

BJD burns effigies of BJP leaders in Odisha over 'misbehaviour'

BALANGIR(KCN): Alleging misbehaviour, the BJD unit of Balangir protesting the same, burnt effigies of BJP leader KV Singhdeo and



Balangir MP Sangeeta Singhdeo here on Sunday.

According to the protestors, on January 18 KV Singhdeo had allegedly reprimanded the

Bar Assn writes to Shah to probe 'international conspiracy' angle in BBC documentary

New Delhi(KCN): The All India Bar Association (AIBA) has demanded a 360-degree probe into the "international conspiracy"



angle in the BBC's documentary "India: The Modi Question" while welcoming the Government of India's move to block YouTube channels and Twitter handles that spread a venomous documentary of the BBC.

In a letter to Union Home Minister Amit Shah, AIBA chairman and senior advocate Adish C Aggarwala has pointed out that the AIBA considers the timing of the so-called documentary, its contents and the way it had been conceived and promoted as "dangerous", and calls upon the Government of India to order a 360-degree probe into the international conspiracy angle.

Nepal plane crash: All five bodies of Indians identified, flown back

KATHMANDU(KCN): The bodies of all five Indians, who were killed in the Yeti Air-



lines plane crash in Nepal's resort city of Pokhara, have been identified and handed over to their respective family members, hospital sources said on Monday. The five Indians - identified as Abhisekh Kushwaha (25), Bishal Sharma (22), Anil Kumar Rajbhar (27), Sonu Jaiswal (35) and Sanjaya Jaiswal (26)

block development officer of Belpada citing negligence of duty. Similarly, Balangir MP Sangeeta Singhdeo had also reportedly argued with the district collector and other officers during the Disha meeting held on January 20. "All development works are going well in Belpada block yet Singhdeo misbehaved with the BDO without any reason. We demand BJP leader KV Singhdeo and MP Sangeeta Singhdeo to apologise for their actions," said a BJD leader of Belpada block Tina Kumbhar. In a similar incident on January 12, senior congress MLA Santosh Singh Saluja lashed out at collector Chanchal Rana during a Zilla parishad meeting over the slashing of funds under different programmes in the district.

This documentary should neither be seen as a one-off adverse media report or brushed aside as a superficial and half-baked attempt to undermine the stature of Prime Minister Narendra Modi in his individual capacity, the AIBA said. The Bar Association said invisible hands behind this documentary and the minds that got together to stitch an imaginary tale with discredited and rejected evidence should be identified and brought to the

book. Four things should be borne in mind while ordering a comprehensive probe into the international conspiracy angle to this BBC documentary, Aggarwala, who was also the Vice Chairman of Bar Council of India and Supreme Court Bar Association, added in the letter.

First, the AIBA chairman said when a few western nations traditionally inimical and dismissive of India's assets and progresses had expected the nation to flounder and crumble during the deadly pandemic caused by the spread of Covid-19. CONTINUED ON: P-7

dence provided by the families of the victims. On Saturday, the

pilot mourn her death. The relatives left for India after receiving the bodies, one of the family members told PTI over the phone.

The body of Sanjaya Jaiswal was handed over to his family and taken back to India last week. So far, 71 bodies have been recovered from the accident site and the search is on for the remaining one person.

According to Nepal's civil aviation body, 914 people have died in air crashes in the country since the first disaster was recorded in August 1955. The Yeti Airlines tragedy in Pokhara is the 104th crash in Nepali skies and the third biggest in terms of casualties.

body of Bishal Sharma was identified. The hospital on Monday handed over the bodies of Sonu Jaiswal, Anil Kumar Rajbhar, Abhisekh Kushwaha and Bishal Sharma to their respective family members, according to sources at the Tribhuvan University Teaching Hospital. Shell-shocked classmates of Nepal co-

Rare belongings of Netaji gather dust in Kendrapara as museum hangs fire

KENDRAPARA(KCN): As the nation celebrates Netaji Subash Chandra Bose's 126th birth anniversary on Monday, rare and valuable documents, photographs and other items on his life and work, are gathering dust in a narrow lane in Badahat locality of Kendrapara district due to the alleged delay by the district administration in constructing a museum for the same.

Netaji's lantern preserved in Mustaque's museum in Badahat area | express

These items were collected by a 58-year-old lawyer Mohammed Mustaque over the last 40 years which he has preserved in a room in his house in the Badahat area. This museum also preserves a handwritten letter of Indian National Army captain Laxmi Sehgal, original copies of the magazine 'Forward' published by Bose from 1925 to 1927, a special issue

Arvind Kejriwal asks Centre to take note of mass layoffs in tech firms

New Delhi(KCN): Expressing his concerns at the mass layoffs across several tech firms, Delhi Chief



Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Monday asked the centre to assess the situation in the country and take right steps.

Several multi nationals have retrenched in the recent past leading to job cuts in the US and other countries.

"The youths are being retrenched in large numbers

PM unveils model of Netaji memorial, names 21 islands in Andamans after decorated soldiers

PORT BLAIR(KCN): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday virtually unveiled the model of a proposed memorial dedicated



to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, to be set up in Andaman and Nicobar Islands, and said it will infuse feelings of patriotism among people.

Modi, on the occasion of Netaji's 126th birth anniversary, also named 21 islands of the Union Territory after Param Vir Chakra awardees. He noted that the islands will be a source of inspiration for generations to come.

The PM also said that attempts were made to downplay Netaji's contribution to the freedom movement, but the entire country, right

of INA 'Basumati', a Bengali magazine and other items collected by Mustaque.



Around 150 rare photographs, old newspaper clippings and many postal stamps on Netaji are also displayed in his museum. "Historians have ignored Bose's association with a family in Jajpur's Korei village. As a student, Bose often visited Koei village to treat the cholera patients there," informed Mustaque.

As a 13-year-old, Netaji began his social work in 1910. He helped build awareness and combat myths about cholera, a disease that was feared and stigmatized- CONTINUED ON: P-7

from the IT Sector. The Central government must review the Indian situation and take right steps," Kejriwal said in a Hindi tweet.

Earlier this month, Microsoft CEO Satya Nadella said that the company will lay off 10,000 workers, about five per cent of its total workforce, terming it a hard choice the tech giant had to make to remain a "consequential company" amid global economic uncertainties. Microsoft is the latest firm after Facebook and

Amazon to cut jobs as the bloodbath in the technology sector continues in 2023.

Describing the current times as a period of "significant change," Indian-origin Nadella said customers who ramped up their digital spend during the Covid-19 pandemic, are now optimising it to do more with less.

from Delhi and Bengal to Andaman and Nicobar Islands, is paying tribute to the great hero today, preserving history and heritage associated with him.

He also pointed out that demands to make Netaji's files public were made by many for long, and his government has done that. Netaji will be remembered for his fierce resistance to colonial rule, he stated.

"Today, it is a proud moment for me as I address the people of Andamans because this is the land, where Subhas Chandra Bose unfurled the national flag for the first time in 1943," he said.

74-year-old official 'History of INA' remains shrouded in mystery: TMC MP Earlier, Union Home Minister Amit Shah lauded the initiative to christen the 21 islands, and said this effort will be a source of encouragement for the country's armed forces. He also said that the cellular jail in the Union Territory, where many freedom fighters were incarcerated, is no less than a "pilgrimage site".

