitting reply to TMC's atrocities," said BJP national vice-president Dilip Ghosh.



and Asansol civic bodies considered as the saffron camp's strongholds since the party's deep inroads in the 2019 Lok Sabha elections. The saffron party secured the second position in both the corporations while Left Front was in Biddhannagar and heartiest congratulations to the people of A s a n s o 1 Bidhannagar, Siliguri & Chandannagore for having put their faith and confidence on All India Trinamool Congress candidates in the Municipal Corporation elections." It is for the first time

that the TMC won the

only 29 seats were won by opposition parties.

Opposition parties described the election results as a reflection of the ruling party's muscle-flexing. "The elections were held under the ambiance of terror and fear. At many places, our candidates were not al-

Congress leader Ranjan Adhir Chowdhury said the TMC's victory is not a reflection of people's verdict.

CPM central committee member Sujan Chakrabarty said had the election been held in free and fair manner, the result would have been different.

IAEA reviews water release from damaged Japan nuclear plant

TOKYO: A team from the International Atomic Energy Agency on Monday began its review of Japan's plan to begin releasing more than a million tons of treated radioactive water into the sea from the wrecked Fukushima nuclear plant — a review that Japan hopes will instill confidence in the plan. The 15-member team is to visit the Fukushima plant on Tuesday and meet with government and utility officials during its five-day mission.

The government and Tokyo Electric Power Company Holdings announced plans last year to begin gradually releasing the still-contaminated water in spring 2023 after its further treatment and dilution. The water is being stored in about 1,000 tanks at the damaged plant which officials say need to be removed. plant which officials say need to be removed so the reactors can be decommissioned. The tanks are expected to reach their capacity of 1.37 million tons later this year.

A massive earthquake and tsunami in 2011 destroyed the Fukushima plant's cooling systems, triggering the meltdown of three reactors and the release of large amounts of radiation. Water used since the accident to cool the highly radioactive damaged reactor cores has since leaked extensively.

ALSO READ: Fukushima operators send robot into worst-hit melted reactor

The release of the water into the sea has been fiercely opposed by fishermen, local residents, and Japan's neighbors, including China and South Korea. Fukushima residents worry the reputation of their agricultural and fishing products will be further damaged.

Japan sought IAEA's assistance to ensure the release meets international safety standards and to gain the understanding of other countries.

Gustavo Caruso, director of the IAEA's Office of Safety and Security Coordination, said on Monday that the mission "in an objective, credible and science-based manner will help send messages of transparency and confidence for the people in Japan and beyond. The team will review details of the water, the safety of the discharge, sampling methods, and the environmental impact," he said. The team includes experts from several countries, including South Korea and China.

Officials say all isotopes selected for treatment in the contaminated water can be reduced to



low levels except for tritium, which is inseparable from the water but is harmless in small amounts. They say a gradual release of the water, diluted with seawater, into the ocean over decades is safe.

ALSO READ: Experts to visit Fukushima plant to check water release plan

Keiichi Yumoto, who heads the Fukushima accident response at the industry ministry, noted concerns about the safety of the project and said it is "very important" to have reviews by the IAEA to foster public understanding. Junichi Matsumoto, TEPCO's chief officer in charge of the treated water management, said the utility is prioritizing safety and the impact on the region's reputation. "Ensuring transparency and objectivity is crucial to the project," said Matsumoto, who attended a meeting Monday with IAEA and government officials. "We hope to further improve the objectivity and transparency of the process based on the review."

Japan and the IAEA have agreed to compile an interim report on the review later this year.



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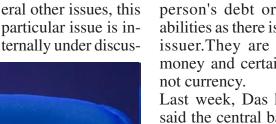


Discussions on with RBI over digital currency: Finance Minister

NEW DELHI: Fi-Minister Nirmala Sitharaman

ment will levy 30 per cent tax on gains made from any other

eral other issues, this particular issue is internally under discus-



said the central bank does not want to rush and is carefully examining all aspects before introduction of

The Progress of Banking in India report, released by the RBI in December last year, had said that given the CBDC's dynamic impact on macroeconomic policy making, it is necessary to adopt basic models initially, and test comprehensively so that it has minimal impact on monetary policy and the banking system. India's progress in payment systems will provide a useful backbone to make a state-of-theart CBDC available to its citizens and financial institutions, it



on Monday said discussions with regard to central bankbacked digital currency have been going on with the Reserve Bank and a decision will be taken after due delibera-

Sitharaman in her Budget speech on February 1 had announced that Digital Rupee or Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC) would be issued by the RBI in the coming fiscal year. She had also announced the governprivate digital assets from April 1.

