

Anadrome to Supply Defence Equipments

Bhubaneswar(KCN): In a landmark event under the make in In-

defence equipment to the Indian Army and Air Force.

worth INR 96 crores, under the Make in India II category,

signed last week.

Notably, companies like Larsen and Toubro also pitched for this deal. The Shikra MEAT system being manufactured by the company is a localised version of the Banshee Jet 40 system that has earlier been imported by the armed forces.

The company has collaborated with a UK based defence tech company to build systems for air defence training from simple, low-performance model aeroplane targets through manoeuvrable targets to sophisticated high subsonic and supersonic systems.

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dia scheme of the Ministry of Defence, Odisha-based Anadrome System has bagged the contract to supply advanced

The contract to supply 125 Manoeuvrable Expendable Aerial Targets (MEAT) and associated equipment

which is meant for research and development projects, funded by the industry with an indigenous content of over 50% was

India gets first ever export order for BrahMos missiles; Philippines signs USD 374 million contract

NEW DELHI (KCN): India got its first ever export or-

officials stated. The BAPL, an India-Russian joint

anti-ship BrahMos missiles to the Philippines' Navy, the

supply of shore-based anti-ship missile system to Philip-

pines." "The BAPL is a joint venture company of the Defence Research and Development Organisation. The contract is an important step forward for Government of India's policy of promoting responsible defence exports," it added. India has already deployed a sizable number of the Brahmos missiles and other key assets in several strategic locations along the Line of Actual Control with China in Ladakh and Arunachal Pradesh.



der for BrahMos missiles on Friday when the Philippines' Defence Ministry signed USD 374 million contract with the BrahMos Aerospace Pvt Ltd (BAPL) to supply undisclosed number of missiles, military

venture, produces the supersonic cruise missile BrahMos that can be launched from submarines, ships, aircraft, or from land platforms. The USD 374 million contract is to supply shore-based

military officials noted. In a statement, the Defence Ministry said: "The BAPL signed a contract with the Department of National Defence of the Republic of Philippines on January 28, 2022, for

Naveen asks people not to be complacent

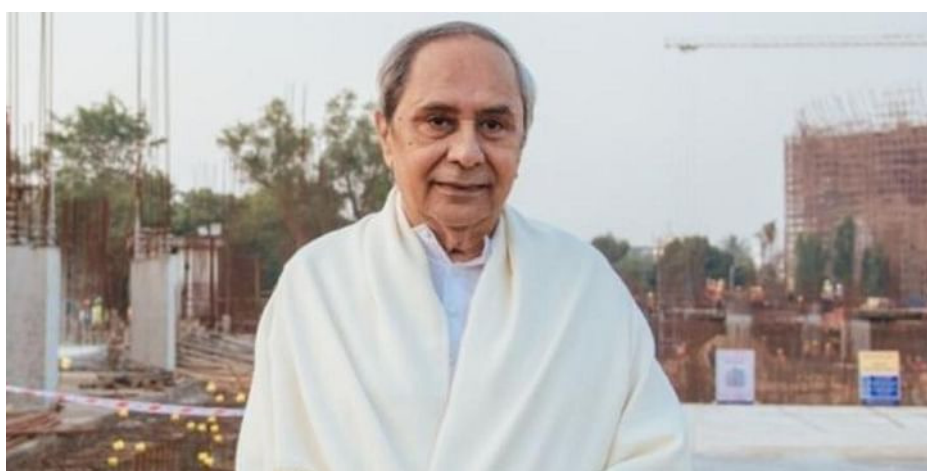
BHUBANESWAR (KCN): Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik

Reviewing the pandemic situation in the State virtually, the

tive cases in the State has stabilised and new infections have

efforts to ensure that the people abide by all Covid-19 guidelines. The rapid response teams (RRTs) and field workers should also monitor the condition of Covid patients in home isolation properly, he said and added that public awareness campaigns on all aspects of the pandemic should be continued with the cooperation of Mission Shakti self help groups (SHGs). Naveen said that there is no reason to panic over the situation.

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on Thursday asked the State administration not to be complacent and continue to keep a close watch on the Covid-19 situation.

Chief Minister emphasised on completion of booster vaccination for the senior citizens and frontline workers. The number of posi-

also gone down but this is not the time to relax the implementation of guidelines, he said. Naveen directed the police to make extra

Restriction on cremation at Swargadwar lifted

PURI (KCN): The district administration on Thursday lifted restriction on cremation of bodies

wards. However, only 10 persons would be allowed to accompany a body to

at Puri beach demanding the reopening of Srimandir.

Convenor of the outfit Priyadarshan Pattnaik said while commercial establishments including markets, shopping malls, bars and hotels are allowed to run, the 12th century shrine is closed for devotees. Leader of beach vendor association Shivam Maharaj said for their livelihood, majority of the town people depend on tourists visiting Puri to offer prayers to the Trinity. Since the shrine is closed, devotees have

stopped coming to Puri. This has put small businessmen in deep trouble. "We are at the brink of starvation. The administration should reopen the temple for devotees at the earliest," he added. Temple administrator AK Jena said a meeting of the Chhatisha Nijog (body of servitors) has been convened on January 28 to discuss the issue of reopening Srimandir. The administration has closed Srimandir from January 10 to 31 in the wake of a spike in new Covid cases in Puri.



from outside Puri at Swargadwar. In a release, Puri Collector Samarth Verma stated last rites of non-Covid bodies from outside the district can be performed at the cremation ground from Thursday on-

Swargadwar. They have to strictly adhere to Covid guidelines while performing last rites. Meanwhile, hundreds of vendors and members of Jagannath Sena, a local outfit, staged jal satyagraha

10 arrested for theft at jewellery store in Mumbai's Bhuleshwar area

MUMBAI(KCN): At least 10 people have been arrested in connection with the theft of gold worth Rs 8 crore at a jewellery shop in Bhuleshwar area of south Mumbai, official said

on Friday. Based on specific inputs, six police teams were dispatched to Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan and the accused were nabbed for the theft that took place on January 14,

an official said. The police have recovered most of the stolen gold, which was buried in a field in Sirohi village of Rajasthan, he said. Four of the accused had allegedly entered

the shop in Phopalwadi area of Bhuleshwar in the early hours of January 14 and stolen around 17.4 kg of gold and gold ornaments, worth Rs 8 crore.