126th Netaji Jayanti observed at Barbil

Barbil (KCN): 23rd Netaji Subash Chandra Bose Jayanti is observed which was also named as Parakram Diwas in Barbil in the district of Keonjhar of Odisha. School students, volunteers of many organisations

Chakravarthy represent NDCC have taken pivotal role to observe the occasion. Teachers of Saraswati Shishu Mandir, Government High schools, different voluntary organisations like Prayas group, Ashirvad



assembled near legend Subash Chandra Bose statue followed by a march around the city remembering the great hero of the Nation through different slogans. They paid floral tributes on the statues of Netaji Subash Chandra Bose Near Vikas Mahal, Barbil. Ranjita Mahanty Jagabandhu Mahanta councillor ward no 4 and 7 represent Barbil Municipality while Pratap Das, Ranjit

welfare society, Seva group and volunteer Ramu Karmakar, Parwej Akhtar and many other were present on the occasion. Addressing school students Ranjita Mahanty described Subash Chandra, a leader with great vision, charisma & character. Jagabandhu also said, let us recommit to build an India that Netaji envisioned

Pact for Ayurveda Promo

New Delhi (KCN): Ministry of Ayush has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with India Tourism Development Corporation (ITDC), Ministry of Tourism, Government of India to work together for the promotion of Medical Value Travel in Ayurveda and other traditional systems of medicine. Shashi Ranjan Vidyarthi, Director, Ministry of Ayush and Piyush Tiwari, Director (Commercial and Marketing), ITDC signed the

MoU to ITDC. ITDC on suggestion of Ministry of Ayush will include historical heritage sites of Indian systems of medicine in tourist destinations under "Knowledge Tourism and may develop films/literature useful to tourists. It will explore establishing Ayurveda and Yoga centre in the Hotels run by ITDC and will organize sensitization workshops in collaboration. The implementation and progress of the MoU will be monitored by a Joint Working Group (JWG) co-chaired by representatives from MoA and ITDC. The JWG will also identify the best practices adopted by Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand etc. to promote themselves as a preferred destination for Medical value travel.

In the recently concluded First Health Working Group meeting of G20 India presidency at Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala G20 delegates deliberated on opportunities and challenges to promote MVT in India.

Medical Value Travel has seen significant growth in India in recent years. According to the report 'The Global Wellness Economy: Looking beyond COVID' by the Global Wellness Institute (GWI), the Global Wellness economy will grow at 9.9% annually. Ayush based healthcare & Wellness economy is estimated to grow to \$70 billion by 2025.



MoU in presence of Pramod Kumar Pathak, special secretary, MoA and other senior officials of Ministry of Ayush and ITDC.

According to the MoU, Ministry of Ayush will provide training to the officials of ITDC to sensitize them about the Medical value travel in Ayurveda and other traditional systems of medicine. It will identify tourist circuits, where there is immense scope to promote Medical value travel in Ayurveda and other traditional systems of medicine and provide all the technical knowhow from time to time

More Funds for Agri Infra

New Delhi (KCN): Within two-and-a-half years of the implementation of the Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF), the scheme has mobilized more than Rs. 30,000 crore for projects in the agriculture infrastructure sector with a sanctioned amount of Rs. 15,000 crore under AIF. With support of 3% interest subvention, credit guarantee support through CGTMSE for loan of upto Rs. 2 crore and facility of convergence with other Central and State Govt. Scheme, AIF is providing all around financial support to the farmers, agri-entrepreneurs, farmer groups like Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs), Self Help Groups (SHGs), Joint Liability Groups (JLGs) etc. and many others to create post-harvest management infrastructure and build community farming asset throughout the country. Understanding the demand supply gap between the need of the consumers and supply of primary processed vegetables from the farmers, Yogesh CB from Mandya district of Karnataka was looking to setup a primary processing centre for vegetable. While looking for the support available from Government, he came across the AIF scheme in the year 2020. He applied for a loan of Rs. 1.9 cr. on AIF portal, which got verified by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare and sanctioned by Bank of India very quickly in December 2020. He was able to ground his vision with the help of AIF and Ariant Veg Private Limited came into the

existence. Through the interest subvention provided under AIF he was able to secure the finance at an effective Rate of Interest (RoI) of just 5.45% which is much lower than the open market rate. At present, Ariant Veg supports more than 250 local farmers by providing them seeds and the technology to grow quality vegetables, then they collect the yield from the farmers at a fair price which is then cleaned, sorted, graded, and packed in the processing centre before reaching to the end consumer on a daily basis.

Similarly, Anand Patel, a farmer from Jabalpur district of Madhya Pradesh realized the importance and need of mechanization in agriculture especially for small and marginal farmers for whom agriculture machineries are not affordable. He then established a hi-tech hub where agriculture machineries are provided on the rental basis to the local farmers. This Hi-tech Hub has 12 Farm machinery including combine harvester, thresher, laser land leveler, tractors, zero till seed cum fertilizer drill, mulcher etc. that costs around Rs. 60.82 Lakhs which seemed a lot for a farmer like Mr. Patel. But through Agriculture Infrastructure Fund



29 Schools in WB Participate in Painting Competition based on 9 Themes as a Precursor to 6th Edition of Pariksha pe Charcha of Prime Minister Dr Subhas Sarkar Visits Kendriya Vidyalaya I, Salt Lake, to Encourage Students Participating in Drawing Competition

Kolkata (KCN): The Union Minister of State for Education, Dr Subhas Sarkar today kicked started the Painting Competition at Kendriya Vidyalaya I, Salt Lake as a precursor to the sixth edition of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's 'Pariksha pe Charcha' scheduled on January 27, 2023. The competition was based upon nine themes including, a) draw ways to take a break during exam preparation, b) draw your mind during exam, c) show it by drawing- 'Technology is a great Teacher', d) draw your own time table by filling up 24 hours clock, e) draw your favourite sport, f) draw it - "Be a warrior, not a worrier", g) draw a scene depicting your favourite festival, h) draw different positions of yoga and i) draw your imagination and expectation of the future. Today, 500 schools (Kendriya Vidyalayas) from the entire country with 50,000 students (100 students per school) participated in the painting competition. In West Bengal, 29 Kendriya Vidyalayas participated in the same. Dr Sarkar stated that the five winners of the competition will be befittingly awarded. The Minister said that every year, the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi engages thousands of students appearing in Secondary and Senior secondary examinations in meaning-

ful dialogue and live interaction across the globe, which is streamed live through various platforms.

Dr. Sarkar stated that under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, the first edition of the Prime Minister's Interaction Programme "Pariksha Pe Charcha 1.0" was held on February 16, 2018. The second edition with school and college students occurred on January 29, 2019 and the third edition on January 20, 2020. He added that due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the fourth edition was held online on April 7, 2021 and fifth on April 1, 2022.

In the wake of the country coming out of the COVID-19 pandemic and exams shifting back to offline mode, "Pariksha Pe Charcha 2023" is going to be held on January 27, 2023 at Talkatora Indoor Stadium, New Delhi. He also urged the students, teachers and parents to watch the live telecast of the programme. He gave an instance of how a student named Samridhi Bhattacharya from West Bengal had dialogues directly with the Prime Minister in the 'Pariksha pe Charcha' in 2019 for which she visited New Delhi and now she is a topper in Political Science from Shri Shikshayatan College, Kolkata.

110 Cyclones Hit Odisha

Bhubaneswar (KCN): The socio-economic impact of tropical cyclones and coping strategies of local communities in Odisha, with special focus on women, was the subject of a one-day national workshop organised at the Siksha 'O' Anusandhan Deemed to be University here on Monday. The workshop aimed at promotion and dissemination of understanding, awareness, mitigation and coping strategies related to tropical cyclones, Satya Ranjan Das, Organising Secretary of the work-



shop, said. "It is primarily intended to disseminate the outcome of a research program on the subject carried out by K.P. University, Vancouver, Canada

and BITS-Pilani (Hyderabad Campus) under the auspices of Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute," he said

adding SOA, through its faculty of agricultural sciences and Centre for Climate Smart Agriculture (CCSA) was also conducting research on coping casting, prediction, preparedness, mitigation of impacts and management of such cyclones in the state in the face of climate change. Prof. Dolagobinda Pradhan of

strategies of local communities in Odisha. A document issued at the workshop said the Bay of Bengal coast of the Indian sub-continent was the most vulnerable to such natural disasters with the coastal areas of Odisha bearing the brunt of majority of such cyclonic storms. Between 1891 and 2018, the Odisha coast was hit by around 110 cyclones which necessitated focused attention on fore-

SANTRAGACHI-PURI-SANTRAGACHI Weekly special to continue till February, 2023

Kolkata (KCN): With a view to clear the extra rush of passengers, South Eastern Railway (SER) authority has decided to continue the running of Santragachi-Puri-Santragachi Weekly Special as per the given schedule:-
 · The 02837 Santragachi-Puri Special will continue to run up to February 24, 2023
 · The 02838 Puri-Santragachi Special will continue to run up to February 25, 2023

