

RIP 'Nightingale of India': Draped in tricolour, Lata Didi embarks on her final journey

MUMBAI (KCN): Singing legend Lata Mangeshkar's mortal remains, draped in the national flag, were taken in a truck from her residence in south Mumbai to Shivaji Park in Dadar on Sunday evening for the funeral, which will be held with full state honours.

Megastar Amitabh Bachchan, noted actor Anupam Kher, lyricist Javed Akhtar and filmmaker Sanjay Leela Bhansali were among those who paid tributes to Mangeshkar at her residence on Pedder Road in south Mumbai, located about 8 km from the Shivaji Park, before her mortal remains were taken for the last rites.

A large number of people also thronged the roads from where the cortege passed as the 92-year-old melody queen embarked on her final journey.

She died in a hospital here on Sunday morning following multi-organ failure.

Before Mangeshkar's mortal remains were kept in the truck decked with flowers and a huge photograph of the singer, the police and military personnel gave a ceremonial salute and a band played the national anthem.

Some of her family members, including sister and veteran singer Asha Bhosale, accompanied the mortal remains in the truck.

Maharashtra Protocol Minister Aaditya Thackeray was present on the occasion.

Those who paid tributes to Mangeshkar at her residence included Amitabh Bachchan's daughter Shweta Nanda, filmmakers Ashutosh Gowariker, Madhur Bhandarkar, actor Shradha Kapoor and music composer Lalit Pandit.

The truck, escorted by a military police jeep, will move through the Haji Ali junction, Worli Naka, Poddar Hospital Chowk, Old Passport Office, Siddhivinayak temple, Cadel Road and later reach the Shivaji Park in Dadar.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi arrived in

with other necessary things.

Around 2,000 sq ft of the park's area has been barricaded for the funeral proceedings, a BMC official said.

Modi's website highlighted on Sunday the "special bond" between him and Lata



Mumbai on Sunday afternoon to attend the funeral.

The 92-year-old singer's funeral will be performed with full state honours at Shivaji Park ground in central Mumbai around 6.30 pm. The mortal remains of the singing icon are being taken from her Pedder Road residence Prabhu Kunj to Shivaji Park.

Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) Commissioner Iqbal Singh Chahal earlier said they have arranged about 25 kg of sandalwood for Mangeshkar's cremation along

Mangeshkar and noted that the legendary singer had in 2013 said she prays to God to see him as India's prime minister.

"Lata Didi had immense affection for Prime Minister Modi," the write up on the website stated.

Noting that both shared the same birthday month, it said she used to affectionately call him 'Narendra Bhai'.

In 2013, when Modi was chief minister of Gujarat, he was invited by her and her family to inaugurate a super-speciality hospital in

Pune which was built in memory of her late father Deenanath Mangeshkar.

"During the event, Lata Didi had said, 'I pray to God that we see Narendra Bhai as PM'. Lata Didi had said this much before 2014 elections," it stated, sharing a video clip of the event.

Mangeshkar, who passed away earlier in the day at an age of 92 years, used to wish him on Raksha Bandhan every year and had expressed anguish when she couldn't send Rakhi to him because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the write up stated.

The website noted that the prime minister in an episode of 'Mann Ki Baat' had shared a telephonic conversation he had with her before leaving for his US trip.

It was like a younger brother talking lovingly to his elder sister, he had said.

Recounting his personal relationship with the iconic singer, bestowed with Bharat Ratna, Modi had recalled how she always treated him to Gujarati delicacies whenever he had the opportunity to meet her.

In the same conversation, after Modi had highlighted the high regard in which she is held, the prime minister said she had replied, "Even you (PM) don't know what you really are. I know that the picture of India is changing with your arrival and that makes me very happy. It makes me feel very good."

Mangeshkar had also said that she took Modi's mother's blessings on her birthdays.

If one looks at the greetings exchanged between them on their birthdays, one can see the mutual affection and warmth

CONTINUED ON: P-7

Homage on passing away of Legendary singer Bharat Ratna Lata Mangeshkar

Kolkata (KCN): Narayan Jain, Social Activist and President Calcutta Citizens Initiative has expressed his deep condolences and Homage on passing away of Legendary singer Bharat Ratna Respected Lata Mangeshkar. The entire nation salutes her for her song "O mere Watan ke Logo JaraAankh Me bhar lo PanI ... Ho Sahid Hue The Unki JaraYadd karo Kurbamni ..."

It will be almost impossible to fill the vacuum created by her death.

Sonia Gandhi not among Congress' star campaigners for Rae Bareilly poll phase

NEW DELHI(KCN): Congress president Sonia Gandhi, who represents the Rae

SC, Harchandpur, Rae Bareilly, Sareni and Unchahar, that come under the Rae

that the party has named for the fourth phase of Uttar Pradesh Assembly

Sunday released its list of star campaigners for the fourth phase of assembly election in Uttar Pradesh on February 23.

Among the other star campaigners include Punjab Chief Minister Charanjit Singh Channi, Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot and Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel.

Former Rajasthan deputy chief minister Sachin Pilot, who had rebelled against the Congress government in the state, is also among the star campaigners for the fourth phase of Uttar Pradesh assembly elections.

CONTINUED ON: P-7



Bareilly Lok Sabha seat, does not figure among the party's star campaigners for the fourth phase of assembly elections in Uttar Pradesh.

The fourth phase on February 23 will see assembly election in the five constituencies of Bachhrawan-

Bareilly Lok Sabha constituency, represented by Gandhi.

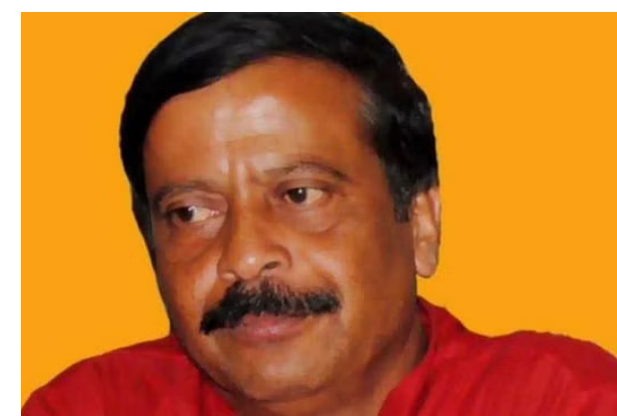
Senior Congress leader Ghulam Nabi Azad and former party chief Rahul Gandhi and AICC general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra are among the 30 star campaigners

polls. Azad, the former leader of opposition in Rajya Sabha, is a prominent leader of the 'Group of 23' who have sought organisational overhaul and have been critical of the party leadership. The Congress on

BJD-BJP spar over non-lifting of parboiled rice by FCI

BHUBANESWAR(KCN): A day after BJD MPs slammed the Cen-

and West Bengal. "But the State has been insisting FCI to procure all of its parboiled rice."



tre over non-lifting of parboiled rice from Odisha, the BJP on Saturday said the State government is responsible for the glut of excess stock.

Responding to the allegations of the ruling party MPs, BJD MP from Bargarh Suresh Pujari said the Food Corporation of India (FCI) has been telling the State government in clear terms about the quantity of parboiled rice it will lift in each Kharif and rabi marketing season.

The Department of Food and Public Distribution (DFPD), Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, has been informing from time to time about the low demand for parboiled rice in states other than Odisha, Bihar

boiled rice while coastal districts were given more targets. As the rice mills of western Odisha are suited for milling boiled paddy, there is a glut of more parboiled rice stock. Since coastal belt of the State are consuming districts, the parboiled rice milled here are easily disposed off. Pujari advised the BJD MPs to advise the State government to fix the milling target as per the capacity of each district and the consumption need of the State. State BJP Krushak Morcha president Pradip Purohit who also belong to Bargarh district, considered to be the rice bowl of the State, said the State government is lobbying for the rice millers who get maximum benefit from parboiled rice than raw rice.

Man held for putting up board banning BJP leaders' entry to village: Police

SAMBHAL(KCN): A man was arrested for allegedly putting up a board, forbidding BJP leaders and workers from entering his village Bichpuri Sailab in the Gunnaur or the district.

The police rushed to the village after getting information that some people were not allowing some BJP

workers to enter the village after putting up a board forbidding

Niranjan Singh, Circle officer Devendra Sharma



their entry and arrested their leader

said. CONTINUED ON: P-7

Obituary



✓ Pandit Harihar Nayak

Mahat Palla, Nayagarh
DOB:03/07/1932
DOD:29/01/2022

Pray peace for the departed soul
Deeply Mourned By - Son & Daughter in laws Bibhu, Puja, Nimrod, Deepa, Son in Law & Daughter Promod and Sabita, Grand childrens Family, Friends & Relatives.

