

## Aparajita Sarangi to get D.Litt

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Former Top Notch Administrator and Member of Parliament (MP) from Bhubaneswar, Aparajita Sarangi will receive D.Litt Degree on 9 January.

University, Pune will honor Shrimati Sarangi in its Convocation Ceremony, informed Vice Chancellor, Dr.Mangesh T

will honor her on the occasion of Fourth Convocation Ceremony to be held at Pune on 9 January. Shrimati Sarangi,

'Stars of Odisha' by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Srimati Sarangi served Odisha Administration in various capacities and served the people of the State with highest sincerity. And as MP from Bhubaneswar she is outshining others while taking up peoples' issues in Lok Sabha and sorting out grievances of the people of the constituency in a big way.

Srimati Sarangi will also be honoured with Shree Saraswati Devi Jeevan Dnyan Gaurav Puraskar for upholding the highest tradition and time tested universal values of the country.

MITADT University, Pune houses multidisciplinary educational institutions dedicated to promote art, design and technology, while parting high quality education and enriching values among students.



ajita Sarangi will receive prestigious D.Litt Degree on 9 January. Internationally Recognized MIT-ADT

Karnad. In an appreciation letter to Shrimati Sarangi Dr.Karnad has informed that MIT-ADT University

known for his pro-people approach and maintaining highest standard in Public Life has all along is recently termed as

## Changes affected in Bureaucracy

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Affecting a major reshuffle in senior bureaucracy, the State Government Sunday appointed Agriculture Production Commissioner Raj Kumar Sharma as the Additional Chief Secretary of Health & Family Welfare Department. The 1987-batch IAS Officer is also allowed to remain in additional charge of Chairman,

Management Department.

Ranjana Chopra (1994-batch), who is the Principal Secretary to ST&SC Development, M&BCW Department, has been allowed to remain in charge of Principal Secretary to the MSME Department in addition to her own duties.

Industries Principal Secretary Hemant Sharma (1995-batch), who is in charge of Principal Secretary to SD&TE Department and Chairman of IPICOL, has been allowed to remain in additional charge of Chairman of IDCO in addition to his own duties.

1995 Batch IAS Bishnupada Sethi, who is at present the Principal Secretary of Revenue & Disaster Management Department with additional charge of Principal Secretary to I&PR Department, has been shifted to the School & Mass Education Department as Principal Secretary.

Mr.Sethi is allowed to remain in additional charge of Principal Secretary to Commerce & Transport Department and Principal Secretary to I&PR Department in addition to his own duties.

Secretary of A&FE Department Suresh Kumar Vashishth has been appointed as Officer on Special Duty (OSD) of GA&PG Department. Secretary of Social Security & Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities Department Bhaskar Jyoti Sarma has been allowed to remain in charge of Secretary of W&CD Department in addition to his own duties.

2008 batch IAS Bhupendra Singh Poonia, who is the Managing Director of IPICOL with additional charge of Additional Secretary to Industries Department, ED, IDCO and MD of Odisha Film Development Corporation is allowed to remain in additional charge of MD of IDCO in addition to his own duties.



OSMCL, in addition to his own duties. Similarly, Additional Chief Secretary to the Home Department Sanjeev Chopra (1990-batch) has been appointed as Agriculture Production Commissioner in place of Sharma. He has also been allowed to remain in additional charge of Additional Chief Secretary Home Department and Additional Chief Secretary to A&FE Department in addition to his own duties.

According to the official notification, 1991-batch IAS Officer Madhu Sudan Padhi, who is the Principal Secretary to Commerce & Transport Department with additional charge of Commissioner, Land Records & Settlement, has been appointed as the Principal Secretary Odia Language, Literature & Culture Department.

MSME Principal Secretary Satyabrata Sahu also 1991 batch and held additional charge of Principal Secretary to School & Mass Education Department, has been appointed as the Principal Secretary to Revenue & Disaster

## Criminals played their games in UP earlier, now Yogi govt plays 'jail jail' with them: PM Modi

MEERUT(KCN): Hitting out at the previous government in Uttar Pradesh, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday said earlier criminals and the mafia used to play their games, but now the Yogi Adityanath government is playing "jail-jail" with them.

Addressing a public meeting after laying the foundation stone for the Major Dhyanchand Sports University here, Modi

said, "During the previous government,

mafia used to play its games. Earlier, there

land). People making bad remarks



criminals used to play their games, the

were tournaments of illegal grabbing (of

('phabtiyaan') on

## Naveen seeks Lord's blessings

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik begins the first day of

Niwasi. Soon after waking up in the morning, Patnaik came out

in his residence. A video of 1.06 minute of this moment goes viral in different social media.

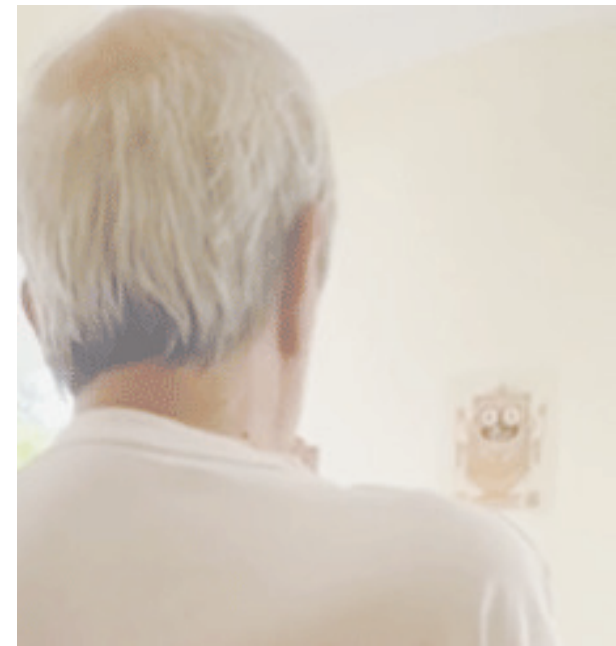
The Chief Minister, who is a great devotee of Lord Jagannath, usually visits the Jagannath temple in Puri on January 1 every year and pays obeisance to Lord Jagannath and his siblings.

However, the 12th Century shrine has remained closed today for the public in view of prevailing Covid-19 situation. In the morning, the Chief Minister greeted the people on New Year using his social media site twitter. He prayed to Lord

Jagannath for prosperity of all people and progress of the State.

Notably, taking a historic step, the Chief Minister has decided to implement most ambitious Shrimandir Parikrama Prakalpa (Heritage Corridor Project), for which Shilanyas and Bhumi Puja were also performed in the hands of Gajapati Maharaj, as per Vedic rituals during the event. The Chief Minister along with leaders across the party line had attended the programme on November 24.

Conceived in 2016, the Puri Heritage



New Year 2022 seeking blessings from the Lord Jagannath at his residence Naveen

from his bedroom and prayed before Lord Jagannath put up at one of the walls

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## SUM turns ICMR Clinical trial center



Bhubaneswar(KCN): The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has chosen the Institute of Medical Sciences and SUM Hospital here as one of the ICMR Centre for Clinical Trials (ICCT) in the Eastern Region.

IMS and SUM Hospital, faculty of medicine of Siksha 'O' Anusandhan (SOA), had responded to the Expression of Interest for participation in the Indian Clinical Trial and Education Network (INTENT). The application was

reviewed by a screening committee comprising external experts. The centre will undertake clinical trials on new drugs and vaccines, Dr. Ruchi Bhuyan, Director (Medical Research) at IMS and SUM Hospital, said.

Dr. Soumya Surath Panda of the Department of Oncology will be the Principal Investigator at the centre while Dr. Ruchi Bhuyan, Dr. Priyanka Samal, Dr. Jyoti Prakash Samal and Dr. Nirmala Deo Pradhan will be Co-Investigators.



# Siddhartha Mitra nominated as BYJD president TejasRajdhani Trains were introduced on 4 routes

Khordha (KCN): Rotary Club and after his voluntary re-



gineer & Social Activist Siddhartha Mitra as Biju Yuva Janata Dal (BYJD) President of Khordha Assembly Constituency. He is a active member of Khordha

retirement from Engineering job he is involves in social work. After he nominated as the President of BYJD Khordha Assembly Constituency Er.