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Obituary



✓ Tilotama Kar

Balabhadrapur, Antapur, Soro, Balasore

DOB:15/5/1968
DOD:18/01/2022



Pray peace for the departed soul



Fondly remembered by husband Ashok, son Vedaprakash, Bharati, Malati, Suka, Sebati, Kandhei, Bapi, Bulu, Tunu, Pintu, Rina, Julu, Tulu, Khilu, Radha, Batu, Bidhi, Family, Friends and relatives

Odisha Mo-Parivar Organized Blood Donation Camp

Khordha (KCN) Khordha, Joytrindra 41 units of blood line for millions of President Biswa the blood donors
Odisha Mo-Parivar Nath Mitra inaugu- were collected in people in the state Deep Pradhan, who have voluntar-



organized blood do- rated the camp. The this Camp. The Khordha Town ily donated their
nation camp at BJD camp which was Jeevan Bindu who are in need of blood. Among oth- Khordha Town
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2 0 2 2 . M L A , Kumar Hota. Total has become a life District BCJD Pradhan encourage programme.

Locals of Belkundi village outraged demanding work at Balaji railway siding

Barbil (KCN): An unfortunate situation has arisen between villagers and siding contractor over work at the Balaji railway siding in Belkundi village under Barbil municipality of Keonjhar district. Revealed that the Balaji siding had been closed for several years .This year, a work order has been issued by the Balaji Company to AparnaKarmakar for the siding work. As per work order ,the said contractor has come to the siding to start work after a sacred puja on the land on 26th January. Knowing this, a group of men and women from Belkundi village came to the spot and stopped their JCB and loader to start any work. According to

73rd Republic Day celebration by The Neelam Foundation



Rourkela (KCN): Teachers, Students and Staff of the School . The Principal of the school along with Dr Amit and Dr Daulat and with the all the members of the Neelam Foundation hoisted the flag with enthusiasm n patriotic fervour. The speech of Mr Bijay Chauhan was enlightening as he focused on the significance of the Republic day celebration as well as on the teachers who are actually the nation builders . The Principal and the teachers have been putting in their best efforts to educate the children along with nurturing them with good culture. The Neelam Foundation emphasized on the patriotic feeling by giving the national flag to each and every child with refreshments to share joy . The Principal was also presented with a memento of the Indian flag. The entire program was presided over by the Chairperson , Pratima. Best wishes from the advisor of the Neelam Foundation Sailesh Pati was conveyed to the students and teachers.

Trushna Vyas Appointed as a Gujarat State Women Vice President by Union Minister Ramdas Athawale

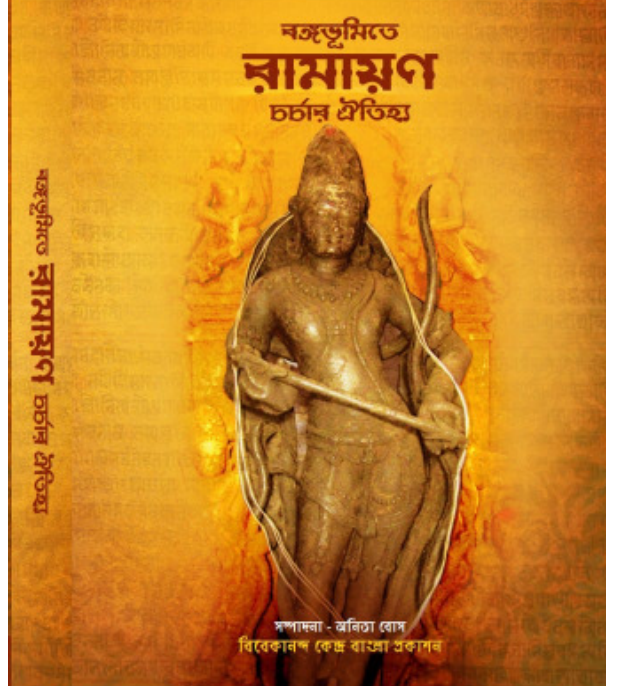
Kutch (Gujarat) Ramdas Athawale. present in the meeting of businessmen of Gujarat State. On Vaghela, Gujarat Prabhari Jatinbhai Bhuta, City Presi-



(KCN): A program Republican Party of India (A) Sadbhavna Mahasammelan was organized in the town hall of Rapar district of Kutch on Sunday 23 January 2022. Chief Guest for the occasion were RPI (A) National President and Union Minister In his speech he asked everyone to unite the society, break the caste system and work in the direction of brotherhood. He chanted slogans like Jai Bhim, Jai Samvidhan, Jai Gujarat. The office bearers of all the districts were this occasion, the party's Vadodara Woman Chief Trushna Vyas was appointed as the Gujarat State Women's Vice President. State President Ashok Bhatti, Women President Leelvatiben

Samartha Bharat Parva Celebrated

Kolkata (KCN): on life and teachings Swami Viveka- of Swami



nanda's janmatithi & Samarth Bharat Parva was celebrated by the Vivekananda Kendra Paschima-banga Pranta. Shri Arijit Sarkar ,a speaker of Ramakrishna Mission & Assistant Professor of KCKV Engineering College was invited as Chief Speaker. His presentation was Training On Disaster Management

Training On Disaster Management

Bhubaneswar(KCN): The State Government has started process for proper implementation of the decision of the Council of Ministers to provide disaster management training to all elected representatives. On the completion of two years in the fifth term of the BJD government, the Council of Ministers headed by Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik had passed a resolution to train every government employee on the fundamental nature of different kinds of disaster and pandemic management. Similarly, all elected public representatives starting from ward members to Chief Minister will be trained on disaster and pandemic management. Besides, members of the Mission Sakti Groups, Vana Surakya Samitis, and other community based organizations will be equipped with the knowledge required to manage disaster and pandemics.



villagers, the siding land is belong to them and they will be severely affected, if the work continues on the siding. Their farmland, ponds and atmosphere will be polluted. So the siding work should be given to them on priority . AparnaKarmakar, on the other hand said that , These people have no land in the area and the reallandlords have allowed her and they too have agreements . According to some people, some vest interested people may have been involved in obstructing the work of the villagers in order to carry out the work.The recent years have also witnessed many such incidents ,another added.

