

Grand Demonstration of Media People across the country on 30th March 2022 at Jantarantar, New delhi supported by Many Regional and National media Organizations and trade unions led by Sri Narendra Bhandari, Secretary general & Anup Choudhary, President, Working journalist of india affiliated to Bhartiya Majdoor Sangha

## Phase 3 poll sails smoothly

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Barring a few minor incidents in Jajpur district, the third phase of voting for election of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) is going smoothly in 29 districts. At least 45 per cent of voters' turnout was recorded till 12 PM.

The polling began at 7 AM under tight security.



As per preliminary reports, barring few booths of Jajpur district, the third phase election is going on smoothly in the State, said Secretary to State Election Commission (SEC), RN Sahu.

The third phase voting was underway at 18,495 booths in 1,382 Gram Panchayats under 63 blocks of 29 districts. Out of the total booths, 2,773 booths have been identified as sensitive booths. As many as 679 candidates are in fray for the 171 Zilla Parishad seats.

As per reports, three media persons have been allegedly assaulted in Jajpur district. The three journalists of an electronic media house have been attacked by unidentified miscreants while they were going to cover the alleged loot of ballot boxes from two booths at Bachala Panchayat under Binjharpur block in the district, sources said. Mr. Sahu said the Commission has yet to receive any report on the incident. The district collector will be asked to submit a detailed report on this after completion of the voting, CONTINUED ON: P-7

## Journos Beaten Black And Blue In Jajpur For Covering Booth Rigging; Seek Justice

Jajpur(KCN): As many as four journalists were brutally beaten and held captive by a mob which was engaged in booth rigging in Binjharpur block of Jajpur district on Sunday.



According to reports, the journalists, identified Gulshan Ali Khan of Argus, Debasis Sahoo of Kalinga TV, Bijay Sahu of Kanak News, and Himanshu Padhi of Odisha Sambad, who were engaged in reporting live from the spot, were beaten black and blue for doing their job.

Reportedly, the journalists were capturing an act of ballot boxes being looted by the mis-

creants at Booth number 2 and 4 in Bacchal panchayat under Binjharpur block. The journalists were held captive and their vehicles were damaged in the process, reports added.

In this connection, the journalists have lodged an official complaint with the State Election Commission and demanded an in-



quiry followed by action against the miscreants. In the wake of the violence in first phase of panchayat polls, the SEC had issued strict directives to the State police to act against the perpetrators and take pre-emptive measures to prevent untoward incidents

## SEC condemns attack on scribes

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Amid violence in some places of Jajpur district, the third phase of voting for election of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) has completed in the State on Sunday with 71 per cent polling. At least 71 percent out of 56.53 lakh voters have turned out to the booths in this phase. However, the polling percentage may go up as the final report is yet to come, State Election Commissioner Aditya Prasad Padhi said.

The polling began at 7 AM and continues till 1 PM. However,

in places where voters were seen standing in queue, they

were allowed to cast their votes. The election was held for 171 ZP Member posts at 18,495

booths in 1382 Panchayats in 63 Blocks of 29 districts

across the State. The election was also very peacefully conducted at the Maoist hot belt like Mathili & Podia



Blocks of Malkangiri district and Phiringia Block of Kandhamal district, Padhi said. The Commission has strongly condemned the attack on journalists in Binjharpur area of Jajpur district. The DGP and Jajpur district administration have been directed to arrest the culprits and take strong action against them, Padhi informed. Jajpur Collectors and SP have also assured that all persons involved in the attack will be arrested and strong action will be taken against them. As per reports, the CONTINUED ON: P-7

## Prez lauds Covid Warriors

Puri(KCN): President Ram Nath Kovind on Sunday hailed the doctors, nurses and other health workers for their services and sacrifices during the Covid-19 pandemic, despite many of them contracting the virus.

be indebted to such warriors," the President said. Kovind, who was on a two day visit to Odisha, has told this while speaking on the occasion of inauguration of the three-year long celebra-



"Our doctors, nurses and health workers displayed this spirit of service during the COVID pandemic. They were also infected with the coronavirus, but even in such extreme circumstances, they did not lose courage and were engaged in the treatment of people. Many of our corona warriors sacrificed their lives but the dedication of their co-workers remained unwavering. The whole country would always

tions of the 150th birth anniversary of Srimad Bhakti Siddhanta Saraswati Goswami Prabhupad, the founder of Gaudiya Math and Mission in Puri today. He asserted that humanity and truth are supreme and cannot be divided on the basis of caste, gender or religion, as serving the needy has always been accorded top priority in Indian culture. CONTINUED ON: P-7



## Social worker Prakash

### Mohapatra's blood donation Seva

Cuttack Sadar(KCN) : Youth Social worker Mr.Prakash Chandra Mohapatra belongs to social science students of Ravenshaw University Cuttack and the Villagers of where doing Seva work,through National youth program lots of Seva Projects, Plantation,Food distribution, Youth Awariness,organized blood donation camp, teaching to rural chil-



Gundurilocha,Suliapada Block district Mayurbhanj donate blood In emergency time to pregnancy Lady of Talcher at Cuttack. Moreover Blood donner Prakash till time donate 27 times blood,one time SDP. As Corona warriors SCB medical Cuttack,own district Mayurbhanj, Cuttack, Bhubanswar, Jajpur area every-

## Bhubaneswar 'dreams' to help youths give up drugs, live a new life

BHUBANESWAR (KCN): Aiming at rehabilitating and skilling drug addicts in the State Capital, the City Police have this month launched a new initiative - DREAMS (de-addiction, reformation and entrepreneurial assistance for making a safe society). The

these youths were involved in offences like theft and snatching and out on bail. Apart from deaddiction, they will be provided skill training for four months to help them eke out a living, said Bhubaneswar DCP Umashankar Dash, adding that the initia-

gan showing signs of withdrawal," he said. They are being provided spiritual courses, yoga and meditation classes and engaged in games and exercises to tackle the withdrawal symptoms. Skill training would be provided to them in plumbing, carpen-



Odisha Mining Corporation (OMC) and Indian Institute of Education and Care are collaborating with the police for the initiative under which they have set up a deaddiction centre - Revolution - at Patrapada in the city. In the first phase, 33 youths having criminal antecedents and addiction to drugs were identified by police and are being provided free counselling and treatment at the rehabilitation centre. Another 17 such youths have been identified and their treatment will start soon. Most of

ative is aimed at mainstreaming them in the society. Under the Dreams initiative, drug addicts residing in slums can also visit Capital Hospital every Thursday between 2 pm and 5 pm and avail treatment from two specialists. Prior to this initiative, police had prepared a list of 200 anti-socials and 128 of them were found addicted to drugs. Indian Institute of Education and Care's Director Shisir Das said the counselors have been witnessing excellent results so far. "Within the first week to 10 days, the youths be-

try, painting, mechanics and other sectors. "After completion of the de-addiction programme, we will approach the Odisha Skill Development Authority to provide them professional expertise which would help them in earning a life of dignity," said Das. Police said the initiative comes in wake of rising cases of drug peddling and addiction. Most of the brown sugar addicts are in the age group of 20 to 30 years and while some consume it for pleasure, others do it under peer pressure.

## Fight for Supremacy

Bhubaneswar(KCN): In the battle of supremacy over rural Odisha through the ongoing three-tier panchayat elections, a new phenomenon is visible which may irritate the country's saffron leaders. During the battle of Titans BJD and BJP, the country's age old party, the Congress, is winning sympathy in many constituencies. The Congress will not win many seats but the party headed by Sonia Gandhi still evokes warm affinity among the villagers. Many people have a feeling for the Congress, but they are frustrated that no one from the party seeks their votes. People may not see any future in the party, but many cherish the return of the 'hand symbol' when it is gradually fading from the memory of the voters.

