

To, Hon'ble Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman, Ji, Union Minister of Finance, Ministry of Finance, Govt. of India, North Block, NEW DELHI - 110001

Respected Madam, Subject: Memorandum for Extension of Due Date for filing of Income Tax Audit Report under Income Tax Act

Continuous rise in Omicron / COVID cases pushed India further towards more curbs to contain the Virus. Due to a spike in new cases of Omicron / COVID, the Central Government and various State Governments have announced guidelines and restrictions to contain the Virus. The number of Omicron / COVID cases increased in the mid of December-2021 and is continuously rising and marching towards the third COVID wave. The report and the study projects and forecasts that the cases of COVID will peak in January and February, 2022. The Prime Minister has also raised concern and reviewed the COVID situation on a daily basis. The Central Government also urged State Governments not to take the situation lightly and also directed them to take further steps to contain the spread of the Omicron variant of Corona Virus.

We would like to further request your honours to extend the time limit / due date of filing of Income Tax audit report i.e. 15th January 2022, which is fast approaching. In view of the Omicron situation, time limit of filing of Income Tax audit report may be further extended up to 15th March 2022, and filing of returns (audited cases) from 15th February 2022, to 31st March 2022. Again if the time limit and due date is extended, there is no loss of revenue to the government and taxpayer will make better and perfect compliances as far as their audit report and return is concerned.

The time limit to file Income Tax return in case of the assessee whose books of account are not required to be audited has expired very recently i.e. 31st December 2021. The taxpayers were expecting the extension of the due date on account of various reasons. But unfortunately the due date was not extended. The taxpayer and tax professionals have also worked hard for timely compliance of filing of Income Tax returns. Figures of filing of returns also shows discipline compliance on the part of taxpayers and tax professionals.

Your immediate intervention in the matter is highly solicited. Your prompt announcement of extension of due dates of filing of Audit Report and Income Tax returns as well, will give great relief to the taxpayers and tax professionals in this difficult period of Omicron / Corona Virus. We look forward to an early consideration of our above prayers.

With humble regards,

Adv Kamal Kumar Jain, President, DTPA, Email: kamalkrjain@yahoo.com



Grand Demonstration of journalists across the country on 12th February 2022 at Jantar Mantar, New Delhi Supported by Prominent Media Leaders and Organizations Under the Umbrella of Working Journalists of India affiliated to Bharatiya Majdoor sangh Led By secretary general Narendra Bhandari.

State Backs Grameen Bank

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Department of Finance has requested all the Administrative Departments to other nationalized banks. As a result, the bank has suffered a huge negative growth. So,



channelize Government deposits through Utkal Grameen Bank (UGB). The shareholders of the UGB are Government of India holds 50 Percent, State Bank of India 35 Percent and Government of Odisha 15 Percent. Due to previous orders issued on Government deposits on Banks, many State-run organizations have removed funds from the UGB and deposited them in the Director of Institutional Finance, Siddhartha Das has requested ACS, Principal Secretary and Secretaries of various departments to move government deposits through the rural bank. The Utkal Grameen Bank (UGB) is operating in 17 districts of Odisha, in Western and Southern parts of the State. It has 435 branches, out of which 365 branches are functioning in

CONTINUED ON: P-7

Covid heading towards 3K

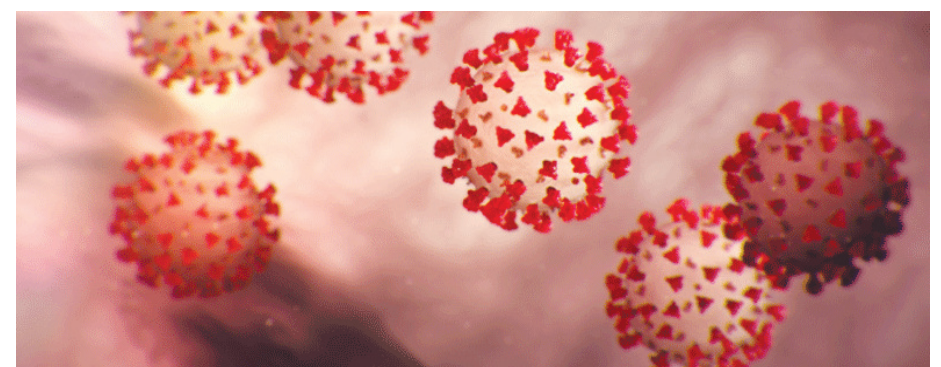
Bhubaneswar(KCN): With the passing of each day, Covid-19 cases in Odisha are touching new heights, making the health officials worry. The cases on Friday crossed the 2500 mark and are heading towards 3,000. The infection trend indicated that the daily infection rate will touch the 3,000 mark in the next one or two days.

On Friday, the State reported 2703 fresh Covid-19 cases, which is 42 per cent more than the cases reported on the previous day. The State had registered 1897 cases on Thursday.

According to the State Health Department, 2,703 Covid cases including 409 children in the 0 to 18 years age group have been reported today.

Jharsuguda(106). All other districts reported less than 100 cases. The number of fresh cases jumped more than nine-fold from

ity rate (TPR) has been increased to 3.92 per cent in the State on Friday from 2.62 per cent. Odisha now has 8,237 active cases.



Khordha district, 298 infections on January 1 and more than doubled in just two days from 1,216 on Tuesday. There were 1,216 infections on Wednesday. The daily test positiv-

298 infections on January 1 and more than doubled in just two days from 1,216 on Tuesday. There were 1,216 infections on Wednesday. The daily test positiv-

With the confirmation of another death due to Covid, the death toll in the State mounted to 8468. Khurda re-entered the list of red zone Covid heading

Shrimandir will remain close from 10 Jan

Puri (KCN): Shree Jagannath Temple in Puri will remain closed from 10 January in view of the increasing COVID-19 cases, a senior official said on Friday. The temple will remain closed till 31 January, as per the decision taken at the meeting of Chhatisa Nijog — the apex body of the temple's servitors, he said. The meeting was also attended by staff members of the Shree Jagannath Temple Administration (SJTA) and district officials.

"In view of the health interest of devotees and servitors, it has been decided to close the shrine from January 10 to January 31. The decision was unanimously taken at a meeting of Chhatisa Nijog," Puri's Dis-



trict Magistrate Samarth Verma told reporters. The daily rituals at the 12th-century shrine will be carried out as per the tradition by select servitors and priests, he said. The decision was taken a day after

several temple administration staff members, and servitors tested positive for COVID-19.

Colleges, Varsities Shut Down

Bhubaneswar(KCN): With the rapid increase in Covid cases in Odisha, the State Government has decided to close down all colleges & universities and its hostels from January 10.

"All colleges, universities, technical educational institutions (other than medical colleges, nursing colleges & institutions under control of Health & Family Welfare department) under the superintendence of Odisha gov-



ernment shall remain closed with effect from January 10, 2022," Special Relief Commissioner (SRC) PK Jena said in an order. However, all ongoing offline examinations are allowed to continue as per programme with strict adherence to Covid appropriate behaviour, Jena said in the order, which will remain in force till February 1 (Sam). The authorities of colleges, universities and

CONTINUED ON: P-7

Odisha CM Naveen Patnaik terms PM Narendra Modi's security breach 'unacceptable' BHUBANESWAR(KCN): Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik on



Thursday unequivocally condemned the security breach during the visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to Punjab, terming it "unacceptable in our democracy".

"The Prime Minister of India is an institution. It is the duty of every government to CONTINUED ON: P-7

Eminent Social Worker Kumarabara Chaudhury is no more



Cuttack Sadar (KCN): Leading social organisation of Cuttack Sadar Utkal Vikash Parisad (UVP) extended shradhanjali to Gandhivadi Social Worker Late Kumarabara Chaudhury (101) death. Moreover Late Kumarabara Chaudhury was one of the humble and sober person, done good seva work for betterment of 42 Mouza and much more. The UVP president Er. Prakash Chand Sethi and all local people expressed deep grief over the untimely death of a great personality of Cuttack Sadar. Late Chaudhury's elder son Prahalad Chaudhury, Middle Son Social worker Prakash Chaudhury, elder Son Bikash & all family members with present and done the death body sanskar.

Containment zone declared in Barbil, threat begun



Barbil (KCN): The third wave of the Corona outbreak has spread across the country and our state of Odisha has also been affected, but the Barbil municipality area of Kendujhar district is entrapped here for livelihoods which has led to more corona patient in the town of Barbil. The 'Panchwati' residential area where the population is about 300 get engulfed by Corona and more than 20 patient identified. After the incident the area is declared as containment zone by the administration. The area is barricaded and restricted for the inmate.

