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Murmu, a tribal leader from Mayurbhani district, was sworn-in as the country's 15th



President in the Central Hall of Parliament on Monday.

Smt.Murmu is the first tribal and the second woman to be elected to the highest post. She is also the first President of the country who was born in Independent India.

trated oath of office to Smt.Murmu in presence of a galaxy of tall leaders across India including Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Rajya Sabha Chairman M Venkaiah Naidu, Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla, Members of the Council of Ministers, Governors, Chief Ministers including Naveen Patnaik, Heads of Diplomatic Missions, Members of Parliament and civil and Military Officers.

After swearing-in as President of India, Smt.Murmu greeted the leaders, "Johar! Namaskar!"

"I express my heartfelt gratitude to all Members of Parliament and Legislative Assemblies for electing me to the highest Constitutional post of India. Your vote for me is an expression of the faith of crores of citizens of the country," she said.

She also greeted all the fellow citizens from this sacred Parliament, a symbol of the hopes, aspirations and rights of all the citizens of India.

"Your affection, trust and support will be my greatest strength in discharging my functions and responsibilities. The country has elected me as the President at a crucial time when we are celebrating 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav'," Smt. Murmu said.

A few days from today, the country will complete 75 years of its independence. It is also a coincidence that her political career started when the country was celebrating its 50th year of independence. And today, in the 75th year of independence, I CONTINUED ON: P-7

India gets new President Opposition gives political interests New Delhi(KCN): Shrimati Droupadi Chief Justice of India NV Ramana adminis Opposition gives political interests preference over nation, PM Modi

KANPUR(KCN): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday accused the Opposition of obstructing development works merely on the ground that they could not accomplish these during their tenure while alleging that they keep their political interests above that of society and the

country. "Many times, the opposition parties put some obstacles in the government's work as they could not implement the decisions taken by them when they were in power," Modi said addressing virtually a programme on the 10th death anniversary of former Samajwadi Party Rajya Sabha member Harmohan Singh Yadav.

"Now, if they (deci-

sions) are imple-

mented, they oppose

cially all non-Congress parties, have followed this idea,"

country's democracy was crushed during the Emergency, all



it. People of the country don't like it," he added.

Recalling words of former prime minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Modi underscored the primacy of the nation over party politics.

"Parties exist because of democracy and democracy exists because of the country. Most parties in our country, espehe said. "I remember the

1971 India-Pakistan war when all major parties stood shoulder-to-shoulder with the government. When the first nuclear test was conducted by the country, all parties stood firmly with the government," Modi added.

The prime minister said when the

major parties came together to save the Constitution.

" C haudhary Harmohan Singh Yadav was also a 'jujharu sainik' (combative soldier) of that struggle. In other words, the interests of our country and that of society are bigger than our ideologies," he stressed. "However, in recent

CONTINUED ON: P-7

Two of Putin's best pilots killed in Ukraine: Reports

Kyiv (KCN): Two of tillery in Donetsk on July Colonel Anatoly Putin's best pilots have been killed by a HIMARS (high mobility artillery rocket systems) missile in Ukraine, reports said.

Maksim Potyomin, 41, a fighter pilot with the rank of lieutenant colonel, died when his motorcade was hit by precision-guided rocket ar-



8. The same attack is Stasyukevich, 54, also a thought to have killed fighter pilot, the Daily

"The motorcade of Lt-Col Maksim Potyomin and Colonel Anatoly Stasyukevich was hit by a precision US-supplied HIMARS (high mobility artillery rocket systems) missile in a strike which is believed to have been targeted. The two fighter pilots, who were **CONTINUED ON: P-7**

Sonia questioning: Delhi Police imposes Sec 144 at Raj Ghat, Cong leaders to protest at party HQ

here Monday to evolve a strategy a day before newspaper.

Sonia Gandhi's questioning by the Enforcement Directorate in a money laundering case, even as the Delhi Police denied the party permission to protest at the Raj Ghat and imposed section 144 there.

The Congress president is scheduled to appear before the ED on Tuesday for the second round of questioning in the money

NEW DELHI(KCN): Top Congress leaders met laundering case related to the National Herald Congress leaders have

demonstrated against Gandhi's questioning by the Central agency and they have decided to stage a peaceful protest once again on Tuesday. However, their demand for permission to stage a 'Satyagrah' at Raj Ghat,

the memorial of Mahatma Gandhi, was turned down by the Delhi Police which CONTINUED ON: P-7

Odisha CM Naveen Patnaik meets Murmu ahead of swearing-in ceremony

BHUBANESWAR(KCN): Minister Naveen Patnaik on

President of India to be held at the

emony of the 15th "I came to greet row," the Chief President-elect Droupadi Murmu

Sunday met Presicentral hall of the dent-elect Parliament on Mon-Droupadi Murmu in day. All the MPs New Delhi along from Odisha inwith all the 21 BJD Sabha and Rajya MPs from Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha members Sabha. The Chief have been invited to Minister will attend the swearing-in cering ceremony.

and wish her all the best. I am so pleased honoured that a cluding 21 BJD Lok daughter of Odisha has been chosen as the President of India, I will be there attend the oath takfor her oath-taking ceremony tomorMinister mediapersons after meeting Murmu.

Congratulating the President-elect earlier, the Chief Minister had said 4.5 crore people of Odisha are proud of her achievement. While supporting her candidature, the BJD has also campaigned for her and urged all MLAs of the State to vote for her. Six BJP MLAs from Mayurbhanj district also met Murmu at New Delhi and congratulated her. They will also attend the swearing-in ceremony.



Assembly congratulates Murmu

Bhubaneswar(KCN): The State Legislative Assembly on Monday passed a resolution unanimously congratulating Shrimati Droupadi Murmu for assuming the highest constitutional post of India. Smt.Murmu, who took oath as 15th President of India on Monday, is a former Member of the Assembly and a native of the Mayurbhani district.

Parliamentary Affairs Minister Niranjan Pujari moved the resolution which was supported by all MLAs of the House. Mr.Pujari also proposed to send a House committee to New Delhi to felicitate the new President.

Speaker Bikram Keshari Arukha has informed that he would consider the proposal for felicitation of Smt.Murmu by the MLAs in New Delhi in due course of time.

It is a welcome step that an all-party MLA led by the Speaker will visit New Delhi felicitate and Smt.Murmu, said Congress MLA Taraprasad Bahinipati.

"Myself and my party has whole heartly supported the resolution passed in the House today. Odisha will definitely get benefit from this," said BJP Deputy Bishnu Leader Charan Sethi.

Alia Bhatt says 'Asli Neend' is only with Duroflex

Nothing like Duroflex's signature range of mattress Duropedic - recommended by the doctors at NHA

Kolkata(KCN): With the goal of guiding consumers on the importance of making well researched choices when it comes to their sleep solutions products, Duroflex, India's leading sleep solutions provider has launched a new campaign with their national brand ambassador and leading actor Alia Bhatt scaling its signature portfolio Duropedic – rec-

ommended by the

doctors at National

Health Academy. The

campaign featuring

two TVCs aims to

educate customers

that when it comes to

good sleep, one

should only believe

the benefits of sleep

essentials that are

backed by research

and approved by ex-

perts. The first TVC

educates the con-

sumers that mattress

buying is not a one-

size-fits-all activity

whereas the second

one warns them

against getting lured

by seemingly attrac-

tive deals and making

the wrong choice. As a country, we have lifestyle. One such product category is sleep solutions. With more and more brands entering this space, the purchase process has become much more complicated for buyers. Amidst claims of superior materials and misinterpreting material benefits, consumers often end up buying a mattress which does not address their specific needs resulting into

mended orthopedic range of mattresses with advanced 5 zone

support layer. The second TVC is a shorter narrative of 15 seconds where Alia advises the users to not get lured by seemingly attractive offers like free trial period, lest they might end up getting dark circles like her friends. And then goes on to saying that a real beauty sleep is only with the

starts with making well researched products and in sharing knowledge about how sleep impacts health and wellbeing. This has resulted to more and more consumers turning to branded mattresses. However, mattress buying can be a complex exercise as the key aspects that define a purchase are not well understood by consumers and the heap of generic or false claims in the market only confuses them further. We do believe that with honest conversations we will be able to educate consumers about making researched choices which suit their individual needs. With this campaign, our aim is to connect with our consumers that all they need for Asli Neend is Duroflex." The TVC will be aired on all major national television channels and also promoted across digital channels.

