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### The Heritage School receives award for overall excellence in education

The Heritage School, Kolkata, bags the Runners-up position for overall excellence in education in the First Sri Sri Award Ceremony held at Bengaluru on 28th January 2023. Sri Sri Awards for Education was organized in the presence of Gurudev Sri Sri Ravi Shankar ji at The SSRVM campus grounds in Bengaluru.



The awards to the Schools were given to acknowledge their efforts in education across India with a special focus on value-based education, excellent teaching & learning, promoting ancient wisdom, holistic development of children, and honoring leadership skills fostering a harmonious School educa-

While the first position was bagged by Army Public School, Shankar Vihar, the second position was bagged by The Heritage School, Kolkata for its value-based education, special focus on children with special needs to Heritage School, Kolkata.

promote inclusive education and to foster innovation and creativity in the young minds from an early age.

The award was received by Mr. Pradip Agarwal, CEO, Heritage Group of Institutions from Gurudev Sri Sri Ravi Shankarji in the presence of Hon'ble Union Minister of State

for Education, Dr. Rk. Ranjan Singh, Hon'ble Shri B.C.Nagesh, Minister for School Education & Literacy, Karnataka, and Hon. Mr. Tim Draper, Founder, Draper Associates, who were also present in the award ceremony as Honourable Guests. "Our School focuses on inclusive education, creativity, and innovation which are now important ingredients of the New

National Education Policy 2020. We are honoured to receive this award from Gurudev Sri Sri Ravi Shankar ji," said Mr. Pradip Agarwal, CEO, Heritage Group of Institutions, Kolkata.

"This award is the result of the hard work of our teachers in imbibing the right values among the children. I congratulate the teachers for whom we have received this prestigious award and also our trustee members and parents who have supported us in this journey,' said Ms. Seema Sapru, Principal, The

# Budget 2023 HIGHLIGHTS: FM announces big tax sops, highest-ever capital outlay

New Delhi (KCN): Finance Minister Nirmala to 15 from 7.5 per cent Sitharaman on Wednesday raised the personal income tax rebate limit, doled out sops on small savings and announced one of the biggest hikes in capital spending in the past decade as she did a tightrope walk in the Budget between staying fiscally prudent and meeting public expectations in the year before general elections.

The personal income tax rebate limit has been increased to Rs 7 lakh from the fiscal year starting April 1 under the new tax regime from the previous Rs 5 lakh.

Basic customs duty hiked on articles made from gold bars, silver dore, platinum CHEAPER:

Concessional basic customs duty of 2.5 per cent on copper scrap to continue Basic Customs Duty on parts of open cells of TV

panels reduced to 2.5 per cent Reduction of customs duty on shrimp feed to pro-

mote exports Cut in customs duty on import of certain inputs for

mobile phone manufacturing

Reduction of basic customs duty on seeds used in manufacturing of labgrown diamonds

07:21 Feb 1Budget 2023: Mighty dragon slayer of ills holding back the Indian economy

Fifth time brings a fortune. No one ever said that.

But on Wednesday, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman fired up her

fifth budget, precisely making the point. Budget 2024 covered all bases right from the poor to the middle class to the rich. It promised to never leave the barrel of wheat and the jar of oil empty for poorer households, contains the magic election pudding of long-awaited tax sops, a jaw-dropping jump in capital expenditure, and yet sticks to a market-friendly fiscal deficit of 5.9%.

The unconventional mix of populism and growth as the length and breadth of the budget, makes the NDA government's last full budget before the general election, a mighty dragon slayer of all the ills holding back the Indian economy -- slow growth, slack in private investments, weak household consumption and high unemployment.

READ full column by Sunitha Natti 01:43 Feb 1

Read the full text of the Finance Minister's Budget 2023 speech HERE

01:31 Feb 1Budget 2023 HIGHLIGHTS

\* Railways get Rs 2.4 lakh crore, which is the highest ever allocation to it

\* Mobility Infra --- 50 CONTINUED ON: P-7

# Prez Visit on 10 Feb

New Delhi (KCN): President of India and a proud daughter of Odisha, Droupadi



Murmu will arrive here on a two-day visit on 10 February.

Shrimati Murmu is scheduled to attend the

### Names linked to Ukraine war dominates list submitted for 2023 Nobel Peace Prize

OSLO(KCN): From NATO's secretary general to the Ukrainian president, the war in Ukraine dominates the publicly known names submitted by Tuesday's deadline for the 2023 Nobel Peace Prize.

The list of nominees submitted to the committee is kept secret for at least 50 years, in line with Nobel statutes.

But those eligible to nominate people --

including former laureates, lawmakers and cabinet ministers from any country in the world, and some university professors -- are free to reveal the name of the person or organisation they have proposed.

Most of the names that have been publicly disclosed so far are involved in the nearly year-long conflict that has been raging in Ukraine, or opponents of Russian President Vladimir Putin.

Experts warn that the Norwegian Nobel Committee may be tempted to look in another direction, however, when it announces this year's prize in October.

convocation of Rama Devi Women's University and some other programs in Bhubaneswar during her stay.

It was the President, who had earlier evinced interest in attending the convocation of her alma mater and wrote to the Governor and Chancellor of Universities, Ganeshi Lal, expressing her willingness for the same, sources said.

This will be the second visit of Shrimati Murmu to Odisha after taking charge of the highest office of India.

In her last visit, the President had visited Tapoban High School, Unit-II Government Girls High School and Kuntala Kumari Sabat Adivasi Girls Hostel Unit-II in Bhubaneswar. The President interacted with students and teachers. She studied in the Unit-II Government Girls High School and was staying in Kuntala Kumari Sabat Adivasi Girls Hostel.

An MP from Norway's Green Party, Lan Marie Berg, said on Tuesday she had nominated Swedish climate activist Greta Thunberg -- believed to have been on the list

for several years running -- and her Ugandan counterpart Vanessa Nakate.

Others known to have been nominated include Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, proposed by

the speaker of Pakistan's upper house of parliament, for his "untiring" efforts to resolve the Ukrainian crisis.

Lawmaker Christian Tybring-Gjedde, from Norway's populist party, hinted on Facebook shortly after Russia's invasion of Ukraine on February 24 that he would nominate Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky.

He has also proposed fellow Norwegian Jens Stoltenberg, whom he says "deserves the prize for his exemplary work as NATO secretary general at a difficult time for the alliance: a brutal and unprovoked offensive against a peaceful CONTINUED ON: P-5

# Budget Favors Deprived;PM

New Delhi (KCN): Prime Minister Narendra Modi remarked that the first budget in the Amrit Kaal of India has established a strong base to fulfill the aspirations and resolutions of a developed India. He said that this budget gives priority to the deprived and strives to fulfill the dreams of the aspirational society, the poor, villages and the middle class.

He congratulated the Finance Minister and



her team for a historic Budget. The Prime Minister termed the traditional artisans like carpenters, lohar (ironsmiths) Sunar (goldsmiths), Kumhars (potters), sculptors and many others as the creator of the nation. "For the first time, the country has come up with

many schemes as a tribute to the hard work and creation of these people. Arrangements have been made for training, credit and market support for them. PM Vishwakarma Kaushal Samman i.e. PM ViKaS will bring a big change in the lives of crores of Vishwakarmas" the Prime Minister said.

From women living in the cities to villages, employed to homemakers, the Prime Minister informed that the government has taken significant steps such as Jal Jeevan Mission, Ujjwala Yojna and PM Awas Yojana etc. that will further empower the welfare of women. He emphasized that miracles can be performed if Women Self Help Groups, which is a sector with extreme potential, is further strengthened. Underlining that a new dimension has been added to Women Self Help Groups in the new budget with the introduction of a new special savings scheme for women, the Prime Minister said that it will strengthen women especially the homemaker from common families. This Budget, the Prime Minister said, will make cooperatives a fulcrum of the development of the rural economy. The government, he continued, has made the world's largest food storage scheme in the co-operative sector. An ambitious scheme to form new primary co-operatives has also been announced in the budget. This will expand the area of ??milk and fish production along with farming, farmers, animal husbandry and fishermen will get better prices for their produce. Emphasizing the need to replicate the success of digital payments in the agriculture sector, the Prime Minister said that this budget comes with a big plan for digital agriculture infrastructure. He informed that the world is celebrating the International Year of Millets and noted that there are many types of millets in India with multiple names. The Prime Minister said that special recognition of millets is necessary when it is reaching households all over the world. "This superfood has been given a new identity of Shree-Anna.", the Prime Minister said as he underlined that small farmers and tribal farmers of the country will get economic support along with a healthy life for the citizens of the country. CONTINUED ON: P-7



get 2023-24, including infrastructure, green growth, financial sector and youth power.

12:38 pm Feb 1 Expert Comment: IT sops to encourage new tax regime Professor Anil Sood says all the changes in Income

Tax rates are for encouraging the New Tax Regime. The proportionate benefit (% reduction in tax outgo) for different income groups are similar --25% for 9 lakh and 20% for 15 lakhs. The salary earners have a greater relief in the form of increased standard deduction limit and leave encashment.

He also singles out limiting capital gains for residential properties and insurance policy proceeds as interesting moves. We will need to see if they affect large number of high-income earners or house owners. A reduction is surcharge for the highest rate is a good idea. It is in line with the idea of lowering maximum rates for business as well as individuals. We will have see the impact on these changes on tax revenue.