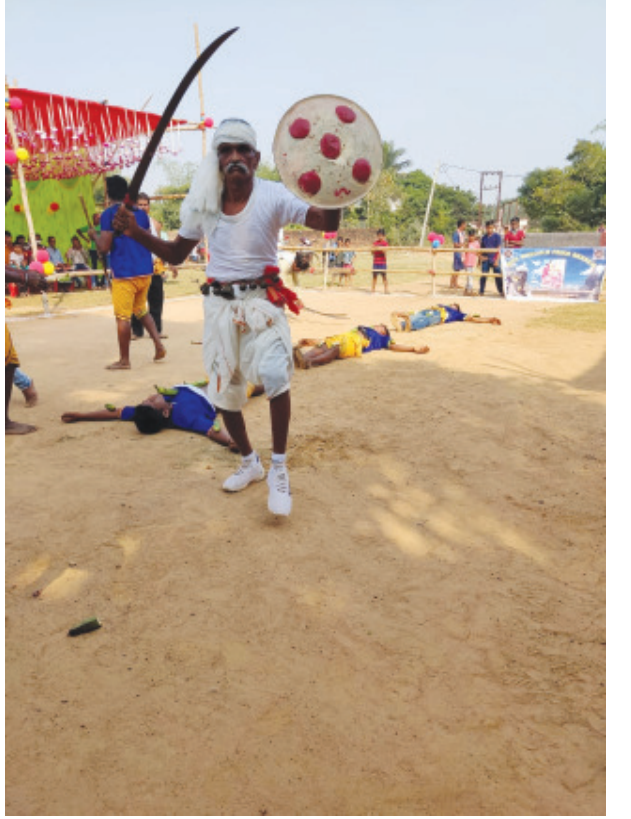
Amitabh Samal thanked to RMC Commissioner for writing to DRM for Panposh railway tunnel

Rourkela (KCN): Social Activist and the people residing in Panposh and have been complaining about it as it can lead to disastrous results if any uncertainties take place in Panposh area for medical reasons and fire issue as fire brigade vehicles can't cross this tunnel. He requested to consider the matter and direct the concerned officials for increasing the size of this tunnel and hoped that the matter will be taken for priority as this issue is related to the safety and security of more than lakhs of people residing in Panposh and Rourkela area. He had sent it's copies to ADM of Rourkela and DRM of Chakradharpur on Tuesday. Commissioner of Rourkela Municipal Corporation Dibyajyoti Parida has forwarded this matter to DRM of Chakradharpur on Friday for action in larger Public interest. Social Worker Amitabh Samal thanked him for the same.



President of Rourkela Jagran Manch Amitabh Samal wrote to Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday and said that there is an adjoining railway tunnel between Rourkela and Panposh which plays a great role for the people of Rourkela. It has a great importance for Rourkela. He further said that heavy vehicles can't cross that tunnel because of its narrowness. It has years that people

State Level Guru Samman Award



Khordha (KCN): Felicitation of Paika Guru who had contributed immensely for the growth of Paika Akhada. The felicitation programme of Paika Guru organized by Nikhila Odisha Paika Mahasangha and Khandayat Khetriya Kalki Sena, Odisha at Kumar Khatia Goda Dharma Sagar, Jatni. Eight number of Paika sangha participated in this programme. Maa Jogamaya Paika Sangha, Uper Basta, Maa Khandula Paika Sangha, Kumar Khatia, Maa Barunei Paika Akhada, Nabinabag, Khordha, Maa Mangala Paika Akhada, Ratanpur, Khordha, Khordha Paika Akhada, Rajput Paika Akhada, Belpada, Swapneswar Paika Akhada, Kumbhilo, Jayee Rajguru Paika Akhada, Paikatigiria, Khordha. All the troops demonstrated Paika Akhada and Martial Art of Paika in the ground. MLA Jatni, Suresh Kumar Routray inaugurated the function. MLA, Chilika, Prasanta Jagdev, President Zilla Parishad, Khordha Prafulla Kumar Dalei, former MLA, Jatni and Khordha District BJD President Bibhuti Bhusan Balabantaray, BJP, State Executive Committee Member Biswa Ranjan Badjena, BJP, Krushak Morcha State Vice-president Sriranjana Mangaraj, Bhubaneswar MP, representative Baina Pradhan among others present. The chief guest of the occasions said that "The Paika revolt was an armed revolt of the traditional Paika Militia in Khordha Odisha in the year 1817." 24 Paika Guru felicitated in this programme. Paika guru Kasinath Nayak, Pandab Palei, Bishnu Charan Samantaray, Magi Behera, Krushna Chandra Satrusalya, Kabiraj Pradhan, Uma Mahesh Patra, Deepak Kumar Satrusalya, Purna Chandra Balabantaray, Biranchi Narayan Palei, Nanda Kishore Majhi, Sanatana Barad, Chandan Routray, Sameer Sundaray, Bhimsen Biswal, Susanta Pahadsingh, Satrugan Jena, Prafulla Majhi, Gayagadhar Paschimakabat, Sarbeswar Chhotray, Laliteswar Baral, Debendra Sundaray. The member of Maa Khandula Yuvak Sangha Bhagabat Paikaraya, Tinendra Sundaray, Sanket Patsani, Debasish Harichandan, Paramananda Patsani, Manoranjan Paschimakabat and Rakesh Patsani were Co-ordinated the programme.

BLUIS Gets Gold Award

Bhubaneswar (KCN): Bhubaneswar Land Use Intelligence System (BLUIS), a 5T project launched by Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik in July 2020, was conferred with the National e-Governance Gold category Award by Dr Jitendra Singh, Union Minister of Personnel at the 24th national conference on e-Governance at Hyderabad on Friday.



The scheme is implemented by the General Administration and Public Grievance Department in collaboration with BDA, BMC and ORSAC. The award was received by Additional Chief Secretary and Agriculture Production Commissioner Sanjeev Chopra, along with Chief Executive Officer (CEO), ORSAC Prafulla Mallik, CEO, Odisha Adarsh Vidyalaya Prem Chandra Chaudhury, and Director of Estates Sushanta Kumar Mohanty. The project uses cutting edge technology including satellite imagery and Artificial Intelligence to safeguard Government land in the Capital City. BLUIS has competed with 89 high-tech projects of different State and Central Government agencies to emerge victorious. While complementing the Department and ORSAC for the accomplishment, Chief Secre-

tary Suresh Chandra Mahapatra advised officials to have more innovative technological applications for supporting the quick and informed decision making. He also directed to replicate the application in other municipal corporations of the State. Chopra said, "The app has user friendly interface for citizens and officials. It has also scalable and replicable features and key information at fingertip on a dashboard. Citizens can use the app to report any suspected encroachment of the Government land". CEO, ORSAC Mallik said, "The app is backed by high resolution satellite data provided by ORSAC identification of encroachments and geo-tagging of the Government land. A significant feature of BLUIS is that it enables crowdsourcing cases of unauthorized land use". Available data show, as of now 826 encroachment cases have been detected and 484 cases resolved through application of this technology. The app has also facilitated early grounding of developmental projects. Director Estates Mohanty mentioned that Governments of Jharkhand and Assam sought the support of Odisha for implementing similar systems in Ranchi and Guwahati.

CLASSIFIED

CAUTION

Readers are advised to make appropriate enquiries while responding to advertisements in these columns. The Kalinga chronicle publication does not vouch for any claims made by the Advertisers. The Printer, Publisher, Editor and Owner of The Kalinga Chronicle Publications shall not be held responsible/liable for any consequences, in case such claims are found to be false.



AUTOMOBILE

SALE
Kawasaki Bajaj in tiptop condition for sale.
Contact: 2555328

PURCHASE
Required a Marshal/Commandor / Boleto in good condition. Contact 2555763



REAL ESTATE

SALE
Flats ready for possession before Rathayatra at Puri near Seabeach for sale.
Contact : 986 1078308

Residential plots at Pahala close to NH-5 and near Pata Railway Station, Bhubaneswar for immediate sale.
Contact : 0674-2556733
Residential plots at

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENT TARIFF

Classified advertisements are released daily. The normal classified advertisement is charged @ Rs. 5/- per word up to maximum number of 50 words. Any extra word will be Rs. 8/- per word. The minimum charges for any classified advertisement is Rs. 100/-. The options for bold lettering and outlining are also available and are charged @ 7/- and 10/- per word respectively. Extra charges for photographs Rs.100/-. For Box No. Rs. 100/-

HIRE

For hiring of Car / Jeep / Bus on monthly basis.
Contact : 2555763



BUSINESS

Saving 10,000/- for high return, extra earn and Foreign trip opportunity, 9238904001.
Independent business work from home, training in Singapore, 9338014287.