India sleep better,

The tagline 'Nothing

like Duroflex' reinforces the message that Duroflex is one of-a-kind sleep solutions provider with technology and offerings exclusive to the brand. Their advanced 5-zoned orthopedic range provides differentiated support for the 5 zones of the body resulting in optimum body alignment that address all sleeping problems. It is scientifically engineered and is trusted and recommended by doctors, as they provide the best care and restorative support to your back to give you a deeply restful and good night's sleep.

ALLEN Global Studies Division is now launched in Bhubaneswar

Bhubaneswar.(KCN): ALLEN Career Institute, which is known for the preparation of engineering and medical entrance examinations, is all set to place its students in the world's top-ranked universities. Through ALLEN Global Studies Division (AGSD), students' may enjoy services from standardized test preparation to university selection under the guidance of India's best Overseas Education Experts.

Sachin Srivastava along with ALLEN Centre Head Anurag Mishra, ALLEN Admin Head Siddharth, and AGSD Coordinators were present on the oc-AGSD Head's Apoorv Bhatt and Sachin Srivastava

informed that ALLEN Global Studies Division has been preparing students for the entrance exam to be held for graduate programs in top universities of the world for the last four years. Students are

> given guidance on the subject's study as well as profile building, statement of purpose, interview skills, and recommendations.

Till now more than 100 students have got admission to top universities of the world. So far many students have been selected in many best universities including 8 at MIT - the USA, 11 at The University Oxford - UK, 13 at the University of Toronto – Canada, and many more across various counties.

In AGSD, along with written examination,

VISA interview preparation is also done through mock tests. Resultant, 100% VISA success rate for our students so far.

This year, AGSD students have received more than 400 offers from the world's top 100 universities. Many of AGSD's students are currently studying at several top universities including Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), University of Oxford, Caltech, Imperial College London, Michigan in the United States of America.



After producing world-class results at AGSD's different centers, ALLEN Global Studies Division has started providing its services at ALLEN Bhubaneswar center too. Students now can visit and start consulting their study abroad planning from now onwards at the newly launched AGSD Bhubaneswar center.

AGSD – Bhubaneswar is inaugurated at ALLEN Bhubaneswar on 25th July 2022 with poster release and prayer. AGSD Head's Apoorv Bhatt and

Chip manufacturing centre to come up at IIT-Bhubaneswar

BHUBANESWAR(KCN): IIT-Bhubaneswar became the 31st institute of the country to set up a centre for chip designing and manufacturing under the Chips to Startup (C2S) initiative of the Ministry of Electronics and IT. Union Minister for Railways, Communications, Electronics and IT Ashwini Vaishnaw on Sunday announced the approval of

training 85,000 qualified engineers in the area for large-scale integration and embedded system design. It will help develop 175 application specific integrated circuits, working prototypes of 20 systems on chips (SoCs) and IP core repository over a period of five years. Vishpay said the college a period of five years. Vaishnaw said the collaboration with IIT-BBS will be a step towards leapfrogging into the Electronics System Design and Manufacturing (ESDM) space by inculcating the culture of SoC/system level design at bachelors, masters and research level and act as a catalyst for growth of startups involved in fabless design.

There has been an exponential growth in electronics production in the country. This is fuelling the demand for microprocessors and chips. Most of such units are located in cities like Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Chennai and Gurugram. We want to develop the institutions in tier-II/III cities to take

The programme would be implemented at about 100 academic institutions/R&D organisations, including IITs, NITs, IIITs and government/private colleges across the country. The Indian Railways and the IIT-BBS will soon join hands for developing new technologies for joining of thick rails, rail joint integrity testing, fatigue life estimation of engineering components, vibration and dynamic con-

The Minister also expressed his willingness to establish a Centre of Excellence (CoE) on 5G Spectrum at IIT-BBS. He asked the students to identify 10 application areas and uses of 5G spectrum for getting the approval. "I told the students to take this as a challenge and submit their innovative proposals. IIT-BBS can be developed as a CoE, if the students can some up with some of the best the students can come up with some of the best uses of the 5G spectrum," he said. Registrar of IIT-Bhubaneswar, Debaraj Rath said this is a big opportunity to prove the mettle and make Odisha a part of the semiconductor hub of the country. "Two more important projects are in the offing and we hope our students will excel in innovation," he added. The Minister interacted with the faculty members and students about the ongoing research activities on integrated circuit (IC) design, semi-conductor technology and railways engineering. A brief presentation of the academics, research and development activities of IIT-BBS was presented by Dean Academics Prof NC Sahu. Chairman of Board of Governors of IIT-BBS, Dr RP Singh was

Today, the consumer is more willing than ever before to spend on products that facilitate a healthy

learnt to focus more on health and personal wellbeing over the past two years.

very issue through their new campaign. The first TVC encapsulates the moment where Alia finds her friend Adarsh Gaurav, from the White Tiger fame sleeping uncomfortably on his mattress. The conversation between the two further reveals that Adarsh bought the mattress thinking that because it's memory foam, it is good for his back. To this Alia lightheartedly chides him saying "Har Memory Foam Orthopedic nahi hota, aur har neend neend nahin hoti", explaining that specific problems require specialized solutions like Duroflex's signature

disrupted sleep and

ensuing health isrange, and there is sues. Duroflex aims Nothing like to educate consum-Duroflex that ers regarding this matches up. Speaking on the new campaign, Duroflex brand ambassador,

Alia Bhatt said, "Sleep is very close to my heart. It is my superpower, which I'd like to share with my audience. However, few realise the importance of the right mattress for a good night's sleep. Moreover, confusing technical claims and deals offered by brands lead people into buying mattresses that don't fit their needs. The new Duroflex TVC will help educate the consumer about this."

trusted Duropedic

Speaking about the new campaign, Smita Murarka, Chief Marketing Officer, Duroflex said, "Our

Prime Minister Narendra Modi for the project. The Chips to Startup (C2S) programme aims at

part in the mission," he said.

doctor mission of helping Plea for Insurance Settlement

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Minister, Co-opera-Atanu tion, Sabyasachi Nayak has urged the Government of India to ask insurance companies for settlement of claims under Pradhan Mantri Fasal BimaYojana (PMFBY) for Kharif

2021. In this regard, Mr. Nayak has written to letter to Union Minister for Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, Narendra Singh Tomar on Monday. The Minister said State Government is continuing to implement PMFBY since Kharif 2016 even though many of the neighboring States are opting out of the scheme.

recom-

In order to augment the scheme implementation process, the State Government on their part has taken several initiatives.

Odisha is the first State to introduce Smart Sampling Technique (SST) for selection of plots for conduct of Crop Cutting Experiments (CCEs) and the second State to integrate the State Land Records Portal with the National crop insurance portal, he said.

The State Government has also conducted Special drive for capturing of CCE data using Mobile app leading to maximum capturing of such data. The State has also constituted District and Block Level Monitoring Committers to oversee program implementation, pointed out Mr.Nayak.



He said the Kharif season of 2021 was fraught by many natural calamities affecting many crops especially Paddy which is the major crop of the State and accounts for nearly 98 per cent of the area insured. The estimated claim for the said season is about Rs. 1364 crore

out of which claims to the tune of Rs.748 crore have been settled, so far, the Minister wrote.

"It has come to the notice of the State Government that in many cases the notified insurance companies have raised objections regarding the conduct of CCE and held up the claims," he further pointed out.

The objections raised by the insurance companies have been duly complied yet the claims have not been settled which has led to farmers unrest in many places and likely to affect the enrolment process for Kharif 22 which is underway, he said,

adding, Government of India has already been moved for appropriate intervention in the matter. In view of the above

facts, Mr.Nayak sought personal attention of Union Minister Mr.Tomar into the matter and issue of suitable directive by the Department of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, to the insurance companies for settlement of claims at the earliest for safeguarding the interest of the farmers.

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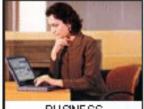
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Signing 'Indian 2' has been a step up in my career, says Kajal Aggarwal



CHENNAI (KCN): Actress Kajal Aggarwal, who teams up with actor-filmmaker Kamal Haasan for the first time in the upcoming Tamil film "Indian 2", says signing the project her over a decadelong career.

Last seen on screen in Telugu film "Kavacham", Kajal has already begun prepping for her role in "Indian 2".

"I'm really thrilled to be part of

the project. I'm quite excited about my role and the skills I will get to learn on the job. I see signing 'Indian 2' as a step up in my career," Kajal told IANS along the sidelines of the launch of beverage

brand 7Up's new campaign, 7Up Ponneram.