As Naveen continues to rule over the state for over two decades, younger voters have almost forgotten the Congress and its governance style. The country's oldest party has nothing to offer the young men and women. They have started forgetting the contributions of Jawaharlal Nehru, Indira Gandhi and Rajiv Gandhi and so also Narasimha Rao and Manmohan Singh. Despite Mr.Modi's Congress Mukh Bharat call and Naveen's description of the party as the 'ocean of corruption', people have fond remembrances of Congress. The Congress still lives in the village, the indication of which is evident during the 2022 panchayat polls in Odisha. Though the Congress has fielded candidates in more than 800 seats for the Zilla Parishad Members, many of them have been given party tickets for having the ability to spend money in the elections. Senior leaders are shy to join the campaign. Even the OPCC President Niranjana Patnaik preferred to be away from campaigning. The Congress candidates were virtually starving for funds and fail to impress voters. "We have no money,

muscle or media with us. The Congress candidates are in the fray with their own strength," pointed out senior

ground reality and therefore, have resolved to capture the trust of the people in villages while Congress has turned out

indicate that it is serious about winning the people's confidence. The State BJP leadership is not visible in rural



Congress lawmaker Suresh Kumar Routray. Many of the Congress candidates are in the fray with borrowed money while BJD and BJP nominees get it on a platter. Mr.Routray said the people are treated with mutton, chicken and other tempting items while Congress candidates are unable to go beyond "rice and lentil". Despite having lakhs of sympathisers in the villages of Odisha, Congress lacks logistics support to turn sympathy into votes. Factors like lack of proper leadership, infighting in the party and unwillingness of senior leaders to spend resources have ruined the Congress in Odisha, opined political observers. People are somewhat sympathetic towards Congress because of their frustration with the working style of BJP and BJD. The BJP's inroads to rural Odisha during 2017 Panchayat Polls gives sufficient indication that the people want alternatives to the two decade long BJD Government. Since the Congress has already gone to oblivion, the BJP filled the gap and secured 297 of the Zilla Parishad seats in 2017 elections which later helped the saffron party to win 14 Assembly and 8 Lok Sabha seats in 2019 elections. Current panchayat elections are considered as the semi-final for the 2024 general elections.

Both the BJD and the BJP have meanwhile realised the

to be a silent spectator for many reasons. The Congress, which has been out of power since 2000 after ruling Odisha for decades, must keep it in mind that the people will never vote the party as the Congress leaders used to grossly neglect the rural zones; they have to wait for many years for returning to power in the state.

The BJP, which dreams to rule the state, also must keep in mind that Naveen's BJD is deeply rooted in villages via its many welfare schemes and therefore it is difficult for Saffron Brigade to overpower the regional behemoth. The saffron party must know that getting elected to Assembly or Lok Sabha hinges on several factors. The factor one is anti-incumbency and misrule, number two is unpopularity of the leader of the ruling dispensation.

In both the cases Naveen is strong and his popularity is soaring continually even as some of his party colleagues have brought bad names for the Government. However, keeping Naveen's image in view, the people vote for BJD with expectation that the Chief Minister will not spare any one indulged in anti-people activities. When people realise that the black moles are being shielded and not punished as was the case some years ago, they may not hesitate to dump the BJD.

This is high time for the BJP to prove its worth. However, the manner in which the saffron party is managing the panchayat elections, it does not

zones; however some of the leaders in their respective areas are more than active to retain their folks together. A few like Union Minister Bisheswar Tudu, former Union Ministers Jual Oram and Pratap Sarangi, have been working day in and day out to keep the party primed to take on BJD at the ground level. However, their activities are confined to specific constituencies. While Mr.Tudu's activities are confined to Mayurbhanj Lok Sabha seat, Sarangi and Oram also work for their constituencies like Balasore and Sundergarh respectively. There seems to be a lack of pan-Odisha approach of BJP. Nobody knows whether BJP can retain its 2017 tally even as BJP State President Samir Mohanty claimed that they will certainly perform better than the 2017 results.

BJD leadership on the other hand, has turned out to be a hard task master by asking its local representatives starting from Sarpanches to MPs to ensure victory or lose the party position and even power also. For their self-preservation BJD's 114 MLAs, 12 MPs have put their entire efforts to retain their forts. Naveen may not hesitate to punish the non-performers after elections. Anyway, while the fight for supremacy in rural zones is going on the rural polls will certainly give a clear message in the state as to which party is going to rule Odisha after 2024 General Elections!

## Economic Offences Wing freezes Rs 17 crore of Sambandh Finserve

BHUBANESWAR(KCN): The Economic Offences Wing of the Crime Branch has frozen Rs 17.10 crore bank balance of Sambandh Finserve Pvt Ltd in connection with financial frauds allegedly committed by its managing director Deepak Kindo and other family members. Investigators said that 47 bank accounts of Sambandh Finserve and sister organisations, Deepak, his wife Amrita and their close relatives have been traced so far. In 2020, Deepak had approached Annapurna Finance Pvt Ltd for a loan of Rs 5 crore on the pretext of lending the money to SHGs and joint liability groups. However, the accused did not repay the amount.

## Shambhavi Puraskar 2022 for Ratnakar Sahoo

BHUBANESWAR(KCN): City-based social activist Ratnakar Sahoo will be conferred the Shambhavi Puraskar 2022, instituted by Bansidhar & Ila Panda Foundation, the CSR wing of IMFA group. Sahoo will receive the award in the domain of education for



founding 'Ashayen' with the primary objective of educating street children and rag-pickers and improving their lives by imparting general know-how on life skills, health and hygiene and sensitising slum children on good and bad touch. The award that carries a citation and cash award of Rs 2.5 lakh is given to recognise people who act as agents of social change and motivate others to follow in their footsteps. Shambhavi Puraskar committee also announced the Jury Commendation Certification 2022 for Chinmayee Das of Jarapada in Angul district for her work in the healthcare sector.

The award carries Rs 50,000 cash and a citation. The recipients will be felicitated in an award ceremony on the foundation day of BIPF on March 14.



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# Signing 'Indian 2' has been a step up in my career, says Kajal Aggarwal



**CHENNAI (KCN):** Actress Kajal Aggarwal, who teams up with actor-filmmaker Kamal Haasan for the first time in the upcoming Tamil film "Indian 2", says signing the project has been a step up in

her over a decade-long career.

Last seen on screen in Telugu film "Kavacham", Kajal has already begun prepping for her role in "Indian 2".

"I'm really thrilled to be part of

the project. I'm quite excited about my role and the skills I will get to learn on the job. I see signing 'Indian 2' as a step up in my career," Kajal told IANS along the sidelines of the launch of beverage brand 7Up's

new campaign, 7Up Ponneram.

Ponneram translates to golden times in English. Kajal said her career's golden times started when she signed S.S. Rajamouli's "Magadheera".

"My golden times started when I signed 'Magadheera'. I have seen many ups and downs in my profession but it was only after I did 'Magadheera' did my career catapult to the next league. It earned me a lot of recognition which I enjoy even today," she said.

Talking about what excited her most about the association with 7Up, Kajal said: "It's a brand a lot of us can easily identify and relate with. I like the fact that it's a very clear beverage. It's also a drink that lets you take a step back and chill. I treat success or failure by taking a step back and I believe it gives you a lot of clarity."

On the career front, Kajal is keenly looking forward to the release of "Paris Paris", the Tamil remake of Kangana Ranaut's "Queen".

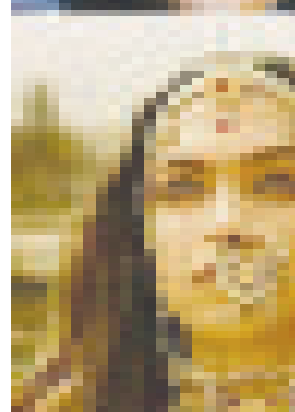
"Paris Paris" will be Kajal's first release of 2019.

"When I was offered the 'Queen' remake, I saw it as a story that can be explored in many languages. It's a simple story of a simple girl that I could connect with on many levels. I'm sure there are a lot of girls across different parts of Tamil Nadu who will relate to this story and I'd be glad if this film empowers them," she added.

# From 2.0 to Raazi, top 10 Indian movies based on worldwide gross

2018 has been an eventful year for Indian cinema. From Sanju to Sarkar, the industry faced a row

of controversies. Yet some movies shined amid the storm.



of controversies. Yet some movies shined amid the storm. According to IMDb, here's the list of ten movies that performed well in the box office last year.

1. 2.0: It won't be an exaggeration to call 2.0 as India's 'Superhero' movie. True to that, Kollywood and Bollywood superheros Rajinikanth and Akshay Kumar played the lead roles in the movie. The movie has so far earned over Rs 700 crore worldwide already and is still running successfully in theatres. Directed by Shankar, who's known to make magnificent movies, 2.0 comes with a social message for people on why one should reduce the use of mobile phones. Also, it is the first Tamil film to enter the 700 crore club. If you haven't watched the film yet, book your tickets right away!

2. Sanju: Sanjay Dutt's biopic 'Sanju' minted Rs 340 crore at the box office and was

declared as 'double blockbuster' film. The movie showed the different phases of the controversial

ing Rs 293 crore. 4. Race 3:

'Our business is our business, none of your business' line

and the government freebie schemes.. A few scenes were deleted from the movie too. The matter was

ceived hilarious reactions on social media as well. Later, Aamir Khan apologised for failing to entertain

but it leaves you with a thought to ponder. 9. Rangasthalam:

With the right mix of content for a commercial flick, Rangasthalam made it big in the box office by collecting Rs 151 crore. The story is about how a young man with hearing impairment and his brother decide to dethrone their village's president who's been ruling the village for 30 years.

