

Covid Study in School Syllabus

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Odisha, the State



As Covid-19 situation still continues in Government is planning to include

Covid-19 management and climatic change in class 10 syllabus from 2022-23 academic session. This was informed by School and Mass Education Minister Samir Ranjan Dash here on Sunday. "We have already witnessed three waves of Covid-19 pandemic and there are talks about the fourth wave. To keep the students aware about the Covid-19 and make them mentally prepared for the future, topics on Covid-19 will be included in class x syllabus" Mr.Dash told media persons.

Similarly, climate change has emerged as a global threat. To make students aware, topics on climatic change will be included in the class x syllabus, he said. The Minister further informed that pre-Covid syllabus will be adopted in the ensuing academic year. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic situation, the syllabus was reduced to 75 per cent in the previous year. But, from the current academic session, 100 per cent syllabus of class x students will be covered and the Matric examination will be conducted accordingly, he added.

Trinity on Gold Cover

Puri(KCN): Beating humidity, lakhs of devotees thronged to the pilgrim town Puri to witness the majestic Suna Besha of the Trinity on their re-

the idols of Lord Balabhadra, Lord Jagannath and Devi Subhadra atop the chariot. The ritual, which is also called Rajadhiraja Besha,

Balabhadra is decorated with a gold plough in his left hand and silver mace in the right hand. Devi Subhadra is also prettily adorned with her

Chadra-Surya, Allaka, Odiani, Chandrika and Tadaki.

This morning, rituals such as Abakasha, Mangala Alati and Mailama Tadapa Lagi were carried out. Other major rituals such as Sandhya Alati, Madhayna Dhoopa, and Gopalballava were carried out before Suna Besha.

The Holy Trinity has completed their nine-day journey to Shree Gundicha temple. They will return to Srimandir the day after tomorrow. The Trinity would spend two more nights on their chariots. On Monday, they would be offered 'Adharpana', a special holy drink. Meanwhile, elaborate security arrangements were made with deployment of a large number of police personnel to regulate vehicular traffic from Pipili.



spective chariots on Sunday evening. Gold ornaments weighing around 200 kg were brought from the temple treasury to the chariots by servitors amid tight security at around 4 pm.

It took almost two hours for the special servitors to decorate

performed smoothly. Mahaprabhu along with his siblings will give darshan on Suna Besha till 11 PM. During Suna Besha ritual, Lord Jagannath is adorned with a Chakra made of gold in his right hand and a silver conch in his left hand. Lord

best golden and diamond ornaments. The other ornaments that the Trinity adorn are Harida Kadamba mali and Baghanakhi mali, only for Lord Jagannath, Kiritta, Ears, Bahada mali, Tabija mali or garlands, Kadamba mali, Sebati mali and Tilaka, Adakani,

Why Sri Lanka's economy collapsed and what's next for the island nation

COLOMBO(KCN): Sri Lanka's prime minister said late last month that the island nation's debt-laden economy had "collapsed" as it runs out of money to pay for food and fuel.

Short of cash to pay for imports of such ne-

On Saturday both he and President Gotabaya Rajapaksa agreed to resign amid mounting pressure from protesters who stormed both their residences and set fire to one of them. Sri Lankans are skipping meals as they endure shortages and lining up for hours to try



cessities and already defaulting on its debt, it is seeking help from neighbouring India and China and from the International Monetary Fund. Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe, who took office in May, was emphasising the monumental task he faced in turning around an economy he said was heading for "rock bottom."

Ukraine: Six dead after rocket hits five-story apartment in Chasiv Yar

KYIV(KCN): Russian rockets hit the eastern Ukraine town of Chasiv Yar, destroying a five-story



apartment building and killing at least six people, the region's governor said Sunday. Pavlo Kyrylenko, governor of the Donetsk region, said about three dozen people could be trapped in the rubble. Rescuers have made contact with two people who are under the wreckage, he said on the Telegram messaging app.

Kyrylenko said the town of about 12,000 was hit by Uragan rockets, which are fired from truck-borne systems. Chasiv Yar is about 20 kilometres (12 miles) southeast of Kramatorsk, a city that is

to buy scarce fuel.

It's a harsh reality for a country whose economy had been growing quickly, with a growing and comfortable middle class, until the latest crisis deepened.

HOW SERIOUS IS THIS CRISIS?

The government owes USD 51 billion and is unable to make interest payments on its loans, let alone put a dent in

CONTINUED ON: P-7

expected to be a major target of Russian forces as they grind westward.

The Donetsk region is one of two provinces along with Luhansk that make up the Donbas region, where separatist rebels have fought Ukrainian forces since 2014. Last week, Russia captured the city of Lysychansk, the last major stronghold of Ukrainian resistance in Luhansk.

Russian forces are raising true hell in the Donbas, despite assessments they were taking an operational pause, Luhansk governor Serhiy Haidai said on Saturday.

After the seizure of Lysychansk, some analysts predicted Moscow's troops likely would take some time to rearm and regroup.

"But so far there has been no operational pause announced by the enemy. He is still attacking and shelling our lands with the same intensity as before," Haidai said. He later said the Russian bombardment of Luhansk was suspended because Ukrainian forces had destroyed ammunition depots and barracks used by the Russians.

Congress to hold press conferences across India to 'expose' BJP

New Delhi(KCN): Seeking to corner the ruling BJP over the issue of terror and its alleged links with terrorists, the Congress will on Saturday hold a series of press conferences in 22 cities across the country.

Congress leaders said the aim is to counter the BJP's "fake nationalism claims" and to take the message to the

grassroots level that the ruling party has



"connections" with individuals who have indulged in heinous crimes and terror

acts. "Today, 22 of our se-

nior leaders and spokespersons will hold press conferences in 22 cities to

expose the "links of terrorists with BJP", Congress general secretary Jairam Ramesh said in a tweet in Hindi, alleging that "evidence of terrorists having links with the BJP has come out". "The BJP has links with terrorists, what is this relationship called?? he posed in the tweet. The Congress has

Shinde, Fadnavis meet Modi in Delhi

Mumbai/New Delhi(KCN): Maharashtra chief minister Eknath Shinde on Saturday asserted that the "Shiv Sena-BJP alliance" government will complete its tenure and will win the next Assembly election as well. Mr Shinde, along with Maharashtra deputy chief

Pawar had predicted that the Shinde-led government may fall in the next six months.

The Maharashtra chief minister and his deputy are on tour in New Delhi since Friday. Both of them also met the Prime Minister at the latter's residence in New Delhi. In their first



meeting after the new government assumed office in the state, both leaders sought his "blessings and guidance" for the development of Maharashtra. "The chief minister of Maharashtra Shri Eknath Shinde and the deputy chief minister Shri Devendra Fadnavis called on Prime Minister

Narendra Modi," the Prime Minister's Office said on Twitter.

Earlier, addressing a press conference in New Delhi, Mr Shinde said he would try and understand the Prime Minister's vision for the development of the

CONTINUED ON: P-7

Combined Installation Ceremony of Rotary Family Khordha

Khordha (KCN): Rotary Club Khordha, Inner Wheel Club & Rotract Club installed new President, Secretary & new members were also inducted to the club during the installation ceremony held at Rotary Club Khordha. The chief

and enhance Rotary brandings. While highlights the need to organise necessary activities towards the well beings of people and protection of the environment, she reminded that the club leadership should attend important district event to fulfill the criteria in order

and common people, Dr. Gangadhar Paramaguru and Dr. Suryakanta Patjoshi. The outgoing President of Khordha Rotary club announced the name of incoming President Sourya Ranjan Mohanty, Secretary Rudra Narayan Dutta and informed the new of-

Priya brata Rout, Debi Prasad Das were present on this occasions. Secretary & Working President of Inner Wheel Club Mrs. Swayan Prava Pattnaik installed the new President after summarising the work and wide range of activities under-



guest of the occasions up coming Governor of 3262 Rotary District Mrs. Jayashree Mohanty said that "the club to observed Rotary Day of service by undertaking joint initiative of community based projects on a single day with clubs located within the district or other district

to qualify which is mandatory to avail grants. Meanwhile she lauded the outgoing President and his teams for leading the club in the most crucial period. In this occasions the Chief guest Mrs. Mohanty felicitated two renowned doctor of this soil for his outstanding contributions of the society

vice bearers would serve the club till the month of July next year. P. P. Rotarians & MLA, Khordha, Joytrindra Nath Mitra, Sabya Sachi Chakroborty, Tapas Bose, Deba Prasad Majumdar and others, Inner Wheel Club Members Dr. Mamata Dey, Rotract Club members Smruti Ranjan Sahoo,

taken during her stint and thanked everybody who worked towards the vision of together we can. The new President of Rotract Club Lokesh Nayak and Secretary Debi Prasad Das introduced his new teams. Some of the guests along with other dignitaries were also present.