Ponneram translates to golden times in English. Kajal said her career's golden times started when she signed S.S. Rajamouli's "Magadheera".

"My golden times started when I signed 'Magadheera'. I have seen many ups and downs in my profession but it was only after I did 'Magadheera' did my career catapult to the next league. It earned me a lot of recognition which I enjoy even today," she said. make of Kangana Talking about Ranaut's "Queen". what excited her

most about the asso-

ciation with 7Up,

Kajal said: "It's a

brand a lot of us can

easily identify and

relate with. I like the

fact that it's a very

clear beverage. It's

also a drink that lets

you take a step back

and chill. I treat suc-

cess or failure by tak-

ing a step back and I

believe it gives you a

front, Kajal is keenly

looking forward to

the release of "Paris

On the career

lot of clarity."

"Paris Paris" will be Kajal's first release of 2019.

"When I was offered the 'Queen' remake, I saw it as a story that can be explored in many languages. It's a simple story of a simple girl that I could connect with on many levels. I'm sure there are a lot of girls across different parts of Tamil Nadu who will relate to this story and I'd be glad if this film empowers them," she added.

has been a step up in Paris", the Tamil re-From 2.0 to Raazi, top 10 Indian movies based on worldwide gross

2018 has been an eventful year for Indian cinema. From Sanju to Sarkar, the industry faced a row

blockbuster' film. The movie showed the different phases of the controversial actor Sanjay Dutt,

4. Race 3:

'Our business is our business, none of your business' line from the movie took

leted from the movie too. The matter was later settled in Madras HC. It was much hyped that actor

Aamir apologised for failing to entertain people. Even Katrina Kaif, Fatima Sana

Khan 9. Rangasthalam: With the right

mix of content for a commercial flick, Rangasthalam made it big in the box office by collecting Rs 151 crore. The story is about how a young man with hearing impairment and his brother decide to dethrone their village's president who's been ruling the village for 30 years. 10. Raazi: An adaptation of

Harinder Sikka's 'Calling Sehmat' novel, Raazi is based on the true story of an Indian spy, who gets married into a Pakistani family of military officials to spy on Pakistan during the Indo-Pak war of 1971. It's easily Alia Bhatt's career best. The movie minted Rs 121 crore in the box office against the budget of Rs 30 crore.

It's been a great year for Indian cinema which took us on a journey of emotions, from laughter to tears, sometimes of joy. Though a lot of films didn't make it to this list, good films silently made it into the hearts of the audience.

of controversies. Yet some movies shined amid the storm.

According to IMDb, here's the list of ten movies that performed well in the box office last year. 1. 2.0:

It won't be an exaggeration to call 2.0 as India's 'Superhero' movie. True to that, Kollywood and Bollywood superheroes Rajinikanth and Kumar Akshay played the lead roles in the movie. The movie has so far earned over Rs 700 crore worldwide already and is still running successfully in theatres. Directed by Shankar, who's known to make magnificent movies, 2.0 comes with a social message for people on why one should reduce the use of mobile phones. Also, it is the first Tamil film to enter the 700 crore club. If you haven't watched the film yet, book your tickets right away! 2. Sanju:

Sanjay Dutt's biopic 'Sanju' minted Rs 340 crore at the box office and was declared as 'double

which really didn't go well with some organisations. RSS openly criticised the movie in their mouthpiece 'Panchianya.' However, the movie became a huge hit in no time. It's definitely Ranbir Kapoor's best work ever. The movie was a comeback for both the reel and real Sanjus. 3. Padmaavat:

Initially scheduled to be released in 2017, the movie was caught in a row of controversies and finally got released early this year in January. Set in medieval Rajasthan, the revolves story around the life of Queen Padmavathi, which drew the flak from right-wing groups. Unlike the claims by the religious fanatics, the movie actually portrayed queen Padmavati in the best light. However, the film's team was asked to remove a few scenes from the movie before its release. Despite the fuss, the movie became a blockbuster at the box office, earning Rs 293 crore.

the internet by storm and hundreds of memes were made on it. Based on relationship and royalties, this is the first film in the series that Salman Khan was a part of. Race 3 was critically panned and failed to do the expected business. But inspite of being a flop, it managed to mint Rs 166 crore in the box office. 5. Sarkar:

Sarkar's plot is about a successful businessman from the USA coming to India to cast his vote on election day. To his shock, he finds out that his vote has already been cast by someone else. So he decides to take up a political battle against the miscreants and how he survives the race makes the rest of the story. Directed by AR Murugadoss, the movie got into a huge and criticised by the ruling Tamil Nadu government for allegedly misrepresenting AIADMK's late leader J Jayalalithaa and the government freebie schemes.. A few scenes were de-

Vijay may begin his political career after this movie. Sarkar was well received by the Tamil audience and it made Rs 151 crore in the box office. 6. Baaghi 2:

This

Tiger Shroff-Disha Patani starrer failed to impress audience due to its poor storyline line. Despite that, the movie minted Rs 161 crore in the box office and became a blockbuster. The story is about an army man trying to save his ex-lover's kidnapped daughter. The Baaghi series will have a third part 'Baaghi 3,' which will be out on March 6, 2020.

7. Thugs of Hindostan:

The film set in the 18th century earned Rs 130 crore in the box office against the 275 crore budget ending up a huge disaster at the box office despite having strong star cast including Aamir Khan, Amitabh Bachchan, Katrina Kaif. The film received hilarious reactions on social media as well. Later,

blockbuster, minting Rs 136 crore in the box office. This unconventional story is about a 25-year-old man facing embarrassment in society as his mother gets pregnant. Watching this movie will hurt your belly from laughing but it leaves you with a thought to ponder.

Shaikh expressed

their disappointment.

nothing but fun!

Made at a 30 crore

budget, the movie

became a mega-

Badhaai Ho is

8. Badhaai Ho:

Just 'normal' to exclude women in decision making process: Adil Hussain

MUMBAI(KCN): Actor Adil Hussain has offered support to the growing group of female artistes who are asking the reason for women's absence from the Bollywood delegation of producers and actors that recently met Prime Minister Narendra Modi to discuss issues faced by the film indus-

On Tuesday, an 18-member panel, including Akshay Kumar, Karan Johar, Ajay Devgn, Siddharth Roy Kapur, Ritesh Sidhwani and CBFC chief Prasoon Joshi, met Modi to discuss how to take the entertainment industry to the next stage. The meeting of the

delegation came under fire on Wednesday for its exclusion of female representation with some activists and filmmakers pointing out that it was 2018 and asking, "Where are the women?" Adil took to Twitter to criticise the panel that met the prime minister, saying it has become the habit to exclude women from the decision making process.

operation since

1882 and 1884

Popular people's Daily of Odisha

Save Small Savings Scheme, Save India Post

Five lakh postal employees including Gramin Dak Sewaks are organizing one day nationwide strike under the banner



of Postal Joint Council of Action c o m p r i s i n g N a t i o n a l Federation of Postal Employees and Federation of National Postal organizations on 10th August, 2022

in protest against the proposed merger of Post Office Savings Bank (POSB) with India Post Payments Bank Limited (IPPB) leading to privatization of Department of Posts (DoP) through stage-wise corporatization beginning with National Small Savings Scheme (NSSS) operated through 1.57 lakh post offices as Post Office Small Savings Scheme (POSSS).

The exercise has since been started way back in 2014 when the Union Government constituted a Task Force on Leveraging the Post Office Network headed by Shri T.S.R. Subramaian Ex. Cabinet Secretary, Govt. of India. The Committee submitted its report in Novemeber-2014 recommending dividing Department of Posts (DoP) in to six units. i.e. (i) Banking and financial services (ii) Insurance (PLI/RPLI), (iii) Distribution of third-party products (Services on behalf of private parties on payment basis), (iv) Management of Govt. services (v) Parcel & Packets and (vi) communication delivery. The first five units were designated as Strategic Business Units and sixth unit was left to deliver mails at subsidized rates. Under DoP, a holding company "India Post (Financial and other Services) Corporation Limited" was recommended to be formed. The Corporation would consist of Board of Members and one Chairman from the Board members. All the five separate subsidiary companies

Letter to Editor Ban plastic water pouch

Most of the states in the nation that has not outlawed plastic water pouches. However, it has been found that hotels, pubs, and restaurants are also providing water pouches in place of clean water in tumblers, mugs, and jars, despite our central government's calls for us to be clean and plastic-free. The number of people selling plastic water pouches is growing daily. People use these plastic pouches and toss them wherever they want. Particularly in cities, plastic water pouches gather on streets, gardens, religious sites, markets and also among other places. The waste from water pouches is readily visible in many cities. The consumption of plastic water pouches is killing even cows and other animals. Additionally, there is a drainage blockage brought on by waste from the water sacs, which is resulting in dangerous flies and mosquitoes. According to social custom, a prohibition on the sale and use of plastic water pouches can be firmly enacted, especially in urban areas. Government agencies can easily outlaw water pouches and deal with those who violate the ban on water bags. If necessary, they can impose legal sanctions and use Article 133 of the Criminal Code proceedings. In certain ways, banning water pouches will lessen environmental pollution. Vijaykumar H.K., Raichur

would also have separate Boards. In

Bruhaspati Samal

ght respectively and other financial ew products and services introduced by DoP are subsequently since promulgation of be Indian Post Office Act, 1854 and have was been offering best services to the ary members of public for last 168 years will now lose their independent existences.