10. Raazi:

An adaptation of Harinder Sikka's 'Calling Sehmat' novel, Raazi is based on the true story of an Indian spy, who gets married into a Pakistani family of military officials to spy on Pakistan during the Indo-Pak war of 1971. It's easily Alia Bhatt's career best. The movie minted Rs 121 crore in the box office against the budget of Rs 30 crore.

It's been a great year for Indian cinema which took us on a journey of emotions, from laughter to tears, sometimes of joy. Though a lot of films didn't make it to this list, good films silently made it into the hearts of the audience.

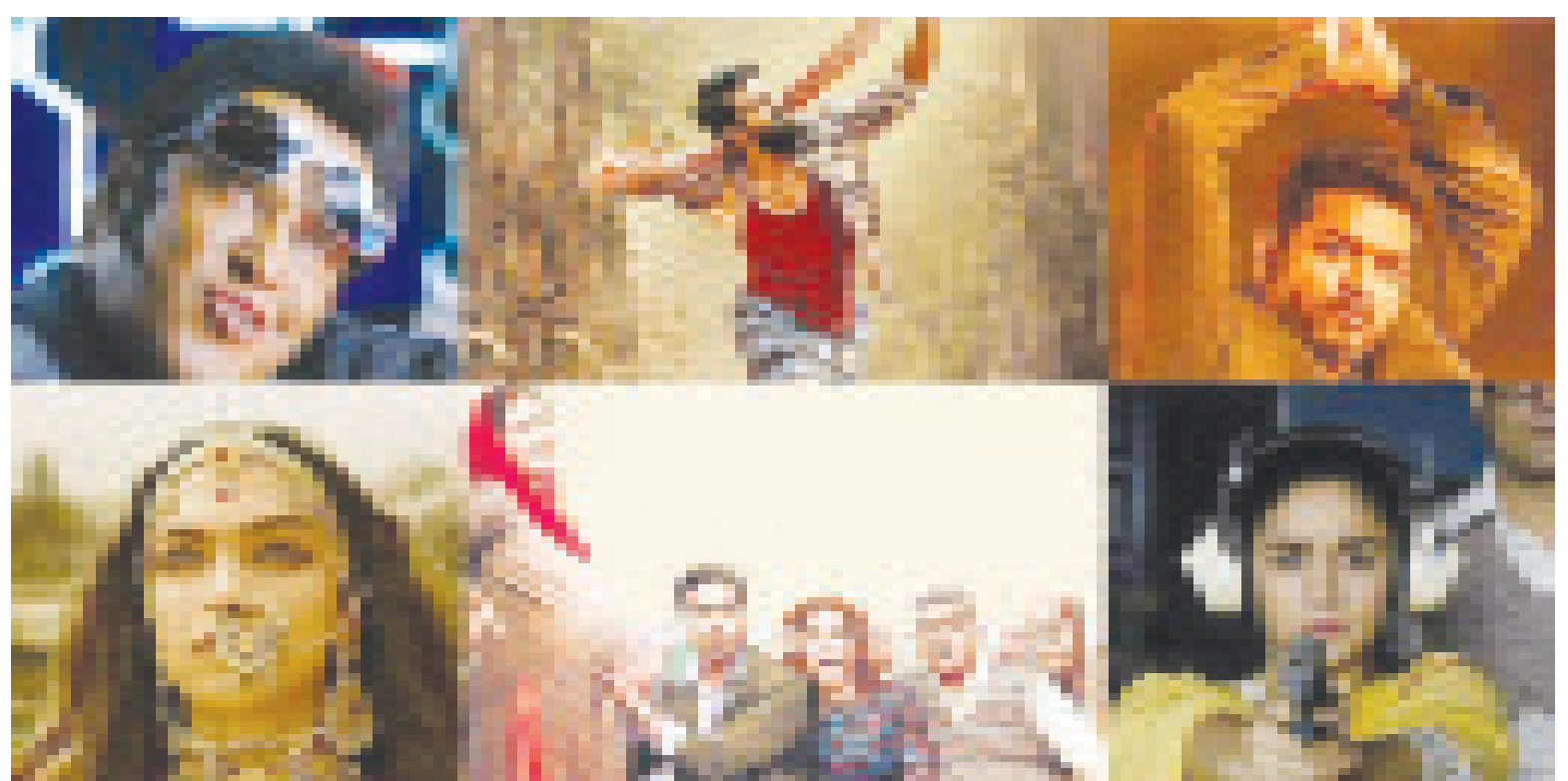
## Just 'normal' to exclude women in decision making process: Adil Hussain

**MUMBAI (KCN):** Actor Adil Hussain has offered support to the growing group of female artistes who are asking the reason for women's absence from the Bollywood delegation of producers and actors that recently met Prime Minister Narendra Modi to discuss issues faced by the film industry.

On Tuesday, an 18-member panel, including Akshay Kumar, Karan Johar, Ajay Devgn, Siddharth Roy Kapur, Ritesh Sidhwani and CBFC chief Prasoon

Joshi, met Modi to discuss how to take the entertainment industry to the next stage.

The meeting of the delegation came under fire on Wednesday for its exclusion of female representation with some activists and filmmakers pointing out that it was 2018 and asking, "Where are the women?" Adil took to Twitter to criticise the panel that met the prime minister, saying it has become the habit to exclude women from the decision making process.



actor Sanjay Dutt, which really didn't go well with some organisations. RSS openly criticised the movie in their mouth-piece 'Panchjanya.' However, the movie became a huge hit in no time. It's definitely Ranbir Kapoor's best work ever. The movie was a comeback for both the reel and real Sanjus.

### 3. Padmaavat:

Initially scheduled to be released in 2017, the movie was caught in a row of controversies and finally got released early this year in January. Set in medieval Rajasthan, the story revolves around the life of Queen Padmavathi, which drew the flak from right-wing groups. Unlike the claims by the religious fanatics, the movie actually portrayed queen Padmavati in the best light. However, the film's team was asked to remove a few scenes from the movie before its release. Despite the fuss, the movie became a blockbuster at the box office, earn-

ing Rs 293 crore. 4. Race 3: 'Our business is our business, none of your business' line

### 5. Sarkar:

Sarkar's plot is about a successful businessman from the USA coming to India to cast his vote on election day. To his shock, he finds out that his vote has already been cast by someone else. So he decides to take up a political battle against the miscreants and how he survives the race makes the rest of the story. Directed by AR Murugadoss, the movie got into a huge row and was criticised by the ruling Tamil Nadu government for allegedly misrepresenting AIADMK's late leader J Jayalithaa

later settled in Madras HC. It was much hyped that actor Vijay may begin his political career after this movie. Sarkar was well received by the Tamil audience and it made Rs 151 crore in the box office. 6. Baaghi 2:

This Tiger Shroff-Disha Patani starrer failed to impress audience due to its poor storyline line. Despite that, the movie minted Rs 161 crore in the box office and became a blockbuster. The story is about an army man trying to save his ex-lover's kidnapped daughter. The Baaghi series will have a third part 'Baaghi 3,' which will be out on March 6, 2020.

### 7. Thugs of Hindostan:

The film set in the 18th century earned Rs 130 crore in the box office against the 275 crore budget ending up a huge disaster at the box office despite having strong star cast including Aamir Khan, Amitabh Bachchan, Katrina Kaif. The film re-



## Amendments in Faceless Assessment Procedure by Finance Bill, 2022

The Central Government has undertaken a number of measures to make the processes under the Act electronic, by eliminating person to person interface between the taxpayer and the Department to the extent technologically



feasible, and provide for optimal utilisation of resources and a team-based assessment with dynamic jurisdiction. As part of this policy, vide Taxation and Other Laws (Relaxation and Amendment of Certain Provisions) Act, 2020,

section 144B was inserted in the Income Tax Act to provide the procedure for faceless assessment with effect from 01.04.2021. However, various difficulties are being faced by the administration and the taxpayers in the operation of the faceless assessment procedure. Therefore, the Finance Minister has proposed to substitute section 144B to provide that –

- (a) the provisions of proposed section shall apply for faceless assessment, reassessment or recomputation under section 143(3) or section 144 or section 147, as the case may be.
- (b) National Faceless Assessment Centre (NaFAC) shall assign the case selected for the purposes of faceless assessment to a specific Assessment Unit (AU) and intimate the assessee that assessment in his case shall be completed in accordance with the procedure laid down.
- (c) Assessee shall be served a notice under section 143(2) or section 142(1), through the NaFAC. The assessee may file his response to aforementioned notice under section 143(3), within the date specified in such notice, to the NaFAC, which shall forward the reply to the AU.
- (d) Thereafter, the AU may make a request, through the NaFAC, for obtaining such further information, documents or evidence from assessee or any other person, as it may specify and the NaFAC shall serve appropriate notice or requisition on assessee or any other person for obtaining such information, documents or evidence. The AU may also make a request, through the NaFAC, for conducting enquiry or verification by Verification Unit (VU) and

the request shall be assigned by the NaFAC to a VU

**Narayan Jain**

through an automated allocation system. The AU may also similarly make a request in respect of **determination of arm's length price, valuation of property, withdrawal of registration, approval, exemption or any other technical matter** by referring to the technical unit and the request shall be assigned by the NaFAC to a Technical Unit (TU) through an automated allocation system.