## News for non extension of date for filing Income Tax Returns

Kolkata (KCN): Tax Professionals & Taxpayers unhappy for non-extension of date for filing ITRs\*  
Narayan Jain, Chairman, DTPA Representation Committee has felt that tax professionals as well as taxpayers are disappointed for not allowing extension of date for furnishing ITRs. Many taxpayers are unable to file ITR due to bonafide reasons and for technical glitches in Income Tax Portal which persisted since inception and even now many features are not properly working like in case of Executor of Estate, legal heirs as also for exercising option of choosing Alternate Tax Regime and in

## Barbil Administration getalerted to envisage Covid situation

Barbil (KCN): An massive drive was undertaken by the Barbil administration of Keonjhar district to combat prevailing Covid situation in the area. In this joint drive executive officer Barbil municipality Abhisek Panda, Police SDPO Himansu Behera, police IIC Sushant Dash and officials of road transport department were participated. One recent case of Omicron in the city of a foreign returnee has created a panic in

## Wealth reach area Joda-Barbil area in the verge of severe employment

Barbil (KCN): Joda-Barbil in Kendujhar district, the only means of people's bread here is to either transport minerals or to work under a



poverty. The situation is such a large community of the area laid in the cage of darkness. The political leaders who had to think about the

Mitra thanked to CM, Naveen Pattnaik, BJD, Organization Secretary Pranab Prakash Das, BYJD, President, Byo-mokesh Ray, Khordha District BJD, President, Bibhuti Bhusan Balabantaray, Secretary Lalit Mohan Mohapatra, Zilla Parishad, President Khordha, Prafulla Kumar Dalei, Khordha District BYJD, President Rajesh Parida. The BJD, leaders and office bearer's like State, BYJD, Secretary, Rudra Nath Dutta, BCJD, State Secretary Nassim Khan, Khordha District BJD, Vice-President, Bibhu Prasad Sahoo & Dillip Kumar Hota, Khordha Town BJD, President Mahammad Arif, Khordha Town

case of use of DSC. The dates have been extended for filing of E Forms MGT 7/7A till 28th Feb 2022. Likewise extension has been granted for filing GST Form 9C etc till 28th Feb 2022. KK Jain, President of Direct Taxes Professionals Association pleaded to grant extension even now for furnishing ITRs for at least till 31st Jan 2022 to mitigate Problems of Income taxpayers si that they are not required to pay Late Fee. FM need to reconsider the matter and grant extension as the Government will not loose anything and more people will be filing their ITRs said RD Kakra, Chairman Legal Relief Society.

## Barbil Administration getalerted to envisage Covid situation

the area .The increase in the number of covid patient in the city is another challenge for the administration. Visualising all these situation the core team raided many places in the city and sealed 3 nos of shop for disobeying Covid protocol and 43 nos of people were fined for not wearing mask. Similarly 8 vehicles were fined for illegal parking covering service road in the town.

## Wealth reach area Joda-Barbil area in the verge of severe employment

truck owners .They are now leasing the mines by participating in the mining auction process and deploy people and lorries form outside. People

BYJD President Dillip Parida, Khordha District Mahila BJD, President Geetanjali Patsani, Khordha Block BJD, President Rudra Bhanu Narendra Singh, Tangi Block BJD, President Bira Patsani and among others congratulated Er. Siddhartha Mitra for his appointment. Er. Mitra is the elder son of MLA, Khordha, Joytrindra Nath Mitra. In his replied Er. Mitra said "He worked hard and to reach all home and spread the party's message and highlighted to major achievements of CM, Naveen Pattnaik Government. To work hard every minute to honour the faith of the people with Dedication, Determination and Devotion.

## Wealth reach area Joda-Barbil area in the verge of severe employment

mines. But unfortunately lack of government interest and vision, this wealth rich area sits at the laps of severe unemployment and

## Wealth reach area Joda-Barbil area in the verge of severe employment

people are raising their bank balance with illegal bonding with these mining companies. The similar case happened to local



in the truck with the family were being supported, which has been closed for the past several months, as many large national companies

Kolkata (KCN): Enhanced Safety Zero passenger fatalities Since April 2019 Total 22 consequential accidents compared to 14 during 2020-21 & 48 during 2019-20 in the same period (upto 30.12.2021).

Freight Loading Loaded 1029.94 MT during 2021-22 upto 31.12.2021 compared to 870.41 MT in 2020-21 during same period (+159.53 MT) +18%. Highest ever loading in first 8 months of the year (consecutive 16 months in respective month from Sep'20 to Dec'21) 1646 Mail/ Express trains out of 1768 (93%), Sub-Urban- 5528 out of 5626 (98%) and Passenger- 1599 out of 3634 (44%) trains are running.

Presently, Reserved Passengers booking are more than 2019-20 Punctuality of Mail/Express trains is 92.55% during 2021-22 (upto 31.12.2021).

Freight Train Speed: Average Freight Train speed is 44.36kmph during 2021-22 compared to 42.97kmph during 2020-21 (+3.23 %) (upto 31.12.2021).

Infrastructure Progress Highest ever Capital allocation of 2.15 Lakh Cr has been made for infrastructure development during FY 21-22. Expenditure upto Nov'21 is Rs 1,04,238 Cr (48.5%).

Railway Electrification Progress: 1924 Route km upto 30.12.2021 against 1903 Last year during the period

New Line/ Doubling/ Gauge Conversion: 1330.41 km till 30.12.2021 (NL: 120.5 km GC: 242.3 km, DL: 967.61 km)

83 ROB's & 338 RUB's upto Nov'21 172 FoBs, 48 Lifts & 50 escalators commissioned upto Nov'21.

Gati Shakti Cargo Terminal Policy: Launched to fast track the approvals and ease of establishing Cargo Terminals to increase the freight loading share of IR

Kisan Rail The first Kisan Rail Service was flagged off between Devlali (Maharashtra) and Danapur (Bihar) on 7th August 2021 by Hon'ble Minister for Railways and Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare

100th Kisan Rail was flagged off by Hon'ble PM 1806 Kisan Rails run on 153 routes (upto 24.12.2021) and carried around 5.9 lakh tones of agricultural products

Commissioned CCTV at 840 stations (47 during the year). Commissioned Wi-Fi at a total of 6089 stations (120 during the year).

5 MHz spectrum in 700 MHz has been allotted to roll out 4G based Long Term Evolution (LTE) over IR for safety and security applications.

New user friendly Freight and passenger business segment related websites started.

For online & unified vendor approval system, Unified Vendor Approval Module (UVAM) has also been started. Internal processes for approval were simplified and fast tracked.

RDSO becomes the first Standard Developing Organisation (SDO) in India to be granted recognition under the BIS SDO Recognition Scheme on 24 May 2021

Medical facilities have been ramped up, new facilities have been created and existing facilities have been improved in Railway hospitals.

78 Oxygen generating plants have been installed and are functional in Railway hospitals. 17 more Oxygen plants have been sanctioned and at different stages of commissioning.

69 Railway hospitals are providing treatment to railway staff affected by Covid-19. In these hospitals the number of beds for Covid treatment has been increased from 2539 to 3948. Total COVID beds have increased to 6972, ICU beds from 273 to 404, invasive ventilators from 62 to 3544, additional 449 non invasive ventilators and 129 high flow nasal oxygen machines. Also 3420 oxygen cylinders, were supplemented in Railway Hospitals.

HMIS (Hospital Management Information

System) on IR HMIS has been provided in 572 Hospitals & Health Units of Indian Railways in the last one year and the balance will be covered by March'22. Railway has provided UMID to most of the employees and their family members. Till now 42.09 lakh UMID cards have been generated for Railway Medical Beneficiaries. UMID has also been linked to the National Health Id of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. Indian Railways ran Oxygen Express at the shortest possible time and ramping up the delivery. Railway is trying its best to fulfill the demand of the state Govts who are supplying the tankers. All desired routes and rakes were made ready in almost all areas from the Railway side. Till now more than 899 Oxygen Express Trains have completed their journey and more than 36,840 Tonnes of liquid Oxygen has been delivered to the 15 states. Oxygen Express also delivered oxygen (3911.41 MT) for Bangladesh Conversion of 4,176 coaches to serve as quarantine/isolation facilities: Out of 4,176 train coaches to serve as quarantine/isolation facilities for COVID-19 across the country, 324 Coaches have been deployed across States of Delhi, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Nagaland, Assam & Tripura as per demand by State Government. Approximate 10.97 lakh employees get vaccinated with 1st Dose and 8.38 lakh vaccinated with both doses upto 30.12.2021. 135 vaccination centres are in operation on IR AYUSH facility has been started in 5 Zonal Hospitals at New Delhi, Kolkata, Mumbai, Chennai & Guwahati TejasRajdhani train: 4 RAJDHANI express AanandVihar- Agartala, Mumbai- New Delhi (2) & Rajendra Nagar Terminal (Patna)- New Delhi Rajdhani Express are running with TEJAS rakes over IR. High capacity 3rd AC Economy coaches (LWACCNE): IR has inducted a new coach variant High capacity 3rd AC Economy coach on 10.02.2021 and produced 33 coaches in the last two months. With these, total 54 Nos. of AC-III Tier economy coaches have been made available over IR. Many innovations have been incorporated in the design of this coach for increased passenger space, the high voltage electric switchgear presently installed on board has been shifted below the under frame for the first time in Indian Railways, thereby increasing the passenger capacity from 72 to 83 berths by introduction of 11 additional berths. Bharat Gaurav- Theme Based Trains: To tap the vast tourism potential of India, Indian Railways have launched a new tourism product i.e. theme based tourist circuit trains 'Bharat Gaurav'. Service providers spread across the length and breadth of the country will be able to showcase untapped yet historically significant rich treasures of the country Service Providers would be able to refurbish the coaches and have been given full flexibility to decide the themes, tariff, interior designs and other business modalities. Redevelopment of Gandhinagar Capital (WR) & Rani Kamalapati (WCR) station: Gandhinagar Capital station is the first redeveloped station commissioned on 16.07.2021. Rani Kamalapati is the Second redeveloped station and same was commissioned on 15.11.2021. Both the stations were inaugurated by Hon'ble Prime Minister. End of Train Telemetry (EoTT): Proof of Concept Trials is being conducted for EoTT in East Coast & South Eastern Railway. 3 sets are under trial in ECoR& Stage 2 Procurement of 740 sets is under process. Rolling Stock Production (upto Nov'21): Electric Locomotives: 570 as compared to 414 last years (Target: 981) LHB Coaches: 3790 as compared to 2788 last year (Target: 6497) Vista dome Coaches: Produced: 13 (upto Nov'21) (Target : 90). Total available: 57



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## Go Girl: Tollywood heroines get a professional identity finally, but is that change enough?

