

More Scope For OCS

Bhubaneswar(KCN): With the change in the pattern of Odisha Civil Service (OCS) Examination, the State Government has given one more compensatory attempt to students to appear in the Odisha Civil Services (OCS) exam and Combined Competitive Recruitment Examinations, 2022. The General Administration & Public Grievances Department has issued a resolution to this effect on Monday.

As per the resolution, the intending candidates who have appeared in OCSE-2019 or OCSE-2020 or OCSE-2021 but are

otherwise ineligible to appear/compete in the OCSE-2022, on account of attainment of upper age limit or exhaustion of the attempts prescribed under the Rules, shall be allowed one more additional



compensatory attempt for appear for OCS,2022.

On account of delay in conducting Odisha Civil Services, Combine Competitive Recruitment Examinations (CCRE)

in each year during, the period 2011-2014 and consequent upon introduction of UPSC pattern in the OCS Examination, the State Government in the past had allowed additional compensatory, attempt to appear the OCSE -2016, OCSE-2017, OCSE-2018, OCSE-2019, OCSE-2020 and OCSE-2021 irrespective of maximum age limit of the candidates.

In spite of that, there are a number of representations received from some OCS Examination aspirants to allow them additional chances to appear in the OCSE-2022 irrespective of their maximum age limit, the Government

said in the resolution. Further, the Government has been pleased to allow candidates to write the answer in Odia except language papers in the OCS examinations from this year.

Therefore, the State Government has taken this decision to give another chance to the aspirants. However, no further additional compensatory attempt to appear for the OCS Examination shall be allowed in future, it said. This decision has come into force with immediate effect. The provisions of the OCS (CCRE), Rules, 1991 are being separately amended to the above extent.



Organization of united working journalist (OUWJ) Delegation Led by president Sanjay Das, "Pradyumna Dash, Hrushikesh Mohanty, Rajanikant Samantaray and Sridhar Parida greeting Hon'ble Governor of odisha Prof Ganeshi Lal at Raj bhavan on the Occasion of New year _2023

Ex CS Pratip Mohanty No More

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Former Chief Secretary of Odisha Pratip Kumar Mohanty passed away here. He was 78. Shri Mohanty, known as an honest and sincere Mandarin had served the State and Union Government in various capacities. He was Chief Secretary from 1 November, 2002 and continued till 31 August 2004.

Later he served as Chairman of Odisha Public Service Commission from 11 December 2004 to 31 August 2006. Born on 1 September 1944, Shri Mohanty got into IAS in 1967 and started his career in 1969 as Sub Divisional Magistrate.

He never looked back and served as District Magistrate of Kalahandi and Koraput serving the

tribal population in a big way. Shri Mohanty was a popular Administrator with an eye for development in the backward areas of the State. Shri Mohanty served in Energy, Industry, Urban Development Commerce and Transport, Finance,

Excise, Fisheries, Agriculture, Cooperation, Culture, Tourism, Information and Public Relations, Higher Education, Tribal Welfare, Social Development, Planning and Program Implementation, Personnel and General Administration in various capacities.

Shri Mohanty has served in Planning Commission and helped the state in a big way, before taking over as Chief Secretary of the State. He was pro-people and a quietly performing mandarin and was loved by all in the state and centre, said a former Chief Secretary. Shri Mohanty breathed his last in his residence at Shaeed Nagar here. He is survived by his wife Shrimati Padmalaya Mohanty and son Prateek Mohanty, and Daughter. His son Prateek Mohanty is an IPS Officer of 2000 Batch and he is serving as IGP in Central Industrial Security Force (CISF). His last rites will be conducted at Satya Nagar Mortuary today.



SC Affirms Centre's 2016 Decision To Demonetise Currency Notes Of Rs 1000, Rs 500

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Monday affirmed the Central government's 2016 decision to demonetise currency notes of Rs 1,000 and Rs 500 denominations.

A five-judge constitution bench headed by Justice S.A. Nazeer and comprising Justices B.R. Gavai, A.S. Bopanna, V. Ramasubramanian, and B.V. Nagarathna pronounced the judgment on a clutch of petitions challenging the Centre's 2016 decision to demonetise currency notes of Rs 1,000 and Rs 500 denominations.

Pronouncing the majority judgment, Justice Gavai said that the decision-making process cannot be faulted merely because the proposal emanated from the Central government.

Justice Gavai added that there was consultation between



the Centre and the RBI for a period of six months.

"We hold that there was a reasonable nexus to bring such a measure, and we hold that demonetisation was not hit by the doctrine of proportionality," said the majority judgment.

Justice Nagarathna said examining Section 26(2) would not mean to sit over the merits of demonetisation and thus it is well within the lakshman rekha as drawn by this court.

The bench said there has to be great restraint in matters of economic policy and the court cannot supplant the

series of transformational economic policy steps and this decision was taken after extensive consultation with the RBI and advance preparations.

The Ministry of Finance, in an affidavit, said: "The withdrawal of legal tender character of a significant portion of total currency value was a well-considered decision. It was taken after extensive consultation with the RBI and advance preparations".

It further added that demonetisation was also a part of a larger strategy for combating the menace of fake money, terror financing, black money and tax evasion. "The notification issued on 08.11.2016 was a major step to fight the menace of fake currency notes, storage of unaccounted wealth and financing of subversive activities", it said.

During the hearing, the Centre had told the Supreme Court that the November 2016 decision to withdraw legal tender of Rs 500 and 1,000 currency notes was one of the critical steps in the

No Plan To Hike Power Tariff For Now: Odisha Energy Minister



Cuttack(KCN): The Odisha government has no plan to hike power tariff in the state for now, said Energy Minister Pratap Keshari Deb today.

"There was no truth in the rumours of possible power tariff hike in Odisha. Some media houses are publishing false reports in this regard. The state government has no such plan for now," said Deb after attending an event in the Silver City here. Earlier, there were reports in a section of media that the power tariff in Odisha would be hiked from January, 2023. The rumours of possible hike in power tariff caused widespread resentment among the consumers. Even, some outfits had staged demonstrations to raise their objections in this regard. "The power tariff in Odisha is much higher in comparison to some other states in India. Any further rise in power tariff would add to the woes of the consumers. The Energy Minister's statement has brought an end to all rumours in this regard," said a social activist. The TPCODL has signed an agreement with the state government to supply power to the consumers for 25 years. The private agency is taking all possible steps to provide uninterrupted power supply and better service to the consumers in Odisha, said the minister.

VA For Vintage Cars

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Good news for enthusiasts and collectors of vintage vehicles, owners of classic vehicles of more than 50 years can apply for special number plates and enjoy exemption from scrappage in Odisha.

Vintage vehicles will get fresh registration with a mark starting with VA, which will stand for 'vintage'.

With an aim to preserve and promote the heritage of vintage vehicles, the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH) has made provision under CMV Rule, 1989 for the registration

process of Vintage Motor Vehicles.

Odisha being a State of heritage & culture is the first state to implement this provision so as to fulfil the ambition of the vehicle owner to keep such a vehicle.

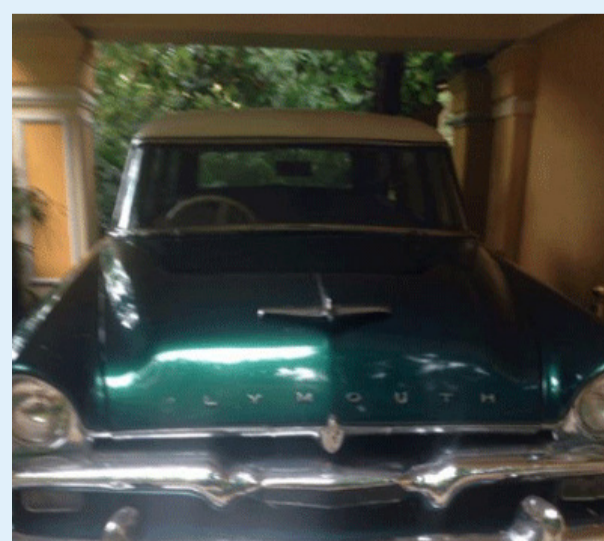
Speaking on this move, Dipti Ranjan Patra, Joint Commissioner Transport, Technical said, "MoRTH has taken initiatives to discourage the use of old vehicles by introducing a scrapping policy. At the same time to preserve and promote the heritage of old vehicles in India, the Central Government has formalised the

registration process of vintage motor vehicles.