Replying to questions after addressing the RBI's Central Board of Directors here on Monday, Sitharaman said the central bank and the government are on board regarding digital currencies. She said the discussions with the RBI regarding the CBDC were going on

prior to the Budget announcement, and they are continuing. RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das

added that like sev-

sion between the RBI and the government. "Whatever points we have we discuss with

added. ALSO READ | RBI moves cautiously on Central Bank Digital

the government," he

Currency CBDC is a digital or virtual currency but it is not comparable to the private virtual currencies cryptocurrency that have mushroomed the last decade.Private virtual currencies do not represent

person's debt or liabilities as there is no issuer. They are not money and certainly

Last week, Das had the CBDC.

Trend and had said.

Wholesale inflation eases to 12.96 per cent in January

NEW DELHI:: India's wholesale inflation eased to 12.96 per cent in January from 13.56 per cent in the previous month, the government data showed on Monday. The Wholesale Price Index (WPI) based inflation has declined consistently in recent months. It fell from 14.87 per cent in November 2021 to 13.56 per cent in December 2021 and further to 12.96 per cent in January 2022. However, inflation still remains at an elevated level and is a matter of concern for economic policymakers.

"The high rate of inflation in January 2022 is primarily due to rise in prices of mineral oils, crude

petroleum & natural gas, basic metals, chemicals, and chemical products, food articles etc as compared the corresponding month of the previous year," the Ministry of Commerce & Industry said in a statement. Wholesale food inflation hardened during the month of January. The rate of inflation based on WPI Food Index increased marginally from 9.24 per cent in December 2021 to 9.55 per cent in January, 2022. Prices of Minerals rose by 11.08 per cent and non-food articles became costlier by 0.37 per cent in January 2022 as compared to December 2021.

India's retail inflation likely rose to 6 per cent in January, says KBI Governor

NEW DELHI: India's retail inflation for January, which is scheduled to be anIndex (CPI) stood at nor said. 5.59 per cent in December 2021. It was recorded 4.59 per

ALSO READ Wholesale inflation

eases to 12.96 per

nounce the monthly CPI inflation data later in the day today. According to data released by the Minis-



nounced later in the day, might have accelerated to 6 per cent, the upper tolerance limit of the central bank, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Governor Shaktikanta Das said on Monday.

"Today's inflation print is expected to be close to 6 per cent that should not surprise," Das said at a media briefing after the RBI Board meet. Retail inflation based on Consumer Price cent in November 2021. Noting that retail inflation likely to touch the upper end of the RBI's target band of 6 per cent, Das said it should not create any panic.

"If you look at the momentum of inflation right from last October onward, it is on a downward slope. It's primarily the statistical reasons, the base effect, which has resulted in higher inflation especially in Q3," the RBI Govercent in January

"The same base effect will play in different ways in the coming months. Today's inflation print is expected to be close to 6 per cent. That should not surprise or create any alarm because we have taken that into consideration," he added.

The National Statistical Office (NSO), Ministry of Statistics Programme Implementation, is scheduled to antry of Commerce & Industry on Monday, India's wholesale inflation eased to 12.96 per cent in January from 13.56 per cent in the previous month.

The Wholesale Price Index (WPI) based inflation has declined consistently in the recent months. It fell from 14.87 per cent in November 2021 to 13.56 per cent in December 2021 and further to 12.96 per cent in January 2022.