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Appealing to fans' inner writers, Anupam Kher offers autographed



NEW DELHI: Asking his fans to rejuvenate their inner writers, veteran actor Anupam Kher, offered them to send his autographed book 'Your Best Day is Today' on Tuesday. Kher hopped on to Twitter and shared a candid picture of him. Calling on his fans to give a suitable

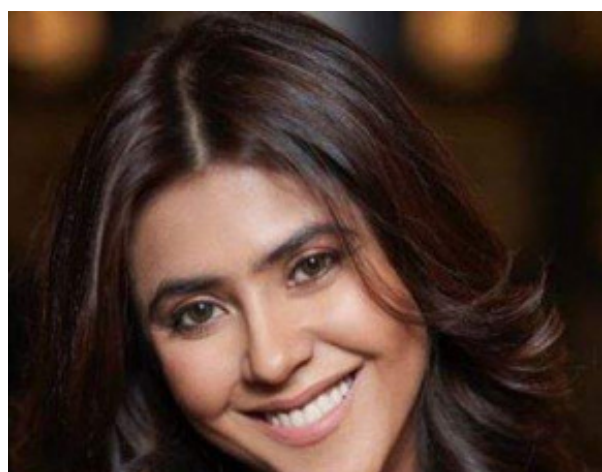
caption for the picture, he wrote "Mujhe meri ye tasveer pasand hai. (I like this picture of mine) I will send an autographed copy of my latest book #YourBestDayIsToday to the person whose caption for this pic I like the most!" Adding to the cation, he noted "Hindi or

English - apka caption kisi bhi bhasha me chalega! Chaliye! Apne andar ke lekhak ko jagaaiye!! (your caption will go in any language! Let's go! Wake up your inner writer,) with Hibiscus smiling face and heart-shaped smile emoticon. Within a few hours of being posted, fans of

the former Chairman of Film and Television Institute of India started coming up with innovative captions and showcased their creative skills. A day ago, the 65-year-old star shared a clip of his mother lauding PM Modi and scientist's efforts for the new COVID-19 vaccines.

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

NEW DELHI(KCN): The Supreme



Court on Thursday granted interim protection from arrest to TV producer Ekta Kapoor in an FIR against her for al-

leged objectionable content in her web series "XXX season 2". A bench headed by Chief Justice SA Bobde granted interim protection to

Kapoor. She had moved the apex court after the Indore bench of the Madhya Pradesh High Court, in November this year, dismissed her petition seeking that a case filed against her for alleged objectionable content in web series "XXX season 2" be quashed. The High Court had dismissed a petition of Kapoor seeking quashing of a case registered against her for alleged obscenity in a web series produced by her.

The complainant had alleged an episode of the series 'XXX uncensored' was obscene and caused annoyance to him, hurt his religious feelings and dishonored the Army. The case was registered at the Annapurna police station, Indore, under Sections 294 (Obscene acts and songs), 298 and 34 (Acts done by several persons in furtherance of common intention) of the India Penal Code and various relevant sections of the IT Act and the State Emblem Act.

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

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

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

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

around the story of a movie star and a film director who get into a public spat, following which the director retaliates by kid-



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

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

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

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

Aakanksha Singh joins team Mayday

Ajay Devgn's Mayday has been creating a massive buzz because of its interest-

the icing on the cake is that Ajay Sir is directing the film. It's actually happening!



ing star cast, which includes Amitabh Bachchan, Ajay Devgn, Rakul Preet Singh and Angira Dhar. Talented actress, Aakanksha Singh has now joined the team. Aakanksha will essaying the role of Ajay Devgn's wife in the film. She joined the shoot yesterday. Aakanksha says, "It's like a dream come true to be a part of such a big and much-awaited film. I am so excited to share the screen with Ajay Sir and Amitabh Sir; and

It's an important role and I am lucky that the first muhurat shot of the film had me in it." Ajay Devgn took to social media to announce that the shoot had begun yesterday. "Happy to officially begin Mayday in a start-to-finish shooting schedule. Seek blessings from the Almighty and my parents. Nothing is complete without the support of all my fans, family and well-wishers. Releases on 29th April 2022 (sic)" he posted.

'Wanted to make a film on Indian Army with Shah Rukh Khan', says Director Kabir Khan

MUMBAI(KCN): Filmmaker Kabir Khan, who is gearing up for the release of his web series "The Forgotten Army: Azaadi Ke Liye", based on Indian National Army (INA), says he wanted to make a film on the subject starring Shah Rukh Khan. He added that Shah Rukh didn't charged a fee for the voiceover he gave for the series.

Shah Rukh didn't charge a single paisa for his voiceover assignment. "When I was making this series, I thought I should ask Shah Rukh (to be the narrator) because Shah Rukh's father had involvement with this army. His father knew General Shahnawaz Khan, who was an important part of INA. So, I knew he (Shah Rukh Khan) has sympathy and attachment with Azad Hind Fauj and I called him up. It's not an easy task to ask a superstar for a voiceover but Shah Rukh instantly agreed to do it. Usually, when you discuss a film with Shah Rukh, it's a long process, but in this case Shah Rukh literally did the voiceover for us on the second day. I don't know whether he would like me to reveal this, but he didn't take a fee from us. I think the kind of attachment he has with Azad Hind Fauj reflects in his act." Incidentally, Shah Rukh did a cameo in Kabir Khan's 2017 release "Tubelight", starring Salman Khan.

"Shah Rukh has very graciously given the voiceover. The series is based on a true story, so there is an introduction of a few minutes before every episode along with real footage, where he has lent his voice. I talked about it with Shah Rukh earlier as well, when this was a film script. Back then, I wanted Shah Rukh to do the film. We even had a few meetings but we couldn't take it forward," said Kabir while promoting the series along with its lead actors Sunny Kaushal and Sharvari Wagh. Kabir added that

The Conversion Menace

The Supreme Court's latest observations on the conversion menace calling it a 'serious issue' finger-point on the dangerous trends of illegitimate religious conversion activities in India. Various denominations of Christianity are going hammer and tongs with their universal missionary might to

convert people to their fold. Through their centuries of history the semitic religions give us inscriptions on the ruthless demeanours of their organised conversions by literally misleading people across the globe or in some cases with the strength of their sophisticated weaponry. India has always been subjected to such hard-nosed cruelty of cultural invasions by semitic religions. Christianity in India has a representation of 2.5 % of the total population while Islam constitutes more than 16%. India's more sparsely populated North East holds a relatively large share of Christian population. With massive conversions being carried out among the tribal population of Nagaland, Mizoram, Manipur and Meghalaya, the Christian missionaries established strong dominance in this region. Arunachal Pradesh also holds a large number of Christian population irrespective of its Indigenous Faith activities gaining momentum. About 37% of the Christian population represents the Catholic Church in India and the remaining populace is scattered among different denominations. The legal efforts made by Ashwini Upadhyay, an advocate in the Supreme Court brought the conversion menace in the purview of the apex court and the court for all good reasons told the petitioner not to politicise the issue while it upheld the seriousness of the matter. The court in effect agreed to the fact that fraudulent conversion activities are happening in India and in many places innocent Hindus are trapped into the dubious

version of spirituality through miracle crusades or lured uncontrollably that poverty of people became a strong weapon for the missionaries to mount their harvest. Kerala holds the single largest Christian population in India. It has the credit of being the place where Christianity had set its footprints first. Comprising about 20% of the state's population, Christianity is one of the most effective political forces in the state. Why conversion? Religions busy in conversion are besieged by the theological belief that their Gods hold the key to salvation and the only path that leads to heavenly liberation is offered by their practices. The political attitude behind religious conversion is the most dangerous. Semitic religions believe in increasing the number of followers by any means. And Hinduism, for that matter offers a polytheistic belief system which is capable to assiduously grant liberty to the follower to whichever deity he feels suitable for him to follow. It offers a bandwagon of deities to those who follow the principles of Hinduism and that is the main reason behind its non-acrimonious behaviour and it is hesitant to vociferously espouse it as the most glorious religion. The essential political view that is playing behind the conversion mechanics is to divide the world into two as believers and non-believers. In the disguise of charity and service, Christianity has always been adopting a diplomatic shrewdness while it spread its conversion activities. It never denounces Hinduism forthright. It pretends to accept the value system that the Hindus follow at the first place and later comes out with its dubious plans to demean the Hindu way of life and try to establish its power bringing a fuller and confusing version of ultimate solace to the problems that a normal person encounters. The Christian theology espouses love for humanity peripherally but the deepening impact of the version of conversion it runs on the non-believers is a profound proof for its expansionist mindset.