Cricket Icon Mithali Raj, Actress Taapsee Pannu & Srijit Mukherji promote Shabaash Mithu at Eden Gardens in Kolkata

Kolkata(KCN): Viacom18 Studios'

with the national award winning Direc-

dens is one of the warmest homes of

Pannu adds, "It feels surreal kicking off our city trail from here. I have watched many matches here but never imagined that I would be standing here for a movie. It's a different feeling, knowing and understanding the history and the importance of this space to the sport." Filmmaker and a true cricket lover, Srijit Mukherji is overjoyed as he adds, "I feel it's only apt to start this innings from my home ground. It's heart-



much anticipated film Shabaash Mithu based on the life of iconic cricketer Mithali Raj is releasing on 15th July.

tor Srijit Mukherji

cricket and it is my



As the film is nearing its release date, the team of Shabaash Mithu is leaving no stone unturned to promote the film. Taapsee Pannu, Mithali Raj along

visited Eden Gardens, in Kolkata to promote their film and kickstarted their city promotion. On the visit legendary cricketer Mithali Raj says, "Eden Gar-

absolute pleasure to be here! Playing here has been an honour and it feels humbling, being here today for Shabaash Mithu." Power-house Performer, Taapsee

warming and an honour." Produced by Viacom18 Studios and directed by Srijit Mukherji, the film releases on 15th July.

New Delhi's Hauz Khas Temple hosts Bahuda Yatra

New Delhi(KCN): 44th Bahuda Yatra Festival celebrated at the main Jagannath Temple of the National Capital Region at Hauz Khas village in New Delhi amidst fanfare and spiritual fervour. Commencing from the wee hours in the morning all the religious rituals were performed in utmost solemnity by the priests of the temple. At about 3.30 p.m. the Four Deities were taken in Pahandi procession from the Aunt's house situated at the basement of the temple to the aesthetically and colourfully decorated chariot stationed at the Grand Road in front of the temple. With the recitals of

the Royal Chariot during their sojourn on the street of Delhi was momentous and mesmerising. The Deities remained on the chariot for Public viewing till night. At around 10.00 p.m. all the Four Deities were taken to the Natyamandap. As informed by the Temple management Committee Deities will remain at Natyamandap till the date of Niladribije. Since today was a holiday in Delhi and the climate was cloudy and pleasant, around 20,000 spectators were congregated at Hauz Khas Village to witness the holy



hymns, shouting of slogans like Hari Bol, Jai Jagannath and playing of musical instruments like Ghanta, Mardala, Jhanja and Mrudanga, Renowned Philanthropist and Secretary of the temple management Committee Shri Neelachal Seva Sangha Rabintra Nath Pradhan conducted the traditional sweeping of the chariot called Chherra Pahanra. After that amidst the Kirtan and singing of Bhajans and Jananas the chariot was pulled till Shri Aurobindo Place market in the Shri Jagannath Marg by the devotees and then was returned back to the temple premises around evening. The view of the Trinity in a majestic style from

Festival. The entire arrangement was well managed and smoothly executed by the core team of the temple management Committee, which include Secretary Rabintra Nath Pradhan and members like Abhaya Pradhan, Ashok Pradhan (A), Khirod Patra, Gajendra Samanta, Abhiram Sutar, Ashok Pradhan (B), Jitendra Mohapatra, Ajay Pradhan, Pankaj Mohanty, Nishidha Kumar Das, Rankanidhi Sahoo, Bijay Sahoo, Bighneshwar Rout, Dillip Kumar Swain, Kishore Samal, Amulya Ojha, Sukanta Sahu and Manager of Temple Rashmiranjan Behera.

IEC Stall of DCPU, Puri exhibited CCI Inmate's Creativity

Puri (KCN): An IEC stall by District Child Protection Unit (DCPU), Puri has

etc. DCPO Sri Manoj Kumar Tripathy says that the Stall will open till Bahudayatra

etc provided to the adolescent children residing in CCIs. In leisure period, such children were prepared number of attractive products like; pencil soft man, earrings, coir house, crocodile, paper fan, chariots etc which was displayed in the IEC stall. It was also attracted customers to purchase. The adolescent inmates of Utkal Balashram, Nilachal Seva Pratisthan, Adruta Children's Home, Acharya Harihar Sishu Bhawan, Draupadi Mahila Samiti are prepared these items under the guidance of respective care givers. Every year this stall has been opened for public during Rathayatra since last 8yrs. Mr. Mahavir Rudranarayan Sahoo, Chairperson, Child Welfare Committee, Puri appreciated the collaborative effort all stakeholders and conveyed best wished for a bright future of the children.



been opened for awareness on Child Protection in Pallishree Mela Ground during Rathayatra 2022. Every Day the staff of DCPU are creating awareness among public on different aspects of Child Protection laws, schemes, system functioning for care and protection of children, legal adoption, production of mission children

and we are providing the service in the mela for 9days. But creativity of children residing in Child Care Institutions of Puri district has been displayed to inspiring and encouraging them towards skill development. With help of Handicraft Department and NGOs working for skill up gradation through various types of training like; coir craft, quelling paper craft, soft toy making

Death toll in Amarnath cloudburst rises to 16; 15,000 stranded pilgrims evacuated New Delhi/ Srinagar(KCN): At least 16 people have been killed while 15,000 pilgrims, who were stranded near the Amarnath holy cave in Jammu and Kashmir due to a flash flood triggered by a cloudburst, have been shifted to the lower base camp of Panjtarni, officials said Saturday. A Border Security Force spokesperson in Delhi said "16 bodies have been shifted to Baltal." The ITBP has expanded its route opening and protection parties from the lower part of the holy cave up to Panjtarni, a spokesperson of the force said. The pilgrimage that began on June 30 has been suspended following the tragedy and a decision on its resumption will be taken after rescue operations get over, a senior administration official had said. "Most of the pilgrims, who were stranded near the holy cave shrine area due to the flash flood that occurred Friday evening, have been shifted to Panjtarni. The evacuation continued till 3.38 am. A small BSF team is also deployed at the Neelgrath helipad to assist the pilgrims coming from the cave shrine. About 150 pilgrims stayed at the BSF camp set up in Panjtarni on Friday night and 15 patients have been airlifted to Baltal on Saturday morning, he said. A Mi-17 chopper of the BSF's air wing has been pressed into service apart from similar assets of the Army.

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WATCH 'Manikarnika' trailer: This Kangana Ranaut-starrer looks like bits from a Bhansali product



MUMBAI(KCN): Finally it comes. The trailer of the beleaguered historical "Manikarnika - The Queen Of Jhansi" brings to us a furious, ferocious and feral Kangana Ranaut, who tells the 'gora log', "We both want Jhansi. But you want to rule. I want to serve." Well, precisely. The Rani Of Jhansi was passionately dedicated to her

kingdom. I don't see much of that dedication in the trailer. Much of it is devoted to displaying its leading lady's skills on horses and with swords. The trailer gives us an epic primer on 'Kangana Rides The Horse', 'Kangana Swats The Enemy', 'Kangana Bays For Blood', so on and so forth. There is so much of the talented ac-

triss' efforts to appear queenly, the trailer barely offers a glimpse of the impressive supporting cast, namely Danny Denzongpa, Atul Kulkarni, Suresh Oberoi and others who flit by in this steamroller view of a woman warrior's day-out binge. Threadbare thunder in a fancy teacup. Alarmingly and annoyingly, the film

wears a thick and heavy Sanjay Leela Bhansali hangover. In the way the camera zooms in and pans the long stretches of the battle scenes, I was taken back to Bhansali's "Bajirao Mastani". In fact one of Kangana's derring-do in a battle sequence here, she gambols over her army to strike was a move identical to Ranveer Singh's in

"Bajirao Mastani". ALSO READ: Ready to do a good movie down south, says actress Kangana Ranau So is Kangana's Jhansi Ki Rani, Bajirao or Mastani or both? It's a highly derivative world created by people who seem to have the resources but not the vision. We could do with a lot more chutzpah when recre-

ating such an important chapter from Indian history. It's not all a wash-out, though. Kangana seems to convey sufficient fire and elasticity. Her accent is a downer, though. This is the way the trailer moves: uplifting one moment down to being a disappointment the next. Let's hope the film is not as uneven in tone.