From journalism to contesting polls, Koya woman scripts many firsts

BHUBANESWAR (KCN): Courage is the most important of all the virtues. For Jayanti

wardness, the phrase fits well. After bringing the plight of underprivi-

limelight, she aspires to serve them as a people's representative.

Jayanti now has thrown her hat into the poll ring. She will be contesting for the ZP member post in Malkangiri zone-3 as an Independent.

The 32-year-old from Serpalli panchayat in Malkangiri block quit her job as the district correspondent for a regional news channel



Buruda, a woman from Koya tribe who broke the shackles of illiteracy and back-

leged people of her community and those from the hinterlands of Malkangiri district to

CONTINUED ON: P-7

Lata's Ram bhajan became signature tune of my rath yatra: Advani

NEW DELHI: Veteran BJP leader L K

prime minister also recalled his associa-

soon, jab tak Ram Na aaye' -- became

ing a Ram temple in Ayodhya and brought the BJP much political dividends.

Advani said Mangeshkar was a fine human being and in all his interactions with her, he was touched by her simplicity, warmth and above all, her love for "our great country".

He added, "Amongst Lata ji's countless beautifully rendered songs for Hindi cinema, I have been particularly fond of 'Jyoti Kalash Chhalke' and each time I felt overwhelmed when Lata ji sang this song at my request at several public events where we shared the dias."



Advani said on Sunday that Lata Mangeshkar left an indelible mark of excellence in the world of music and recalled that the Ram bhajan she had recorded in her voice became the signature tune of his 'Ram rath yatra' in 1990.

Expressing anguish over the legendary singer's death, Advani (94) noted that she was idolised worldwide and said the nation will truly miss her. "She will continue to inspire many generations of music lovers," he said. The former deputy

tion with the iconic singer who passed away earlier in the day.

"Lata ji has been my all time favourite among popular singers and I feel fortunate to have shared a long association with her. I recall the time when she recorded a beautiful Shri Ram Bhajan and sent it to me when I was about to undertake my Ram Rath Yatra from Somnath to Ayodhya.

"That memorable song-- 'Ram Naam Mein Jaadu Aisa, Ram Naam Man Bhaaye, Man Ki Ayodhya tab tak

the signature tune of my yatra," he said. The rath yatra in 1990 had triggered a mass movement in the support of build-

Youth Journalist Chandan Mallick felicitated by UVP

Cuttack (KCN): Sadar - Youth journalist Chandan Mallick felicitated by Cuttack Sadar

block leading social Organization Utkal Vikash Parisad(UVP) for his best quality in journalism field. Moreover Mr. Chandan Mallick is the beloved son of Senior photojournalist Mr. Saroj Kumar Mallick and also awarded by Saraswati Kalaparisad Kandarpur, Dayanidhi Pratibha Bikash Pratistan 42 mouza, Muhana Sahitya Sansad Mumbai, Adarsha Yuva Sangh Bharat and



much more. Some of the great personality like UVP president Er. Prakash Chandra Sethi, SKP secretary Natyakar Ashok Kumar Pannik, President Poet Pratibha Satapathy, DPBP secretary Social worker Narayan Chandra Mohanty, President Er. Ashok Biswal, Muhana Sahitya Sansad Sub Editor E. R. Sarbaswar Mallick, AYS Secretary Er. Prasant Panda and all members are given their best wishes and congratulations with pray to God for his bright career.

Ms Archana Joshi General Manager South Eastern Railway Conducted Annual Inspection of Chakradharpur division

Kolkata (KCN): Ms.

Eastern Railway in-

Chakradharpur Division along with the Principal Officers from SER Headquarters today (04-02-2022). Sri Vijay Kumar Sahu, Divisional Railway Manager, Chakradharpur and other Divisional Officers were also present. The inspection started from Rangra station



Archana Joshi, General Manager, South sections of where General Man-



eral Manager, South sections of where General Man-

ager inaugurated the

Sick Line, has given priority to



Electronic Interlocking Building. Later, she has inspected the Barsuan and Bimalgarh stations and suggested some improvement measures. General Manager inaugurated the Remodelling Work of Barsuan Yard and Cover Shed & CC Flooring of Central

Bondamunda during the inspection. Ms. Archana Joshi, inspected major & minor Railway Bridges, Railway Tracks, Limited Height Subway, Running Rooms, Track Machines, Health Units, Crew & Guard lobby, Railway Colony etc. General Manager

the facilities provided to the passengers and above all cleanliness at station premises. While conducting the inspection, Ms. Archana Joshi urged all officers and staff to be more careful on safety of train operations. She also met the public representative and media persons of the area.

Observed District Level World Cancer Awareness Day

Khordha (KCN) : District level world

cancer and the

sions DPHO, Khordha, Dr.

District Cancer Disease Nodal Officer,



cancer awareness day Observed in the Conference Hall of CDMO, Khordha. Dr. Arta Bandhu Nayak, Chief District Medical Officer (CDMO) Khordha Preside over the meeting and said that "In order to create awareness inspire change and reduce the global impact of cancer. The aim is to reduce misconcep-

prejudices associated with it, to help people in getting the right information about it. It also offers a chance to make an impact in the betterment of the life of cancer patients and survivors. The Union of International Cancer Control (UICC) has declared world cancer day to be a "global uniting initiative." In this occa-

Prasanta Kumar Dash said " Apart from tobacco, alcohol, obesity a sedentary lifestyle and environmental factors also contributes to the increase in cancers." DPHCO, Prasanna Kumar Mohapatra, APHO, Dr. Raghunath Nayak, Dr. Prafulla Kumar Panda, Dr. Basudev Patra, DPM, Prakash Kumar Banarjee,

Dr. Shyama Prasanna Mitra discussed about the different types of cancer disease and their impact to health. Health workers, Asha karmi, GNM, students were present. Sudeshna Sahoo, Sharada Kumar Sahoo, Santosh Kumar Behera, Sudhansu Sekhar Satpathy Co-ordinated the programme.

Sworaswati Puja at Press Club

Phulbani(KCN): Saraswati Puja was held at Press Club phulbani with joy and happiness of all members. Phulbani Press Club President Sunil Patnaik was the chief of

Mohapatra, Santosh Digal, Sujit Behera, Ashok Mohanty, Narayan Sahu, Gopal Krishna Patnaik, Kanhu Shatapathi, Prashant Jena, Trinath Sahu,



puja arrangement and fearfully worshipped maa swaraswati. The priest Pramod Kumar, performed the puja properly. Press Club working President Ashok Parida, Vice President Satya Narayana Behera, Sunil Biswal, Secretary Prasant Behera, Surya Narayan Behera, Aditya Tripathi, Radhamahan

Prashant Panda, Braj Nanda, Brajanayak, Sivananda Patnaik, Sipun, Sanjay Patra, Jai Sen Parida all were presented. Kahna Patnaik and Kahna Behera, Joint Secretary Ramesh Chandra Pradhan beautifully decorated and managed all. Later, food arrangements were made for all. happily all enjoyed with the The Saraswati Puja.

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Ajay Devgn and Kajol are two of a kind

Wife and husband and duo Kajol and Ajay Devgn are poles

Tanhaji is Ajay's centennial film in Bollywood. "We

lieve that hard work pays off." At a time when

more than necessary. He keeps me grounded and makes

On the use of 3D technology, the actor says, "The technol-

younger generation is robbed of Indian history. "Not much has been written about unsung warriors such as Tanhaji in school textbooks. My children have not even read about him. During the British era they did not let people read about Indian warriors. Our textbooks have not changed much since then. So, I decided to do this film. The least we can do is respect our heroes. Maybe it will bring about a change in our country. But such films require an audience connect. So, we made it a commercial film with lots of music, action and drama."



apart in their behaviour. While he is quiet and speaks in monosyllables, she is animated and happy-go-lucky. The couple is currently in a celebratory mode as they recently marked their 21st wedding anniversary and are now busy promoting their upcoming film Tanhaji together. The duo is making a comeback on screen after a decade.

didn't know that it's his 100th film. It is a happy coincidence. We'd never planned to celebrate but it has all come together. I was supposed to write about his journey on Instagram but I couldn't figure which films to mention and which not to. There are so many outstanding movies and roles that he has done," beams Kajol.

stories of celebrity marriages falling apart are on the rise, Ajay and Kajol boast of a 20-year-long relationship. "It's important to realise that marriage is a daily job and you need to nurture your husband and children. You have to give them extra attention every day. Both Ajay and I have the same priorities and we have not grown apart. Our basic topics for the day are family, children and our work. It's a good thing that I talk too much and he doesn't. I am more spontaneous and do

me realise that I am going overboard at times," says Kajol on how their marriage works.

ogy that we've used has been done for the first time in India by Indians. I formed my own company for this. The CGI has been done completely by us. I have always tried to experiment with new techniques. Our director Om Raut had done all the research before we embarked on the path. In fact, we met Tanhaji's family and they would be on the sets every day. We recreated the sets as such locales are not available in the current situation."