M. R. LALU

Why is conversion spiritually a nasty idea? Leaving the

political aspirations of the semitic religions aside, let us look at the spiritual fallout of conversion. Greatness of any faith depends on the spiritual depth and purity of its belief systems and its ability to convince people about its unfathomable values and wonderful practices. Emboldened by its one book, one God and one prophet theology; churches across the globe remained a political power-group to mobilize their unsuspecting activities which later would turn out to be platforms for massive conversions. Failing to provide a cultural variety, Christianity in the lands where once it was dominant, began to shrink and face adverse situations.

The Supreme Court's observation saying the 'issue at hand was very serious' was a crucial remark on the conversion lobby that takes asylum behind veiled magnanimity and charity. The court appreciated the idea of charity but it questioned its concealed intentions. Appallingly, Christian theology with its western mindset can be seen in conflict with the pluralism of Hinduism. It was at war with everything that questioned its authority. Global human history tells tales of persecution run on the indigenous people by the united missionary mindset and its hanky-panky interventions. India's appeasement politics have often been supportive to the conversion lobby. The danger emanates from the political side of Christian theology and its candid authorisation of proselytization as an act of divine intervention is the real issue that the Indic religions are to be aware of.

Why conversion is a menace? Conversion happens as part of a global agenda. Pope John Paul II during his visit to India and while addressing an interreligious gathering said that religious freedom constitutes the very heart of human rights. His three-day visit to India witnessed him present his global agenda. He said that the inviolability of human rights is such that individuals must be recognized as having the right even to change their religion.

But he was least bothered about the indoctrination that the conversion process would take a person through. The convert, in a way, is seduced to not give any heed to his inner- consciousness and the churches all over the world deliberately deny a clean line between indoctrination and inner-consciousness. Mahatma Gandhi had extensively written against religious conversions and his views underscored the need of a convert to follow his own ancestral faith with deep understanding rather than getting converted. The Anti-conversion Bill passed in many states with its clear objectives defines why conversion is objectionable. 'No person shall convert or attempt to convert either directly or otherwise any other person from one religion to another by use of misrepresentation, force, undue influence, coercion, allurement or by any fraudulent means or by marriage, nor shall any person abet or conspire for conversions.' Gandhi, in his article in the Harijan eloquently calls conversion a grave error and the greatest impediment to the world's progress toward peace. India's innate wisdom, according to him, considers different religions as beautiful flowers from the same garden or they are the branches of the same majestic tree. Indoctrination to the extent of turning the converts against their own ancestral faith and declaring war against it is the biggest challenge in every society. Swami Vivekananda seemed to have a clear idea on the deliberate denial and disrespect with which the missionary interventions happen. "Every man going out of the Hindu pale is not only a man less, but an enemy the more" he said. Conversion activities, with all their mendaciousness, became a threat to the country's cohesive religious existence. There cannot be double standards while dealing with this menace.

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Letter to Editor

Recycling of wind turbine blades becoming a challenge

Due to the need for clean energy supply on a global scale, the wind energy industry is expanding tremendously. The World Wind Energy Association estimates that 900 gigawatts of wind power capacity will be installed globally by 2024, which will be sufficient to meet more than 8% of global energy demand. Wind turbine qualities include being mobile, having low maintenance costs, and producing little waste, which contribute to preventing climate change and advancing the energy transition. They are a clean, infinite, and safe energy source. Keeping in mind that the manufacture and deconstruction phases of renewable energy production account for the majority of their environmental impact. Herein lies the significance of wind turbine blades recycling. A wind turbine's useful life is typically 20 years, but if enough money is spent on maintenance, it can often be extended to 25 years. Although recycling the wind blades effectively presents a challenge, the majority of its components are recyclable. Because they are typically made of composite materials like fibreglass, carbon fibre, or different resins, it is particularly challenging and expensive to separate them for recycling. Initially, and in line with the circular economy's guiding principle, the majority of wind turbine blades are not reused exclusively. This is a component of the repowering strategy because as wind turbines become more effective and powerful, the older ones can be disassembled and assembled in new wind farms or in different nations. Additionally, steps must be taken to transform these blades into architectural or structural components. However, it should be kept in mind that studies indicate that this repowering will result in up to 40,000 wind turbines being demolished annually starting in 2030 across the globe. Given how quickly wind energy is expanding, it is necessary to choose other alternatives as the volume of retired blades is rising quickly.

Vijaykumar H K
Raichur, Karnataka
Environmentalist

Empowering girls for a brighter tomorrow

Children are God's most beautiful creations. 24th January is celebrated as National Girl



Child Day to create awareness of the importance of girl children in our society. In 2008, the Ministry of Women and Child Development initiated National Girl

Child Day to promote the eradication of the gender discrimination faced by girls in various phases of their lives. The existence of human life on the earth is impossible without the equal participation of both women and men. They are equally responsible for the survival of the human race on the earth.

In India the population of girls has been decreasing. It's a common practice in India where people abort or kill girl child on birth. But, they should be saved given equal opportunity, and respect and opportunity to go ahead in life. We need to understand that girls are our fortune. Socio-economic empowerment of women is essential for making informed decisions and for change of the mind sets. A healthy male-female ratio is a social need. While female foeticide is bad in itself, the fact that millions of girls are "missing" in India has profound human and social implications. A stronger law to deal with those resorting to sex-selective abortions needs to be enacted. The reasons for high number of incidence of female foeticide in India include a deep rooted traditional son preference, continued practice of dowry and concern for safety of the girl child and exploitation and abuse of women and girl children. In order to curb female foeticide and improve the sex ratio, a strong a multi-pronged strategy that includes legislative measures, advocacy, awareness

Vinod Chandrashekhar Dixit

generation and programmes for socio-economic empowerment of women is needed. Female foeticide is a shocking practice that has grown in the last few decades. Although the media and the government have made attempts to highlight the negative



impact of pre-natal sex identification and selective abortion, the practice continues as reflected in the declining sex ratio. For saving girl child the government has taken many initiatives and launched many campaigns to save them. Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao (Save the girl child) is the most recent initiative started by the government to actively encourage people to save the girl.

There's a huge deficit of women because families fear the cost of raising a daughter. It is a commonly practiced tradition (despite being outlawed) that the bride's family pays a large sum of money to the groom's family at the wedding. Plus, women are generally not seen as bread-winners and or allowed to inherit wealth like men in some states. Sex-selection is now spreading to rural areas as the technology gets cheaper and enforcement of the law remains ineffectual. The imbalance in sex ratio may increase violence, including rape, against women. With many men remaining unmarried, prostitution will increase substantially. Media exposes of doctors providing sex-selection services and offering to abort girls are commonplace, but they have little overall impact because demand is too strong. Doctors and radiologists conducting, or soliciting parents for, sex determination tests can be imprisoned up to five years and fined up to Rs.50,000. Despite the PC & PNDT Act, the conviction rate is low and the selection of male child before conception and female foeticide continue to take place. Despite rising levels of education, gender awareness and stringent pro-women laws, change has been slow and violence against women is increasing. Visionary leadership, stringent implementation of laws and a united effort to discourage dowry are the need of the hour. Educational programmes encouraging parents to view daughters as no less valuable than sons need to be mounted. Time has now come to formulate an action plan to launch a campaign to change the mindset of people and to promote female child birth rate. A girl child deserves a life where she is treated as equal to a boy. And she should be loved and respected like others.

B-15 Jyoti-Kalash Society, Jodhpur
Tekra, Satellite, Ahmedabad

OSDMA Bags Subhas Bose Award

Bhubaneswar(KCN): For the year 2023, Odisha State Disaster Management Authority (OSDMA) has been selected for the Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar-2023 for their excellent work in Disaster Management. OSDMA is headed by Pradeep Jena, Additional Chief Secretary,



Disaster Management, Development Commissioner and Special Relief Commissioner (SRC).