When Julia Roberts realised she was famous

LOS ANGELES (KCN): Actress Julia Roberts, 51, revealed that the first time she realised she was famous was when she was in a bathroom stall at age 21 and a fan asked her for an autograph. The actress had just starred in the 1988 film "Mystic Pizza" at the time of her bathroom encounter.

The Oscar-winner told the story during an appearance on an episode of a podcast, reports dailymail.co.uk. ALSO READ: 'Ben Is Back' film review She had her fame awakening after returning home to Georgia to visit her mother and younger sister. The three caught a movie and

Roberts stopped by the bathroom afterward. "It was after the movie was over and I was in the bathroom and there was a woman in the bathroom who said, 'Hey, girl in stall number one, were you in 'Mystic Pizza?'" she said. The pushy fan proceeded to slip something under the stall and asked the "Mystic Pizza" star to sign it.

Hansika in Mohanlal's next Tamannaah Bhatia and Shruti Hassan are the new gal pals

It seems Mohanlal-B to @Hansika for her While Rockline



Unnikrishnan team's untitled film is getting bigger and bigger. After Vishal and Srikanth, another popular south star Hansika Motwani will be making her Mollywood debut through the film. The update was announced by the director himself on his official Facebook page. "I wish great luck

new release Bogan. She will have a very special appearance in my Mohanlal film produced by Mr Rockline Venkatesh," posted Unnikrishnan. According to the director, who had last teamed up with Mohanlal for Mr Fraud, VFX and special effects will have a lot of importance in the the big budget project.

Tamannaah Bhatia has been bonding with her contemporary Shruti Hassan.

talk everyday due to their busy schedules, but they always make sure to make time on

for Shruti. Tamannaah says, "Shruti is a sweetheart and a dear



for a while now. Tamannaah chose to take some time out last week to meet her new BFF Shruti Hassan to celebrate her birthday. According to a source close to Tamannaah says. "Tamannaah and Shruti share a special bond, the two actresses may not be able to

each other's birthdays. Shruti Hassan, who celebrated her birthday couple of days ago with close friends, had Tamannaah as one of her special guests. It is said that Tamannaah makes it a point to not miss her friend's special day at any cost. She had also brought a special gift

friend. Since we both have tight schedules, we don't get much time to spend with each other the rest of the year, so I needed to be at her birthday party so that I could be with her. I have been attending her birthday since the last three years and making sure to be with her on her special day."

Income Tax Return forms for asst. year 2022-23-Part 2

(Contd. from 4th July, 2022)

1. Re: Audit Report: As per proviso to amended Rule 12(2), if an assessee is required to furnish a report of audit specified u/s 10(23C)(iv)/(v)/(vi) or (via); section 10A, 10AA, 12A(1)(b), 44AB, 44DA, 50B, 80-IA, 80-IB, 80-IC, 80-ID, 80JJA, 80LA, 92E or 115JB, 115JC or 115VW or to give a notice u/s 11(2)(a), he shall furnish the same electronically within the prescribed due dates/ specified dates.

2. Papers not required to accompany ITR: Rule 12(2) provides that the return of income required to be furnished in Form Sahaj (ITR-1) or Form No. ITR-2 or Form No. ITR-3 or Form Sugam (ITR-4) or Form No. ITR-5 or Form No. ITR-6 or Form No. ITR-7 shall not be accompanied by a statement showing computation of tax payable on the basis of the return, or proof of tax if any, claimed to have been deducted or collected at source or the advance tax or tax on self-assessment, if any, claimed to have been paid or any document or copy of any account or form etc. The audit report or other reports are separately required to be furnished electronically within respective due dates/ specified dates.

3. If E-Return is filed without digital signature or where the signature is not authenticated through Aadhar Card number or net banking password then ITR V is to be sent: If E-Return is filed without digital signature, or transmitting the data in the return electronically under electronic verification code, or where the signature is not authenticated through Aadhar Card number or net banking password in specified manner, then in such a case the assessee is required to send ITR V, within 120 days (or extended period) from the date of uploading of the electronic return data, duly signed by the assessee Ordinary Post or by Speed Post to Centralized Processing Centre (CPC), Income Tax Department, Post Bag No. 1, Electronic City Post Office, Bengaluru - 560 100 (Karnataka). However, in cases where email acknowledgement for ITR-V form is not received by the taxpayer from CPC Bengaluru, the taxpayer may send another duly signed ITR-V form by ordinary post or by speed post to Centralized Processing Centre (CPC).

4. Specified mode of filing IT Returns for various category of taxpayers: Rule 12 of the Income Tax Rules, 1962 prescribes Income Tax returns (ITR forms) for various categories of taxpayers. The following persons are required to furnish its return of income electronically with digital signature:

- (i) Individual or HUF liable for tax audit u/s 44AB
- (ii) Firm or LLP liable for tax audit

Letter to Editor

Exceptional rescuers

All supplications are for travellers of the Amarnath who may be stranded during journeying or present at the sacred cave where flashflood cleared out a dangerous path. This pilgrimage is a strenuous one and given the scope of natural calamities, the state and central regime and shrine board has made a lot of changes in the original way of holding the pilgrimage and also set up facilities for journey. All these facilities like hospitals at the base camps have come handy in minimizing the casualties and also helping the injured in time. Flash Floods due to cloudburst are so common in hilly areas and can't be speculated. Even though the trip has been put on hold and the casualties are still being determined, one can understand the difficulty the pilgrims' families are having since cellular phone networks don't operate in these wilderness and inaccessible locations. While the loss of lives, which is still being calculated, breaks our hearts, we cannot ignore the efforts made by the security forces, to save lives and move the elderly and injured to higher ground for safety. Along with saving lives, the state and national disaster rescue forces prompt action gave the pilgrims more assurance according to reports are genuinely appreciable. The injured are being transported by helicopter to the base hospitals. Following the relentless torrential rain two and half decades back that claimed the lives of several pilgrims, the most recent plans for rescue in an emergency has been improved a lot. To prevent crowding at the rest stops along the way, the number of pilgrims moving from base camps to the cave is likewise staggered. Overall rescuers are at their best to save pilgrims from natural calamities according to recent reports by press.

Vijaykumar H.K. Raichur

u/s 44AB
(iii)
Company
(iv) Political party

Narayan Jain

Assessee having total income exceeding Rs. 5 lakhs; Charitable Trusts, Societies and various Institutions etc. having gross income exceeding exemption limit and other assessee, who are required to furnish their return of income electronically, they may file the same without digital signature but have to send ITR V after due signature to CPC within prescribed time. It has been provided that in certain cases, ITR can be e-filed and it can be authenticated through Aadhar Card number or net banking password in specified manner.

However, an individual exceeding the age of 80 years anytime during the previous year and furnishing return in Form ITR 1 (Sahaj) or ITR 4 Sugam; may file its return of income manually.

5. Disclosure of immovable and movable assets in case of High Net worth Individuals in Income tax Return: As per Return Forms ITR 3 and ITR 4, a separate disclosure format (Schedule AL), has been included in the said income tax return forms for the following:

- (i) Immovable Assets:
 - (a) Land
 - (b) Building
- (ii) Movable Assets:
 - (a) Financial Assets:
 - (b) Deposits in Bank (including balance in any account)
 - (c) Shares and securities
 - (d) Insurance policies
 - (e) Loans and Advances given
 - (f) Cash in hand
 - (iii) Jewellery, bullion etc.
 - (iv) Archaeological collections, drawings, painting, sculpture or any work of art
 - (v) Vehicles, yachts, boats and aircrafts

In case of an individual: Interest held in the assets of a Firm or AOP as a partner or member thereof partner

Total of assets is to be mentioned: After total of assets, liability in relation to above Assets are also required to be mentioned. It may be noted that details of those Assets and Liabilities are required to be mentioned at the end of the year which are

not included in Part A-BS of the Return. It is advisable to fill up the

details of assets as may be required in the respective Return forms for concerned assessment year. Please refer Return forms as revised from time to time.