Twelve Covid Warriors Felicitated in Republic Day-2022

Khordha(KCN): The Department of Health and Family Welfare has chosen twelve number of Medical Staff's in District capacity went out of the way to help the society recover from the pandemic crisis that overwhelmed the city and its neighboring spirit and selfless dedication. The Chief guest of the occasions RDC, central zone Gopabandhu Satpathy felicitated



Head Quatre Hospital, Khordha to felicitated him as Covid warriors in the District Level Republic Day -2022 ceremony at BJB High School play ground Khordha. Aptly titled A-grand felicitatation of Covid-19 warriors who in their own areas. This felicitatation ceremony held at the BJB High school play ground Khordha on the occasions of Republic Day - 2022.During the felicitatation around twelve medical staff's from the DHH Khordha honoured for their indomitable the Covid warriors of Dr. Dillip Kumar Pradhan, Orthopaedic Surgeon, Lovely Das, Microbiologist, Rokeya Mamta, Laboratory Technician, Soumya Subhadarsini Nanda, Laboratory Technician, Ulka Maharana, Laboratory Techni- Officer, Evanjalini Bagh, Nursing Officer, Bhagirathi Nayak, Sanitary Worker, Lalita Nayak, Sanitary Worker, Umesh Chandra Sundaray, Sanitary Workers in the presence of CDMO, Khordha.

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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.

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

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.

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

NEW DELHI(K-CN): The Su-

terim protection to 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 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.

#YourBestDayIsToday to the person whose caption for this pic I like the most!" Adding to the cation, 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.

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

(GNS Bureau) Isabelle Kaif to feature opposite Pulkit Samrat in Suswagatam Khush-aamadeed. 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 dhamakadaar. 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."

Your questions answered: Women and COVID-19 in India

The second wave of COVID-19 in India brought unprecedented losses. The poorest and the most marginalized, including women and girls, face more risks without the means to absorb the economic shocks and mitigate the health crisis. They are caring for their families, sustaining livelihoods and leading efforts to fight the pandemic, amidst the threat of a third wave.

UN Women and health sector experts answer some frequently asked questions about

average, they spend 9.8 times more time

Vandana Gupta

than men on unpaid domestic chores and 4.5 hours a day caring for children, elders and the sick. During the pandemic, their share of unpaid care work grew by nearly 30 per cent.

The socio-economic toll on women and girls have long-term consequences, unless policies and actions deliberately target and invest in women. There is a risk that the exodus of women from the workforce could become

permanent, reversing not only gender equality gains, but GDP gains. UN Women data [1] also shows that more girls than boys were left out of school during the pandemic and 65 per cent of parents surveyed were reluctant to continue the education of girls and resorting to child marriages to save costs. This can create an entire generation of young

women without education and employment opportunities.

Women and children from the community assembled at a Saheli Samanvay Kendra (SSK)

House, women also learn tailoring and sewing, computer skills and beautician training. Photo: UN Women/Ruhani Kaur

As the COVID-19 lockdowns trapped women at home with their abusers, domestic violence rates spiked throughout the world. In India, reports of domestic violence, child marriage, cyber violence and trafficking of women and girls increased within the first few months of the pandemic. According to the National Commission of Women data, India recorded a 2.5 times increase in domestic violence between February and May 2020. Some women's organizations reported that in the first four phases of the lockdown, they received more reports of domestic violence than they had in the last ten years for a similar period of time. Others indicated that many women were unable to report the violence, as they had less privacy and means to access help.

The Indian Government classified domestic violence shelter and support services as "essential" – an important step in COVID-19 response. During the first and second waves of the pandemic, 700 One-Stop-Crisis centres remained open in India, supporting over 300,000 women who suffered abuse and needed shelter, legal aid and medical attention.

protect against other variants. Therefore, those who have recovered from COVID-19 should still get vaccinated.

Getting vaccinated is also likely to protect people from getting severely sick from the virus, including the highly infectious variants. Shobha, a SEWA community mobilizer, who works at a ration distribution centre in Jahangir Puri, New Delhi, India. UN Women/Prashanth Vishwanathan

Shobha, a SEWA community mobilizer, who works at a ration distribution centre in Jahangir Puri, New Delhi, India. UN Women/Prashanth Vishwanathan

Is the COVID-19 vaccine safe for pregnant or menstruating women?

There is no evidence yet about COVID-19 vaccines causing harmful side effects in menstruating, pregnant or lactating women. There is also no evidence that COVID-19 vaccines cause fertility problems. In fact, there is a higher risk of severe symptoms of COVID-19 if contracted during pregnancy.

WHO has also confirmed that women who are breastfeeding can safely take the vaccine and transmission of active COVID-19 disease-causing virus through breast milk has not been detected. There is evidence that vaccinating lactating mothers provides some protection to babies as the anti-bodies are passed on from mother to child.

For more information on COVID-19 prevention, safety and vaccination, please refer to the WHO website

How can we support women and girls in India during the COVID-19 crisis?

Every crisis impacts women and girls differently than men, because of existing gender norms and inequalities. To build back better and equal from the COVID-19 crisis, policy, investment and action must be shaped by women and girls and deliberately target them. Make a donation to help women in India severely impacted by COVID-19

UN Women is working with the government and grassroots organizations on the ground to provide food, personal protective equipment for women, and cash assistance.

Through our communications campaigns, we are making sure that women get verified information about disease prevention and vaccination, and creating public awareness about gender-based violence. Through our programmes, we are making education and vocational training available for women through digital and distance learning, and helping them find pathways to employment and small businesses. We are working with

our national partners to provide shelter, financial and legal assistance and medical help to survivors of gender-based violence in COVID-safe spaces.

UN Women is advocating with the government and private sector allies to invest in the formal and informal care economies to create sustainable jobs and boost women's empowerment and income.