Shri Jena is handling Disaster Management effectively and sincerely during the disasters faced by State of Odisha, which has turned out to be a 'Disaster Zone'. Almost every year the State is facing natural disasters and OSDMA as well as Special Relief Commissioner Organization have stood in a steadfast manner to help out the people of the State.

Government of India under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi has instituted an annual award known as Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar to recognize and honour the invaluable contribution and selfless service rendered by individuals and organizations in India in the field of disaster management.

The award is announced every year on 23 January, the birth anniversary of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. The award carries a cash prize of Rs. 51 lakh and a certificate in case of an institution and Rs. 5 lakh and a certificate in case of an individual.

Under the guidance of Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Amit Shah, the country has significantly improved the disaster management practices, preparedness, mitigation and response mechanisms resulting in significant reduction in casualties dur-

Two arrested for dacoity in Odisha

JEYPORE: Two persons were on Sunday arrested by Jeypore Sadar police for their alleged involvement in a dacoity case in the area. Police said in October last year, the duo, identified as Ajay Harijan and Damburu Benia, along with five of their accomplices, was hiding near Patraput jungle with the intention of looting passersby.

One Jayapal Banjara of Mimach district in Madhya Pradesh was passing through the jungle road from Govindapali village when the gang intercepted and abducted him to a nearby jungle. They later took away Rs 700 from his possession and allegedly further forced him

Odisha: Another elephant poached in Similipal, tusks missing!

BARIPADA: The carcass of an elephant with its tusks removed was found in the Talabandha wildlife range of Similipal Tiger Reserve (STR) on Sunday. The carcass was spotted at around 9:30 am by the staff of Asadola beat who were engaged in a transect line survey of post-monsoon phase-IV monitoring.

Sources said the jumbo, aged around 40 years, died of bullet injuries around 20 days back and poachers had its tusks removed. The carcass was in an advanced stage of decomposition.

On being informed, the deputy director of STR (north) division Sai Kiran and the veterinary assistant surgeon of Manada rushed to the spot for verification. In the evening, the field director of STR T Ashok Kumar along with two other veterinarians also reached the spot and an autopsy of the carcass was performed.

It was found that the mouth and bony socket of the carcass were not damaged. The tusks were removed by pulling forcefully. Kiran said, "We

ing natural calamities.

Odisha State Disaster Management Authority (OSDMA), was established in 1999 in the aftermath of the Super Cyclone.

OSDMA embarked on multiple initiatives including raising of the Odisha Disaster Response Action Force (ODRAF), Multi-hazard Early Warning Service (MHEWS) framework, and a cutting-edge technology-enabled web/smart phone-based platform called "SATARK" (System for Assessing, Tracking, and Alerting Disaster Risk Information based on Dynamic Risk Knowl-

edge). OSDMA provided effective response during various cyclones, Hudhud (2014), Fani (2019), Amphan (2020) and Odisha floods (2020).

OSDMA conducted disaster preparedness initiatives in building community resilience in 381 tsunami prone villages/wards and 879 multi-purpose cyclone/ flood shelters located within 1.5 km from coastline.

For the award of year-2023, nominations were solicited from 1July, 2022 onwards. The award scheme for the year 2023 was given wide publicity through print, electronic and social media. In response to the award scheme, 274 valid nominations were received from institutions and individuals.

Lunglei Fire Station, Mizoram has also been selected for the Award. LFS, Mizoram responded efficiently and effectively to a massive forest fire which was reported on 24 April 2021 in the uninhabited forest areas that surrounded Lunglei town and spread to more than 10 village council areas.

Lunglei Fire Station personnel assisted by local civilians worked continuously for more than 32 hours during which they motivated and provided on the spot training to residents. Due to the valiant, brazen and prompt efforts of Fire & Emergency staff in the putting out the flames, there was no loss to life and property and the spread of fire to other parts of the State was prevented.

to transfer Rs 48,800 to them from his bank



account.

The victim then filed an FIR in this connection based on which an investigation was launched. The accused were meanwhile remanded in judicial custody. IIC Iswar Tandi said efforts are underway to nab the others involved.

have engaged a special team with a dog squad and a joint task force to investigate the elephant's death and recover the tusks."

Sources said the incident took place when the Forest department was keeping a close watch on poachers and protection measures in the national park which has been in news for increased poaching.

In December, an in-charge range officer, a forester and a forest guard of Jenabil range under STR south were arrested for destroying evidence by burning the carcasses of an elephant under Gurandi beat.

A protection assistant, Turam Purty, who had alerted the senior officials about the incident consumed poison for allegedly receiving threats from forest personnel. He later succumbed. In-charge range officer Shiva Shankar Samal, forester of Gurandi beat Chadrabhanu Behera and forest guard Binod Das were booked and arrested under Wildlife Protection Act 1972.

US: Firms expect more job cuts in 2023 amid recession fears

New York: A survey of national economists found that more businesses now expect job reductions at their firms and to spend less on expansions for the first time since the pandemic, a sign that the Federal Reserve's push to raise interest rates is doing its job to slow the economy.

But the survey shows that business owners

?The results of the January 2023 NABE Business Conditions Survey indicate widespread concern about entering a recession this year,? said NABE President Julia Coronado, in a statement.

In order to combat inflation, the Fed has been raising interest rates aggressively in an effort to slow down the US economy without



are still concerned that the Fed's decision-making could push too hard on the economy and potentially put the US into a recession this year.

The January survey by the National Association for Business Economics found that its respondents put on average a reading of -7 on how much they plan to hire at their firms, down from previous reading of +8 in October, when NABE did its previous survey. However, due to inflation, the survey shows that businesses still expect to pay higher wages for the workers they are holding onto.

3 Union ministers, Gamang skip two-day Odisha BJP executive committee meeting

BHUBANESWAR: None of the three union ministers from Odisha attended the two-day BJP state executive committee meeting that concluded on Sunday.

While union education minister Dharmendra Pradhan was on a two-day tour to Tamil Nadu, minister of railway and communications Ashwini Vaishnaw is in Davos to attend the annual meeting of World Economic Forum 2023. Union minister of tribal affairs Bishweswar Tudu could not make it to the party meeting as he is undergoing treatment in AIIMS, party sources said. Former chief minister Giridhar Gamang and his son Sishir Gamag who are mem-



bers of the party's state executive committee were also conspicuous by their absence.

The father and son who recently met Telangana Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao in Hyderabad are distancing from the BJP as they are seriously contemplating joining Bharat Rashtra Samithi. Bargarh MP Suresh Purari also gave a miss to the meeting because of some of his pressing engagements. The meeting chaired by state BJP president Samir Mohanty passed two resolutions. Apart from the political resolution, the executive committee passed a separate resolution giving a vote of thanks to Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Udit Charms .FEST

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Into its second week .FEST continued to attract a record number of audiences with its unique mix of food, live music and cultural exhibitions.

Minister Social Security & Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, Public Enterprises, Science and Technology felicitated the singers on the stage.



Day 8 of the festival saw over nineteen thousand visitors attend the 'Suhana Safar' musical concert at IDCO Exhibition Ground, where live performances by legendary singers Udit Narayan, Alka Yagini and lit up the night sky. Local heartthrob Satyajeet Jena also stole people heart with his soothing voice. People of Bhubaneswar enjoyed the night full of legendary tracks like 'Papa Kehte Hein' and 'Tip Tip Barsa Paani' performed by Alka Yagini and Unit Narayan.

Bhubaneswar MLA North Susanta Rout, BMC Mayor, Sulochana Das along with Ashok Chandra Panda, Hon'ble Cabinet

The International Food Festival was enjoyed by the foodies and alike, Belgium fries and cone ice creams were an attraction for the visitors. The Flea Market, which was founded with the

intention of displaying the handicrafts and textiles of Odisha, proved to be a wonderful crowd-puller and a shopping experience for visitors with more than 120 stalls showcasing locally made goods. The Flea market made business worth INR 8 Lakh on 21st January, which highlights that .FEST has provided the regional entrepreneurs an opportunity like never before.