Taxes on cigarettes hiked by 16 per cent Basic import duty on compounded rubber increased to 25 from 10 per cent

Customs duty on kitchen electric chimney increased

\* Agricultural credit target increased to Rs 20 lakh





### It's all, meeting with a mad

Proximity with money, success, fame and name is your craze,

What is the ultimate aim, that you have, please declare,

Topple the one at the end may be your final desire,

Beyond that, no one has evere dreamt.

The one who claims 'all is His', came here, Rejected and hanged, had no personal sorrow, he had said,

Calmly still declares, 'forgive them, they know not, what they do', they are still with desires.

Redeemptive plans for poor, statesman declare.

His crazy gospel, says its for all, irrespec-

**Dwit David Philip** tive of berth general, sleeper, AC one has.

Best foods,
Best goods,
Best times,

Best comforts,

Highest recognition, are your desires,

He says, no redemption without confessions and sacrifices that you have digested.

It's all, meeting with a mad,

Who says, 'Last man's economics has, failed', God has given a beautiful game, economics, all do play.

print that can be completed without a print-

ing press. Rather than cutting away from a sur-

face, however, this technique involves add-

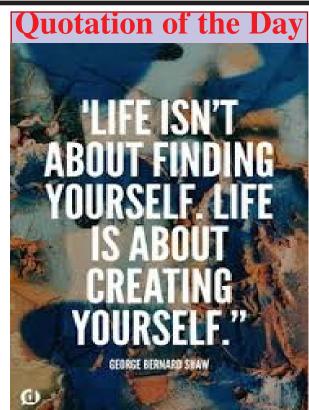
ing to the surface of a printing plate. To ac-

complish this, you begin by collaging thin

12 December 2022 LD House Amlatola, Chaibasha Jharkhand

Collagraphs are an-

other kind of relief



# 9 Types of Printmaking you need to know

Eli Hill

Printmaking is believed to have originated as early as the 1st century AD during China's Han Dynasty, and since its start, the medium's ability to reproduce images and create unique visual qualities has influenced everyone from book publishers to graphic designers. Artists in particular have driven the medium forward by experimenting with its various processes, in which ink is moved from one surface to another. Below, we outline nine of the most widely used printmaking techniques, and how they work.

Woodcut Katsushika Hokusai

The Great Wave off Kanagawa (Kanagawa oki

nami ura), from the series "Thirty-six Views of Mount Fuji" ("Fugaku Sanjurokkei"), 1830

Art Institute of Chicago

Woodcuts became one "of the great forces which were to transform mediaeval into modern life," as George E. Woodberry wrote in his 1883 book History of the Wood Engraving. As the author noted, woodcuts not only revolutionized printmaking processes, but also people's ability to access literature and art.

By the 15th century, people had started using the technique to print multiples of texts and images. The process of carving out every letter of a book from a block of wood, however, was a grueling task, so only popular works, such as the Bible and Buddhist sutras, were chosen for this type of reproduction. Prior to these woodcuts, books were almost exclusively available to wealthy and royal individuals—so once texts and images hit the printing press, they became more common goods. While the woodcut technique first became popular for its practical uses, such as printing books and decorating textiles, it eventually became an art form of its own. Woodcuts are a subset of relief printmaking where you carve out negative space from a surface, leaving only the lines and shapes that you want to appear in the print. For example, an artist making a woodcut will carve into the surface of a piece of wood, then coat the remaining surface with ink. Next, they'll typically place the inked surface on a piece of paper, and finally, they'll create their print by placing pressure on the back of their block— -with a roller, printing press, or other toolto transfer the ink onto the page.

To alter the surface of a block of wood, many artists use special knives and other tools, such as gauges, to carve in the direction of the wood's grain. One feature that sets woodcuts apart from other printmaking techniques is the residual wood grain texture the block leaves behind.

Woodblock printing utilizes a similar pro-

cess; the main difference between

woodblock prints and woodcuts is that the former uses water-based inks, which allow for more sensitive washes of color, and the latter uses oil-based inks. Japanese artists were using woodblocks to create ukiyo-e prints in the mid-17th century. Ukiyo translates to "floating world" in Japanese, and in these prints, flowers, wrestlers, women, mountains, and other subjects were rendered with flattened planes of color, hovering in the composition.

Linocut Soeren Behncke Vasco Da Gama, 2016 V1 Gallery •510 Henri Matisse Teeny, 1938



Masterworks Fine Art

Woodcuts and linocuts share a graphic quality because the relief process forces you to create images with flat planes of color and fluid lines. Linocuts, which emerged in the 20th century, also fall under the category of relief printmaking, but instead of carving from a block of wood, linocuts are made by cutting into a sheet of linoleum. This smooth material has no directional grain, so you are free to carve in any direction you like, and can use woodcut or en-

made by cutting into a sheet of linoleum. This smooth material has no directional grain, so you are free to carve in any direction you like, and can use woodcut or engraving tools. Since linoleum's surface is smooth, it only leaves a slightly spongy, grainy texture behind. One thing to note about its materiality is that while the surface's soft quality can make carving much easier, it often hinders the ability to create fine lines.

This technique is frequently introduced to printmaking beginners because it's easy to learn, and its low-cost materials make it relatively accessible. And since linoleum is relatively thin and tender, you can press the print onto a piece of paper by hand with a tool—like the back of a spoon or a baren—or with a printing press.

Collagraph
Wangechi Mutu
Second Born, 2013
Pace Prints
US\$20,000–US\$30,000

items—such as fabrics, plants, or plastic—onto the plate. The objects will create the elevated surface needed for a relief print, but usually, the items will not exceed a quarter of an inch in height; otherwise, you risk tearing the paper you're printing onto.

Once the collage is complete, the whole plate is coated with a substance known as a medium. Then, after it dries, you can roll ink onto the plate and press it onto paper by hand with the help of a tool, or with a printing press. When the paper is peeled back from the plate, an impression will appear with textures that vary according to the collaged items. As opposed to linocuts and woodcuts, which tend to emphasize bold lines and shapes, collagraph prints offer more opportunities for complicated textures and subtle marks. Engraving

Antonio Pollaiuolo
Battle of the Nudes, ca. 1470/1475
National Gallery of Art, Washington D.C.
Permanent collection

Engraving is the oldest form of intaglio printmaking, and one of the most difficult to execute. Unlike relief printmaking (where the ink is placed onto the uppermost surface), intaglio involves making incisions or grooves in a plate, covering the plate with ink, and wiping the surface, so that the ink remains in



the grooves. Then, the plate is placed in a printing press, which forces the paper into the plate's grooves to pick up the ink. When the paper and plate are peeled apart, you'll see that the ink has adhered to the paper. To keep the two processes straight, it's helpful to remember that with intaglio, anything you carve into the plate will show up in ink, whereas in relief printmaking, it's the parts that you don't carve that will show up in ink.

The term "intaglio" comes from the Italian word intagliare, which means "to cut in." The various intaglio techniques—engraving, etching, drypoint, mezzotint, and aquatint, among others—are largely differentiated by how the incisions are made.

The incisions in an engraving are entirely produced by carving into the plate by hand, which is why it's one of the most challenging printmaking methods to master. The technique typically calls for the use a burin—a steel rod with a sharp, oblique tip attached to a rounded top for the hand to firmly grasp onto—to draw into a metal plate. As you dig the burin across the surface, curls of metal will peel back as a V-shaped groove is created.

Don't be fooled by how simple this technique may sound; using a burin to accurately incise a metal surface is no easy feat. In addition to the great dexterity it requires, mistakes can only be repaired by expertly hammering the back of the plate to push the metal back into place, then smoothing it back down with a scraper and burnisher.

Etching Rembrandt van Rijn

Three Crosses (First State), 1653 Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam

Etching is one of the most commonly used intaglio techniques. Unlike engraving, where you gauge out lines with a burin, etching involves incising marks into a plate through a process called "biting." First, you cover a metal plate with a thin wax-like layer called the "ground." Then, you draw your design onto the plate with a needle; you don't have to press hard when making these marks, as you only need to scratch through the surface of the ground. When the drawing is finished, you coat the back of the plate with a varnish, then immerse the plate in a bath of acid.

Since the ground and varnish are impermeable to acid, the acidic bath will only affect the metal where lines are drawn. As the plate



lays in the bath, the acid will eat away at the marks you made, creating fine incisions. Artists have been known to render delicate effects on these plates by playing with the bath's level of acidity, the amount of time it bathes, and a technique called "stopping out." To stop out, you bathe the plate until the lightest parts of the print are properly incised, then remove it from the bath and cover those areas with varnish before placing the plate back into the bath. This technique allows you to achieve a range of shallow and deep grooves; where an incision is shallow, the ink will be more faint, and where the incision is deeper, the ink will be more prominent. (To be continued)

spending time watch-

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she replies, "Like I

said, I did not want

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what exactly hap-

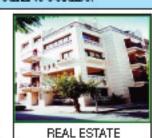
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# CLASSIFIED Nabha Natesh suffered multiple breaks in her shoulder

Nabha Natesh was going great guns in Tollywood when she met with an accident in the latter half of 2021, leaving her bed-ridden for a

year. The last time audiences saw Nabha on the silver screen was in Maestro which was released in September 2021. "I slipped in restroom and badly injured my left shoulder. I was in extreme pain. I was immediately taken to the hospital. After some tests, the doctors said that I need to undergo a surgery as there were multiple small breaks," the actress tells us. Nabha was shocked by the severity of the injury. "After a lot of contemplation, I went for a minor corrective surgery. It was successful and things got back to normal," she re-

veals. Nabha started lifting weights as part of her daily workout routine, on the doctor's suggestion. But she started experiencing pain again, and had to go back for tests. A thorough examination revealed that she had had a relapse of the injury.