The new rules shall provide salient features such as retention of old already registered vehicles with a new Vintage registration mark "VA" series (Unique Registration Mark), he said.

As per the rule, two-wheelers and four-wheelers (personal use) that are more than 50 years old from the date of their first registration (including imported vehicle) shall be defined as Vintage Motor Vehicles.

However, only vehicles that have no substantial overhaul including modification



in chassis or body shell, and/or engine will be considered as vintage.

Application for registration/re-registration will be made as per Form 20 and will be accompanied by an

insurance policy, fee, bill of entry in case of imported vehicles, and old RC in case of an already registered vehicle in India.

The old certificate of registration of a motor

vehicle after being registered as Vintage Motor Vehicle, will be marked as cancelled and the owner may retain such a cancelled certificate of registration for historical purposes only. The State Registering Authority will issue a certificate of registration as per Form 23A after inspection of the vehicle and subject to the condition that the vehicle is fit & having valid PUC.

If the vehicle is approved, a fresh registration mark will be assigned to the eligible vehicles for Vintage vehicle as "XX VA YY****", where VA stands for vintage, XX

stands for State Code, YY will be a two-letter series and "****" is a number from 0001 to 9999 allotted by the State Registering Authority.

Under the new law, the issue of a new certificate will cost the owner Rs 20,000 and will be valid for a period of 10 years. Subsequently, the renewal of said registration will cost the owner an additional Rs 5,000 and will be renewable for a period of 5 year.

Vintage motor vehicles shall not be driven on roads for regular/commercial purposes. A vintage motor vehicle is allowed

to run on Indian roads only for display, technical research or taking part in a vintage car rally, refuelling and maintenance, exhibitions, vintage rallies, and to and fro to such exhibition or car rally.

The owner of a Vintage Motor Vehicle after assignment of Vintage number can also sell his vintage vehicle by applying for transfer of ownership of the motor vehicle and also can change his address by making application in the manner as provided under the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988.

Woman Doctor Found Dead Under Mysterious Circumstances

Barbil(KCN): The death of a young lady doctor working at Baneikala (Joda) urban



PHC of Joda in Keonjhar district of Odisha is under suspicion. The deceased identified as Subhashree Kar found dead under mysterious circumstances inside her quarter which was locked from inside. As per information, deceased had been to celebrate zero night programme along with some of her

doctor. The said hospital is running in a rented house of block Chairman Kabindra Naik and the hospital has been running by Government of Odisha and managed by an NGO, RVDO. It is two storied house where ground floor is being used for hospital where as up stair is used for staff residence. The deceased was staying in the staff residence. However, the mystery behind the death is yet to know and police is investigating the matter. Joda police launched a probe after registering a case of unnatural death. The reason behind her death can be ascertained only after an autopsy report comes, said police. On the other hand it has come to knowledge that Subhashree had love relationship with a doctor working with JSW. But latter doctor denied to marry her



friends. When people noticed her room locked from inside for a long time rose doubt of any untoward incident. People have tried to call her and knocked at the door for a longer time. They took the help of police to break the door and found her body lying on the bed. Immediately she was taken to Tata Steel hospital where she was declared dead by the

even after physical relationship. She had too did an complain against the at the police station. Though Subhashree enjoyed zero night programme, but was quite despondent for doctor's betray. It is believed that this frustration led her to commit suicide. However truth will come to lime light after investigation.

BDA to carry out survey to improve land use pattern in Bhubaneswar

BHUBANESWAR: As the growing population in the state capital is affecting the land use pattern, the Bhubaneswar Development

land parcels. "We will take up these land patches to im-



Authority (BDA) has decided to carry out a survey to identify and demarcate land patches it has been allotted by the government for their future use and prevent encroachment.

An official from the planning wing of the agency said the move was essential to check rampant encroachment of the land in the city. He said the process has already been initiated to select the survey agency to carry out the field verification of the

identified land could be used for a number of purposes including the development of affordable housing projects and the creation of open spaces," the official said.

BDA officials said the population of the city which was around 8.40 lakh during the 2011 census is expected to increase to 30 lakh in the BDA area comprising Bhubaneswar and parts of Khurda and Jatani municipalities and Pipili NAC.

BDA has already implemented a number of housing projects at various locations in its planned area. However, there are still various unused plots and land parcels that form part of the saleable area within the BDA scheme. Officials said the survey agency will be selected through a tender process

Guru's ideals checked communalism in state, says minister Balagopal

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM(KCN): Finance Minister K N Balagopal said communalism could not gain much ground in the state due to the influence of Sree Narayana Guru. He also said that no one will be swayed by communalism if he or she



understood Guru's ideals. He was speaking after inaugurating the global meet of Sree Narayana institutions organised on the sidelines of the Sivagiri pilgrimage on Sunday.

"Guru is not just a religious saint. His ideals have a worldview. The Daivadasakam is a paragon," said Balagopal. State Congress president K Sudhakaran presided over the function. According to him, Guru's vision prompted the country to become a secular nation. "Guru's principles attracted people like B R Ambedkar. Guru created equality in soci-

ety," he said. BJP state president K Surendran said attempts were being made to hijack Guru's ideals and thoughts. "Guru's non-religious spirituality has been misrepresented. He showed the real Indian philosophy to society. There is no fundamental difference between the philosophies of Guru and Sankaracharya," said Surendran.

Transport Minister Antony Raju inaugurated the concluding ceremony of the pilgrimage. He said Guru led people to progressive ideas. "The Guru gave a message that was acceptable to all and made the world unite," he said.

Sree Narayana Dharma Sangham Trust president Sachidananda said more studies are necessary to know about Guru's contribution to the freedom movement. The Guru directed T K Madhavan to incorporate progressive ideas into the freedom movement. The movement gained momentum after his directions were accepted by the Congress, said Sachidananda.

Senior BJP leader Kummanam Rajasekharan presided over the function. He said the Sivagiri pilgrimage made drastic changes in the state. Poet Prabha Varma inaugurated the cultural meet held on the sidelines of the pilgrimage.

Bhubaneswar Diary: Bribery and sanity

Unbelievable but true. An assistant section officer (ASO) of the Works department has lost his mental balance after being offered bribe by some engineers to expedite their promotion files. Two engineers, who are due for promotion, approached the ASO and requested him to find out the status of the file and the time it will take for the departmental promotion committee to meet to decide the matters. The ASO told them that he had already sent a reminder to the authorities concerned and there was nothing to worry. Assuming that the ASO was not taking interest to pursue their cause, the engineer duo decided to grease his palm to get the job done. One day they encountered him in the secretariat corridor and handed over a yellow envelop. Without suspecting their motive, the ASO opened it to find a wad of notes inside. Enraged at their audacity to of-

fer money at workplace, the officer threw the envelop on

Routray is entertainment, entertainment -

when he was going to start his speech. Seeing this Vaishnaw



their face much to the surprise of the on-lookers. Since then he has refused to work on the same seat and been assigned another desk. After the incident, he is also not in his normal self and has become very withdrawn, said a senior officer of the department. A post-graduate in physics, the ASO had dropped out from a PhD course to join the government job. Sura's 'beautiful' remark has all guessing Congress MLA Suresh Kumar

whether inside the Assembly, at a public meeting or a government function. His speeches are known more for their entertainment purpose than anything else. Recently, he attended the foundation laying ceremony for expansion of Bhubaneswar railway station and was on the dais along with the Railway minister Ashwini Vaishnaw. To everybody's surprise, Routray started running towards Vaishnaw just

wanted to stop him and said, 'Ruhantu, Ruhantu (stay there, stay there). But Routray went on running till he touched Vaishnaw and said, 'beautiful'. Soon after the Congress MLA left the meeting place for other engagements. Every one wondered what was so beautiful. Was the central minister was beautiful or the railway station was beautiful. Two other central ministers were present at the function.

Devotees struggle for darshan at Jagannath temple in Odisha's Koraput

JEYPORE: Over 10,000 devotees from across Koraput and neighbouring districts who thronged Sabar Srikhetra Jagannath temple on new year's day had a tough time having darshan of the Trinity owing to poor crowd management by the administration. Sources said devotees had to wait in long unruly

ing and elderly persons had to return from the 'Baisiphacha'.