With your help, we can do much more. Donate to support women in South Asia today.

Vandana Gupta, a community worker with SEWA, checking body temperature as part of COVID-19 safety protocols at a ration distribution centre in Jahangir Puri, New Delhi, India. SEWA is a non-governmental organization that organizes and empowers women in the informal economy and home-based workers. SEWA Delhi also provides employment opportunities to home-based workers, education and skills training for women and girls, health clinics and community micro-finance initiatives. UN Women is working with women's and civil society organizations like SEWA in India to support women and their families during the COVID-19 crisis. UN Women/Prashanth Vishwanathan



COVID-19 and how it impacts women and girls in India.

Are women and girls at more risk of contracting COVID-19 than men?

Over 30 million people have been infected by the coronavirus in India. COVID-19 can infect people of all gender and ages. However, some women and girls may be at higher risk because they are poorer and lack information and resources, or because they are at the front line as caregivers and workers in the health and service sectors.

In India, women make up a significant proportion of all healthcare workers and more than 80 per cent of nurses and midwives. Yet, when it comes to decision-making roles in the health sector, they are largely absent, and they get paid much less than their male counterparts. Only 13 per cent of the members of the national COVID-19 task force are women.

Since women in India spend more hours caring for children, the elderly and sick family members, and masks and other personal protective equipment are often designed and sized for men, women may be at risk of more exposure to the virus.

Right now, there is also a concern that less women are getting vaccinated than men in India – 17 per cent more men than women have been partially or fully vaccinated, and according to national data, there are only two states where more women are taking the vaccine. Because of the fact that women have less access to internet or smart phones, they may not be able to register for vaccination. Due to the prevailing patriarchal norms, women may find it difficult to go to the vaccination centres alone, and there may be preference for male family members to get vaccinated first. There are also myths that vaccines compromise women's fertility. Unvaccinated women are at a high risk of contracting the disease, especially in the wake of the new variants.

How has COVID-19 impacted women's employment in India?

Wage inequality and the burden of unpaid care has pushed more women out of employment and into poverty. Women's earned income in India was just one-fifth that of men's even before the pandemic. Globally, and in India, more women have lost jobs during COVID-19. A recent report by the Center for Sustainable Employment at Azim Premji University in India shows that during the first lockdown in 2020, only 7 per cent of men lost their jobs, compared to 47 per cent of women who lost their jobs and did not return to work by the end of the year. In the informal sector, women fared even worse. This year, between March and April 2021, rural Indian women in informal jobs accounted for 80 per cent of job losses.

Indian women also spend more time doing unpaid care work at home than men. On an



community centre in Batla House, Okhla, New Delhi. SSK community centres have been set up by the Indian Government across the country to act as local incubation centres to promote women's self-help groups, provide skills training and public health information. The SSKs operate within "Anganwadi" centres that are part of the Indian public health care system, providing basic health care services in rural and marginalized areas. During the COVID-19 pandemic, these centres have remained open, providing free meals, immunization and health check-ups for children, pregnant and lactating mothers, and helping women access government assistance programmes. In the SSK centre in Batla House, women also learn tailoring and sewing, computer skills and beautician training. Photo: UN Women/Ruhani Kaur

Women and children from the community assembled at a Saheli Samanvay Kendra (SSK) community centre in Batla House, Okhla, New Delhi. SSK community centres have been set up by the Indian Government across the country to act as local incubation centres to promote women's self-help groups, provide skills training and public health information. The SSKs operate within "Anganwadi" centres that are part of the Indian public health care system, providing basic health care services in rural and marginalized areas. During the COVID-19 pandemic, these centres have remained open, providing free meals, immunization and health check-ups for children, pregnant and lactating mothers, and helping women access government assistance programmes. In the SSK centre in Batla

The current draft of the anti-trafficking bill that will be tabled soon in the Parliament is another welcome step, as it is set to increase



penalties for perpetrators and make reporting of such crimes mandatory.

Should those who have recovered from COVID-19 not get vaccinated?

India has fully vaccinated 6.2 per cent of its population (as of 19 July 2021) and 17 per cent of its population has received at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine. However, the vaccination rate has been declining and currently averaging at around 4 million doses daily.

Leading health organizations around the world have confirmed that people who have recovered from COVID-19 can still get re-infected. There is not enough data available to say if and how long a body's natural immunity acquired after surviving the disease will last or

Schools teachers tasked to identify bootleggers in 'dry' Bihar

PANTA: Don't be surprised when a school teacher suddenly drops at your doorstep to inquire about alcoholics or bootleggers. The state education department on Friday issued a directive asking the Principals and teachers of government run primary, middle and secondary schools to gather information about people consuming alcohol or involved in illicit liquor trade. The letter issued by education department's additional chief secretary Sanjay Kumar said the principals and teachers will also ensure that the school premises were not being used by alcoholics after closure of the institutes. The directive, however, promised that the identity of the informers would be kept secret. The letter carried the toll free numbers on which complaints related

to bootleggers or liquor suppliers can be lodged. Elaborating the significance of the directive, the education department's additional chief secretary said the liquor consumption has its adverse impact not only on the health of the alcoholics but also on the members of respective families. "We have been informed that some people were consuming liquor secretly despite prohibition in the state. Hence awareness about 'nasha mukti' (de-addiction) is need of the hour," the latest directive said. The letter addressed to all regional deputy directors and district programme officers, said that besides principals and teachers of schools, siksha samiti members and tola sevaks will also be part of intelligence collection team.