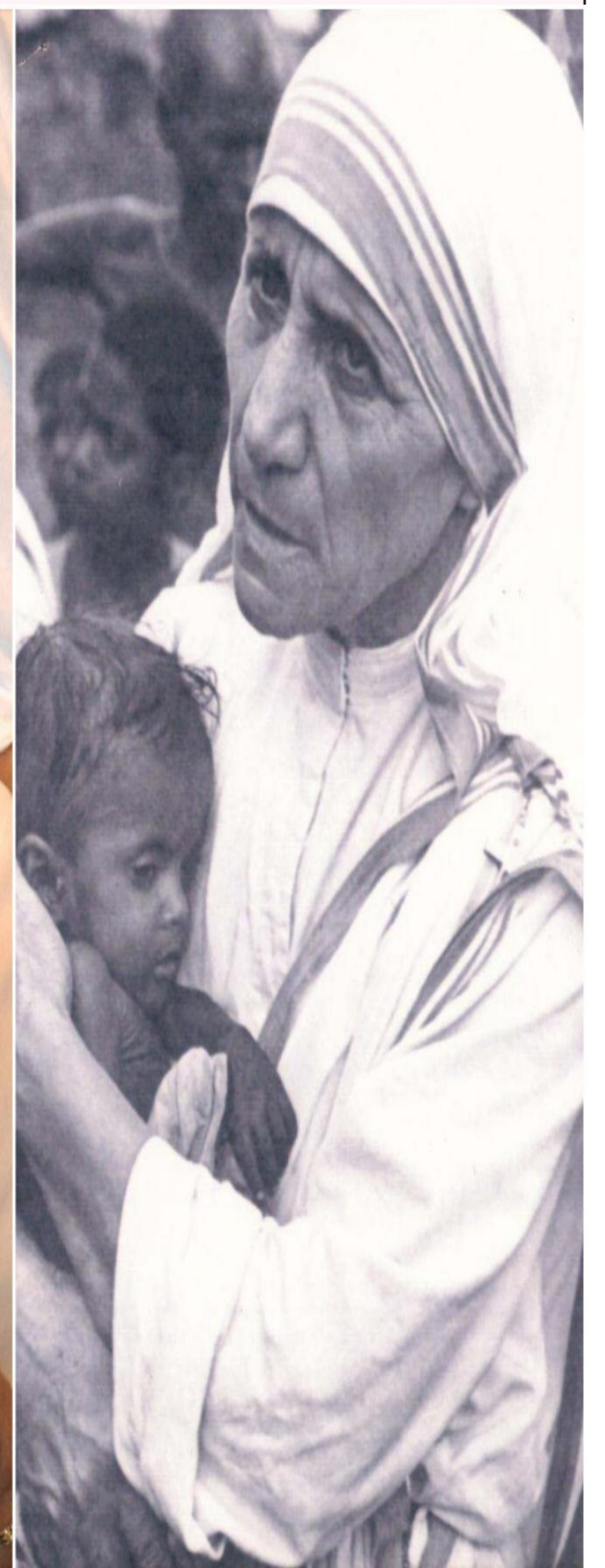
Their last film together Toonpur Ka Superhero in 2010 was also made under their own banner—Ajay Devgn Films. Incidentally,

On his journey in Bollywood, Ajay says, "Whatever work I have done has been very satisfying. People tell me to promote myself but I can't do that. I be-

The couple reveals that their children Nysa and Yug have not watched the film yet. "They don't like my movies because they feel I weep too much. They feel that I cry in happy scenes too," says Kajol. Ajay laughs and adds, "Nysa doesn't discuss much about films but Yug calls me Tanhaji Malsure when I reach home. Even when I call him he says 'Hello Tanhaji'."

The 50-year-old further rues how the

Nonetheless, Ajay says controversies could be raked up during the release. "We have tried to make an interesting film and kept the story straight so that we don't get into controversies. But the country is divided now. People can try and create some controversy or the other. I hope the youth realises that it's not easy recreating an unknown part of history in a movie," he concludes.



The Bharat Ratna is India's highest civilian award and recognises 'exceptional service/performance of the highest order'.

Some more amendments in Income Tax by the Finance Bill, 2022

In continuation of article published on 2nd Feb., 2022 some more amendments proposed by the Finance Minister are being analysed here.

1. Disallowance under section 14A in absence of any exempt income during an assessment year :Section 14A of the Act provides that no deduction shall be allowed



in respect of expenditure incurred by the assessee in relation to income that does not form part of the total income as per the provisions of the Act (exempt income). Over the years, disputes have arisen

in respect of the issue whether disallowance under section 14A of the Act can be made in cases where no exempt income has accrued, arisen or received by the assessee during an assessment year. CBDT had issued Circular No. 5/2014, dated 11/02/2014, clarifying that Rule 8D read with section 14A of the Act provides for disallowance of the expenditure even where tax payer in a particular year has not earned any exempt income. However, still some courts have taken a view that if there is no exempt income during a year, no disallowance under section 14A can be made for that year.

The Finance Minister has now proposed to insert an Explanation to section 14A to clarify that notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in this Act, the provisions of section 14A shall apply and shall be deemed to have always applied in a case where exempt income has not accrued or arisen or has not been received during the previous year relevant to an assessment year and the expenditure has been incurred during the said previous year in relation to such exempt income. This amendment will take effect from 1st April, 2022.

2. Disallowance of expenditure under section 37: Section 37 provides for allowability of revenue and non-personal expenditure (other than those failing under sections 30 to 36) laid out or expended wholly and exclusively for the purposes of business or profession. Explanation 1 to section 37(1) provides that if any expenditure incurred by

an assessee for any purpose which is an offence or which is

Narayan Jain

prohibited by law shall not be deemed to have been incurred for the purpose of business or profession and no deduction or allowance shall be made in respect of such expenditure. However, it is seen that certain taxpayers are claiming deductions on expenditure incurred in offering certain benefits or perquisite to a person which are not intended to be allowed under this section, like meeting his expenditure related to travel, hospitality, conference etc. In these cases acceptance of such benefit or perquisite by such person is in violation of a law or rule or regulation or guidelines, as the case may be, governing the conduct of such person.

CBDT, vide circular No. 5/2012 dated 1.8.2012, noted that the Indian Medical Council in exercise of its statutory powers amended the Indian Medical Council (Professional Conduct, Etiquette and Ethics) Regulations, 2002 (the regulations) on 10.12.2009 had imposed a prohibition on the medical practitioner and their professional associations from taking any Gift, Travel facility, Hospitality, Cash or monetary grant from the pharmaceutical and allied health sector Industries. Accordingly, CBDT clarified that the claim of any expense incurred in providing above mentioned or similar benefits in violation of the provisions of Indian Medical Council (Professional Conduct, Etiquette and Ethics) Regulations, 2002 shall be inadmissible under section 37(1) being an expense prohibited by the law. This disallowance was directed to be made in the hands of such pharmaceutical or allied health sector Industries or other assessee which has provided aforesaid benefits and claimed it as a deductible expense in its accounts against income. The Courts had different views on allowability of such expenses.

The Finance Minister has now proposed to insert another Explanation to section 37(1) to further clarify that the expression "expenditure incurred by an assessee for any purpose which is an offence or which is prohibited by law", under Explanation 1, shall include and shall be deemed to have always included the expenditure incurred by an assessee, —

i.) for any purpose which is an offence under, or which is

prohibited by, any law for the time being in force, in India or outside India; or ii.) to provide any benefit or perquisite, in whatever form, to a person, whether or not carrying on a business or exercising a profession, and acceptance of such benefit or perquisite by such person is in violation of any law or rule or regulation or guidelines, as the case may be, for the time being in force, governing the conduct of such person; or

iii.) to compound an offence under any law for the time being in force, in India or outside India. This amendment will take effect from 1st April, 2022.