MATRIMONIAL

BRIDE WANTED

Wanted bride for Khandayat Boy, 37plus, Caste no bar, 0674-2555763

GROOM WANTED

Wanted Groom any service / business family for a Bramhin Girl.
Contact 2555226

Gohira Chhak in front of CV Raman Engineering College beside NH-5, near Tamando. Contact : 9238691168

PURCHASE

Simplex / Duplex building at BBSR contact : 9437002509

ACCOMMODATION WANTED

Required Single / Double / Triple Stored North/East facing building at Puri . Contact 9437143483



TOURS & TRAVELS

We provide luxury coach buses (16,25,32,41,52 seater) for Picnic, Excursion, Marriage. Maa Santoshi Travels, Contact : 9861079437
For Luxury Passenger vehicle, Contact : Sagasity Tours & Travels, Acharya Vihar, Bhubaneswar, Ph. 2540219

WANTED

Required Driver/Peon/Attendant/ Aya

Please Contact-8984600400

ACCOMMODATION WANTED

Required double/Single/ Multi storied Bungalow type North or East Facing Independent building At-Nayapalli, Jayadev Vihar, V.S.S. Nagar, Mancheswar, Rasulgarh, Sallashree Vihar, Niladri Vihar.

Please Contact- 8338870595

Spider-Man No Way Home First Impressions: All the hype was worth it

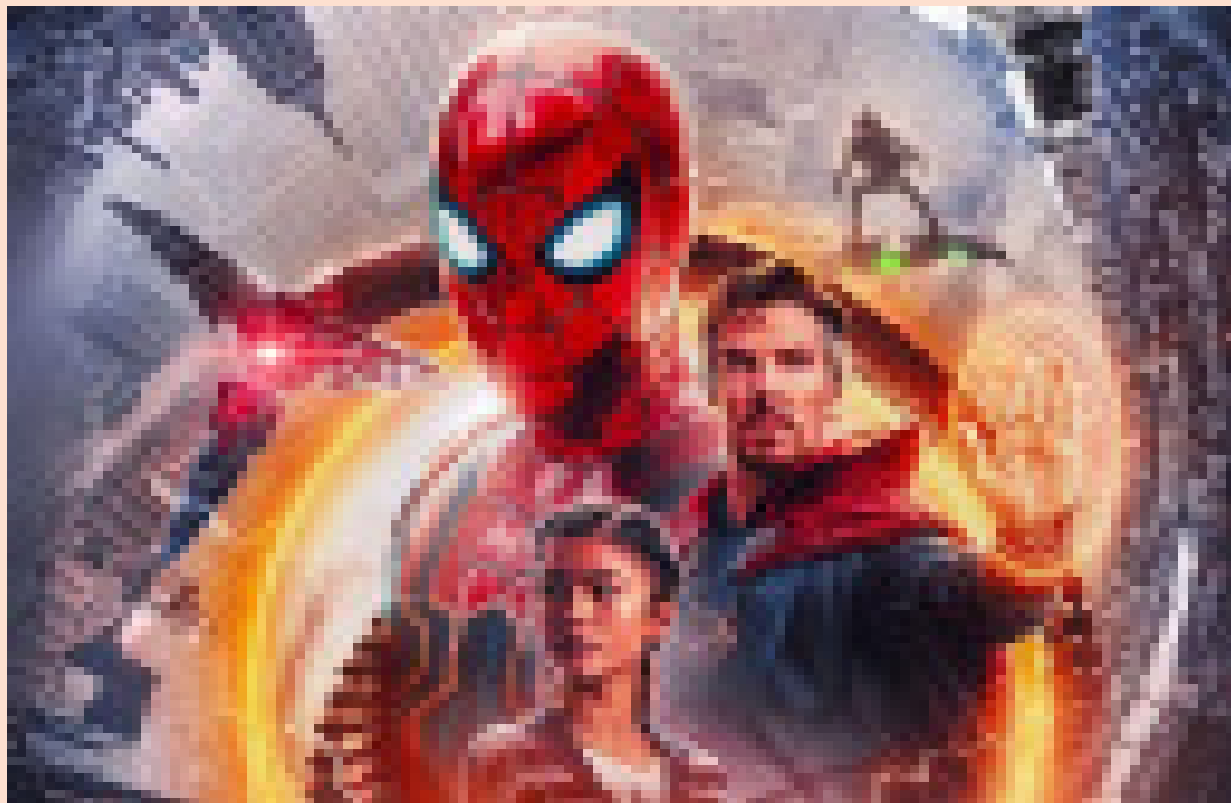
Social media was a quiet place over the last two days. Spider-Man: No Way Home (NWH) had its world premiere a couple of days back, and all Spidey fans stayed as far away from social media as possible. All of them just wanted to keep away from ONE important question — Do Tobey Maguire and Andrew Garfield feature in NWH? We'll get to that soon enough...

First, let us talk about how the film starts right from where it left off in Far From Home. Mysterio has revealed who the real Spiderman is to the world. Peter Parker (Tom Holland) is as vulnerable as he can be. But he has MJ (Zendaya) and Ned (Jakob

Betalan) for company in this tough time. The murmurs about Spider-Man not being the friendly neighbourhood superhero are now being amplified thanks to our not-so-friendly neighbourhood news anchor Jonah Jameson of TheDailyBugle.net. Peter and Co are hounded by the media and fellow students. There is scrutiny all around, and even their MIT dreams get crushed thanks to Mysterio's final video message. And just like the trailers suggested, when things are getting worse and stranger than usual, there is just one place to go to — Doctor Strange. Just like in any other superhero film, certain things happen, and Bam! the villains from the Spideverse take centre stage. Similar to the recent Venkat Prabhu film, Maanaadu, it is the supervillains who received maximum cheer from a sleep-starved audience that queued up

to enter the theatre at 5 am. Such was the sound that Spidey might have thought if he was the

spotlight on both Peter's friendship with Ned and love story with MJ, the writing, the per-



formances and their camaraderie are so on point. The trio laughing at Dr Otto's name is as funny as it was in the trailer, and them figuring out the multiverse all by themselves is as goofy as it can get. Seeing Ned and MJ involved got the crowd backing them too as they continued in their path to be relevant and not relegated to just the usual "Superhero friend" and "Superhero GF" trope. The action set pieces prove to us why MCU has some of the most inventive stunt chore-

graphy, and the first half perfectly sets up what is one of the most-anticipated MCU films. As Spiderman: No Way Home unfolds, we get to know why it is also one of the best-written MCU films. There are strong emotional arcs. There is scope for redemption. There is revenge. There is salvation. There is blood. There is brotherhood. There is betrayal. And... as the film came to a close, and the credits started rolling... there were sore throats due to the loud cheering, moist eyes due to the beautiful emotional sequences, and reddened palms courtesy of the thunderous applause. Not one moved from their seats as first we saw a mid-credits scene, and then a post-credits one, and the loudest cheers were reserved for the sheer brilliance of the minds behind the MCU for neatly tying up multiple shows, films, and characters to rally the audience behind their franchises.

friendly superhero of the Ambattur neighbourhood. Truth be told, the whistles and cheers drowned most of the opening dialogues uttered by Dr Otto, Dr Osbourne (Green Goblin), Sandman, the Lizard, and Electro. I just assumed it was tongue-in-cheek references or quick-witted dialogues, or a monotonous hiss, depending on the supervillain in question. Of course, the Spideverse was truly open, and we come back to the BIG question — Do Tobey Maguire and Andrew Garfield feature in NWH? We'll get to that soon enough... But first, let us talk about the brilliant bonhomie between each of these characters. Be it Strange and Spidey's conversations or the supervillains having a sit-down chat with Tom Holland's Spiderman about the what-ifs and what-nots, and what-next for them, the writing is campy and super fun. Be it the equal

Decoupled, dissonance, and deja vu: Madhavan, Surveen Chawla on marriages and more

At the outset, Netflix's latest release, Decoupled, might seem like the antithesis of love and romance because it tracks a broken marriage, and how worse romantic life can get. And yet, the glimmers of love and hope shared by Madhavan's Arya and Surveen's Shruti is the lifeline of this series. "I liked the take on splitting up. It is normal for people to grow apart. Not all splitting or divorces need to be about something dramatic. There is both a real image and a projected image in a marriage/relationship, and when there is a vast difference in what we are and we are projecting, all that remains is our intent to be together," says a sagely Madhavan tapping into his 22 years of marriage. In this conversation with Cinema Express, he is joined by an equally philosophical Surveen Chawla as they discuss marriages, literally and metaphorically.