Traffic was also disrupted near the shrine's main gate due to haphazard parking of vehicles. Gourav Yadav of Kanker in Chhattisgarh said he had a tough time due to poor crowd management in entering the temple and having darshan of the Trinity.



queues to have a glimpse of the Trinity due to absence of barricades. The entrance gate of the temple was blocked due to mad rush for the devotees to avail coupons for mahaprasad. Some ail-

Runa Patnaik of Sunabeda too had to wait for hours in queue along with an ailing relative.

Sources said despite the huge crowd at the temple, only two police personnel were deployed in the shrine to maintain order. Jagannath Temple Management Committee general secretary Jagabandhu Samal said,

"We had not anticipated such huge crowd on New year at the temple. The mismanagement was caused by sudden rush of hundreds of devotees at a time to the temple."

No injustice will be done to any community: CM Bommai

HUBBALLI: Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai on Sunday said everything will be

Darshan. "If needed, a clarification will be issued. In-



crystal clear on the new reservation policy once the final order comes. "The government has already explained everything in its interim order and data will appear in the final report. After that, it will be discussed with the stakeholders. The government has accepted the interim report without causing any problems for the backward classes," Bommai said at his Hubballi residence on the sidelines of Janata

justice will not be done to any community. The leader of the Opposition in the Legislative Assembly, while his party was in power, did not fulfil these demands. Since the incumbent government is doing everything it has become a problem for them," he said.

Bommai slammed Congress for finding faults in everything and said the ruling BJP government is not bothered about their comments as their way ahead is clear. Reacting to Congress leaders' allegation on the approved detailed project report for the Kalasa-Banduri project, he said the issue for which both the parties had fought had reached its logical end and the time has come now for them to start work."

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'Pushpa: The Rise' raises 10 million Rubles at Russian box office



MUMBAI: Allu Arjun-starrer "Pushpa: The Rise" has collected over 10 million Rubles at the box office in Russia, the makers said on Monday. The Telugu blockbuster was released in the Russian language on 774 screens across the country on December 8, said Mythri Movie Makers on its official Twitter page. "#PushpaTheRise is a RAGE in Russia. 25 days and counting of a successful run in 774 screens with a

collection of over 10M Rubles," the production banner said in the tweet. Ten million Rubles amount to approximately Rs 13 crore. Also starring Rashmika Mandanna, "Pushpa: The Rise" depicts the rise of a

low-wage labourer (Arjun) in the smuggling syndicate of red sandalwood, a rare wood that grows only in the Seshachalam Hills of Andhra Pradesh state. It was released in India in association with Muttamsetty Media on December 17, 2021 and went on to become one of the biggest money-spinners of the year earning over Rs 350 crore. The film also opened the fifth edition of the Indian Film Festival in Russia on December 1. Arjun, Rashmika, director Sukumar Bandreddi, producer Ravi Sankar and music composer DSP had attended the gala in Russia. A sequel, titled "Pushpa: The Rule", is under production.

Aakasa Veedhulo: A decent attempt

It's quite a rare scenario where one makes a directorial and acting debut in the same

charming personality and came up with a good performance, especially during the

have written more layers in the script to make it more intense. He dealt the complicated



film. The trailer of Aakasa Veedhulo was interesting. Let's check out the review Siddhu (Goutham Krishna) is a happy go lucky chap who wants to make a career in music. But his father (Devi Prasad) is not happy with Siddhu's career choice. While his father tries to motivate him, his efforts go in vain. A frustrated father eventually breaks his son's guitar. A hurt Siddhu leaves the house! What happens later, and how he becomes a rock star and how the drama takes interesting turns forms the rest of the story. At the outset, Goutham Krishna chose a heavy subject for his acting and directorial debut. Although the film's first half was engaging and entertaining, the pace slows down in second half, which is a major drawback. But apart from the adequate entertainment, the movie also gives a message for the youth.

emotional sequences. His dialogue delivery too is appreciative. Pujita Ponnada looked pretty and is adequate. The actress showed off her oomph and glamour in some sequences and songs. Both Goutham and Poojitha's chemistry worked well for the movie. Srikanth Iyengar and Devi Prasad played their part efficiently while Satyam Rajesh provided the comic relief. Although the film was made on a decent budget, it has good technical qualities. Goutham Krishna took a bit of a risk in picking up a film that has strong emotions but he manages to impress with his direction. However, he could

Anupam Kher starts shooting for Vivek Agnihotri's 'The Vaccine War'

MUMBAI: Anupam Kher is officially a fourth collaboration between Agnihotri and Kher after movies such as "Buddha in a Traffic Jam", "The Tashkent Files" and "The Kashmir Files". Kher took to Twitter to share the news and posted a photo from the sets of the upcoming movie. "Announcing my



534th film! #TheVaccineWar directed by @vivekagnihotri. Fascinating and Inspiring! Jai Hind!" the 67-year-old actor posted.

Moving Soon? This Furniture-Arranging Tool Will Change Your Life



Zainab Khan

Arranging living room furniture can be a daunting task. The living room is that part of the house that receives visitors and guests, so this is where you would like to create a welcoming environment.

When you're faced with an empty room, filling it in a way that is both practical and aesthetically pleasing

can seem like an overwhelming task

Like a blank page or canvas, an empty room can be either an opportunity or a challenge. With so many ways to fill it, how do you know where to start?

No matter how big/small your house is, a perfect arrangement will still work well to make it look functional and beautiful.

The right furniture can make or break a room, and it is essential to choose the right kind of furniture for your space.

It should be comfortable to sit on, ideally with a nice view that will give you a sense of warmth and comfort when you return

home from a hard day's work.

The best way to position your sofa, chairs, accent tables, and more generally depends on the shape of your room and what it's used for.

No matter the size of your living room, Use these living room layout ideas to find an arrangement that suits your space

Don't Push Furniture Against the Walls-----

When arranging your living room furniture, room size will determine how far you can pull your furniture away from the walls, but even in a small space, you'll want to give pieces a little breathing room by allowing a few inches between the

backs of furniture pieces and the walls.

If you live in a small living room, you need to consider various things, such as the size of the room, the furniture that is going to fit into the room, etc. The rule of thumb here is to use only those living room furniture pieces that will not require too large space and make sure they do not cover up each other's visibility.

Too small furniture in a large room will make the room seem cold and uninviting, and too large furniture will make the room appear cramped. If you have a larger space, feel free to arrange furniture in such a way that

conversation areas are created in the middle of the room, leaving several feet between the walls and the furniture. Allow at least 30 inches between furniture pieces so that guests can easily move around them

Sofas and chairs should face each other alongside a smaller loveseat or a welcoming chaise. Keep in mind that your guests should be naturally able to make conversation comfortably and should not be too far apart or too close together. Roughly 6-8 feet for seating pieces facing each other is a good rule of thumb.

In smaller spaces, consider nesting tables or

furniture that fold up to create extra space while not in use.

The size and placement of certain pieces will be the most important part of achieving a uniform layout. Avoid clustering all of the large furniture pieces together and be sure to vary the shapes, sizes, and textures of furniture in the room to keep it balanced.

Where you place your TV in a living room can depend on its size and a few other factors.

TV should be positioned facing your seating so you can comfortably watch it from your couch or chair.

The TV should be placed in an area of your living room that

is not affected by sunlight or glare from natural or other lighting. Place your TV out of high-traffic areas. There's nothing more frustrating than trying to watch TV while people keep walking past it.

Mounting a TV above has its pros and cons but if it's done correctly it can free up floor space in a small living room layout.

Mirrors placed on a wall can make a small space look larger, by reflecting light and creating the appearance of more room in the room. You can effectively double the amount of space it looks like you have!

The living room is surely the heart of every home. Avoid

making your living room feel tight and cramped. Limit the furniture you place in the room, and pull in extra chairs only when you need them. With less furniture, the room will have more open energy and better traffic patterns.

Focal point-----

Identify the room's focal point – sofa, chair, window, fireplace, television, etc.– and orient the furniture around it as much as possible. If you have a large window, place a large window seat in front of it. If you have a large painting or photograph, hang it on the wall over the sofa.