6. If assessee fails to rectify the defect within the permitted time, it can rectify the same any time before the completion of assessment: The assessee can rectify defect in its Return any time before completion of assessment, as per CBDT Directive F. No. System/ITBA/CASS/Defective returns/17 -18 dated 12th December 2017 which reads as under:-

1. During CASS Cycle 2016, some of the returns of income which earlier were treated as defective as per provision of section 139(9) of Income Tax Act, 1961 ('Act') either for the reason that the taxes as per the return were not paid or for any other reason specified therein were also selected for scrutiny.

2. The proviso to section 139(9) of the Act states that-

"Provided that where the assessee rectifies the defect after the expiry of the said period of fifteen days or the further period allowed, but before the assessment is made, the Assessing Officer may condone the delay and treat the return as a valid return."

As per proviso to section 139(9), an assessee can rectify the defects till the time assessment order is passed provided the delay in complying with notice u/s 139(9) of the Act is condoned by the AD. Therefore, to regularize proceedings in scrutiny cases where assessee has already removed the defects as specified u/s 139(9), in such cases under scrutiny, before passing the assessment order u/s 143(3) AO shall condone the delay in removing the defects by the assessee u/s 139(9) and consider such returns as valid.

3. In pending cases as on date, where the defect specified u/s 139(9) of the Act has not been rectified by the assessee, the AO would be required to immediately initiate proceedings u/s 144 of the Act by issuing

a show-cause as per the first proviso to that section after taking a view that assessee has failed to make a return u/s 139(1)/139(4)/139(5) of the Act. However, if assessee, till the date of passing assessment order by the AO, rectifies the defect u/s 139(9) in the return, such cases would also be dealt with in the manner specified in para 2 above and AO would also proceed to pass order u/s 143(3) of the Act in those cases. However, in returns, where defect is not removed by the assessee till the time of passing assessment order, proceeding in those cases would be concluded by passing order u/s 144 of the Act.

4. In view of the above decision, AO is required to take following steps where assessee has not yet responded to defective return notice u/s 139(9) of the Act-

(i) The AO will intimate the assessee about the defective status of return and ask him to rectify the defects through the E-filing portal or communicate it to the AO. Simultaneously proceedings u/s 144 of the Act would also be initiated in these cases.

(ii) If the defects as specified are removed, the AO will treat the return as valid and proceed accordingly.

(iii) If the defects are not removed and return remains invalid, the AO will proceed to pass order u/s 144 of the IT Act as if no return was filed by the assessee. However, all the steps pre-requisite for passing order u/s 144 of the Act are required to be followed scrupulously by him.

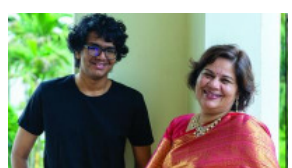
7. Whether AO can pass an order u/s 139(9) treating the return as invalid and non-est without issuing notice: As per sec. 139(9), in case of defective return, the AO must issue a notice to the assessee asking to rectify the defect within the prescribed time. The issue of notice is sine qua non for passing order under sec 139(9) -**Shaik Madar Amanulla v. ITO [2020] 113 taxmann.com 531 (Kar), DCIT v. Husco Hydraulics (P) Ltd. [2019] 110 taxmann.com 388 (Pune - Trib).**

(Contd.)

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

Doodling her way to a stress-free life

Long meetings, sifting through dozens of files and multitasking are par for the course for T K Sreedevi. But despite the stress that goes with the territory, the Secretary, Finance Department, Government of Telanagana, is always smiling and focused.



Swati Sharma

Development from the International Crop Research Institute for Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT). She thoroughly enjoyed the research work, she says. It was similar to childbirth and early parenting, according to her.

"Work-life balance is critical. I joined the service 22 years ago and have a knack for balancing both," says the bureaucrat. Except when she was the District Collector of Mahabubnagar (a large district with 14 Assembly Constituencies and 2 Parliamentary Constituencies), the IAS officer never had a problem with time management. "I've always believed in using IT to improve governance and monitoring," says the 2004-batch bureaucrat.

She was able to meet professional demands thanks to time management, work delivery planning, and the use of technology. As Collector, she digitised Prajavani, the grievances day, and monitored grievance resolution. As Commissioner and Director of Municipal Administration, she digitised 28 municipal services and provided online grievance redressal through the Citizen Buddy app and Citizen Services Centres.

Her other significant contributions include Property Mapping of 14 lakh urban properties in 73 Urban Local Bodies, and revenue improvement, which earned her a place at the Prime Minister's Coffee Table meet in 2018. Her initiatives won her numerous good governance awards.

Surprisingly, despite her hectic schedule, Sreedevi never hired a nanny to look after her son, Sai Madhav Singh. "I cared for my son on my own, with the assis-

tance of my mother. During my time at ICRISAT, I travelled with my son on my back like Jhansi ki Rani," the officer laughs. (Sai Madhav, who is studying Mathematics and Computer Science in the UK, is a speed cuber who holds the National Record for 'Skewb.')

"I am waiting to learn the fundamentals of mathematics from my son," says the proud mother.

Sreedevi enjoys travelling. "I've travelled across Europe and the United States, as well as in Asia and Africa as a Watersheds Scientist," says the bureaucrat. She now does a lot of leisure travel, which includes nature trips and amusement and shopping trips. She also tries to find out more about the architecture and educational institutions of the places she visits.

Gita abhyas is her favourite pastime. "I identify as a nonreligious person who enjoys studying life philosophy. As a trained psychologist, I enjoy observing people and instilling mutual respect. I empathise with colleagues," she adds.

Sreedevi isn't big on cooking. "Both my mother and my son are excellent cooks. I used to cook only when I was at Duke University in North Carolina, USA, for my long-term training, to feed my then-8-year-old son," says Sreedevi, who enjoys street food, especially pani puri. She loves biryani, along with the majority of Hyderabadis. The IAS officer also regularly goes for early morning walks in KBR. "I do yoga and meditation too," says the coffee addict, who rarely watches movies or television.

Doodling her way to a stress-free life IAS officer uses effective time management techniques and technology to meet professional demands and stay on top of her personal life too 30 Jun 2022.

'Bring uniform excise policy for BJP-ruled states': Bharti to Nadda; announces silent protest against liquor shops in MP

BHOPAL: Senior BJP leader Uma Bharti has written a letter to party president J P Nadda, demanding a uniform excise policy for all BJP-ruled states, and also announced a silent protest outside liquor shops in Madhya Pradesh till October this year as well as a march in Bhopal on October 2, on the occasion of Mahatma Gandhi's birth anniversary. In the letter dated July 9, the former Madhya Pradesh chief minister also criticised the existing excise policy in the BJP-governed MP,

prohibition is a social issue, and not a political one.

"It is not personal issue for me either. Therefore, whoever supports it can do this in personal capacity," she said.

Bharti also said prohibition was not an ego issue for her, but a social issue associated with women and their families, and it was also about the future of youth.

In the letter to Nadda, Bharti demanded that a uniform excise policy for all the BJP-ruled



claiming "it can lead the state towards destruction in every way".

Bharti, who shared the letter on Twitter on Saturday evening, has been seeking prohibition in MP since sometime.

She had earlier hurled a stone at a liquor shop in the state capital Bhopal and thrown cow dung at a liquor outlet in Niwari district.

The BJP leader, in a statement, said she has held meetings with decision-makers within the party, and is confident that such interactions will soon yield results.

"From now on till October, I will stand alone in front of liquor shops and ahataas (liquor drinking facilities adjoining shops). I will march with women on the streets of Bhopal on Gandhi Jayanti (October 2)," she said.

The former Union minister said liquor pro-

states be prepared in consultation with senior leaders.

The policy should address issues like serving liquor in open ahataas, wine shops near educational institutions and religious places, besides those near labourer settlements and places where women gather, she said in the letter.

The Madhya Pradesh government allows liquor consumption in open ahataas.

Drunken driving is illegal, but people drive their vehicles after consuming liquor in ahataas, she stated.

On June 14, Bharti had thrown cow dung at a liquor shop in Orchha town in Niwari district. In March, she had hurled a stone at a liquor vend in Bhopal's Azad Nagar.

Eyesore no more, plain stone slabs at Konark temple to be bedecked with carvings

BHUBANESWAR: The Sun temple at Konark, Odisha's only world heritage site, is set for a major facelift. The plain bland stone slabs that had become an integral feature of the temple structure due to the ASI's conservation

work on the monument. Work on the stretch started last year and would be completed within the next fortnight.

