

Popular singer & Music teacher no more

Chandikhole (KCN): Popular singer and music teacher of



Kshetraphal Village is no more. He has

UP court rejects bail plea of Samajwadi Party MLA Nahid Hasan

MUZAFFARNAGAR (KCN): A special court in Kairana in Uttar Pradesh on Tuesday rejected the bail plea of Samajwadi Party MLA Nahid Hasan, arrested last week in a case under the stringent Gangsters Act.

Hasan, who was arrested on January 15, has filed his nomination from the Kairana assembly constituency on a Samajwadi Party ticket for the February 10 election.

MP/MLA special court judge Subodh Singh said there was no case for bail and rejected Hasan's plea. Hasan's lawyer said they would move the high court soon seeking his bail.

According to government lawyer Ashok Pundhir, the legislator was sent to 14-day judicial custody by a court in Kairana in Shamli district on January 15.

According to police, 40 people, including Hasan, were booked last year.

been suffering from cancer for the last few years. He was quite popular as singer and music teacher. He had given voice in many popular odia songs. He is survived by his wife, children and parents. Many eminent persons have condoled his sad departure. His body was taken in a procession before cremated in his village crematorium.

UK plan to curb protests faces opposition in Parliament

LONDON(KCN): Britain's Conservative government has suffered a setback in Parliament in its attempt to give authorities stronger powers to curb peaceful but disruptive protests. Parliament's upper chamber, the House of Lords, late Monday rejected some of the most contentious

provisions in the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Bill. The defeated measures would give police officers the right to stop and search people at demonstrations without suspicion, allow courts to bar named individuals from attending protests and empower police to curb

protests that are judged to be too



noisy. Home Office Minis-

ter Susan Williams said the bill — tar-



geted at environmentalists who have

blocked roads and glued themselves to commuter trains to protest climate change — protected the "law-abiding majority" from "the highly disruptive tactics employed by a small number of people."

But civil liberties groups say the pro-

CONTINUED ON: P-7

Smt Tilotama kar passes away

Soro(KCN) : Smt Tilotama Kar of Balbhadrapur Sasan,



Anantpur, Soro passed away. She is survived by her husband, son & daughter. She was a loving, caring and spiritual woman. Many eminent persons have condoled her sad demise. Her husband Mr Ashok Kumar Kar is a TM Teacher and presently Administrator of Maharishi Public School, Baripada.

US Airlines again warn of potential disruption from 5G rollout

WASHINGTON(KCN): The airline industry is raising the stakes in a showdown with AT&T and Verizon



over plans to launch a new 5G wireless service this week, warning that thousands of flights could be grounded or delayed if the rollout takes place

CONTINUED ON: P-7

Had lots of fight with Rahul in childhood: Priyanka



LUCKNOW(KCN): She had lots of fight with her brother Rahul in childhood and a great democracy exits in her family where everyone contributes to decision-making, said Congress general secretary Priyanka

Gandhi Vadra during a Facebook live on Tuesday. Responding to questions during the interaction, Priyanka said after the assassination of her grandmother, she had her education at home. "In this phase of lone-

ness, we (she and Rahul Gandhi) had lots of fight and friendship. If any outsider came and fought, we used to fight as a team," she said. Answering another question, she said there is "bhayanak

lokanttra" in her family with all members contributing to decision-making on big as well as small matters. Referring to her children seeking help in their assignments, Priyanka said she helps their friends as well.

Designer/Entrepreneur Sumit Saurabh and Fashion Influencer Ankita Kochhar set to Welcome their first Baby

New Delhi (KCN): One of the leading fashion & lifestyle influencers on social media, Ankita Kochhar and one of the fastest-growing entrepreneurs in Delhi, Sumit Saurabh are going to be mum and dad! Ankita is pregnant

Ankita is a young blogger and trend-setter on social media. She showcases a variety of content on her social media feed as well as her website, kochharsisters.com. On the other hand, Sumit is the Founder & Creative Head of Desizn Circle, where he mentors students who aspire to build a career in the field of design. Together, they represent the spirit of

Delhi based millennial parents shares game changing parenting tips and their experience of having twins in Pandemic"

young India, and are an inspiration to millions of Indian youngsters who aren't just satisfied with a 9-to-5 routine. Now with their first baby on its way, the incredible journey of parenthood has just begun for them. Also, we shall eagerly await pregnancy fashion and tips from the power-couple. We wish them all the best for this roller-coaster ride to becoming parents to a beautiful blessing from the God. The life of twin's parents is not easy, and juggling home and work responsibilities keeps them on their toes. Despite that, many are able to manage both and excel. The equation, however, has changed completely after the Covid-19 outbreak. The pandemic-induced lockdown has paved the way for



with their first child and the couple shared the good news with their followers on Instagram recently with a caption and hashtag #An-Mit, a playful mix of their first names. Sharing the news on her Instagram handle, ankitakochhar1612, Ankita and Sumit wrote, "Shared joy is double joy!! So here, I share the very important and endearing milestone of my life!!! Yes!!! It's a pregnancy announcement. A great adventure has begun."

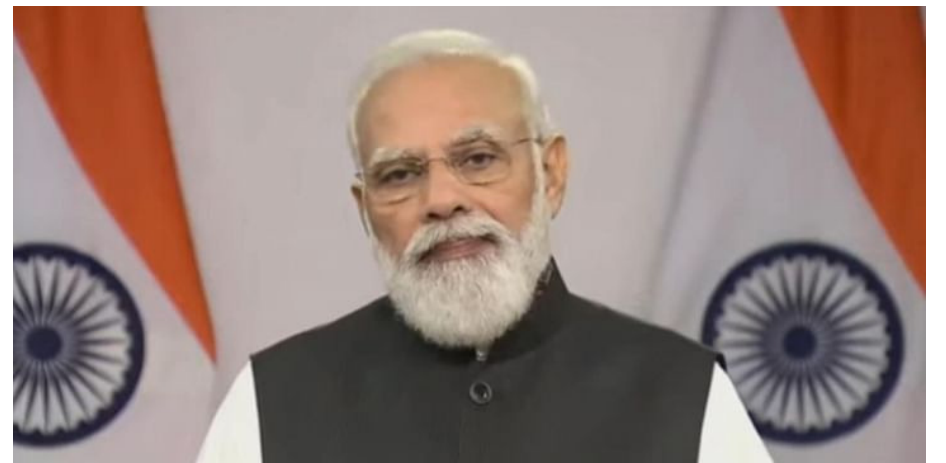
PM Modi says love he has got from Varanasi unprecedented

VARANASI(KCN): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday said though he did not have the fortune to be born in Varanasi, he was able to associate himself with the holy city with the blessings of Lord Mahadev. Modi, who represents Varanasi in Lok Sabha, made the remarks during an interaction with BJP workers of his parliamentary constituency in Uttar Pradesh. Speaking to party worker Ashutosh Sharma, Modi said, "There is Mahadev in your name. Due to the blessings of Mahadev, I have been able to have the honour of associating myself with Varanasi. I did not have the honour of being born in Varanasi, but have the honour of being associated with Varanasi. The love that I have got from

Varanasi is unprecedented." Lord Shiva is also called Mahadev and Ashutosh by devotees. Sharma told the

fast pace." Interacting with another party worker, Seema Kumari, the prime minister spoke in Bhojpur dialect and said, "The sup-

have benefitted from various welfare schemes of the government. Modi subsequently said, "You are saying that I have done these



prime minister how new flyovers have ensured smooth movement of vehicles in the city and reduced traffic jams. To this, Modi said, "Development happens where there is good connectivity. It has been our efforts that the heritage of the city should be preserved and development ensured at a

port of sisters like you is my real power. If you are happy, then your family is happy, and the country is also happy." "Is the 'maatrishkati' (women) feeling happy?" Modi asked, to which Seema Kumari responded that they are feeling very much happy. Seema Kumari said people in her village

things. I say that the mothers and sisters of the country have taken a wise decision and gave us an opportunity to serve (the people), hence these things could be done. In the last seven years, our effort has been to see that the dignity of women increases." He also asked every

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National a webinar on the foundation day of Anandam Foundation and Swami Vivekananda Jayanti

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Anandam Foundation has organized a webinar on 12 January to commemorate the Foundation day of the socio-spiritual organization 'Anandam Foundation' and Swami Vivekananda

ject. The program started with Shanti path by Shubhangi Upadhyay Social Media Coordinator of Anandam Foundation. After this, the General Secretary of the organization, Shri Manoj

the organisation is taking forward all the social works. In his statement, Professor K.G. Suresh said that at a time when there is darkness all around, then the path shown by Swami Vivekananda

Professor K.G. Suresh said that one should not wait for a particular date to know and share the ideas, principles and principles of Swami Vivekananda, but every day is special and everyone needs to take initiative at their own level. In the program, Shubhangi Upadhyay and Suman Dabas presented the song in Sanskrit and Hindi. Delhi University Professor Dr. Nityanand Agasti said during the vote of thanks that despite the challenges posed by Corona, more than 65 people from across the country attended this webinar. It shows the commitment of the people towards the principles and things of Swami Vivekananda. The program was conducted by senior journalist Prabhat Upadhyay.