She was advised to go under the knife tion. It's a phase I

again – just three months after the first surgery. "I felt an immense jolt when I heard that; the news hit me badly," Nabha shares. "Just when I thought things were getting back to normal, I had

more challenging. start my recupera-

surgery Nabha was again confined to her home, but this time for a longer period - around six months. She had become weak and could not stand for long hours. "More than the physical injury, I was psychologically affected. I hardly spoke to anyone. I distanced myself from several of my friends. I didn't want them to know about my accident because I didn't want to see 'get well messages

While the world lost around two years to Covid, Nabha was prepared to sacrifice another one year for her recovery. She knew what was coming and was prepared. But for a workaholic like her, the ordeal was even "I had to be mentally strong and needed to re-gather myself and

don't want to re-

member, but it's not

something that I can

forget," she says

to go through this." After her second soon' from them," Nabha explains.

traumatising. My daily routine was completely disturbed," she shares. Asked where she gained strength from, she says she was enveloped in care. "It was a gruesome phase of my life, and I had managed to get out of that depressing time with support from my family and eventually my close friends."

tough

Apart from doing voga and meditation.

with a smile. "I knew tal in her recovery. I will make it but I "Not to forget my had to go through the fans' support. I was process which was away from social media but their messages and their concern made me understand how much I mean to them," says Nabha.

What was going through her mind during this phase, we ask. "I just wanted to get out of my home and start working. It was very depressing but that's how life is. You never know what can unfold when," she says.

Asked if any friends from the industry called to pen her up. pened. Moreover, initially I thought that I could get over the injury after a couple of months. But later, the relapse made life more difficult." But her friends slowly came to know about her plight and stood by her, she says.

Nabha's takeaway from the whole experience is simple: 'Just be grateful for what you have.' She says that the ordeal changed her perspective on life. "I have found my inner wealth, which is bigger than anything you can earn materially. I it did wonders to me," she says, adding that self-belief was very crucial in her road to healing. And now, Nabha is back in action and all charged up. "I want to clarify that it's not a 'comeback' because a comeback is when you intentionally leave the industry and try to make a return. But I never left the industry; it's just that I was down due to health issues. But yes, I have been in talks with a few filmmakers and am on the verge of signing a couple of projects," she reveals.

have proved how

strong we can be if

we work at it. I be-

lieved in myself and

# Ozzy Osbourne cancels 2023 European tour dates, cites injury

Hard rock legend Ozzy Osbourne announced the cancellation of his 2023 tour dates in the UK and continental Europe.

Osbourne issued a statement early Wednesday saying damage to his spine suffered in an accident four years ago will prevent him from touring.

"I am honestly humbled by the way you've all patiently held onto your tickets for all this time, but in all good conscience, I have now come to the realization that I'm not physically capable of doing my upcoming European/UK tour dates, as I know I couldn't deal with the travel required," Osbourne said.

The 74-year-old Grammy winner and former vocalist for the metal band Black Sabbath said "my singing voice is fine" but said he remained physically weak following three operations, stem cell treatments, physical therapy and Hybrid Assistive Limb treatment, which uses a robotic exoskeleton to help improve movement and balance.

He thanked his family, fans, band and crew members and fellow metal pioneers Judas Priest.

"Never would I have imagined that my touring days would have ended this way," Osbourne said. "My team is currently coming up with ideas for where I will be able to perform without having to travel from city to city and country to country."

Ticket refunds will be available at the point of purchase, the statement said.

ALSO READ | Fed up with US mass shootings, Ozzy Osbourne moving back to England

Osbourne previously cancelled tour dates in Europe and North America in 2019 due to health problems, including a "bad fall" in which he said he injured vertebrae in his neck.

The singer, who enjoyed solo success after leaving Black Sabbath, announced in 2020 that he had been diagnosed with Parkinson's disease, a nervous system disorder that affects movement.

Osbourne and the other three members of Black Sabbath were inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2006. Osbourne and his family, including his wife, Sharon, and two of his three children were the stars of their own reality show called "The Osbournes."

### Trisha joins the star-studded cast of Vijay-Lokesh Kanagaraj's 'Thalapathy 67' The second round of that said, "Grateful to

Thalapathy 67 updates is going live. Trisha has officially joined the ensemble cast of the upcoming be a part of this iconic project featuring some of my favourite people and an immensely tal-

Sanjay Dutt, Priya Anand, Gautham Vasudev Menon, Mysskin, Mansoor Ali Khan, and Sandy. Actors Sanjay Dutt



Vijay-Lokesh Kanagaraj action-entertainer.

The announcement follows a string of cast updates from the Twitter handle of Thalapathy 67's production house Seven Screen Studios.

The announcement poster carried a quote from the actor

ented team. Exciting times ahead."

While the project is yet to receive an official title, Trisha is expected to play the female lead opposite Vijay. Thalapathy 67 marks Trisha and Vijay's reunion after 14 years. The actor will be joined by cast members Arjun,

and Mathew Thomas will be making their Tamil debut with the film. The Lokesh Kanagaraj directorial will have music by Anirudh Ravichander. The cinematography will be handled by Manoj Paramahamsa while Philomin Raj takes care of the editing.

# No tax on Income upto Rs. 7 Lakhs only if an Individual opts for Alternate Tax Regime

Currently those Individuals and Hindu Undivided Families (HUF) with income upto Rs. 5 Lakh are not required to pay any



Income tax in both old and new regime. Finance Minister has proposed to increase the rebate in case income does not exceed Rs. 7 lakh provided taxpayer (Individual or HUF) opts for

Alternate Tax Regime under sec. 115BAC. It has been done by adding a proviso to section 87A provide Tax Rebate of Rs.25,000 (instead of Rs.12500) for assessment year 2024-25 in case one opts for Alternate Tax Regime. It may be noted that if the total income exceeds the specified monetary limit of Rs. 5 Lakhs or Rs.7 Lakhs, as the case may be, then the benefit of rebate under sec. 87A is not available. In such a case the exemption limit will be restricted to Rs.3 Lakh for assessment year 2024-25. Tax Rates under Alternate tax regime will be as under:

In case taxable income is Rs. 10 Lakhs tax under the new regime will be Rs.60,000 for asst year 2024-25. Such tax on same income for asst year 2023-24 was Rs.75,000 thus the taxpayer gets benefit of Rs.15,000. Standard Deduction can be claimed under SL No. Total income Rate of tax (1) (2) (3) 1. Upto Rs. 3,00,000 Nil 2. From Rs. 3,00,001 to Rs. 6,00,000 5 per cent. 3. From Rs. 6,00,001 to Rs.9,00,000 10 per cent. 4. From Rs. 9,00,001 to Rs. 12,00,000 15 per cent. 5. From Rs. 12,00,001 to Rs. 15,00,000 20 per cent. 6. Above Rs. 15,00,000 30 per cent.

sec. 16(i) under both old and new regime

**Letter to Editor** 

Sir,

### All that Glitters is Litter

Today's glitter is a combination of plastic and aluminium. Frequently found in well-known makeup products is glitter. Wrapping paper, holiday decorations, greeting cards, craft projects, and even personal cosmetics all contain glitters, which are clingy, scintillating specks. Glitter made of plastic is probably present in almost anything that glitters. Due to their small size, glitter particles are regarded as micro-plastics, a significant contributor to soil, air, and ocean pollution. Studies explains that glitter is notoriously difficult to clean up due to its small size and propensity to produce a lot of static cling. The sparkly stuff in our homes and the surroundings is nearly impossible to eradicate due to its tenacious nature. And because these tiny plastic particles can take hundreds of years to decompose, every piece of glitter ever produced is still in existence. The eye-catching shimmer of a substance like water, glass, or precious metal was referred to as glitter for centuries. The plastic is metalized on both sides by applying ultrafine layers of aluminium, which gives the glitter its colour and bling factor. The plastic is made from sheets of both polyvinyl chloride and polyethylene terephthalate, the same plastic found in water bottles. A third, thin layer of the plastic styrene acrylate is present in many types of glitter. However, secret formulas keep the ingredients used in glitter a secret inside the walls of the factories. The glitter is then removed from the sheets, mostly in the form of tiny, pointy hexagons. Glitter's tenacity explains its role in plastic pollution. Because most glitter is small from the start, it does not degrade and remains intact from the cradle to the grave. The majority of glitter ends up in the water bodies as a result of wastewater generated in our homes and landfill run-off. Because marine organisms, such as fish, cannot distinguish the tiny synthetic bits from their natural food supply, microplastic has become one of the world's most prolific and intractable pollutants. As these plastics bioaccumulate in the food chain, humans end up consuming enough plastic to fill a credit card every week, primarily through the water we drink and the sea-food we eat. According to the findings, glitter may play a larger role in microplastic pollution than previously thought, particularly in terms of soil health.so outlaw of glitters is badly needed.