Excerpts:
Marriage of their real and onscreen selves
Surveen Chawla (SC): Playing Shruti was so much fun. There were times when it felt like I was talking to my real-life husband, and not Madhavan's Arya. It was not about the manner of speech, but simply about the way both conduct themselves. The relatability factor is that the basic issues faced by this couple are things we might have experienced. Just because there is relatability, it doesn't mean all couples have to end up like Shruti and Arya. Relationships are always a work in progress.
Madhavan (M): There were so many instances that were well-written; I could see such fights erupting between my wife, Saritha, and me. When you are really fond of each other, the intensity of arguments flares up. But the difference between a marriage that works and one that doesn't is that once this argument is done, any residual anger will not seep into the next conversation. The power equation is reset after every disagreement, and this was written beautifully in the series too. This resetting of the power equation between Shruti and Arya is what gives us the hope that this couple might actually work. I thought it was mature, and it was a great insight into the marriages of today.
Marriage between thinking and acting languages
SC: Having the same acting and thinking lan-

guage can make all the difference to our performances. Although we are fluent in other languages, English has been the thinking language for both Madhavan and me. The pauses, the commas, the casualness... everything is effortlessly translated from our minds to our dialogues. When I am thinking in English and delivering lines in another, it runs the risk of becoming dialogue-y. Also, points to Hardik Mehta (director) and Manu Joseph (writer) for allowing me to put down on paper what Surveen was thinking as Shruti. They gave us the liberty and scope for improvisation.
M: My son Vedanth gave me a huge nod of approval and not only felt that the show looked trendy but was also candid about how the English we spoke didn't feel forced. To be honest, I haven't done anything like this before. Our language of communication at home was English, and we wanted it to have the flow in which the language is spoken in our country.
ALSO READ: Decoupled Series Review: Madhavan, Surveen Chawla impress in this take

on urban relationships
Marriage between the content and audience
SC: We are not regional actors anymore. In fact, we are global actors and not just pan-Indian. The pandemic propelled the OTT movement, and it has definitely taken centre stage. The world itself has shrunk, and it is important to have the right team and trust them to make the right decisions. But more than anything else, the end game is really the content we are doing. For now, I honestly don't have a preference about the kind of release as long as I am doing the content I love to do.
M: We have to decide if the content is worthy of the format it chooses to be presented in, and that choice has become paramount for the success of the content. Secondly, with experience, it does become an easy and informed choice. There is no way I could make Breathe into a film. Thirdly, having stepped away from the industry for a long time, I am more in touch with what people really want. Kids are now watching anime because they care more about relationships than the VFX. In this pandemic, people don't want to watch morbidity anymore. So, when I read a script and depending on the place where I am in my life, I see if I am able to relate to it. If yes, and then the team is a solid one, I am completely committed to the film/series.
Marriage between reality and social media personas
SC: I am moody when it comes to social media, and I saw the pandemic as an out. I took a social media detox, and honestly, I am happy about this step back.
M: It helps me see how people gauge my work. It is a great insight into misconceptions I had about myself. Of course, there will be bitter and harsh people. Even if we say things in good faith, negativity comes to us sometimes. I have decided not to give them that power.
Also, in this pandemic, people have become negative and bitter; so, occasionally, I do give them that allowance at times and believe that things will look up.
It is also important to realise that social media contains a small percentage of people in India. While your world might seem grey when compared to what you see in social media, there are a large percentage of people in the real world who are going through exactly what you are. The picture is not as bleak as we make it out to be. That's why I try to spread cheer on my timeline.



SC: I am moody when it comes to social media, and I saw the pandemic as an out. I took a social media detox, and honestly, I am happy about this step back.
M: It helps me see how people gauge my work. It is a great insight into misconceptions I had about myself. Of course, there will be bitter and harsh people. Even if we say things in good faith, negativity comes to us sometimes. I have decided not to give them that power.
Also, in this pandemic, people have become negative and bitter; so, occasionally, I do give them that allowance at times and believe that things will look up.
It is also important to realise that social media contains a small percentage of people in India. While your world might seem grey when compared to what you see in social media, there are a large percentage of people in the real world who are going through exactly what you are. The picture is not as bleak as we make it out to be. That's why I try to spread cheer on my timeline.

When will we learn crowd control after the Vaishno Devi accident?

The heart-wrenching incident at Mata Vaishno Devi Temple on New Year's eve has once again proved that no matter what happens, we will never learn to control the crowd. If we had learned from the prior mistakes, then the country would not have had to witness such a horrific incident again. But it is as if we have



stopped learning. Suddenly at midnight, there were loud cheers among the devotees who came to pay their respects at the shrine of the Goddess.

After that, there was a scuffle and stampede.

The stampede took a terrible turn of events. Twelve pilgrims died tragically in the accident that took place around 2 am. More than a dozen people were injured. Did the local administration not know that every year on New Year's night several devotees gather in the temple? Because of this, there is always the possibility of stampedes there.

How were so many people allowed to go upstairs to the temple at once? The management of these religious places has to learn from their mistakes. Those going to these places will also have to be more alert. Along with this, we need to prevent large crowds from gathering at any fair or religious place on special dates. Because; As soon as the crowd gathers at one place, there is also the possibility of a stampede. There should always be better and alternative arrangements for clearing the crowd. Devotees should also avoid crowded areas. They cannot put all the responsibility of their carelessness on the administration itself. Before this, we have seen the disasters of Haridwar, Kumbh, and Nashik.

For the last few decades, many schemes and programmes are being run by the Department of Science and Technology (DST), the Government of India and its institutions for school students, which give a clear glimpse and correlation with the structure and action points inbuilt in NEP. Today these programmes can play a major role in fulfilling the objectives of NEP. Dissemination of these programmes and schemes are required at the grassroots level to connect the children of the remotest parts of the country. INSPIRE Programme and MANAK Scheme Innovation in Science Pursuit for Inspired Research (INSPIRE) programme is one of the flagship programmes of DST and implemented by National Innovation Foundation (NIF) to encourage students to pursue science as a career. The Scheme has been aligned with Action Plan-18 of the Startup India programme that stipulates the 'launching of innovation-focused programmes for students.' INSPIRE aims to communicate to the youth population of the country the excitement of creative pursuit of science, attract talent to the study of science at an early stage, and build the required critical human resource pool for strengthening and expanding the Science & Technology system and R&D base. INSPIRE Scheme has included three programmes - (a) Scheme for Early Attraction of Talents for Science (SEATS), (b) Scholarship for Higher Education (SHE), and (c) Assured Opportunity for Research Careers (AORC). The INSPIRE Awards - MANAK (Million Minds Augmenting National Aspirations and Knowledge) Scheme, being executed by DST with NIF - India, aims to motivate students in the age group of 10- 15 years and studying in



classes 6 to 10. The objective of the Scheme is to target one million original ideas/innovations rooted in science and societal applica-

But we are yet to see the change in our nature.

When the threat of Omicron is looming over the country, it is beyond comprehension for devotees to flock to the Vaishno Devi temple on such a massive scale. Due to the overwhelming crowd, accidents happen not only in India but in other countries also. A few years ago, there was a tragic accident due to a



stampede in Mecca. There have been major accidents in the year 2004 and again in 2006 in the race to kill the devil. If we go back a few decades, there was an enormous stampede at the Kumbh Mela in Prayagraj in 1954. Hundreds of people had lost their lives in it.

The accident took place due to a stampede in the crowd that had stopped suddenly for the bath of Prime Minister Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. The report stated that Nehru Ji had decided to take a bath before the akhadas. That angered the monks. Because of this, there was an uproar. The elephants present there were enraged. They also crushed dozens of people. However, that incident was suppressed.

Similarly, the stampede of a Kumbh in Haridwar was caused by a stampede in the crowd that was halted for the bath of the then Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, Shri Veer Bahadur Singh. Unfortunately, even some

R.K.Sinha

vicious elements, ignoring the dignity of religious places, start doing bad things there. At first glance, it seems that the same thing must have happened in the Vaishno Devi temple. It is learned that after two o'clock in the night, there was a heated argument between some people and due to that a scuffle broke out. After this people started running away, due to which this accident

happened. However, the police and administration officials reacted quickly, and the order was immediately restored in the crowd. By that time, the damage was done. The administration is making such a claim. But how did they let the situation worsen in the first place? In fact, at places like fairs and temples, there is always a vulture sight of the enemies of humanity. It is necessary to nullify their intentions. At the time of the last Prayag Kumbh, the Yogi government of Uttar Pradesh had trained the policemen posted in the fair from the National Security Guards i.e. NSG and Army.

They entered the situation and made sure that the threat had been neutralized. The arrangement on the same side should also be permanent in temples like Vaishno Devi. Remember that places like Vaishno Devi are

bound to create a stampede when a politician, actor, or popular figure arrives. The crowd becomes furious and uncontrollable, so the administration has to act very intelligently.