The Telugu film heroine finally has a Curriculum Vitae in her professional dossier.

Take the recent movies of 2021. Most Eligible Bachelor has Pooja Hegde playing Vibha, a stand-up comedian. In Tuck Jagadeesh, Ritu Verma plays a village revenue officer called Gummadi Varalakshmi. Verma also essays the role of a chef in Ninnila Ninnila.

Tamannaah Bhatia is the Telangana women kabaddi team's coach in Jwala Reddy. Sai Pallavi is a Zumba instructor in Sekhar Kammula's Love Story. A professional identity, finally. A refreshing change from the time they were just romantic interests with nothing but a name to themselves. This is a departure from barely a dozen movies out of the 250 movies that Tollywood churns out every year.

'A change in perspective influenced partly by real world employment dynamics, and in part propelled by the actors themselves in putting their foot down and demanding for 'meatier roles'. Now, this has resulted in a new interesting situation altogether -- a role created for female leads only to serve the purposes of the male lead. Case in point, Most Eligible Bachelor. When we see Vibha do stand-up comedy, it seems her 'profession' exists purely to attract the male lead's attention. Worse even, she ends up changing her whole stance over the course of the film. Contextually, she might belong to any other profession for that matter and the story would remain the same. This sort of pseudo representation is harmful as it creates an unhealthy impression that no matter what you do, you still need a proverbial hero in your life to be successful," comments Hyderabad-based Siddharth Naidu, writer and founder of VoxSpace, a portal that features 'stories which matter'.

Sai Pallavi as Zumba instructor in Love Story. The same can be said of many other roles that start as promising, but then sway to the whims of the narrative. It almost seems that the writers, just to coax the female actors into signing the film, create such 'nothing' roles.

"When we look at roles like Gowri (Nithya Menen in Skylab), we see the stark contrast in creating a female character who is absolutely essential to the story. She doesn't happen to be in the story, she makes the story happen. That's the difference. The Bechdel Test, a scale of female representation, among other things states that female roles need to exist and interact independently on their own accord and despite the hero's so-called journey. It is a good thing we are creating roles of working women, even professionals at that. But that's not enough. If we need to make our films socially relevant, we also

need to give these roles their own distinct agencies," Naidu adds.

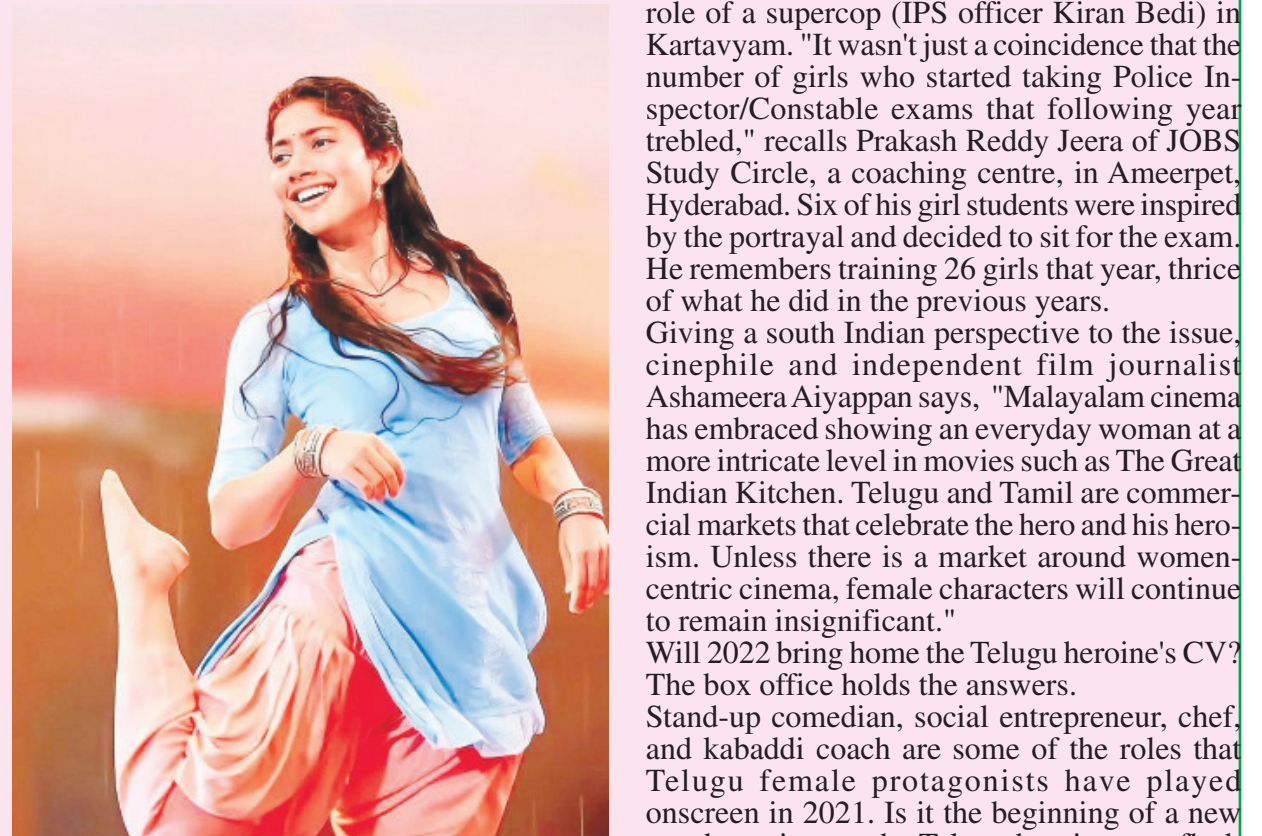
Spurthi Kolipaka, the Campaign Strategist for WomComMatters, who was instrumental in getting the Women's Commission of Telangana operational and known for her feminist stance, believes that some movies do a disservice by

are responsible for inspiring casual sexism. We have no clue why we never got to see Shruti Hassan be a practicing lawyer in Vakeel Saab, even once. Although, we did see the character's pregnant self."

That female roles have a strong impact on the audience and the masses was evident in the 90s



portraying the women in roles that the filmmaker is not invested in. "The Most Eligible Bachelor



starts and ends with a wife joke. These films

when Telugu superstar Vijayashanthi (nicknamed Lady Amitabh by her fans) played the role of a supercop (IPS officer Kiran Bedi) in Kartavyam. "It wasn't just a coincidence that the number of girls who started taking Police Inspector/Constable exams that following year trebled," recalls Prakash Reddy Jeera of JOBS Study Circle, a coaching centre, in Ameerpet, Hyderabad. Six of his girl students were inspired by the portrayal and decided to sit for the exam. He remembers training 26 girls that year, thrice of what he did in the previous years.

Giving a south Indian perspective to the issue, cinephile and independent film journalist Ashameera Aiyappan says, "Malayalam cinema has embraced showing an everyday woman at a more intricate level in movies such as The Great Indian Kitchen. Telugu and Tamil are commercial markets that celebrate the hero and his heroism. Unless there is a market around women-centric cinema, female characters will continue to remain insignificant."

Will 2022 bring home the Telugu heroine's CV? The box office holds the answers. Stand-up comedian, social entrepreneur, chef, and kabaddi coach are some of the roles that Telugu female protagonists have played onscreen in 2021. Is it the beginning of a new trend to reinstate the Telugu heroine or a flash in the pan?

## Abhishek Bachchan: My job is to entertain, not give morality lesson

Francis Ford Coppola famously said, "Sequels are not done for the audience or cinema or the filmmakers. It's for the distributor. The film becomes a brand." The same thing can be said about spinoffs too. Given how superhero franchise films have turned into money-spinners, can we really blame the studios for going down that path? Almost every social media list of prospective Hindi film characters that deserve spinoffs, had one name prominently featured in them: Kahaani's Bob Biswas. Come December 3, this story is set to unfold on Zee5 with Abhishek Bachchan stepping into the huge shoes of actor Saswata Chatterjee, whose eight-minute role, achieved cult status. "He is more than just a contract killer. He is a father, a husband, and a patient too. There are contradictions in this character. How can someone so nice and soft-spoken be a contract killer? I'm grateful that there are people who consider me worthy of such a challenging role," says Abhishek.

Life has come full circle for Abhishek, given that this character was originally written by Sujoy Ghosh with the former in mind. Kahaani was supposed to be a two-person story featuring Bob and Vidya Bagchi. However, fate had other plans, the script was reworked, and the rest is history. "It is definitely flattering that characters are being written for me, but I don't read too much into it because at the end of the day, the work we do talks more about us than the work we didn't," says Abhishek, who has had a golden run with the characters he has done recently.