With almost each and every music genre covered in the last week, Day 9 of .FEST is set to turn it up a notch with popular fusion tracks being played by singers like Siddharth Mahadevan, Shivam Mahadevan, Srinidhi Ghatate and Aseema Panda. The theme for the day will be 'Fusion Fiesta'.

PM Modi names 21 unnamed Andaman islands after Param Vir Chakra awardees

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi named the 21 largest unnamed islands of Andaman and Nicobar Islands after Param Vir Chakra awardees in a ceremony on Monday on

ond Param Vir Chakra awardee, and so on.

This step will be an everlasting tribute to our heroes, several of whom made the ultimate sacrifice to protect the sovereignty and integrity of the nation.

Meanwhile, PM Modi along with Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla, Leaders of parties in Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha, Members of Parliament, former Members of Parliament, and other dignitaries will pay floral tributes at the portrait of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose in the Central Hall of Parliament House on the latter's birth anniversary.

The portrait of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose was unveiled by the then President of India N Sanjiva Reddy, in the Central Hall of Parliament House on January 23, 1978.

According to Lok Sabha Secretariat, it was recognised that the floral tributes could serve as an effective medium in spreading greater knowledge and awareness about the lives and contributions of these towering national icons among the youth of the country.

Accordingly, Parliamentary Research and Training Institute for Democracies (PRIDE), Lok Sabha Secretariat has launched the programme titled 'Know Your Leaders'.

Born on January 23, 1897, Netaji played a crucial role in India's freedom movement.

Subhash Chandra Bose established the Azad Hind Fauj. While there is a controversy over Bose's death in a plane crash in Taipei on August 18, 1945, the Central government had in an RTI (Right to Information) in 2017 confirmed that he had died in the incident.

Last year, on the occasion of Netaji's 125th birth anniversary, the Prime Minister unveiled the hologram statue of the freedom fighter at India Gate in Delhi.

Road Safety Week at Nexus Esplanade mall

BHUBANESWAR: The Nexus Esplanade mall in the state capital observed Road Safety Week on its premises on January 13. The event's theme was 'Save Yourself to Save your Family' and it was organised in association with Rapido bike taxi.

Centre director of the mall Parth Pratim Nayak said the objective of the initiative was to create awareness among customers on road safety. During the event, a customer engagement activity was organised by the mall management where general questions on road safety were asked.

Those who answered correctly were presented a helmet and t-shirt by Rapido. The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH) organises 'Road Safety Week' from January 11 to 17 to create awareness among people on safety on road and give an opportunity to all stakeholders to contribute to the cause.

Those who answered correctly were presented a helmet and t-shirt by Rapido. The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH) organises 'Road Safety Week' from January 11 to 17 to create awareness among people on safety on road and give an opportunity to all stakeholders to contribute to the cause.

Initial investigation suggests Manoranjan's wife orchestrated the plan to kill him with the help of her cousin and one of their associates," said Khurda SP Siddharth Kataria. Manoranjan had been reportedly torturing his wife and used to quarrel with her in an inebriated state, said sources.

The police achieved the breakthrough in the case after they located the shop from where the accused had purchased the trolley bag, which was used to dispose of the body. "A case has been registered under sections 201 and 302 of IPC," said an officer of Nachuni police station. At least six criminal cases were registered against Manoranjan in Nayagarh district.

Parakram Diwas and Veer Surendra Sai Jayanti observed at DAV Public School, Kalinga Nagar

Bhubaneswar(KCN): DAV Public School, Kalinga Nagar observed PARAKRAM DIWAS- the birth anniversary of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose

and Veer Surendra Sai Jayanti in its premises today. Principal of Sri Bipin Kumar Sahoo, all the supervisors, teachers and members of student cabinet offered their floral tribute to the great patriots of India's freedom struggle. In his address to

the gathering, the Principal reiterated the exemplary valor and audacity of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and Veer Surendra Sai and their contribution to the freedom movement of India. He further said that the intense love of the two patriots for their motherland and their radical ideologies shall continue to rule the over the hearts of thousands and millions of people all over the world till eternity. A wide range of activities were organised to mark the occasion. The students recounted the glory and sacrifice of the all time great leaders through their beautiful chorus. An instrumental fusion on the ever-

green patriotic songs touched the hearts of the audience present. Similarly, the patriotic dance performed by the students mesmerized the gathering. The



the occasion of Parakram Diwas.

PM Modi also unveiled the model of the National Memorial dedicated to Netaji to be built on Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Dweep, earlier known as Ross Islands. Union Home Minister Amit Shah was also present at the ceremony in Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

The largest unnamed island was named after the first Param Vir Chakra awardee, Major Somnath Sharma, who lost his life in action on November 3, 1947 while repulsing Pakistani infiltrators near Srinagar Airport.

"These islands have been named after the 21 Param Vir Chakra awardees, viz. Major Somnath Sharma; Subedar and Hony Captain (then Lance Naik) Karam Singh, MM; 2nd Lt. Rama Raghoba Rane; Nayak Jadunath Singh; Company Havildar Major Piru Singh; Capt GS Salaria; Lieutenant Colonel (then Major) Dhan Singh Thapa; Subedar Joginder Singh; Major Shaitan Singh; CQMH. Abdul Hamid; Lt Col Ardeshir Burzorji Tarapore; Lance Naik Albert Ekka; Major Hoshiar Singh; 2nd Lt. Arun Khetrpal; Flying Officer Nirmaljit Singh Sekhon; Major Ramaswamy Parameswaran; Naib Subedar Bana Singh; Captain Vikram Batra; Lt Manoj Kumar Pandey; Subedar Major (then Rifleman) Sanjay Kumar; and Subedar Major Retd (Hony Captain) Grenadier Yogendra Singh Yadav," PMO further stated.

The Government had declared January 23 as Parakram Diwas in 2021 to commemorate the birth anniversary of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

Keeping in mind the historical significance of the Andaman & Nicobar Islands and to honor the memory of Netaji, Ross Islands was renamed as Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Dweep by the Prime Minister during his visit to the Island in 2018. Neil Island and Havelock Island were also renamed Shaheed Dweep and Swaraj Dweep.

"Giving due respect to the real-life heroes of the country has always been accorded the highest priority by the Prime Minister. Going ahead with this spirit, it has now been decided to name the 21 largest unnamed islands of the island group after 21 Param Vir Chakra awardees," the statement from the PMO read.

The largest unnamed island is named after the first Param Vir Chakra awardee, the second largest unnamed island will be named after the sec-

Woman held for 'killing husband, stuffing body in bag' in Bhubaneswar

BHUBANESWAR: A woman was detained on Sunday for allegedly killing her husband and stuffing his body in a trolley bag. The



woman's cousin and one of their associates have also been rounded up by the police in connection with the gruesome murder. The body of the victim, Manoranjan Mohapatra (32) was recovered from the Haripur forest in the Nachuni area of the Khurda district on the day. The trolley bag was spotted by some locals who informed the police. Manoranjan, a native of Rangpur




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The Momentous Publication of "Udbhas Magazine"

It is indeed very significant that "If there is a will there is a way". All the zealous "Book



Lovers" would undoubtedly be blissful to know that one of the significant "Literature magazines" entitled:

"UDBHAS" has already been published during the most elating proceeding of "Panihati Festival" in a very befitting manner.

"Sri Supratim Bhowmick and Laksmi Biswas Bhowmick, joint editor of this magazine have taken a noticeable initiative to work upon this magnificent project and they have truly made it successful for the indispensable advancement of literature within a very short while.

The prime fact is that Sri Bhowmick has spent his very precious time despite his age, frail physique and meagre human resource to reach the towering benchmark of culture along with Mrs. Bhowmick indeed.

They had instigated this remarkable mission Bar Assn writes to Shah to probe 'international conspiracy' angle in BBC documentary

Continued from page-1

India not only withstood the Covid wave, but it also developed its own vaccines and went about inoculating more than a billion population thereby shielding them against the infection.

"Unlike these so-called developed nations, India offered its vaccine either free or at heavily discounted rates to other poor nations, exhibiting its large heart and concern for global peace and well-being. Those who were waiting to write off India were stunned by this incredible handling of Covid waves by the Government of India, headed by Narendra Modi," Aggarwala said in his letter.