ECoR opens outreach camps to look into NTPC CBT-1 result concerns

BHUBANESWAR: The East Coast Railway (ECoR) on Thursday appealed to

As directed by Union Minister for Railways Ashwini Vaishnaw, the ECoR has consti-

A railway spokesman said candidates have been given three weeks time till Febru-

dates not to be misguided or come under the influence of any unruly elements who are trying to use them



railway job aspirants to not indulge in unlawful activities during examinations conducted by Railway Recruitment Boards (RRBs). The zonal railway has set up outreach camps to look into the concerns and doubts raised by some candidates with regard to results of the first stage examination of Non Technical Popular Categories (NTPC) conducted by the RRBs. This came a day after protesters squatted on railway tracks at several places across the country over the first stage results.

tuted a high-powered committee, which will look into the issues raised by candidates on the Computer Based Test (CBT) results published on January 14 and 15 and give recommendations. Outreach camps at each division and one at Bhubaneswar have been opened where aspirants can register their grievances, which will be placed at the highest level for redressal. The candidates can also lodge their complaints and suggestions at rrbcommittee@railnet.gov.in.

ary 16 to submit their concerns. The committee consisting of senior railway officials will carefully listen to the complaints and suggestions of the aspirants at the camps. It will submit the recommendations by March 4 after examining the grievances, he said. Responding to allegations on irregularities during the CBT, the Railway Minister clarified that the RRB examinations are being conducted in a transparent manner while maintaining highest standards of integrity. He advised candi-

dates for fulfilling their own agenda. Candidates involved in vandalism and unlawful activities have been warned and told they will be barred from getting recruited in the railways. Meanwhile, the RRB has postponed the NTPC second stage CBT that was scheduled to be conducted in a single phase from February 15 to 19 across the country at various centres amid violent protests by candidates. The level 1 examination scheduled to begin on February 23 has also been deferred. The fresh dates will be announced later.

West Bengal post-poll violence: Seven held by CBI in BJP worker's death case



KOLKATA: The CBI, which is probing cases of political violence in the aftermath of assembly elections in Bengal, has arrested seven persons in connection with the death of BJP worker Manik Moitra

in Sitalkuchi area of Cooch Behar district, agency sources said on Friday. The sources said that the accused are residents of a village in Cooch Behar. They were produced before a district court, which

sent them to judicial custody till February 11, according to the sources. The agency had registered the case in August last year, on the orders of Calcutta High Court. Initially, a complaint was registered at a

police station in Sitalkuchi. The high court had, on August 19, ordered that probe into post-poll violence cases involving rape and murder be held by the CBI, taking note of an NHRC report in the matter.

Thiruvananthapuram Corp's Covid fight falters as rapid team, Asha workers unpaid: BJP

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM (KCN): At a time when the third wave of the pandemic is on, the Covid prevention efforts of the city corporation are lagging

rendered yeoman service during the first and second wave of the pandemic have not been paid their allowance by the civic body. In 57 wards, the dues of

lors alleged. "The ruling CPM says the lackadaisical attitude of health inspectors and junior health inspectors is responsible for the present situation.

standing committee and councillors, no help was given to the volunteers. The BJP councillors added that Asha workers, who render service at the grassroots level



behind, BJP councillors in the civic body have alleged. The lack of cooperation from Rapid Response Team (RRT) volunteers and Asha workers has compounded the problem, they alleged. RRT volunteers who

RRT workers have not been paid for more than a year. Even though the corporation claims that funds for RRT volunteers have been disbursed in 43 wards, half of them have not even received any money, BJP council-

These corporation officials on the other hand ridicule young volunteers who risk their lives during the pandemic," BJP councillor Thirumala Anil said. He added that despite approaching the Mayor, chairperson of health

are also keeping away from Covid prevention activities due to non-payment of honorarium by the civic body. They have not even been provided basic safety equipment such as masks, gloves and sanitisers.



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Vihangam Yoga Satsang organized at Maharishi Sadafal Dev Ashram

Rourkela (KCN): A satsang program was organized by the fol-

lowers of the Maharishi Sadafal Dev on behalf of the Vihangam Yoga Sant Samaj in the Maharishi Sadafal Dev Ashram premises located in Gopapalli, Vedvyas of Sundargarh district. Sugriv Sharma, the district coordinator of the event presided over the proceedings. A inscribed white flag was hoisted by Suresh Gupta and others. The welcome song was performed collectively. Mangalagan was performed collectively. Mansa Devi performed the prayer song of Sadafal Dev ji. Naresh Prasad narrated the Swarveda story. Harinarayan Singh recited the Swarveda. Harinarayan Singh

and Suresh Gupta delivered the discourse. Mansa Devi and Sushil Sharma, Shiv Vishwakarma, Priti Vishwakarma, Sunil

and many others were present. Nitesh Kumar, youth campaigner of Vihangam Yoga Sant Samaj of Rourkela city and head of Super 20, as he was selected by New Delhi Democratic World Organization as peace ambassador from Rourkela city of Odisha state and for doing commendable work in various social organisations and society, hence Sugreev Sharma,



and Suresh Gupta delivered the discourse. Mansa Devi and Sushil Sharma, Shiv Vishwakarma, Priti Vishwakarma, Sunil and many others were present. Nitesh Kumar, youth campaigner of Vihangam Yoga Sant Samaj of Rourkela city and head of Super 20, as he was selected by New Delhi Democratic World Organization as peace ambassador from Rourkela city of Odisha state and for doing commendable work in various social organisations and society, hence Sugreev Sharma,

Chauhan ji recited Chauhan, Akshay



hymns. At the end of the program, Vandana, Aarti and Shanti recitation were done collectively. The program mainly included Sugriv Sharma, the district coordinator of Vihangam Yoga Sant Samaj, Harinarayan Singh, Suresh Chandra Gupta, Naresh Prasad, Dinanath Sahu,

Sharma, Ashok Gupta, Suman Gupta, Sunil Sahu, Ayushi Kumari, Rinku Kumari, Aradhana Gupta, Ranjana Chauhan, Arpita Gupta, Mala Rajak, Bablu Rajak, Om Rajak, Pandey ji, Ajay Tiwari, Sona Devi, Mansa Devi, Pratima Kumari, Shanti Devi, Ayushi, Ashish, Aaradhya,

Treasurer Suresh Chandra Gupta and Harinarayan Singh, convener of Yog Sant Samaj Sundargarh district, were greeted him by providing Swarveda granth and presenting floral garlands. The program ended with prasad sevam in the end and the program was organised by following Covid norms.