- (e) The assessee or any other person, as the case may be, shall file his response in compliance to the said notice served by NaFAC, at the request of AU, to the NaFAC which shall forward the reply to the AU. If the assessee fails to comply with the said notice seeking information served by NaFAC, or the earlier notice under section 143(2) or under section 142(1), the NaFAC shall intimate the same to the AU. The AU shall serve upon the assessee, through NaFAC, a show cause notice under section 144 giving him the opportunity to explain as to why the assessment in his case should not be completed to the best of its judgement. Further any report received by the NaFAC, from the VU or TU shall also be forwarded to AU.
- (f) The assessee shall file his response to the show-cause notice under section 144, within time specified in such notice, to the NaFAC which shall forward the same to the AU. If the assessee fails to respond, the NaFAC shall intimate the same to AU.
- (g) The AU shall, after taking into account all relevant material available on record, prepare in writing, an income or loss determination proposal where no variation prejudicial to assessee is proposed and send the same to the NaFAC. If a variation is being proposed then a show cause notice is served on the assessee stating the variations proposed to be made to the income of the assessee and calling upon him to submit as to why the proposed variation should not be made, through the NaFAC.
- (h) The assessee shall file his reply to show cause notice to NaFAC, on date and time as specified, which shall forward reply to the AU. If the assessee fails to respond within specified time, NaFAC shall intimate the same to AU. After considering the response

of assessee or the intimation of failure of assessee to file a response received from NaFAC and all relevant material available on the record, the AU shall prepare an income or loss determination proposal, in writing, and send the same to the NaFAC.

- (i) Upon receipt of the income or loss determination proposal, with or without any variations proposed to the income of the assessee, as the case may be, the NaFAC may, on the basis of guidelines issued by CBDT, convey to the AU to prepare draft order in accordance with such income or loss determination proposal, which shall thereafter prepare a draft order, or assign the income or loss determination proposal to a Review Unit (RU) through an automated allocation system, which shall conduct a review of such order, prepare a review report and send it to NaFAC.
- (j) The NaFAC shall forward the review report received from the RU to the AU which had proposed the income or loss determination proposal. The AU may accept or reject some or all of the modifications proposed in such review report, prepare a draft order accordingly, and send it to NaFAC. The AU shall record reasons in writing if it is rejecting the modifications proposed by the RU.
- (k) **Reference to Dispute Resolution Panel:** The NaFAC shall, upon receiving draft order in a case of eligible assessee, where there is a proposal to make any variation which is prejudicial to the interest of such assessee under section 144C(1) for reference to Dispute Resolution Panel, serve such draft order on the assessee. In any case, other than that of eligible assessee under section 144C, the NaFAC shall convey to the AU to complete the assessment in accordance with such draft order, which shall thereafter pass the final assessment order and initiate penalty proceedings, if any, and send it to the NaFAC. The NaFAC shall serve a copy of such final assessment order, Notice for initiating penalty proceedings, if any and the demand notice, specifying the sum payable by, or refund of any amount due to the assessee on the basis of such assessment, to the assessee.
- (l) An eligible assessee, as referred to in section 144C, shall, upon receiving the draft order

as served on him above, shall file his acceptance of the variations proposed in such draft order or file objections, if any, to such variations, with the Dispute Resolution Panel, under section 144C and the NaFAC, within the period specified in section 144C(2).

- (m) In case the variations proposed in the draft order are accepted by the assessee or not objected to within the time given in section 144C(2), the NaFAC shall intimate the AU of the same, which shall complete the assessment, on the basis of the draft order, within the time allowed under section 144C(4) and initiate penalty proceedings, if any, and send the order to the NaFAC.
- (n) Where the eligible assessee files objections with the Dispute Resolution Panel, against the variations proposed in the draft order in his case, the NaFAC shall send such intimation along with a copy of such objections to AU. Upon receipt of the directions issued by Dispute Resolution Panel in the case of an eligible assessee under section 144C, the NaFAC shall forward such directions to AU. The AU shall complete the assessment within the time allowed in section 144C(13) and initiate penalty proceedings, if any, in conformity with the directions issued by the Dispute Resolution Panel under section 144C(5), and send a copy of such order to NaFAC.
- (o) The NaFAC shall, upon receipt of final assessment order, in the case of an eligible assessee under section 144C or in other cases, serve a copy of such order and notice for initiating penalty proceedings, if any, on the assessee, along with the demand notice, specifying the sum payable by, or the amount of refund due to, the assessee. The NaFAC shall, after completion of assessment, transfer all the electronic records of the case to the Assessing Officer having jurisdiction over the said case for such action as may be required.
- (p) The proposed section also provides that faceless assessment shall be made in respect of persons or class of persons, or incomes or class of incomes, or cases or class of cases or such territorial area, as may be specified by CBDT.

(to be contd.)

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

## India - The Spirit of oneness it is and the politics of division it suffers

Leaders of our country never forget to exercise their liberty, especially when it comes to trim-size their political opponents from the stages of war cry. It seems, sometimes liberty is too liberal



to manipulate its meaning. In a democracy, such verbal outpourings are welcome and accepted and of course even criticized. Barbs on opponents at times probably keep a leader

alive and significant in politics and counters will be fired at him subsequently from multiple corners. The recent one the Congress leadership pitched against its principal opposition was from Jaipur. While differentiating Hinduism and Hindutva, Rahul Gandhi had a scathing attack on his political adversaries. In an attempt to take the subject of discourse further across the country, underscoring the distinction, he went on calling himself a true Hindu while terming his political foes Hindutvavadis. The difference that he tried to paint as crucial between the terms Hinduism and Hindutva, was well defined by the Supreme Court referring to all the evidence that was available. Hinduism for that matter, has never been defined as a religion. When sectarian politics divides the country so deeply into watertight compartments, it is necessary to look into what the Supreme Court had opined about this subject of controversy. In its attempt to explain the difference between Hinduism and Hindutva, in no judgment the apex court has identified Hindutva as a militant element of Hinduism. The court in its statement clarified the idea of Hinduism and Hindutva as difficult subjects to be defined inside the precincts of any ordinary religion. As Hinduism does not claim any prophet or particular book for its philosophical ideals, comparing it to the standards of other religions is impossible. As for the Supreme Court, Hinduism which is a way of life cannot be brought under the parameters

that fit for other religions. To quote from the Upanishads,

**M. R. LALU**

the basic ideal India stands for is "Ekam Sat VipraBahudhaVadanti", which means truth is one and people call it by different names. Irrespective of religious differences, all the religions are taking their followers to the same supreme truth. We as a country have accepted, respected and followed this principle.

The question that surfaces here in this context is that, are we too polarized to forget the spirit of oneness that we nurtured, cherished and flourished with. The best way to delve into this subject is to refer to what Swami Vivekananda spoke of it long ago. Vivekananda was the Shankaracharya of modern India. And Shankaracharya, to reinstate the essence of oneness as a nation, established 4 spiritual monastic centers in four directions of this country. To keep a politically scattered landmass, an agglomeration of regions together, Shankara discovered and promulgated and used the idea of Advaita Vedanta like the inner golden thread that joins the pearls of a necklace. Both the saints considered this land as motherland which, for them, was sacred and divine as the great Goddess herself. For them, the land was her body, her social, economic and political life, her mind, and her philosophy and culture, her soul. When Swami Vivekananda proclaimed that each soul is potentially divine, Shankara had long ago accentuated it through his Advaita doctrine. Both had spiritual ideals experimented and elaborated to the people of their time barring all other differences and focusing on one practical principle, which was to realize the ultimate truth in everything. The truth, they said, attempts to withhold people from dissecting their intellect in the name of religious differences but helps them find a unifying essence that goes through every religious doctrine like a thread connecting beads of plurality. Swami Vivekananda proclaimed to the western world that truth is one and we identify it as many. For

India, its culture was so supreme that it could easily accept even the

idea of atheism without any grudge. Shaking the nation and its people from their self-forgetfulness, he awakened the national spiritual consciousness by genuinely injecting in them the idea of oneness. This was indeed an effort to indirectly elevate the mass into a divine national consciousness which essentially strengthened the country through its millions of freedom fighters. An invigorated freedom struggle against the colonial rule in the country began with full force as the words of Vivekananda swayed across the country. Subhash Chandra Bose and many more moved forward in the path of acquiring freedom igniting the fire of wisdom and essence of oneness that Vivekananda astutely spoke of. For him, religion was a mechanism to serve the poor irrespective of the beliefs and traditions it followed.