Post his self-imposed break, Abhishek has played an accommodative romantic in Manmarziyan, a street thug with a strong emotional core in Ludo, an untameable stockbroker in The Big Bull, and now a soft-spoken contract killer in Bob Biswas. He has particularly thrived in roles coloured in grey waala shades—be it Beera Munda or Gurukanth Desai or Shankar Nagre or Roy Kapoor or Rakesh Trivedi or Lallan Singh. If Big B said the line begins from wherever he stands, Junior B has thrived in operating between the lines. "I am attracted to flawed characters. I

am excited by these characters rising above flaws and realising their inner potential," says Abhishek, who next plays yet another flawed



character in SSS-7, the official remake of the Tamil film, Oththa Seruppu Size 7. While his previous Tamil remake (Run) had him trying to establish commercial hero credentials, this time, the film is an attempt to stand out from the rest. "When Parthiban (the director of OS 7) met me on the sets of Ponniyin Selvan, which stars Aishwarya (Rai Bachchan), he was so humble and showed the film to me. I loved it; it was a work of pure genius. When he asked if we should make it in Hindi, I knew it was an opportunity I shouldn't miss," reveals Abhishek, and goes on to talk about how it is such "huge challenges" that he enjoys.

The rise of OTT has made these challenges more frequent, and Abhishek has been at the heart of bridging the divide between content for theatres and OTT. He wastes no time in shooing away questions about the possibility of his OTT sojourns being detrimental to cinema 'stardom'. "It is an exciting medium and it is here to stay. There is a lot of impactful storytelling that is happening in this space," says the actor, who also touches upon the blurring linguistic boundaries due to the spread

of OTT in India. Notably, Abhishek has a strong emotional connection with Tamil Nadu courtesy of owning Chennaiyin FC, the football club that represents the city in the Indian Super League.

"Language barriers are immaterial today. Last year's Breathe 2 had a Tamil dubbed version. My dear friend Suriya is doing such wonderful work, and his last two films -- Soorarai Pottru and Jai Bhim -- had Hindi dubbed versions. The lines are definitely blurring."

These observations are also a result of Abhishek being active on social media. Per-

haps one of Indian cinema's most active Twitter personalities, the actor's responses to his fans and trolls alike are well-documented. His Twitter bio reads, "Actor; sports fan" and it is on social media that the sports fan in him runs rampant. Though he owns football and kabaddi teams, his sports tweets are not just limited to cricket, football, and kabaddi. "That's because we have immense sporting talent in India, and if I can aid it in any way with my tweets, I will do it." He is, however, clear about compartmentalising his various personas. 'Sports fan Abhishek' is as distinct as 'actor Abhishek', and his bundle of positivity on social media is quite far removed from his acting roles that are mostly nuzzled in the grey zones. "With my films, I am just telling a story. Each actor has their own approach as to the subject matter they want to be part of. As for the whole morality debate, with all due respect, I am not your parent. If you want a lesson in morality and value, speak to your parents. Our job is only to entertain you!" signs off Abhishek Bachchan, with a characteristic punch line.



# Taxing of deemed Income -Part 2

Narayan Jain

(Contd from article published on 28th Dec. 2021)

**8. Section 43CA –Deemed sale consideration on Transfer of Immovable Property by developers/ promoters:** Section 43CA, w.e.f. FY 2013-14, provides that the profits on transfer of immovable property (land or building or both) held as stock-in-trade shall be computed on the basis of the stamp duty value adopted or assessed or assessable by any authority of a State Government for the purpose of payment of stamp duty. It is in line with Section 50C which is applicable for immovable property held in the nature of "capital asset" (discussed hereinafter). It has several complications for real estate developers following the percentage completion method. Sec. 43CA is applicable to all categories of assessee who deal in immovable property, as their business, being land or building or both. Thus, the provision of this section is applicable to Individual, Firm, HUF, Company or any other category of assessee. Further the section is applicable to all kind of immovable properties being Land or Building or both, held as stock in trade. It may be a commercial unit/ space/ shop/ flat, residential flat or plot, industrial building or plot, or agricultural land whether in rural or urban area etc. It is also applicable in case of transfer of ownership of immovable property even without registration of sale deed but by way of execution of sale agreement / Power of Attorney or by way of transfer with the regulatory authority or in any other manner. Sec. 43CA(3) further provides to adopt stamp duty value of the property assessable as on the date of entering into sale agreement instead of the value assessed as on the date of transfer of the property, where the date of agreement fixing the value of consideration for transfer of the asset and the date of registration of such transfer of asset are not the same.

Sec. 43CA(4) provides that stamp duty value of the property assessable as on the date of entering into sale agreement may be taken in a case where the amount of consideration or a part thereof has been received by any mode other than cash on or before the date of agreement for transfer of the asset.

**Safe Harbour Rule :** As per amendment made by the Finance Act, 2020, w.e.f. **asst. year 2021-22** the difference between actual consideration and stamp duty valuation or fair market value to the extent of 10% shall be ignored for the purpose of computing income under sec. 43CA

as well as sec. 50C. (Earlier for asst year 2019-20 and 2020-21 the permitted difference was upto 5 per cent only). **In order to boost demand in the real-estate sector and giving benefit to the home buyers, Finance Ministry further increased the safe harbour from 10% to 20% under sec. 43CA for the period from 12th Nov., 2020 to 30th June, 2021 in respect of only primary sale of residential units of value up to Rs. 2 crore. Sequential relief by increasing the safe harbour from 10% to 20% has also been allowed to buyers of these residential units under sec. 56(2)(x) of the Act for the said period. Therefore, for these transactions, circle rate shall be deemed as sale/purchase consideration during the said period only if the variation between the agreement value and the circle rate is more than 20%. However it may be noted that the said concession of 20% does not apply under section 50C. In view of the continued pandemic, it is suggested that the date for safe harbour should be extended till at least 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2022 and should be applied even for the purpose of sec. 50C.**

**9. Section 50C –Deemed sale consideration on Transfer of Immovable Property:**Section 50C prescribes provisions of deemed income in the case of transfer of land or building or both held in the nature of "capital asset". Where an assessee transfers/sells an **Immovable Property (land or building or both)** as his capital asset and the sale proceeds received or accrued as a result of such transfer is less than the "stamp duty value" of the property, adopted/ assessed or assessable by the stamp duty valuation authority of State Government, then the stamp duty value of the IP adopted/ assessed or assessable will be deemed to be the full value of consideration received on transfer of such **Immovable Property**. It has however been stated in 3<sup>rd</sup> proviso to sec. 50C w.e.f. asst. year 2021-22 that if the stamp duty value is more only upto 10% of the sale consideration then the deeming fiction will not apply. The limit was only 5% for asst year 2019-20 and 2020-21.

The assessee has an option to dispute/appeal the value adopted by the stamp valuation authority before the appellate authority or apply to the Assessing Officer to refer the valuation of the property to a Valuation Officer. Accordingly, the value derived at by the appellate authority or the departmental valuation officer (DVO), as the case may be, will be considered as the final sale consideration for this transaction.

**10. Section 50B(2)(ii): Slump Sale:** The Government has brought amendment to sec. 50B(2) to discourage tax avoidance schemes in case of slump sale. Sec. 50B(2) as amended by the Finance Act, 2021 with effect retrospectively w.e.f. asst year 2020-21, provides in relation to capital assets being an undertaking or division transferred by way of such slump sale-

(i) The net worth of the undertaking or the division as the case may be, shall be deemed to be the cost of acquisition and the cost of improvement for the purpose of sec. 48 and 49 and no regard shall be given to the provisions contained in the second proviso to sec. 48.

(ii) Fair market value of the capital assets as on the date of transfer, calculated in the prescribed manner, shall be deemed to be the full value of consideration received or accruing as a result of transfer of such capital asset. Sub section 3 provides that every assessee in the case of slump sale shall furnish a report in the prescribed form i.e. Form No. 3CEA from a Chartered Accountant before the specified date referred to in section 44AB indicating the computation of net worth of the undertaking or the division, as the case may be, and certifying that the net worth of the undertaking or the division has been correctly taken in accordance with provisions of section 50B.

In a situation where the sale consideration of the asset being transferred is lower than the deemed fair value so determined, then for the purpose of computing capital gains, the actual sale consideration is replaced by such deemed fair value. Till financial year 2019-20, for the purpose of business transfer pursuant to a slump sale, the tax law did not provide for any deemed fair valuation mechanism and thus, predominantly sale value disclosed by the seller would be the considered for computing capital gain tax.

**Rule 11UAE for Computation of Fair Market Value of Capital Assets for the purposes of section 50B :** CBDT vide **Notification No.68/2021 dated 24/05/2021** notified Rule 11UAE of Income Tax Rules, 1962 to compute the Fair Market Value (FMV) of Capital Assets for the purposes of section 50B of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the purpose of computing the capital gains in case of an exchange of assets in a slump sale. For the purpose of clause (ii) of sub-section (2) of section 50B, the fair market value of the capital assets shall be the FMV1 determined under sub-rule (2) or FMV2 determined under sub-rule (3), whichever is higher.

**11. Section 56(2)(viii) – Issue of shares by Company – deemed income:** When a company (in which public are not substantially interested) receives any consideration, from a resident, for issue of shares exceeding the fair market value (FMV) of the share(s), the excess amount so received will be regarded as income of the company. The Company can arrive at the FMV of the shares of the company by calculating the same at Networth or Book value of the company. If the shares are issued at a price which is higher than the Net worth of the company, the same needs to be justified and supported by a valuation report as valued and certified by a certified valuer. The method of valuation is prescribed under Rule 11UA of the Income Tax Rules. In such cases, the company has actually received money against issue of its own shares at a premium, which essentially is a 'Capital Account transaction'. The company does not earn any income when it issues share at a premium. However, by virtue of deeming fiction, the premium which is received in excess of the FMV of the shares of the company so determined will be deemed to be income of the company and tax will be payable on the same by the company. Therefore, it is important for the company to get their shares valued from a registered valuer whenever it issues share at a premium, higher than the FMV of the shares. It may be noted that this deeming fiction does not apply when the shares are issued to a non-resident.