Iso The POSB Account offers interest @ 4% per annum for deposits without any upper limit and free of service charges and ost there is also no limitation either on

per annum for deposits without any upper limit and free of service charges and there is also no limitation either on amount or on number of transactions relating to deposit and withdrawal. While 1 / 2 / 3 Year TD Account carries interest @ 5.5 per annum, 5 year TD carries 6.7% being compounded quarterly including 5 Year RD @ 5.8% per annum. Similarly, SCSS, MIS, NSC, PPF, KVP and SSA carry rate of interest @ 7.4%, 6.6%, 6.8%, 7.1%, 6.9% and 7.6% per annum respectively. There is no upper limit of investment in case of SB, TD and RD Account, investment in SCSS, PPF and 5 Year TD qualifies for the benefit of Section 80C of the Income Tax Act, 1961. Easy and acceptable methods of opening of account, subsequent deposit, withdrawal, closure and transfer attracted the members of public towards POSB Schemes. As on 31.03.2021, the total number of Accounts under NSSS is 290387767 with outstanding balance of Rs. 969136.17 crore. With a variety of products as above, DoP operates POSSS on behalf of Ministry of Finance, Government of India and earns nearly 64% of its income from National Small Savings Scheme (NSSS).

Contradictorily, IPPB Account offers interest @ Rs.2.00% and @ 2.25% per annum on balance up to Rs. 1 lakh and for incremental balances above Rs. 1 lakh and up to Rs. 2 lakh respectively. In addition, while there was no charges initially for Door Step Banking (DSB), now a sum of Rs. 20/- plus GST is being charged from the customers. Not only DSB, but several other facilities like cash deposits, withdrawals and mini statements beyond three free transactions a month, digital SB Account closure, fund transfer, standing instruction, POSB sweep-in and sweepout, payment for DoP products (SSA, PPF, RD), mobile postpaid, bills payment, AePS transactions, annual maintenance and re-issuance of virtual debit card etc. are also chargeable by IPPB from Rs.5/ to Rs.50/- plus GST for which customers are not showing that much of interest towards IPPB and the very purpose of its execution in spite of protest by the postal workers has been defeated with a minus balance of Rs. 821,43,93,936/- in the Annual Profit Loss Account of IPPB for the year ending 31st March, 2021. While IPPB is functioning in the rent free building provided by DoP including water and electricity, maximum DoP employees are working in IPPB on deputation and all the services introduced by IPPB are

practically performed by DoP original employees, it has unnecessarily thrown a burden of more than Rs.821 crore on DoP in just 30 months going against its exquisite slogan "Aapka Bank Aapke Dwar". Further, the IPPB is also creating confusion amongst the esteemed customers of PLI when it campaigns for Bajaj Allianz Life POS Goal Suraksha on behalf of DoP which has introduced PLI since 1st February, 1884. There should not be a conflict of interest with PLI being the oldest insurance in the country with 'Low Premium, High Bonus' and having access to each individual citizen of India through Rural Postal Life Insurance available in all the 1.57 lakh post offices.

Out of 1.57 lakh post offices, 1.30 lakhs are in rural areas, the investors of NSSS are mainly rural poor people belonging to economically weaker section of the society. Their hard earned money is quite safe and secured under NSSS providing good amount of returns. It may not be a wise decision for forceful merger of their deposits with a loss making banking organization in the name of IPPB Ltd which is just a payment bank and not full-fledged. In case it goes bankrupt, the depositor is only entitled for Rs. 5 lakh only as per the threshold limit fixed by RBI's Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation. But that apprehension is not at all there under POSSS. The proposed arbitrary merger of POSB with IPPB will only corporatize this largest postal network in the world which earns 64% of its total income from POSSS and put the members of public to unnecessary difficulties depriving them the huge benefits given by NSSS. To bring an awareness among the citizens of India regarding the future negative consequences of the proposed merger of POSB with IPPB and to protect the interest of 30 crores investors and their 10 lakh crore investments under NSSS on one hand and to save India Post and postal services mounting pressure on the Govt. on the other, five lakh postal employees including Gramin Dak Sewaks are organizing one day nationwide strike on 10th August, 2022. When the possibility of the existence of a civilized state cannot be conceived without the cooperation of this vast organization of effective communication which legitimately conquered so important place in Indian social, political, religious, cultural and economic atmosphere transmitting the words and thoughts of the nation, it should be treated as an exception to the proposed corporatization move of the Central Govt. The proposal of proposed merger of POSB with IPPB needs to be stopped forthwith to save India Post, the significance of which can be better understood by visualizing its absence due to corporatization.

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the course of time, Govt. might disinvest its part of holding and new corporation would raise fund from share market and thereafter would also be listed in share market in future. It was stated in the report that five Subsidiary Companies would make profit and contribute to meet the loss of sixth unit. The Task Force Committee also recommended for amendment of Indian Post Office Act 1898 and to bring another Postal Act. "India Post (Financial and other services)" Corporation Act for reorganization of Deptt. of Posts (DoP) by creating new Corporate Structure.

Apprehending complete privatization of DoP through stage-wise corporatization of DoP, though there was a series of pan India agitations by the entirety of postal workers and employees, the Union Govt. did not pay any attention to the views and suggestions of the staff side and constituted IPPB in 650 branches and 3250 access points on 1st September, 2018 as the first PSU under DoP obtaining Certificate of Incorporation from the Registrar of Companies, Ministry of Corporate Affairs under the Companies Act 2013 with the objective to build the most accessible, affordable and trusted bank for the common man, to spearhead the financial inclusion agenda by removing the barriers for the unbanked and to reduce the opportunity cost for the under banked populace through assisted door step banking. Since then, as a policy of dual structure, IPPB has been contributing its technological process in helping modernize products of DoP in line with best banking practices. Similarly, DoP is extending the support of its massive and unmatched distribution network in creating a unified one-stop platform for delivering various Government-to-Citizen services that has the potential to radically change the overall banking experience for both the existing and new customers.

But the hidden agenda of the Govt. and apprehensions of the staff members for complete corporatization of DoP brought to light when the cabinet approved the I T Modernization Project 2.0 of DoP on 19th January, 2022 for an outlay of Rs.5785/- crore to be incurred for a period of eight years from 2022-23 to 2029-30 with a view to avoid the above dual structure and to keep only single IPPB structure to be used for banking, insurance and other financial services provided by India Post so far. The key decisions of the cabinet are that the core postal operations namely postal and point of sale (mails), accounting, field network, back office management and postal hardware will be the domain of DoP as DoP Track and rest operations, viz; banking and insurance, rural hard were devices, I T infra fraud and risk management will be merged with IPPB as IPPB Track. Thus, the POSSS and Postal Life Insurance (PLI) which are in

THE KALINGA CHRONICLE Popular people's Daily of Odisha

SSC scam: BJP is wrong if it thinks it can break my party using agencies, says CM Mamata

KOLKATA: If anyone is found guilty of wrongdoing, he must be punished, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee said on Monday, days after her cabinet colleague Partha Chatterjee was arrested in the SSC scam by the Enforcement Directorate (ED).

Addressing an award function of the state government here, Banerjee slammed the opposition for a "malicious campaign" launched against her, asserting that she does not support corruption.

"We have full faith in the judiciary. There has to be a time frame within which the truth and the court's verdict must be out. If anyone is proven guilty, then he or she must be punished. The party, too, will take action. But, I condemn the malicious campaign against me," she said.

Referring to the video shared by the BJP, in which she was seen interacting with Arpita Mukherjee from whose house Rs 22 crore in cash was found, the chief minister said the Trinamool Congress has no links with her.