Talking about the accident in Vaishno Devi, let me also say that it is a matter of great concern that in our country, during religious places and worship ceremonies, dozens of people even in the process of bathing in rivers and ponds or immersing idols. He drowns and

loses his life. A few years ago, 73 people lost their lives due to drowning during Chhath Puja in Bihar alone. Around 10 people drowned during the immersion of Durga Puja in Delhi. Of course, these were all heart-breaking incidents. He also used to expose all the claims and promises of the government, which the concerned departments keep saying that "tight security arrangements have been made".

Incidents like the accident in Vaishno Devi will stop only when the preparations of our administration are solid. Otherwise, after a few days of apologizing and compensation to the kin of the dead/injured, everything will resume as before. The officers looking after the management of Vaishno Devi should be asked what kind of preparations they had made for the possible crowd control on December 31. There was a whip on those officers who failed to discharge their duties. This incident has created an atmosphere of mourning in the whole country. Crores of people have a strong faith in the Vaishno Devi temple in the country, on which there has been a blow.

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

Science Education

tions to foster a culture of creativity and innovative thinking among school children.

Under this, schools can nominate the five best Scientist 'E' and Head of Publications Division in Vigyan Prasar. Email: nkapoor@vigyanprasar.gov.in, original ideas/innovations of students by mid-October, every year.

This programme reaches Indian districts and schools across the country through regional workshops, audiovisual tools, and literature. An internal idea competition in schools is organised, and nominations of two to three best original ideas are submitted, in any Indian language, by the respective Principal through online E-MIAS (E-Management of INSPIRE Awards MANAK Scheme) portal.

NIF provides mentoring support to students for the development of prototypes, in coordination with reputed academic and technology institutions of the country. The selection of ideas/innovations is based on novelty, social applicability, environment friendliness, user-friendliness, and comparative advantage over the existing similar technologies. Finally, it showcases 1,000 best ideas/ innovations at the National Level Exhibition & Project was transferred to a firm, now a startup recognised by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT).

'Vigyan Jyoti' and 'Engage with Science' The DST is scaling up its two initiatives-Mgyan Jyoti and Engage with Science. Both the programmes are mandated to create a level-

Nimish Kapoor

playing field for the meritorious girls in high school to pursue

Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) in their higher education. It also offers exposure to girl students from rural backgrounds to help plan their journey from school to a job of their choice in the field of science. Vigyan Jyoti is a programme to promote STEM learning among girl students from grades 9 to 12 to pursue STEM in their higher education, especially from the top colleges in the areas where girls are hugely underrepresented. Vigyan



Jyoti aims to tap 100 girl students in 550 districts from 2020-2025, the students will be chosen based on their percentile. The initiative focuses on solving the multidimensional problems associated with the meagre representation of women in the Engineering and Technology streams in higher education, by building confidence and excitement towards these streams. Competition (NLEPC) with the shortlisting of the top 60 innovations for national awards. Incubation support is provided to selected innovations, which has helped in

scaling up students' creativity. As a result, ideas like 'manual waste lifting and dumping cart' evinced market interest and the technology YOJANA October 2021

The objective of the Scheme is to target one million original ideas/innovations rooted in science and societal applications to foster a culture of creativity and innovative thinking among school children.

Engage with Science has been planned to make learning relevant and foster scientific spirit amongst the country's youth. It would address the school students directly who need more knowledge outside the classroom and provide insights into an interactive way of learning, discussion, role-play, practical examination and other methods of science. VVM provides an opportunity to national winners (called Himalayans) and zonal winners, to participate in an extensive training cum internship 'Srijan' for few weeks in any one of the reputed national labs or premier research institutions. WM is introducing Bhaskara Scholarship of Rs 2000 per month to the national winners for one year. VVM is a national level, App-based, science talent search examination that is conducted online. Students may get more information on VVM at www.vvm.org.in.

Kishore Vaigyanik Protsahan Yojana (KVPY) Kishore

Vaigyanik Protsahan Yojana (KVPY) is a flagship programme of the DST implemented by the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore to encourage students who are studying Basic Sciences to take up a research career in science. Fellowship and contingency grants are provided to the (To be continued)

The author is Scientist 'E' and Head of Publications Division in Vigyan Prasar. Email: nkapoor@vigyanprasar.gov.in, Twitter: @VigyanPrasar

MEA ropes in TCS for faster and secure passport deliver

NEW DELHI: In its bid towards improving the efficacy of the Passport delivery system the Ministry of

including strategic assets such as Data Centres, Database and the Application Software will be

tres, training and change management etc. were provided by the Service Provider, and the Government

services to Indian diaspora. Recognizing the need to continually improve the quality of



External Affairs (MEA) on Friday signed an agreement for second phase of the Passport Seva Programme (PSP-V2.0).

MEA signed the agreement with Tata Consultancy Services Limited appointing them as the Service Provider for the project.

MEA in its statement said, "The key elements of PSP-V 2.0 are setting up of a state-of-art digital ecosystem, process overhauling and integration among various stakeholders and database, improving citizen interface, upgrading technology, adopting best practices and strengthening data security."

As per the Ministry, the security aspects,

owned by the Government and there would be strict access controls across the system, incorporating biometrics.

The PSP-V2.0 is a continuation and enhancement of PSP-V1.0, an e-Governance instrument, led to transformations in delivery of passport related services to citizens.

The focus was on timely, transparent, more accessible and reliable platform, accessed by citizens in a comfortable environment through streamlined processes; and a committed, trained and motivated workforce.

The project design ensured that support functions like citizen interface, technology backbone, call cen-

continued to exercise all sovereign and security related functions in the passport issuance process.

The number of public dealing offices has increased across the country. Ministry is working towards opening of a Seva Kendra in every Lok Sabha Constituency where there is no Passport Seva Kendra (PSK) or Post Office Passport Seva Kendra (POPSK). As on date 93 PSKs, 428 POPSKs and 36 Passport Offices are operational.

The Programme has recently been connected to more than 176 Indian Missions / Posts through Global Passport Seva Programme (GPSP), providing seamless delivery of passport

Government to Citizen (G2C) services and the mantra of Good Governance via IT and digital media, the Passport Seva Programme would be embarking on technology upgrade with the use of Biometrics, Artificial Intelligence, Advance Data Analytics, Chat-Bot, Auto-response, Natural Language Processing, Cloud Enablement.

The issuance of e-Passports for enhanced customer satisfaction, increased security and next level of citizen experience will also be unveiled in the upgraded PSP-V 2.0. The Passport Seva Programme is a citizen centric e-Governance platform.

SEC Convenes All Party Meeting

Bhubaneswar: Before announcing dates for the three tier

the second week of March 2022. So, it is necessary to conduct

soon after the meeting, the election dates are likely to be de-

Sarpanch candidate, the limit was increased to Rs 2 lakh.



Panchayat Elections, the State Election Commission (SEC) has called an all party meeting on January 10. As per direction of State Election Commissioner, Aditya Prasad Padhi, Secretary SEC, RN Sahu has written an invitation letter to the president and general secretary of all political parties present in the State. The meeting will be held here at Gita Gobinda Sadana on January 10 at 11.30 AM.

The tenure of Zilla Parishads will end by

elections before the completion of five year tenure of the local bodies, Mr.Sahu said in the letter.

The meeting has been conveyed to get suggestions and recommendations from the political leaders for a free and fair election, he said.

The State Chief of the political parties like BJD, BJP and Congress can attend the meeting or can send their representatives to the meeting.

It indicates that the SEC is almost ready to go for the poll and

clared. Possibility is high that the Panchayat election in the State is likely to be conducted in February 2022.

The SEC has already held talks with the political parties and accordingly, State Election Commissioner (SEC) Aditya Prasad Padhi has increased the expenditure limit of candidates. The poll expenditure limit for Zilla Parishad members was enhanced upto Rs 5 lakh, while for Panchayat Samiti members and

The Commission has also given more relaxation on use of vehicles for campaigning and increased the voting time by one hour. The counting procedure has also been changed for this time. Besides, the SEC has issued Model Code of Conduct and symbols for the candidates to fight the rural poll. It can say that the Commission is fully ready to go for the poll soon after the State completes the reservation process.

CBI submits status report to Calcutta HC on alleged post-Assembly poll violence in West Bengal

KOLKATA: The CBI has submitted a status report to the Calcutta High Court on alleged violence in West Bengal following the assembly elections in April last year.

The CBI said the state police had referred 64 incidents to it in accordance with an order of a five-judge bench of the high court, which directed the agency to investigate heinous crimes of murder, rape and attempt to rape, while other cases related to post-poll violence



were to be probed by a special investigation team of three senior IPS officers of West Bengal cadre.