Secondly, the AIBA said ever since Russia and Ukraine went to war in February 2022, India has chartered its own way in dealing with the international crisis keeping its own domestic issues in mind. India has not budged to the muscle-flexing by the Western nations and instead has spoken tough about keeping its own interest at the top.

"India, therefore, is not only able to do business with Russia, it is also able to talk to both sides, enjoying the confidence on both sides. The fact that India was able to evacuate its stranded students from the war-affected zones is proof of the same. Enjoying tremendous goodwill in both Russia and Ukraine, Prime Minister Narendra Modi is tipped to achieve a breakthrough and achieve a peaceful resolution to the Russia-Ukraine conflict," the Bar Association said.

The letter added India has repeatedly told both sides that talks and peaceful resolution alone would be the lasting solution and that this is not an era of war. Western nations do not have this leverage on both sides, and therefore they are determined to destabilise Prime Minister Narendra Modi's efforts, as it would earn him the top spot in international diplomacy, noted AIBA.

Thirdly, the AIBA chairman said India ascended to the G20 leadership in December 2022, much to the chagrin of India-baiters in some of the western nations. "From the moment the sceptre was handed over to India, we have been working towards achieving global peace and addressing vexed issues. This is also not to the liking of some nations that still cling to their colonial mindset," Aggarwala said.

Fourthly, he said with a global recession looming over several developed nations, India has not only emerged as the fifth-largest economy in the world but also has nullified all the initial ill effects of a slowdown or recession. India's fundamentals are strong, and its healthy domestic demand-supply situation has insulated the nation from the vagaries of

in the year 2018 they have published

8 consecutive editions already. Most



importantly they have been continuing to maintain their gentle responsibilities in spite of a number of undeniable constraints international economic turmoil.

India is already the fastest growing large economy in the world, and in another five years, it will reach the envious position of the third largest economy in the world - behind only the United States and China. This achievement under the able leadership of Narendra Modi too has riled many nations, AIBA said.

AIBA said it is of the firm opinion that all these mega international trends and reality have made the forces averse to India's leadership and development to dig out something that would distract the nation's focus from development and welfare, to defending its image in the global arena.

"This so-called documentary has nothing new to show or speak of. Much of its contents had been thoroughly circulated and discussed in public, considered and rejected by various courts, including the Supreme Court of India. The 20-year-old Gujarat riot has several layers to it, but this BBC tries to have a linear narrative and quite maliciously tries to pin down our Prime Minister and the nation itself on the mat," AIBA said in its letter to Union Home Minister.

Fortunately, this narrative has failed to find much takers. Except for those who want to get at the ruling party, the Prime Minister and his policies, the general public have comprehensively rejected this documentary, the letter said.

"But, AIBA feels just because it has not cut ice with the general public and India at large, the mischievous attempt of the BBC to foment trouble in India, should be viewed seriously by the Government of India, and a probe should be ordered into the international conspiracy angle," it said.

AIBA urged the government to form a Special Investigation Team (SIT) comprising retired judges of the Supreme Court, jurists and investigators to probe the international conspiracy behind the BBC documentary.

The Bar Association also requested the Centre to write to the UK government to identify people behind this production, probe their backgrounds and cooperate with the Government of India in accessing the so-called documents in possession of the BBC and hold inquiry with persons who had conceived, produced and spread it across the world.

AIBA urged the government to link this dangerous documentary issued with the ongoing Free Trade Agreement (FTA) talks with the UK and obtain an assurance from that nation that no more such anti-India attempts will be allowed on its soil.

The association further requested the government to Issue a warning to BBC that India will not hesitate to invoke its inherent powers and block its channel and other platforms within the territory of India unless the BBC issues a public apology within a timeframe.

Rudrarup Gupta

like physical strain, economical scarcity

and so on.

According to their perceptions "LITTLE MAGAZINES" are like small clubs to build or create players who later on float on the horizon of fame and find their suitable places in the giant clubs.

On the other hand, they do search some new faces and exclusively talented performers. They also pay their homage to the famous once by publishing their literary works in their magazines.

This is undoubtedly true that they neither have the "Governmental Aid" nor any offer related to this satisfying magazine. They are comprehensively contributing to the society from the core of their collective perceptual core.

Sri Supratim Bhowmick and Smt. Laksmi Biswas Bhowmick are really thankful to



those well wishers who have stretched their hands to patronize this magazine from their respective perspective. Some of the noted authors like Malay Gupta, Tapasi Banerjee, Atul Roy, Patrali Guha have contributed for

this magazine which is wished to be in a very renowned shape over the coming years. In other words, Sri Bhowmick hopes and believes that like many other magazines would not remain as a

name in the local history rather they would keep it up forever till their entire span of life and the best ability to work respectively. Most notably, they need the warm association where people may join who do have the same standing of mind at all irrespective of age, caste, religion and so on. Their utmost objective is to entrench a large "LITERARY FAMILY" in the near future.

The Author is an eminent Educationist

Hyundai launches new Aura sedan at Rs 6.30 lakh

PUNE: Hyundai showroom. Motor, India's Like the Grand i10

control, cruise control and voice

BHP and 114 Nm of torque. The car also gets a factory-fitted CNG option. When running on CNG, the engine's output drops to 68 BHP and 95.2 Nm.

Both powertrain options are offered with a 5-speed manual transmission. A 5-speed AMT is available on the top variant.

All variants of the Aura come equipped with 4 airbags as standard. Customers also get the option to upgrade to 6 airbags. Additionally, the car gets ESC, VSM, Hill Start Assist Control, and a Tyre Pressure Monitoring System.



second biggest carmaker, on Monday introduced the new Hyundai Aura sedan to push volumes in the fiercely competitive car market led by rival market leader Maruti Suzuki.

The new Aura facelift is priced in the range of Rs 6.29 lakh to Rs 8.72 lakh for the petrol variants and Aura CNG variants cost Rs 8.1 lakh and Rs 8.87 lakh for top variant at pan India

Nios, the Aura also receives cosmetic updates, especially around the front fascia. The car gets a redesigned grille, bumpers, new L-shaped LED daytime running lights and 15-inch Diamond-cut alloy wheels.

Inside, the Aura gets an 8-inch touch screen infotainment system with Apple CarPlay and Android Auto, a wireless charger, automatic climate

recognition. The car also comes equipped with automatic headlamps, footwell lighting, and a new 3.5-inch MID.

The Aura is available with a 1.2-litre petrol engine that makes 82

Rare belongings of Netaji gather dust in Kendrapara as museum hangs fire

Continued from page-1

sed during that time. "Along with his classmate from Ravenshaw Collegiate School Fakiruddin Hazari and other friends, Netaji was also involved in various cleanliness campaigns in the villages," the lawyer added.

"Twelve years back, Hazari's family members donated me the box which Netaji used for carrying homoeopathy medicines for cholera patients, a lantern and a Muguni glass used by him and I have preserved all these articles in my museum," Mustaque said adding the museum also possesses two rare coins that were minted by the government to observe Netaji's centenary in 1997.

Radios, gramophones, telephones, railway signal lights, musical instruments, telescopes, and newspaper clippings on major events among other valuable items are also preserved in the museum.

Cuttack citizens ask Odisha Govt to bring back Netaji's car

"I approached the district administration several times in the past urging them to provide me with a piece of land and funds to build a Netaji museum in Kendrapara but they have paid no heed to my requests to date. The officials have not yet chosen any site for the proposed museum," said a dejected Mustaque.

Sub-collector Niranjana Behera said land for the construction of the museum will be granted after a proper examination of Mustaque's application.

Car market in India has rebounded, says Hyundai

PUNE: Hyundai Motor, India's second biggest car maker, said India, which surpassed Japan to become the third largest auto market globally, would continue the growth trajectory this fiscal too.

Driven by surging demand for SUVs, India's car industry clocked 24 per cent YoY growth to drive past a record 3.8 million units in a year while Hyundai, Tata Motors, Kia and Skoda logged their best-ever annual sales. In the calendar year 2022, Hyundai sales were at its highest-ever level in domestic sales at 5,52,511 units with a growth of 9.4 per cent over last year.