> VijayKumar H K Raichur, Karnataka Environmentalist

Narayan Jain

employees, which was not available for asst. year 2023-24 in case of new regime. In clause 149 of her Budget Speech, the Finance Minister announced "For the salaried class and the standard deduction to the taxpayers in the new tax regime. Each salaries person with an income of Rs.15.5 Lakh or more will thus stand to benefit by Rs.52,500." It may be noted that sec. 16(i) allows standard deduction of Rs.50,000. This will remain Rs.50,000 as no amendment appears to have been proposed. The FM has also proposed to allow benefit of deduction under sec. 57(iia) from family pension in case of both old and new regime.

salaries

Such a taxpayer shall not claim the exemption in respect of House Rent Allowance under sec. 10(13A), any special allowance prescribed under sec. 10(14), except those perquisites under sec. 17(2),

pensioners including family pensioners for whom I propose to extend the benefit of

SEZ under sec. 10AA, sec. 16(ii), sec.16(iii), Interest on capital borrowed for housing under sec. 24(b) in respect of property referred to in sec. 23(2), sec. 32, 32AD, 33AB, 33ABA, 35(2AA), 35A, 35CCC or any deduction under chapter VIA. However Standard Deduction

of minor under sec.

10(32) or Unit in

It may be clarified that the tax rebate in cases of those paying tax under normal system shall be limited to Rs.12,500 that too if total income is within Rs. 5 Lakhs. It may be noted that if the total income exceeds the monetary limit of Rs.5 Lakhs then the benefit of rebate is not available. However deduction contribution to specified Pension Fund under sec. 80CCD(2), contribution to Agniveer Corpus Fund under sec. 80CCH(2) or for cost of employment to new employees under sec. 80JJAA can be claimed.

Such person having income from business can exercise the option for paying tax under section 115BAC, and can opt to old system only once and he cannot revert back to new tax regime once he has opted out to old tax regime. However, in other cases a taxpayer is at liberty to opt new alternate tax regime or revert to old tax system from year to year.

#### **Leave Encashment**

The limit for tax exemption for Leave Encashment was Rs. 3 Lakhs on retirement of non-government salaries employees, which was fixed in the year 2022. The FM has proposed to increase the limit to Rs.25 Lakh under sec. 10(10AA)(ii) to bring it at par with government employees

#### **Presumptive tax**

The assessee having income from business are eligible to opt for presumptive tax under sec. 44AD if the gross receipts or total turnover does not exceed Rs. 2 crore. This limit is proposed to be increased to Rs. 3 crore in case the amount received in cash does not exceed 5 per cent of aggregate receipts or total turnover.

Likewise, the assessee having income from profession are eligible to opt for presumptive tax under sec. 44ADA if the total gross receipts from profession referred to insec.44AA(1) does not exceed Rs. 50 Lakh. This limit is proposed to be increased to Rs. 75 Lkah in case the amount received in cash does not exceed 5 per cent of total gross receipts.

#### Surcharge

The FM has proposed to peg up maximum rate of surcharge to 25 per cent instead of 37 per cent, as was applicable in case of total income exceeding Rs.5 crore. The maximum tax burden in case of taxpayers having income more than Rs.5 crore was 42.74 per cent which will stand reduced to 39 per cent from assessment year 2024-25 in case of both old as well as new regime.

The FM has proposed 122 amendments in Income tax alone.

(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).

# Education's purpose is to replace an empty mind with an open

Swami Vivekananda once said, "If education is identical with information. libraries are the greatest sages of the

daily allowance under sec. 10(17), income



world and encyclopedias are `Rishis'." There is something very much more than mere information that has to be

imparted to the young mind. Today, the quality of India's primary education is a bigger concern than the number of small children who don't attend school. The private sector has played a role in raising enrolment and literacy rates, by responding to the prodigious demand for education. India has one of the largest higher education systems anywhere in the world.

The history of education in India is very rich and interesting. Education is a way to gather knowledge and enrich one's thought. Everyone has the right to education. Education shall be free at least in the elementary and fundamental stages. When we talk of quality education, skill development is an inherent part of it. Given our population structure, its diversity and vastness, a degree catering to a 'one size fits all' prescription no longer works. Quality education by global standards is the crying need of time. Quality education produces leaders, who need to be globally competitive, if Indian economy aspires to be a developed country.

The Supreme Court has held that the right to education is a fundamental right under Article 21 of the Constitution and that the state is obliged to provide

### **Vinod Chandrashekhar Dixit**

education to children at the primary level. Good education is not only desirable in itself but is also essential for the empowerment of our people. Education should be viewed as a basic human right leading to empowerment and awareness. The politicization of education poses a serious threat to society. It is necessary for the authorities to investigate whether reservation has genuinely helped the backward sections of society. The government should address this problem on an urgent basis and take a holistic approach to it. Granting everyone the right to education is not enough in itself. It is the duty of the State to ensure proper implementation of this law in every section of the society. The 25 per cent reservation for poor kids is a terrible insult to the majority of India's children. It is like the 'two-tumbler' system that prevails in many villages.

After more than two decades of the private sector boom in education, it is clear that private schools are no alternative to the government as far as imparting quality education is concerned. Instability and stress within a nuclear family can impact a child's education. There is a lot of stress on achievement and performance from the teachers and parents. Children are pushed to do much more than customary to get the desired acceptance and acknowledgement from the family and society circle. Education is also

visualized as an evolutionary force so that each individual is enabled to evolve from purely material consciousness towards superior planes of intellectual and spiritual consciousness.

Life skills education is a very important and integral part of educational system worldwide. A lot of thought requires to be given on how to bring in life skills education into the mainstream curriculum. Skill development is directly related to the employment prospects of our youth and, therefore, the focus has to be on providing quality education with skill development.

Efficient networking of educationists, psychologists, mental health professionals and policy makers would be required to develop a concrete workable life skills training programme. The need of the hour, therefore, is to focus not only on education per se, but more importantly on quality. The crowning defect of our existing educational system that requires the immediate and earnest consideration is its excessive passive and mechanical character. The government should take effective steps to provide sound education to students from the backward classes rather than just creating quotas. What is more important is to ensure that proper facilities are provided in schools and the best teachers recruited to teach children in their formative years. Right to education will remain a dream unless sincere efforts are made to create the necessary infrastructure.

B-15 Jyoti-Kalash Society, Jodhpur

Tekra, Satellite, Ahmedabad

### ■Popular people's Daily of Odisha ■

# Budget to Boost Exports 'Election speech', says Opposition on

New Delhi: Union Budget 2023-24 has a slew of measures to give boost to exports and help accelerated growth of manufacturing in the country.

The indirect tax sim-

plification and ratio-

nalization has a clear

export-oriented fo-

Director General

(DGFT) Santosh

Sarangi, sources said

with the fresh mea-

sures taken up in An-

nual Budget-2023-

24 will spur exports

growth in a big way.

The Department of

Commerce's recom-

mendation on lab

(LGD) has been ac-

cepted whereby the

research grant of Rs.

242 crore over a pe-

riod of 5 years to IIT

Madras has been ap-

This will enable

indigenization of the

manufacturing pro-

cess of LGD. Fur-

ther, reduction of

duty on LGD seeds

from 5% to 0% has

also been accepted

which will result in

reducing the cost of

diamond

Trade

cus.

Foreign

grown

proved.

growers and make our LGD exports globally competitive. The recommendation of the Department of Commerce for creating separate HS

Codes for LGD has

also been accepted. It

would enable track-

ing the international

trade in lab grown

Custom duty on ar-

ticles of precious

metals such as gold,

silver and platinum

has been increased

from 20% to 25%

thereby increasing

the duty differential

to 10% over gold/sil-

ver/platinum bars.

This will boost do-

mestic manufactur-

ing in the sector and

result in import sub-

stitution. Custom

duty on imitation

jewellery has been

enhanced from 20%

to 25%. This will

discourage cheap

imports from China

and encourage do-

mestic manufactur-

The reduction in im-

port duty of fish

meal from 15% to

5% will make the

shrimp industry

diamonds.

the country and boost exports. The fish meal constitutes 40% of the cost of production shrimps. This will also prevent inci-

dence of juvenile

fishing which is used

for fish meal in do-

mestic production

and will thereby im-

prove our marine fish

The recommendation

of Department of

Commerce for in-

crease in import duty

on compound rubber

from 10% to 25%

has been agreed to.

This will reduce the

import of compound

rubber in the country

and boost demand

and prices for natural

rubber produced in

the country. This will

go a long way in sup-

porting our natural

rubber farmers and

further increasing its

production in the

The budget has iden-

tified financial sec-

tor as a priority sec-

tor. Measures to en-

hance business ac-

tivities in GIFT IFSC,

comprehensive re-

view of existing fi-

country.

stock availability.



demographic dividend, 30 International Skill India Centres announced in the budget will help in making Indian professionals globally competitive and will foster growth of services exports through various modes.

toms duty on components of mobile phones, lithiumbased batteries, open cells for TV panels etc. would go a long way in integrating into global value chain and enhancing India's exports of these products.

Customs duty exemption has been provided for capital goods for manufacture of lithium - ion cells for batteries used in EVs. This would help the automobile sector in maintaining its global competitiveness. The focus on improving the quality and productivity of Shree (Millets) through R&D grant to Indian Institute of Millet Research will help in positioning India as global leader in millet production

will enhance tourism service exports. Leveraging India's

Reduction of Cus-

Anna

# President Murmu's address to Parliament

NEW DELHI: The Opposition parties came out all guns blazing on Tuesday

to the joint session of the two Houses of Parliament on the first day of the (BRS) and Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) boycotted President's



against President Budget session. Droupadi Murmu's While

Bharat customary speech Rashtra Samithi

BJP unhappy with CB probe, seeks CBI investigation

BHUBANESWAR: With many loose ends and unanswered questions linked to the broad daylight killing of minister Naba Kishrore Das by an on-duty police officer, the Opposition parties have demanded a probe into the incident independent of the state police. Expressing shock over the manner in which a cabinet minister of a state was shot dead, leader of Opposition Jaynarayan Mishra said if the assailant Gopal Das, an assistant sub-inspector of police, was mentally unsound why he was put on minister's duty. What comes as a surprise that the ASI was issued the service pistol a day before the incident. All these things create suspicion in the mind of the people which required a thorough investigation. The state government should hand over the case to the CBI for an impartial probe and the same cannot be expected from the Crime Branch of Odisha police, Mishra said. "We don't have faith on the Crime Branch of Odisha Police which is a puppet in the hands of the ruling BJD. The Crime Branch is like Sankat Mochan (troubleshooter) for the government. Starting from Pari to Mamita Meher case, the CB gave clean chit to ministers involved in the murder cases," Mishra said.