"The party has no relation with that lady, neither do I know her. I attend several programmes, if someone gets clicked with me, is it my fault?" she said. Hitting out at the BJP, Banerjee said that if the party thinks that it can break the Trinamool Congress by using central probe agencies then it is wrong.

"It has to be seen whether it (the investigation) is a trap to malign my party and me. I neither support corruption nor allow it to breed," she said.

Chatterjee, the West Bengal Industry and Commerce Minister, was arrested by the ED on Saturday in connection with its investigation into the irregularities in the recruitment drives by the School Service Commission (SSC), which allegedly happened when he was the state's education minister. Mukherjee, claimed to be his close aide, was also arrested by the agency after a huge amount of cash was found at her south Kolkata apartment.

teers were in their

20s and 30s and

came from Kyiv, about two hours'

drive away. But others have come from

the western city of

Lviv and also nearby

Chernihiv, while

some foreign volun-

teers arrived from

Portugal, the United

States, Germany and

The clean-up at the

cultural center was

the group's eighth

project so far, and

they have already

helped repair 15

damaged homes in

the village. They plan

to expand and hold a

building camp event

in the nearby town of

Lukashivka, where

they will construct

elsewhere.

Young Ukrainians use techno parties to rebuild devastated villages

YAHIDNE: In a village in northern Ukraine that was devastated by Russian

club scene was brought to an abrupt halt with the Russian invasion on Feb. 24. back to normal life, but our normal life now is volunteering," Burianova, 26, told



occupation only months ago, a techno party is in full swing. In a bombed-out building, more than 200 young people have found a novel way to help rebuild their country.

The daytime "cleanup rave" in Yahidne was organized by young Ukrainians who have been using dance parties as a way to contribute to recovery efforts in the country's north, which has suffered major damage from Russian bombardment.

Shovels in hand, the volunteers tackle the remnants of a village cultural centre that was destroyed in March by a Russian rocket strike, tossing piles of debris onto a tractor's loader. A DJ, turntables mounted on a stack ammunition boxes, spins techno and house dance music as the volunteers work. Some even take a break from their labour to dance. "Volunteering is my lifestyle now," said Tania Burianova, an organizer with the Repair Together initiative. "I like electronic music and I used to party. But now it's wartime and we want to help, and we're doing it with music."

Ukraine's vibrant

Now, with a nighttime curfew in effect in Kyiv, the capital, and the threat of more Russian rocket attacks ever present, adherents of Ukraine's party culture have sought to combine the fun and freedom of a music

festival with rebuild-

The Associated Press. The damaged cultural centre sits on the edge of Yahidne, where nearly all of the just over 300 people in the village were confined to a basement for weeks by Russian forces during the occupation of the northern



ing the country they love

A DJ holds a techno performance while young volunteers clear debris from a building destroyed by a Russian rocket in village the Yahidne. (Photo | AP) Burianova said theclean-up raves bring together those who had lost their nightclub community during the war, helping them regain a sense of normalcy and fun while contributing to the recovery of damaged towns.

"We miss (parties) and we want to come

Chernihiv province. Local resident Nina, 68, said she spent those awful weeks in the basement before the Russian troops withdrew, and that 11 people died there as a result of the poor conditions. She was grateful to see young people coming together to help the village recover.

"They already repaired our windows, doors and entrances," Nina said of the volunteers. "We couldn't do it ourselves with our salaries or pensions. I'm thankful that they helped us." Most of the volun-

Burianova said.

After finishing a set, DJ Oleksandr Buchinskiy said all of the volunteers were connected by a sense of optimism and responsibility.

"These are all young people that still have a passion for life, but they feel pain and are very sad and angry because of the war," Buchinskiy said. "But they feel a need to take part in this historical moment, and help people, and make Ukraine a better place with a smile on their faces."

Cong terms MPs suspended from LS for remaining monsoon session as 'blot on democracy'

NEW DELHI: Four Congress Lok Sabha members were suspended on Monday for the rest of the Monsoon session after Speaker Om Birla took a stern view of the continuous disruptions by them, evoking a sharp reaction from the party, which termed the action against its MPs a "blot on democracy". The suspension of Congress MPs -- Manickam Tagore, TN Prathapan, Ramya Haridas

and Jothimani-- under Rule 374 for obstructing the functioning of the House, came amidst continuous demand of the Opposition for a discussion on price rise and hike in GST rates.

Defending the suspension of these MPs from

Lok Sabha, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi said the government is ready for discussion on price rise, but the MPs did not respect the chair and created a ruckus by violating the laws.

As the protesting opposition members again stalled Lok Sabha proceedings on Monday after the near washout first week of the current session, the Chair named the Congress MPs.

When members are named, they have to immediately withdraw from the chamber of the House. Joshi

then moved a resolution to suspend the four for the rest of the session. He said these MPs have shown "utter disregard" for the authority of the Chair and a "serious note of their misconduct" had been taken by the House.

National / International

Earlier, Speaker Om Birla had warned the protesting members, including from the Congress, TMC and DMK, that those who continue to shout

slogans and display placards will have to do it outside the House after 3 pm.

As the other opposition members continued to protest, a visibly peeved Birla told them that the government was ready to discuss issues raised

by them and stressed that people want the House to function. Birla then adjourned the House till 3 pm.

However, as the House proceedings resumed, waving of placards and sloganeering continued, drowning the voices of members participating in the Zero Hour.

Rajendra Agarwal, who was chairing the proceedings, asked the opposition members to take note of the warning given by the Speaker.

Canadian indigenous school abuse: Pope set for historic apology in Alberta's Maskwacis

EDMONTON: Thousands of Indigenous persons are expected to converge Monday on the small Alberta prairie community of Maskwacis to hear a long-awaited apology from Pope Francis for generations of abuse and cultural suppression at Catholic residential schools across Canada.

Francis is scheduled to arrive in mid-morning at the site of the former Ermineskin Indian Residential School, now largely torn down. He will pause at the sites of the former school and nearby cemetery before speaking in a large open area to school survivors, their relatives and other

supporters.
Francis arrived Sunday in Edmonton, where he was greeted by representatives of Canada's three main Indigenous groups — First Nations, Metis and Inuit — along with political and church dignitaries. The pope spent the

rest of the day resting

at a seminary in the provincial capital. The Canadian government has admitted that physical and sexual abuse was rampant in the state-funded Christian schools that operated from the 19th century to the 1970s. Some 150,000 Indigenous children were taken from their families and forced to attend in an effort to isolate them from the influence of their homes, Native languages and cultures and assimilate them into Canada's Christian society.

Francis' six-day trip — which will also include other sites in Alberta, Quebec City and Iqaluit, Nunavut, in the far north — follows meetings he held in the spring at the Vatican with delegations from the First Nations, Metis and Inuit. Those meetings culminated with a historic April 1 apology for the "deplorable" abuses committed by some Catholic missionaries in residential schools.

Thousands of children died from disease, fire and other causes. The discoveries of hundreds of potential burial sites at former schools in the past year has drawn international attention to the legacy of the schools in Canada and their counterparts in the United States. Francis is now following through on a commitment to make that apology on Canadian

soil.

Maskwacis, about an hour south of Edmonton, is the hub of four Cree nations.

Canadian indigenous school abuse: From unmarked graves to Pope's apology a timeline of events thus far

Event organizers said they would do everything possible to make sure survivors can attend the event. Many will travel from parkand-ride lots, and organizers acknowledge that many survivors are elderly and will require accessible vehicles, diabetic-friendly snacks and other amenities.

Catholics operated a majority of the Canadian schools, while various Protestant denominations operated others in cooperation with the government. Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, who last year voiced an apology for the "incredibly harmful government policy" in organizing the residential school system, will also attend the Maskwacis event along with other government officials.

In Maskwacis, the former school where Francis is visiting has been replaced with a



school system operated by the four local Cree nations. The curriculum affirms the Indigenous culture that was once suppressed. Chief Greg Desjarlais of the Frog Lake First Nation in northern Alberta, a school survivor, said after the pope's arrival Sunday that there are "mixed emotions across this country" over his visit. "I think today of the young people that didn't make it home and are buried around residential schools," he told a news conference after the airport welcome ceremony. But he expressed optimism that the visit can begin to bring reconciliation.

"I do know when two people have apologized we feel better," he said. "But our people have been through a lot. ... Our people have been traumatized. Some of them didn't make it home. Now I hope the world will see why our people are so hurt."