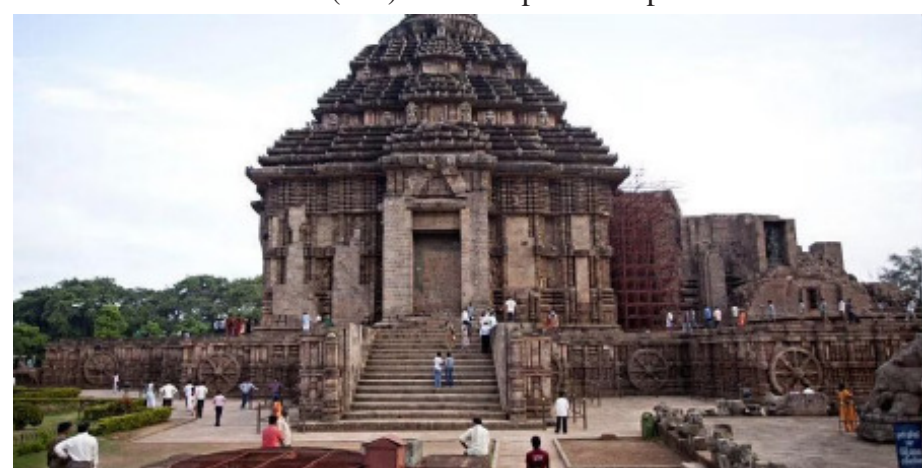
The project is being carried out by Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) within the permit-

Malik. The work has received the approval of DG ASI.

Malik said as per the revised conservation policy, while ASI cannot redo the broken sculptures, it can add carvings and mouldings to plain stones. This was

work. ASI used its traditional stone artisans who have been working on Jagannath temple in Puri, Raja Rani temple and Khandagiri Udayagiri caves in Bhubaneswar and the khondalite stones were procured from Tapang for the work. After the pilot project is completed, the work will be slowly extended to other parts of the monument.

"ASI was considering decorating the vertical stone slabs with carvings after allegations were made from all sections that it was replacing carved stones with plain ones in 2018," said Malik. Around 40 per cent of the northern and southern walls of the Jagamohan have been fixed with plain stones. "This was done by the Britishers in the pre-Independence era for structural stability of the ancient monument. In fact, this is why the structure is intact today. Besides, the platform on which Jagamohan stands was partly damaged. In the 90s, ASI began strengthening the platform and fixed plain stones in the platform area where stone sculptures were missing or damaged. Similar measures were taken subsequently for the Nata Mandap of the temple," he added.



works to protect the monument from crumbling will soon be a thing of the past as they are also being embellished with carvings and mouldings. For the first time since conservation of the temple began over a century back, a pilot project has been initiated to decorate the plain stones and unify them with the exquisite design and sculptures of the monument.

As a beginning, a stretch of the wall on the southern side of the Jagamohan has been replaced with khondalite stone carvings and mouldings to beautify

ted limits of the revised National Policy for Conservation of Ancient Monuments, Archaeological Sites and Remains-2014.

"The vertical stone slabs on the southern side of Jagamohan are being provided an outline. Geometric and floral patterns are being added along with stone mouldings. The decision on this was approved during the national consultation meet on Konark temple in 2019 which was held in the presence of the then Union Culture minister Prahlaad Singh Patel," said ASI Superintending Archaeologist Arun

not possible prior to 2014 as the old conservation policy that was framed in the 1920s mandated replacing the damaged portions of the monument with only plain slabs. After the consultation meeting, the heritage conservation agency carried out intensive research work into ancient references, drawings, photographs, records and architectural remains of the Sun temple for reference for the pilot project.

Besides, references of Kalinga style of temple architecture and Shilpa Shastras were taken into consideration for the

Lanka uprising: End of the political journey of powerful Rajapaksa dynasty?

COLOMBO: Gotabaya Rajapaksa's political destiny has turned a full circle from being a popular Sri Lankan president to a symbol of hatred within a short span of just 30 months. The man elected with a 60 per cent popular majority from among the Sinhala Buddhist majority is in hiding.

Having fled the Presidential Palace on the eve of the unceasing wave of the second popular uprising, the 73-year-old President remains incommunicado. The ignominy he has been subject to was as big as the power he assumed for himself through the 20th Amendment after being elected in November 2019.

cepted political strategist, and the managerial and organisational talent of the family camp is never seen as the one to take things lying low.

Basil, 71, masterminded the Rajapaksa renaissance by designing the SLPP - the vehicle which regained the glory of the dynasty has been in the dumps between 2015-19.

"Basil could be effective only to the extent that Mahinda retains his public appeal. Basil was like the business manager for Mahinda the investor," Perera said of the former finance minister, who was forced to resign in April as the island nation's economy showed



What holds for him and the Rajapaksa dynasty? They reigned supreme with as many as four from the Rajapaksa family in the top echelons of power while two nephews waiting in the wings in the lower rung of Parliament.

"Gotabaya Rajapaksa may have been the most powerful of the Rajapaksa brothers in terms of popular support and the constitutional capacity he wielded as the president, but he never had a firm grip on his own party, the Sri Lanka Podujana Peramuna (SLPP)," said Kusal Perera a political commentator and writer in Colombo.

The reason was Gotabaya, who had never been a politician, was piggybacking on his brother Mahinda's charisma and political acumen, he said.

Perera dismissed rumors that Gotabaya Rajapaksa may still not leave the presidency despite his message to the parliamentary speaker that he would resign next Wednesday bowing to the demand of the uprising.

There is a school of thought that by opting to delay his resignation, he was bidding time so the uprising against his government may recede.

"His political position has been weakened substantially. Even his own staff would not stand with him now. No chance for him to make a comeback in order to resume the presidency," Perera said.

What of Mahinda Rajapaksa the once political colossus, a cult personality revered by the Sinhala majority? "Mahinda would not be a factor anymore, he has become physically weaker with age - no chance he would be politically the same potent charismatic force as he used to be. Not after he was virtually forced out of the Temple Trees (Prime Minister's residence) by massive crowds," Perera said of the 76-year-old patriarch of the Rajapaksa family who has been the country's president and prime minister.

Basil, the younger sibling, the widely ac-

signs of a looming economic crisis.

The power of the uprising was such that Basil took a tumble from being the finance minister to resign his parliamentary seat within a matter of a few weeks. There is no comeback for Basil either, Perera said as the SLPP could not expect to perform too well at future elections with no charismatic Rajapaksa in the lead.

What then of Namal, the heir apparent? "Namal has not been able to come across in the public eye as a personality of serious credentials," Perera said, adding that the 36-year-old politician too would be relegated into a non-entity with the loss of sheen of his father Mahinda Rajapaksa's glory.

MSM Ayub, another columnist/analyst ruled out the emergence of any of the Rajapaksas from the current abyss at the 2025 elections. "It could be that they are now thinking of 2030 as their best bet to make an impression through Namal Rajapaksa and his 45-year-old cousin Shasheendra," he said.

Ayub said the effect of the economic crisis means that the hopes of the younger generations remain dashed. "This would be hard to dislodge in their legacy," he added.

Cash-strapped Sri Lanka is struggling to import food, fuel, and medicine amid the country's worst economic crisis in 70 years. The bankrupt country has run out of foreign currency and has had to impose a ban on sales of petrol and diesel for private vehicles, leading to days-long queues for fuel.

Hundreds of thousands of people descended on the capital Colombo on Saturday, calling for President Gotabaya Rajapaksa to resign after months of protests over economic mismanagement.

President Rajapaksa has announced that he will step down on July 13 after protesters stormed his official residence and set Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe's house on fire. The Prime Minister has also agreed to resign.

Iran enriches uranium to 20% with new centrifuges at fortified site

TEHRAN: Iran announced Sunday that it has begun enriching uranium up to 20% using sophisticated centrifuges at its underground Fordo nuclear plant, state TV reported, an escalation that comes amid a standoff with the West over its tattered atomic deal. That Tehran is enriching uranium up to 20% purity — a technical step from weapons-grade levels of 90% — with a new set of its most advanced centrifuges at a facility deep inside a mountain deals yet another blow to the already slim chances of reviving the accord. Behrouz Kamalvandi, a spokesman for Iran's Atomic Energy Organization, said uranium enriched to 20% was collected for the first time from advanced IR-6 centrifuges on Saturday. He said Iran had informed the U.N. nuclear watchdog about the development

two weeks ago.