"Despite global headwind, Russia-Ukraine war, the US recession, India continues to be a resilient economy and growing," Tarun Garg, COO - Sales, Marketing, Service & Product Strategy at Hyundai Motor India told Financial Chronicle on the sidelines of the launch of a new version of its hatchback car, the Grand i10 Nios, at an introductory price of Rs 5.68 lakh at pan India showroom.

The Grand i10 NIOS is available in four variants - Era, Magna, Sportz and Asta. It competes with the likes of Maruti Suzuki Swift and Tata Tiago.

"This compact high segment where Nios comes is an important segment and growing. It comprises over 31 per cent of the total market," Garg pointed out.

He said nearly 42 per cent of Hyundai i10 hatchback owners last year were first time buyers in the country. Hyundai sold over 1 lakh units of i10 Nios units last year.

Arsenal silence doubters with statement win over Man United

LONDON: Premier League leaders Arsenal have had their title credentials questioned all season but their last-gasp 3-2 win against Manchester United has silenced many of the remaining doubters. Eddie Nketiah scored the winner in the dying moments of a pulsating match at the Emirates on Sunday as the home fans were infused with the fresh belief that this could be their year.

The game against in-form United was seen as a critical test for the Gunners, especially after Manchester City closed the gap at the top of the table to just two points earlier in the day.

It was a challenge they did not fluff, hitting back hard after conceding the first goal, scored by Marcus Rashford, and staying calm after Lisandro Martinez cancelled out Bukayo Saka's strike in the second half.

Arsenal, who have made their best-ever start to an English top-flight season, now have 50 points after 19 games -- five clear of defending champions City with a game in hand at the halfway point of the cam-

paign.

"I don't think it gets much better than that," said a buoyant Arsenal coach Mikel Arteta. "It was a beautiful moment, a really special one because we were pushing and pushing and pushing and the goal wasn't coming and it came at the end... it was just electric. It was really emotional, really passionate and I lost it."

Arteta said he hopes the result, which follows last week's 2-0 win against Tottenham in the north London derby, gives his team the belief that Arsenal can be crowned league champions for the first time since 2004.

But he wants to keep his team's feet on the ground despite a remarkable season in which they have lost just once in the league.

"We know our reality, we know how much we still have to improve," said the Spaniard, who was previously Pep Guardiola's assistant at City.

Winnable matches

Arsenal faces the defending champions in the middle of next month but their upcoming

fixtures all look winnable and it is getting increasingly difficult to see where they will slip up.

Leaving the match against City aside, Arsenal's next opponents in the league are relegation-threatened Everton, Brentford,

and Manchester United.

"What Eddie's doing is incredible," said Arteta. "We cannot say we saw that. We were hoping that he could do that because of the way he is, because of his mentality, because of his qualities."



Aston Villa, Leicester, Bournemouth, Fulham, Crystal Palace and Leeds.

City, with title-winning pedigree, appears to have found their form again after a wobble and the sides at the bottom of the table will fight for their lives as the trap door looms.

But former Arsenal captain Arteta has transformed his side from also-rans last season into title favourites, through luck and judgement.

Saka has gone from strength to strength while Nketiah has stepped up in the absence of new signing Gabriel Jesus, injured while playing for Brazil at the World Cup.

The 23-year-old now has six goals in six games in all competitions since the tour-

ament in Qatar. "When asked to sum up the first half of the season, Arteta said it was "extraordinary" but was again careful to avoid the impression that his team are the finished article.

"It doesn't get much better than that, that's the reality," he said. "I think we de-

serve the points that we have. "We have played well enough to win most of the matches but the reality as well is that we still have a lot of things that we can get much better at."

So does he believe Arsenal are now favourites for the title, on course to win the Premier League for the first time since Arsene Wenger's last triumph nearly two decades ago?

"I don't have an opinion," he said. "It can be a perception. I know my team so well, I know where we are, I know why we are here and I know where we want to be."

"And we are still far from that and I know the level of the other teams, especially one that has won everything in the last five or six years and we are not there yet."

Will get married when right girl comes along: Rahul Gandhi

New Delhi: Viewed as India's most eligible bachelor by some, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi says he'll get married when the right girl comes along and part of the problem is that his parents' 'really lovely marriage' has set the bar very high.

In a free-wheeling, light-hearted chat on food and travel platform Curly Tales on YouTube, Gandhi switched from the 'only politics' track to discuss a range of personal issues, including his growing up years, his food preferences and his exercise regimen.

The 52-year-old former Congress president said he has nothing against marriage. "Part of the problem is my parents had a really lovely marriage and they were completely in love with each other so

Discussing his roots, he said his is a Kashmiri Pandit family which moved to Allahabad in Uttar Pradesh. "Grandfather was a Parsi, so I'm a complete mixed?", he said, referring to his paternal grandfather Feroze Gandhi.

He said he was homeschooled following the assassination of his grandmother and former prime minister Indira Gandhi. His father Rajiv Gandhi became prime minister after that.

"It was a shock actually. Security people said we can't go to school. I was at a boarding school but they took us out before grandmother's death. When dad died, they didn't allow us to go back," he recalled.

While some teachers in school were overly nice, some were nasty because of the pro-poor political position his family took.

Talking about his higher education, he said, "I was in St. Stephen's for a year and studied history, and then I went to Harvard University where I studied international relations and politics."

Security issues arose after his father's assassination in May 1991. He was then sent to Rollins

College in Florida where he studied international relations and economics. He also has a Masters degree in development economics from Cambridge University, UK.

Giving details of his first job, Gandhi said he had a corporate job in London at the age of 24-25 with strategic consulting firm Monitor Company. His first pay cheque was about 2,500-3,000 pounds.

He mentioned three things he would do if he became prime minister -- transform the education system, help small and medium-scale businesses and protect the people who are having a rough time, including farmers and unemployed youth.

The idea behind the Bharat Jodo Yatra, which is scheduled to end in Srinagar on January 30, is to combat hatred, anger and violence spreading in India, he said.

"Tapasya is an important part of our culture so as to understand ourselves and others... that's another thought behind this yatra."

Referring to his long walk, he said, "There are lots of people doing this tapasya with me, I'm not alone. There are lots of tapasvis here, people joining in from other states and walking all the way."

Gandhi, whose fitness levels have been the subject of much discussion as he walks from Kanyakumari to Kashmiri, putting in about 25 km each day, also talked about his interests in scuba diving, free diving, cycling, backpacking and martial arts aikido.

"I used to box in college and have always done some form of physical exercise. The martial arts are very convenient; they're not designed to be violent and it's quite the opposite. But it's taught in the wrong way to hurt and attack people. But if you understand it well, then it's great for you." He does a martial arts class daily on the yatra as well.

On his bedside is a rudraksh, images of deities like Shiva and his wallet.



my bar is very high," he said, referring to his parents Rajiv and Sonia Gandhi.

"When the right girl comes along, I will get married. I mean if she comes along, she comes along. It will be good."

Asked if he has a checklist for the kind of person he wants to get married to, Gandhi said, "No, just a loving person who is intelligent."

During the dinner interaction recorded during the Rajasthan leg of his Bharat Jodo Yatra outside his container, Gandhi said he is not very fussy about food and eats anything that is available but does not like 'matar and kathal (peas and jackfruit)'. Gandhi, who has been on the road since September when he started his Bharat Jodo Yatra from Kanyakumari and is now in Jammu and Kashmir, said he's 'pretty strict' about his diet when at home.

"But here I don't have much choice," he said in the video of the chat posted by the Congress on its social media handles on Sunday.

Telangana was a 'little bit spicy' for his taste. "The chillies were a bit over the top. I don't eat that much chillies."

Asked what food is cooked at home, he said there is "desi khana" for lunch and some sort of continental food for dinner. He follows a controlled diet and avoids too many sweet things.

Gandhi added that he "tends to be non-vegetarian" and likes all kinds of stuff such as chicken, mutton and seafood.

His favourite dishes are chicken tikka, seekh kebabs and a good omelette. He also said he prefers one cup of coffee in the morning.

Listing his favourite eating joints in the national capital, Gandhi said he would go to old Delhi but now his staples are Moti Mahal, Sagar, Swagat and Saravanaa Bhavan, the first a Mughlai food restaurant and the other three dishing up south Indian food.



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