The author is an interior designer based in New Delhi

5+3+3+4 educational curriculum structure in lieu of 10+2+3 education system

Pratap chandra sahu

Near about 85% of a child's brain development occurs prior to the age of 6 years. Thus early childhood learning is utmost priority. Early childhood care and education is the need of the hour. This early education and care will consist of flexible, multi-faceted, multi-level, play-based, activity-based and discovery based learning. It will develop motor skills, social and emotional ethical skills and development of communication and early language skills. The education in current system i.e 10+2+3 system after early education will be replaced by new education policy 5+3+3+4 curriculum structure. Now the children in age group of 3 to 8 years will spend 5 years of foundation course in pre-school education and class 1st to 2nd. Then three years will be spent at middle stages at preparatory stage in classes 3rd to 5th. Then three years will further be spent at middle stages in classes 6th to 8th. Then four years will be spent will be spent in secondary stage i.e for classes 9th to 12th. Then 4 years degree (hons) stage will be spent in new education policy. The new education policy 2020 is based on flexibility, multi-disciplinary, ethical, and constitutional values, equity and inclusion

,professional values ,integrity and transparency,continuous policy making,life skills,and education as fundamental right. In higher education case the gross enrollment is now 26.35%,but it will be raised to 50% by 2035. It is the target. The policy provides for multi disciplinary higher education framework with portable credits and multiple exits with certificates,diplomats and degrees. The aim of university education will be to develop good,well rounded and creative individuals. It proposes a higher education system consisting of large ,multi- disciplinary universities and colleges with at least one in each and every district. College affiliation system will be phased out in 15 years and a stage wise mechanism will be established for granting graded economy to colleges. Over a period of time every college will develop into an autonomous degree granting college or constituent college of an university. It proposes increased access to higher education through open schooling. Online education and open distance learning. It seeks to end the fragmentation of higher education institutions and turn them into large multidisciplinary universities. A comprehensive education system in higher education institutions in which even the engineering,medical, I. T.I. & I.I.M.s will move

towards more arts and humanities and students of arts and humanities learning more holistic. Departments of languages, literature, education, music, philosophy, ideology art, dance,theatre, education, statics,pure & applied science, sociology, economics and sports will be setup in higher education institutions to impart education a comprehensive and holistic dimension. In this new education policy 2020,the higher education commission of india will be setup as a single umbrella body for entire higher education excluding medical and legal wing. The national research foundation will be created as an apex body for fostering a strong research ,culture and building research capacity across higher education. All the educational institutions will be audited as per standard of audit. The new education policy will give importance to the students practical knowledge and skills instead of pushing them towards rote learning. It helps the students to develop scientific temper from a very strong age. It is step in the right direction. It focuses on critical thinking ,experiential learning,interactive class room,integrated pedagogy and competency based education. Inclusive digital education serves as an empowering component of the education policy.

Nabarangapur

Jagat Guru SriAbhiramParamhansa Ji

Mr. Radha Shyam Jena



Puri, the spiritual land of Odisha is famous for Lord Jagannath temple. A small village namely Karamala situated at a distance of about 30 kilometers from Puri. An ashram situated in the same village is locally and at the state level well known. The said ashram is famous for Sanatanite Monk Abhiram. With great reverence and devotion, I would like to address with the word "Lord" for him and the said great monk is Lord Abhiram.

He was born in the year 1904. His parents were ShriSatyabadiPattanik and Radha Devi. Both were pious and spiritual. Lord Abhiram became enlightened concentrating to uninterrupted meditation and ultimately he achieved the blessings of the goddess Van-Durga. After enlightenment he visited various villages as a Sanyasi. He continuously propagated the basic



principles of the religion of Sanatan. For him Sanatan is the only religion that exists but Hindu, Islam and Christianity are the sects derived from Sanatan Dharma. These sects guide their followers with independence to follow their principles. The concept of Hinduism is based on kindness and existence of God everywhere and in all. Therefore, the Hindus equally

respect to all without any discrimination. He propagates that a Hindu should have staunch belief in his religion and respect to other religions. The word Sanatan interpreted by the unscrupulous persons to divide the mankind and to dismantle the spirit of fraternity as well as to split the sole spirituality into various sects to serve their interests. What should be

untouchable or should not be allowed to be accepted are: desire, anger, avarice and brutal attitude. In his idealism oneness is the salient characteristic. He believes in the good action and the religion that guides its followers to walk on good path. He also believes in idol worship for the sake of concentration and heavenly pleasure. He has also clarified about the nature of a real Sadhu who

should be deprived of desire, anger, avarice and addiction.

The "Kali Bhagwad" is his master piece which he has written for the first time in the year 1929 wherein he predicted about the end of the British rule for which he was imprisoned for about 7½ months. The charge against him was anti-national (Raj-drohi). He has written many books containing devotional poems in Odia language which need to be translated for the propagation of Sanatan Dharma. He was not in favour of western science since he was a strong believer in spiritual science. If his philosophy is pragmatically analyzed for the sake of message to the whole world, in reality it would make our country great. The substance of his philosophical preaching on body and universe or the practice of "ajjappa" helps a person make some creative activities in favour of the society as well as for the whole living beings.

Advocate Supreme Court 209, New Lawyers' Chamber

Notebandi effect: Six years on, people still smarting from demonetisation blow

NEW DELHI: The father with money in the bank but none to pay vendors for his daughter's wedding, the retailer scrounging for funds to keep business going, the house help who didn't get a salary for two months.

On Monday, these and many other similar tales of hardship became alive again, when the Supreme Court upheld the government's November 8, 2016 decision to demonetise Rs 1000 and Rs 500 denomination notes.

The decision, touted by the government to be a 'surgical attack' on black money, missed its mark by a great margin and became the bane of the daily-wage labourers and poor Indians, a section which relies almost exclusively on cash.

To 38-year-old house help Parvesh, even the mere mention of the word 'notebandi' sends a shiver down her spine. The single mother of a 20-year-old son said she was forced to

Many small-scale businesses are still reeling from demonetisation.

"Our business relies on cash and this makes it impossible for us to function properly and run our business. A limited time was given by the government to exchange the cash left with us, we were in continuous confusion about whether we should do business or stand in long queues for hours to get our cash exchanged," Manish Shah, a Surat-based retailer, recounted.

"The whole business cycle was disrupted in the entire country," he added.

For Jammu-based Rajendra Gupta, the cash crunch due had turned the once-in-a-lifetime occasion of his only daughter's wedding into a nightmare.

He recalled how he was made to beg for his own hard-earned money to pay the vendors so that preparations could go on without a hitch.

"I didn't have enough money to pay the vendors. There was a limitation on how much money you could withdraw from banks. And then the government's continuous flip-flop on rules and regulations and whatnot," he said. What was demonetisation actually going after, riding roughshod over the public?

An unprecedented rush at her workplace with hundreds scrambling to get inside was the last thing, Taniya Sharma, then a trainee at a leading bank in New Delhi, thought she would witness in the initial days of her career. "There were scuffles, sights of people crying, some even collapsing -- I saw it all. Those scenes continue to haunt me till today," Sharma recalled.

"The verdict does little to victims of those times."

According to reports, several people died in different parts of the country while standing in queues for money withdrawal and exchange of the scrapped notes.

In March 2017, months before the status quo would return, the Union government said it had "no official report" on how many people died in queues.

"No such official report has been received," Minister of State for Finance Arjun Ram Meghwal had then said in a written reply in the Lok Sabha.



work without a salary for almost two months and went empty stomach for days at a stretch. "It was the worst time of my life. Worse than even Covid-19, because during the Covid there was at least some help from the government and society at large. But during demonetisation, we are left alone to suffer," said Parvesh.

"I mean how can I expect my employer to help me when he himself was struggling with money?" she said, having little to no idea about Monday's Supreme Court verdict.

The SC in its verdict said the decision-making process behind the 2016 demonetisation was "not flawed." In a five-judge bench, four judges voted in favour of upholding the note-ban decision-making whereas one judge dissented.

The pain was not limited to the poor, and the middle class too struggled to understand the withdrawal rules that cascaded with everyday regularity in the wake of demonetisation. Nor was it any more inured to the agony of standing in the unending queues before the ATMs, which too often ran out of cash, and too early.

Kim Jong Un orders 'exponential' expansion of North Korea's nuclear arsenal

SEOUL: North Korean leader Kim Jong Un ordered the "exponential" expansion of his country's nuclear arsenal and the development of a more powerful intercontinental ballistic missile, state media reported Sunday, after he entered 2023 with another weapons launch following a record number of testing activities last year.

Kim's moves are in line with the broad direction of his nuclear program. He has repeatedly vowed to boost both the quality and quantity of his arsenal to cope with what he calls U.S. hostility. Some experts say Kim's push to produce more nuclear and other weapons signals his intention to continue a run of weapons tests and ultimately solidify his future negotiating power and win greater outside concessions.