3. Reduction of Goodwill from block of assets to be considered as 'transfer' Sec. 50 :From the assessment year 2021-2022,

goodwill of a business or profession is not considered as a depreciable asset and there would not be any depreciation on goodwill of a business or profession in any situation. In case where goodwill is purchased by an assessee, the purchase price of the goodwill will continue to be considered as cost of acquisition for the purpose of computation of capital gains under section 48 of the Act subject to the condition that in case depreciation was obtained by the assessee in relation to such goodwill prior to the assessment year 2021-22, then the depreciation so obtained by the assessee shall be reduced from the amount of the purchase price of the goodwill.

The Finance Minister has proposed to clarify that for the purposes of section 50, reduction of the amount of goodwill of a business or profession, from the block of asset in accordance with section 43(6) (c)(ii) Item B, shall be deemed to be transfer. The amendment will take effect retrospectively from assessment year 2021-22.

4. Treating Cash credits as Income under section 68 :Section 68 provides that where any sum (including any loan or borrowing) is found to be credited in the books of an assessee maintained for any previous year, and the assessee offers no explanation about the nature and source thereof or the explanation offered by him is not, in the opinion of the Assessing Officer, satisfactory, the sum so credited may

be charged to income-tax as the income of the assessee of that year. The onus of satisfactorily explaining such credits remains on the person in whose books such sum is credited. It was provided vide Finance Act, 2012, that the nature and source of any sum, in the nature of share application money, share capital, share premium or any such amount by whatever name called, credited in the books of a closely held company shall be treated as explained only if the source of funds is also explained in the hands of the shareholder. However, in case of loan or borrowing, the judicial decisions have held that only identity and creditworthiness of creditor and genuineness of transactions for explaining the credit in the books of account is sufficient, and the onus does not extend to explaining the source of funds in the hands of the creditor.

The FM has now proposed to amend section 68 to provide that the nature and source of any sum, whether in form of loan or borrowing, or any other liability credited in the books of an assessee shall be treated as explained only if the source of funds is also explained in the hands of the creditor or entry provider. That means now source of source will also have to be proved. This amendment will take effect from assessment year 2023-24.

5. Definition of the term "slump sale": Sec 2(42C) : Slump sale is defined in clause (42C) of section 2 of the Act, as the **transfer of one or more undertaking, by any means, for a lump sum consideration without values being assigned to individual assets and liabilities in such sales.** Vide the Finance Act, 2021, the definition of "slump sale" was amended to expand its scope to cover all forms of transfer under slump sale.

However, inadvertently, in the last sentence there is reference to the word "sales" instead of "transfer". Therefore, it is proposed to carry out consequential amendment by amending the provision of section 2(42C) to substitute the word "sales" with the word "transfer". This amendment will take effect retrospectively from assessment year 2021-22.

(to be contd.)

(Narayan Jain is Former National Vice President of AIFTP and author of the books "How to Handle Income Tax Problems" and "Income Tax Pleading & Practice" with CA DilipLoyalka).

Positioning Indian Muslim Community - Cosmopolitan India or Idea of Bharat

In the previous 150 years, the tale of Indian Muslims has been one of steady deterioration.



Consider how backward the community that governed the Indian subcontinent till 1857 is now. The official Sachar committee report paints a more accurate picture of India's Muslim decline than any other. Consider some of the information offered by the Sachar committee

on Muslims. According to this survey, Muslims have fallen behind Dalits in terms of educational attainment in higher education. The literacy rate of Muslims, both male and female, is just modestly higher than that of Dalits. The second-largest Muslim group, which numbers around 17 million people, is unemployed. Both in the public and private sectors, their numbers are steadily dropping. Schools, health care centres, banks, and other services are scarce and far between. The majority of people make ends meet by working odd occupations such as selling products on the street, pulling cycle rickshaws, and working as mechanics, electricians, barbers, and plumbers.

It is, without a doubt, a nightmare scenario for the neighborhood and the country as a whole. But what went wrong when they were pushed down and under by Muslims? The communities have been pushed to the margins by a combination of historical and discriminatory circumstances. For no fault of their own, they were victims of division and bore the brunt of Jinnah's myopic politics. Suspects of division in India were practically ignored by the system, which drew all forms of official assistance that any social group needs to advance. Second, Muslims become victims of a siege mentality fostered and sustained by their own conservative ulema leadership, which views modernity as anti-islam.

It was a fear that arose in the aftermath of the British colonial

Pratap Kishore Mohanty

power's setbacks in 1857. The rise of Western civilization was seen by the Muslim leadership as a threat to the existence of Islam and Muslims. This was the concept that sprang from Madrasas and established a psychological civilizational clash between the Christian West and the Islamic East. In the 19th and 20th centuries, the fearful



Muslim clergy resolved to boycott the Western World entirely, preaching against modern education, modern sciences, modern politics, and modern industrial economy. Muslims were taught in fatwas to reject modernity, which is founded on western industrial culture. Only one important social reformer, Sir Syad

Ahamed Khan, emphasized the importance of modern

education and scientific temper. However, his Aligarh Muslim Movement, which was successful in establishing the Aligarh Muslim University, did not gain traction beyond the feudal elites of his day. A significant portion of the Muslim population was left without any enlightened or liberal beliefs. In the 19th and

to the old feudal systems that fostered backwardness while the rest of the world progressed.

The development of Hindutva politics has also aided to the plight of Muslims. It was not only responsible for the demolition of the Babri Mosque in December 1992, but also for some of the deadliest communal carnages in history, including the Mumbai Riots of 1993 and the Gujarat Riots of 2002. The Muslims' siege mentality was reinforced by a series of communal conflicts. Its inevitable implications were Muslims' preoccupation with their safety rather than their growth.

Even then-Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's fifteen-point strategic plan for Muslims proved to be a non-starter, and trust-building has never been on Modi's agenda. With every piece of success (if success can be defined in BJP's terms), the party with a never-before-seen majority have never communicated Muslim population that they (the Muslims) are part of India's greater cosmopolitan idea, not the divisive idea of Bharat. The fault line can be seen here. He, as the face of the government, needs to be more open-minded, which should be reflected in his "Man ki Baat," and instead of urging Americans to vote for a particular candidate, he could have urged his Hindu brothers and sisters back home to become equally tolerant and inclusive in their outlook and attitude. He seems to have forgotten about the Midas touch and the healing apron here.

As a result, the story of Indian Muslims has always been sad, as the community has been unable to break its curse with modernity. For Muslims, the only way out is to embrace modernity and break away from the conservative leadership that is dragging the community down. No beneficiary plans can change the Muslims' backwardness cycle unless they break their jinx with modernity. Simultaneously, the Hindu community and its leaders must be gracious enough to go beyond mere lip service and take meaningful and grounded initiatives towards actual governance. It's also true that we need to bend forward a little to give our Muslim community some breathing room.

Academic Consultant in Sociology Odisha State Open University, Sambalpur

PM to visit Mumbai to pay last respects to Lata Mangeshkar, security tightened at Mumbai

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday said he will be visiting Mumbai later in the day to pay his last respects to legendary singer Lata Mangeshkar. Mangeshkar, 92, died at a Mumbai hospital on Sunday morning. "Will be leaving for Mumbai in some time to pay my last respects to Lata Didi," Modi tweeted. A two-day state mourning will be observed on the demise of the legendary singer on February 6 and 7. The national flag will fly at half mast on Sunday and Monday throughout India and a state funeral will be accorded to her.