On Monday afternoon, Francis is scheduled to visit Sacred Heart Church of the First Peoples, a Catholic parish in Edmonton oriented toward Indigenous people and culture. The church, whose sanctuary was dedicated last week after being restored from a fire, incorporates Indigenous language and customs in the liturgy.

"I never in my life thought I would see a pope here at Sacred Heart Church," said Fernie Marty, who holds the title of a church elder. "And now we get that opportunity."

When Francis visits, the church will display the clothing, bread and other supplies it regularly provides to the needy, including many of Edmonton's estimated urban Indigenous population of 75,000.

The visit will be an "encounter" that will help "for people to know what we are, who we are," said its pastor, the Rev. Jesu Susai.

Popular people's Daily of Odisha

More Funds for Housing

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Odisha Government has spent Rs.1138.02 crore and constructed



1,05,377 houses under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojna (G) during 2021-22 financial year. The State Government has proposed Budget provision for 2022-23 is Rs. 5505.84 crore for the program, Panchyati Raj and Drinking Water Minister Pradip Amat informed the State Legislative Assembly on Monday.

Replying to the debate on his department's demand for Rs.22734.84 crore during the 2022-23 fiscal, he said out of this Rs.17573.79 crore is under programme expenditure, Rs 2082.46 crore under 15th CFC Award, Rs.2649.04 crore under 5th SFC Award and Rs 429.55 Cr. towards Administrative Expenditure.

During the 2021-22 financial year, Rs.915.14 crore has been spent and construction of 1910 houses completed under Biju Pucca Ghar Yojna, he informed the House.

Further repair grant @ Rs.5000 has been paid

to 22,46,807 families, he added.

The Budget provision for 2022-23 under the Biju Pucca Ghar is Rs.400.00 crore.

During 2021-22, Rs.2473.98 crore has been spent and the Budget provision under MGNREGS scheme for 2022-23 is Rs. 2000 crore and Rs.1000 crore under MGNREGS Revolving fund.

Further, the Minister said that for provision of additional 200 days of wage employment over and above the 100 days of work guaranteed under the MGNREGA to 20 blocks of 4 migration prone districts like Bolangir, Baragarh, Kalahandi, Nuapada a new state sector scheme namely State Support to MGNREGS has been introduced and budget provision of Rs.500.00 Crore has been proposed for 2022-23.

During 2021-22, 30171 rural youths have been trained under Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Koushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY) The Budget provision for 2022-23 is Rs. 86.00 crore, the Minister said.

Under Rural Water Supply Scheme on date.4,76,050 tube wells and sanitary wells installed and 13848 single village/ multi village piped waters supply schemes have been commissioned to provide safe drinking water to the Rural areas of the State.

Besides 12,683 of solar based piped water supply projects have been completed, 3386 solar based PWS schemes are under execution in 1st phase and tender has been invited for 3103 projects.

There is a budget provision of Rs. 6000.00 crore under JJM, Rs. 850.00 Crore under BASUDHA and Rs. 1000.00 crore under Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) for the F.Y. 2022-23.

There is a budget provision of Rs. 2082.46 crore under 15th Finance Commission for FY 2022-23 which may be distributed among the GPs, PSs & ZPs.

The Budget provision is Rs. 2649.04 crore under 5th State Finance Commission (SFC) for 2022-23, said he.

Lawyers of Angul Bar Association demand immediate repair of NHs, stage blockades

ANGUL(KCN): and stopped heavy Lawyers across the vehicles from plying.



district resorted to road blockade on Sunday demanding immediate repair and expansion of National Highway (NH)-55 and NH-149. The lawyers of Angul Bar Association led by its president Dilip Sahoo staged blockades on NH-55 at many places from 6 am to 12 pm. Similarly, lawyers of Talcher Bar Association led by its president Santosh Sahoo blocked NH-149 at Bypass Chowk and Balhar Chowk. Lawyers of Athamallik blocked NH-55 at Boinda Chowk.

The entire NH-55 stretch from Banarpal to Bamur was blocked by the lawyers. The agitators allowed only two-wheelers to pass road blockades. "We demand immediate repair and expansion of NH-55 linking Angul to Sambalpur as the road condition is bad. We submitted a memorandum to Deputy Speaker of Odisha Assembly and Angul MLARajanikanta Singh over the demand on the day," he added.

meeting under the chairmanship of Rajanikanta was held at Angul to discuss the condition of the NHs. Revenue Divisional Commis-(North) sioner Suresh Dalei, Angul Collector Siddhartha Shankar Swain, his Dhenkanal counterpart Saroj Sethi and NHAI officials at-

Youth arrested on the charge of stealing money, breaking the bike's basket

Later in the day, a

Barbil (KCN):

from all walks of life

participated in the



Barbil police arrested one youth stealing money by way of breaking bike basket. As per information, Himansu Sekhar Singh of Azad basti Joda had come to State Bank of Barbil to apply his ATM card. After completing his work ,he withdrew Rs.10,000 from bank ATM and kept cash document in his basket .He again came to Bharat

Bakery to buy breads keeping his bike aside. While coming back from the bakery, he found his basket broken .Having received a complain Himansu from ,Barbil police investigated the matter. Based on CC tv camera footage police identified culprit Milu Patra of New Market ,Barbil and arrested him under IPC 379.

'Name Droupadi was given by my teacher': President Murmu revisits her childhood

BHUBANESHWAR: The first tribal President India's name Droupadi, based on a character of the epic 'Mahabharata' was given by her school teacher.

In an interview with an

good," she said when the magazine asked why she is called Droupadi, a name similar to the 'Mahabharata' character.

She had also mentioned that her name was changed several times -

tered her oath at a ceremony held at Parliament's Central Hall.

Much before getting elected to the country's highest Constitutional post, Murmu had made her views clear on the rums," she had said. son Laxman.

"I was completely shattered and broken following the death of my son. I was depressed for about two months. I stopped meeting people and remained confined at home. Later I joined Ishwariya Prajapati Brahmakumari, underwent yoga and meditation," she said.

The 15th President of India lost her younger son Sipun in a road accident in 2013 and subsequently, her brother and mother passed away.

"I have encountered tsunami in my life and seen three deaths of my family members in a span of six months," Murmu said, adding that her husband Shyam Charan also fell ill and

"There was a time when I thought I might die anytime," she said Murmu also said sorrow and happiness have their own space in



Odia video magazine some time ago, she revealed that her Santhali name "Puti" was changed to Droupadi by a teacher in school. "Droupadi was not my original name. It was given by my teacher who hailed from another district, not from native Mayurbhanj," Murmu

told the magazine. Teachers in the tribaldominated Mayurbanjh district used to travel from either Balasore or

she claimed. "The teacher did not like my previous name and changed it for

Cuttack in the 1960s,

from "Durpadi" to "Dorpdi".

She stated that names do not die in Santhali culture. "If a girl is born, she

takes the name of her grandmother, while a son carries grandfather's nomenclature," she said.

Droupadi, who had the surname of Tudu in schools and colleges, started using the title Murmu after she married Shyam Charan Tudu, a bank officer. Murmu on Monday

President of India. Chief Justice of India N V Ramana adminis-

took oath as the 15th

reservation for women in politics.

"There must be reservation for women in politics dominated by men. The political parties can change this situation as they choose candidates and distribute tickets to contest elections," she told the magazine.

Murmu, however, said women should focus on "qualitative politics" and raise their voices for empowerment in Parliament or state assemblies.

"The women must strengthen their qualitative acumen by highlighting peoples' problems at the right fo-In another interview with Brahmakumari Godlywood Studio on February 18, 2020, Murmu narrated her ordeal after the death of her 25-year-old eldest

died in 2014.

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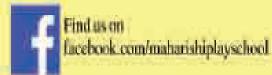
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Popular people's Daily of Odisha

Rs 14,820 crore tax demand raised under black money law on foreign income: Govt

NEW DELHI: The government on Monday said it has raised a tax demand of Rs 14,820 crore after completing an aswindow, which closed on September 30, 2015, under the Black Money (Undisclosed Foreign Income and Assets)

that these deposits do not indicate the quantum of the alleged black money held by Indians in Switzerland.

SNB collects in collaboration with the Bank for International Settlements (BIS).

As per the same me-



sessment in 368 cases under the black money law dealing with undisclosed foreign income.

In a written reply in the Lok Sabha, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said in the cases related to deposits made in unreported foreign bank accounts in HSBC, the undisclosed income of more than Rs 8,468 crore has been brought to tax and a penalty of over Rs 1,294 crore has been levied.