Centrifuges are used to spin enriched uranium into higher levels of purity. Tehran's 2015 nuclear agreement with world powers had called for Fordo to become a research-and-development facility and restricted centrifuges there to non-nuclear uses.

Iran had previously told the IAEA that it was preparing to enrich uranium through a new cascade of 166 advanced IR-6 centrifuges at its underground Fordo facility. But it hadn't revealed the level at which the cascade would be enriching.

The International Atomic Energy Agency, the U.N.'s nuclear watchdog, told The Associated Press that it had verified on Saturday that Iran was using a set-up that allowed it to more swiftly and easily switch between enrichment levels.

Vizag's Jagannath Temple hosts Bahuda Yatra

Visakhapatnam: Vizag's Jagannath Temple hosted Bahuda Yatra with much fanfare and spiritual fervour. To mark the occasion special religious rituals were performed before the four deities stationed at Aunt's house in Lawsons Bay Colony in the day. Around 4:30 pm in the afternoon, the Gods and Goddess were taken in the procession to the colourfully decorated chariot standing in



front of the temple. The erstwhile king of Daspalla Lal Saheb Pramod Deo Bhanja did the traditional sweeping of the chariot called the Chherra Pahanra. Around 5 pm in the evening the long awaited return journey of the Lord of the Universe commenced. The juggernaut started rolling amidst the Slogans of 'Hari Bol', 'Jai Jagannath', playing of Musical instruments like Ghanta, Kartala, Mardala, Jhanja, Mrudunga and singing of Soul soothing Kirtans and Bhajans by 3000



strong devotees. Lots of Ladies were seen pulling the Chariot with much enthusiasm and excitement. The Highlight of the Mega Event was the Presentation of Spirited Beating of Drums by the Dulduli Troupe hailing from Kesinga in Kalahandi District of Odisha. The entire atmosphere got reverberated and the audience were moved and mesmerised by the spectacular Sound from their Drums. Travel-

IREDA biggest RE Lender

New Delhi: Government of India owned Indian Renewable Energy Development Authority (IREDA) has emerged as the largest finance provider for development of renewable energy (RE) in the country.

This was informed by IREDA Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) Pradip Kumar Das during



a recent debate telecasted on Sansad TV. The debate was conducted on the recommendations and observations of the Standing Committee on Energy (renewable energy sector) on the action plan for achieving 175 giga watts (GW) of renewable energy by 2022 and 500 GW by 2030.

As part of its climate pledge, India set a target to install 175 GW of renewable energy capacity by 2022. This includes 100 GW of solar energy, 60 GW of wind energy, 10 GW of biomass power, and 5 GW of small hydro power.

The Committee noted that Rs 2.6 lakh crore will be required over the next two years for the installation of 58 GW of renewable projects. It stated that attracting this investment will not be easy. The Committee recommended that the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy should mobilize long term loans for upcoming renewable projects.

"In the Renewable Energy sector, the IREDA loan book size is the largest across all banks and Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs). It is true that IREDA is a small NBFC. That's why the Government of India had infused Rs 1500 crore on the agency last year by March 2022," Mr.Das said.

ling through Shanti Ashram, UDA Park, AU Gate, UDA Children's Arena and All India Radio, the chariot reached its final destination at the Main Temple on Daspalla Hills at around 8 pm. An enraged Goddess Laxmi blocked the entrance of Lord Jagannath to enter into the Temple because she was not invited to accompany the Siblings during the Rath Yatra. Lord Jagannath immediately took stock of the situation and offered Delicious



Rasagolla to the Goddess to Cajole her. Then she was pacified and granted permission to the deities to get in. This Episode was enacted in the Theatre form during the occasion inside the Temple premises. The Idols were then taken inside the Temple by the servitors and devotees performing Dhadi Pahandi and placed on the Sanctum Sanctorum. The entire arrangement of the Bahuda Yatra was well managed and neatly executed by the President of Utkal Sanskritika Samaja and Vice President of Orissa Stevedores Jitendra



Kumar Nayak and General Secretary of Sanskritika Samaj Bimal Kumar Mahanta. Both Car and Return Journey Festivals in Vizag have become massive success and were talk of the City because of the Painstaking efforts Put up by Shri Nayak and Shri Mahanta.

Agnipath complements IAF's vision of 'lean & lethal' force: Air Chief Marshal

New Delhi: The 'Agnipath' scheme complements the Indian Air Force's long-term vision of being a "lean and lethal" force with the best manpower and the new recruitment model will in no way reduce its operational capability, Air Chief Marshal V R Chaudhari said on Sunday.

The Chief of Air Staff said 13 teams will take care of enrolment, employment, assessment and training of recruits within the four-year engagement period.

Air Chief Marshal Chaudhari told PTI that any savings in pensions and other expenditure through the implementation of the scheme are only incidental and not the reason for initiating the reform.

"The Agnipath scheme furthers the IAF's manpower optimisation drive that has been ongoing for a decade wherein we have reviewed many human resource policies and organisational structures," he said.

Nearly 7,50,000 candidates have registered for around 3,000 positions in the IAF under the new scheme.

The scheme complements the IAF's "long-term vision of being a lean and lethal force with the best human resource as we strongly believe that the men and women behind the machine make all the difference when it matters," the Chief of Air Staff said. The scheme, announced on June 14, seeks to recruit youths between the age bracket of 17-and-half years and 21 for only four years with a provision to retain 25 per cent of them for 15 more years. For 2022, the upper age limit has been extended to 23 years.

Several parts of India witnessed violent protests last month against the scheme with the agitators demanding its roll back as the new model does not provide a job guarantee to 75 per cent of recruits. "With evolving technology, the basic requirements from an air warrior have also seen a qualitative shift. We feel that the youth of today brings along a different and much required set of skills as well as adeptness with technology," he said.

Air Chief Marshal Chaudhari said the synergy of organisational requirements and the aspirations of the youth shall provide the IAF with an "ideal amalgam" to be an effective force in the future.

"With a restructured training pattern that is contemporary, technology-based and tailor-made for

our operational commitments, we envisage the implementation to be seamless," he said.

The IAF chief noted that the need for transformation in the human resources in the services has been widely deliberated and steps have been taken to gradually address the recommendations of the Kargil Review Committee.

"This human resources transformation caters to the requirements of the impact of changing technology,



the complexity of machines, automation and optimisation of resources including manpower of the IAF," he said.

Describing the Agnipath scheme as a major "human resources transformation" for the armed forces, he said the IAF has already received an overwhelming response for this scheme.

"The process of selection is in progress. We have formulated 13 teams for seamless enrolment, training, role, employment, assessment and training of Agniveers within the four-year engagement period," he said.

"The HR transformation in no way reduces the operational capability that we possess. In fact, this would provide the armed forces with the advantage of attracting talent and engaging with the youth who are keen to serve the nation," the IAF chief said.

He said the "objective assessment" of Agniveers shall provide IAF with the best workforce. In the long term, this scheme will benefit the individual, the Armed forces and the society as a whole," Air Chief Marshal Chaudhari said.

"This scheme shall provide a balance to our forces by blending youth with experience and enable IAF to meet all its national security mandates," he added.

"Our experience in modular training and 'just-in-time' training concepts have given us insightful knowledge to achieve the necessary skills for our air warriors," he said.



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Inflation may ease gradually in second half of fiscal: RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das

NEW DELHI: Exuding confidence that the price situation will gradually improve in the second half of the current fiscal, RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das on Saturday said the central bank would continue to take monetary measures to anchor inflation with a view to achieving strong and sustainable growth.

Inflation is a measure of the trust and confidence that the public reposes in the economic institutions of the country, Das said while speaking at the inau-

Mass sick leaves: IndiGo's technicians in Hyderabad, Delhi protest against low salaries

NEW DELHI: A sizeable number of IndiGo's aircraft maintenance technicians went on sick leave during the last two days in Hyderabad and Delhi to protest against their low salaries, sources said on Sunday.



On July 2, around 55 per cent of IndiGo's domestic flights were delayed as a significant number of its cabin crew members took sick leave, with sources in the industry saying they ostensibly went for Air India's recruitment drive.