Mumbai Police have beefed up security in and around the Shivaji Park in Dadar area for the funeral of Mangeshkar, an official said. Prominent personalities from the film industry, politicians and other well-wishers of the late singer are expected to arrive to pay tributes to her, hence traffic on some of the major roads here will be diverted, he said. Keeping in mind the movement of VIPs at her residence on Pedder Road in south Mumbai and the Shivaji Park, barricading has been done at some key spots in those areas, the official said, adding the police will ensure a smooth movement of vehicles. After the 92-year-old singer's demise at the Breach Candy Hospital in the morning, top city police officials visited her residence and the Shivaji Park. The traffic police have deployed extra personnel in Dadar area for regulating the vehicular movement, the official said. Extra police force and dog squads have also been deployed at the Shivaji Park, he said. Earlier in the day, Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray in a statement said Mangeshkar would be accorded a state funeral. The central government has decided that as a mark of respect to the departed dignitary, two-day state mourning will be observed from February 6 to February 7 and there will be no official entertainment in this period, official sources said. The mortal remains of the legendary singer were taken from Breach Candy Hospital to her residence here on Sunday amid tight security, as a large number of her fans and well-wishers gathered outside the medical facility to catch a final glimpse of the music icon. Mangeshkar (92) died at the hospital in the morning due to multiple organ failure. Nearly 50 policemen were stationed outside the hospital, which saw a stream of visitors since morning, including politicians - Union minister Nitin Gadkari, NCP president Sharad Pawar, Maharashtra cabinet minister Aaditya Thackeray - and cricketer Sachin Tendulkar. Police had blocked the road outside the hospital to make a clear way from there to her residence 'Prabhu Kunj' on Pedder Road, which is a 2-minute drive from the medical facility. The ambulance carrying Mangeshkar's mortal remains was escorted by a convoy of more than 10 cars, including that of Tendulkar and Thackeray. As the convoy left the hospital, fans of the singer thronged to catch a last glimpse of her, some even stumbling on barricades that were placed to ensure security and a clear passage. The singer, whose name was written into legend long years before she took her last breath in Mumbai's Breach Candy Hospital, had been in hospital since January 8 when she was diagnosed with Covid with mild symptoms. She was also diagnosed with pneumonia. "She is no more. She died in the morning," her younger sister Usha Mangeshkar told PTI, confirming the news that one of India's most well known and well loved personalities was no more. "Lata di died at 8.12 am due to multi organ failure after over 28 days of COVID-19 diagnosis," Dr Pratit Samdani, who was treating the singer at the Breach Candy hospital here, told reporters. The government announced a two-day "state mourning" for Mangeshkar, who had a prodigious almost eight-decade career in which she sang an estimated 25,000 songs in as many as 36 Indian languages, including Hindi, Marathi, Tamil and Kannada, and across classical and other genres. Official sources in New Delhi said a wireless message had been sent out to state chief secre-

aries by the Union Home Ministry that the national flag will fly at half mast from February 6 to February 7 throughout India. There will be no official entertainment in this period. The body of the singer was first taken to her Pedder Road residence Prabhu Kunj and later to Shivaji Park for her multitude of fans to pay their respect before the funeral at Shivaji Park around 6.30 pm. Thousands of people gathered outside the hospital and lined the streets to pay their last respects to the woman whose voice they woke up to, listened to as they went about their day and as they turned in for the night, their accompaniment in every mood and every hour. As millions mourned her and said thank you for your music, the tributes came pouring in with President Ram Nath Kovind and Prime Minister Narendra Modi leading a heartbroken nation in remembering her. "Lata-ji's demise is heart-breaking for me, as it is for millions the world over. In her vast range of songs, rendering the essence and beauty of India, generations found expression of their inner-most emotions. A Bharat Ratna, Lata-ji's accomplishments will remain incomparable," the president said. The prime minister said he was "anguished beyond words". "The kind and caring Lata Didi has left us. She leaves a void in our nation that cannot be filled. The coming generations will remember her as a stalwart of Indian culture, whose melodious voice had an unparalleled ability to mesmerise people," he said in a tweet. "Lata Didi's songs brought out a variety of emotions. She closely witnessed the transitions of the Indian film world for decades. Beyond films, she was always passionate about India's growth. She always wanted to see a strong and developed India," he added. Congress leader Rahul Gandhi said she remained the "most beloved voice of India for many decades" and added that her immortal golden voice will continue to echo in the hearts of her fans. Considered one of the greatest playback singers in Indian cinema, Mangeshkar received several film awards and honours like Padma Bhushan, Padma Vibhushan, Dada Saheb Phalke Award, and multiple National Film Awards. The film world she had worked with for decades expressed their condolences too. "She has left us" The voice of a million centuries has left us. her voice resounds now in the Heavens! Prayers for calm and peace," Amitabh Bachchan said in his personal blog. Actor Waheeda Rehman, who danced to Mangeshkar's playback most memorably in "Guide" in "Aaj phir jeene ki tamanna hai", and "Piya tose naina laage re", said there was magic in her voice. "We shared a very friendly and warm relationship. She had such a beautiful voice and her songs will be remembered for years to come. Behind this magic was a lot of hard work and determination," Rehman told PTI. Actor Shabana Azmi said, "Lataji, our national treasure no more. Her voice lit up our lives, gave us solace when we were sad, gave strength when we were low. Thank you Lataji and RIP." Manoj Bajpayee echoed many when he tweeted that a golden era of the music world has truly ended! Known as the Queen of Melody, Nightingale of India, and simply the legend, Mangeshkar started training in singing at the age of five. Her last song, presumed to be lost, was released last year in October, 79 years later. Mangeshkar's unforgettable songs include 'Lag Jaa Gale', 'Mohe Panghat Pe', 'Chalte Chalte', 'Satyam Shivam Sundaram', 'Ajeeb Daastan Hai', 'Hothon mein aisi baat', 'Pyaar kiya to darna kya', 'Neela asman so gaya', 'Pani Pani Re'. Such was the pull of her voice that Bade Ghulam Ali sahab, a musician that Mangeshkar greatly admired, is believed to have said that "Kambakhq kabhi besuree hee nahee hoti (She can never be out of tune)". Many, including some the biggest musicians and actors, equated her voice with that of 'goddess Saraswati'. And fate willed it that she died a day after Saraswati Pujja. Mangeshkar acknowledged the love but remained humble till the end. "Some people call me 'Saraswati' or say that I have her blessings. I believe I have the blessings of my parents, our deity Mangesh, Sai baba and god," she told PTI in October last year, which probably was her last interview. "It is their blessing that people like whatever I sing. Otherwise who am I? I am nothing. There have been better singers than me and some of them are not even with us. I am grateful to god and to my parents for whatever I have today."

Rotary club, Barbil fore fronted to serve down trodden through blanket distribution

Barbil(KCN): Barbil physically support to this noble Sahil fore fronted to Rotary club has challenged and old occasion. Amit make this



distributed blanket to poor people are ever neglected. Therotary club has aimed at serving these section of the community in various ways like food ,shelter,clothes and health service said Ashok Thakkar. Along with blanket they distributed 200 nos of blanket. AmidCovid and slanting winter poor people especially the poor people are ever neglected. Therotary club has aimed at serving these section of the community in various ways like food ,shelter,clothes and health service said Ashok Thakkar. Along with blanket they distributed 200 nos of blanket. Along with all senior Rotarian many youths have extended their Mahanta, ArifAlam, programme a Azaz Khan and MD success. Farmers seek relaxation of FAQ norms amid distress sale BERHAMPUR: Farmers in Ganjam district have demanded relaxation of Fair Average Quality (FAQ) norms in the ongoing procurement process as mandis are allegedly refusing to accept discoloured paddy damaged due to untimely rains thereby forcing them towards distress sale. However, Civil Supplies officials have refuted the allegations. District Civil Supplies officer P Munda said the department is not aware of any such issue and will take needful action if the allegations are found to be true. Meanwhile, the Rushikulya Rayat Maharabha (RRM) has sought intervention of Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution Piyush Goyal to consider the plight of farmers and relax the FAQ standards in the district.



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'Lata responsible for my first-ever international flight', Journalist recalls his meetings with the singer

JOHANNESBURG (KCN): Correspondent in South Africa, Fakir Hassen, recalls the two meetings he had with singing legend Lata Mangeshkar, who died on Sunday at the age of 92 in Mumbai due to multi-organ failure after over 28 days of COVID-19 diagnosis.

One of the five greatest singers the Indian industry has ever known, I have had the privilege of meeting Lataji twice.

In 1985, still going strong at 55, with a voice matching that of a 20-year-old, she was also indirectly responsible for my first ever flight on a plane to another country, even if it was just to neighbouring Swaziland, less than an hour away! Lata and her troupe had arrived for a show in Swaziland because at the time strict sanctions by India against the minority white government in South Africa would not allow any artists to perform in the country.

"I was contributing then to the fledgling radio station for the Indian community in South Africa, Radio Lotus, from Johannesburg, although the station was only broadcasting in the greater Durban area," recalls Hassen.

"Isabel van der Linde, then in charge of the fledgling Radio Lotus, asked me to prepare urgently for an interview with Lata Mangeshkar who was arriving in Swaziland for performances there because she was not allowed into South Africa until many years later because India had banned its citizens from going there as it led the international fight against apartheid," the reporter recalls. A special flight was arranged on the same af-

ternoon to meet the singer who had already become a legend by then.