But there have always been efforts to downsize the essential Indian thought of oneness by an academia with vested interests in India and abroad. Repeated cries alleging that the country is pitching a war against its minority is heard on a daily basis. The genocide against Muslims that this country is blamed for is because the present dispensation at the center is believed to have a saffron mandate. India with more than 200 million Muslims contributing to its progress in a big way has always been inclusive allowing all its diverse beliefs and faiths enjoying freedom to flourish. Chiseled out of India, our two newborn neighbors with a disproportionate population of the minorities including Hindus, Sikhs and Christians, have successfully curtailed the wings of their generations from prospering, forcefully brushing them under the fear carpet. Being a civilized nation, amicable coexistence was India's priority irrespective of unscrupulous attack on its secular national credentials. Mahatma Gandhi had imbibed this essential oneness that India stood for generations and wanted to revive that in a country which was

free from the British hands. The future of this country stays on such an inclusive ambience that never discriminates people based on their faith, language, tradition, lifestyle and religion.

Artists, actors, comedians, students, politicians or anybody for that matter, enjoys the freedom to diminish and tarnish the essence of our spiritual ethos from platforms in India and abroad. Strengthening its democratic credentials, the country with its majority population, has never reacted to such onslaughts of deliberate denials in a way such situations could have been dealt with in countries like Pakistan and Bangladesh. On one side, a deliberate attempt to demonize India by vested interests is on, but on the other we can see a world intensely inquisitive about the inclusiveness that India stood for generations, taking lessons from it. Wooing the vote banks, Manmohan Singh was not regretful as he batted for the Muslims to have first claim on the country's resources. Decades of Congress Raj in India was a ceremonial attempt to appease the minority to advantageously nibble from their unshaken vote bank. Now what backfires the Congress is the BJP's entry into the Indian polity with Ayodhya, Mathura and much more in the disguise of a savior of the nationalistic, pluralistic Indianness. Rahul Gandhi needs more time to dive deeper into the oneness that Hinduism and Hindutva stand for. And the political Hindutva what he is trying to pin the blame on is an outcome of the minority appeasement politics that his party is known for. For India, SabkaSathSabka Vikas by the Modi government should be a benchmark of oneness that India stood for ages with development knocking all the doors with unprejudiced dynamism.

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## India, Germany share commitment to promoting green growth, clean tech: Minister S Jaishankar



MUNICH: India and Germany share a commitment to promoting green growth and clean technology, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar has said, as he held a "constructive meeting" with German Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development Svenja Schulze here. Jaishankar arrived in

Germany on Friday to take part in the Munich Security Conference 2022 here. "A constructive meeting with German Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development Svenja Schulze here. Discussed our respective develop-

ment partnership outlook. We share a commitment to promoting green growth and clean tech," he said. Jaishankar also held talks with Foreign and Security Policy Advisor to German Chancellor Jens Ploetner. "A good meeting with Foreign and Security Policy Advisor to German Chancellor

Jens Ploetner. Useful review of global developments," he said in a tweet. Jaishankar also met his counterpart from Ireland Simon Coveney. "Concluded the day meeting with FM @simoncoveney of Ireland. We have worked closely together at UNSC. Ireland can play a greater role in our EU engagement," he said.

## Queen Elizabeth II tests positive for COVID; mild symptoms

LONDON: Queen Elizabeth II tested positive for COVID-19 on Sunday and is experiencing mild, cold-like symptoms, Buckingham Palace said. The palace said the 95-year-old British monarch will continue with light duties at Windsor Castle over the coming week. "She will continue to receive medical attention

and will follow all the appropriate guidelines," the palace said in a statement. The queen has received three jabs of coronavirus vaccine. Both her eldest son Prince Charles and daughter-in-law Camilla, Duchess of Cornwall have also recently contracted COVID-19. Charles has since returned to work. Britain's longest-reigning monarch, the queen reached the milestone of 70 years on the throne on Feb. 6.



## Pakistan authorities arrest 31 Indian fishermen

Pakistan's maritime authorities have arrested 31 Indian fishermen and seized five of their vessels for allegedly fishing in the country's territorial waters, officials said on Wednesday. The Pakistan Maritime Security Agency (PMSA) announced that it made the arrest from Pakistan's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) on 18 February during patroling vessels on Friday. The PMSA said that one of its "ship regularly arrest fishermen from either



rested 31 Indian fishermen and seized five of their vessels for allegedly fishing in the country's territorial waters, officials said on Wednesday. The Pakistan Maritime Security Agency (PMSA) said that it apprehended the in-

ling in the Pakistan Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). P a k i s t a n Maritime Security Agency (PMSA) announced that it made the arrest from Pakistan's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) on 18 Febru-

apprehended five Indian fishing boats along with 31 crew." The boats were towed to Karachi for further legal proceedings as per Pakistani Law and UN Convention on Law of the Sea, it said. Pakistan and India

side for violating the maritime boundary which is poorly marked at some points. Fishermen from Pakistan and India usually end up in jails after they are arrested for fishing illegally in each other's territorial waters.

## Congress protests near Delhi CM's residence over alleged ties with Punjab separatists

NEW DELHI: The Congress' youth wing on Saturday staged a protest near AAP national convener and Delhi Chief Minister Arvind

over former AAP leader and poet Kumar Vishwas's accusations of supporting separatists in Punjab. The AAP supremo has hit back rejecting the allegations as "laughable" and saying the "corrupt" in the country have joined hands against him. Raising slogans against Kejriwal and the AAP, the Indian Youth Congress (IYC) protesters marched from Chandgiram Akhara to the chief minister's residence. They were stopped by police at a barricade. Addressing the protesters, IYC president Srinivas BV said that everyone wanted Kejriwal to answer the allegations if he got help from Khalistani supporters in the elections. Kejriwal's Aam Aadmi Party has emerged as a key challenger to the ruling Congress in Punjab where voting is due on Sunday for Assembly elections.



Kejriwal's residence here over allegations that he has connections with separatists in Punjab. Kejriwal has been under attack from both the Congress and the BJP who have questioned him

## India's relations with China going through 'very difficult phase': Jaishankar

MUNICH: India's relationship with China is right now going through a "very difficult phase" after Beijing violated agreements not to bring the military forces in the border, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar has said, emphasising that the "state of the border will determine the state of the relationship".

Speaking at a panel discussion on Saturday at the Munich Security Conference (MSC) 2022 here, Jaishankar said that India was having a problem with China along the Line of Actual Control.

"For 45 years, there was peace, there was stable border management, there were no military casualties on the border from 1975. That changed because we had agreements with China not to bring military forces to the border (the Line of Actual Control or LAC) and the Chinese violated those agreements," the minister said in response to a question from moderator Lynn Kuok.

"Now, the state of the border will determine the state of the relationship. That's natural. So obviously, the relations with China right now are going through a very difficult phase," he added.

The eastern Ladakh border standoff between the Indian and Chinese militaries erupted following a violent clash in the Pangong lake areas and both sides gradually enhanced their deployment by rushing in tens of thousands of soldiers as well as heavy weaponry. The tension escalated following a deadly clash in the Galwan Valley on June 15, 2020.

Jaishankar, who was in Melbourne last week, had said that the situation at the LAC has arisen due to the disregard of written agreements by China in 2020 not to mass soldiers at the border and noted that Beijing's actions have become an issue of "legitimate concern" for the entire international community.

"When a large country disregards written commitments, I think it's an issue of legitimate concern for the entire international community," he had said in response to a question

during a joint press conference with his Australian counterpart Marise Payne in Melbourne.

Jaishankar participated in the panel discussion on the Indo-Pacific at the MSC which is aimed at extensively deliberating on the escalating tension between the NATO countries and Rus-



sia over Ukraine.

The panel included Australian Foreign Minister Payne, Japanese Foreign Minister Yoshimasa Hayashi, US Chairwoman of the Senate Subcommittee on Europe and Regional Security Cooperation Jeanne Shaheen and Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs Jean-Yves Le Drian.

When moderator Lynn Kuok asked how India is contributing to European security and compared the Ukraine crisis with the situation in the Indo-Pacific, Jaishankar said, "Well, I don't think the situations in the Indo Pacific and the transatlantic are really analogous.

"Certainly, the assumption in your question that somehow there is a trade-off and one country does this in the Pacific so in return you do something else, I don't think that's the way international relations work.

"We have quite distinct challenges, what is

happening here or what is happening in the Indo-Pacific. In fact, if there was a connection by that logic, you would have had a lot of European powers already taking very sharp positions in the Indo-Pacific. We didn't see that. We haven't seen that since 2009," Jaishankar said, amidst an aggressive China

flexing its muscles in the region. China claims nearly all of the disputed South China Sea, though Taiwan, the Philippines, Brunei, Malaysia and Vietnam all claim parts of it.