Jayanti. The theme of this webinar was "Swami Vivekananda ki Bharat Bhakti". Professor K.G. Suresh(Vice Chancellor of Makhantal Chaturvedi National Journalism University, Bhopal) the keynote speaker of the program and, shared his views on this sub-

Das ji explained the functions and purpose of the foundation in detail to the people present in the webinar. He said that the foundation of the foundation was laid last year during the Corona period itself. Following the step of nation building through man making,

leads to light. Swami Vivekananda always talked about awakening the youth. At present, India has the largest number of youth in the whole world. If this youth power is used in the right direction, then the progress of the country can be taken to greater heights.

Is your cloth mask good enough to keep COVID at bay? Think twice

Kolkata (KCN): The COVID-19 pandemic has seen a resurgence recently and if the last two years have taught us anything, it is to not take the coronavirus for granted. And while face masks have become an essential in the two-year old pandemic, there are many who are still aren't entirely aware of the right kind of masks. Some of these questions have gained currency yet again following the emergence of Omicron, a variant which is highly transmissible. Let's take a quick look at right masks that can help keep Omicron at bay and what are the effective mask wearing etiquette that needs to be followed. Cloth + Surgical Mask or an N95/FFP2 - Explaining the science: Let's begin by understanding the differences between cloth masks, surgical masks and respirators. A cloth mask is a loose-fitting mask that creates a physical barrier between the mouth and nose of the wearer and potential contaminants in the immediate environment. A surgical mask is a 3-ply mask meant to be used by medical personnel during procedures. N95 respira-

tors, on the other hand, are personal protective equipment that protect the wearer from airborne particles and aerosols from entering the respiratory system. The N95/FFP2 ranks as a high barrier to transmission of flu, infection, and inevitable air-borne viruses. Rigorously tested for several transmission conditions, N95/FFP2 masks usually use five-layers with electrostatically charged melt-blown filters that provide adequate protection from airborne particulates aerosols as small as 0.3 microns. This means that it has the power to filter out most bacterial, viral and particulate aerosols. Such masks are designed to give the optimum fit which means leakage from the sides of the mask are also minimized. Recent findings of United States-based American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists (ACGIH) shows that N95 mask gives fifty-five times longer protection from transmission of infection between two people wearing N95 masks as compared to two people wearing cloth masks. ACGIH is focused on occupational and en-

vironmental health and safety in industries. The advanced construct of a good quality BIS approved FFP2 mask like Savlon which is comparable to an N95 mask has a splash resistant outer layer, a sweat or moisture resistant inner layer and one or more electrostatically charged melt-blown filter layers. Electrostatically charged Melt Blown filters enhance the masks' ability to trap infectious aerosols and is the differentiator when it comes to achieving high levels of filtration while also providing for relative ease of breathing. Proper usage: Studies from the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) have found that a surgical mask blocked 59% of respiratory aerosols from a cough, whereas a three-layer cotton mask blocked 51% of these aerosols, compared to an N95 mask which blocked up to 95% of the aerosols. Having understood the benefits, we should also be aware of the right manner of usage for respirators. Masks should be worn cautiously, when outdoors or overcrowded in-

doors, ensuring that it covers the nose and the mouth and minimizes any gaps. If you are wearing a FFP2 or N-95 mask, double masking must be avoided. Instead, one can look at wearing a multi-layered N-95 mask such as Savlon FFP2 S Mask that uses an advanced five-layer filtration system with electrostatically charged melt-blown filters which enhances its filtering ability. Also, hand hygiene comes into the picture before wearing a mask and after removing it, and always dispose responsibly as per instructions on pack. We should be aware that this not only act as a preventive facial respirator, but it has also become an important aspect towards a healthy lifestyle. Before we go, a quick reminder - While wearing masks, any masks -

1. Ensure hand-hygiene before wearing and after removing mask
2. Ensure best fit and tight seal for full protection - with no gaps along the sides.
3. Ensure coverage from the ridge of your nose down to under your chin
4. Avoid repeatedly touching or adjusting your mask

Silver Jubilee of Vivekananda Kendra & Vivekananda Kendra Rock Memorial held

Kolkata(KCN):The concluding Rock programme of 50th Pranta presented reminisces.written by



Foundatin year of Vivekananda Kendra & Vivekananda Rock Memorial has observed as Eka Bharat Vijaya Bharat (EBVB). Programme was held online in the presence of many distinguished people. The Chief Speaker was Professor Dr N.k.Chakraborty,Vice Chancellor of National University of Judicial Sciences (NUJS). Dr.Janardan Ghosh Swadhyay Pramukh of Paschimbanga

Ma.Dr. Laxmi Kumari Didi . The programme started with 3 Omkars and Shantipath by Sarita Sehgal didi. Welcome address was delivered by Sah Sanchalak Ma. N i r m a l y a Bhattacharya, Geet by Susri Priyamvada Didi, Vivekbani by Debdatta Das, Shantimantra by Sri Pradeep Jayaswal and sanchalana by Malabika Chatterjee. The number of attendance was 113.

Rourkela wins 1 Million USD in the Bloomberg-2021 Global Mayors Challenge

Rourkela(KCN): Smartcity Rourkela ranks among the Top 15 Cities of the world under the Bloomberg Global Mayors Challenge 2021. This makes the city eligible for a grant of USD 1 Million from Bloomberg Philanthropies and technical assistance to carry out the innovation over the next 3 years. Rourkela, one of the five Municipal Corporations and a leading industrial town of Odisha, is the only Indian city to make the honour. Under Global Mayors Challenge, Rourkela has developed a sustainable model which augments the income of women and small time traders of the city while promoting the use of technology. As part of the project, Rourkela Municipal Corporation (RMC) has developed a cold storage facility at the local Veer Surendra Sai (VSS) Market in partnership with a NIT Rourkela based startup and managed by Women self help group members. With this solution, the local farmers and fruit traders have been able to enhance their income by preserving their produce and preventing any wastage. In addition, fresh vegetables and fruits are delivered to people's doorsteps, especially in times of COVID19. All of this is being managed by members of women self help groups using mobile apps. While developing the ecosystem and helping all the stakeholders, the model helps the women largely in augmenting their livelihoods. Dr. Subhankar Mohaptra, Commissioner, Rourkela Municipal Corporation (RMC) expressed his happiness after winning the challenge. He appreciated the role of team RMC, Technical Partner Koel Fresh, research students and alumnus of NIT Rourkela who have shown commendable effort in the last 6 months. "Through everyone's contribution, Rourkela has clinched the Top 15 position in the world. The role of the women who manage the show is also worth celebrating. The prestigious Bloomberg Philanthropies Global Mayors Challenge 2021 award will not only help us to take the innovation forward but also inspire all stakeholders", shares Dr. Mohaptra. "I congratulate Team RMC and all the stakeholders for this global recognition. With its uniqueness, the project immensely helps women SHGs, small vegetable and fruit vendors of

Making Trade Policy Inclusive (online)

Kolkata (KCN): Speaking to the call for making international trade and trade policy choices work for development, the Institute of Development Studies, InterAnalysis and the UK Trade Policy Observatory at the University of Sussex bring together a com-

economy and development issues. Be better equipped to analyse sources of data and evidence. Understand the links between trade, poverty, and gender; and, trade, human rights, and sustainability. Have gained experience of analysing specific cases on trade in



prehensive training course to advance understanding of inclusion in international trade and trade policy - covering poverty, gender, human rights, sustainability and power asymmetries. Participants will gain the skills to engage with and shape trade and trade policy with an inclusive development agenda at the core. At the end of the course participants will: Have a critical understanding of inclusive trade; key aspects of inclusion, actors, organisations and issues in trade and development. Be able to apply conceptual and analytical tools to analyse trade policy, political

agriculture, services and digital trade. Lectures and sessions will be delivered by trade and development experts. The course will run over four weeks starting Thursday 3 March and finishing on Thursday 24 March - it will require four to six hours of participant time per week. Pre-recorded sessions will allow for directed learning. And live sessions will take place on Thursdays between 12.00pm and 14.00pm UK GMT,(5.30 pm to 7.30 pm IST). Participants will be assigned a course facilitator and to a small study group and be able to keep the conversation going via a dedicated online channel throughout the course.