"They are now keen on isolating and stifling (North Korea), unprecedented in human history," Kim said at a recently ended key ruling party meeting, according to the official Korean Central News Agency. "The prevailing situation calls for making redoubled efforts to overwhelmingly beef up the military muscle."

During the six-day meeting meant to determine new state objectives, Kim called for "an exponential increase of the country's nuclear arsenal" to mass produce battlefield tactical nuclear weapons targeting South Korea. He also presented a task to develop a new ICBM missioned with a "quick nuclear counterstrike" capability — a weapon he needs to strike the mainland U.S. He said the North's first military reconnaissance satellite will be launched "at the earliest date possible," KCNA said.

"Kim's comments from the party meeting reads like an ambitious — but perhaps achievable — New Year's resolution list," said Soo Kim, a security analyst at the California-based RAND Corpora-

tion. "It's ambitious in that Kim consciously chose to spell out what he hopes to accomplish as we head into 2023, but it also suggests a dose of confidence on Kim's part."



Last month, North Korea claimed to have performed key tests needed for the development of a new strategic weapon, a likely reference to a solid-fueled ICBM, and a spy satellite.

Kim's identification of South Korea as an enemy and the mention of hostile U.S. and South Korean policies is "a reliable pretext for the regime to produce more missiles and weapons to solidify Kim's negotiating position and concretize North Korea's status as a nuclear weapons power," Soo Kim said. Later Sunday, South Korea's Defense Ministry reiterated a warning that any attempt to use nuclear weapons by North Korea "will lead to the end of the Kim Jong Un government." The U.S. military has previously made similar warnings.

"The new year started but our security situation is still very grave," South Korean President Yoon Suk

Missile strike kills at least 60 Russian troops in eastern Ukraine: Moscow

MOSCOW: At least 60 Russian troops were killed in a missile strike by four missiles in the town of Makiivka in the Moscow-controlled region of Donetsk.



were killed in eastern Ukraine as Kyiv forces struck a camp using US-supplied HIMARS systems, the Russian Defence Ministry announced on Monday.

Without claiming the strike, Ukraine's military said the death toll from a strike in the town of Makiivka in the Moscow-controlled part of the eastern region of Donetsk was much higher.

the strike took place, but Ukrainian forces are believed to have struck as Russian troops rang in the New Year.

The statement was an extremely rare announcement of Russian losses in Ukraine. Kremlin critics accuse Russian authorities of downplaying losses on the battlefield in Ukraine. Russian military bloggers said several hundred troops

could have died as a result of the strike

in Makiivka. Former Russian separatist leader Igor Strelkov said he received a report about the strike about 1 am on January 1 (2200 GMT on December 31). He said "hundreds" have been killed and wounded, adding the Ukrainian army struck a facility that housed mobilised troops.

Cruise passengers stranded by 'marine growth' on hull around New Zealand and Australia

SYDNEY: Passengers on a luxury New Year's cruise around New Zealand and Australia have reportedly been stranded on board for a week because of a "marine growth" on the ship's hull. Divers had to remove the "biofoul" -- an accu-



mulation of microorganisms, plants, algae or small animals -- from the 930-berth Viking Orion while it was anchored in international waters, the Australian government said.

The cleaning was required to protect Australia's waters from "potentially harmful marine organisms", the fisheries department said in a statement sent to AFP.

The nine-deck Viking Orion, built in 2018 with a spa, theatre, sports deck and pool, left Auckland on December 23, according to the tracking website vesselfinder.com.

But the cruise ship had made no port calls since leaving the New Zealand capital Wellington on December 26, the tracker said, apparently missing scheduled stops in Christchurch, Dunedin and the Tasmanian state capital of Hobart.

After being cleaned in international waters off the South Australian state capital Adelaide, the Viking Orion was finally docking in Melbourne on Monday evening, the tracking website showed.

Viking confirmed it had to remove "a limited amount of standard marine growth" from the hull. "While the ship needed to miss several stops on this itinerary in order for the required cleaning to be conducted, she is expected to resume the current itinerary," Viking said in a statement sent to AFP.

"Viking is working directly with guests on compensation for the impact to their voyage," the company said, declining to give further details.

Yeol told top military officers during a video conference. "Our military must resolutely punish any provocation by the enemy with a firm determination that we dare to risk fighting a battle."

Senior diplomats from South Korea, the U.S. and Japan spoke by phone and agreed that provocations by North Korea would only deepen its international isolation and prompt their trilateral security cooperation. They still reaffirmed that the door to dialogue with North Korea remains open, according to the South Korean Foreign Ministry.

Since his high-stakes summit with then-President Donald Trump collapsed in 2019 due to wrangling over U.S.-led sanctions, Kim Jong Un has refused to return to talks with Washington and taken steps to enlarge his arsenal. Some observers say Kim would eventually want to make North Korea a legitimate nuclear power so as to win the lifting of international sanctions and the end of the regular U.S.-South Korean military drills that he views as a major security threat. Panda said the reference to a new ICBM appears to concern a solid-propellant system, which could be tested soon. He said a satellite launch could take place in April, a month that includes a key state anniversary.

Worries about North Korea's nuclear program have grown since the North last year approved a new law that authorized the preemptive use of nuclear weapons in a broad range of situations and openly

threatened to use its nuclear weapons first. During last week's party meeting, Kim reiterated that threat. Earlier Sunday, South Korea's military detected a short-range ballistic missile launched from the North's capital region. It said the weapon travelled about 400 kilometres (250 miles) before falling into the water between the Korean Peninsula and Japan. The U.S. Indo-Pacific Command said that the U.S. commitments to defend South Korea and Japan "remain ironclad."

North Korea test-fired more than 70 missiles last year, including three short-range ballistic missiles detected by South Korea on Saturday. The testing spree indicates the country is likely emboldened by its advancing nuclear program. Observers say the North was also able to continue its banned missile tests because China and Russia have blocked the U.S. and others from toughening U.N. sanctions at the Security Council.

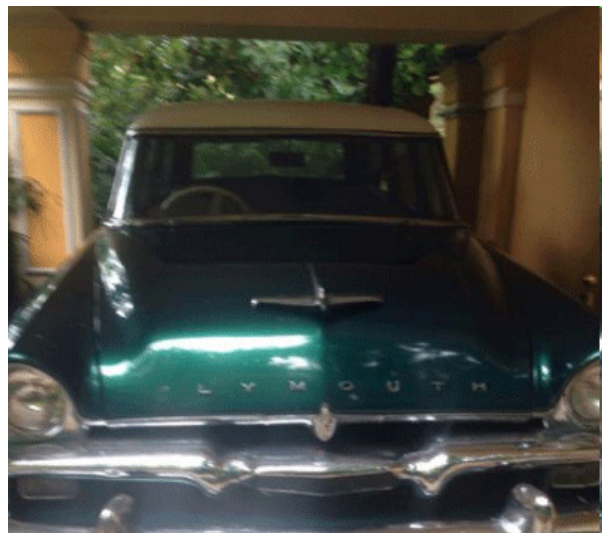
KCNA confirmed Sunday that the country conducted the test firings of its super-large multiple rocket launcher on Saturday and Sunday. Kim Jong Un said the rocket launcher puts all of South Korea within striking distance and is capable of carrying a tactical nuclear warhead, according to KCNA. "Its recent missile launches were not technically impressive. Instead, the high volume of tests at unusual times and from various locations demonstrate that North Korea could launch different types of attack, anytime, and from many directions," said Leif-Eric Easley, a professor at Ewha University in Seoul. Animosities between the rival Koreas have further deepened since early last week when South Korea accused North Korea of flying drones across their heavily fortified border for the first time in five years and responded by sending its own drones toward the North.

VA for Vintage Cars

Bhubaneswar: Good news for enthusiasts and collectors of vintage vehicles, owners of classic vehicles of more than 50 years can apply for special number plates and enjoy exemption from scrapping in Odisha.

Vintage vehicles will get fresh registration with a mark starting with VA, which will stand for 'vintage'.

With an aim to preserve and promote the heritage of vintage vehicles, the Ministry of Road



Transport and Highways (MoRTH) has made provision under CMV Rule, 1989 for the registration process of Vintage Motor Vehicles. Odisha being a State of heritage & culture is the first state to implement this provision so as to fulfil the ambition of the vehicle owner to keep such a vehicle.