The minister further informed the House that 648 disclosures involving undisclosed foreign assets worth Rs 4,164 crore were made in the one-time three months compliance

Continued from page-1

and Imposition of Tax Act, 2015.

The amount collected by way of tax and penalty in such cases was about Rs 2,476 crore, she said. The data provided by the finance minister is up to May 31, 2022.

money deposited in Swiss banks by Indians, Sitharaman said: "There is no official estimate of the amount of money deposited by Indian citizens and companies in Swiss banks". However, she said certain recent media reports have stated that funds of Indians in Swiss Banks have risen in 2021 as compared to 2020.

These media reports have also mentioned

The minister said the Swiss authorities had conveyed that the Swiss National Bank (SNB) annual banking statistics should not be used for analysing deposits held in Switzerland by residents of India. Further, they have On questions about said that to analyse Indian residents' deposits held in Switzerland, another data source should be used, which is called

"locational banking

'locational banking statistics' of the Bank for International Settlement (BIS), showed a decline of 8. 3 per cent during 2021 in deposits by Indian individuals in **Swiss** banks, Sitharaman added. She also apprised the House of the various measures taken by the government to bring to tax the undisclosed foreign assets and income in

statistics", which the the recent past. German union calls 1-day strike by Lufthansa ground staff

BERLIN: A German union has called on Lufthansa round staff to walk out on a one-day strike on Wednesday in a dispute over pay.

The Verdi service workers' union said on Monday that the call applies to all Lufthansa locations in



Germany. It comes amid negotiations on pay for about 20,000 employees of logistical, technical and cargo subsidiaries of the airline. The strike was set to start at 3:45 a.m. (0145 GMT) Wednesday and end at 6 a.m. (0400 GMT) on Thursday. The union aims to raise the pressure on Lufthansa ahead of the next round of negotiations on August 3 and 4. Such "warning strikes" are a common tactic in German labour negotiations and typically last from several hours to a day or two. This walkout comes at a time when airports in Germany and elsewhere already are seeing disruption and long lines for security checks.

quarters and stage peaceful protests. 'We decided to hold a peaceful protest in front of Raj Ghat tomorrow. We had given an application to the Delhi Police for permission but they denied it. It's unfortunate & condemnable. The government is suppressing opposition voice," said Con-

Sonia questioning: Delhi Police im-

poses Sec 144 at Raj Ghat, Cong

also imposed prohibitory order under section 144

During the meeting of party general secretaries and

MPs at the Congress headquarters here, it was

decided they would get together at the AICC head-

leaders to protest at party HQ

of the Criminal Procedure Code in the area.

gress MP KC Venugopal. "Our freedom movement was fought on the principles of non-violence and satyagraha, the teachings of Gandhiji. These ideals transcended boundaries and became the light of hope for many oppressed. The Modi government imposes 144 to suppress our Satyagraha at every spot," he said on Twitter.

"Now they have imposed 144 even around Raj Ghat, the Samadhi of Gandhi ji, to stop peaceful Satyagraha by Congress MPs and CWC members against the misusing of agencies for political vendetta. This is beyond condemnation and they can't silence our voice with brute force," the Congress leader said.

Congress leaders had on Thursday too staged protests outside ED offices across the country. Party leaders and MPs also courted arrest in protest of Gandhi's questioning by the ED.

Gandhi was earlier questioned for a few hours on Thursday last and Congress leaders had staged a protest across the country. Party MPs had also courted arrest in Delhi against her questioning.

The ED probe relates to alleged financial irregularities in the Congress-promoted Young Indian Private Limited, which owns the National Herald newspaper.

Two of Putin's best pilots killed in **Ukraine: Reports**

Continued from page-1

deployed in the Donetsk region, were part of Moscow's most decorated military," reports the Daily Express.

Lt-Col Potyomin and Col Stasyukevich, 54, fought in the same unit in the town of Krymsk, in Krasnodar Krai.

They died on July 8 but the news of the attack only emerged later.

Kyiv last month hailed the arrival of eight HIMARS in Ukraine as a possible game-changer for the course of the conflict, now about to hit the halfyear mark.

News of the fighters' deaths followed claims by Russia that it had destroyed four of Ukraine's HIMARS missiles, which Kyiv rejected as "fake". Russia's defence ministry said on Friday "four launchers and one reloading vehicle for the USmade multiple launch rocket systems (HIMARS) were destroyed" between July 5 and 20, Daily Express said.

DGCA conducts spot checks on 48 SpiceJet aircraft; finds no major safety violation: Govt

NEW DELHI: Aviation regulator DGCA conducted 53 spot checks on 48 SpiceJet aircraft between July 9 and July 13 but it did not find any major DGCA violations, Minister of State for Civil Aviation V K Singh said Monday.

"However, as a safety measure, the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) ordered SpiceJet to use certain identified aircraft (10) for operations only after confirming to the regulator that all reported defects/malfunctions are rectified," Singh said in his written reply in Rajya Sabha.

SpiceJet planes were involved in at least eight technical malfunction incidents in the 18-day period starting June 19, following which the DGCA had on July 6 issued a show-cause notice to the airline, stating that "poor internal safety oversight" and "inadequate maintenance actions" have resulted in degradation of safety margins.

Just three days after issuing the notice, the regulator started conducting spot checks on SpiceJet planes, Singh stated.

The spot checks were completed on July 13. "A total of 53 spot checks were carried out on 48 aircraft which did not find any major significant finding or safety violation," he mentioned.

The DGCA's safety oversight process involves a series of successive follow-up steps which includes communication of observations or findings to the airlines for taking corrective action, review of corrective action taken by the airlines for taking a decision, and initiating enforcement action consisting

Opposition gives political interests preference over nation, PM Modi

Continued from page-1

nities.

times, there has been a trend to put ideology and political interests above the interests of the country and that of society," he added. Speaking on social justice, Modi said every section of society should get equal opportu-

"No one should be deprived of the basic needs. The country will move forward when the Dalits, backwards, tribals, women and divyang move ahead. Harmohanji considered education as the most important for this transformation," he said.

Hailing Yadav, Modi said he not only took a political stand against the massacre of the Sikhs in 1984 but also came forward to save them. He risked his life and saved the lives of many Sikh families, Modi said, adding that the country recognised his leadership and awarded him the Shaurya Chakra for it.

Modi said Yadav took forward the ideals of socialist leader Ram Manohar Lohia in his long political life. "The work which he has done for society and his contribution to the politics of UP and the country will guide coming generations," he said.

The prime minister said Lohia worked on the cultural strength of the country by organising Ramayana fairs and caring for the Ganga.

"Lohiaji was of the view that socialism is a principle of equality. He used to alert (people) that the decline of socialism may convert it into inequality. In India, we have seen both these situations," he said.

Modi said India is realising Lohia's dreams by initiatives like the Namami Gange, Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao, Eklavya Schools for tribal areas and the promotion of education in mother tongue.

Drawing attention to the swearing-in of Droupadi Murmu as the country's new President, Modi said, "For the first time after Independence, a woman from tribal society is going to lead the country. "This is a living example of the strength of our democracy and the ideology of 'sarva samaveshi' (touching everyone)," he said.

Born on October 18, 1921, Harmohan Singh Yadav was a towering leader of his community. He remained active in politics for a long time and served in various capacities as an MLC, MLA, member of the Rajya Sabha and the chairman of the Akhil Bhartiya Yadav Mahasabha.

He was also instrumental in establishing many educational institutions in and around Kanpur with the help of his son Sukhram Singh.

The PM attending his death anniversary programme is being seen in political circles as part of the BJP's outreach to numerically strong Yadavs, the core vote bank of the Samajwadi Party led by Akhilesh Yadav.

The veteran leader's grandson Mohit Yadav has already joined the BJP and his father Sukhram Yadav denied renomination by the SP in the upper house. He also met Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath.

of warning, suspension, cancellation or imposition of financial penalty to the person or the airline involved, he noted.

In its notice to SpiceJet on July 6, the regulator said that the airline has failed to "establish safe, efficient and reliable air services" under the Aircraft Rules, 1937.

"The review (of the incidents) transpires that poor internal safety oversight and inadequate maintenance actions (as most of the incidents were related to either component failure or system-related failure) have resulted in degradation of the safety margins," the notice added.

The regulator gave the airline three weeks to respond to the notice.

India gets New President

Continued from page-1

have been assigned this new responsibility, she said.

The President said she has started my journey of life from a small tribal village in Odisha in the eastern part of the country.