"I was also expected to file some audio material urgently for the station which in the end was not very much, but which drew a huge response and resulted in hundreds of people



flocking to Swaziland for her shows," Hassen recalls.

Lata had a limited command of English, and speaking through an interpreter, did not say very much except to thank the many fans she knew she had in South Africa, urging them to find ways that would eventually allow her to perform for them on their home turf.

It was a guarded statement that carefully avoided any direct political remarks that might have resulted in the apartheid government of the time easily blocking visas for South Africans to attend her shows in Swaziland.

"Many years later, I was Station Manager at Radio Lotus, which had become a national

broadcaster by then, when Lata held a workshop with local musicians and singers at the then University of Durban-Westville," Hassen recalls.

Lata was on her first tour of shows across South Africa, which was on the cusp of democracy

under Nelson Mandela.

It was in 1991, a year after Mandela had been released from 27 years as a political prisoner.

One of the requirements that had been introduced by the authorities was that any overseas artists performing in South Af-

rica had to undertake some development of local artists.

"I asked her whether she would not consider re-recording some of her great hits of the past in her own voice again, using the new technology that was available to produce them in better technical quality than had been the case in the past," recalls Hassen.

"Nahin! Kabhi Nahin!" ("Never! Never ever!") was the very emphatic and immediate answer from Lata. Explaining herself, Lata lamented today's studio conditions with its pristine technical environments as she said singing was not just about standing in front of a microphone and going through the motions.

"There was an almost religious dedication and commitment by every participant in those days, whether it was one of the dozen violinists or ten percussionists on traditional Indian instruments, not just keyboards simulating them.

"There was also passion from the singers that spurred on the musicians and vice versa, and the same went for the technicians.

That ambience can never be recreated, so even if we were to redo those same songs again with the same people, they will never be the same.

"Just continue to listen to the originals and appreciate them," Lata added with a smile.

Known as the Queen of melody, she started training in singing at the age of five.

She began her career as a singer in 1942 and has been credited to have sung 25,000 songs in as many as 36 Indian languages including Hindi, Marathi, Tamil, Kannada, Bengali and others over a period of seven decades.

Some of her unforgettable songs include 'Lag Jaa Gale', 'Mohe Panghat Pe', 'Chalte Chalte', 'Satyam Shivam Sundaram', 'Ajeeb Daastan Hai', 'Hothon mein aisi baat', 'Pyaar kiya to darna kya', 'Neela aasman so gaya', 'Pani Pani Re', among countless others.

Considered one of the greatest playback singers in Indian cinema, she received several film awards and honors like Padma Bhushan, Padma Vibhushan, Dada Saheb Phalke Award, and multiple National Film Awards.

She was also the recipient of Bharat Ratna, India's highest civilian honour, in 2001.

Last slab casting at Lifeline of Rourkela second Brahmani bridge, to be completed by Sunday morning, Dream is going to be operational - Bimal Kumar Bisi

Rourkela (KCN): Last slab casting for our representative Nitesh Kumar in



Second Brahmani bridge in Rourkela on this Basant panchami and it to be completed by Sunday morning in-

Bisi while having an auspicious occasion of Basant panchami Saraswati Puja at around 8pm with

Rourkela. Bimal Kumar Bisi said that however it is expected that the final work of second Brahmani bridge at Rourkela in Odisha will be completed by March this year. Bimal Kumar Bisi said "The new bridge will be expectedly open for general public from May 2022". The second Brahmani bridge construction work is going on which is considered to be the lifeline of Rourkela has its last 22nd slab work in progress and this slab casting work is being done on this Basant panchami and this to be completed by Sunday morning. Rourk-

elites will witness Good days as this Lifeline of Rourkela to be operational expectedly for general public from may end this year said Social Activist Bimal Kumar Bisi. The second Brahmani bridge under construction and Road from both sides will be expectedly completed within 3 months. Around 200 cbm casting will be completed by Sunday morning and the road to be expectedly completed within 3 months, said Bimal Kumar Bisi while talking to us. He said that is a matter of great honour and pride for Rourkelites and people of Odisha as this dream to be operationalised expectedly by may end. "My dream seeing this new Brahmani bridge to be operational and I'm very happy on this moment as this slab casting is to be completed by Sunday 06 February'22 morning" added Bimal Kumar Bisi.

4K Mobile Towers In Odisha Soon

Bhubaneswar: In an aim to ensure mobile connectivity to every village of Odisha, the Centre would install about 4,000 mobile towers in various places across Odisha very soon, said Union Telecom Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw whereon Sunday.

He said the BSNL, which went bankrupt during the UPA government regime, is being revived by the Modi government.

"For the first time, the BSNL has come to operating profit level during last year. This happened because, Modi had first approved a



Addressing a press conference here, Mr. Vaishnaw said nearly about 6,000 villages in Odisha have remained out of mobile connectivity due to lack of mobile towers. So, in December last year, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had sanctioned a proposal for installation of mobile towers at 3,933 sites in the State, he said, adding in some places, one site will cover more than one village. An amount of Rs 3219 crore would be invested for this purpose, he said.

"There is a clear instruction from the Prime Minister that not a single village of Odisha should be left out from mobile connectivity. The PM has asked us to conduct a survey and come out with a Cabinet note, if any village has still left out. This is what we called Mission Purvodaya," the Minister said.

package of Rs 90,000 crore in 2019 for the revival of BSNL and MTNL. Now, in this year, again Rs 45,000 crore has been allocated for the two telecom companies to uplift those to the next higher level," Mr. Vaishnaw said.

Further, the Prime Minister has instructed to develop 4G and 5G technology in India. While 4G technology has already been developed and in testing stage while the 5G technology for both phone and radio networks will be developed soon, he informed.

On the allocation in the Union Budget

2022-23 for development of railways in Odisha, Mr. Vaishnaw said the State has been sanctioned more funds under the BJP government at the Centre than the UPA rule.

Average annual budget allocation for railways in the State of Odisha was around Rs 800 crore per year during 2009-14. This allocation has been enhanced to Rs 4,126 crore per year during 2014-19, he said.

In this budget, he said, Modi has allocated a historic highest amount of Rs 9,734 crore for development of railways in Odisha. He further said that 12 railway stations of Odisha will be upgraded.

Earlier, the Union Minister paid floral tributes to legendary singer Bharat Ratna Lata Mangeshkar at the Odisha BJP office here.

National Mourning For Lataji

New Delhi(KCN): Union Government has decided to give a state funeral and observe two-days long National Mourning on the death of Bharat Ratna Lata Mangeshkar. Ministry of Home Affairs announced here on 6 February that the Union Government has also decided that as a mark of respect, two days of state mourning will be observed from Sunday and Monday.

"During State Mourning, the National Flag will be flown at half-mast both days throughout India and there will be no official entertainment programs.

R K Singh, Joint Secretary MHA has communicated to all the Chief Secretaries and Administrators of Union Territories. Mr. Singh in a message has said "The Government of India announces with profound sorrow the death of Kumari Lata Mangeshkar on 6 February, 2022."



Veteran singer Lata Mangeshkar dies at 92

JOHANNESBURG (KCN): Legendary singer Lata Mangeshkar passed away on Sunday morning at the Breach Candy Hospital in South Mumbai. She was 92.

Mangeshkar, who was put on ventilator on Saturday after her health deteriorated in the Intensive Care Unit (ICU), passed away at 8:12 am on Sunday due to multi-organ failure, the doctors at the hospital said.

The veteran singer had tested positive for coronavirus with mild symptoms and was admitted to the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) of the Breach Candy Hospital on January 8.

According to doctors treating her, the 92-year old singer had shown signs of improvement as she was off the ventilator last week. However, her health suddenly deteriorated on Saturday, after which she was put on the ventilator again.

A team of doctors led by Dr Pratit Samdani had been keeping a close watch on her 24/7. Sources in the government said that a two-day national mourning will be observed in memory of the veteran singer. The National flag flying at half-mast for two days as a mark of respect.

A state funeral will be accorded to the veteran singer.

Maharashtra Navnirman Sena (MNS) chief Raj Thackeray rushed to the Breach Candy Hospital and visited doctors treating her. He also met the Mangeshkar family members at

the hospital.

Meanwhile, several media personnel had gathered outside Breach Candy hospital after news



about the singer's health condition spread.