IndiGo had cut the salaries of a large section of its employees when the COVID-19 pandemic was at its peak. New airline Akasa

employees when the COVID-19 pandemic was at its peak. New airline Akasa

Air, revamped Jet Airways and Tata group-owned Air India have started hiring processes and this has created a churn in the aviation industry, with many employees looking at greener pastures.

Sources said during the last two days, a sizeable number of IndiGo's technicians went on sick leave so as to not invite any disciplinary action while protesting against low salaries. IndiGo did not respond to PTI's request for a statement on this matter.

Congress to hold press conferences across India to 'expose' BJP

Continued from page-1

leged that Riyaz Attari, one of the prime accused in the killing of tailor Kanhaiya Lal in Rajasthan's Udaipur was a BJP member. It has also released his photographs purportedly with BJP leaders in Rajasthan.

The BJP, however, has denied any link with such elements and claimed that some of them had clicked pictures with its leaders after infiltrating the party ranks.

The Congress also claimed that Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) terrorist Talib Hussain Shah who was nabbed by people in Reasi town in Srinagar recently was an office-bearer of the BJP's minority cell in Jammu and Kashmir, a charge denied by the BJP leadership in the Union Territory.

Congress leader Pawan Khera has asked how Talib Hussain Shah, who was allegedly planning to attack the Amarnath Yatra in Kashmir, was seen in a photograph with Amit Shah. He wondered whether it was not a security breach.

This is the second series of press conferences being organised by the Congress after the first such effort was made against the new Agnipath military recruitment scheme.

The Congress has decided to take the BJP head-on over issues of national importance, and the party will continue to hold country-wide pressers to take its message to the people and to "expose" the claims of the BJP. Top Congress leaders who are going to address the press conferences include Rajya Sabha MP Deepender Singh Hooda in Ahmedabad, Shaktisinh Gohil in Jaipur, Ajoy Kumar in Mumbai, Uttar Kumar Reddy in Bangalore, former Union minister M M Pallam Raju in Chennai, media and publicity head Pawan Khera in Raipur, Rajeev Gowda in Kolkata, Ranjeet Ranjan in Guwahati and Saptagiri Sankar Ulaka in Visakhapatnam.

gural Kautilya Economic Conclave.

"Overall, at this point of time, with the supply outlook appearing favourable and several high-frequency indicators pointing to resilience of the recovery in the first quarter (April-June) of 2022-23, our current assessment is that inflation may ease gradually in the second half of 2022-23, precluding the chances of a hard landing in India," the Governor said. Noting that price stability is key to maintaining macroeconomic and financial stability, he said the central bank will undertake measures for preserving and fostering macroeconomic stability.

"While factors beyond our control may affect inflation in the short run, its trajectory over the medium-term is determined by monetary policy. Therefore, monetary policy must take timely actions to anchor inflation and inflation expectations so as to place the economy on a strong and sustainable growth pedestal.



"We will continue to calibrate our policies with the overarching goal of preserving and fostering macroeconomic stability," he said.

Das noted that the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) in its April and June meetings revised the projection of inflation for 2022-23 in two stages to 6.7 per cent, taking stock of the evolving developments and with inflation pressures getting generalised.

About three-fourths of the revision in June was on account of geopolitical spillovers to food prices, he said, adding the MPC also decided to increase

the policy repo rate by 40 bps and 50 bps in May and June, respectively.

This was on top of the 40 basis points (bps) effective rate hike through the introduction of the Standing Deposit Facility (SDF) at 3.75 per cent. During this period (April to June 2022), the MPC also changed its stance to withdrawal of accommodation.

Talking about prospects for global growth, Das said the sharply tightening financial conditions due to the ongoing monetary policy normalisation on the one hand and the persisting geopolitical tensions on the other pose significant downside risks to near-term. "They are also sparking stagflation concerns worldwide, with even talk of recession in some parts of the world," he said.

Observing that the benefits of globalisation come with certain risks and challenges, Das said shocks to prices of food, energy, commodities and critical inputs are transmitted across the world through complex supply chains.

In fact, he said, recent developments call for greater recognition of global factors in domestic inflation dynamics and macroeconomic developments which underscore the need for enhanced policy coordination and dialogue among countries to achieve better outcomes.

Shinde, Fadnavis meet Modi in Delhi

Continued from page-1

state and strive to take Maharashtra to newer heights.

Mr Shinde said several projects such as the Samruddhi Expressway connecting Mumbai and Nagpur, metro rail in cities, and digging farm ponds to boost irrigation, which were initiated by Mr Fadnavis but had run into delays under the Thackeray-led Maharashtra Vikas Aghadi government, will be put on fast-track.

On Shiv Sena chief Uddhav Thackeray's demand for a mid-term poll in Maharashtra, Mr Shinde said that the question does not arise as in democracy, the number matters. "We have the support of 164 MLAs. We have formed a strong government in Maharashtra as per the constitution. It will complete the full term," he said.

On the dispute over who gets to use the party symbol, Mr Shinde said, "We are Shiv Sena and haven't done anything illegal. We have been recognised as the Legislative party."

Mr Thackeray on Friday said that nobody can take away the bow and arrow, the symbol of the Shiv Sena and it will remain with him.

Mr Shinde reiterated that the rebel MLAs had made all the efforts to resolve the issues with Mr Thackeray. "The existence of our MLAs came under threat under the MVA government. Only the natural alliance of the BJP and Shiv Sena can take Maharashtra ahead. We tried to communicate this issue (with Uddhav Thackeray) but did not succeed. Therefore, we took this move (joining hands with the BJP)," he said.

Asked whether he was disappointed at the "demonstration" to the post of deputy chief minister, Mr Fadnavis said he had merely followed the directives of his party. "My party made me big by appointing me as the chief minister. It is not a question of being large hearted. I have followed the directives of my party," Mr Fadnavis, who served as the Maharashtra chief minister from 2014 to 2019, said.

"I am with Mr Shinde. I have been the chief minister and I know the chief minister is the leader. We will work under Mr Shinde's leadership. Our primary goal is to make this government successful," he added.

Mr Shinde and Mr Fadnavis left for Pune on Saturday evening en route to Pandharpur, where the chief minister will worship Lord Vitthal on the occasion of Ashadhi Ekadashi on Sunday.

Meanwhile, the rebellion in Shiv Sena continued to grow. The Thackeray faction announced that they have removed former Navi Mumbai civic chief Vijay Nahata and former Opposition leader in the municipal corporation Vijay Chougule from the party after they joined the Shinde camp.

Shiv Sena mouthpiece Saamna on Saturday declared that the duo had indulged in anti-party activities and hence were removed from the party.

The ongoing rebellion has already dented the Thackeray faction, as 66 out of 67 corporators from Thane have joined Mr Shinde while several MPs are also backing him.

Why Sri Lanka's economy collapsed and what's next for the island nation

Continued from page-1

the amount borrowed.

Tourism, an important engine of economic growth, has sputtered because of the pandemic and concerns about safety after terror attacks in 2019.

And its currency has collapsed by 80%, making imports more expensive and worsening inflation that is already out of control, with food costs rising 57%, according to official data.

The result is a country hurtling towards bankruptcy, with hardly any money to import gasoline, milk, cooking gas and toilet paper.

Political corruption is also a problem; not only did it play a role in the country squandering its wealth, but it also complicates any financial rescue for Sri Lanka.

Anit Mukherjee, a policy fellow and economist at the Center for Global Development in Washington, said any assistance from the IMF or World Bank should come with strict conditions to make sure the aid isn't mismanaged.

Still, Mukherjee noted that Sri Lanka sits in one of the world's busiest shipping lanes, so letting a country of such strategic significance collapse is not an option.

HOW IS IT AFFECTING REAL PEOPLE?

Tropical Sri Lanka normally is not lacking for food, but people are going hungry.

The UN World Food Program says nearly nine of 10 families are skipping meals or otherwise skimping to stretch out their food, while 3 million are receiving emergency humanitarian aid.

Doctors have resorted to social media to try to get critical supplies of equipment and medicine.

Growing numbers of Sri Lankans are seeking passports to go overseas in search of work. Government workers have been given an extra day off for three months to allow them time to grow their own food.

In short, people are suffering and desperate for things to improve.

WHY IS THE ECONOMY IN SUCH DIRE STRAITS?

Economists say the crisis stems from domestic factors such as years of mismanagement and corruption.

Much of the public's ire has focused on President Rajapaksa and his brother, former Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa.