Speaking on this move, Dipti Ranjan Patra, Joint Commissioner Transport, Technical said, "MoRTH has taken initiatives to discourage the use of old vehicles by introducing a scrapping policy. At the same time to preserve and promote the heritage of old vehicles in India, the Central Government has formalised the registration process of vintage motor vehicles.

The new rules shall provide salient features such as retention of old already registered vehicles with a new Vintage registration mark "VA" series (Unique Registration Mark), he said.

As per the rule, two-wheelers and four-wheelers (personal use) that are more than 50 years old from the date of their first registration (including imported vehicle) shall be defined

Akhilesh Yadav, Mayawati thank Rahul Gandhi for invite to join Bharat Jodo Yatra in UP

LUCKNOW: The Congress party's efforts of bringing non-BJP opposition parties on one platform in Uttar Pradesh ahead of the electoral trial of 2024 through its 'Bharat Jodo Yatra' do not seem to bear fruits as both the regional parties - Samajwadi Party (SP) and Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) - on Monday extended their gratitude on being invited to join UP leg of Yatra wishing it a success without clarifying their intention of joining it. Significantly, after the repeated denial by the SP chief Akhilesh Yadav and BSP chief Mayawati of having received any invitation to join the Yatra in its UP leg beginning on Tuesday, Congress party sent the formal invitation letter on behalf of party MP Rahul Gandhi to both leaders.

Congress leadership had extended invites to former UP Deputy CM Dr Dinesh Sharma, SP chief Akhilesh Yadav, RLD chief Jayant Chaudhury, BSP chief Mayawati, BSP general secretary SC Mishra, SPMLA Shivpal Yadav, Suheldev Bharatiya Samaj Party (SBSP) chief OP Rajbhar and CPI general secretary Atul Anjan to join the UP leg of its Yatra covering 110 km across three western UP district Ghaziabad, Baghpat and Shamli before entering Sonapat in Haryana via Kairana on January 5.

Meanwhile, writing the reply addressed to Rahul Gandhi, on Monday, SP chief Akhilesh Yadav thanked him for the invitation and said that he wished all the success to the Yatra.

Akhilesh continued by writing that India, beyond the geographical dimensions, was an emotion inclusive of love, non-violence, compassion, coordination and harmony.

"These are the positive elements which unite India. I hope that this Yatra will achieve its goal of preserving this inclusivity of our heritage," wrote the SP chief.

Later in the afternoon, Akhilesh Yadav shared the letter by tweeting it from his own and the party's Twitter handles.

Similarly, BSP chief Mayawati also took to Twitter to say that she was thankful for the letter inviting her to join the Yatra while extending good wishes

as Vintage Motor Vehicles.

However, only vehicles that have no substantial overhaul including modification in chassis or body shell, and/or engine will be considered as vintage.

Application for registration/re-registration will be made as per Form 20 and will be accompanied by an insurance policy, fee, bill of entry in case of imported vehicles, and old RC in case of an already registered vehicle in India.

The old certificate of registration of a motor vehicle after being registered as Vintage Motor Vehicle, will be marked as cancelled and the owner may retain such a cancelled certificate of registration for historical purposes only.

The State Registering Authority will issue a certificate of registration as per Form 23A after inspection of the vehicle and subject to the condition that the vehicle is fit & having valid PUC.

If the vehicle is approved, a fresh registration mark will be assigned to the eligible vehicles for Vintage vehicle as "XX VA YY****", where VA stands for vintage, XX stands for State Code, YY will be a two-letter series and "****" is a number from 0001 to 9999 allotted by the State Registering Authority.

Under the new law, the issue of a new certificate will cost the owner Rs 20,000 and will be valid for a period of 10 years. Subsequently, the renewal of said registration will cost the owner an additional Rs 5,000 and will be renewable for a period of 5 year.

Vintage motor vehicles shall not be driven on roads for regular/commercial purposes. A vintage motor vehicle is allowed to run on Indian roads only for display, technical research or taking part in a vintage car rally, refuelling and maintenance, exhibitions, vintage rallies, and to and fro to such exhibition or car rally.

The owner of a Vintage Motor Vehicle after assignment of Vintage number can also sell his vintage vehicle by applying for transfer of ownership of the motor vehicle and also can change his address by making application in the manner as provided under the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988.

for its success.

However, both leaders did not clear the air about their participation in the Yatra.

Earlier, RLD had made it clear that Jayant Chaudhury would not join the yatra as he would not be in India during those dates. On the other, Akhilesh had laughed off the purported invite as mere gossip and Mayawati too had denied having received it. Akhilesh had even likened the Congress with the BJP saying both were the two sides of the same coin. Akhilesh's stand led to a missive by Congress's former chief Rahul Gandhi, on Saturday, when he said that the SP lacked a national framework and it had a positioning only in UP.

However, Rahul Gandhi's statement was contradicted by the SP chief on Sunday saying his party had a national outlook and that it had been making strong political interventions in national interests.

On the other, the Congress party allowed the members of Bharatiya Kisan Union (BKU) to join the yatra which will cover the three western UP districts Ghaziabad, Baghpat and Shamli, which are considered to be BKU strongholds.

BKU national spokesman Rakesh Singh Tikait, however, ruled out his participation saying that he represents a non-political organisation and no BKU member till the level of a district chief would join the Congress Yatra while passing through UP.

Tikait accepted that he was receiving invites from Congress leadership to join the Yatra but ruled out his participation saying that initially, it was important to know Congress's policy for farmers. "We will meet Congress leaders to know their policies for farmers in Haryana on January 9," said Tikait. Tikait claimed that BKU was spearheading a movement against government policies for farmers in different states and Congress too was ruling some states like Chhattisgarh, where the farmers' movement against the Baghel government was going on. However, he added that any farmer, who had the BKU membership and wanted to join the Yatra, was free to do so.

China's approach to India same as Russia's to Ukraine: Rahul Gandhi

NEW DELHI: Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Monday said China is adopting the same principle with India as Russia is with Ukraine, as it is threatening to alter India's boundaries. He also claimed that the Sino-Indian border conflict has a link with a weak economy, a

changed as earlier, one fought on the border while now, one has to fight everywhere.

"So the single most important thing in the 21st century is that the country has internal cohesion, the Congress leader noted, adding that there needs to be harmony in the country,

people should not be fighting with each other, there should be peace and the country should have a vision. The point is not going to war, the point is going to a position where you cannot be attacked. And there is a link between a weak economy, a confused nation without vision, hatred and anger and



confused nation without any vision, hatred, anger and the Chinese sitting in Indian territory. "Essentially, what the Russians have done in Ukraine is that they have said we do not want Ukraine to have a strong relationship with the west and they have basically told the Ukrainians that if you will have a strong relationship with the west, we will alter your geography.

"That is the exact same principle that can be applied to India. What the Chinese are saying to us is that be careful with what you are doing, because we will alter your geography. We will enter Ladakh, we will enter Arunachal (Pradesh), and what I can see is them building a platform for that type of an approach," Gandhi said in a conversation with film actor-turned-politician Kamal Haasan.

The Congress leader has shared the video of his conversation with Haasan on YouTube.

Gandhi said security has become a holistic thing in the 21st century as one has to have a global view of it, adding, "I think our government has completely miscalculated it."

He also said the definition of conflict has

the Chinese sitting in our territory. Because they know we are dealing with internal matters, internal confusion and internal lack of harmony and so they can go in and do whatever they want. This is one end of the problem," he said, adding that a huge element of the problem is what has happened in Ukraine. "So as an Indian person, I do not want to be somebody who is warmongering, but I would like our country to be aware that there are real problems at the border and those problems are connected to what is going on inside our country. When Indians fights Indians, when the economy does not work, when there is joblessness, our external opponent can take advantage of this situation," Gandhi said.

He said one of the things that the leaders of various political parties are constantly asking the government is to talk about it, if not to the media, then at least to the opposition, as they understand these things. "We might be able to help you, advise you, bounce ideas. But they just do not listen. It is like the approach that we understand everything," he said.

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Recession will hit a third of the world this year, warns IMF chief

WASHINGTON(KCN): A third of the global economy will be in recession this year, the IMF chief has said, and warned that 2023 will be "tougher" than last year as the US, EU and China will see their economies slow down. Kristalina Georgieva,

Ukraine shows no signs of abating after more than 10 months, with spiralling inflation, higher interest rates and the surge in coronavirus infections in China fuelled by the Omicron variant. "We expect one-third of the world economy to

Can Ukraine pay for war without wrecking economy?"