A police bandobast had also been tightened around the hospital. Moreover, news about the singer's health was displayed outside the Bombay Stock Exchange.

The Bharat Ratna awardee, lovingly referred to as the 'Nightingale of India', started her singing career at the age of 13, with her first song being recorded in 1942.

Over the seven decades of her career, Mangeshkar has been the voice behind very

popular songs like 'Ek pyaar ka nagma hai', 'Ram teri Ganga maili', 'Didi tera dewar deewana', 'Jiya Jale', 'Lukka Chuppi', and

many others. The singer was awarded the Padma Bhushan award in 1969, Padma Vibhushan award in 1999, and the Bharat Tarna in 2001. Mangeshkar was the oldest of the siblings, Meena Khadikar, Asha Bhosle, Usha Mangeshkar, and Hridaynath Mangeshkar. According to doctors treating her, the 92-year old singer had shown signs of improvement as she was off the ventilator last week. However, her health suddenly deteriorated on Sat-

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Mangeshkar was the oldest of the siblings, Meena Khadikar, Asha Bhosle, Usha Mangeshkar, and Hridaynath Mangeshkar.

'Her soulful voice will live forever in our hearts': Business leaders pay tribute to Lata Mangeshkar

NEW DELHI: Industry leaders on Sunday mourned the death of singing legend Lata Mangeshkar, saying her demise is the loss of one of the greatest Indians. Sanjiv Goenka, Chairman RP Sanjiv Goenka Group that owns

the country's oldest music label Saregama, said her music will continue to enthrall for years to come.

"Lata Ji and my mother were like sisters. She has been a true inspiration, a legend, and a guiding light to our family. Though she is no more, her music will continue to enthrall us for years to come. My family will always remember her warmth, her love and her affection," said Sanjiv Goenka.

Lata Mangeshkar, the voice of generations of Indians and one of the biggest music icons of the country, died on Sunday due to multiple organ failure at a hospital in Mumbai.

She was 92 and was admitted to the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) of the Breach Candy Hospital in South Mumbai in early January after she tested positive for Covid-19 with mild symptoms and was also diagnosed with pneumonia. Lata Mangeshkar touched the heart of every Indian, says CM Stalin

Leading industrialist Anand Mahindra tweeted: "What can you say when you no longer have your voice...? Om Shanti." Adani Group chairman Gautam Adani said, "The voice, the charm, the melodies will live on for generations to come." "There can be no greater tribute to our unity than Lata Didi. If anyone represented all of India, it was Lata Didi lending her incomparable voice to songs in 36 languages. She will be missed by billions," Adani tweeted.

While sharing a song of the legendary singer "Tu Jahan Jahan Chalega", Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw, the executive chairperson of biotechnology major Biocore, tweeted: "Lata Mangeshkar will eternally cast her large shadow over us n remind us of her eternal legend."

India Oil Corporation Chairman S M Vaidya in his tweet said: "The voice of India's Nightingale stopped today and words fail to define the enormous loss. Lataji's soulful voice defined melody for 8 generations of Indians and will live forever in our hearts. Rest in peace, legend." ALSO READ | Hema Malini calls February 6 'a dark day'

Apollo Hospitals Group Joint Managing Director Sangita Reddy said it was a very sad day.

"#India I join the nation in mourning the loss of one of the greatest Indians #LataMangeshkar to #COVID19 Every song from this pure soaring voice over generations brings on a personal memory or evokes a moment in time," said Reddy in her tweet.

Known as the Queen of melody, Mangeshkar started training in singing at the age of five. She began her career as a singer in 1942 and has been credited to have sung 25,000 songs in as many as 36 Indian languages including Hindi, Marathi, Tamil, Kannada, Bengali and others over a period of seven decades.

Air India: A name chosen through opinion poll among Tata employees more than 75 years ago

NEW DELHI: More than 75 years ago, an opinion poll among Tata employees to choose from four names resulted in the country's first airline company being named as 'Air India'. Little over 10 days after formally taking control of Air India, Tata Group on Sunday shared nuggets of information about the history of the full service airline.

Tatas had lost control of Air India nearly seven decades ago before taking it back last month. Back in 1946, when Tata Air Lines expanded from a division of Tata Sons into a company, a name was to be chosen.

"The choice for India's first airline company came down to Indian Airlines, Pan-Indian Airlines, Trans-Indian Airlines & Air India. #AirIndiaOnBoard#WingsOfChange," Tata Group said on Sunday.

In a series of tweets, Tata Group also shared two pictures, including an excerpt from the Tata Monthly Bulletin of 1946.

Air India retweeted the tweets.

According to the bulletin, Tatas were faced with the problem of finding a name for the new Air Line Company which they were forming to take over and extend the activities of the Tata Airlines which had hitherto functioned as a department of Tata Sons Limited.

The choice was between Indian Air Lines, Air-India Pan-Indian Air Lines and Trans-Indian Air Lines.

The bulletin said that to the innately democratic mind of the Head of the Tata organisation, it seemed a good idea to let the selection be made by popular opinion in Bombay House through a sort of Gallup Poll or Sample Opinion Survey.

Voting papers were distributed to ascertain the views of representative sections of opinion among Tata employees and they were requested to indicate their first and second preferences.

"The first count revealed 64 votes for Air-India, 51 for Indian Air Lines, 28 for Trans-Indian Air Lines and 19 for Pan-Indian Air Lines.

When the less favoured names had been eliminated, the final count showed 72 votes for Air-India and 58 for Indian Air Lines.

Man held for putting up board banning BJP leaders' entry to village: Police

Continued from page-1

The police also made six others sign a bond undertaking that they will not involve themselves in any such activities in future, he said. Though no reason was cited on board why people did not want BJP leaders to enter the village, a villager said adding that they feel that no development was undertaken in their village.

Sharma said everyone has a constitutional right to enter the village.

"Thus, the name of the new company comes to be 'AIR-INDIA'," the bulletin said.

The first tweet mentioned 'WHO NAMED AIR INDIA?' in a box with the background of an old Air India aircraft.

It was followed by a tweet saying "But who made the final decision? Read this excerpt from the Tata Monthly Bulletin of 1946 to know. #AirIndiaOnBoard #WingsOfChange #ThisIsTata" along with excerpt from the bulletin.

The tweets were put out from Tata Group's official Twitter handle.

On January 27, Tatas took over control of Air India, its subsidiary Air India Express as well as a 50 per cent stake in joint venture AISATS. Through a competitive bidding process, the government sold loss-making Air India to Talace for Rs 18,000 crore.

As part of the deal, Talace paid Rs 2,700 crore in cash and took over Rs 15,300 crore debt of the airline.

The remaining debt and borrowings of Air India were transferred to AIAHL.

Sonia Gandhi not among Congress' star campaigners for Rae Bareilly poll phase

Continued from page-1

Party leaders from Uttar Pradesh Salman Khurshid, Pramod Tiwari, P L Punia, Rajiv Shukla, Ajay Kumar Lallu and Aradhna Misra 'Mona' have also been named as star campaigners by the party.

Besides, former cricketer Mohd Azharuddin, Maharashtra cabinet minister Varsha Gaekwad, Gujarat PCC working president Hardik Patel and Rajya Sabha MP Deepinder Singh Hooda are also in the list of party's star campaigners.

AICC minorities cell head Imran Pratapgarhi has also been named the star campaigner besides party spokesperson Supriya Shrinat among others.

RIP 'Nightingale of India': Draped in tricolour, Lata Didi embarks on her final journey

Continued from page-1

between them, the website said.

"It is indeed a sad day for the nation that Lata Didi has passed away. But her voice will still reverberate across the country. This year at the Beating Retreat Ceremony at the behest of PM Modi, the tune 'Ae Mere Watan Ke Logon' was played". This song which was sung by Lata Didi instils the spirit of patriotism in the heart of every Indian," it said.



From journalism to contesting polls, Koya woman scripts many firsts

Continued from page-1

last week to contest for elections. "I am, perhaps, one of the very few female members of our tribe contesting a poll," said Jayanti whose family is also the first educated family in the tribe in Malkangiri. She is the ninth among 11 siblings in her family.

Even as education and literacy among girls in the Koya tribe remains drastically low, Jayanti and her four sisters got the support of the family to complete their studies. Overcoming the financial hurdles, she pursued PG from the Central University of Odisha in Koraput, the nearest university located around 100 km away from her home. Later, she moved to Bhubaneswar for an internship and started reporting for a regional channel as Malkangiri correspondent. This was when she began understanding the problems faced by people of the district, the lack of basic amenities and infrastructure for them.