Targeting Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik over the deteriorating law and order situation in Odisha, state BJP general secretary Prithiviral Harichandan said the state government has been claiming that the law and order situation of Odisha is far better than many other BJP ruled states. However, the Sunday incident exposed the government's tall claims, he added. "If the state government is unable to give protection to its ministers one can imagine the safety of the common people of the state," he said. Harichandan said, "We have been hearing about such incidents in other states. Never before such incident occured in Odisha which is now turned to be the grazing ground of criminals."

dress, most of the Congress MPscould not attend it as they were stranded Srinagar after the culmination event of the Bharat Jodo Yatra.

"Due to delayed flights from Srinagar over inclement weather conditions, Leader of Opposition in the Rajya Sabha Mallikarjun Kharge and many other Congress MPs will be unable to attend the President's address Houses of Parliament," Jairam Ramesh tweeted. Calling it an election speech, Congress MP Shashi Tharoor said that the BJP government was trying to push its election campaign through the President's address. "The President doesn't contest elections. But it seems like the BJP government is conducting its next election campaign through her.

The entire speech was an election speech trying to hail the government for its achievements," he told the media. Speaking to this daily, CPI(M) MP Elamaram Kareem said that the speech was disappointing as it did not address burning issues such as the economic crisis, unemployment, farmers' distress, and others.

### dominates list submitted for 2023 **Nobel Peace Prize**

Names linked to Ukraine war

Continued from page-1 neighbouring country".

Others known to have been nominated are jailed Putin opponents -- anti-corruption activist Alexei Navalny, who was the victim of a poisoning attack, and journalist and political activist Vladimir Kara-Murza, who says he has survived two poisonings.

"We now know that the basis for this war is a Russian regime founded on corruption and oppression," said Ingjerd Schou, the Norwegian lawmaker who nominated Kara-Murza. Kara-Murza "is taking part in the most important political fight to put an end to the war in Ukraine and guarantee Europe's future peace", she told Norwegian agency NTB. 'Eurocentric' fears

The two previous Nobel Peace Prizes have been widely interpreted as direct criticism of Putin.

Last year, the prize was shared by Russian human rights group Memorial -- which Moscow ordered dissolved -- Ukraine's Center for Civil Liberties (CCL) and jailed Belarusian rights advocate Ales Bialiatski.

The trio represents the three nations at the centre of the war in Ukraine, which all of them have criticised.

In 2021, another thorn in the Kremlin's side, Dmitry Muratov, chief editor of leading independent newspaper Novaya Gazeta, shared the prize with the Philippines' Maria Ressa for their fight for freedom of expression in their respective countries.

The head of the Peace Research Institute of Oslo, Henrik Urdal, said it was unlikely however that the Nobel committee would fire another salvo at Putin in 2023, due to the risk of appearing "Eurocentric".

"I doubt they'd award a third straight prize pointing in Russia's direction", he told AFP. "It was difficult for the committee to do otherwise last year because the Ukraine conflict was so important and dominant," he said.

"But it's also necessary to shine the spotlight on other international problems in other parts of the world," Urdal added.

Each year, several hundred nominees are proposed for the Nobel Peace Prize. In 2022, there were 343 nominees.

#### production of LGD more competitive in nancial sector regu- and exports. PM Modi for state visit: Report

WASHINGTON: US President Joe Biden is understood to have invited Prime Minister Narendra Modi for a state visit this summer, PTI has learnt.

The invitation has been accepted in principle and officials on both sides are now working on mutually convenient dates, according to multiple sources, who noted that it is currently in the early stages of logistical plan-

Given that India is hosting a series of events this year related to G-20 leading to a summit in September, which among others would be attended by Biden, it is reliably learnt that officials from the two sides are looking for appropriate dates in June and July when not only both the US House of Representatives and the Senate are in session but Modi has a couple of days at his disposal when he does not have a predetermined domestic commitment or international engagements.

At least a couple of days are required for the state visit, which among other things includes an address to the joint session of the US Congress and a state dinner at the White House. In addition to G-20, Modi has packed domestic and international commitments till the fall, before he hits the campaign trail for a series of crucial state assembly elections later this

Sources, who requested anonymity as they are not allowed to talk on this sensitive issue at this point of time, however, did not reveal

when this invitation was delivered and who delivered this personal invitation from Biden to the Prime Minister's Office.

Biden hosted French President Emanual Macron for his first state dinner last December. Meanwhile, a senior administration official told reporters that Biden believes the partnership between India and the United States, which are the world's leading knowledge



economies, is essential to address major global challenges.

NSA Doval visits White House, discusses Indo-US defence ties

"President Biden views that as two of the world's leading knowledge economies, this partnership is essential. He believes that no successful and enduring effort to address any of the major challenges that the world faces today, whether we're looking at food or energy or health security, the climate crisis, or upholding a free and open Indo-Pacific, going to work without a US-India partnership at its heart," a senior administration official told

a group of Indian reporters here. Prime Minister Modi had in Tokyo last year described the US-India relationship as a partnership of trust and a force for good global

peace and stability.

"The US really views that this is in our strategic interest to support India's rise as a global power. We see that in both the Quad and as India's Presidency of the G-20. This describes a greater vision of this coherent US-Indo Pacific strategy that requires that both the US and India pull closer together and overcome long-standing obstacles to doing so," said the senior administration official, requesting anonymity to reporters.

On Tuesday, India's National Security Advisor Ajit K Doval along with his American counterpart Jake Sullivan launched the India-US initiative on Critical and Emerging Technologies or iCET, which officials on both sides described as a "Next Big Thing" in the bilateral relationship of the two countries.

"While geopolitics is one dimension of what's happening here, this is sort of more important, bigger than that. The US view is that our relationship with India is essential not just because of the way the world looks today, but rather that this is the next logical milestone of our relationship," the official said.

"We view that what's going on here it's really even larger than 2006 (the year of the India-US civil nuclear deal)," he said.

### Government is stable and decisive, says President Murmu

NEW DELHI: Describing the Modi government's tenure as "stable and deci-President Droupadi Murmu on

Tuesday said the

Centre has taken firm

steps to ensure na-

tional security and

women empower-

ment, as well as

adopted measures to

root out corruption

from the country.

She was delivering

her maiden address to

the joint session of

Parliament on the

first day of the Bud-

"Today, through this

session, I express my

gratitude to the

people of the country

for electing a stable

government for two

consecutive terms.

My decisive govern-

ment has always kept

the country's interest

paramount and shown

get session.

and strategies when required." Amid loud thumping by members, Murmu lauded the government for the steps taken to en-

sure national secu-

"From surgical strike

to a firm crackdown

on terrorism, from a

befitting response to

every misadventure

from LoC to LAC,

from the abrogation

of Article 370 to

triple talaq, my gov-

ernment has been

recognised as a deci-

sive government,"

The world is now

looking at India for

solutions and "every

Indian's confidence

is at its peak," she

Stressing that cor-

ruption is the biggest

enemy of democracy

and social justice,

Murmu said the gov-

said.

the President said.

rity.

weed out corruption. "We have ensured that honesty will be honoured in the system. In the last few years, the Benami

Property Act was no-

tified to create a cor-

ruption-free ecosys-

tem. The Fugitive

**Economic Offenders** 

Act was passed to

confiscate the prop-

erties of criminals

who absconded after

committing eco-

nomic offenses. A

system has also been

put in place to end the

favouritism and cor-

ruption in govern-

ment machinery,"

Elaborating on the

efforts taken by the

government towards

empowering women,

the President said that

the female popula-

tion has outnumbered

males for the first

practice

she said.

success of the 'Beti Bachao,

weeks to 26 weeks.

Padhao' campaign. From education to their career, my government is trying to remove all obstacles for daughters. My government has

BHUBANESWAR, THURSDAY, 02 FEBRUARY, 2023

also ensured that women are not restricted from carrying out any work or participating in any field of work. For this purpose, recruitment in every sector from mining to forward posts in the army has been thrown open to women," she said, adding that the government has increased the maternity leave from 12 The government has chosen the path of consolidating heritage and giving priority to development, she said. "While Ayodhya Dham is being constructed in the country, construction of a modern Parliament House is underway," she said. "We have constructed Kedarnath Dham, Kashi Vishwanath Dham, and Mahakal Mahalok, and our government is also building medical colleges in every dis-

## Justice Das; Probe Monitor

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Retired Judge of the Orissa High Court Justice JP Das will monitor the probe into Minister Naba Das's murder case.

Following the request of the State Government, the High Court has appointed retired judge JP Das to closely monitor the investigation of the Crime Branch into the heinous murder of Minister Shri Das.