"From the background that I come from, it was like a dream for me to get elementary education. But, despite many obstacles, my determination remained strong and I became the first daughter of my village to go to college," said the President.

"I belong to tribal society. I have got the opportunity to rise from serving as a ward councillor to becoming the President of India. This is the greatness of India, the mother of democracy," she said.

It is a tribute to the power of our democracy that a daughter born in a poor house in a remote tribal area can reach the highest constitutional position in India. That I attained the post of President is not my personal achievement, it is the achievement of every poor person in India, she dedicated.

"My election is a proof of the fact that the poor in India can have dreams and fulfil them too. And it is a matter of great satisfaction for me that those who have been deprived for centuries and those who have been denied the benefits of development, those poor, downtrodden, backwards and tribals are seeing their reflection in me, "said Smt.Murmu.

This election of mine has blessings of the poor of the country, she said, adding it reflects the dreams and potential of crores of women and daughters of the country. Today I feel proud to lead such a progressive India. In the light of the Constitution, I will discharge my duties with utmost sincerity. For me, the democratic-cultural ideals of India and all the citizens will always be my source

Pujya Bapu had resorted to Swaraj, Swadeshi, Swachhta and Satyagraha to show us the way for realising Indian cultural ideals, she said. She names countless personalities like Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, Nehru ji, Sardar Patel, Babasaheb Ambedkar, Bhagat Singh, Sukhdev, Rajguru and Chandrashekhar Azad, who had taught us to keep national pride as paramount. Speaking about herself, the President said, decades ago, she had the opportunity to work as a teacher at Sri Aurobindo Integral School in Rairangpur. After a few days, the nation will observe the 150th birth anniversary of Sri Aurobindo. Sri Aurobindo's thoughts on education continue to inspire me.

"I have realized the importance of forests and water bodies in my life. In my life so far, I have realised the meaning of life only through public service," she said.

Pointing out a line from the poem of Bhim Bhoi Ji, a famous poet of Shri Jagannath Kshetra- Smt. Murmu said, "Mo Jeeban pachhe narke padi thau, jagato uddhar heu". That is, working for the welfare of the world is far greater than one's own interests, she said. "With this spirit of welfare of the world, I will always be ready to work with full devotion and dedication to live up to the trust you all have reposed in me. Let us all unite and move forward on the path of duty with a dedicated spirit to build a glorious and self-reliant India, she concluded her first speech with these words. Prime Minister has wished the President a fruitful Presidential tenure. He said that her assumption of office is a watershed moment for India especially for the poor, marginalised and downtrodden. He also said that in her assumption speech, the President emphasised on India's accomplishments and presented a futuristic vision of the path ahead at a time when India is marking Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav.

SportS

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Former Indian captain Mithali Raj hints at making a comeback to cricket NEW DELHI: Legendary India batter and former skipper Mithali Raj has hinted at coming out of reskipper Mithali Raj has hint



tirement to play in the inaugural of the women's IPL. The very first edition of the women's IPL, which could be a six-team event, is assumed to be launched next year.

Speaking on the first episode of ICC's new podcast, 100% Cricket, Mithali dropped the hint during a candid - and entertaining - chat with former England player Isa Guha and New Zealand off-spinner Frankie Mackay.

"I'm keeping that option open. I've not yet decided. There are a few more months to go before the women's IPL happens. It would be lovely to be part of the first edition of the women's IPL," Mithali 7,805 ODI runs in 232 matches at an average of just over 50. She smashed 2,364 runs in 89 T20Is, as well as 699 runs in 12 Tests, including a hundred and four half-centuries.

Mithali, who made her international debut at the age of 16, also praised batter Shafali Verma and said that she can single-handedly win matches for

"I have been a big fan of her game. I have seen that she's one player who has the ability to win the game single-handedly for India against any attack and any team. She is one of those players that you get to see probably once in a generation," she added.

"When I saw Shafali in a domestic match when she played against Indian Railways, she scored a fifty but I could see a glimpse of a player who could change the entire match just with her innings," said Mithali.

"And when she played for Velocity in the first edition of the Challenger Trophy (women's T20 Challenge 2019), she played for my team and I saw that she has the ability and the raw power that you rarely get to see at that age to clear the boundary and hit a six at will," she added.

Bengaluru FC, Kerala Blasters to face off against Premier League teams in Next Generation Cup in UK

MUMBAI: Bengaluru FC and Kerala Blasters FC reserve squads have arrived in the United Kingdom to participate in the Next Generation Cup, 2022 hosted by the Premier League.

The tournament is part of the long-standing partnership between Premier League and "The FSDL-Premier League partnership has been a crucial step towards our commitment to globalise Indian football and we are thankful to the Premier League for being partners and resonating our vision towards the development and growth of the Indian football ecosystem."



Football Sports Development Limited India has immense potential for football and (FSDL) to support the development of football in India.

The youth squads of the two Indian Super League clubs had qualified to compete in the international tournament by virtue of finishing in the top two in the inaugural Reliance Foundation Development League (RFDL) held earlier this year.

The eight-team Next Generation Cup features five Premier League club youth teams and one academy side from South Africa alongside Bengaluru FC and Kerala Blasters FC. The teams will be divided into two groups and play their first match on July 27 in London

and the Midlands. Premier League Chief Executive Richard Masters said, "The Premier League and our clubs look forward to welcoming players from Bengaluru FC and the Kerala Blasters FC for the Next Generation Cup, the first time the youth development tournament has been held in the UK."

This event builds on our continued work with the Hero Indian Super League, to support the development and growth of football in India. It also provides a brilliant opportunity for young players from the Leagues to meet and compete against each other, learn about each other's cultures and develop both on and off the pitch.

"I hope everyone taking part in the Cup at Leicester City and Tottenham Hotspur's firstteam training facilities enjoys their experience and benefits from their involvement." Football Sports Development Limited (FSDL) spokesperson said, "It gives us immense pleasure to see young Indian footballers gain international exposure and take their game to the next level. This will surely empower the emerging players to

evolve as better footballers and lead the

growth of football in the country.

we at FSDL strive to constantly strengthen the sport to establish the country as a global football powerhouse. We wish our players all the best for the tournament and hope this serves as a great learning experience for them."

During the tournament, the Premier League and its clubs will also provide knowledge sharing workshops to best support the ISL clubs involved.

In addition, it will provide a chance for the young Indian footballers to experience playing in the UK and competing against academy sides from the most followed football league in the world.

Four Indian officials are also present in England, signalling the latest positive step of the Premier League and Professional Game Match Officials Limited's (PGMOL) relationship with the Indian Super League (ISL) and All India Football Federation (AIFF).

This comes as result of an extensive period of collaboration which has also seen PGMOL deliver a number of referee development courses in India as part of the Premier League's Premier Skills programme and wideranging support for match officials, their coaches and observers.

PGMOL Managing Director Mike Riley said, "We've enjoyed a beneficial and productive partnership with the Hero Indian Super League and the AIFF for a number of years now, with a strong focus on coaching and training their match officials both on and off the field.

"There's been some fantastic progress made during that time and it is a pleasure to see that continue as we welcome four talented referees to the Next Generation Cup. I hope that they enjoy the experience and benefit from what promises to be a great tournament."

ATP Rankings: Alcaraz becomes youngest player since Nadal to enter top-5



LONDON: The nineteen-year-old Carlos Alcaraz on Monday created history when he climbed to the No. 5 spot in the ATP Rankings, becoming the second-youngest player in the 21st century to reach the top five.

Spaniard is the youngest man to achieve this feat since his outstanding compatriot Rafael Nadal first rose into

the top five in 2005 while still 18.

Alcaraz had a chance to break into World No. 4 but had to settle for No. 5 after losing in the Hamburg European Open final Lorenzo against Musetti.

While Daniil Medvedev remained the world number 2022 one, Wimbledon champion Novak Djokovic settled on the sev-

grass-court Grand Slam tournament was stripped of ranking points for banning Russian and Belarusian players. "It means a lot. The hard work that I put in every day for reaching my dreams, [No.] 1, and little by little I'm reaching my dream. Top five for me is pretty amazing

and I will keep going

to be [No.] 1,"

ATP.com quoted Alcaraz as saying. The Spanish sensation will attempt to win a title as the top seed at the Plava Laguna Croatia Open Umag. "Of course, Umag is a special tournament for me. I got my first title there, so I'm defending the title this year. But I'm going to try to play my best and of course, take lessons from here,' Alcaraz said.



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