"Many villages still do not have a pucca road or drinking water, forget healthcare. This is why I decided to enter politics and use it as a medium to bring development to the remote villages of the district", she said.

Highlighting the issues in various areas, she said access to potable water and basic healthcare still remains a dream for many villages in six panchayats of zone-3. Besides, there is a high drop-out rate, especially among the girl children from tribal communities. "People of Serpalli are dependent on PHC and CHC of other two panchayats - Pandripani and Biramitrapur - for basic treatment while during emergency, Malkangiri District Headquarters Hospital, located 30 km away from the panchayat, is the only option," she said.

Jayanti - who did not approach any political party for a ticket - said that despite being dominated by tribes, the zone-3 ZP member seat for the panchayat polls has been kept unreserved. Apart from her interest in politics, Jayanti is actively engaged in social work.

Lata ji and her love for cricket: When Nightingale of India rescued BCCI post 83 win

New Delhi: When Kapil Dev lifted the World Cup at the Lord's balcony, the erstwhile BCCI president and one of the powerful ministers in the Indira Gandhi cabinet, late NKP Salve had a different worry. It was still some years to go for economic liberalization and an astute businessman like Jagmohan Dalmiya's foresight to turn cricket into an industry. Kapil's Devils needed to be celebrated but the BCCI, which currently is looking at USD 5 billion television contract, barely paid its cricketers a daily allowance of 20 pounds. Salve had to turn to his 'Man Friday' and Indian cricket's 'one stop Encyclopedia' Raj Singh Dungarpur for a solution to be able to

sheer embarrassment just because of her pristine love for the 'Gentleman's game'. As a mark of respect, the BCCI till her death kept two complimentary VIP tickets allocated at any Indian stadium for her, where India played an international match. "Just like we have quota for each match (before COVID era) for sponsors, state associations, there are two tickets at every cricket match for Lata ji," a senior BCCI official informed. The Indian cricketers wore a black armband and also observed two minutes silence as a mark of respect for the departed soul. The Mangeshkars were really cricket fans but one of the finest chroniclers of Mumbai

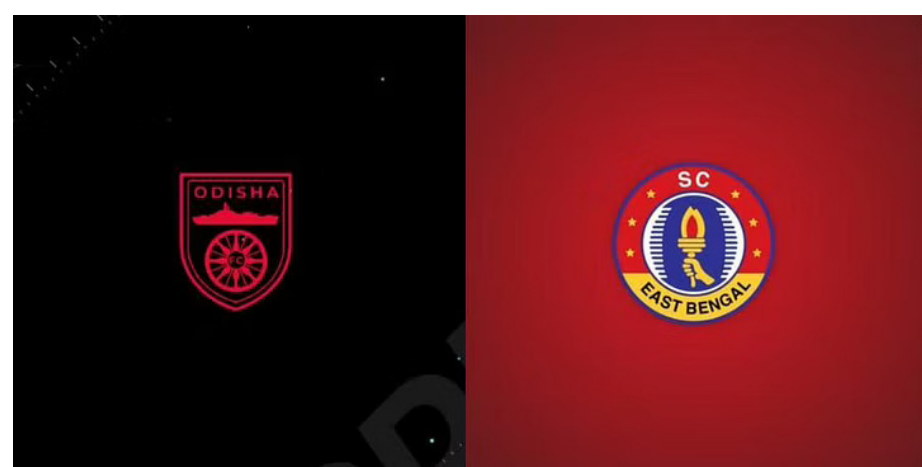


cricket, senior journalist Makarand Waingankar recalls the days in 60s when Lata Mangeshkar was a regular visitor at the CCI Stadium and later at the Wankhede Stadium in 70s and 80s. "Lata ji and her brother music composer Hridaynath Mangeshkar were regulars at Test matches held at Brabourne Stadium. Later through the 70s she would hardly miss any game even with such busy recording schedule," Waingankar, who was a young journalist back then, recalled. Mangeshkar would sit alongside Dungarpur and former Mumbai legend and Test opener Madhav Apte and watch the proceedings. There is an old video of Mangeshkar also watching an India versus West Indies Test match in Chennai, where she must have gone for a recording back in 70s. She was very close to all Mumbai cricketers like Sunil Gavaskar, Dilip Vengsarkar and Sachin Tendulkar, who spoke about her with unmatched humility and mother like respect. She would often drop in at the Cricket Club of India and enjoy cricketing discussion in the company of Dungarpur and another distinguished Test cricketer Hanumant Singh, who was the former's nephew. Tendulkar would often say that she saw "Maa Saraswati" in Mangeshkar. It's so poignant that the 'Nightingale of India' left a day after Saraswati Puja.

Odisha FC look to counter SC East Bengal's fighting spirit to close top 4 gap

VASCO: A comeback that should revitalise the dropping shoulders, SC East Bengal would look to continue their fight and bag a win when they take on Odisha FC in their Indian Super League match here on Monday. The red and golds conceded two early goals

leg of Kolkata Derby," he added. Dutch midfielder Sidoel has looked good for SC East Bengal, scoring three goals in nine matches this season, including two goals in his last two appearances. Besides, the defensive midfielder played as part of a back three in the last game and controlled the defence for the Kolkata side underlining his versatility across the pitch. Rivera dropped a back three with two wing-backs after leaking two goals in the first half and it remains to be seen whether the Spaniard goes with the same strategy in the Odisha game as well. For Odisha, they have not won a game in the last three matches and coach Kino Garcia will hope



they get back to winning ways to keep their semifinal hopes alive. Odisha are seated eighth at the table with 18 points from 14 outings. "There are still a lot of points to play for and we certainly have our chances. We are only focused on winning the match tomorrow," Garcia said ahead of the clash. "SC East Bengal has improved a lot after changing their manager. They are more solid and compact," he added. The last two fixtures between these two teams are the two highest-scoring fixtures in ISL history. Odisha FC's 6-5 win over SC East Bengal in the closing stages of 2020-21 is the highest-scoring match in the tournament history. The 10-goal game in the reverse fixture earlier this season where Odisha FC won 6-4 is the second-highest scoring match in ISL.

Rohan Bopanna-Ramkumar Ramanathan pair lift Tata Open trophy

PUNE: India's Rohan Bopanna and Ramkumar Ramanathan won their second ATP World Tour title together after pipping the top-seeded Australian pair of Luke Saville and John-Patrick Smith in the final of the Tata Open Maharashtra,

Patrick-Smith's serve in the next game when Luke made an error while attempting an overhead volley at 40-30 but the opportunity could not be utilised as the Australian pulled off a big serve on the deuce point.



here on Sunday. The Indians erased the first set deficit to win 6-7(10) 6-3 10-6 in one hour and 44 minutes. Bopanna and Ramkumar combined as a team on the ATP Tour for the first time at the Adelaide event last month in the run-up to the Australian Open and won the trophy. For Bopanna, it was his 21st ATP doubles title while for Ramkumar it was the second trophy at this level and it will push him inside the doubles top-100 for the first time in his career. They split USD 16370 as prize money and earned 250 ranking points each. Bopanna had won this event with compatriot Divij Sharan in 2019. Big serves marked the beginning of the contest with only Ramkumar and Luke losing a point each in the first four games. Bopanna's volley error on a return from Luke made it 30-all in the fifth game but Ramkumar pulled off an ace and followed that up with another huge serve to hold for a 3-2 lead. The Indian team had got a chance to break

The Australians also created a break opportunity on Ramkumar's serve in the ninth game when they found two service return winners and the Indian serving a doubler fault at 40-30 but the home team managed to hold. A comfortable hold at love by Patrick-Smith made it 5-5. Eventually, a tie-break was required for decid-

ing the first set. Both the teams had a number of set points as the Indians squandered two chances and the Australians three before converting their fourth. They got the chance when Bopanna made an unforced error at 10-all and Ramkumar netted a forehand on set point. In the second set, the Indian duo needed a good start and they got it by breaking Luke's serve in the third game when the Australian made a volley error on deuce point. Bopanna saved a break chance on his serve in the next game to keep their nose ahead. Patrick-Smith was serving to stay in the set in the ninth game and was broken to allow the Indian team to force a Super Tie-Breaker. At 30-all, an engrossing rally ensued between the two pairs. Luke blinked to give Indian first set point which they converted when Bopanna dispatched a volley winner with ease. Bopanna and Ramkumar dominated the STB to secure the title.

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