Continuing taking action on this sensational case, the State Government today suspended Mitrabhanu Deo, the Personal Security Officer (PSO) of Shri Das from service for alleged dereliction of duty. The Government suspended the PSO a day after transferring Jharsuguda SP Rahul Jain, Brajarajnagar

SDPO Gupteswar Bhoi, Brajarajnagar Police Station's Pradvumna IIC Kumar Swain and Gandhi Chowk poDas from services. The Crime Branch, which is inquiring into the incident has taken Gopal on four-day remand

ASI Shri Das. On the other hand. Opposition BJP and Congress continue their demand for a high-level

probe. The BJP has been demanding a CBI probe into the incident while the Congress party has been demanding a court monitored SIT into the case to

unravel the truth. The Minister was shot at by dismissed Police ASI Gopal Krushna Das from a close range at Brajarajnagar on last Sunday last while he was on his way to attend a public function. The Minister was immediately rushed to Jharsuguda district headquarters hospital and from there shifted to a private hospital in Bhubaneswar where he succumbed to the injuries.



lice outpost's incharge Bhusan Podha. The government has already dismissed accused ASI Gopal

and started interro-Sashi gating him. Besides, the CB is also interrogating the family members of dismissed

#### the will power to ernment has taken time in the country. trict," she said. transform policies stringent measures to "We have seen the 'Callous' budget that has betrayed hopes of vast majority of people: P Chidambaram

NEW DELHI: Congress leader P Chidambaram on Wednesday claimed that the Union Budget has "betrayed" the hopes of a vast majority of Indians and shows how far removed the government is from the people and their concerns about life, livelihood and the growing inequality between the rich and the

poor. At a press conference at the AICC headquarters here, the former finance minister termed the budget as "callous" and said Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has not mentioned the words unemployment, poverty, inequality or equity anywhere in her Budget speech.

"Let me begin by pointing out, with regret, that the FM has not mentioned the words unemployment, poverty, inequality or equity anywhere in her speech. Mercifully, she has mentioned the word poor twice in her speech. I am sure the people of India will take note of who are in the concerns of the government and are who not,' Chidambaram said.

He stressed that no taxes have been reduced except for the small number who have opted for the new tax regime.

"No indirect taxes have been reduced. There is no cut in the cruel and irrational GST rates. There is no reduction in the prices of petrol, diesel, cement, fertilizers etc. There is no cut in the tainly, not the poor. Not the youth looking desperately for jobs. Not those who have been laid off. Not the bulk of



numerous surcharges and cesses which are, anyway, not shared with the state governments," Chidambaram said. ALSO READ | Budget is 'Anti-people', 'Amrit Kaal for PM Modi, not for people': Oppn "Who has benefited

from this Budget? Cer-

the taxpayers. Not the homemaker. Not the thinking Indians who are shocked by the growing inequality, the rise of the number of billionaires and the wealth being accumulated in the hands of the one per cent of the population. Certainly, not you," he Chidambaram alleged that the government is determined to push the fortunes of "gift city", Ahmedabad, at the cost of other commercial and financial centres. "The government is also

determined to push the 'new' tax regime for which there are few takers for a variety of reasons. Besides, making the new tax regime the default option is grossly unfair and will rob the ordinary taxpayer of the meagre social security that he may get under the old tax regime," the Congress leader said. This is a "callous" Budget that has betrayed the hopes of the vast majority of the people, he

### **SER's New Prinicpal Chief Operations Manager**

Kolkata(KCN): Shri Deepak Freight Transportation Manager Kumar Jha has assumed the charge of the Principal Chief Operations Manager, South Eastern Railway (SER) o-n January 30, 2023. Prior to this, Shri Jha was Executive Director, Traffic Transportation (Steel)/Railway Board, New Delhi.

An Indian Railway Traffic Service (IRTS) Officer of 1990, Shri Jha completed his MA (History) from Delhi University. He has vast knowledge and experience in different aspects of train operations. He has worked in various capacities like Chief Passenger Transportation Manager, Chief and Chief Transportation Planning Manager, East Coast Railway, Bhubaneswar, Chief Freight Transportation Manager, Eastern Railway, Kolkata, Divisional Railway Manager, Ahmedabad, Western Railway, Mumbai, EDTT(S)/ Railway Board, New Delhi etc. Shri Jha also attended various training programmes at National as well as International levels. He has undergone training in Management at Singapore, Malaysia and Leadership Training at Milan

He has keen interest in sports and social welfare activities.



2023-2024

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## **Business/Commerce**

#### **Budget 2023 HIGHLIGHTS: FM** announces

#### big tax sops, highest-ever capital outlay

Continued from page-1 additional airports, heliports

\* 50 destinations to be selected through challenge

mode for tourism \* Mahila Samman Savings Certificate will be made available for two years, deposits of up to Rs 2 lakh at 7.5 per cent interest

\* Senior Citizens' Savings Scheme deposit limit raised to Rs 30 lakh from Rs 15 lakh

Income tax rebate limit increased from Rs 5 lakh

to Rs 7 lakh under new tax regime \* Allocation for PM Awas Yojna increased by 66

per cent to over Rs 79,000 crore

\* Capital investment outlay to be raised by 33 per cent to Rs 10 lakh crore, which will be 3.3 per cent of GDP in fiscal 2024

\* Effective capital expenditure of centre to be - Rs 13.7 lakh crore

\* 157 new nursing colleges in major locations \* Mission to eliminate sickle cell anaemia by 2047 \* Tribals to get Rs 15,000 crore over next three years for safe housing, sanitation, drinking water,

\* Manhole to machine-hole mode -- All cities and towns will be enabled for 100 per cent transition of sewers and septic tanks

\* Eklavya Model Residential Schools - 38,800 teachers will be hired

Goal 'Make AI in India', 'Make AI Work For India' -- three centres for excellence for AI will be set up in top educational institutes
\* Rs 2,516 crore for Computerisation of 63,000

credit societies

\* 100 labs to develop apps using 5G services to be set up in engineering institutions

\* Rs 35,000 crore for energy transition to net-zero emission goals

Green Hydrogen Mission for reduced dependence on fossil fuel

\* Battery energy storage systems of 4000 MWh will be supported

\* 39,000 compliances reduced for ease of doing

\* 30 Skill India international centres to be set up \* Natural Farming - one crore farmers will get as-

\* 'Mangrove Initiative for Shoreline Habitats & Tangible Incomes', MISHTI, to be taken up for mangrove plantation along the coastline and on salt pan lands, through convergence between MGNREGS, CAMPA Fund and other sources. 01:13 Feb 1The story behind the FM's saree

01:00 Feb 1'Amrit kaal"s first Budget

12:26 Feb 1 Highest personal tax rate in the world, The current highest personal tax rate of 42% is the

the highest in the world. The Finance Minister proposed to reduce the surcharge for highest income earners from 37% to 25%, taking the highest tax rate down to 39%.

12:23 Feb 1Those with income up to Rs 7L will not have to pay income tax

Hard-working middle-class to be rewarded, says Finance Minister. IT rebate threshold increased to Rs / lakh in the new tax regime. No tax till that

5% tax on income of Rs 9 lakh and 10% tax on those with income of Rs 15 lakh.

0 to Rs 3 lakh - nil Rs 3 - 6 lakh - 5% Rs 6 - 9 lakh - 10% Rs 9 - 12 lakh - 15% Rs 12 - 15 lakh - 20% Above Rs 15 lakh - 30% 12:21 Feb 1

TNIE's Shadow Budget 2024 has proven to be on

the money FY23 total expenditure revised estimate Rs 41.9 lakh crore, in line with TNIE's shadow budget estimates of Rs 41 lakh crore.

TNIE's shadow budget also spot on FY24 fiscal deficit of 5.9%, which the FM announced on

Wednesday. FM estimates FY24 gross borrowing target at Rs 15.43 lakh crore, which is much lower than our

estimates at Rs 17.85 lakh crore.

Monthly Income Scheme limit doubled to Rs 9 lakh and Rs 15 lakh for joint accounts: FM

12:16 Feb 1On ease of doing business To enhance ease of doing business, more than 39,000 compliances have been reduced and over 3,400 legal provisions decriminalised. The government will bring a National Data Governance policy, which will simplify the KYC process while anonymising individual data, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said.

Folks, direct tax announcements now! 12:14 Feb 1Fiscal deficit for 2023-24 fixed at 5.9%: FM

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman fixes fiscal deficit for 2023-24 at 5.9 per cent. The Govt will achieve its fiscal deficit target of 4.5% of GDP by

12:12 Feb 1A savings scheme for women

One-time new small saving scheme Mahila Samman Saving Certificate to be made available for 2 years

12:11 Feb 1100 critical infra projects to be launched 100 critical transport infrastructure projects for last-and first-mile connectivity for ports, coal, steel, fertilizer and food grain sectors on priority. This will involve an investment of Rs 75000 crores, including Rs. 15000 crores from private sources, says

Finance Minister. 12:10 Feb 1Budget for senior citizens

Senior citizens savings scheme maximum deposit limit will be enhanced to Rs 30 lakh: FM 12:08 Feb 1Rs 9K crore in corpus will be infused

for MSMEs credit

Credit guarantee for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises - Rs 9000 crores infused in the corpus which will allow additional collateral-free credit of Rs 2 lakh crores; to be effective from 1st April 2023: FM Sitharaman

12:07 Feb 1Govt to launch Dekho Apna Desh initiative to promote domestic tourism

50 tourist destinations will be selected through challenge mode to be developed as a whole package for domestic and international tourism, the FM said. States will be encouraged to set a 'Unity Mall' in State capital or the most popular tourist destination in the state for the promotion and sale of 'One District, One product' and GI products and other handicrafts, she said. READ FULL STORY HERE 12:04 Feb 1

Our columnist Shankkar Aiyar observes on Twitter that the "Government is the largest litigant. Settlement scheme is good but more important is basic reforms to reduce government litigating in courts.' 12:00 Feb 1 Karnataka calling in election year in the state

Finance minister announces Central assistance of Rs 5,300 crores to be given to the Upper Bhadra Project in drought-prone central regions of Karnataka. This will provide sustainable micro-irrigation and filling up of service tanks for drinking

The Upper Bhadra Project envisages lifting of 17.40 thousand million cubic feet (TMC) of water from river Thunga to Bhadra reservoir and 29.90 TMC from Bhadra reservoir for utilisation in Upper Bhadra Project.