Rourkela while delivering a smart service at the doorstep of the people. Moreover, this sustainable idea also promotes technology and aims to adopt eco friendly energy which are the key goals for the future generation", says Nikhil Pavan Kalyan, Collector & DM Sundargarh while addressing the press. "We are very much hopeful that such solution would be scaled up in various parts of India and Rourkela city would act as a role model for many other cities. We, thank the entire team from Bloomberg philanthropies for giving us such a wonderful platform to showcase our city's potential", says RMC Commissioner Dr. Subhankar Mohapatra, on the occasion. "As the world works to address the profound public health and economic effects of the ongoing pandemic, cities can implement innovative ideas at a pace that national governments simply can't match," said Michael R. Bloomberg, founder of Bloomberg Philanthropies and Bloomberg L.P. and 108th Mayor of New York City. Our fifteen winners offer bold, achievable plans to improve health, reduce unemployment, empower women, and more. Collectively, they have the potential to improve millions of their residents' lives - and the most successful solutions will inspire cities around the world to embrace them." "The Mayors Challenge always pushes mayors to take big ideas and bring them to life and was vitally important as we emerged from the worst year of the pandemic" said James Anderson, who leads the Government Innovation program at Bloomberg Philanthropies. Now these cities will pivot to the hard work ahead to implement these projects and collect lessons learned to help other cities adopt and spread their ideas. Notably, 99 countries from around the world took part in the Global Mayors Challenge held in June 2021. At a critical time such as the COVID pandemic, the competition focused on proposals from 630 cities on economic recovery and overall growth, health and welfare, climate and environment, and good governance and equality. Of these, 50 cities, including Rourkela, were finalists among proposals for innovative and modern projects. The list also included the city of Pune in the first leg of the challenge. Currently, Rourkela is the only city from India to have made the cut among top 15 cities globally.

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Phenomenal experience: Riteish Deshmukh praises Anil Kapoor, Anurag Kashyap's 'AK vs AK'

NEW DELHI(K-CN): Actor Riteish Deshmukh lauded Vikramaditya Motwane's 'AK vs AK' and termed the

blown!!! #AKvsAK is a phenomenal experience - @VikramMotwane take a bow my friend," tweeted

only you could do this, you are pure gold in this film but @HarshKapoor_has outdone your entire performance in one

movie star and a film director who get into a public spat, following which the director retaliates by kidnapping the actor's



Netflix based film "a phenomenal experience". Deshmukh took to Twitter to share a poster of the movie, which features Anurag Kashyap and Anil Kapoor in lead roles. "Mind has been

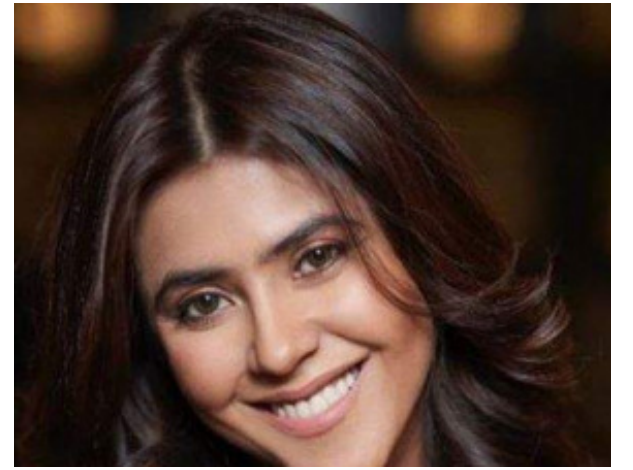
Deshmukh. He then went on to heap praise on Kashyap, Kapoor, and his actor son Harshvardhan Kapoor who has a cameo in the film. "@anuragkashyap72 how good are you, @AnilKapoor Sir,

scene," the 'Housefull' actor's tweet further read. While Kapoor essays the role of a yesterday actor, Kashyap plays the role of a disgraced film director in the film. 'AK vs AK,' revolves around the story of a

daughter and films the search for her in real-time. The Netflix India Original film was released on the platform on December 24, which also happens to be Anil Kapoor's birthday.

SC grants Ekta Kapoor interim protection from arrest in FIR over web series

NEW DELHI(K-CN): The Supreme Court granted interim protection to Ekta Kapoor.



preme Court on Thursday granted interim protection from arrest to TV producer Ekta Kapoor in an FIR against her for alleged objectionable content in her web series "XXX season 2". A bench headed by Chief Justice SA Bobde granted in-

terim protection to Ekta Kapoor. She had moved the apex court after the Indore bench of the Madhya Pradesh High Court, in November this year, dismissed her petition seeking that a case filed against her for alleged objectionable content in web series "XXX season 2" be quashed. The High Court had dismissed a petition of Kapoor seeking quashing of a case registered against her for alleged obscenity in a web series produced by her. The complainant had alleged an episode of the series 'XXX uncensored' was obscene and caused annoyance to him, hurt his religious feelings and dishonored the Army. The case was registered at the Annapurna police station, Indore, under Sections 294 (Obscene acts and songs), 298 and 34 (Acts done by several persons in furtherance of common intention) of the India Penal Code and various relevant sections of the IT Act and the State Emblem Act.

Appealing to fans' inner writers, Anupam Kher offers autographed book



NEW DELHI: Asking his fans to rejuvenate their inner writers, veteran actor Anupam Kher, offered

them to send his autographed book 'Your Best Day is Today' on Tuesday. Kher hopped on to Twitter and shared a

candid picture of him. Calling on his fans to give a suitable caption for the picture, he wrote "Mujhe meri ye tasveer pasand hai. (I

like this picture of mine) I will send an autographed copy of my latest book

#YourBestDayIsToday to the person whose caption for this pic I like the most!" Adding to the caption, he noted "Hindi or English - apka caption kisi bhi bhasha me chalega! Chaliye! Apne andar ke lekhak ko jagaiye!! (your caption will go in any language! Let's go! Wake up your inner writer,) with Hibiscus smiling face and heart-shaped smile emoticon.

Warner Bros announces Chocolate Factory prequel titled 'Wonka' to release on March 17, 2023

(GNS Bureau) Moving ahead with

The project, which has a script from

Based on Roald Dahl's popular



"Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" prequel, titled "Wonka", Warner Bros has declared the release date of movie. As per media reports, Paul King of "Paddington" fame will tackle the movie, which will debut in theatres on March 17, 2023.

Simon Rich, will follow "a young Willy Wonka and his adventures prior to opening the world's most famous chocolate factory." David Heyman, whose credits includes the "Harry Potter" franchise and "Paddington", is backing the movie.

children's book "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory", the classic story follows a poor boy named Charlie, who is one of five youngsters to win a golden ticket to tour the world-renowned, yet highly secretive, chocolate factory run by Willy Wonka.

Katrina's sister Isabelle Kaif to feature opposite Pulkit Samrat in 'Suswagatam Khushaamadeed'

(GNS Bureau) Isabelle Kaif to feature opposite Pulkit Samrat in Suswagatam Khushaamadeed. Its a social entertainer with an

sister of actress Katrina Kaif, she took to Instagram to announce her upcoming project. She wrote, "Namaste - Aadaab Ab hogi

our chemistry is quite dhamakedaar. People on the set say that we look like a patakha together. Isabelle has brought fresh



underlying message on social harmony. In this film, Pulkit will essay the role of a Delhi boy, Aman, with Isabelle playing the role of Noor who hails from the city of Agra. Isabelle Kaif is a

jaldi aapse mulaqaat! So excited to share with you guys the first look of Suswagatam Khushaamadeed." Actor Pulkit Samrat said that, "I must say that

energy on the set. She's extremely hard-working and has impressed everyone on the set. She is stunning and brings a streak of innocence to her character. She has left me mesmerised."

Why is 2022 of special significance for the congenial relations between India and Japan?

The current year 2022 is a monumental milestone for the amicable relation between India and Japan. Positive diplomatic relations between the two nations were established in 1950. Apart from the teachings of Lord Buddha, the messages of peace, non-violence, and brotherhood unite the spirits of both countries.



Apart from the religion of Buddhism, Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore is also held in high regard and respect in Japan. Along with this, Tokyo University was the first foreign institute to incorporate the study of Hindi in its academic curriculum in the year 1908. Even during India's freedom struggle, the Imperial Army of Japan assisted the legendary freedom fighter, Subhash Chandra Bose's, Azad Hind Fauj which proved to be a pivotal moment in India's freedom struggle. In this manner, several instances bring India and Japan closer. Japan is not one of those countries that conspire of exploiting others while building trade relations with them. Japan has openly assisted India in funding various projects during the last 70 years. The upcoming bullet train project in India has been made a reality solely due to the aid of Japan. Japan is providing the necessary funding to India for the Mumbai-Ahmedabad bullet train project at a comparatively lower interest rate than the rate at which they loan to other countries. In addition, the repayment period of the loan has been extended to 50 years instead of the usual 25 years. The Japanese company Japan International Cooperation Agency has extended a helping hand to accelerate the construction of the fourth phase of Delhi Metro Rail Corporation, which is facing severe financial trouble. It has agreed to provide

financial assistance for the construction of the tracks and the necessary process has also started in this regard.