Beijing has built artificial islands and military installations in the South China Sea. Beijing is also involved in a maritime dispute with Japan over the East China Sea. Both areas are stated to be rich in minerals, oil and other natural resources and are also vital to global trade.

On connectivity, Jaishankar said it should be transparent and commercially based. It should not create debt and it should not violate the sovereignty and territorial integrity of countries, he added, amid international concern over China's debt-trap policy.

"I think in the last six years, the world has woken up to the concerns about connectivity.

On connectivity, Jaishankar said it should be transparent and commercially based. It should not create debt and it should not violate the sovereignty and territorial integrity of countries, he added, amid international concern over China's debt-trap policy.

"I think in the last six years, the world has woken up to the concerns about connectivity.



# Prez pays obeisance to Trinity

Puri: President Ram Nath Kovind along with his family members on 20 February chanted "Jai Jagannath" when the servitors tied a 'Bana' (flag) atop Shree Jagannath Temple in Puri in his name after having 'darshan' of

atop the temple, said Narayan Gochhikar, the traditional priest of Mr. Kovind. Tying 'Bana' is a special ritual held everyday afternoon in the temple when the devotees The President stood for a while the flag

ited the shrine since 2018, also sought blessings of the "Mukti Mandap" (the seat of salvation) in the temple premises. On their arrival at the temple's Lion gate, the President was greeted by Dr. Krishan Kumar,

by the SJTA Chief Dr. Kumar during his departure from the temple. He will spend the night at the Raj Bhavan in Puri and attend a function marking 150th birth anniversary of Goudiya Mission founder Srimad Bhakti Siddhanta Saraswati Goswami Prabhupada on Sunday.

Dr. Kumar said the temple was closed for the public for two hours from 4 Pm to 6 PM in view of the President's visit and security reasons.

While Mr. Kovind is staying at the Raj Bhawan in Puri, his staff members are lodged at a private hotel in the pilgrim town. Mr. Kovind had arrived in Puri on a special IAF chopper from Odisha's Capital.

Earlier, the Odisha Governor Prof Ganeshi Lal and Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik received the President on his arrival at the Biju Patnaik International Airport.

He is on a two-day visit to Puri beginning from Saturday.



the Trinity- Lord Balabhadra, Devi Subhadra and Lord Jagannath. The President accompanied by the First Lady Sabita Kovind and family members, watched the special "Chunara" servitor climbing on the 213 feet high Shree Mandir and tied the flag wishing well being of the nation on the Neela Chakra, the wheel

was being tied atop the temple, Mr. Gochhikar said, adding that Kovind and others raised their hands and chanted 'Jai Jagannath' invoking blessings of the Lord. Earlier, they had visited the seat of Maa Bimala and Maa Laxmi in the premises of the temple, he said. The President, who for the third time vis-

ited the shrine since 2018, also sought blessings of the "Mukti Mandap" (the seat of salvation) in the temple premises. On their arrival at the temple's Lion gate, the President was greeted by Dr. Krishan Kumar,

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## Odisha ready to prevent wildfire repeat this year

BHUBANESWAR: With winter on its way out, the Forest Department has mobilised every resource to ensure that Similipal Tiger Reserve and other forest and wildlife habitats do not see a

recurrence of last year's raging inferno that had grabbed national headlines. District-level action plans have been laid out for 23 districts and GPS mapping of vulnerable points conducted. As the State Government has adopted the Forest Fire Free (3F) strategy for this year for every panchayat, emphasis is on maintaining fire lines and reaching out to fringe villages

around forests. To overcome the problems of poor funding, the department has made a provision of around `30 crore from State resources and CAMPA funds to tackle wild-

Centre under the scheme sanctioned only Rs 3.54 crore against the proposed estimates of `16.04 crore for Similipal in 2021-22. As per statistics of Forest Survey of India



while around 700 fringe villages have been identified in Baripada, Karanjia and Rairangpur divisions where awareness drives are being carried out to tackle the menace.

fire hazards in Similipal and other forests this year, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (PCCF) and Head of Forest Force (HoFF) Sisir Kumar Ratho told The New Indian Express. STR had faced manpower problems due to a slash in funding under Project Tiger for 2021-22 fiscal and the national park reported 428 fire points between January 1 and March 4 last year. The

(FSI), the State has, so far, reported around 729 forest fires since January 1, about 1,300 less than the corresponding period of 2021. The PCCF said situation is well within control as forest fire incidents have not even crossed the threshold of 1,000 this season. The STR management is leaving nothing to chance. More than 2,000 firelines have already been created,

Around 150 fire squads, 550 protection assistants and 200 field staff of the department have been mobilised while 400 fire blowers kept in readiness to tackle forest fires in STR, Deputy Director of STR Sai Kiran informed. Forest department sources said, only 12 forest fire points have been detected in Baripada circle so far since the beginning of the fire season this year against 244 last year.

## Presidential fleet review-2022 tomorrow; Governor, CM to welcome President in Vizag today

VISAKHAPATNAM: Skies of Visakhapatnam on Saturday reverberated with roaring sounds of fighter aircraft and helicopters making sorties as a part of flypast during the rehearsal of the Presidential Fleet Review

by the President. President Ramnath Kovind is arriving here on Sunday evening.

On Monday morning, after a ceremonial guard of honour and a 21 gun salute, the president will embark on the Presidential Yacht INS



Sumitra and it will sail through 44 ships lined up at anchorage off Visakhapatnam. The review will have a combination of ships from the Indian Navy as well the Coast Guard. Ships from SCI and the Ministry of Earth Sciences will also be par-

ticipating. In this most formal of naval ceremonies, each ship dressed in full regalia will salute the President as he passes. A host of VIPs will visit the city for the PFR. Governor Biswabhusan Harichandan and Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy will arrive on Sunday, before the arrival of the president. They will receive the President at INS Dega Air Station.

Visiting dignitaries Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, Union Minister of State for Defence and Tourism Kishan Reddy, high court judges, secretaries of various union ministries and ministers from the state will take part.

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# Skeletons tumble out of NSE in Yogi saga: Fat fingers, flash crash, algo trades

NEW DELHI: Technology is a tiger that everyone is riding, India's top stock exchange NSE's then CEO

Chitra Ramkrishna had told PTI eight years ago. At the time, she herself was riding the tiger at the helm of the National Stock Exchange, which had overtaken over 100-year-old Bombay Stock Exchange as India's biggest bourse within a year of its launch in 1994.

Ironically, it was a major technical glitch in the NSE's sophisticated algorithm-based superfast trading that had propelled her to the top as its first woman CEO in the male-dominated world of stock trading: On the morning of October 5, 2012, NSE was hit by the so-called 'fat finger trade' which resulted in a trade getting executed in a fraction of a second for a whopping amount of Rs 650 crore and triggering a massive 'flash crash', wiping off nearly Rs 10 lakh crore from investors' wealth in the Indian stock market within seconds.

Such was the momentum that a mandatory trading halt could be put in place only after a sudden 16 per cent crash in the benchmark index Nifty -- it missed two checkpoints, first at 10 per cent and then at 15 per cent within six seconds. The madness ended after 15 minutes but still someone had to pay the price.

The head that rolled was that of NSE CEO Ravi Narain.

A few months later, Narain's baton was formally handed over to his deputy, Chitra Ramkrishna, on April 13, 2013.

Today, the 59-year-old Ramkrishna stands at the centre of an equally bizarre scandal after it was revealed that she was guided by a mysterious "Himalayan Yogi" in taking key business decisions of the exchange -- decisions that impacted the business of an exchange which recorded a daily average turnover of well above Rs 2 lakh crore last year and which ranks as the world's largest derivatives exchange and the fourth largest for cash equities in terms of the number of trades.

Several people aware of the developments said on condition of anonymity that the time has now come for a deep-cleansing of this marquee institution and directions have come right from the top to all regulatory, enforcement and investigative agencies to get to the bottom of the murky goings-on amid suggestions that

malpractices including serious cronyism were covered up by officials, even though it was known to them several years ago.

A former top regulatory official, who had looked into the exchange's affairs at that time very closely, said the top management and some key directors clearly failed to discharge their duties, largely because they trusted people at an institution that serves as a frontline regulator for the Indian capital market, where NSE has a near-monopoly with over 90 per cent market share in some key segments.

Virtually every regulatory, administrative and probe agency in the country is on the job and those under the scanner include all directors who served on the NSE board during those years, the top management personnel as also those from



the regulatory and government sides, a senior official said. Issues being probed are not limited to identifying the 'Yogi', but also encompass much bigger concerns such as lapses at various levels, including the board, the regulator and the government, including those relating to the controversial co-location facilities and high-frequency trades, the official added.

Another ex-regulator, who also did not wish to be named, said NSE owes its existence and rise to a collective effort of the government, regulators and the industry, and it could be put back in shape by a group of committed and visionary individuals.