"Even in countries that are not in recession, it would feel like a recession for hundreds of millions of people," she explained. In October last year, the IMF trimmed its growth

financial crisis and the acute phase of the COVID-19 pandemic," it said.

China has scrapped its zero Covid policy and opened its economy following a wave of anti-government protests in the country.

"For the next couple of



the chief of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) made these grim assertions on Sunday during a CBS news programme "Face the Nation."

It comes at a time when the ongoing conflict in

be in recession," Georgieva said on the news programme.

The year 2023 will be tougher than last year because the economies of the US, the EU and China will slow down, she said.

forecast for 2023.

"Global growth is forecast to slow from 6 per cent in 2021 to 3.2 per cent in 2022 and 2.7 per cent in 2023. This is the weakest growth profile since 2001 except for the global

months, it would be tough for China, and the impact on Chinese growth would be negative, the impact on the region will be negative, the impact on global growth will be negative," she added.

Rupee falls 14 paise to close at 82.75 against US dollar

MUMBAI: The rupee started the New Year on a muted note, declining 14 paise to close at 82.75 (provisional) against the US dollar on Monday as rising crude oil prices and sustained foreign fund outflows weighed on investor sentiment.

Forex traders said the support from firm domestic equities and weak American currency was negated by the gains in crude oil prices and sustained foreign fund outflows.

At the interbank foreign exchange market, the rupee opened lower at 82.66 against the greenback and witnessed an intra-day high of 82.56 and a low of 82.78.

It finally settled at 82.75, down 14 paise over its previous close.

On the last trading day of 2022, the rupee had settled at 82.61.

"The Indian rupee started the first trading day of the new year with a small loss as many markets remained closed on account of the New year Holiday. The rupee was unable to hold the morning gains in absence of inflows. The thin trading volumes, stronger domestic equities and better-than-expected PMI readings were falling short to support the rupee," said Dilip Parmar, Research Analyst, HDFC Securities.

India's manufacturing PMI hits 13-month high in December on rise in new orders, strong demand

NEW DELHI: India's manufacturing sector activity rose to a 13-month high in December, supported by healthy inflows of new business and strong demand conditions, according to a monthly survey.

The seasonally adjusted S&P Global India Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) stood at 57.8 in December, up from 55.7 in November, as business conditions improved to the greatest extent in over two years.

The December PMI data pointed to an improvement in overall operating conditions for the 18th straight month. In PMI parlance, a print above 50 means expansion while a score below 50 indicates contraction.

"Following a promising start to 2022, the Indian manufacturing industry maintained a strong performance as time progressed, wrapping the year with the best expansion in production seen since November 2021," Pollyanna De Lima, Economics Associate Director at S&P Global Market Intelligence, said.

Hiring activity was stretched to December, while more inputs were acquired as firms sought to supplement production and add to their inventories.

Demand resilience boosted sales growth in December. Panellists continued to obtain healthy inflows of new business and stepped up production to the greatest extent seen since November 2021.

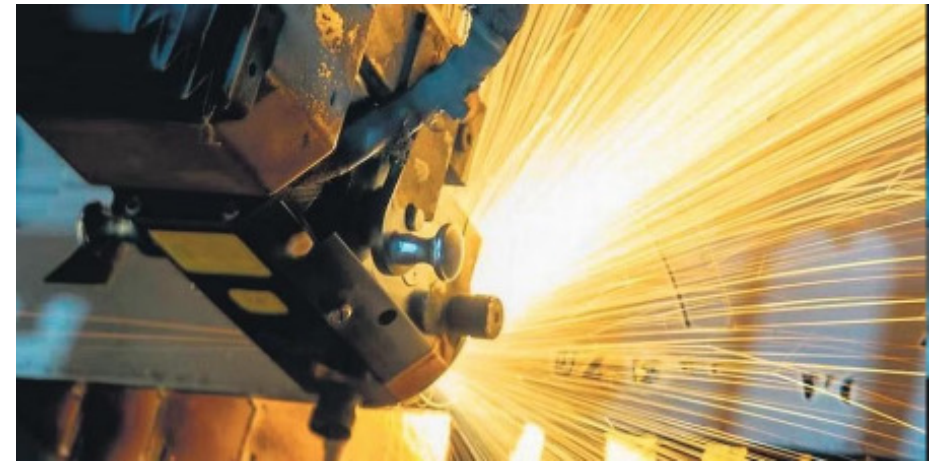
Factors that supported sales growth include, advertising, product diversification and favourable economic conditions, as per the survey.

"Less challenging supply-chain conditions also supported the upturn. Delivery times

were reportedly stable, which enabled firms to secure critical materials and boost their input stocks," Lima said.

India must focus on manufacturing, says FM On the exports front, new orders rose at the slowest pace in five months as several companies reportedly struggled to secure new work from key export markets, the report said.

On the year-ahead outlook for production, companies were optimistic. Advertising and demand buoyancy was cited as the key



opportunities for growth prospects.

"While some may question the resilience of the Indian manufacturing industry in 2023 amid a deteriorating outlook for the global economy, manufacturers were strongly confident in their ability to lift production from present levels," Lima said.

Integrated rocket design, manufacturing, testing centre to come up in Telangana

On the inflation front, cost pressures remained relatively muted in December, with the overall rate of inflation little-changed from November and the second-slowest since September 2020.

The S&P Global India Manufacturing PMI is compiled by S&P Global from responses to questionnaires sent to purchasing managers in a panel of around 400 manufacturers.

The panel is stratified by detailed sector and company workforce size, based on contributions to GDP.

Investors must brace for volatility in 2023

MUMBAI: The year 2022 will be remembered as a period when the Indian economy stood tall against global headwinds like high inflation, rising interest rates, looming global recession and geopolitical tensions. Investors could expect the new year will bring more growth opportunities and fewer challenges.

As we step into the new year, investors will need to be more vigilant in 2023 as performance of equities, bonds, gold, fixed deposits and real estate will be impacted by a plethora of global and domestic factors.

Equities

Indian equities went through a volatile phase last year but performed much better than most of its emerging peers and developed countries. When indices in other markets gave negative returns, BSE Sensex and NSE Nifty index delivered 4.4% and 4.3%, respectively in 2022. With the Indian economy set to grow more than many major economies, Indian equities are expected to generate healthy returns to investors.

World Bank predicts India to grow 6.6% in FY24. Fitch Ratings estimates India GDP to grow at 6.2% in FY24 and at 6.9% in FY25. As per the forecasts given by different analysts, the BSE Sensex is expected to reach 65,000-70,000 levels by 2023 end, while NSE Nifty is expected to reach 20,000- 23,000 by year-end.

"Nifty earnings are seen growing at around 15% CAGR in FY22-25E. This is primarily driven by improved asset quality and credit growth revival in index heavy BFSI space, pick-up in capex activity and consequent execution in capital goods domain, margins & profit recovery in auto, FMCG, metals, pharma and oil & gas space," Pankaj Pandey, Head Research, ICICI Direct told TNIE.

Domestic Institutional Investors (DIIs) are likely to be a dominant force, going forward

as well. In the last 12 months, DIIs have bought equities worth R3.1 lakh crore

Bank Fixed Deposits

Bankers will be closely watching the statements from the RBI governor this year. Driven by multiple rate hikes by the RBI last year, tighter liquidity, high credit demand and wide gap in credit and deposit growth, banks have raised rates on fixed deposits.



Banks are now offering up to 8% interest on FDs. As the RBI is expected to further hike repo rate in its next meeting in February, the rates on FDs are expected to move further up next year. However, 2023 may see the peak of FD rates as RBI is expected to pause its repo rate hike following the pause in hike by US Fed.

"Banks deposit and borrowing rates are expected to expand due to a lagged effect compared to the repo rate, strong underlying credit demand, lower liquidity in the banking system, a wide gap in credit and deposit growth and credit push by the banks in H2FY23," Sanjay Agarwal, Senior Director, Care Ratings said.

"Many of the banks have already increased their term deposit rates, and are further expected to increase, which will drive the deposit growth rate," he added.