WPI inflation eases to 12.96 per cent in January; food prices harden rise, while inflation in

egg, meat and fish

stood at 9.85 per cent

and in potato and on-

ion at (-)14.45 and (-

)15.98 per cent, re-

spectively. "The high

rate of inflation in

January 2022 is prima-

rily due to rise in

prices of mineral oils,

crude petroleum and

natural gas, basic met-

als, chemicals and

chemical products,

food articles etc as

compared the corre-

sponding month of the

previous year," the

Commerce and Indus-

try Ministry said in a

statement. Inflation in

manufactured items

was 9.42 per cent in

January, against 10.62

per cent in the previ-

ous month. In fuel and

power basket, the rate

of price rise was 32.27

in January, a tad lower

than 32.30 per cent in

NEW DELHI: The wholesale price-based inflation eased for the second consecutive month in January at 12.96 per cent, even though food prices hardened, the government said on Monday. WPI inflation has remained in double digits for the tenth consecutive month beginning April 2021. Inflation in December 2021 was 13.56 per cent, while in January 2021, it was 2.51 per cent. Inflation in food articles, however, spiked to a 10.33 per cent in January 2022 from 9.56 per cent in December 2021.

Vegetable price rise rate jumped to 38.45 per cent, against 31.56 per cent in the previous month.

In the food articles category, pulses, cereals and paddy witnessed a month-on-month price

December. PM tries to change UP poll narrative by flagging TMC MP's 'divide Hindu votes' statement

Continued from page-1

alliance with Shiv Sena to so as to divide the Hindu voters in the state," said the PM.

The PM did not stop here and continued by asking if it was a democracy when politicians were openly claiming that they wanted to divide Hindu voters.

"Then whom do you want to unite? I want to urge the voters of Goa and other states that this is the time to bury such kind of political narrative forever with your vote," stressed the

Political pundits believe the concerns raised by the PM in Akbarpur over the division of Hindu votes has set an agenda in UP. It may be recalled that in 2017, the PM had suddenly introduced the narrative of 'Kabristan-Shamshan' when the third phase of UP assembly polls was on and that had changed the narrative of the polls in the rest of the phases.

ALSO READ | Yogi hits out at Opposition, says BJP will secure over 300 seats

The PM claimed that the first two phases of the UP elections had made four things clear. "The BJP and Yogi Adityanath are coming back, every caste and community is going to vote unitedly for the development of UP. mothers and daughters have taken up the responsibility to lead the BJP to victory and that my Muslim sisters, mothers and daughters are stepping out silently to bless Modi," said the PM.

He also continued with his diatribe against the rival Samajwadi Party, reiterating the jibe of 'Pariwarwadi' and claiming that the first two phases had indicated a big win for the BJP and Yogi Adityanath who will come back to power in UP with an even higher number of seats as compared to previous elections by drubbing the dynasts.

Firing a fresh salvo against the SP over its alliances, the PM claimed that after the elections, SP will sideline all of its allies. "When they keep changing their allies, then how will they serve the people of Uttar Pradesh?" asked the PM.

Talking about corruption, the PM took a swipe at the Samajwadi Party accusing them of having distributed areas among family members for "loot" during their rule in the state. He said: "The 'Parivaarwadi' will again be defeated by the people of Uttar Pradesh and the festival of colours Holi will be celebrated in Uttar Pradesh on March 10 itself.'

He accused the previous SP regime of letting corruption and lawlessness thrive. The PM asked the people whether they would like to vote for a party that would create "mafia ganj" in every district of the state. "If they had their way, they would have made Kanpur and other such areas in UP, a 'mafia ganj' mohalla. Now, their 'mafiagiri' is counting its last breath. These 'parivaarvadi' want to give power to these mafias again. UP public will have to stay alert," he said.

No Jab Cert for Darshan

Continued from page-1

upcoming visit of President Ram Nath Kovind to the Shrine, the SJTA Chief Administrator said that the temple will remain closed for the public during the President's visit to the temple on February 19 from 4 PM to 6 PM.

Other details like who will remain present during his visit have been decided at the meeting. Around 40 platoons of police force will be deployed for the security of the President in the holy town.