**12. Section 56(2)(ix) – Forfeiture of advance money on failed negotiation:** If an assessee has received any sum of money during the course of negotiation for transfer of a capital asset, which is in the nature of advance and if the negotiation does not result into a deal of transfer of the capital asset and if the assessee forfeits the advance money so received, the money so received will be deemed to be the income of the assessee. Earlier, this advance receipt would go on to reduce the cost of the capital asset but now the section is amended to state that the advance so received and forfeited will be regarded as the income of the assessee.

(to be contd.)

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

# Ayodhya Verdict Out: All you need to know; Timeline of key events

Ayodhya Land Dispute Verdict has been delivered! The Supreme Court's 5 judge constitution headed by CJI Ranjan Gogoi delivered its judgment in the Ayodhya Ram Janmabhoomi-Babri Masjid land dispute case. The Bench has unanimously ruled in favour of the construction of Ram Temple on the land claimed by Sunni Waqf Board/Ram Lalla/Nirmohi Akhara. Check below the complete timeline of events that had built up the Ayodhya land dispute case.

Ahead of the verdict, the government had tightened up security arrangements across the country to avoid any unforeseen incident post the announcement of historic judgement. Prime Minister Narendra Modi-led Government imposed Section 144 across various states. Moreover, Schools and Educational Institutions of Uttar Pradesh, Delhi, Karnataka and other states were closed to ensure protection and safety of students.

Lutyens' Delhi under Section 144: Besides the deployment of police personnel in Delhi; Section 144 of CrPC was imposed in Lutyens' Delhi. The Delhi Police also kept an eye on the social media platforms to maintain law and order in the state.

Arrangements made ahead of Ayodhya Verdict

- Over 12000 troops have been deployed in Uttar Pradesh.

- Drones and CCTV Cameras have been deployed to monitor the situation post the pronouncement of Supreme Court judgment.
- All schools and Colleges to be closed in UP,

Rupali Pruthi

- Justice SA Bobde
- Justice DY Chandrachud
- Justice Ashok Bhushan

bench includes:  
- Chief Justice Ranjan Gogoi

was in December 1949, when idols of Lord Ram were found inside the Babri Masjid. Following which, the land was attached under Section 145 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

1950: (Suit 1) After India's independence, the first Ayodhya lawsuit was filed in January 1950 by Gopal Sing Visharad, claiming that he saw footprints of Lord Ram in the property. Though Visharad died and the case was substituted then to his son Rajendra Singh in 1986.

1950: (Suit 2) Paramhans Ramchandra Das filed the second suit against Zahoor Ahmad and seven others.

1959: (Suit 3) The Nirmohi Akhara of Ramanandi Varagis filed the second case in 1959, claiming its right over the Ram Janmabhoomi – the inner courtyard and constructed portion of the mosque.

1961: (Suit 4) The UP Waqfs Sunni Board was the third to file the lawsuit, claiming that the land belongs to Muslims and it should be given back to them after the removal of idols.

1989: (Suit 5) Bhagwan Sri Ram Birajman, the deity, filed the fourth suit through senior advocate Deoki Nandan Agarwala.

1992: In December 1992, dozens of right-wing activists demolished the Babri Masjid mosque, built by the Mughal Emperor Babur over 433 years ago. Over 2000 people died in the riots that shook all of India. The dispute is over 2.77 acres of land in Ayodhya.

2010: Allahabad High Court delivered its verdict, dividing the Ayodhya land among the three main litigants--the Sunni Waqf Board, the Nirmohi Akhara and Ram Lalla.

Rupali Pruthi is an academic content writer with over 6 years of experience. She is a Masters in English Literature and has previously worked with an NGO and an IT company. At jagranjosh.com, she creates digital content for Current Affairs and various Govt Exams. She can be reached at rupali.pruthi@-jagrannewmedia.com



- Delhi, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan
- Jammu & Kashmir: Section 144 of the CrPC has been imposed in Jammu and Kashmir ahead of the Ayodhya Verdict.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Uttar Pradesh CM Yogi Adityanath appealed to the people to maintain peace across the country.

Five Judge Constitution Bench  
The Supreme Court's five-judge constitution

Justice S Abdul Nazeer  
The bench has reserved its judgement on October 16, 2019 after conducting a marathon hearing of 40 days.

Ayodhya Land Dispute: Timeline of events till Allahabad High Court Ruling  
1885: The Ayodhya land dispute dates back to 1885 when the first-ever suit was filed during the British Rule by Mahanth Raghubar Das to construct a Ram Temple at Ayodhya.

1949: The next major incident that took place



## SpiceJet flight takes off from Rajkot without ATC clearance, DGCA orders probe



NEW DELHI: A SpiceJet passenger flight took off from Gujarat's Rajkot without the mandatory clearance from the Air Traffic Controller (ATC) on December 30, following which aviation regulator DGCA has ordered a probe into the incident, officials said on Sunday.

Delhi flight have been off-rostered pending an inquiry by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), a SpiceJet spokesperson said. The Rajkot-Delhi flight took off at around 9.30 am on December 30 and landed at the Delhi airport at 11.15 am, the officials said. An

aircraft has to take multiple permissions from ATC before taking off from an airport. It needs to take permission to push back from the aircraft stand. Then, it has to take permission before starting the engines. Then, it has to take permission to stand in the line up, and then a final per-

mission is given for take off. The pilots did not take requisite clearance from the ATC before taking off from the Rajkot airport on December 30, the officials noted. The DGCA is probing the December 30 incident to find out the reasons for this incident, they said.

## PM Modi can't claim to be 'fakir' after Rs 12 crore car in his cavalcade: Sanjay Raut

MUMBAI: Shiv Sena MP Sanjay Raut on Sunday said Prime Minister Narendra Modi should not call himself a 'fakir' now with the addition of a "Rs 12 crore" car in his cavalcade.

In his weekly column 'Rokhthok' in the Sena mouthpiece 'Saamana', Raut also praised former prime minister Jawaharlal Nehru for always using an Indian-made car, and late PM Indira Gandhi for not replacing her security guards despite a threat to her life.

"On December 28, media reported pictures

has not given any preference on which cars to use. They also said that the car costs about one-third of the price quoted in the media. Raut on Sunday said Modi, who started 'swadeshi' initiatives like 'Make in India' and 'Start-Up India', is using a foreign manufactured car.

Praising Jawaharlal Nehru, the Shiv Sena's spokesperson said the country's first prime minister, despite security threat after the partition, always used an Indian-made Ambassador car.

He also said that (former PM) Indira



of a Rs 12 crore car for Prime Minister Modi. A person who calls himself a fakir, a pradhan sevak, uses a foreign made car," Raut said.

"The prime minister's security and comfort are important, but from now on, the pradhan sevak should not reiterate that he is a fakir (ascetic)," the Rajya Sabha member said.

A Mercedes-Maybach S650 Guard was recently added to the prime minister's cavalcade by the Special Protection Group. The price quoted for a Maybach car in a section of the media is over Rs 12 crore.

However, government sources had said the new car was a replacement of the BMW used by the prime minister as the German carmaker stopped production of the vehicle. Official sources had also said the SPG security detail has a six-year norm to replace vehicles used for the protectee and that Modi

Gandhi, despite a threat to her life, did not change Sikh security personnel deployed for her security.

Besides, (former prime minister) Rajiv Gandhi mingled with crowd in Tamil Nadu and got killed by the LTTE, he said. "He (Rajiv Gandhi) should not have dared to mingle with the crowd. But, he did," Raut said.

Targeting the Centre over night curbs in the wake of the rise in COVID-19 cases again in parts of the country, the Sena leader said the Union government has imposed such restrictions at night, resulting in financial losses.

PM Modi, Union Home Minister Amit Shah, Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi, Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal and Samajwadi Party head Akhilesh Yadav address rallies which are attended by lakhs of people. But, the restrictions are only for the common man, Raut said.

## Bangladesh police registers complaints over alleged desecration of three temples

DHAKA: Police have registered complaints over alleged desecration of three temples in Bangladesh as the members of the minority Hindu community staged protests demanding the arrest of culprits behind the incident in Lalmonirhat district, bordering India, a media report said on Sunday. The protests began after raw beef packed in polythene bags were hung on the doors of three Hindu temples and a house in Gendukuri village of Lalmonirhat district's Hatibandha Upazila in the early hours of Friday, the Daily Star newspaper reported. Four complaints were filed with Hatibandha Police Station Friday night over the matter, the paper added.