Bear rescued from tree after 32 hours

BHUBANESWAR: A bear that went atop a tree after being chased by some villagers in Nabarangpur district early on Sunday

tranquillise the bear to bring it down from the tree at around 1 pm on Monday. The bear strayed into the locality from a nearby forest on Sat-

urday night. It climbed the tree after being chased by some people. On being informed, a 10-member team of forest officials reached the spot to bring it down. The team had a tough time rescuing it, Nabarangpur ACF Dhanurjaya Mahapatra said. The forest officials cleared the crowd

from the area and offered the bear with the choicest of food including jaggery and mahua flowers to lure it down but in vain. After all their few hours, the animal was released into the forest on Monday night," the ACF said. He said the bear was petrified after being chased by people and



morning was rescued by forest officials after two days. The terrified animal which had sneaked into Nayakguda village within Umerkote range of Nabarangpur forest division held on to the tree's branches for nearly 32 hours. DFO Prasanna Kumar Behera said forest officials had to

efforts failed, the officials decided to tranquillise the animal. The bear was then brought down from the tree in an unconscious state and shifted to the Umerkote range office in a cage where it was administered necessary veterinary care. "After monitoring its health for a

not coming down. "Previously we had rescued monkeys too," Mahapatra said. Locals, on the other hand, said wild bears often sneak into their area in search of food. They urged Forest department to initiate adequate measures to prevent the animals from entering human habitations.

whole incident as a conspiracy to defame Jual and BJP in the run-up to the panchayat elections. Sharing her photographs with Rourkela district Congress committee president George Tirkey and other leaders, Patnaik said Gouri has left the BJP after 2019 and was defaming the BJP on the instigation of others. According to Patnaik, Gouri had sought BJP ticket from the Bisra-A Zilla Parishad seat and when denied, she hatched the conspiracy to defame BJP. "Gouri, while sharing dais with Congress leaders, was making baseless allegation against the seniormost leader of another party and people would never believe her," she further added.

Suresh Prabhu MP will address the IIT Kharagpur Partha Ghosh Academy of Leadership Series webinar on 29 January

Partha Ghosh Academy of Leadership

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by
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Ex-Union Minister, Ministry of Railways, Govt. of India

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Koklata (KCN): Hon'ble Shri Suresh Prabhakar Prabhu MP (and former Union Commerce Minister, Industries, Civil Aviation, Railways, Energy, Heavy Enterprises, Chemicals, Fertilizers, Environment and For-

ests and Former Sherpa of India for G-7 and G-20 Countries) has been invited to speak at IIT Kharagpur Webinar. The program is Partha Ghosh Academy of Leadership International Monthly Leadership Webinar Series on

January 29, 2022 on Saturday at 9.00pm. Director, IIT Kharagpur Professor VK Tiwari is the mentor. Honorable Shri Prabhu said, "I am honored to be invited as the inaugural President. To launch the Inter-

national Leadership Lecture Series. organized by IIT Kharagpur, I look forward to speaking on India's contribution towards global harmony. To interact with a global audience Industry leaders, technologists, academics.

Parbati Giri among 75 unsung heroes

BHUBANESWAR: Parbati Giri, one of the most prominent women freedom fighters of the State,

Meenakashi Lekhi in New Delhi on Thursday. The pictorial book on India's Unsung He-

towards upliftment of people, Giri was born in Samlaipadar village near Bijepur in undivided Sambalpur

equally vocal in expressing dissent against imperial powers. However, history has hardly



is among the 75 women unsung heroes of freedom struggle whose stories have been presented in a pictorial book released by Union Minister of State for Culture

roes of Freedom Struggle was released in collaboration with Amar Chitra Katha as part of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav. Known as the Mother Teresa of Western Odisha for her work

district (now in Bargarh district). She established herself as the symbol of women empowerment. Narrating the tales of valour of the unsung women heroes, Lekhi said that women were

been written with this perspective and now as part of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav, the sacrifices of these unsung heroes will be brought to light, she said

Former BJP member moves to OSCW against Jual

ROURKELA: Former BJP member Gouri Mundari (22), who had accused Sundargarh MP and ex-Union Minister

Thursday. Gouri said, she approached the OSCW as the police was not taking any action against the MP. She

to seek support for some candidates in the panchayat polls, but the MP misbehaved and abused her. Earlier, Panposh

whole incident as a conspiracy to defame Jual and BJP in the run-up to the panchayat elections. Sharing her photographs with Rourkela district Congress committee president George Tirkey and other leaders, Patnaik said Gouri has left the BJP after 2019 and was defaming the BJP on the instigation of others. According to Patnaik, Gouri had sought BJP ticket from the Bisra-A Zilla Parishad seat and when denied, she hatched the conspiracy to defame BJP. "Gouri, while sharing dais with Congress leaders, was making baseless allegation against the seniormost leader of another party and people would never believe her," she further added.



Jual Oram of misbehaving with her over the phone a few days back, lodged a complaint with the Odisha State Commission For Women (OSCW) in Bhubaneswar on

had lodged a complaint at the Jhirpani police station after ransacking the BJP office at Sector-3 here on January 24. In the complaint, Gouri cited that she rang up Jual

organisational district president of BJP Latika Patnaik had filed a complaint with Sector-3 police against Gouri for ransacking the BJP office. Patnaik had described the

Global gold demand rises 10% to 4,021 tonnes in 2021: WGC

MUMBAI: Global gold demand rose 10 per cent to 4,021.3 tonnes in 2021 on account of a massive 50 per cent surge in year-on-year demand -- a 10-quarter high -- during the December quarter, a report by the World Gold Council (WGC) said. The overall gold demand during 2020, which was impacted following Covid-19 related disruptions, stood at 3,658.8

tonnes, the WGC said in its 'Gold Demand Trends 2021' Report.

"The demand for the yellow metal was mainly driven by Central bank buying during the fourth quarter of 2021, recovery in jewellery consumption, mainly in India and China," WGC Regional CEO, India, Somasundaram PR told.

Demand for gold reached 1,146.8 tonnes in the October-December quarter in 2021, its highest quarterly level since the second quarter in 2019 and an increase of almost 50 per cent year-on-year, according to WGC data.

ALSO READ | Gold jumps Rs 255 on global trends
The overall demand during Q4 2020

stood at 768.3 tonnes.