Apart from Shree Jagannath darshan, Mr.Kovind will inaugurate the celebration of 150th birth anniversary of Srimad Bhakti Sidhant Saraswati Goswami Prabhupada, the founder of Gaudiya Mission on February 20. Later he will also visit Sri Chaitanya Gaudiya Mutt before returning to Delhi.

Union Budget offers mixed bag of Relief and compliance burden- Jain

Continued from page-1 and TCS, added Jain.

The deliberations were chaired by President Rtn. Indra Goenka. Past District Governor Rtn. Ravi Sehgal said "it was indeed a pleasure to join physical meeting after ages. Your analysis of the fine print of the budget was superb. Thanks for enlightening us". Senior Rtn.RKBubna and Shiv Kumar Lohia also appreciated.PR Director Rtn Piyush Doshi made observation:"You are not just tall among all but really you stand tall with your knowledge, wisdom and dedication in the subject and in life we had excellent discussion"

Rtn B D Agrawal, Rtn Sharad Dugar, RtnAjaAgarwalal, Rtn Ramalingam, Rtn HK Prasad, Rtn Alok Kanoria, Rtn Dr Rajrani Agarwal, RtnGirdharilalAgarwal, Rtn Manju Banthia, Rtn Amit Bhutoria, Rtn Amarnath Choudhury, Rtn Amar Malhotra, Rtn Nirmal Saha, RtnRakesh Almal, Rtn. Pramod Sharma and other Rotarians actively participated to make the Seminar so successful.

World Unani Day celebrated to pay homage to Hakim Ajmal Khan in Kolkata

Continued from page-1

Unani Medicine ,West Bengal)and Dr.Khalid Md.Saifullah (MD of Nature Veda Group)who added the seminar with valuable speech regarding the growth and promotion of Unani medicines all over India and highlighted the achievement of Hakim Ajmal Khan who was a versatile genius and along with being an eminent physician and social reformer, the man was a spiritual healer, a herbalist and a distinguished Unani clinician.Khan had a career in politics too. He became the founding Member and President of the All-India Muslim League. He also served as the president of Indian Congress. The legendary scholar breathed his last on 29 December, 1927.

Guest like Ahmed Hassan Imran (Ex-MP Rajya Sabha, Editor of Kolam Bengal Daily) Executive member of state council of Unani Medicine, WB, Smt. Sajda Ahmed (Member of State of Council Unani Medicine, WB), Dr. M. A. Kaseem (Chairman of 7 member's) (Executive Committee of State Council of Unani Medicine WB) were present in the occasion to include more zest to the focus of the day.

Lifetime Achievement Award was honoured to Dr.Nizamuddin (Vice-president of State Council of Unani Medicine ,West Bengal) Honorary Awards were given to Mr. Makhanlal Das (President Block Ward No.065 KMC,WB) and Mrs.Nivedita Sharma(Councillor, Ward No.65, KMC).

Award of Excellence in the field of Unani system of Medicine was honoured to Hakim Syed Atiar Rahaman, Hakim Md.Hasnain, Dr. Nazir Mollick, Dr. Md. Tasawer Najmi, Dr.Bipul Kumar sarkar, Dr.Binod Sharma, Dr. Abdul Kalam Azad, Dr. A.T.M Tarique Ahmed Mondal Mullick, Dr.Samir Ali, Dr.Bhola Nath Das, Dr.Nilmoni Chakraborty, Dr.Rizwan Ahmed Khan, Dr.Sunil Kr.Jana, Dr.Saroj Chowdhury, Dr.Goutam Kumar Sinha, Dr.Jalail Laskar, Hakim Manzar Sadique, Dr.Md.Kamal Khan, Dr.Tazlur Rahman

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Ind vs WI: No crowd in 1st T20I, CAB requests **BCCI** to allow spectators for last two T20Is

Cricket Associa- against tion of Bengal (c)

West Indies.

KOLKATA: The three-match series tier and hospitality boxes for sponsors and representatives

"CAB will intimate

all stakeholders



on Thursday requested the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) to allow spectators at Eden Gardens for the last

Indies will lock horns in the T20I series at the Eden Gardens Kolkata from February 16. "The BCCI has altwo T20Is of the lowed only upper

India and West for the first match," CAB said in a statement.