The CBI, which submitted the status report before a division bench presided over by Chief Justice Prakash Shrivastava on Monday, said that out of 64 cases referred to it by the state police, 39 alleged offences were taken over by CBI, which registered regular cases, while 4 references are under process.

It said 21 cases referred to it were returned to the state police/SIT "on the ground of nature of offence", as CBI has been mandated by the order of the five-judge bench on August 19, 2021 to investigate post-poll violence cases of murder, rape and attempt to rape alone.

The CBI said it had also received 29 complaints of sexual assault from NHRC related to sexual offences till December 22, out of which it has decided to hand over two cases to the state SIT on the grounds of nature of offences.

It said two complaints relating to same incident of sexual assault were received by CBI which were amalgamated, resulting in registration of only one regular case for investigation.

"Remaining cases are under progress," it said, The agency said that at the time of submission of the status report, CBI had registered 50 regular cases and one preliminary enquiry into the alleged incidents of post-poll violence. ALSO READ: Cases increase but CBI short on staff as over 1300 posts lying vacant

The CBI said it had submitted charge sheet in 10 cases while remaining cases are under progress. The division bench directed the state government to file a report in the form of an affidavit on return of people who had allegedly been left homeless out of political vendetta by the next date of hearing on January 24.

The five-judge bench presided over by the then Acting Chief Justice Rajesh Bindal had on August 19, 2021 ordered a CBI investigation into all cases of alleged murder and crime against women regarding rape or attempt to rape in post-poll violence in West Bengal.

Passing the judgement on PILs seeking independent probe in alleged violence in the state following the assembly elections, the bench had ordered constitution of a Special Investigation Team (SIT) comprising three IPS officers of the West Bengal cadre to probe all other cases.

The bench had directed that both the investigations will be monitored by the high court. It had also ordered the West Bengal government to pay compensation to the victims of crime in accordance with the policy of the state, after due verification, and said the amount will be directly transferred to their bank accounts.



MAHARISHI PLAY SCHOOL

Nurturing awareness Moulding Future

ADMISSION OPEN FOR

PLAY GROUP (2+) to Onwards

A great Place to grow @ MPS

Call now for Application:

Laugh
Play
Learn
Share

MAHARISHI PUBLIC SCHOOL

N-3 B/14-15, IRC Village,
Nayapalli, Bhubaneswar

PH. 2558884 / 2550786 / 8984600700 (M)

E-mail : maharishipublic13@yahoo.com



Find us on
facebook.com/maharishiplayschool



FOLLOW US
ON TWITTER
twitter.com/maharishiplayschool

Vaishnav Offers Puja for PM



Bhubaneswar: Ashwini Vaishnav, Union Minister Railways, Electronics & IT and Communications Thursday offered 'Puja' and 'Deep' at Shree Lingaraj Temple here seeking long life of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. He offered prayers for the Supreme Leader, a day after his convoy was

stopped by a demonstration in Punjab which was seen as a security breach. He was accompanied by State BJP President Samir Mohanty and other leaders. Mr. Vaishnav reached the 11th century Lord Shiv shrine and performed puja. He was seen chanting "Maha Mrunjay Mantra". Minister Railways

also posted a video clip of him performing the "aarti" in the media while performing puja in front of Shree Lingaraj Temple. "Modiji Jiyo Hazaro Saal", Mr. Vaishnav said in the twitter post. "It was a clear case of conspiracy. We prayed before the Lord seeking the divine blessings for the long life of the Prime

Minister," Mr. Vaishnav told Media Men here. Earlier, the Women wing of the BJP, performed "Deep Daan" in different temples across the state seeking long life of the Prime Minister. BJP Youth Wing Members held torch and candle processions for long life of PM.

Bhubaneswar: Mandatory RT-PCR for all passengers at Biju Patnaik International Airport



BHUBANESWAR(KCN): Amid sudden spike in Omicron cases in the country, Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC) on Thursday said that all air travellers deboarding at Biju Patnaik International Airport will have to undergo mandatory RT-PCR test at the facility set up by the civic body on BPIA premises. The BMC order

stated, "The air travellers who are fully vaccinated or have negative RT-PCR report will also have to get themselves tested at the facility in BPIA." The travellers whose destination is Bhubaneswar will have to isolate themselves in homes until their RT-PCR test results are communicated to them. BMC has said the

usual protocol will be followed if positive Covid-19 cases are detected among the travellers. BPIA Director will ensure the guidelines, which will come into effect from Friday and continue until further orders, are strictly adhered by the passengers. Meanwhile, BMC on Thursday declared nine more places as containment zones in

the Capital following detection of new cases. Online tickets for Nandankanan Owing to the Covid-19 situation and rise in cases pertaining to the Omicron variant, the Nandankanan authorities have made online tickets mandatory to enter the zoo and adjoining Botanical Park. Ticket counters at both the zoo and park will remain closed from Friday onwards.

Tata Starbucks enters six new cities in India including Goa and Bhubaneswar, crosses 250-mark

NEW DELHI: Tata Starbucks on Thursday announced entry into six new markets as part of its expansion into smaller cities in India. With these new additions, the company now operates 252 Starbucks stores in 26 cities. It is entering into -- Siliguri, Nashik, Guwahati, Thiruvananthapuram, Goa and Bhubaneswar -- a company statement said.

With a growing base of coffee enthusiasts across the country,

grounded in growing with its partners and customers together



the brand makes its first appearance in the states of Assam, Goa and Odisha, it said. "Tata Starbucks is

and thus expanding our footprint in India is a matter of great pride for us," Tata Starbucks CEO

Sushant Dash said. Tata Starbucks, a 50:50 joint venture between Tata Consumer and Starbucks Corporation, said this is the largest store expansion in a year. "The stores are a fusion of the signature Starbucks warm and welcoming design and the city's local culture and craftsmanship, serving as an extension of the neighbourhoods we serve," it added.

Kalidas Samman for Chandrabhanu Satpathy

Bhubaneswar: Eminent Spiritual Thinker, Dr. Chandrabhanu Satpathy was conferred with the NALCO Kalidas Samman this year, at NALCO's 42nd

significant achievements in respective fields with the objective of promoting literature and culture. Contactless presentation of awards was also ensured for

other stakeholders which has resulted in optimization of production and productivity, particularly during COVID 19 pandemic. He also emphasized the im-

portance of keeping a healthy work-life balance and maintaining a positive mindset during adverse conditions and challenging times. "NALCO's successful journey from a modest investment way back in early eighties to a leadership position has always been based on the mantra of 5P i.e. focus on Production, Planet, People, Productivity and Profit". I am optimistic that with the ongoing growth plans and



Foundation Day function here on Thursday. Renowned Odissi danseuse Aruna Mohanty was bestowed with the NALCO Kharavela Award in Odissi Dance Guru category. Mamata Ojha and Harekrushna Dhall were both presented with the NALCO Kharavela Award in Odissi Dancer category. NALCO awards were presented to these renowned and eminent personalities for their

safety of awardees. Navratna CPSE National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO) celebrated its 42nd Foundation Day in hybrid mode at its Corporate Office, here on Thursday. Addressing the employees and stakeholders of the Company on the occasion, NALCO Chairman-cum Managing Director Sridhar Patra appreciated the dedication and hard work of the employees and unstinted support of

portance of keeping a healthy work-life balance and maintaining a positive mindset during adverse conditions and challenging times. "NALCO's successful journey from a modest investment way back in early eighties to a leadership position has always been based on the mantra of 5P i.e. focus on Production, Planet, People, Productivity and Profit". I am optimistic that with the ongoing growth plans and

ahead," added Patra. Among others, MP Mishra, Director (P&T) & Director (Finance)-Additional Charge, BK Das, Director (Production) & Director (Commercial)-Additional Charge and Somanath Hansdah, Chief Vigilance Officer, addressed the employees on the occasion. The entire event was streamed online with minimum physical participation, adhering to all COVID-19 guidelines.