It is believed that as soon as the necessary financial help is received, the construction work of the fourth phase of Delhi Metro will accelerate. Delhi Metro, which was suddenly

R.K. Sinha

of Lord Buddha was dedicated to eliminating injustice from society. His compassionate spirit has brought him to the hearts of crores of people around the world. These Japanese also embrace the ways of Indian culture, they are economical and like Indians, they value

Gautam Buddha. It is of belief, that the life of Lord Buddha was dedicated to eliminating injustice from society. His compassionate spirit has brought him to the hearts of crores of people around the world. These Japanese also embrace the ways of Indian culture, they are economical and like Indians, they value

Vishwa Shanti Stupa located in the capital's Indraprastha Park. Katsu San Ji is predominantly a Japanese resident. She first came to India in 1956, intending to understand India and Buddhism closely. After arriving, she decided to settle here. She considers India to be the spiritual guru of the world. Katsu San Ji can speak fluent Hindi. She learned Hindi from the famous litterateur Kakasaheb Kalekar. She has been a permanent part of the audience of the all-religion prayer meetings organized by the government in the capital. She will also participate in the prayer meeting to be held at Rajghat on Martyr's Day



forced to halt its operations from 22nd March 2020 due to the outbreak of Coronavirus, commenced its functioning on 7th September 2020. However, in the meantime, it had already incurred a loss of about Rs. 1500 crores. There was an obvious financial problem with funding the new project. Dozens of Japanese companies have invested billions of rupees in India, but none of them have been ever accused in a manner that questions their intentions. Thousands of Japanese citizens are contributing towards the development of India by working in Delhi, Mumbai, Gurugram, Noida, etc. Japanese citizens living in India are very optimistic about India's bright and prosperous future. These Japanese work in the offices and factories of about two dozen Japanese companies located in different parts of India, including Honda CL Car, Honda Motorcycle, Maruti, Fuji Photo Films, Denso Sales Limited, and Daikin Air Conditioning to name a few. They are partisans of Lord Buddha, and they revere India because it is the land of

the institution of joint family. If some Japanese live close to each other, then they prefer to travel to the office together by carpool. So it can be said that generally, the morals of both the countries are similar.

It is plain as day that Japan elevates India to the status of a special friend. There are also the blessings of Lord Gautam Buddha in strengthening this connection. That is why Japan is closer to India on an emotional and spiritual level. Every year thousands of Buddhist pilgrims come to India from Japan. They usually visit Bodhgaya, Rajgir, Sarnath, and Varanasi. Japanese tourists visiting Bodh Gaya also visit Sarnath. Gautam Buddha delivered his first sermon after attaining enlightenment at Sarnath. The attraction of Buddhist followers towards India, the birthplace of Gautam Buddha, is natural and understandable. The Bodh Gaya, Rajgir, and Nalanda Circuit are considered some of the most important tourist destinations in the country.

Katsu San Ji arranges the proceedings of the institution of joint family. If some Japanese live close to each other, then they prefer to travel to the office together by carpool. So it can be said that generally, the morals of both the countries are similar.

While talking about Indo-Japanese relations, the Chinese point of view cannot be ignored. Taro Aso visited India in 2006 as the Deputy Prime Minister of Japan. At that time, he had stated that for over 1500 years in the past, there is no proof in history that signifies that their relationship with China has been stable or cordial. Meanwhile, the relations between India and China also cannot be ignored. China has forcibly occupied thousands of acres of land in India. The border dispute between India and China doesn't appear to be resolved anytime soon as China's policy has neither been fair nor transparent. China has also maintained friendly relations with India's biggest enemy, Pakistan. Therefore, India's and Japan's stances regarding China are almost identical.

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

Dissecting the Unusual Biology of the SARS-CoV-2 Delta Variant

SARS-CoV-2 is fitter than ever. Its latest incarnation, the Delta (or B.1.617.2) variant, is the fastest-spreading form of the virus yet. First identified in India, which it swept through killing hundreds of thousands this spring, Delta has swiftly become the most dominant



coronavirus variant worldwide. While it's already driving rapid increases in hospitalizations and deaths—overwhelmingly in unvaccinated populations—simply by virtue of being more transmissible, it may also cause more severe disease than some previously dominating SARS-CoV-2 variants. Meanwhile, emerging data suggest that when vaccinated people become infected with the Delta variant and develop symptoms—which, although increasing in frequency, remains exceedingly rare, officials report—they might be as contagious as unvaccinated infected people. Those findings motivated the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to recommend in late July that in places with high transmission of the virus, even fully vaccinated people should wear masks indoors.

The Delta variant's emergence isn't a shock to many researchers; spreading throughout the globe for a year and a half, SARS-CoV-2 was destined to adapt to humans and become better at infecting them. The mystery remains, however, exactly how Delta affects the human body differently than other variants. A flurry of recent research, little of which has undergone peer review, is yielding some clues—on how the Delta variant might produce greater amounts of virus in people's airways, for instance, which could make it more transmissible, and how it could cause more severe disease.

Scientists are also uncovering cause for hope. Although the antibodies induced by vaccines available in the US are slightly less effective against the Delta variant, the shots are largely still powerful protectors against severe cases of COVID-19. And according to preliminary data, "breakthrough" infections in vaccinated people resolve faster than in unvaccinated people.

"We've already seen a variety of other variants that have some—but maybe not all—of the same characteristics that Delta has," such as increased transmission and a slight reduction in the effectiveness of vaccine-induced antibodies, says Richard Kennedy, an immunologist at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota. "None of those are really a sur-

prise. This [variant] just seems to have more of all of those."

What makes Delta more transmissible? Measuring SARS-CoV-2's transmissibility in the real world is notoriously difficult as human behavior is continuously changing, notes virologist Paul Bieniasz of Rockefeller University, but the fact that the Delta variant has so quickly displaced its dominating predecessor Alpha (B.1.1.7) is convincing evidence that it's able to spread more rapidly in incompletely vaccinated populations. The UK government's Scientific Pandemic Influenza Group on Modelling, Operational subgroup (SPI-M-O) estimates that Delta is between 40 and 60 percent more transmissible than the Alpha variant and nearly twice as transmissible as the original virus first identified in China.

In explaining this heightened transmissibility, scientists point to not-yet-peer-reviewed data suggesting that infection with the Delta variant results in greater levels of virus accumulating more rapidly in human airways. In China, researchers tracked 62 people exposed to the virus who developed infections with the variant. They took daily measurements of the concentrations of viral RNA in swabs from the backs of the participants' throats. Compared to 63 people infected with other variants, people with Delta

Katarina Zimmer

infections tested positive sooner: four days after viral exposure compared to six. And when patients infected with Delta first tested positive, they carried around 1000 times more viral RNA. Although virologist Angela Rasmussen of the University of Saskatchewan's Vaccine and Infectious Disease Organization cautions that viral RNA isn't necessarily a proxy for the amount of virus that is actually infectious, "it's probably a safe assumption that people are making more virus and shedding more virus" when infected with the Delta variant, she says. Perhaps the variant replicates faster inside cells or binds more tightly to human cells' ACE2 receptor, which the virus's spike protein uses to enter cells, Kennedy speculates. But much attention has surrounded a particular mutation on the Delta variant called P681R, which suggests another potential mechanism. The mutation lies at the junction between two subunits of SARS-CoV-2's spike protein, at a site that allows the human cellular enzyme furin to cleave the spike into two parts. This cleavage, some experiments suggest, primes spike proteins in a way that allows them to fuse more readily with a host cell's membrane, according to a detailed description in Nature. The Delta variant's

P681R mutation seems to allow that cleavage to occur more efficiently than in the original SARS-CoV-2 strain. This could help the variant infect more cells in a given amount of time, and therefore, make more copies of itself overall. "Having a more efficient furin cleavage site could lead to increased amounts of virus in the respiratory tract," Bieniasz says. The Alpha variant—also more transmissible than other versions of SARS-CoV-2 when it first emerged—has a similar mutation. Some scientists are skeptical that the P681R mutation is to blame for the heightened viral load in people infected with Delta. Kei Sato, a virologist at the University of Tokyo, says that in his own experiments, he and his colleagues generally didn't observe much difference in replication or the ability to infect cells when comparing the Delta variant to a previously described form of the virus that lacks the P681R mutation. In any case, Bieniasz says he'd be surprised if the Delta variant's heightened transmissibility were caused by P681R alone. The variant carries a handful of other mutations on the spike protein, and more scattered around the genome. But "there isn't really any information at this point that would tell you mechanistically what

their contribution is to the increased fitness of Delta," he says.