The last quarter of 2021 witnessed 31 per cent growth in gold bar and coin demand to an 8-year high of 1,180 tonnes as retail investors sought a safe haven on the back of rising inflation and ongoing economic uncertainty caused by the pandemic, it noted. Meanwhile, the WGC data reported

outflows of 173 tonnes in 2021 from gold-backed ETFs (electronic traded funds) as some more tactical investors re-

banks were net purchasers of gold for the 12th consecutive year, adding 463 tonnes to their holdings, which was 82

tailoring its performance.

Gold prices in the near term will likely react to real rates, which in turn will re-

ETF outflows," WGC Senior Analyst EMEA Louise Street said.

On the other hand, she said, a search for safe haven assets led to a rise in gold bar and coin purchases, buoyed by central bank buying.

"Declines in ETFs were offset by demand growth in other sectors. Jewellery reached its highest level in nearly a decade as key markets like China and India regained economic vibrancy. We expect similar dynamics to influence gold's performance in 2022 with demand drivers fluctuating according to the relative dominance of key economic variables," she noted.

How central banks deal with persistent high levels of inflation will be a key factor for institutional and retail demand in 2022, she observed. "Meanwhile, the jewellery market's current strength could be hampered if new Covid-19 variants restrict consumer access again or continue if the economic recovery endures," she added.



Forex reserves fall to USD 634.287 billion



MUMBAI: The country's foreign exchange reserves declined by USD 678 million to USD 634.287 billion in the week ended January 21, according to RBI data.

In the previous week ended January 14, the reserves had increased by USD 2.229 billion to USD 634.965 billion. It touched a lifetime high of USD 642.453 billion in

the week ended September 3, 2021.

During the reporting week ended January 21, the dip in the reserves was on account of a drop in the Foreign Currency Assets (FCA), a major component of the overall reserves, as per the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) weekly data released on Friday.

FCA declined by USD 1.155 billion to

USD 569.582 billion in the reporting week. Expressed in dollar terms, FCA include the effect of appreciation or depreciation of non-US units like the euro, pound and yen held in the foreign exchange reserves.

ALSO READ | India's forex reserves rise by \$2.22 billion to \$634.96 billion

Gold reserves increased by USD 567

million to USD 40.337 billion in the reporting week, the data showed. The Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) declined by USD 68 million to USD 19.152 billion. The country's reserve position with the IMF also dipped by USD 22 million to USD 5.216 billion in the reporting week, the data showed.

10 arrested for theft at jewellery store in Mumbai's Bhuleshwar area

Continued from page-1

crore, the official said.

The accused had also decamped with the digital video recorder of the CCTV at the premises,



as a result of which the police found it difficult to identify the men, the official said. Based on a complaint lodged by the shop owner, an FIR was registered against his Ganesh Kumar Devasi (21), Ramesh Prajapati (21) and three accused at LT Marg police station, he said.

"During the probe, the police got specific inputs about the accused persons, following which six teams were dispatched to Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan," said Joint Commissioner (Law and Order) Vishwas Nangre Patil. With the help of technical inputs, Prajapati was arrested from Ravdar bus stand in Sirohi, he

duced hedges early in the year amid the Covid-19 vaccine rollouts, while rising interest rates made holding gold more expensive.

Nevertheless, these outflows represent only a fraction of the 2,200 tonnes that gold ETFs have accumulated over the preceding five years, demonstrating the continuing importance investors place on including gold in their portfolio, said the report.

Turning to annual consumer demand, the jewellery sector rebounded to match 2019's pre-pandemic total of 2,124 tonnes mainly aided by a strong fourth quarter when demand reached its highest level since second quarter of 2013, when the price of gold was 25 per cent lower than the average comparative price in 2021.

Further, the report revealed that central

During interrogation, Prajapati also revealed that some of the stolen gold was kept with his

per cent higher than 2020.

A diverse group of central banks from both emerging and developed markets added to their gold reserves, lifting the global total to a near 30-year high, it added.

ALSO READ | Nod to gold imports via India International Bullion Exchange

The use of gold in the technology sector in 2021 increased 9 per cent to reach a three-year high of 330 tonnes, the report stated adding that while technology demand is comparatively smaller than other sectors, its uses are far reaching and prevalent in a variety of electronics, from mobile devices to the sophisticated James Webb telescope recently put in orbit.

WGC expects gold to face similar dynamics in 2022 to those seen last year, with competing forces

supporting and cur-

said. The police team recovered 9070.71 gm of gold valued Rs 4.15 crore, which was buried by the accused on a farm in the village, he said.

During interrogation, Prajapati also revealed that some of the stolen gold was kept with his

respond to the speed at which global central banks tighten monetary policy and their effectiveness in controlling inflation, said the report.

In addition, the report said that gold is likely to continue to find support from consumer and central bank demand.

"Gold's performance this year truly underscored the value of its unique dual nature and the diverse demand drivers.

On the investment side, the tug of war between persistent inflation and rising rates created a mixed picture for demand. Increasing rates fuelled a risk-on appetite among some investors, reflected in

Anadron to Supply Defence Equipments

Continued from page-1

tems. It has an R&D and manufacturing unit located strategically at the TATA Steel SEZ, Gopalpur.

Attending the occasion, Brig (Retd) LC Patnaik said that such initiatives will attract more MSMEs to participate in the nation's defence projects which will ultimately reduce the import burden and promote the indigenous defence manufacturing sector of India.

Thanking the state for encouraging the entrepreneurs and MSMEs, Anant Bhalotia, MD of the company appreciated the robust Single window portal - GO SWIFT and stressed the future expansions of the company in Odisha. According to officials, Anadron systems provided key inputs while drafting the Odisha Aerospace and Defence Manufacturing Policy, 2018 and it was also a part of Odisha's delegation to the UK in 2016.

Such endeavours will further boost the Make in Odisha program of the state, which is keen on promoting Defence, Aerospace and other new-age industries.