The project is crucial for the state as it will help meet the water requirements in the parched regions. 12:00 Feb 1Budget's provisions for the legal sec-

11:59 Feb 1Towards Tribal welfare

\* Aspirational Blocks programme covering 500 blocks has been launched for saturation of govt. programmes; Pradhan Mantri Primitive Vulnerable Tribal Groups Development Mission is being launched to improve conditions of vulnerable tribal

The Mission will saturate these families with basic facilities such as safe housing, clean drinking water, improved access to education, health, nutrition and sustainable livelihood opportunities; Rs. 15,000 crores to implement the Mission in 3 years

More teachers in these regions too
\* In the next three years the Centre will recruit 38,800 teachers and support staff for the 740 Eklavya Model Residential Schools serving 3.5

Lakh tribal students. \* 38,000 teachers and support staff to be recruited in next 3 years, for 740 Eklavya Model Residential Schools serving 3.5 lakh tribal students

11:56 Feb 1Towards a green future To the green growth pillar of the budget.

Programs like green fuel, green energy and many other green initiatives being implemented for efficient use of energy across economic sectors. These measures will help reduce carbon intensity of economy and generate largescale job opportunities, says the Finance Minister

11:54 Feb 1In the age of smartphones, a push for

A National Digital Library for Children and Adolescents will be set up for ensuring that quality books across languages, geographies and genres are made available to kids. States will also set up physical libraries and provide infra to access the library re-

The National Child Trust, Children's Book Trust and others will be encouraged to 'provide and replenish non-curricular titles in regional languages and English, to these libraries.

Also announced, a collaboration with NGOs (like Pratham?) working to promote literacy.

11:50 Feb 1Pan to become common identifier PAN will be used as a common identifier for all digital systems of specified government agencies:

11:49 Feb 1

Emphasis on Teachers' training being reenvisioned. The Finance minister means this will be done through innovative pedagogy, continuous professional development and ICT implementation; District Institutes of Education and Training to be developed as vibrant institutes of excellence. Innovative pedagogy, we are yet to fully learn what that means. We would probably learn better of innovative pedagogy through innovative pedagogy?smiley

11:47 Feb 1 May a thousand more trains run! Capital outlay of Rs 2.40 lakh crore for Railways is the highest ever and about nine times the outlay made in FY 2013-14, says the Finance Minister 11:44 Feb 1100 per cent mechancal desludging to be achieved: FM

11:42 Feb 1A more formal economy? Doubling of EPFO membership to 27 crore and Rs 7,400 crore digital payments through UPI in 2022 proof that the economy is becoming more formalised, says the Finance Minister

11:41 Feb 13 Centres of Excellence for Artificial Intelligence to be set up

Professor Anil Sood says: "Setting up of Centres of Excellence for AI a good step. Let's see the amount of resources that are being allocated."

11:40 Feb 1More on the agriculture front 63,000 Primary Agricultural Credit Societies are being computerized with investment of Rs. 2,516 crores; model bylaws were formulated for PACS, national database is being prepared, with this, massive decentralized storage capacity to be set up, says the Finance Minister.

11:38 Feb 1Expert Comment: An Atmanirbhar GDP approach

Shankkar Aiyar, our columnist, shares this take on the Budget speech till now. "It reveals an Atmanirbhar GDP approach in the light of global

11:38 Feb 1Follow our Twitter coverage of the 11:36 Feb 1Expert Comment: A pleasant surprise on capital expenditure

Professor Anil Sood says: "We were not expecting a 33% increase in GOI capex. The biggest increase is expected in railways. I was expecting an increase of about 12% considering the focus on fiscal consolidation."

The FM announced an enhanced Capex of Rs 10 lakh crore for infra development, which is 3.3 per cent of the GDP.

11:35 Feb 1Budget for tourism Promotion of tourism to be taken up in mission mode with active participation of states and PPPs, says the Finance Minister.

11:34 Feb 1PM's affordable housing scheme gets boost

PM Awas Yojana scheme's outlay hiked by 66 per cent to Rs 79,000 crore: FM

11:33 Feb 1Infra, green growth, financial sector among seven priority areas for Budget FY24: FM The seven priorities of Budget2023 according to Nirmala Sitharaman are:

1. Inclusive development Last-mile connectivity

Infrastructure and investment Unleashing dormant potential

5. Green growth

6. Youth Power

7. Strengthening the financial sector

11:33 Feb 1Capital expenditure and investment outlay increases

Capital investment outlay is being increased steeply for third year in a row to Rs 10 lakh crore 11:31 Feb 1 Agriculture Accelerator Fund Agriculture Accelerator Fund to encourage stting

up of agriculture startups by young entrepreneurs in rural areas. This will bring innovative and affordable solutions for farmers' challenges, will also enhance profitability and bring modern technology, says the FM.

11:29 Feb 1Expert Comment: PM Vikas an interesting programme

Professor Anil Sood, our expert, says: PM Vikas is an interesting programme. Let's see the level allocation and the role the state governments are expected to play. He says investment in decentralised storage capacity a good idea.

11:29 Feb 1Boost to research

Facilities in select ICMR labs will be made available for research by public and private medical faculties: FM

11:22 Feb 11 lakh SHGs formed: FM The National Rural Livelihood Mission has achieved

remarkable success by mobilising rural women into 1 lakh Self-Help Groups, said the FM.
11:21 Feb 1FM on agro credit

The agricultural credit target will be increased to

Rs 20 lakh crores with a focus on animal husbandry, dairy and fisheries. The Govt also plans to set up a massive decentralised storage capacity to help farmers: FM

11:17 Feb 1'A blue print for India@100' Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Wednesday said the Budget for 2023-24 hopes to build on

the foundation of the previous budget and blue print for India @ 100. India has made significant progress in many Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the per capita income has increased to Rs 1.97 lakh, she said.

11:15 Feb 1FM on the vision for 'Amrit Kaal' Our vision for the Amrit Kaal includes a technology-driven and knowledge-based economy, with strong public finances and a robust financial sector. To achieve this 'janbhagidari' (people's solidarity) through 'sabka saath, sabka prayaas' (combined effort) is essential: FM Nirmala Sitharaman 11:12 Feb 1India's growth at 7 per cent in current

fiscal highest among major economies: FM The world has recognized India as a bright star, our growth for current year is estimated at 7%, this is the highest among all major economies, in spite of massive global slowdown caused by pandemic and the war: FM Sitharaman

11:11 Feb 1Indian economy 5th largest in the world: FM

Govt's efforts since 2014 have ensured for all citizens, a better quality of life & life of dignity. The per capita income has more than doubled to Rs 1.97 lakh. In these 9 years, the Indian economy has increased in size from being 10th to 5th largest in the world: FM Sitharaman

11:08 Feb 1This is the first Budget in Amrit Kaal:

"This is the first Budget in Amrit Kaal," FM says. President Droupadi Murmu in her first address to the joint sitting of Parliament on Tuesday had said 'Amrit Kaal', described by the government as the 25-year period culminating in the centenary of India's independence, is the time to build an India which is 'aatmanirbhar' (self reliant) and also fulfils its humanitarian obligations.

11:05 Feb 1Sops being announced A scheme to supply free food grains to all priority households for the next one year under the PM's Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana: FM 11:02 Feb 1Finance Minister begins speech in the

Lok Sabha 10:58 Feb 1India's economy projected to grow at 6.5 per cent in 2023-24: Economic Survey

India's economy is projected to grow 6.5 per cent in 2023-24, compared to 7 per cent this fiscal and 8.7 per cent in 2021-22, according to India's Economic Survey (2022-23), which was tabled by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in the Lok Sabha on Tuesday. It stated that RBI's projection of retail inflation at 6.8 per cent in the current fiscal is neither too high to deter private consumption, nor so low as to weaken inducement to invest.

10:56 Feb 1A view from the right: Rising Sun and falling stars -- Indian economy shines on ahead of budget

Despite the slowdown in the global economy impacted by the pandemic, ongoing war, monetary tightening in advanced countries, India's economy emerges as the fastest growing with a 6.8% projected annual GDP growth rate for FY 23 and is poised to occupy the position of the third largest

economy by 2029, moving up from the 10th position in 2014... Read Vineeta Hariharan's column

10:54 Feb 1

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman with the Budget Papers outside Finance Ministry in New Delhi on Wednesday. (Photo | Parveen Negi, EPS) 10:46 Feb 1Cabinet approves Union Budget for

The Union Cabinet headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday approved the Budget for the fiscal year 2023-24 (April 2023 to March 2024).