On Saturday, the local Hindu community members staged protests at the Sri Sri Radha Govinda temple in the village, demanding the arrest of



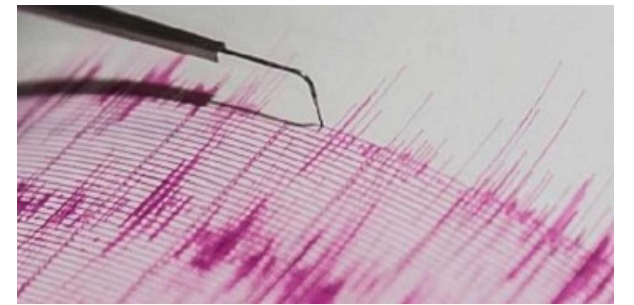
the culprits involved in the incident. Dilip Kumar Singh, president of Hatibandha Upazila Puja Udjapan Parishad, said raw beef in polythene bags were hung over the doors of Gendukuri Camp Para Sri Sri Radha Govinda Mandir, Gendukuri Kuthipara Kali Mandir, Gendukuri Battala Kali Mandir and Monindranath Barman's house.

He said the locals informed the police, who then visited the spot. "Police have assured us that the culprits will be arrested," he said, adding that the incident could be linked to the local union Parishad polls held on December 26. Hatibandha Police Station Officer-in-Charge Ershadul Alam said they were investigating the incident. "All involved will be brought to book," he was quoted by the paper. In October, Hindu temples were attacked in Bangladesh after an alleged blasphemous post surfaced on social media during the Durga Puja celebrations. A mob also damaged dozens of houses and set on fire at least 20 homes of Hindus following the incident.

## Twenty-two injured in southwest China quake

BEIJING: Twenty-two people were injured when a shallow earthquake hit south-

Networks Centre later measured the magnitude at 5.5 with a depth of 10



western China on Sunday afternoon and shook the popular tourist city of Lijiang, local authorities said. The quake struck near the border between Yunnan and Sichuan provinces, according to the US Geological Survey (USGS), which put the magnitude at 5.4 and depth at 38 kilometres (24 miles).

The Yunnan Seismological Bureau said 22 people had been injured in the quake, two severely, in Ninglang county.

The provincial seismological administration said there were no reports yet of damage to houses, but state news agency Xinhua said a 60-strong search and rescue team had been dispatched to the epicentre. The China Earthquake

kilometres. The epicentre was 115 kilometres away from Lijiang in Yunnan province, the USGS said.

China is regularly hit by earthquakes, especially in its mountainous western and southwestern regions. In September three people were killed and dozens injured when a shallow quake-hit Sichuan province and tens of thousands of homes were damaged. A 7.9-magnitude quake in Sichuan in 2008 left more than 80,000 people dead. Among them were thousands of children, killed when poorly constructed school buildings collapsed, but the government failed to release an exact number of dead as the issue took on a political dimension.

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## Air Show over the skies of Rourkela, inquired

Rourkela (KCN): A native of Sundargarh district and Social Activist Bimal Kumar Bisi had written to Minister of Defence Rajnath Singh for the Air show by Indian Air Force over the skies of Rourkela region. Wherein while having an interaction with the Social Activist Bimal Kumar Bisi with our representative, Bimal Bisi said that he has received a call from wing commander in this regard, Bisi said that he had sent it's copies to Chairman of Parliament Defence Committee and Member of Parliament from Sundargarh district Jual Oram and now he came to know that Jual Oram has also written to Defence ministry for the same. Now center has taken this matter and inquiring about the climatic conditions, location details, place of happenings, nearer airport and other operational details for this air show to be conducted in the skies of Rourkela region. However it was mentioned in the said letter that Rourkela citizens extend felicitations and greetings to the Government of India. they salute the bravery of soldiers of the armed forces. the citizens of Rourkela City revere the valour and grit of our men and women in uniform. It is heartwarming to see the IAF Aerobatics Team displaying their agility, speed and skills in air. The sight fills every Indian's heart with warmth and an exalted faith in our bravehearts. Rourkela has not witnessed such

a display by the IAF ever. It was humbly requested that an IAF Aerobatic and Air Show be conducted over the skies of Rourkela in line with the nation celebrating Amrit Mahotasava, i.e. 75 years of independence!

The letter further said "The citizens will be inspired and enthralled; the youth will be motivated to join the forces; and it will instill in all a vibrant patriotic feeling! The IAF Air Show will be a lifetime moment to be cherished for all times to come! This will thus prove to be a boon for the Rourkela citizens; state of Odisha; and above all for the nation as a whole". It was requested that the competent authorities consider the request favourably and approve with the necessary directions for the conduct of an IAF Air Show. In anticipation of your favourable consideration; all the citizens of Rourkela City extend gratitude and fondest regards! Our support from the city will be extended at all times". After receiving the call from wing commander Mayank Nautiyal from Hyderabad, Social Activist Bimal Kumar Bisi discussed this great matter with commissioner of Rourkela Municipal Corporation and Additional District Magistrate of Rourkela Dibyajyoti Parida wherein he was been informed that all the support will be provided by district administration for the same and it is going to be the matter of great pride and honour for the people of Sundargarh District.

## Social Worker Er.Basanta Rout felicitated at Kandarpur



Cuttack(KCN): Eminent Social worker, Er.Basanta Rout from sogal village Kishorenagarar Thana felicitated as "Kalasri Sanman - 2021" at Kandarpur

on the occasion 18th. Annual Function of cuttack sadar based leading cultural organization Saraswati Kala Parishad (SKP) for his best quality,dedication to

society,humble and sober nature with vast knowledge in civil field. In this felicitating & cultural program Presided by president Natyakar Guru Ashok Kumar

Pattnik & SKP team with grand success. In this cultural program some eminent personalities were felicitated for their extraordinary activities.

## BJP to hit streets over 27 per cent OBC quota

BHUBANESWAR: The BJP on Saturday announced to intensify its campaign demanding 27 per cent reservation of seats to OBCs in the three-tier panchayat raj institutions and urban local bodies.

Informing about the decision to mediapersons here, president of Odisha BJP OBC Morcha Surath Biswal said the party will take its fight for the Constitutional rights to panchayat level. "The party will stage demonstrations in all the block and district headquarters of the State till

January 8. The agitation will be taken to panchayat-level in the next phase. Memorandum addressed to Governor Ganeshi Lal will be sent through BDOs and district collectors," Biswal said.

The saffron party will also launch a signature campaign across the State. Signatures of 50 lakh people will be collected and sent to the Governor to mount pressure on the government for acting according to the Supreme Court directive on providing 27 pc reserva-

tion to the OBCs in local and urban bodies. "The manner in which the State government



handled the case in the Orissa High Court proved that the ruling BJD is not keen on pro-

tecting the interest of the OBCs. The apathy of this government towards OBCs is clearly visible," he said.

He added that the explanation tendered by the government after rejection of its draft reservation list is vague.

The government must ensure that the 'triple test' conditions enunciated by the apex court is fulfilled to give the OBCs their due before announcing election dates.

If the government fails the test, the BJP will be forced to take legal recourse to get back the OBC rights, he said.?

## State seeks Budget inputs

Bhubaneswar: On New Year day, the State Government on

The Department of Finance has been holding pre-budget

Technology, the government has sought public opinion for the

budget.odisha.gov.in, to host the budget documents and suggestions are invited in a structured format (displayed in the web page) for preparation of Annual Budget 2022-23.

The suggestions can also be mailed at odisha.budget@gov.in. Similarly, suggestions for the budget are also invited through Whatsapp to Mobile number (+91)9438161111 and twitter (@FdOdisha) and facebook (@FinanceOdisha)

This facility will be available for a fortnight from January 1 to January 31, 2022 said the Finance Minister. "Members of the public, civil society organization, advocacy groups and other stakeholders are requested to make use of this unique opportunity to participate in the budget making process of the State Government," he appealed. The Finance Department had received tremendous public response in past years. The State Finance Department also used many of the inputs while preparing the annual budget, official sources said.



Saturday sought suggestions and inputs from common men, civil society organizations and different advocacy groups for preparation of the annual budget 2022-23.

consultation with the cross section of the society. In order to make the budgetary process more open and participative using Information and Communication

last few years through e-mail, SMS and Whatsapp, said Finance Minister Niranjana Pujari. Mr.Pujari said the finance department developed a webpage,

## Amid Omicron fears, Odisha scraps it's decision to reopen primary schools from January 3

BHUBANESHWAR: Amid fear of spike in Omicron cases, Odisha government on Sunday scrapped

Education (SME) Minister Samir Ranjan Dash said the decision to postpone reopening of schools

tested in the state in the recent weeks. Notably, the SME department had decided to reopen schools for

January 5 to 8, were supposed to be reopened for primary students from January 10.



its decision to reopen primary schools from January 3.

The Information and Public Relations (I&PR) department stated that offline teaching of students from Class I to V at Primary level, scheduled to start from Monday, has been postponed in view of the surge in Covid-19 cases and fear of Omicron, a super mutant variant of novel coronavirus. School and Mass

at primary was taken after due consultation with the stakeholders and health experts. He said a number of parents and guardians had also expressed apprehensions over reopening of primary schools due to rising number of Covid cases in last two days. Odisha on Sunday reported 424 new confirmed infections, highest in over last two months. At least 14 cases of Omicron have also been de-

primary students from January 3 citing downward trend of Covid-19 in the state. The department had decided to reopen around 27,000 schools at the primary level from January 3 with strict compliance to the Covid-19 standard operating procedure. While remaining 3,093 nodal schools, where the summative assessment of Class X students is scheduled take place from

Officials, however, clarified that the summative assessment of Class X students will be conducted by the Board of Secondary Education (BSE) as per schedule from January 5.