The biology behind "breakthrough" infections The fact that the Delta variant has also triggered increasing numbers of infections in vaccinated people has generated a bevy of headlines, some of which have been criticized for their alarmist nature. The CDC's revised guidelines on mask-wearing were based in part on data from an outbreak in Massachusetts in the wake of large public gatherings. In July, officials identified 469 people in Barnstable County who tested positive, mostly for the Delta variant (participants had likely asked to be tested, and the majority had developed COVID-19 symptoms). Three-quarters were fully vaccinated, in part reflecting a relatively high vaccination rate in the area. Scientists stress that the vaccines still work as intended; they were designed to prevent severe disease, not infections. The Massachusetts study, for instance, reported only five hospitalizations—four in fully vaccinated people—and no deaths. Nationwide, robust figures on the frequency of breakthrough cases are elusive—particularly of asymptomatic or mild cases; the CDC only monitors instances that have progressed to hospitalization or death. According to an unpublished internal CDC document obtained by

ABC News, breakthrough cases are reported for 0.096 percent—or 153,000—of the 156 million Americans who are fully vaccinated. A recent review of data from 25 states also estimated the rate of breakthrough cases to be "well below 1 percent." According to that same review, the rates of hospitalizations and deaths with COVID-19 among the fully vaccinated range from "effectively zero" to 0.06 percent and 0.01, respectively. Surprisingly, the Barnstable County study detected similar amounts of viral RNA in the specimens of vaccinated and unvaccinated participants. While that's not necessarily reflective of the people's capacity to infect others, "it is indisputable that in this outbreak, there seems to be transmission between previously vaccinated people," says Hana Akselrod, an infectious disease physician at George Washington University. The fact that participants had been gathering in bars and other crowded spaces probably created a high-risk setting for viral transmission, she adds. Kennedy cautions that it's hard to say how much of the increase in breakthrough infections is because of the Delta variant's specific biology, rather than simply because it's dominating a general surge in cases. But recent CDC data from Colorado does suggest vaccines are less effective against the variant; when it sped

through Mesa County, the overall effectiveness of the available vaccines against symptomatic infection dropped to 78 percent, while in counties with lower Delta levels, it was 89 percent. The variant's fitness advantage could feasibly allow it to build up a high viral load before vaccinated immune systems crank out enough antibodies to quash it, Akselrod says. Anatomically speaking, it's possible that while antibodies induced by current vaccines form high, protective levels in the lungs—where infection is associated with severe COVID-19 symptoms—they might be less able to access mucosal tissues in the nose and upper respiratory tract, allowing viral replication to occur there, Bieniasz speculates.

After a year teaching an algorithm to differentiate between the echolocation calls of different bat species, Katarina decided she was simply too greedy to focus on one field of science and wanted to write about all of them. Following an internship with The Scientist in 2017, she's been happily freelancing for a number of publications, covering everything from climate change to oncology. Katarina is a regular news correspondent for The Scientist and contributes occasional features to the magazine. Find her on Twitter @katarinazimmer and read her work on her website.

At 43, Malta legislator Roberta Metsola becomes third female EU Parliament president, youngest till date

BRUSSELS: Roberta Metsola, a Christian Democrat from Malta, was elected president of the European Union's parliament Tuesday, putting women in three of the four biggest jobs in the 27-nation bloc.

Metsola succeeds Italian Socialist David



Sassoli, who died last week. She is only the third woman elected to the post. Her birthday was Tuesday, and at age 43, she is the European Parliament's youngest president.

Metsola was the candidate of the parliament's biggest group, and she received 458 of the 616 votes cast Tuesday. She had already been acting president since Sassoli's Jan. 11 death.

"I know that having the first female president of this house since 1999 matters both inside

and outside these rooms, but it must go further," Metsola told the plenary. "Our institution commits to having more diversity, gender equality, guaranteeing women's rights, all our rights must be reaffirmed."

EU Commission President Ursula von der Leyen could not attend the parliamentary session since she is in a COVID-19 quarantine. Another woman, Christine Lagarde, runs the powerful European Central Bank, which has vast sway over the EU economy.

The European Council, which represents the governments of the 27 member states, is led by a man, Charles Michel, who as council president hosts the summits of the bloc's leaders. The presidential election for the second half of the legislature had long been planned, but it became more poignant after the death of Sassoli, who had been sick for several months and decided not to seek another 2 1/2-year term.

Metsola will lead an EU institution that has become more powerful over the years and been instrumental in charting the course of the 27-nation bloc on issues such as the digital economy, climate change and Brexit.

Rourkela Bags Bloomberg honor

Rourkela: Steel City, which is being developed under Smart City Mission, has won the Bloomberg Philanthropies Global Mayors Challenge 2021-22.

Bloomberg Philanthropies today an-

storage will be used by the vendors for the safe storage of their items. The vendors would have the options of either retrieving these items as per their requirement, or marketing them via the cold room opera-

Covid and post-Covid scenario, he added.

The city has already been working in some of the areas like women empowerment through Self-Help Group engagement, Solarization

being of the city residents. Small and marginal vendors (especially women vendors) residing in Rourkela would see a reduction in distressed selling of their commodities.

This would unlock their potential to sell more, expand their customer base and subsequently produce better commodities. This would directly impact their financial and emotional well-being.

Women federation members residing in Rourkela would get access to new and meaningful livelihood opportunities. They would also get to positively impact the lives of small and marginal vendors.

Senior citizens and physically challenged citizens of Rourkela would now have the option to order and receive commodities (fruits and vegetables) at their doorstep independently. Mainstream citizens would also have the choice and comfort of commodity shopping from home. The use of emerging and clean technologies will have a positive impact on the environment of Rourkela.

"As the world works to address the profound public health and economic effects of the ongoing pandemic, cities can implement innovative ideas at a pace that national governments simply can't match," said Michael R. Bloomberg, founder of Bloomberg Philanthropies and Bloomberg L.P. and 108th Mayor of New York City.

Rourkela and others. "Such an award is going to escalate the sustainable development works on the ground. In the coming days, our team along with our external partners, Koel Fresh Pvt Ltd., a startup based out of NIT Rourkela, would work extensively in enhancing the livelihood of small vendors and members of women self-help groups," the Commissioner said.

The project is also emphasized to help residents of Rourkela in getting their essential commodities like fruits, vegetables, dairy products to their doorstep in a more effective manner.

ROURKELA-SMART CITY
WON BLOOMBERG PHILANTHROPIES'S
#MAYORSCHALLENGE

nounced the 15 winning cities of the 2021-2022 Global Mayors Challenge, a worldwide innovation competition that supports and spreads cities' most promising ideas.

These 15 winners are being recognized for designing the boldest and most ambitious urban innovations to emerge from the global Covid-19 pandemic.

The winning ideas address one or more of four current issue areas in cities including economic recovery and inclusive growth; health and wellbeing; climate and environment; and gender and equality.

Rourkela's initiative of supporting solar-powered cold storage, plus women entrepreneurship to reduce waste and distress selling of commodities is awarded one million dollars, in addition to technical support and coaching over three years.

The goal of the initiative is to set up a digitized cluster-based solar cold storage and use electric vehicles to distribute commodities to various categories of consumers. The cold

tors. The entire system will be operated and managed by the women federation providing them with a new and meaningful livelihood opportunity. Citizens of Rourkela will have the convenience of ordering vegetables sitting in the comfort of their homes.

Shubankar Mohapatra, Commissioner of Rourkela Municipal Corporation (RMC) said the officials of RMC, Koel Fresh Pvt Ltd., research students and alumnus of NIT Rourkela have shown commendable performance in the last six months.

"Through their efforts, our city has clinched the top 15 positions in the world. We are extremely delighted and feel honored to receive the prestigious Bloomberg Philanthropies' Global Mayors Challenge 2021 award," he said. Climate change solutions, women empowerment, social inclusion has been the core theme of this project and are the driving force towards strengthening the local economy during

Three Navy personnel killed in explosion onboard INS Ranvir at Mumbai dockyard



NEW DELHI: Three Navy personnel were killed in an explosion onboard the Indian Naval Ship (INS) Ranvir at the Naval dockyard in Mumbai on Tuesday, an official statement said.

"In an unfortunate

Sri Lankan President Rajapaksa vows to fix

COLOMBO: Sri Lanka's president vowed Tuesday, January 18, 2022, to change "misconceptions" of his country's human rights record, following years of international criticism over wartime atrocities and extrajudicial killings. Government troops were accused of systematic abuses during the island's decades-long separatist war against the Tamil Tigers insurgent group, including the killing of at least 40,000 civilians at the end of the conflict in 2009. Sri Lanka has consistently denied the allegations. Authorities have also been blamed for the murder of journalists and activists over the years, and there have been several recent

incident today at Naval Dockyard Mumbai, three naval personnel succumbed to injuries caused by an explosion in an internal compartment onboard INS Ranvir," the Indian Navy's statement

noted. The ship's crew responded immediately and quickly brought the situation under control, it mentioned. No major material damage has been reported, it added.

"INS Ranvir was on cross coast opera-

reports of criminal suspects being killed in police custody. But President Gotabaya Rajapaksa, who took office in 2019, said his government's slate was clean and suggested it had been the victim of unwarranted criticism from abroad.

"We need to correct the misconceptions that have been taken to the international community in the past regarding our human rights," Rajapaksa said during an address to parliament. "During my tenure, the government did not support any form of human rights violations. We will also not leave room for any such act in the future."

SP fielding 'goons, rioters' to intimidate people for votes, says BJP MP

LUCKNOW: BJP leader and former director general of Uttar Pradesh Police Brij Lal on Tuesday charged the Samajwadi Party (SP) with fielding "goons, rioters and history-sheeters" in the upcoming assembly elections. Taking a set of names of the SP candidates allegedly with criminal backgrounds, Lal sought an explanation from the party chief Akhilesh Yadav for fielding them.

SP fielding 'goons, rioters' to intimidate people for votes, says BJP MP



sheeters have been fielded with the intention of pulling votes by intimidating the people of the state," Brij Lal, a Rajya Sabha MP, told reporters here. He said the SP candidates had entered the fray in order to rob the poor through schemes meant for their welfare and these candidates had Yadav's open protection.