US unemployment claims rise by 7,000, but still low at 207,000

WASHINGTON: The number of Americans applying

are below the 220,000 typical before the pandemic

States posted 10.6 million job openings in November, the

home and many businesses closed or cut back hours. Employers slashed more than 22 million jobs in March and April 2020, and the unemployment rate rocketed to 14.8%. But massive government spending and eventually the rollout of vaccines brought the economy back. Employers have added 18.5 million jobs since April 2020, still leaving the U.S. short of what it had before the pandemic. Economists expect that Friday's jobs report will show that the economy generated another 400,000 jobs in December, according to a survey by the data firm FactSet. The unemployment rate has fallen to 4.2%, close to what economists consider full employment.



for unemployment benefits rose last week but remained at historically low levels, suggesting that the job market remains strong. U.S. jobless claims rose by 7,000 last week to 207,000. The four-week average of claims, which smooths out week-to-week gyrations, rose by nearly 4,800 to just below 205,000. Despite the increases, the numbers show that weekly claims

struck the U.S. economy in March 2020. The highly transmissible omicron variant so far does not appear to have triggered significant layoffs. Altogether, nearly 1.8 million Americans were collecting traditional unemployment aid the week that ended Dec. 25. Employers are reluctant to let workers go at a time when it's so tough to find replacements. The United

fifth-highest monthly total in records going back to 2000. A record 4.5 million Americans quit their jobs in November, a sign that they are confident enough in their prospects to seek something better. The job market has bounced back from last year's brief but intense coronavirus recession. When COVID hit, governments ordered lockdowns, consumers hunkered down at

Investors' wealth zooms by over Rs 4.76 lakh crore in first two days of trading in 2022



NEW DELHI: Equity investors are a happy lot as their wealth jumped by Rs 4.76 lakh crore in the first two days of trading in the New Year, driven by optimism in the broader market. The 30-share Sensex zoomed 382.7 points to 59,565.92 in early trade on Tuesday. The benchmark had jumped 929.40 points or 1.60 per cent to settle at 59,183.22 on Monday, the first day of trading in 2022.

Helped by the ongoing rally, the market capitalisation of BSE-listed companies jumped by Rs 4,76,367.89 crore to reach Rs 2,70,76,579.44 crore in just two trading sessions. The surge in global markets fuelled the rally in domestic equities on Tuesday. In early trade on Tuesday, NTPC was the lead gainer among the pack of 30-share frontline

companies, followed by PowerGrid, SBI and Axis Bank. In the broader market, the midcap and smallcap indices jumped up to 0.42 per cent in early trade. "US markets setting record highs on the first trading day of 2022 is auspicious for global stock markets. The spectacular rally in Nifty and FIIs turning buyers with net purchases worth Rs 703 crore are bullish signals.

"If the FII buying yesterday is an indication of their renewed interest in India, financials particularly the leading banks, are likely to continue the momentum witnessed yesterday," said V K Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Strategist at Geojit Financial Services. In 2021, equity investors reaped handsome rewards as their wealth grew nearly by Rs 78 lakh crore.

A Dozen Good Financial Habits, or Resolutions!

I have no clue whether resolutions work, but I guess people make them anyway. So here are some things that you can do.. Keep improving your

If you are not, go to a financial planner - Registered Investment Adviser, I mean. Improve your credit score -especially if your score is below

700 points. Look for a better job! There is no point in staying on in a bad job and complaining about the rest of your life. It is time wasted, and a lot of energy lost in cribbing. If you are a businessman start planning your exit from the business! One day you will have to exit the business anyway- being prepared for that is much better than leaving your family in the lurch and they will run from pillar to post trying to fix things which were anyway not broken! Personal finance is a family activity - involve the kids too. When your children are about 14 years of age, they understand what you are doing. It is good to involve

them and tell them why the moneys are invested, where it is invested, and how it can be accessed if you are not around. When you make an assumption. Missing a payment like electricity payment can cause a lot of inconvenience and embarrassment. Make your Will. Today. Preferably now.



financial literacy - reading books on Investing is much better than trying to 'learn' on Social media. Look after your physical health - sadly there is not enough government nudge on improving your health. Improving your health is one good way to keep away from Covid and other contagious diseases. Fitter people have also recovered faster if they have been impacted. People talking personal finance from just personal experience are shallow. It takes a lot of learning, education and personal experience to be able to teach personal finance. Personal finance is easy But boring. See if you are up to doing it.

tion that they will eventually find out, remember it could be a very expensive (and unnecessary) assumption. Make a budget and stick to it - again remember this is an easy to give advice, but difficult to do. This is also a family activity and you should sit and do it as a family. Have your expenses credit card and "borrowing" credit card separate. Make sure that even if you do borrow, all the payment is made in FULL on or before the due date Automate your expense payment and your investing - this removes the need to think every month. It also means that you will not miss any monthly utility pay-

ment. Missing a payment like electricity payment can cause a lot of inconvenience and embarrassment. Make your Will. Today. Preferably now.

Many people do not understand the need for a will. Nomination alone is not enough in case of assets like land and flat - Real Estate in particular. The nominee is just holding the asset for giving it to the 'real' owners. What it means is that your children can challenge your wife (nominee) in a worst case scenario. Also for selling the Real estate, she will need to prove that she has good title - nomination is not enough. The list is endless, but I am restricting myself to a dozen good things to implement. No, one does not have to wait for 12 months to start implement thing. Just go ahead and make these things possible! Happy 2022!

Zomato-backed logistics and fulfillment platform Shiprocket buys 75% stake in Wigzo Tech

BENGALURU: Zomato-backed logistics and fulfillment platform Shiprocket on Friday acquired a 75% stake in Wigzo Tech, a Customer Data Platform (CDP) catering to the needs of e-commerce and D2C brands, for an undisclosed amount. The deal will enable Shiprocket to expand its product stack for online retailers onboarding its platform. Saahil Goel, Co-Founder, and CEO of Shiprocket said, "India's D2C space is currently showcasing massive growth. Today, the country has over 10,000 D2C brands, with the sector projected to touch \$100 billion by 2025. For D2C brands, leveraging data can play a pivotal role in having an edge above their contemporaries." He added, "Wigzo helps brands analyse data in real-time through big data and AI or ML algorithms." Founded by Umair Mohammed, Himanshu Kaushik, and Mohammed Atyab, Wigzo Tech is helping more than 400 e-commerce giants and D2C brands in their growth journey.

Odisha CM Naveen Patnaik terms PM Narendra Modi's security breach 'un-acceptable'

Continued from page-1 provide foolproof security and safeguard the dignity of this institution. Anything contrary should be unacceptable in our democracy," Naveen said. The Prime Minister was struck for 15 to 20 minutes at a flyover, some 16 km short of Ferozepur, as a group of farmers had blocked the road on which he was travelling. He was scheduled to lay the foundation stone for several projects and address a rally there. The Chief Minister's statesmanship and respect for Constitutional positions have been manifested on various occasions. He has maintained decorum even when dealing with Opposition parties and leaders. His conduct during the Prime Minister's visit and review of the impact of cyclone Yaas in May, 2021 in Odisha and neighboring West Bengal was lauded by Modi.

The Prime Minister had praised the Chief Minister over the "perfect coordination" and "perfect communication" between the State and Central governments.

Modi was apparently snubbed by West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, who arrived 30 minutes late for the review meeting, handed over papers related to the impact of the cyclone and left for other meetings. Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan appreciated Chief Minister's concern for Prime Minister's security.

"This is how a democracy like India should function. We all can have differing ideologies, beliefs and opinions but that can be no ground to legitimise a breach of security for the Prime Minister," he said.

Covid heading towards 3K

Continued from page-1 Continued from page-1 districts where active cases are above 2,500, while Sundargarh joined the yellow zone with 1,068 active cases. The caseload in the State rose to 10.62 lakh, including 10.46 lakh recoveries as 204 patients recuperated in the last 24 hours. The State tested 68,970 samples during the period, it said.

More than 2.96 crore people have been inoculated with the first dose of the coronavirus vaccine and over 2.17 crore administered the second dose in the stat

Meanwhile, Health and Family Welfare Minister Naba Kisore Das has been tested positive for Covid-19. Taking to twitter, Mr.Das said, "I was tested asymptomatic Covid positive yesterday and now in home isolation. I request all those who have come in physical contact with me in the last 3 days to get themselves tested".

The State Government has imposed night curfew in all urban areas from 9 pm today onwards, till January 31. Twin city Police Commissioner Saumendra Priyadarshi urged everyone to follow guidelines; otherwise strict action will be taken against the violators.

The State has also reduced the staff attendance in its all offices to 50 per cent. Moreover, RTPCR test has been made mandatory for all travelers deboarding at Biju Patnaik International Airport (BPIA) here.

The Veer Surendra Sai University of Technology (VSSUT) in Sambalpur has postponed all the offline exams and classes in view of the emerging Covid-19 situation.

State Backs Grameen Bank

Continued from page-1 rural area, catering to the needs of farming community, rural artisans and others including small entrepreneurs, Self Help Groups and small business enterprises.

In the recent past, withdrawal of Government deposits from the Branches of the Bank has resulted in a negative growth of Rs 200 crore as on October 31, 2021 over March, 2021 and the Bank is struggling to get deposits from the public, Das said.

"In view of the above, you are requested to advise the State PSUs and State Level Autonomous Societies (SLASs) under your control to allow Utkal Grameen Bank to handle the business and deposits of SPSUs and SLASs as State Government owns 15% of the share of this Bank," he said in a communication to the departments.