They said the offline teaching at Upper Primary, Secondary and Higher Secondary level (Class VI to XII) will continue as per the previous schedule.



# Quick commerce shakes up grocery delivery

BENGALURU: With a majority of people preferring to shop groceries online, especially after the onset of the

in consumers' purchasing behaviour and preference.

Quick commerce is estimated at \$0.3 billion in CY2021 and is

commerce platforms like Swiggy's Instamart and Dunzo."

Launched five months ago, Zepto is

Chennai, Hyderabad and Pune. It is planning to launch in Kolkata soon.

"Quick commerce offers a chance to

task but requires a deep understanding of technology as well," Zepto Co-Founder and CEO Aadit Palicha tells TNIE.

Also, consumers are now preferring fresh products with consistent quality in a very quick time. Zepto wants to gain access to customers in more micro markets, and it is also working on ways to expand delivery to tier-2 and tier-3 cities as well.

The future of commerce

Zomato-backed Grofers recently rebranded as Blinkit, and started focussing on delivery in 10 minutes.

"The Blinkit service will now be available in only the areas where we are able to arrive at our customers' locations within 10 minutes (or less). We are singularly committed to instant delivery - focusing

only on areas where we are serving under 10 minutes, and deprioritising everything else. We hope to be insanely consistent with our 10 minutes promise," says Blinkit founder

Albinder Dhindsa in a blog post. Blinkit has temporarily stopped serving all other areas where it was not able to offer deliveries in 10 minutes. "While we understand a 15-minute or 20-minute delivery service would be better than no service, our systems and infrastructure are built solely with 10 minutes (or less) in mind," he adds.

Swiggy Instamart has on-boarded more than one seller-run dark store every day in the last few months.

It is also planning to make deliveries in 15 minutes by January 2022, by having the network of dark

stores very close to the majority of its customers.

Dark stores are warehouses or outlets through which e-commerce companies deliver their orders quickly.

Mostly these stores will be established in cities in the q-commerce model, so as to deliver as quickly as possible. Swiggy Instamart is serving customers across 18 cities, and doing over 1 million orders per week.

"At our current growth trajectory, Instamart is set to reach an annualised GMV run rate of \$1 billion in the next three quarters," said Sriharsha Majety, CEO, Swiggy.

Tata's BigBasket is said to enter the q-commerce space soon. There are other major players such as Google-backed Dunzo which is delivering essentials in 19 minutes.

Challenges galore Though companies are promising 10-20-minute delivery, the e-commerce players face many challenges. Talking about it, Zepto CEO says building technology

**Criminals played their games in UP earlier, now Yogi govt plays 'jail jail' with them: PM Modi**

Continued from page-1

daughters used to roam openly." People living in Meerut and adjoining areas can never forget how houses used to be set ablaze, and the earlier government used to indulge in games of criminals and the mafia, he said.

The result of these games played by earlier governments was that people were forced to leave their ancestral homes and there was "exodus", the prime minister said.

"Now, the government of Yogi (Adityanath) ji is playing 'jail-jail' with such criminals. Five years ago, the daughters of Meerut used to fear leaving their homes after evening. Today, the daughters of Meerut are bringing laurels to the entire country," Modi said.

Taking an apparent jibe at Samajwadi Party patriarch Mulayam Singh Yadav, Modi said, "The role of the government should be that of a guardian. Capability ('yogyata') should be encouraged. In the event of youths committing a mistake it should not be ignored by saying 'boys make mistakes (ladhko se galtee ho jaati hai).'"

**Naveen seeks Lord's blessings**

Continued from page-1

Corridor Project was first unveiled in December 2019. The Chief Minister has given approval for a budgetary provision of Rs 3,200 crore for developing Puri town as a World Heritage City. Several key developmental projects includes the Heritage Corridor, Sri Setu, Command and control centre, Badadanda heritage streetscape, Jagannath Ballav pilgrim centre, multilevel car parking, municipal market development, Swargadwar development, Pramod Udyan, Gurukulam, Mahodadhi market, beachfront development, Puri lake, Musa river and Atharnala revival plan, and housing for Sevayats are being taken up in the holy town.

The Government has launched Augmentation of Basic Amenities and Development of Heritage and Architecture (ABADHA) scheme for transforming Puri into a world-class heritage city.

to consistently get product delivered in 10 minutes and also manage a supply chain in a way that responds to such a high-touch and high-frequency use case are some of the interesting problems in quick-commerce today.

Transport marketplace start-up Vahak's CEO and Co-founder Karan Shaha says, "The 10-minute deliveries or under-20-minute deliveries are easier to accomplish than assumed once we get the right network coverage in terms of stores under a brand. Most hyperlocal deliveries leverage the existing shops within the residential areas. The major areas of focus are technology integration at the POS, good internet connectivity to process orders, better payments and a reliable network of delivery personnel."

All these founders say that q-commerce will sustain and see more traction in coming years, and backend technology and supply chain will play a crucial role in deliveries.



pandemic, both industry heavyweights and new entrants are exploring a new vertical — quick commerce or q-commerce.

Over a few months now, there has been quite a disruption in the grocery delivery space with a new entrant Zepto, which operates a 10-minute grocery delivery service; Grofers rebranded as Blinkit and promising a 10-minute delivery; and Swiggy investing \$700 million in its express grocery delivery service Instamart. Swiggy is also planning to make deliveries in 15 minutes starting January 2022.

So, why are companies now focussing on quick commerce, where everyone promises to deliver within 10 or 20 minutes? Experts attribute this to change

## Indian Railways arm Braithwaite & Co. eyes IPO in 2025

NEW DELHI: Braithwaite & Co. Ltd, a little-known subsidiary of the Indian Railways, is scripting the story of a stellar turn of fortune.

The company, which came into existence pre-independence and has since seen many lows (more lows than highs), has steered itself away from financial mess and inefficiency, and is aiming to run a profitable operation leading up to a possible stock market listing by 2025.

Kolkata-based Braithwaite and Co is a major manufacturer of railway wagons and cranes. It is also into fabrication of structural steel bridges, repairing/retro fitment, operations and maintenance of railway workshops, structural steel bridges, etc.

Sharing the revival story with The New Indian Express, Yatish Kumar, the chairman and managing director of the company, said the company and staff had the potential, only they needed someone to remind them of their strength and lead them out of the financial mess.

"When I joined the company in 2018, the company was only grossing around Rs 100-130 crore in revenue. We were making cumulative losses for the past three years, our order book of only Rs 400 crore and overhead to sale ratio was 35-40%, which means anything you do you were in soup," Kumar said.

Now, the company has set its target of reaching Rs 2,500 crore turnover and a possible IPO by 2025. Kumar says the company is now eligible for Miniratna Category 1 status, and they have already applied for the same. He is hopeful by January Braithwaite and Co. would become a Miniratna PSU.

expected to grow 10-15x in the next 5 years, to become \$5 billion by 2025, according to Redseer. It says that about 20 million households are addressable by quick commerce in India with an estimated addressable market size of \$ 50 billion in 2020. Q-commerce will become one of the major e-commerce models and it will cater to the growing needs of the consumers.

The report added, "Emerging as one of the fastest growing e-commerce models, q-commerce is serving the need for faster delivery among convenience seeking customers. With high fill-rates and 30-45 minutes delivery service for unplanned orders, mid-to high income households in Metros are increasingly replacing traditional kiranas with q-

a 10-minute grocery delivery app. It recently raised \$100 million in Series C. It has been growing quickly, and is tripling its user-base every month.

Over the past two months, apart from Mumbai, Zepto expanded in Bengaluru, Delhi, Gurugram,

revolutionise the way people buy essentials. We believe in gaining more market share in all major Indian cities. We are ramping up a team - right from supply chain to marketing and finance. Also, 10-minute delivery done consistently is not only an operational complex

## GST Collection Up By 43%

Bhubaneswar: Odisha has recorded 43 per cent growth in

months is a result of an increase in collection from the automo-

The Government of India has settled Rs 25,568 crore to

domestic transactions (including import of services) are 5 per cent higher than the revenues from these sources during the same month last year.

The GST collection in December was close to Rs 1.30 lakh crore despite reduction of 17 per cent in the number of e-way bills generated in the month of November, 2021 (6.1 crore) as compared to the month of October, 2021 (7.4 crore) due to improved tax compliance and better tax administration by both Central and State Tax authorities.

The average monthly gross GST collection for the third quarter of the current year has been Rs 1.30 lakh crore against the average monthly collection of Rs 1.10 lakh crore and Rs 1.15 lakh crore in the first and second quarters respectively. Coupled with economic recovery, anti-evasion activities, especially action against fake billers have been contributing to the enhanced GST. The improvement in revenue has also been due to various rate rationalization measures undertaken by the Council to correct inverted duty structure.

It is expected that the positive trend in the revenues will continue in the last quarter as well, sources said.



GST collection during the month of December 2021 compared to the same month of last year.

GST collection of Odisha has touched new heights with a collection of Rs 4,080 crore during December 2021 as against Rs 2860 crore collected during December 2020 registering a growth of 43 per cent. In fact, this is the highest growth recorded by any major State in the last month of 2021.

In November, the GST collection was Rs 4136 crore, which was 64 per cent more than the amount collected during November 2020.