Reacting to SP leader Azam Khan's son Abdullah Azam accompanying Yadav at a press conference earlier in the day, Lal said he had lost his seat because of a fraud and was out on bail in 43 cases. "His father (MP

Azam Khan) is part of a major land mafia in the state. Khan has robbed the honest youth of government jobs and is himself in jail (Sitapur)," Lal said.

Taking names of a few other SP candidates -- Nahid Hasan from Kairana, Aslam Chaudhary from Dhaulana, Haji Yunus from Bulandshahr, Rafiq Ansari from Meerut, Madan Bhaiya from Loni, Amarpal from Sahibabad, Dilnawaz from Sayana -- Lal asked, "Who are these people? This is a list of history-sheeters, gangsters and vicious criminals." Seeking an answer

from Yadav, Lal said, "What message does he want to give to the people of the state by taking Moharram Ali Pappu, the accused mastermind in the Saharanpur riots, in the party?" The former DGP said only an honest government could ensure security to the common man and this was possible only under the BJP rule.

"Welfare of the poor is possible only by a full majority government of the BJP, which is working rigorously under the leadership of Narendra Modi at the Centre and Yogi Adityanath in the state," Lal said.

Early Completion Of 60 Years Long Awaited Talcher-Bimalagarh Rail project

Rourkela (KCN): Core Member Talcher Bimalagarh Rail Action Committee and Social Activist Bimal Kumar Bisi has written to Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw regarding early completion Of 60 years long awaited Talcher- Bimalagarh Rail project. He says that Talcher- Bimalagarh New line project is going to be the life line of the region as it shall connect the three districts of Angul, Deogarh and Sundergarh of Odisha. The 150 Kms long Project, originally sched-



uled for completion in the year 2025, has already hit roadblocks and hinderances that make the project commissioning riskier as the days pass. The project timelines have been drawn subject to availability of project land. Considering the status of land acquisition, utility shifting and Court cases, it is difficult to call the sanctioned work a project. A project, and each of its activities, must have a definite beginning and a definite end. Open timelines render a project risky. As the current cooperation from all levels in the direction of Railway Line construction is the best ever experienced, there is definitely a way out and realistic project timelines can be drawn. Sunakhani[1]Samal-Parabil-Khamar can be considered as active zone where the works are going on. However there are several discontinuities caused by continued occupation of original land owners resulting into Stays from Hon'ble High court Cuttack that are continuing since long. In fact 11 project stalling locations in Sunakhani-Samal-Parabil block sections pertaining to village Keshabpur and Bilinda are due to eight year long stays. Stay vacations do not carry any timeline so the work cannot be technically put into project mode with definite starts and definite finishes. The balance portion of about 100 Kms can be considered as dormant phase where no activity has started as project feasibility cannot be visualized in absence of land. Without going into the usual blame game of "No land so no work" and "Why no work where there is land," one needs to have a dispassionate look on the project. A fast-track Infra project can be visualized in present level of capital-intensive technology and heavy machineries when following parameters are met: 1.EPC Mode of Contracts including Rails and Sleepers: EPC mode including material creates a capital[1]intensive project enabling the contracting company to bear the cost of deployment of team of professional managers. A professional management team is able to start the work in multiple parallel intermeshed fronts bounded by project framework. However, the cost of engaging a professional corporate management Team is very high and well beyond the capacity of traditional small and medium sized firms. 2.100 % continuity in 95 % block sections in core construction zone: This implies that land in between toe lines of the embankment must be in clear encumbrance free possession of the company. Discontinuity creates project risk and professional resources which are extremely costly can not be deployed in a risky project. 3.Encumbrance free Land Transfer to Railway Estate officer: The PPE ACT 1971 provides a very effective redressal mechanism to handle en-

croachment and overstay. Railways must use this to enable continuous possession. 4.Adopting FIDIC GCC with independent Employer, Engineers and Contractor: As this gives huge flexibility in expanding and reducing the Project monitoring and Engineering resources, the results are much faster and of high quality as the acceptance of work is based on recorded tests and not simply visual examinations. 5.Think Global Act Local: One of the fundamentals of Civil Engineering Mega construction Project is utilizing Local material and resources. This can be achieved by including an enabling clause of deploying certain percentage of local approved contractors, skilled manpower and labour. In a linear project the social dynamics keep on changing as one travels along the project. As the project moves through remote regions, there are places where the local population genuinely perceive the development as an existential threat which needs to be addressed professionally. Any attempt to bulldoze genuine sentiments is counterproductive in long run. Local contractors having deep understanding of regional dynamics and local village level sensitivities help address and resolve the social issues which are small but critical to the project commissioning. Moreover, the diploma, ITI level local manpower gets trained in the project and get lucrative subsequent placements. This works as a big motivator and creates local project affinity in place of project resentment. Fast-track transfer of private and government land by March 2022 in encumbrance free condition to project will give a fresh opportunity to expedite the construction in the balance 100Kms length from Khamar to Bimalagarh and re-cast the sanctioned work in a project mode with definite start and a realistic definite Finish. With professional handling of the project the overall Talcher-Bimalagarh commissioning by the year 2025 may still be feasible. Railway is earning Rs.20,000 Crores of revenue per annum from Odisha. In last 7 years Railway has earned 1,40,000 Crores from Odisha, But Odisha got back about 20,000 Crores only in last 7 years. Notably India has Railway Route Length – 67,956 Kms,Running Track Length - 99,235 Kms and Total Trackage – 1,26,366 Kms. In Comparison to the above Odisha has only 2,650 Route Kms & Running Track is 4,400 Kms. In the state, There is 15Km Railway in average of 100 Sq.Kms, whereas in India this average is 19Kms. In comparison to our neighbouring states ie- Bihar, West Begal & Andhra Oradesh, We have much less rail connectivity. Bisi said "Unfortunately, Due to lack of interest showing by Govt. Of Odisha, the project is getting delayed". Acquisition of Govt & Forest land already given clearance for construction. Present status of Land acquisition of private land of all the 3 districts as appended as 1.Angul District - 138 Acres- 19 Villages, 2. Deogarh District- 192 Acres – 19 Village.,3.Sundargarh District- 248 Acres- 29 Village. All the said private lands acquisition yet to be completed, though Railways has already deposited Rs. 300 crores with Govt. Of Odisha for the same. The total project cost is about 1900 Crores, till date only 800 Crores has been spent in this project. Talcher- Bimalagr Rail Link Action Committee members comprising Harihar Routray, Bishnu Mohanty, Laxman Munda,MLA,Bonai, Ramesh Bal and Bimal Kumar Bisi has given several memorandums to Chief Minister of Odisha and Minister for Railways for the mentioned issue. Therefore, Bimal Bisi, on behalf of TBRAC and people of western Odisha requested good self to kindly intervene personally and take necessary appropriate steps for completion of this much awaited (About 60 Years) long within 4 to 5 years. Core Member TBRAC and Social Activist Bimal Kumar Bisi has sent it's copy to Chief Minister of Odisha Naveen Patnaik on Tuesday.

125th Birth day of Subash Bose

Respected Leader Subash Bose

Khurda (KCN): Subash Chandra Bose our respected leader was a great freedom fighter whose role in India's Independence is instrumental. By name Nataji who was born on January 23, 1897, at Cuttack, sacred soil of Orissa in the lap of pravabati & Renewed Barrister Janaki nath Bose. Being a wealthy and prominent Bengli lawyer Subash studied at Presidency college Kolkata. His mind blowing voice attracted every Indians "Tum Mujhe Khoon do main tumhe Ajadi dunge". From the very beginning he was a brilliant student who had deserved second 2nd position in matriculation exam. He was spelled by his mother and an early age he started reading about Swami Vivekananda & Ramakrishna and was impressed by their teaching and advice. He also influenced by his mother and his Head master Beni Madhav Das who taught him to learn about the ancient heritage of his mother land and to love India more than anything else in his life. After completion of his school carrier he studied at Presidency College Calcutta. Due to his national activities he was expelled in 1916. After some interval he admitted in the Scottish Churches College and graduating in 1919. He left India for England on 15 September, 1919 to appear at the Indian Civil Service Examination, as desired by his Father Janaki bose. He passed the Examination by coming out "4th" among the successful candidates, but he did not want to stay in England and served the British Government. So he resigned from his Civil Service job in 1921. He returned to India and joined the National Congress to fight for Independence of India. From a young age, subash Chandra bose had the nationalist temperament and Britishers' discrimination towards Indians would fill him with rage. Subash was sent to jail about eleven times in his life for the shake of country. He became the President of the Congress Party, but later resigned due to his differences of opinion with