The latter resigned in May after weeks of anti-government protests that eventually turned violent.

Conditions have been deteriorating for the past several years.

In 2019, Easter suicide bombings at churches and hotels killed more than 260 people. That devastated tourism, a key source of foreign exchange.

The government needed to boost its revenues as foreign debt for big infrastructure projects soared, but instead Rajapaksa pushed through the largest tax cuts in Sri Lankan history.

The tax cuts were recently reversed, but only after creditors downgraded Sri Lanka's

ratings, blocking it from borrowing more money as its foreign reserves sank.

Then tourism flatlined again during the pandemic.

In April 2021, Rajapaksa suddenly banned imports of chemical fertilizers.

The push for organic farming caught farmers by surprise and decimated staple rice crops, driving prices higher.

To save on foreign exchange, imports of other items deemed to be luxuries also were banned.

Meanwhile, the Ukraine war has pushed prices of food and oil higher.

Inflation was near 40% and food prices were up nearly 60% in May.

WHY DID THE PRIME MINISTER SAY THE ECONOMY HAS COLLAPSED?

The stark declaration in June by Wickremesinghe, who is in his sixth term as prime minister, threatened to undermine any confidence in the state of the economy and didn't reflect any specific new development. The prime minister appeared to be underscoring the challenges facing his government as it seeks help from the IMF and confronts criticism over the lack of improvement since he took office weeks earlier.

The comment might have been intended to try to buy more time and support as he tries to get the economy back on track.

The Finance Ministry said Sri Lanka had only USD 25 million in usable foreign reserves.

That has left it without the wherewithal to pay for imports, let alone repay billions in debt. Meanwhile, the Sri Lankan rupee has weakened in value to about 360 to the US dollar. That makes costs of imports even more prohibitive.

Sri Lanka has suspended repayment of about \$7 billion in foreign loans due this year out of USD 25 billion to be repaid by 2026.

WHAT IS THE GOVERNMENT DOING ABOUT THE CRISIS?

So far Sri Lanka has been muddling through, mainly supported by USD 4 billion in credit lines from India.

An Indian delegation came to the capital, Colombo, in June for talks on more assistance, but Wickremesinghe warned against expecting India to keep Sri Lanka afloat for long.

"Sri Lanka pins last hopes on IMF," read a June headline in the Colombo Times.

The government is in negotiations with the IMF on a bailout plan, and Wickremesinghe has said he expected to have a preliminary agreement later this summer.

Sri Lanka has also sought more help from China.

Other governments like the US, Japan and Australia have provided a few hundred million dollars in support.

Earlier in June, the United Nations launched a worldwide public appeal for assistance. So far, projected funding barely scratches the surface of the \$6 billion the country needs to stay afloat over the next six months.

To counter Sri Lanka's fuel shortage, Wickremesinghe told The Associated Press in a recent interview that he would consider buying more steeply discounted oil from Russia.

Ronaldo missing United tour amid doubts over future at club



ENGLAND(KCN): Cristiano Ronaldo will miss Manchester United's pre-season tour to Thailand and Thailand amid doubts over his future at the club. United said Friday that the 37-year-old forward

had been granted additional time off to deal with an unspecified family issue that prevented him from reporting back for practice this week. The Portugal star has reportedly asked to leave United. Ronaldo

only returned to United last season after 12 years away from Old Trafford but the team finished in sixth place and only qualified for the Europa League rather than the more prestigious Champions

League. The tour will feature games against Liverpool, Melbourne Victory, Crystal Palace and Aston Villa. It will be new manager Erik Ten Hag's first chance to work in-depth with the squad.

Could Wimbledon champ Elena Rybakina join Iga Swiatek, Naomi Osaka at top?

WIMBLEDON: With Serena Williams nearing the end of her career and Ash Barty newly in retirement, Elena Rybakina served her way right into the Wimbledon void. With some consistency at the biggest tournaments, tennis might just have a new rival for Iga Swiatek and Naomi Osaka on the women's tour. The 23-year-old Rybakina won her first major title at Wimbledon on Saturday — in only

"I didn't really think yet about the U.S. Open and the next tournaments," Rybakina said. "But I don't know, so many good players and different players just won Grand Slams in the past so I really don't know how I'm going to feel there. "But for sure I think I'm coming there more confident." She should have an abundance of that. At Wimbledon, Rybakina led the tournament with



her second appearance at the All England Club. She beat Ons Jabeur, another player with the capability of spending a long time at the top of the game, 3-6, 6-2, 6-2 on Centre Court. "I think just now (the) generation is changing a bit and (there are) so many young players," Rybakina told a roundtable of five journalists. "But I'm pretty sure that in (a) few years, just one player, two, three are going to dominate.

"For now it was Iga with the great strikes. I think she was playing unbelievable. I think also now she's going to keep doing well. So I don't know, maybe it's going to change. Maybe it's going to be someone new every week." Swiatek was upset in the third round at this year's tournament, ending a 37-match winning streak — only a few weeks after earning her second French Open title.

Williams went out even earlier. The 23-time Grand Slam champion, who is 40 and owns seven titles at the All England Club, lost in the first round. It was her first singles match since stopping in the first round last year because of injury.

The reigning champion until Saturday was Barty. But she retired soon after winning this year's Australian Open. She was only 25 years old at the time.

All that makes Rybakina one of the early favorites for the U.S. Open, the fourth and final Grand Slam tournament of the season.

53 aces, almost twice as many as Caroline Garcia in second place with 30. And she used that serve to get out of trouble late in the match against Jabeur after dropping only her second set of the fortnight at the start of the day. At 3-2 in the deciding set, Jabeur held three

break points at love-40 and was close to getting back on serve.

"I knew I have this big weapon, serve, but it didn't work out for the whole first set. And Ons, she was using the serve very well," Rybakina said in her post-match news conference. "I was just thinking that I need these big serves right now because if not, it's going to be very tough to replay again." She got them, and she held. Jabeur didn't win another game.

"I think she's one of the best from the young generation," Jabeur said. "I don't know how old she is, but she's really young, I think. She really plays good."

Besides her play on the grass, Rybakina has also had to answer questions about her nationality. She was born in Russia but switched to play for Kazakhstan in 2018. Switching allegiances isn't normally controversial, but the topic has come up several times this year after Russian and Belarusian players were banned from Wimbledon because of Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

Rybakina called her decision to play for another country "perfect timing."

"I would say I'm lucky in this because Kazakhstan federation, they were looking at the same time for (a) player to help," Rybakina said, "and they believed in me, so I think I was just lucky in that moment and we just found each other like this."

Payal Rohatgi and Sangram Singh get married after 12 years of dating; check out pictures here



AGRA: Actor Payal Rohatgi, on Saturday, tied the knot with wrestler Sangram Singh in Agra after dating for more than 12 years. Taking to Instagram, the Lock Upp runner-up dropped a string of her wedding images, to which she captioned, "Payal ke Sangram." In the pictures, the actor donned a beautiful red lehenga with heavy jewellery, whereas the Commonwealth Gold medalist opted for a beige sherwani with a matching safa. The 36 China Town actor kept her makeup minimal on her wedding day. The couple tied their knot in an intimate ceremony which includes relatives and close friends.

In the pictures, shared by the Dhol actor, the couple can be seen performing different wedding rituals. The wrestler, in one of the posts, can be seen applying sindoor on Payal's fore-

head.

In another post, he can be seen tying the mangal sutra around her neck, while the couple shares a happy moment.

Soon after the 37-year-old actor shared her marriage pictures, fans flooded the comment section with good wishes messages for the couple.

"Finally the wait is over bestest couple Happy married life both you mahadev parvati bless you" a user commented. Another user wrote, "Made for each other couple.. Best wishes for this beautiful journey and God bless you both".

The couple had various pre-wedding functions ahead of their marriage. For the haldi ceremony, the newly-wed couple donned matching yellow outfits.

Payal and Sangram started dating in 2011 after they met on the set of a Tv reality show Survivor India. In 2014, the couple got engaged in Ahmedabad and after waiting for eight years the couple finally got married.

The Indian wrestler and the actor, both were the part of reality show Bigg Boss. The 36-year-old wrestler was one of the finalists in season 7 of the show.

Payal, on the other hand, was the runner-up in Kangana Ranaut's OTT-based reality show Lock Upp Season 1 which streamed on MX Player and Alt Balaji App.



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