This growth during the past two to three

months, mining and manufacturing sector. Further, non filer management and regular return scrutiny by Circles combined with enforcement activities has resulted in better compliance by taxpayers, officials said.

Meanwhile, the gross GST revenue collected at all India level in the month of December 2021 was Rs 1,29,780 crore of which CGST was Rs 22,578 crore, SGST was Rs 28,658 crore, IGST was Rs 69,155 crore (including Rs 37,527 crore collected on import of goods) and cess is Rs 9,389 crore (including Rs 614 crore collected on import of goods).

CGST and Rs 21,102 crore to SGST from IGST as regular settlement. The total revenue of Centre and the States in the month of December 2021 after settlements is Rs 48,146 crore for CGST and Rs 49,760 crore for the SGST.

The National level revenues for the month of December 2021 are 13 per cent higher than the GST revenues in the same month last year and 26 per cent higher than the GST revenues in December 2019.

During the last month, revenue collection from import of goods was 36 per cent higher and the revenues from do-

### Declaration

Due to technical problem, dated 02-01-2022 publication of The Kalinga Chronicle could not be published. Sorry for the inconvenience.

- Publisher



## Messi among four PSG players who test positive for COVID-19



PARIS: Seven-time Ballon d'Or winner Lionel Messi is among four players in the Paris Saint-Germain squad to have tested positive for the coronavirus ahead of the team's French Cup game on Monday night.

PSG added that one staff member also had COVID-19 in a statement on Saturday night. None of them were named at that point but in a further statement on the team's medical news Sunday the club named Messi,

left-back Juan Bernat, backup goalie Sergio Rico and 19-year-old midfielder Nathan Bitumazala. PSG is playing at third-tier Vannes.

Last year's runner-up Monaco was in action later Sunday at sec-

ond-tier Quevilly-Rouen in one of 13 games scheduled for the day as sides bid to reach the last 16. Monaco said Saturday that seven players had COVID-19 but none showed any worrying signs and are isolating.

## On Cusp of History: Virat Kohli's India ready to roll over South Africa for elusive series win

JOHANNESBURG: India's formidably consistent match-winners have a date with history in the New Year when they take on an out-of-sorts South Africa in the second Test here from Monday in pursuit of a coveted first-ever series win in the 'Rainbow Nation'.

If the 'Boxing Day Test' was used to breach the

establishment's blue-eyed boy after his much publicised battle of "your truth versus mine" with no less than BCCI president Sourav Ganguly.

Kohli the batter is still insulated from the heat despite that missing 'three-figure mark' for last two years but 'King Kohli is metaphorically "wearing a crown of thorns"'. He didn't face the media before and after the first Test and now head coach Rahul Dravid is literally living up to his 'The Wall' moniker as he is set to appear as a fire-fighter ahead of the second Test.

Having already made it clear that he won't ever discuss classified internal matters, Dravid has already done one round of dousing the fire and on Sunday, he is expected to keep the topic of discussion to strictly cricketing.

However, it is very difficult to imagine that India would be ringing in changes to their winning combination considering Kohli's obsession with five bowlers.

Even with that, India were docked a WTC (World Test Championship) point for slow over-rate and Ravichandran Ashwin will be as integral to the visitors' bowling plans on a seamer-friendly wicket as their four fast bowlers.

Obviously, Shardul Thakur is the weakest link in this attack with Umesh Yadav being more potent but the Mumbaier's knack of picking wickets and also relatively stronger batting ability keeps him in the mix.

But on a lively Wanderers track, Umesh won't be a bad option even though that could mean playing an extra batter, which hasn't exactly been Kohli's template.

As far as the batting line-up is concerned, unless anyone reports unfit on the match day, all the five specialist willow-wielders along with Rishabh Pant, whose run-a-ball-34 was a special contribution in Centurion, will again feature in the line-up.

Cheteshwar Pujara and Ajinkya Rahane won't be dropped yet as Dravid will give them enough chances to succeed unless he shifts his faith on Shreyas Iyer and Hanuma Vihari, which might not be the case if batting coach Vikram Rathour's last media interaction is to be believed.

The three big guns are due for a big score and it would be Proteas' worst nightmare coming true if they all fire in unison at the 'Bull Ring'.

It would then be a cakewalk for India. Squads:

India: Virat Kohli (captain), KL Rahul (vc), Mayank Agarwal, Cheteshwar Pujara, Shreyas Iyer, Rishabh Pant (wk), Ravichandran Ashwin, Shardul Thakur, Jasprit Bumrah, Mohammed Shami, Mohammed Siraj, Ajinkya Rahane, Wriddhiman Saha (wk), Jayant Yadav, Priyank Panchal, Umesh Yadav, Hanuma Vihari, Ishant Sharma.

South Africa: Dean Elgar (captain), Temba Bavuma (vice-captain), Kagiso Rabada, Sarel Erwee, Beuran Hendricks, George Linde, Keshav Maharaj, Lungi Ngidi, Aiden Markram, Wiaan Mulder, Keegan Petersen, Rassie van der Dussen, Kyle Verreynne, Marco Jansen, Glenton Stuurman, Preenelan Subrayen, Sisanda Magala, Ryan Rickelton, Duanne Olivier.

Match Starts 1:30 pm.



Proteas' fortress at the Centurion, the New Year's game will be all about stoutly defending the 'Bull Ring' bastion which has been a 'home' away from home for the Indian team.

Also, it was right here in 2018 when the foundation of one of India's greatest Test teams was laid with a solid win on a track that bordered on under-prepared and perhaps gave this unit self belief to take on the world.

They have been doing that for nearly four years now and are in no mood to stop.

For captain Virat Kohli, a Test victory at the Wanderers would reaffirm his status as one of the greatest Indian captains of all time in the traditional format with series wins in three of the four SENA nations barring New Zealand.

There cannot be a more opportune time to achieve the feat against a South African side that lacks Graeme Smith's grit, Hashim Amla's class, Jacques Kallis' manic consistency, Dale Steyn's x-factor and Morne Morkel's relentlessness.

To be fair, this South African team will find it incredibly difficult to compete against the current Indian line-up leave alone harbour dreams of a win.

Yes, they have a Kagiso Rabada, who is carrying the load, and Lungi Ngidi, who has looked good, but Quinton de Kock's sudden retirement from the toughest form of cricket at the age of 29 is another reminder of a tough transition period that never seems to end for the Proteas.

So even if Ryan Rickelton, the 25-year-old dashing keeper-batter who is slated to make his debut, created some noise, he will find that scoring runs at the domestic level is very different from facing Jasprit Bumrah and Mohammed Shami with the red Kookaburra.

Even Duanne Olivier, likely to replace Wiaan Mulder who was out due to a hamstring injury in the first Test, will find it extremely difficult against a seasoned Indian batting line-up which would like to give a better account of itself compared to the first Test.

On a personal note for Kohli, it would be the ideal breathing space that he will require, now that it's official that he is no longer the

## ATP Cup: US wins over Canada, Russia beats France

SYDNEY: The United States beat Canada and defending champion Russia defeated France at the ATP Cup on Sunday, with the Americans taking a much easier route.

John Isner and Taylor Fritz beat their Canadian singles opponents and then clinched the match in doubles for a 3-0 win.

Isner beat Brayden Schnur 6-1, 6-4 in 66 minutes to give the Americans the early lead. Schnur was a late replacement for Denis Shapovalov, who withdrew from the opening singles match Sunday due to fatigue. The Canadian is recovering from having contracted COVID-19 at a recent tournament in the Middle East.

Fritz then came from a set down to beat No. 11-ranked Felix Auger-Aliassime 6-7 (6), 6-4, 6-4 and clinch the match before the Americans won the doubles 6-4, 6-4 over Auger-Aliassime and Shapovalov.

Russia, meanwhile, needed the deciding doubles match to clinch victory over France. Roman Safiullin beat Arthur Rinderknech of France 2-6, 7-5, 6-3 before No. 35-ranked Ugo Humbert evened the match for France with an upset 6-7 (5), 7-5, 7-6 (2) win over No. 2 Daniil Medvedev.

But Medvedev and Safiullin came back to beat two fresh opponents in the doubles — Fabrice Martin and Edouard Roger-Vasselin — 6-4, 6-4. In night matches, Britain and Italy took early leads. Daniel Evans beat Germany's Jan-Lennard Struff 6-1, 6-2 while Italy's Jannik

Sinner defeated Australia's Max Purcell 6-1, 6-3 in opening singles.

Isner saved the only break point he faced against his Canadian opponent.

"I surprised myself with how well I played out here," Isner said in his on-court interview. "You always work hard in the offseason, but



you never really know what could happen in that first match of the year."

Isner broke twice in the first set and used his strong serve to capitalize on the advantage. The American hit 10 aces and won 46% of his return points. "I actually really like this court. It's not too fast, which I prefer. It gives me a little time to swing out on my shots being so big. That helps me out a lot," Isner said.

On the opening day, Saturday, Argentina and Spain both cruised to 3-0 victories over Georgia and Chile, respectively. Serbia, despite playing without No. 1 Novak Djokovic, beat Norway 2-1 and Poland took advantage of Stefanos Tsitsipas' injury-enforced absence in singles to beat Greece 2-1. The 16 teams are divided into four groups, with the winners of each group advancing to the semifinals on Jan. 7 and 8. The final is scheduled for Jan. 9.



**2021-2022**

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