Gandhiji. Bose was a revolutionary Freedom Fighter who was known to have founded the 'Azad Hind Army or Fauja' or Indian National Army. For his revolutionary movements he had been to jail several times. When the World War II broke in 1941, Subash was interned in his Calcutta home under constant police guard. He did not come out of his house for 40 days, nor did he see anyone during that period. And on the 41st midnight, he escaped in the disguise of a Maulavi and reached Germany under the Italian diplomatic passport with an Italian name of Oriando Mazzota. In Berlin, he formed the first Indian National Army (I.N.A) with the 'prisoners of war' who were Indian soldiers serving the British Army. Now he came to know be known as "Netaji". He also founded an Indian Radio Station called Azad Hind Radio in Berlin, from where he had very often to broadcast for his countrymen suggesting about their political activities during war. From Berlin, Subhas went to Japan, where the I. N. A was enlarged with the addition of more soldiers and civilians. The I.N.A was now a large Army and Netaji, as the chief commander of the I.N.A, declared war against the British. The I.N.A fought tooth and nail in the Burma Front, as hoisted Indian National flag in Imphal at Manipur. The war took suddenly a strange turn, because the Japanese who were I.N.A.' ALLIED FORCES SURRENDERED. So Netaji had to order retreat of his I.N.A. Despite his failure at leading a military revolt against the British Occupation, Bose was extremely successful in another area. He was such a veteran leader who succeeded in generating a wave of support for the Indian Freedom Movement. He believed that the National Socialist Model adopted by Soviet Russia would be the best model to implement in India. His life was filled with respect for his action as a freedom fighter. Uma Shankar Prasad, Columnist, Khorda (6370675562)



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FM charges Congress of fraud in entering into Antrix-Devas deal; cites SC judgment

NEW DELHI: The government will use the Supreme Court order calling the 2005 deal between ISRO's

out the knowledge of the Union Cabinet, she said. The Congress took six years to cancel the

ages. Its shareholders are pursuing Indian assets abroad to recover award and have got a French court

huge magnitude which cannot be brushed under the carpet as a private list. Antrix had ap-

leader Rahul Gandhi had "tore" the Antrix-Devas deal papers in 2011. He and the Congress owes an

Gandhi tearing an ordinance on land acquisition in public in 2013. The ordinance had been cleared by the then UPA II government that was led by Congress.

The Antrix-Devas deal was a fraud perpetrated by the Congress on the nation where spectrum used by defence forces was given for pittance, she said.

"This is the level of shameless corruption." The 2005 agreement was "a fraud on people of India, fraud against the country," she said, adding the government is fighting in every court so that Devas does not get away with Antrix deal fraud and taxpayers' money is saved.

Sitharaman said the

commercial terminal award was for a total of USD 1 billion while USD 93.3 million plus cost and interest was awarded against India under the arbitration brought under the India-Germany BIT. Besides, USD 111.2 million plus cost and interest was awarded in the arbitration under India-Mauritius BIT. "After nearly 10-11 years of struggle, the Supreme Court has come out with the decision on

the case. This indicates how the Congress party has misused its position when in power," the minister said. She also questioned the Congress party for allowing blatant sale of resources of the government and people of India for pittance. "We are fighting to save taxpayers' money which otherwise would have gone to pay for the scandalous Antrix-Devas deal," she added.



commercial arm Antrix and privately-owned Devas Multimedia a fraud, to counter seizure of its properties, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said on Tuesday as she launched a blistering attack on the Congress for handing over airwaves used by the defence to the private firm for pittance.

"It is a fraud of Congress, by Congress (and) for Congress," the minister told reporters as she read out paragraphs from the Supreme Court's January 17 decision allowing winding up of Devas Multimedia because of the fraud. Antrix, the commercial arm of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), entered into an agreement with Devas for providing multimedia services to mobile users, for which it was given S-band satellite spectrum with-

deal and the then government did not initiate steps to fight the arbitration proceedings the private company brought against the cancellation, she added.

The Congress-led UPA did not cite national security to fight the arbitrations brought by Devas, Sitharaman said and called the party "master of corruption". Devas initiated arbitration against the annulment at the International Chambers of Commerce (ICC).

Two separate arbitrations were also initiated under the Bilateral Investment Treaty (BIT) by Mauritius investors in Devas Multimedia under the India-Mauritius BIT and by Deutsche Telekom, a German company, under the India Germany BIT.

India lost all three disputes and has to pay a total of USD 1.2 billion in dam-

order for freezing Indian properties in Paris and got partial rights over funds maintained by Air India in Canada.

The Supreme Court has given a comprehensive verdict upholding the liquidation of Devas ordered by the insolvency court, she said, adding this would be cited in the international courts to challenge enforcement actions of the private firm.

"No country which respects rule of law will ignore these facts," she said, citing the apex court observation that it was a case of fraud of a

proached the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) seeking liquidation of Devas.

Last year, NCLT ordered liquidation of Devas observing that the firm appeared to have been incorporated with fraudulent intentions.

Devas appealed against the order before NCLAT which in September 2021 upheld the liquidation. Devas filed an appeal before the Supreme Court which upheld the liquidation, she said.

Calling Congress a "master of corruption", Sitharaman asked if the party's

swers to the nation, she said.

The minister was apparently referring to the incident of Rahul

UK plan to curb protests faces opposition in Parliament

Continued from page-1

posed measures violate long-held freedoms of assembly and speech. Thousands of people attended "Kill the Bill" protests across Britain in recent months to oppose the legislation. Brian Paddick, a Liberal Democrat member of the Lords and former senior police officer, said the government plans were "reminiscent of Cold War eastern bloc police states."

The move to put noise limits on protests has drawn particular criticism. Labour Lords member Vernon Coaker said "making a noise is a fundamental part of the freedom to protest properly in a democracy."

The Conservative government can try to reinstate some of the provisions when the bill goes back to the elected House of Commons, where the party has a majority. Other measures, which were inserted into the bill by the government at a late stage in its passage through Parliament, can't be reintroduced.

PM Modi says love he has got from Varanasi unprecedented

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worker of the BJP to link more and more women with self-help groups, banks and digital payments, and added, "This will be a very big task."

Shravan Kumar Rawat thanked the prime minister for the renovation of Kashi Vishwanath Dhaam, the beautification work and how it will benefit traders, and termed Modi an "itihās purush (iconic man)".

To this, Modi said, "All this have been done with the 'kripā' (benevolence) of Baba (Lord Mahadev). He has made all of us a medium. I will tell every BJP worker that we should not leave any opportunity to serve the people. In every 'kan kan' (particle) of Varanasi, Mahadev Shankar himself resides."

Modi also told Rawat that people who come from other places to Varanasi should be taken to Kabir Chaura and the temple of Sant Ravidas.

Speaking to Manoj Kumar Patel, another party worker, Modi said that his government has taken various measures for farmers and laid emphasis making them aware about various opportunities in farming.

"Farmers have to be told repeatedly because until he is convinced, he will not accept new things. I would want that the farmers should be told about natural farming. To save Mother Earth, to make farming chemical-free and to reduce the expenses on farming, boosting natural farming is very much necessary," he said.

The prime minister spoke to eight booth-level chiefs from eight assembly constituencies of Varanasi and around 10,000 workers virtually joined the audio interaction.

Honda Motorcycle & Scooter India's 125cc bike Shine hits cumulative sales milestone of 1 crore units

NEW DELHI: Honda Motorcycle and Scooter India (HMSI) on Tuesday said its 125cc bike Shine has touched the cumulative sales milestone of one crore units. Launched in India in



2006, the model crossed 10 lakh cumulative sales in 2010, 30 lakh in 2014.

In 2017, it reached the 50 lakh unit sales milestone and the following year, it touched the 70 lakh unit sales mark, HMSI said in a statement. In 2020, the Shine range touched cumulative sales of 90 lakh units, it added.

HMSI Managing Director, President and CEO Atsushi Ogata said, "We are humbled by the tremendous response that Shine has received over the years. As India rides into 2022 with the amazing Shine, we remain committed to taking on new challenges and delighting our loyal customers with the best products." HMSI Director (Sales and Marketing) Yadvinder Singh Guleria said, "Spanning over one and a half decades, brand Shine has been a true companion for many generations of riders, making it one of the most popular motorcycle brands in the Indian household across all regions."

US Airlines again warn of potential disruption from 5G rollout

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near major airports. CEOs of the nation's largest airlines say that interference from the wireless service on a key instrument on planes is worse than they originally thought.

"To be blunt, the nation's commerce will grind to a halt" unless the service is blocked near major airports, the CEOs said in a letter Monday to federal officials including Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg, who has previously taken the airlines' side in the matter.

AT&T and Verizon plan to activate their new 5G wireless service Wednesday after two previous delays from the original plan for an early December rollout.

The new high-speed 5G service uses a segment of the radio spectrum that is close to that used by altimeters, which are devices that measure the height of aircraft above the ground.

Two weeks ago, the companies struck a deal with the Federal Aviation Administration to delay the service for two more weeks and reduce the power of 5G transmitters near airports. That delay ends Wednesday. AT&T and Verizon say their equipment will not interfere with aircraft electronics, and that the technology is being safely used in many other countries. Critics of the airline industry say the carriers had several years to upgrade altimeters that might be subject to interference from 5G. The CEOs of 10 passenger and cargo airlines including American, Delta, United and Southwest said 5G will be more disruptive than they originally thought because dozens of large airports that were to have buffer zones to prevent 5G interference with aircraft will still be subject to flight restrictions announced last week by the FAA, and because those restrictions won't be limited to times when visibility is poor. "Unless our major hubs are cleared to fly, the vast majority of the traveling and shipping public will essentially be grounded. This means that on a day like yesterday, more than 1,100 flights and 100,000 passengers would be subjected to cancellations, diversions or delays," the CEOs said.