Naveen asks people not to be complacent

Continued from page-1

Additional Chief Secretary (Health) RK Sharma, in a detailed presentation on the Covid situation in the State, informed that while the daily testing has gone up to 65,000-70,000, the positivity rate has remained at 11.4 percent which is less than the national average. He, however, said that the positivity rate in Jajpur, Balasore, Cuttack, Sundargarh and Khurda still remained comparatively high.

Earlier on Wednesday, the Chief Minister called upon the people to abide by guidelines to fight the third wave of Covid pandemic. In his Republic Day message, Naveen said that the pandemic will soon be over with everyone's cooperation and life will return to normal. He also paid tributes to Covid warriors who lost their lives in the pandemic.

Schalke fans unveil plaque to Jews deported from local area

BERLIN: Fans of German soccer club Schalke unveiled a memorial on Thursday to commemorate the deportation of more than 500 Jews from the local area to

ness of what happened in this place back then, with the task of ensuring that it never happens again," Schalke fan Ines Kempken told The Associated Press

immediately upon arrival," Schalke says on its website. The club says around 450 of those deported that day from Gelsenkirchen were killed before the end

for some people because they knew they had no future in Germany ... it was their only chance, you can say," said Rituper, who said the people were forced to wait

the ghetto in Riga. They were killed right away," Rituper said.

Those deemed fit enough to work were brought to the ghetto. "From there, the Nazis looked for people who could work hard. So the from the start they started to select people," Rituper said. "It was something like the base for the Jews from Westphalia. They were all deported to Riga and then from there to other concentration camps."

There were other trains, too — to the ghettos in Warsaw and Theresienstadt.

"After we discovered that there wasn't just one train from Gelsenkirchen, but three, it was clear that we had to find out

more about the people at this place, do more research, to understand what happened here," Kempken said.

More than 350 of the Jews deported on Jan. 27, 1942 were from Gelsenkirchen, and others came from places like Recklinghausen, Bocholt, Bottrop, Castrop-Rauxel, Datteln, Dorsten, Gladbeck, Haltern, Herten, Lembeck, Marl, Lüdinghausen, Münster and Selm — all part of the Ruhr area in western Germany.

Rolf Abrahamson was one of the last survivors, and he spoke with those involved in the project, sharing his experience of the mass deportation.

Abrahamson died in December.

Schalke said the fans involved in the project felt compelled "to make the immeasurable suffering of Gelsenkirchen's Jews more visible" after they had taken part in a club-organized visit to the Auschwitz concentration camp.

There had been a larger commemorative event planned for Thursday, but it was postponed to a later unscheduled date due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Thursday is also International Holocaust Remembrance Day, which falls on the anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration and extermination camp on Jan. 27, 1945.



a ghetto in Riga, Latvia, 80 years ago to the day.

The group of around 20 fans — who've been working with the club, the city of Gelsenkirchen, local historians and the local Jewish community — want to bring attention to the atrocity, remember its victims and highlight the terror Germans wrought under National Socialism.

"It's important for us to create an aware-

ness in a phone call. Early on Jan. 27, 1942, Nazis packed more than 500 of their Jewish compatriots onto a five-carriage eastbound train at Gelsenkirchen station and brought them on a five-day journey in freezing conditions more than 1,600 kilometers (1,000 miles) to the ghetto in Riga, Latvia, which was occupied by Germany at the time.

"The murders began

of World War II. Schalke fan Jannik Rituper told The AP that the Nazis had instructed the local Jewish society to round up their members for a "new life in the East." Jewish people were told to wait outside their houses with their belongings before they were picked up and grouped together at the Wildenbruchplatz central square in Gelsenkirchen.

"It seemed voluntary

several days before the train departed. He said it was "minus 27 degrees (minus 16.6 Fahrenheit)" when it left.

The victims' belongings were taken away as they were put on the train.

"And then when they arrived in Riga, the Nazis started to kill the people that they knew could not work for them. So they already sought weak people or old people who did not arrive in

Brendan Taylor banned by ICC for 3 and half years for delay in reporting spot-fixing approach

DUBAI: Former Zimbabwe captain Brendan Taylor was

"Former Zimbabwe captain Brendan Taylor has been banned

ing a multi-year ban from the ICC for delay in reporting a cor-

rupt approach by an Indian businessman last year, said he was also given a part payment to spot fix



on Friday banned for three and a half years by the ICC for failing to report a 2019 spot-fixing approach by an Indian businessman on time and was also handed a one month suspension for failing a dope test which was linked to his intake of cocaine during the episode.

In a statement, the ICC said Taylor admitted to being in breach of the provisions of the ICC Anti-Corruption Code.

from all cricket for three and a half years after he accepted breaching four charges of the ICC Anti-Corruption Code and, separately, one charge of the ICC Anti-Doping Code," the ICC said.

On January 24, Taylor made a stunning disclosure that he was blackmailed after "foolishly" taking cocaine during his meeting with an Indian businessman. Taylor said he is fac-

rupt approach by an Indian businessman in 2019.

Taylor had claimed that he was invited by the businessman to India to discuss "sponsorships" and the potential launch of a T20 event in Zimbabwe besides an offer of USD 15,000 in October 2019.

He did not name the businessman in question. The 35-year-old, who played 205 ODIs, 34 Tests and 45 T20s before retiring

matches, which, according to him, he never did. He tested positive for Benzoylcocaine, which is primarily a result of cocaine ingestion. "This one-month suspension will run concurrently with the suspension of three and a half years under the ICC Anti-Corruption Code. Mr Taylor will be free to resume his involvement in the game on 28 July 2025," the ICC stated.

Danielle Collins to play Ash Barty in Australian Open final

MELBOURNE (KCN): Danielle Collins reached a Grand Slam final for the first time with a 6-4, 6-1 win over Iga Swiatek at the Australian Open.

The 28-year-old American will next face top-ranked Ash Barty for the title at Melbourne Park.

Collins broke the 2020 French Open champion's serve in the first game of each set and raced to 4-0 leads in both. She hit 27 winners and had only 13 unforced errors.

Collins' run to the Australian Open semifinals in 2019 was her best previous result at a Grand Slam tournament.

She says she's looking forward to taking on the home favorite in the final.

Collins says "we've had some incredible battles."




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