However, it appears that a coterie comprising former and serving bureaucrats, some highly ambitious brokers, top government functionaries and a few corporate executives, including those at the exchange, created and exploited various loopholes for their own personal gains, he added.

With the years-old case finally attracting public attention, officials said, directions have come from the top now that no one should be spared and all veils must be lifted to expose every single wrongdoing or lapse, from the smallest to the biggest one.

The former regulator said it was astounding that the entire saga has remained buried for

almost a decade despite multiple orders passed by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi), which points to the power play at work in this cocktail of corruption, deceit, money laundering, illicit trading and business rivalry.

Such concerns are also being cast on the "fat finger trade" fiasco of October 5, 2012.

The exchange was also told by Sebi it was wrong in resuming the trade in 15 minutes, as against a much larger trading halt that was required under the regulations, and in not informing the other major stock exchange, the BSE.

"Fat-finger trade" is a term used for punching error or wrong pressing of orders on the trading terminals. But there were allegations that the crash was triggered by something else -- perhaps wasn't a technical

error but a deliberate manipulation. The exchange was later censured by Sebi after a probe and was asked to beef up its systems and processes. Yet, what followed appears to have been quite the opposite, at least at the human resource level.

Soon after her elevation, Ramkrishna appointed Anand Subramanian as her adviser, and later promoted him to Group Operating Officer at a huge salary of Rs 4.21 crore. He also happened to be the husband of her friend and an NSE staffer.

The NSE board turned a blind eye to the appointment on the grounds that he was a consultant, and that the CEO had the authority to appoint him. A much bigger lapse was revealed when a Sebi-ordered audit and a regulatory intervention in October 2013 found out about the presence of an unknown person, who Ramkrishna said was a 'Himalayan Yogi' and her spiritual mentor, guiding virtually all her business decisions, including the controversial appointment and promotions of Subramanian.

The audit uncovered several email exchanges between Ramkrishna and the unidentified yogi. In its final report, sometime in October 2016, the audit and the bourse dismissed the information exchange,

which the regulator had found to be sensitive, as a routine matter by declaring that Subramanian himself was posing as the Yogi to manipulate Ramkrishna and all was well since both of them were quitting the NSE, the official said. Ramkrishna left in December 2016. It was clearly a whitewash by the exchange in an attempt to keep the scandal under wraps, and to allow Ramkrishna a graceful exit, said the official, adding that Sebi in its final order had refused to accept that Subramanian was posing as the yogi.

Multiple people, including those who worked with the top leadership of the exchange at that time and at regulatory and government departments, said it looks almost certain that this Yogi is an imaginary identity created by one or multiple people, including some in key positions to control Ramkrishna.

Sebi has levied a fine of Rs 3 crore on Ramkrishna, Rs 2 crore each on the NSE, Narain and Subramanian and Rs 6 lakh on V R Narasimhan, who was the chief regulatory officer and chief compliance officer.

In addition, Sebi has barred the NSE from launching any new product for a period of six months, while R a m k r i s h n a , Subramanian and Narain have been restrained from associating with any market infrastructure institution or any Sebi-registered intermediary for 2-3 years.

NSE said there have been several changes at the board and management level at the bourse over the last few years and it has operationalised the directives of Sebi on various matters over the years and has taken measures to further strengthen the control environment, including the technology architecture.

The exchange also said it is committed to the highest standards of governance and transparency and will extend full co-operation to the regulator for a satisfactory closure of the matter. Ramkrishna was part of the initial leadership team selected by the government to set up NSE, which got incorporated in 1992 and became operational in 1994.

She was the third person to head the exchange after R H Patil, its first chief, and Narain. Incidentally, she was also part of a team that drafted the legislative framework for the securities market regulator Sebi in 1987.

He also said though various religious traditions and practices are prevalent in different parts of India, there is only one belief and that is to work for the welfare of all, considering the entirety of humanity as one family. "Serving the needy has been given top priority in our culture. Humanity and truth are supreme, which cannot be divided. The ultimate goal is welfare of the society," the President said.

The President said that God is worshipped in all its forms. But the tradition of worshipping God with Bhakti-Bhav (devotion) has been significant in India. Here many great saints have practiced selfless worship. Even among such great saints, Sri Chaitanya Mahaprabhu has a special place. Inspired by his extraordinary devotion, a large number of people chose the path of Bhakti.

Invoking the 16th century Bhakti saint Sri Chaitanya Mahaprabhu, President mR.Kovind said the tradition of worshipping the Almighty with 'Bhakti Bhav' (devotion) has been significant in India.

The word 'Mahaprabhu' was added to Sri Chaitanya's name because of his great teaching to the society," the president said, adding, inspired by his extraordinary devotion, a large number of people chose the path of Bhakti.

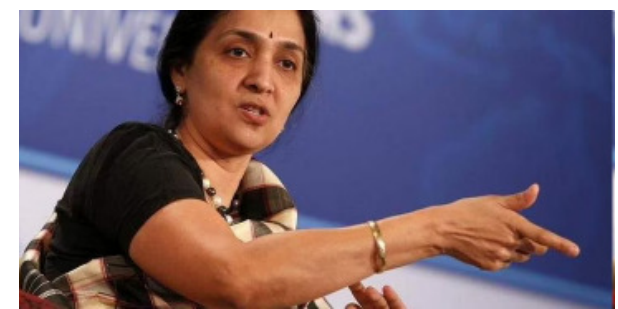
# CBI quizzes Ravi Narain over latest revelations in NSE case

NEW DELHI: Ravi Narain, Chitra Ramkrishna's predecessor at NSE (National Stock Exchange of India Limited), was questioned by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) in Delhi on Saturday. He will be called for further questioning, a person aware of the development said.

The CBI had issued a lookout notice against Ravi Narain and others. Ravi Narain has been reportedly living in London on the advice of his doctors.

Narain's questioning follows that of Chitra Ramkrishna's in Mumbai and Anand Subramanian's in Chennai by the CBI sleuths after it came to light, according to the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI), that Chitra Ramkrishna, as the chief executive of a top stock ex-

change, sought the guidance of an unidentified yogi 'living in the Himalayas' to make crucial deci-



sions. Narain along with Ramkrishna and others are being probed by CBI for their alleged role in the colocation case which involves giving preferential access to certain brokers. The case was registered in 2018 and the latest round of questioning is in light of the facts emerging from SEBI's order of February 11.

A CBI official couldn't be immediately reached. SEBI in its final or-

der against R a m k r i s h n a , Subramanian, among others had noted that Narain did not op-

and even after knowing that Noticee no. 1 has not applied her independent judgement and was dependent on the guidance of an unknown person while taking important decisions, permitted Noticee no. 1 to exit through resignation and also recorded the appreciation in the Board meeting held on December 02, 2016 and subsequently, in the Board meeting held on December 19, 2016, allowed excess leave encashment of Rs 1.54 crore to Noticee no. 1 over the existing policy without SEBI's approval citing her sterling contribution to the growth of organization," notes SEBI's February 11 order.

Apart from CBI, an income tax Mumbai team is questioning Ramkrishna and Subramanian.

pose the serious governance lapses -- in Subramanian's appointment as group chief operating officer of the exchange or Ramkrishna's alleged sharing of confidential official information with an unknown person -- in October and November board meetings at NSE.

"Noticee no. 3 (Narain) in spite of, having knowledge of such grave irregularities and misconduct on the part of Noticee no. 1 (Ramkrishna)

SEBI in its final or-

Continued from page-1

he said.

Similarly, a group clash erupted at booth no 14 in Jari Panchayat under Binjharpur Block of Jajpur district over the allegations of rigging. As per reports, two police personnel were injured after some miscreants pelted stones at the cops while they were trying to bring the situation under control in the area.

It was also alleged that the Block Development Officer (BDO) of Korei was attacked in front of a polling booth at Soti village under Goleipur Panchayat in Jajpur district when the BDO had rushed to the spot after getting reports of booth rigging in the village. Voting has been halted at some other booths in the district due to various reasons.

The State Election Commission has already decided to conduct re-polling at 45 booths, where election was disturbed during the first two phases of polling. The re-polling will be held from 9 am to 3 pm on February 23 under tight security at the booths.

The police, so far, arrested 62 persons in the district in connection with poll disruption incidents during the first two phases of Panchayat election in the State.

**SEC condemns attack on scribes**

Continued from page-1

three journalists of an electronic media house had gone to cover the alleged loot of ballot boxes from two booths at Bachala Panchayat under Binjharpur block when they were brutally assaulted by unidentified miscreants. Earlier in the day, a delegation of senior journalists met Commissioner Mr.Padhi and apprised him about the incidents of repeated attack on journalists and demanded strong action against the miscreants.