Australian Open: Coco Gauff, Sofia Kenin suffer shock losses

MELBOURNE: Wang Qiang has her first win over a top 20 player since beating Serena Williams at Melbourne Park in 2020 after upsetting 18th-seeded Coco Gauff 6-4, 6-2. It was Wang's first win on tour since last year's French Open, where she beat Hsieh Su-wei in the first round before losing to Gauff in the second. Gauff saved four match points from 5-0 down on Monday but that was the only good news in a match where the American made 38 unforced errors. "You know I lost two times against her last year so I just tried my

best to focus on court," Wang said. French Open champion and fourth-seeded Barbora Krejčíková advanced with a 6-2, 6-0 win over Andrea Petkovic. Krejčíková lost to Paula Badosa in three sets at the Sydney WTA tune-up tournament final on Saturday. Sofia Kenin was the Australian Open champion in 2020, and made it to the final of the French Open, too, that year, when she climbed to a career-high ranking of No. 4. She's going to drop a lot closer to No. 100 after a first-round exit at Melbourne Park on Monday.

The 11th-seeded Kenin was beaten by 2017 U.S. Open runner-up Madison Keys 7-6 (2), 7-5 in an all-American matchup. "It's not easy, but it's just a number. It doesn't change who I am. I'm still that person who everyone respects very much," Kenin said of her WTA ranking status. "Obviously, it's not the best news. But I don't have a doubt I can get back there." Keys, also a former Top 10 player who reached the Australian Open semifinals in 2015, used 16 aces to extend her recent run of success: She is coming off a hard-court title at Adelaide

on Saturday. "Just some unforced errors and some forced errors -- because Maddy forced them. I was right there. It's disappointing," Kenin said. "It's a little bit of a bummer." Last season was difficult for her: She was off the tour for the second half of the year because of a foot injury and a bout with COVID-19. Her ranking has remained as high as it has thanks in large part to getting to hold onto the points she earned by winning the trophy at the Australian Open two years ago. But after a second-round loss in 2021,

she now departs even earlier. KORDA'S DEBUT Sebastian Korda is part of a long line of Australian Open champions of one sort or another. His father, Petr, won the Grand Slam tennis tournament in 1998; each of his sisters, Nelly and Jessica, has won the LPGA golf event that goes by the same name; and Sebastian himself was the junior champion at Melbourne Park in 2018. Until Monday, Sebastian, a 21-year-old American, never had played in the main draw of the Australian Open, opting to play lower-level Challenger Tour a year ago instead of trying to qualify in Melbourne. His main-draw debut was quite a success Monday, a 6-3, 6-0, 6-4 victory over 12th-seeded Cam Norrie of Britain, who played college tennis at TCU. "A lot of kind of history in the family here," Korda said. He tested positive for COVID-19 when he

arrived in Australia intending to play a couple of tune-up tournaments, which he had to withdraw from. But Korda said he was asymptomatic and was able to stay in shape and prep somewhat for the year's first Slam because Tennis Australia gave him some gym equipment "so I wouldn't just sit around and kind of do nothing." Korda, who has been to the fourth round at Wimbledon and the French Open, said he didn't feel rusty playing his first match of the new season. And Norrie, a left-hander who won the hard-court title at Indian Wells last year, didn't think Korda looked rusty, either. "Any time I had a chance to kind of come back, he served his way out of it," Norrie said. "And, yeah, on the bigger points he was much better than me." Norrie wasn't exactly pleased with his own effort, though, describing it as "maybe my worst match in the

last eight months or so Disappointing." WINNING ON A ROUGH DAY Amanda Anisimova found the going rough Monday at the Australian Open. Her head was not in the right place, she said, and she dropped the opening set. She finished with far more unforced errors, 39, than winners, 26. Still, she managed to come through with a victory. "Today was kind of an off-day for me. I had some personal stuff, so I was not completely there in the match and it was, like, very difficult to play," Anisimova said after beating Dutch qualifier Ariane Hartono 2-6, 6-4, 6-3 to set up a second-round matchup against Tokyo Olympics gold medalist Belinda Bencic. "I think people forget that, also, tennis players are human beings," said Anisimova, a 20-year-old from New Jersey, "so sometimes we can't play our best tennis if something hap-

pens." Asked whether she wanted to share what she was going through, Anisimova replied, "No, that's OK," and chuckled. She was a French Open semifinalist as a teen in 2019; a few months later, her father, who also was her tennis coach, died suddenly. Anisimova recently struck up a coaching partnership with Darren Cahill, who helped Simona Halep become a Grand Slam champion. The Anisimova-Cahill duo got off to a strong start with a title at a hard-court tuneup tournament played at Melbourne Park in the first week of January. Cahill, Anisimova said, has helped her "sharpen" her backhand and serve in a match's tight moments. He's also worked with her on improving her mindset. "It's kind of just putting me in a good place, just helping me stay relaxed and calm," Anisimova said.

Lewandowski wins FIFA best player vote ahead of Messi, Salah

Robert Lewandowski was voted the best men's player in the world on Monday, retaining the FIFA award he won last year despite being left off the ballot paper filed by runner-up Lionel Messi. The Bayern Munich forward overturned the result last month of the Ballon d'Or prize

result of their European title game. Guardiola placed third having led City to the English Premier League title, and into a runaway lead this season after beating Chelsea on Saturday. Roberto Mancini was second in the FIFA voting after leading Italy to win the European Championship.

Hayes seemed surprised to win the coaching award for women's soccer ahead of Lluís Cortes. His Barcelona team beat Chelsea 4-0 in the Champions League final. Sarina Wiegman, who moved from 2017 European champion Netherlands to take over at England, was



where he placed second behind Messi, who finally led Argentina to a senior title at the 2021 Copa América. Mohamed Salah of Liverpool placed third. "I am very honoured to win this trophy," Lewandowski said on a video link from Munich. The trophy was presented by club officials during the online ceremony hosted at FIFA headquarters in Zurich. Lewandowski was the overwhelming choice of national team captains and coaches plus selected media in more than 200 countries, yet was almost caught by Messi, who got more than double the number of votes from fans worldwide than the Poland captain. All three candidates voted as captains of their national teams, and Lewandowski ranked Messi second of his three choices. Salah had Lewandowski and Messi in his top three. Messi did not pick either of his closest rivals in the voting. His top two choices were Neymar and Kylian Mappé, now his teammates since joining Paris Saint-Germain in August. Lewandowski broke two Bundesliga records by scoring 41 goals for Bayern in its title-winning 2020-21 season and 43 in the calendar year of 2021. Both marks were held since 1972 by another Bayern great, Gerd Müller. "If you ask me that a few years ago if it was possible, I would have told you, no, it's impossible to score so many goals in the Bundesliga," said Lewandowski, who has scored four more in two games this year. In the women's award, Alexia Putellas added the FIFA trophy to her Ballon d'Or victory. Putellas captained Barcelona to its first Women's Champions League title and teammate Jennifer Hermoso placed third in the FIFA vote. The runner-up was Sam Kerr of beaten finalist Chelsea. Chelsea swept the coaching awards in a year when its men's and women's teams led by Thomas Tuchel and Emma Hayes reached their Champions League finals. Tuchel again finished ahead of Manchester City's Pep Guardiola to repeat the

third. On an evening of surprises and quirky choices, a global vote of players to choose their World XI lineups were curious. None of the three candidates for the women's individual prize was voted on to the best women's team, which also lacked any players from Barcelona. Salah was also missing from the men's team lineup which had an unusual 3-3-4 formation that allowed a forward line of Messi, Lewandowski, Erling Haaland and Cristiano Ronaldo. Ronaldo was also the star guest with FIFA in Zurich. The Portugal star appeared in person to close the show and collect a special award for breaking the all-time scoring record in men's national team soccer. A long-established tradition at FIFA awards was extended for another year. Six-time winner Messi and five-time winner Ronaldo both ignored each other on the ballots they submitted. Ronaldo did vote for Lewandowski as his No. 1. The record scorer in women's national teams, Christine Sinclair of Olympic champion Canada, also got a special award from FIFA earlier in the show. Two awards went to Denmark for the reaction in the stadium to national team star Christian Eriksen collapsing due to cardiac arrest at a European Championship game in Copenhagen. FIFA's fair play prize went to the Denmark players and medical staff who protected and treated Eriksen. The award for best fans was shared by Denmark and Finland whose supporters chanted Eriksen's name as he was treated on the field before it was clear he would recover. The Puskas Award for best goal went to Érik Lamela for the rabona flick he scored for Tottenham against Arsenal in the Premier League in March. The best goalkeeper prizes were won by Edouard Mendy of Chelsea and Chile's Christiane Endler, who moved from PSG to Lyon in the offseason.




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