10:41 Feb 1FM Nirmala Sitharaman meets President ahead of Budget speech As per established tradition, the Finance Minister

met the President at the Rashtrapati Bhawan be-

fore heading to Parliament. 10:39 Feb 1Here are the key numbers to watch

for in Budget 2023-24 Fiscal Deficit: The budgeted fiscal deficit, which is the difference between the government expenditure and income, for the current fiscal ending March 2023 is 6.4 per cent, against 6.71 per cent in the last fiscal. The number for 2023-24 would be in focus as it is widely expected that the government would open its purse strings in an election year.

Disinvestment/Privatisation: In current fiscal year the budgeted disinvestment target is likely to be missed, like the past four years. It is expected the government would set a realistic target for next fiscal. Capital Expenditure: The government's planned capital expenditure for this fiscal year is budgeted at Rs 7.5 lakh crore, higher than Rs 5.5 lakh crore

in the last fiscal. The government has been pushing infrastructure creation and also incentivising states to step up capex.

Tax Revenue: The Budget had pegged direct and indirect tax mop-up at Rs 14.20 lakh crore and Rs

13.30 lakh crore for current fiscal, taking the total figure to Rs 27.50 lakh crore. The government's tax revenues are expected to overshoot the budget estimates by about Rs 4 lakh crore on buoyant income tax and customs duty. Borrowing: The government's gross borrowing

budget was at Rs 14.31 lakh crore in current financial year ending March 31. The government borrows from the market to fund its fiscal deficit and with tax revenues seeing an uptick, the government has cut its gross borrowings by Rs 10,000 crore to Rs 14.21 lakh crore. The borrowing number would be watched by the market, especially on the back of expected higher capital expenditures to boost growth.

Nominal GDP: India's nominal GDP growth (real GDP plus inflation) in the current fiscal is estimated to be 15.4 per cent. The numbers for next fiscal would be lower as the inflation has come down. The Budget is expected to give an outline on the nominal GDP growth numbers. Real GDP growth in current fiscal is projected at 7 per cent and come down to 6-6.5 per cent in the next. 10:25 Feb 1India shouldn't be looking at 8-9%

GDP growth at this point, says CEA India shouldn't be looking at 8-9% GDP growth at this point because the difference between the first decade and now is that the global economy was booming then and now it is not, said V Anantha Nageswaran, chief economic advisor, on Tuesday in a press conference on Economic Survey 2023.

### **Budget Favors Deprived;PM**

Continued from page-1

This budget, Shri Modi continued, will give an unprecedented expansion to Green Growth, Green Economy, Green Infrastructure, and Green Jobs for a Sustainable Future. "In the budget, we have laid a lot of emphasis on technology and the new economy. Aspirational India of today wants modern infrastructure in every field like road, rail, metro, port, and waterways. Compared to 2014, investment in infrastructure has increased by more than 400 percent", the Prime Minister said as he underlined the unprecedented investment of ten lakh crores on infrastructure that will give new energy and speed to India's development. He informed that these investments will create new employment opportunities for the youth, thereby providing new income opportunities to a large population.

The Prime Minister also touched upon the Ease of Doing Business which is taken forward through the campaign of credit support and reforms for industries. "An additional loan guarantee of Rs 2 lakh crore has been arranged for MSMEs", the Prime Minister informed as he noted that increasing the limit of presumptive tax will help MSMEs to grow. He also added that a new arrangement has been made for timely payments by big companies to MSMEs.

The Prime Minister underlined the potential of the middle class in realizing the dreams of 2047. The Prime Minister informed that in order to empower the middle class, the government has taken many significant decisions in the past years that have ensured Ease of Living. He highlighted the reduction in tax rates as well as the simplification, transparency and speeding up of the processes. "Our government that always stood with the middle class has given huge tax relief to them", the Prime Minister concluded.

**─**Popular people's Daily of Odisha **•** 

India seek tri-series title going into Women's T20 World Cup

### Saudi Arabian soccer influence grows by winning seat on FIFA Council

MANAMA: Saudi six Asian soccer officials Arabia added to its influence in global soccer Wednesday, winning a

seat on FIFA's ruling

Council before being set

to be confirmed as host

of the 2027 Asian Cup.

The election win at the

Confederation's annual

meeting followed

Cristiano Ronaldo mov-

ing last month to play in

the Saudi league and

longstanding specula-

tion about a likely bid to

host the World Cup in

Saudi soccer federation

2030 or 2034.

president

Football

Yasser

Asian

elected by AFC members to represent them on FIFA's decision-

making council through

2027. Saudi Arabia is

the only candidate to

host the Asian champi-

Oatar federation presi-

dent Sheikh Hamad Al

Thani, whose country

hosts the Asian Cup

next January, also was

elected to a FIFA posi-

tion for the first time.

Sheikh Hamad was

picked by 40 of the 45

voting federations and

The 37-member FIFA

Council is chaired by the

Almisehal got 35.

onship that year.

governing body's president Gianni Infantino, who had a front-row seat Wednesday to the

election meeting in

The election results con-

firmed Saudi Arabia and

Qatar at the heart of

Asian soccer politics

with the AFC presi-

dency scheduled to be

AFC president Shaikh

Salman bin Ebrahim Al

Khalifa was reelected

Wednesday to a final

four-year term in a job

he has held since 2013.

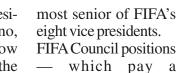
He is also formally No.

2 to Infantino as the

acclamation

vacant in 2027.

Bahrain.



which pay a \$250,000 salary in Zurich—were also won by Japan's Kohzo Tashima and Mariano Araneta of the Philippines, who retained their seats, and newcomer Hamidin Bin Mohd Amin, the Malaysian soccer federation leader.

Losing candidates for the FIFA seats were Du Zhaocai from China and South Korea's Chung Mong-Gyu, a scion of the Hyundai-owning family who lost his seat in 2019.

AFC members were also voting for a FIFA seat protected for a woman. The candidates were from Laos and Bangladesh.

Later in the meeting, the Saudi bid to host the 2027 Asian Cup was due to be confirmed unopposed. India withdrew its bid in DecemEAST LONDON: With the Women's T20 World Cup days away, India will look to conclude the final leg of their preparations with a win in the triseries final against South Africa here on Thurs-

India, following their 1-4 series loss to Australia at home, have bounced back with three wins in the tri-series and would be hoping to end the tournament on a high before they enter the 10-team global competition beginning on February 10. India had got the better of South Africa in the triseries opener before their repeat league fixture was washed out. India beat West Indies twice to enter the final. However, in the World Cup, India's main challenge will be to outsmart the likes of England and Australia.

# British High Commission and the Calcutta Sports Journalist Club ties up for promoting sports

Kolkata (KCN, Abhijit Seth): The British High Commission in association with the Calcutta Sports Journalist Club recently

Commissioner of Great Britain Christiana Scott, British Deputy High Commissioner Nick Lowe and Prabir Roy Chowdhury,



Abhijit Adhya have contributed photos for the calendar. The sports calendar is a unique collaboration between the British High Commission and the Calcutta Sports Journalist Club, aimed at promoting sports in both the countries.



presented the sports calendar of Great Britain and India at the Calcutta Sports Journalist Club tent in Calcutta with the aim of promoting sports. The event was graced by the presence of the Deputy High

# The achivement of Odisha Junior Kyorugi & Poomsae Taekkwondo championship in National Championship



Girls Team won Runners Up Trophy in Kyorugi event at Junior National Taekwondo Championship in the recently concluded 39th National Kyorugi & 12th National Poomsae Taekwondo Championship 2023 held at Bareilly, Uttar Pradesh.

Odisha Junior Kyorugi & Poomsae Taekwondo Team consisting of 31 participants and 11 Officials participated in said tournaments sent by Odisha Taekwondo Association.

The Championship was organized by Taekwondo Federation of India and Uttar Pradesh Taekwondo Association jointly.

under 63kg.Boys:only Piyush Prasad Sarangi won Bronze over 78kg in Kyorugi event.

Sunayana Meher, Manisha Sahu, Sulagna Mishra won GOLD under Team Female



Poomsae.

Ghadei, Manju Pattajoshi.

Santosh Srirangam, President Byomokesh A v i l a s h Prasad, Treasurer of OTA appreciated the performance of the team and welcomed the results.

Mr. Manmohan Bhanja, General Secretary of OTA declared the Cash Award for Medalists, Gold Medalist will be awarded 10000/-,Silver Medalist-7000/- and Bronze

Medalist -5000/- and he further said there will be a proper facilitation for the team by Odisha Taekwondo Association once they reach back.



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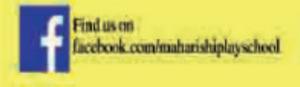
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### Puri (KCN): Odisha Junior Taekwondo Team Bronze Medal under 52kg, Manisha Sahu won won Runners up Trophy in Poomsae event & Bronze under 44kg, Swapna Bhoi won Bronze

Meanwhile Ankita Patra & Jagabandhu Sahoo won Bronze under Individual Poomsae event, Ankita Patra & Somya Pratap Nayak won Silver under Pair Poomsae, Jagabandhu Sahoo, Charsun Mohapattra, B, Gourav won Silver Medal under Team Male Poomsae and



The team was led by Coaches Milu Mahapatra, Ashok Sethi, Biswajeet Nayay, Basoo Nayak, Anjit Kumar Sahoo and Manager Nrusingha Singha, Upendra

Odisha Junior Kyorugi Girls : Suman Suar won Gold in Female under 68kg, Apurba Arya won Gold over 68kg,Priyanka Badajena won

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