The Finance Department has also urged the secretaries to ask concern DDOs, to recover loan avail by Government employees from the Odisha Gramya Bank to return it back on time. Odisha Gramya Bank has sanctioned clean loans of Rs 62.77 crore in 4276 accounts under repairs to House Building damaged by natural calamities to Government employees from time to time on the basis of irrevocable undertakings from the concerned DDOs to recover the monthly loan installments from the salary of the employees availing loan, Das said.

But due to non-payment of the EMIs, the loan accounts have become NPA despite the repeated follow-up by the OGB staffs with the DDOs and employees, he said.

Non recoveries of loan is adversely affecting the Bank's credit portfolio, which would have been utilized further for onward lending to rural sections of the society through priority sector schemes announced by Government of Odisha.

"As State Government owns 15% of the share of OGB, it is requested to advise the concerned DDOs under your control to resolve the matter with the employees who have taken loan and to assist the bank for recovery of loans sanctioned to the employees of State Government departments/ undertakings," the Director said. The shareholders of the OGB are also Government of India (50%), State Bank of India (35%) and Government of Odisha (15%). The bank is operating in 13 districts and it has 549 branches including 465 branches in rural areas.

Colleges, Varsitys Shut Down

Continued from page-1 technical educational institutions have been asked to take all appropriate measures for conducting classes through virtual other alternative methods of learning mode.

All hostels in such academic institutions will also remain closed with effect from January 10. Students are advised to avoid staying in the hostel in the interest of their personal health, he said.

However, the scholars, researchers and students who desire to stay in the hostels for research/ project works or other academic activities can stay by submitting undertakings to the appropriate authorities of the concerned institution. The respective Department will issue a detailed SOP or guidelines for this purpose.

Teaching and non-teaching employees of colleges, universities and technical educational institutions shall work as per prevailing guidelines for government servants and perform duties such as taking online classes/ academic/ semi academic and administrative functions etc. as assigned to them by the authorities.

Coaching institutions, organisations and individuals offering coaching services to students shall not run off-line/ physical coaching/ classes. However, virtual/ on-line coaching shall be permitted to continue. Any person found violating this order will be punished under the provision of the Disaster Management Act, 2005 and other relevant laws, warned the SRC.

In the order Jena informed that the State is passing through a critical stage of Covid-19 pandemic due to resurgence of Covid in some parts of the State and it is necessary to strictly adhere to Covid-19 safety protocols for containment of spread of the infection.

Vihari and Shreyas might have to wait for regular chances till seniors are around, indicates Dravid

JOHANNESBURG: Rahul Dravid never believed in "rocking the boat" and is certainly not going to change his template of giving the longest rope possible to Cheteshwar Pujara and Ajinkya Rahane even if Hanuma Vihari's wait for regular chances gets a tad longer. Vihari, Indian cricket's 'Tough Runs Man' has never had it easy in terms of chances as he has played only one of his 13 Tests at home and it was skipper Virat Kohli's back spasms and Shreyas Iyer's stomach bug that opened the door for another chance. The Hyderabad man did his bit in the second innings with an unbeaten 40 in India's target of 240 for the Proteas. "Firstly I must say Vihari played really in both innings. In the first innings he got a nasty one and unfortunately for him, it popped up and fielder just got his fingertips to it and really got a good catch, he batted beautifully in the second innings and that gives us confidence you know," Dravid was effusive in his praise for Vihari. He also took the opportunity to praise Shreyas Iyer, another strong middle-order contender. "Shreyas (Iyer) obviously done that two or three Test matches ago and he has obviously done that and they have just got to take heart from the fact that whenever they are getting opportunities, they are doing well and hopefully their time would come." But that doesn't mean that he will be preferred over and above a Rahane or a Pujara in this set-up with Kohli set to comeback in the next game, Dravid made it pretty clear. In fact, without naming, he cited examples during his playing days when the middle-order was jam-packed and guys like Kohli, Pujara and Rahane had to wait for a year or two before being Test team regulars. "If you look at some of our guys now senior players and being sort of considered senior players, they have also had to wait for their time and also have had to score a lot of runs at the start of their careers." Dravid does have a transition and phase-out plan but like everything has its own opportune time, this will also have to wait. "So it happens (wait) as its nature of the sport," he said adding, "We can take a lot of heart from the manner Vihari batted in this game

and that should give him a lot of confidence and that should give us a lot of confidence." Siraj doubtful for Cape Town Test Dravid confirmed that fast bowler Mohammed Siraj hasn't recovered from the hamstring injury sustained during the second Test and it can't be said with certainty that he will be available for the final game starting in Cape Town from January 11. "Siraj is not fully fit and we need to check going forward what is his fitness status. In the next 4 days, whether he can get fit and the physio will be doing scans." "As far as Hanuma Vihari's on-field hit is concerned, I am not in a position to tell the extent of the injury as I haven't had a detailed chat with the physio." "Siraj's injury did pose a problem while defending a neither here nor there kind of target which 240 was." "Losing Siraj (was a factor) as he wasn't 100 per cent in the first innings," said Dravid while lauding the fast bowler's heart to even bowl when he was injured. "We had the fifth bowler and we couldn't use him as much as we would have liked in that first innings and it did affect our strategy." Used Ashwin first-up on 4th afternoon to exploit "dry ball". Starting the fourth afternoon's proceedings with Ravichandran Ashwin did draw a lot of flak but the head coach defended the decision. "I guess we saw the ball spinning on the third day for Ashwin and we wanted to get him into action till the ball was dry and see if he gets some spin in first few overs. "As the ball got wet (due to wet outfield), it was difficult for a spinner to get into the game. He (Ashwin) bowled a really good spell on the third day. The gamble was to try and give him the dry ball," the coach explained. "Not having practice game isn't an excuse", Dravid, who had already spoken about how batters should seize key moments, didn't agree that not having practice match could be an excuse. "We prepared as well as we could in these Covid situations and the fact that we didn't have a three-day game, ...really don't have excuses apart from the fact that we played well in the first Test and SA outplayed us in this game."

Ind vs SA, 2nd Test: Shardul Thakur's seven wickets help India bowl out South Africa for 229 on Day 2



JOHANNESBURG: the hosts' batting line-up with figures of 7 for 61 after Keegan Petersen struck a fine half-century before lunch. Resuming at the overnight score of 35 for one, South Africa added 53 runs before losing skipper Dean Elgar for 28 but Petersen held the other end, scoring 62 off 118 balls. The visitors were all out for 202 in their first innings. South Africa took a first innings lead of 27 runs over India. Brief Scores: India 1st innings: 202 all out in 63.1 overs. (Mayank Agarwal 26, KL Rahul 50; Duanne Olivier 3/64, Marco Jansen 4/31, Kagiso Rabada 3/64). South Africa 1st innings: 229 all out in 79.4 overs (Keegan Petersen 62; Shardul Thakur 7/61).

Monaco hires Club Brugge coach Philippe Clement to replace Niko Kovac

MONACO: Monaco appointed coach Philippe Clement on a 2 1/2-year deal on naco back into the elite of French soccer and on the European scene," Monaco vice was being replaced reach the Champions League, losing a playoff to Shakhtar Donetsk 3-2 on ag-



Monday after firing president Oleg Petrov said. Clement played 333 games, and scored 45 goals, as a defender for Club Brugge. He took charge in June 2019 and won two Belgian league titles to make it three in a row, after winning with Genk the previous season. "Thanks coach and lots of good luck!" Brugge said on its Twitter account. Kovac was told he games, following a third-place finish last season. Reserve team coach Stephane Nado took charge of Monaco on Sunday for a French Cup win at second-tier Quevilly-Rouen, as last season's runner-up reached the last 16. Monaco started badly with one win from six league games, and that was against promoted side Troyes. Monaco also failed to

gregate. Monaco hired Kovac after firing Roberto Moreno in June 2020, citing the former Croatia midfielder's success while coaching Bayern Munich, Eintracht Frankfurt and his own national team. Although he led Bayern to a league and cup double in 2019, he was fired in November of that year.




2021-2022

ADMISSION OPEN

Maharishi Public School, Baripada

STD-NURSERY TO VIII

ENROLL YOUR CHILD TODAY

(Special discount for new admission before 15.03.2021)

Find the Difference

- Small Classes
- Experienced, trained & loving teachers.
- Individual attention to each child.
- Regular meditation and yoga.
- Unique exam system, evaluation & Principles etc.

25% reservation as per RTE Act (2009)

MAHARISHI PUBLIC SCHOOL
Baghra Road, Baripada
For details
Contact :
Call-9438102188, 06792-255227
Time : 8.00 A.M. to 12.00 noon
E-mail- mps.bpd@gmail.com

f Find us on
Facebook.com/Mps, Baripada