The CAB has again requested the BCCI to reconsider and allow spectators for the remaining once it receives feedback from the board," stated further.

defeated India West Indies 3-0 in the three-match

Liverpool gaffer Jurgen Klopp reveals why 'exhausted' Sadio Mane played against Burnley

Klopp's Jurgen Liverpool managed to end on the victorious side after a nervous 1-0 over lastplace Burnley in the Premier League game on Sunday.

But what surprised everyone was the inclusion of Sadio Mane, whose spotkick in the final of the African Cup of Nations secured Senegal

immense depth of Liverpool's attacking ranks that include the likes of Divock Origi, Takumi Minamino, Luis Diaz and Diogo Jota.

Klopp admitted that Sadio Mane "wasn't the plan" for the match against 'The Clarets'. He claimed that plans changed after a minor injury to Diogo Jota.

and the young lad needed more time to adapt.

"For Luis, he adapted really well, but this is a completely different game, like 'welcome to the Premier League'. We didn't want to try it if we didn't need it, and that's why we started like we started.Sadio did really well, working incredibly hard,

up his unlikely scoring run of late by bundling the ball into the net from close range in the 40th minute after his initial shot had been saved following Sadio Mane's flickon at a corner.

Fabinho has now scored five goals in his last seven appearances for Liverpool in all competitions, including two in one



its first-ever continental championship. An exhausted Mane joined the Reds training only on Friday after tasting success in the AFCON final. While many were expecting Sadio Mane not to be part of the starting XI, Klopp's decision to play the Senegalese forward surprised many.

The playmaker returned to the starting lineup alongside Mo Salah and Roberto Firmino to face Burnley raised many eyebrows given the After Liverpool's 1-0 win, Klopp told that "dead leg for Jota prompted him to change his lineup."

He said, "Sadio played really well. It wasn't the plan to start him today, because you know how intense everything was. But Diogo had a dead leg, couldn't train yesterday, that's why we started Sadio."

Klopp also stated that Luis was kept out of the team due to the harsh nature of a clash with Burnley

and that's exactly what we expected," he said.

A 1-0 win over lastplace Burnley in challenging conditions at Turf Moor returned second-place Liverpool to within nine points of Manchester City.

The Reds also have a game in hand, at home to struggling Leeds on Feb. 23, and still have to play City away in April.

Fabinho was the match-winner for Liverpool, the midfielder keeping

game in the FA Cup. Speaking about the outcome of the game, Klopp said, "I'm absolutely delighted with the way we played (in) the circumstances, it was so tricky. Only when you stood on the pitch could you feel the extent of the wind, it was ridiculous. The boys stuck with it and over the years have learned to deal with the circumstances. We asked ourselves to use it instead of suffering from it. A really difficult game."

Felix Auger-Aliassime beats top-seeded Stefanos Tsitsipas to win 1st title

ROTTERDAM: Felix Auger-Aliassime won his first career title at the ninth attempt, upsetting topseeded Stefanos

"It has not been the smoothest road since my first final," Auger-Aliassime said. "It is an amazing day for me to get my

one Tsitsipas. The big-serving Greek was unusually poor on his serve with four double-faults and

for performance where he broke Tsitsipas three times.

> "He was playing very good tennis, producing good shots and serving



Tsitsipas 6-4, 6-2 in the Rotterdam final on Sunday to deny his opponent an eighth title.

Victory at the indoor tournament came as a relief for the 21-year-old Canadian after losing his previous eight finals dating back to 2019.

first title and especially here. I played my first ATP main draw here a couple of years ago, so it is right I won my first title here."

The third-seeded Auger-Aliassime hit seven aces and won 93% of his first serve points, compared to just only 31 of 55 first serves landing in. His second serve let him down, too, and he won only 33% of points on it.

It was Auger-Aliassime's third win in eight matches against Tsitsipas, and he did not face a break point in a dominant incredibly well throughout match. I wasn't able respond," Tsitsipas said. "I wasn't able to respond. I wasn't able to serve well today and my percentages were so low."

The 23-year-old Tsitsipas dropped to 7-11 in finals.

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