Due to law and order issues, the polling was disturbed in some places. After getting detailed reports from the concerned district collectors, the State Election Commission will examine it and take a decision in this regard, Padhi said. The State Election Commission has already decided to conduct re-polling at 45 booths, where election was disturbed during the first two phases of polling. The re-polling will be held from 9 AM to 3 PM on February 23 under tight security at the booths.

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## Prez lauds Covid Warriors

Continued from page-1

He also said though various religious traditions and practices are prevalent in different parts of India, there is only one belief and that is to work for the welfare of all, considering the entirety of humanity as one family. "Serving the needy has been given top priority in our culture. Humanity and truth are supreme, which cannot be divided. The ultimate goal is welfare of the society," the President said.

The President said that God is worshipped in all its forms. But the tradition of worshipping God with Bhakti-Bhav (devotion) has been significant in India. Here many great saints have practiced selfless worship. Even among such great saints, Sri Chaitanya Mahaprabhu has a special place. Inspired by his extraordinary devotion, a large number of people chose the path of Bhakti.

Invoking the 16th century Bhakti saint Sri Chaitanya Mahaprabhu, President mR.Kovind said the tradition of worshipping the Almighty with 'Bhakti Bhav' (devotion) has been significant in India.

The word 'Mahaprabhu' was added to Sri Chaitanya's name because of his great teaching to the society," the president said, adding, inspired by his extraordinary devotion, a large number of people chose the path of Bhakti.

The President said that saints of Bhakti-Marg were above the prevailing discrimination of that time based on religion, caste, gender and rituals. Therefore, people of all classes were not only inspired by them but also took refuge in this path. Guru Nanak Dev ji tried to build an egalitarian society while walking on the Bhakti-Marg.

He expressed confidence that the Gaudiya Mission would be successful in its resolve of spreading the message of Sri Chaitanya Mahaprabhu to the world, keeping its objective of human welfare as paramount.

Addressing the august gathering, while Prof Ganeshi Lal reflected on the essential divinity of the soul, Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan said, that the eternal messages of divine personalities, right from Sri Chaitanya to Srila Prabhupada find expression in each and every page of the New Education Policy being implemented in the country with the blessings of the President and under the able guidance of the Prime Minister.



## Manisa overcomes life's hurdles to net goals

BHUBANESWAR: Medals, both gold and silver, and plaques of various sizes dot the small house of Manisa Panna in the state capital. But, behind these shiny medals is the 31-



year-old footballer's story of struggle, grit and success. Hailing from Dandiapali village near Rourkela city, the Indian women's football team central defender Manisa has fought many odds all her life to represent her country.

Seeing her brother play football, Manisa took to the game at a very young age. However, at the age of 17, she lost her father in 2008 and two years later, her mother passed away. Unable to get over the loss, Manisa decided to give up the sport forever. "It was my grandmother Mangari Kujur and aunt Basanti Kujur who convinced me to play again and became my biggest support system," said the player who was selected in the National U-19 junior team. Eventually, she got into the senior team in 2015. A year later, Manisa and her team won the SAFF Women's Championship in Siliguri, West Bengal. However, her struggles were far from over. She suffered a serious ankle injury while practising at the railway stadium in Bhubaneswar in 2018. As a result, she was out of the ground for six months. When she started recovering, the coronavirus outbreak put all sporting activities on hold. Confined to her room, Manisa put on 5 kg weight which affected her speed and flexibility.

"I used to spend sleepless nights. Although I was employed with East Coast Railways (ECoR) then, I wanted to get back to the na-

tional team. It was my coach Suvendu Panda who helped me get on my feet and into the field again," said the defender.

Also helping her get back into the national football arena were women football coaches Gitanjali Khuntia and Biswajit Pradhan. She was soon chosen to be a part of the Indian team to play at the AFC Women's Asian Cup. However, the Indian team had to withdraw from the championship due to Covid-19. She has joined her home team ECoR as captain



and playing in Odisha Women's League now. Manisa is also preparing for the All India Football Federation (AIFF) tour to European nations and the inter-state national senior women's football championship to be held this year.

## Accidental doubles pairing of Arjun Khade and Alexander Erler triumph at Bengaluru Open

BENGALURU: When Arjun Khade and Chinese Taipei's Chun-hsin Tseng lost in the first round of the doubles event last week, they were disappointed. The pair were keen to make a posi-

who had to scramble and find a partner with just a couple of days left for the event.

He first approached Sasikumar Mukund, but it did not work out as he wanted to focus on the singles event.

After some impressive displays, they reached the final and came up with a solid game to defeat crowd favourites Saketh Myneni and R a m k u m a r Ramanathan 6-3, 6-7

title here. We had not practiced before the event also. I have to say that we felt very comfortable at the court and it was about keeping the basics right. He (Erler) is a great player and we both understand the



itive impact in the Bengaluru Open 2 ATP Challenger.

But Tseng, who had earlier promised to partner Khade for back-to-back competitions in the Garden City, decided to skip the doubles event for the second Challenger as he had reached the semifinals then and later clinched the title too.

His last minute withdrawal came as a huge setback for Khade,

However, Mukund advised Khade to check with Alexander Erler and his team if the Austrian would be free to partner him. They agreed, bringing a huge sigh of relief to the Pune man.

The problem did not end there as it was the first time that they were playing together in the circuit. In fact, they did not even train for a single session before their first match on Wednesday.

(4), 10-7 to be crowned champions on Saturday.

However, in the final, it was evident that the pair had not played much. At times, there was a lack of communication. A hint of uncertainty was also creeping in their game, but they both upped their levels, winning some big points.

"This is the first time we were playing together and it was pretty good to win the

game well," said Khade, who looked sharp at the net, making some brilliant plays to catch their opponents off-guard. However, the winning pair do not have any plans of playing together soon.

Vukic vs Kuzmanov in final Top seed Aleksandar Vukic halted the run of last week's finalist Borna Gojo of Croatia with a 7-6 (5), 6-3 victory. In the title clash, he will meet Bulgarian Dimitar Kuzmanov.

## Karnataka-Railways match ends in a draw; J&K starts with win over Pondicherry

C H E N N A I : Karnataka and Railways played out a draw in a Ranji Trophy Elite Group C match while Jammu and Kashmir began on a winning note, trouncing Pondicherry by eight wickets, here on Sunday. Resuming at 63 for one, Karnataka slipped from 179 for 2 to 223 for 9 before skipper Manish Pandey declared, leaving the opponent with a 278-run target from 41 overs for an improbable victory. The Railways finished at 69 for 4. With Mayank Agarwal batting on 39, the focus was on how much the India Test batter could get. Having missed out in the first innings, the right-hander played with a lot of restraint and reached a half-century. It took a good catch by Akshat Pandey to see the back of Agarwal for 56. R Samarth batted fluently for his 83 (170 balls, 8 fours) and was involved in a half-century stand for the third wicket with K Siddharth, who hit a ton in the first innings. After the exit of Siddharth at 179 and then Samarth at 192,

the Karnataka innings saw wickets fall quickly and slid to 223 for 9 before Pandey

In the other match of the day, veteran spinner Parvez Rasool finished with a six-

Karnataka: 481 & 223 for 9 in 63.2 overs (Mayank Agarwal 56, R Samarth 83, K V



declared. For Railways, medium-pacer Amit Mishra finished with 4 for 58 while captain Karn Sharma took three wickets. Railways, in the second innings, slumped to 14 for 3 with debutant Vijayakumar Vyshak (2/16) sending back Mrunal Devdhar (20) and Arindam Ghosh (0). Vivek Singh (18) batted resolutely along with Mohammad Saif (27 not out) to ensure there were no further alarms. Karnataka picked three points for their efforts while Railways earned one point.

wicket haul, dismissing the last Pondicherry batsman to star in Jammu and K a s h m i r ' s win. Resuming at the overnight score of 113 for 9, Pondicherry added 11 runs to the score before Sagar Trivedi (37) became Rasool's sixth victim in the second innings. Needing 42 runs to begin the season with a win, J&K lost the openers - Qamran Iqbal (8) and Jatin Wadhwan (9) before Shubham Pundir (21 not out) and Ian Dev Singh (6 not out) saw the team home. Brief Scores:

Siddharth 39, Amit Mishra 4 for 58, Karn Sharma 3 for 47) drew Railways 426 in 128.3 overs (Arindam Ghosh 105, Mohammad Saif 84) and 69 for 4 in 33 overs (Mohammad Saif 27 not out, V Vyshak 2 for 16). Karnataka: 3 points, Railways: 1 Pondicherry: 343 & 124 all out in 45.5 overs (Sagar Trivedi 37, Parvez Rasool six for 29) lost to Jammu and Kashmir 426 in 114.1 overs (Qamran Iqbal 96, Abdul Samad 103) and 45 for 2 in 12.4 overs by eight wickets.




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