Gold

For the yellow metal, this year may be a period to glitter as demand for yellow metal as a safe haven may rise due to geopolitical uncertainty and looming risk of recession. Experts say that concerns over weaker global economic growth and geopolitical tensions will continue to make gold valuable as a hedge against uncertainties.

"Together, with a looming recession, reasonably higher inflation, a falling dollar, and a highly uncertain geopolitical situation, gold is expected to perform well in 2023. Physical demand for gold bars and coins remains strong, spurred by ongoing inflation

concerns and geo-political and financial market risks. On the MCX, Gold may trade in a range of R48,500-60,000/10 grams," said Kotak Securities in its recent report.

Bonds

In a year which saw rising repo rate, bond prices fell and yields rose. With interest rates likely to see their peak and could moderate going ahead, 2023 may be the good time to invest and lock in money at a higher rate. Investors looking to diversify their investment portfolio can look at debt mutual funds, experts say.

"Bond yields are expected to remain range bound as a combination of growth driven stimulus and base effect vie to balance inflation and supply chain disruptions," Nachiketh Naik, Head - Corporate Lending, Arka Fincap- a non-bank finance company. Analysts expect India's benchmark 10-year

bond yields to be around 7.59- 7.71% by the end of this year.

Real Estate

After witnessing strong demand from home buyers last year, the real estate sector is expected to continue the growth momentum this year. However, the extent of repo rate hike, which will force banks to hike home loan rates, will be a crucial factor to watch out during this year.

"Housing sales remained upbeat throughout 2022, and the current sales momentum will sustain at least into the first quarter of 2023," Anuj Puri, Chairman of real estate consultancy firm Anarock said.

"Thereafter, much will depend on forces other than the desire for homeownership, such as additional repo rate hikes and property price increase," he added.

Crystal Ball Gazing

65,000-70,000 Expected level of BSE Sensex by end of 2023

20,000- 23,000 Expected level of NSE Nifty by end of 2023

7.59- 7.71% Expected yield on 10-year Indian government bond by 2023 end

6.6% World Bank's forecast for India's GDP growth in FY24

L48,500-60,000 Expected trading range for gold (per 10gm) on MCX in 2023

4-8% Interest rates offered by banks on FDs Rs 3.1 lakh cr Equities bought by Domestic Institutional Investors in 2022

Factors that will affect different asset classes

Impact of high interest rates on demand cycle and corporate earnings

Stance of US Fed and RBI on inflation and growth

Severity of recession in global economy

Flare up in Russia- Ukraine war

Quantum of rate hikes by RBI

Liquidity in banking system and credit growth

BCCI shortlists 20 players for 2023 ICC Men's World Cup

New Delhi: The BCCI has shortlisted 20 players who will be part of 2023 Men's World Cup. At the review meeting with the brain trust of Indian cricket, the BCCI has decided that these players will be rotated so that proper preparation is ensured before the 2023 World Cup, which will be held in India.

In attendance for the meeting were Rahul Dravid, skipper Rohit Sharma, chief selector Chetan Sharma and NCA head VVS Laxman, all of whom brainstormed for nearly four hours in a city hotel in Mumbai and arrived at key decisions, including prioritising bilateral and international cricket. BCCI president Roger

Binny attended the meeting through video conferencing.

"It was a very constructive and fruitful meeting where we have reviewed the past performance and planned for the future events, including World Cup and World Test Championship (WTC). We will give preference for international cricket while making sure the IPL is not diluted," a BCCI source, who attended the meeting, said.

"The issues of player availability, workload management and fitness parameters were also discussed at length during the meeting along with the roadmap to the ICC Cricket World Cup

2023," the BCCI said.

Among the decisions taken, BCCI said that the National Cricket Academy (NCA) will "work in tandem with the IPL Franchisee to monitor the targeted Indian players participating in the IPL 2023", emphasizing the unit as the nodal centre for the fitness of Indian players.

There will also be no compromise on the fitness aspect with Yo-Yo test being the chief criteria. "The Yo-Yo Test and Dexa will now be part of selection criteria and implemented in the customized roadmaps of the central pool of players," the BCCI said in a statement after the meeting.



The fact that the meeting was convened on the very first day of the new year is indicative of the sense of urgency and seriousness towards the team and its engagements for the year. The failure to reach the final of the Asia Cup and Twenty20 World Cup last year, and the 10-wicket defeat to England in the semifinal in Australia, have been viewed with utmost seriousness, and the think tank wants to make sure there is no repetition of such results in this year's World Cup, which India will be hosting.

The focus of the think tank will be on the players taking part in the IPL. The BCCI said it

will work in tandem with the IPL franchises to monitor the targeted Indian players participating in IPL 2023, effectively stating that it will control the participation of Indian players in the league. More specifically, the NOC for the important players, rather bowlers, will be given with conditions attached like other boards do. The franchises will be requested, if not instructed, to use the targeted players in such a way that these players are not fully exposed to the wear and tear of the league, which can be quite gruelling for a cricketer if one combines the workload with frequent travel.

Nurul worried as fractured finger hasn't healed even post surgery

New Delhi: Bangladesh's wicket-keeper batsman Nurul Hasan is concerned about his cricketing future over uncertainty around when his once fractured index finger will heal completely despite undergoing surgery for the same. Nurul, who was appointed as skipper of the Bangladesh T20I side on the tour of Zimbabwe, injured his finger during the second T20I against the hosts at Harare and was subsequently ruled out of that tour as well as from the Asia Cup that followed.

Nurul underwent surgery in Singapore to recover from the injury, where a closed reduction and pinning procedure was performed by hand surgeon Dr Anthony Foo at the Raffles Hospital. He then made himself available for the T20 tri-series in New Zealand ahead of the T20 World Cup and continued to play thereafter but hasn't been pain free. It took a



real toll on him during the second Test against India where he had to take suppository to play the game due. "As far as the state of injured finger is concerned, I have taken an injection after the last match (second Test against India) and that injection was a pain reliever," Nurul told Cricbuzz on Sunday. "After that injection it (injured finger) is still numb and if stays this way it is ok but after the reaction of the injection gets over the pain might increase," a worried Nurul said.

"I played the Test

series with suppository because there was huge pain and I was unable to do anything. Whenever the ball hit my left hand it was giving some kind of a shock so I was taking even the left side ball with my right hand. Let's see I have had the injection and it is expected to have a reaction for couple of months and it (my finger) might get better," he added.

Nurul revealed that he now has doubts about the surgery and if it was the right thing and that he is now living on a hope and prayer that the ordeal

ends soon. "At the moment there is nothing I can do and there is no option for me. I am not sure whether doing the surgery was wrong or bad," he said. "Now I might be feeling that if I hadn't done the surgery it would have been good. On the other hand it could have got worse if I did not do the surgery."

Meanwhile, the medical department of the Bangladesh Cricket Board confirmed to Cricbuzz that the recent pain-reliever injection was given as per the instruction of the surgeon and that they are hoping the best for him. "We had a routine check and as per the suggestion of the surgeon we had given him an injection. We are not sure whether he will need further injection or not because we will update the surgeon about his development and he (surgeon) will decide the next course of action," said the medical official of BCB.

Blair Tickner replaces 'under-prepared' Milne in ODI squad

New Delhi: Blair Tickner has replaced Adam Milne in the New Zealand squad for ODIs against Pakistan and India. The decision to draft in Tickner was made after Milne expressed concerns about his preparation for the back-to-back away series.

Milne finished the series against India with a tight hamstring and subsequently missed two games of the Ford Trophy for Wellington Firebirds. Despite coming back for two Super Smash games in December, the prospect of playing six ODI games across 16 days was considered too much of a risk.

A decision, by mutual agreement, was therefore



made to replace Milne with Central Stags' Tickner, who is already over in Pakistan with the Test team.

"Adam was very up front with us about his concerns around the lack of one-day bowling loading for the upcoming tours," chief selector Gavin Larsen said. "After chatting to him, we agreed his

preparation leading into the tour wouldn't be sufficient for him to cope with the demands of back-to-back, three-game ODI series.

"We appreciate his honesty and his genuine desire not to let the team down. Blair's skills at bowling through the middle and his ability to hit the pitch hard make him a

similar prospect to what Adam offered us. The fact he's already in Pakistan experiencing the conditions is an added bonus."

New Zealand's ODI squad will depart for Pakistan on January 4, play all three games in Karachi on January 9, 11 and 13 before heading out to India for ODIs on January 18, 21 and 24.



2023-2024



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