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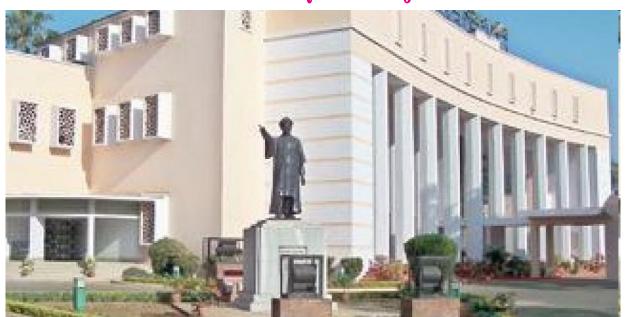
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# THE KALINGA CHRONICLE

Popular People's Daily of Odisha



## Ruckus in Odisha assembly over adjournment motion



BHUBANESWAR(KCN): Noisy scenes were witnessed in the Assembly on Monday as an adjournment motion notice submitted by the Opposition members was not listed for discussion in the House. BJP and Congress members had submitted an adjournment motion notice on non-payment of `20 crore dues to L&T which in course of 18 years have reached to Rs 120

crore including interest. As the issue was not taken up for discussion in the Assembly, Opposition members trooped into the well shouting slogans forcing Speaker Bikram Keshari Arukha to adjourn the house till 4pm. Targeting the government over seizure of Works department property by a private company, the Opposition members sought a clarification from the Min-

Mamata suspects foul play in

Kolkata(KCN): Breaking her silence on the arrest of her Cabinet and party colleague Partha

Chatterjee by the Enforcement Directorate in the

School Service Commission (SSC) jobs scam,

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Monday asserted her zero-tolerance against "corruption" and favoured punishment of "life impris-

In a setback to the minister, the doctors at AIIMS

Bhubaneswar ruled that he did not need immediate

onment" for those guilty of the crime.

ister Prafulla Kumar Mallick in this regard. The Speaker in his ruling said that a review petition was earlier filed with the Supreme Court in connection with the issue. Hence, as per Rule 60 (VII), a matter which is already sub-judice cannot be debated on the floor of the House, he added.

However, Opposition chief whip Mohan Charan Majhi demanded a discussion

over the issue. Alleging that government ignored the issue between 2004 and 2022, Tara Prasad Bahinipati (Cong) demanded that the company should be blacklisted and propis supreme. Any discussion will impact the case, they added.

erty of government officials responsible for this should be seized. Several ruling BJD members, however, maintained that the ruling of Speaker

then it is a crime. If done unknowingly, there is a scope of correction. But I have never allowed myself in doing anything wrong knowingly. TMC does not spare if anyone is a thief or a dacoit. I have

ensured arrests of many of our boys — be it MLAs, MPs and ministers — earlier," the CM told the Banga Bhushan and Banga Bibhushan award ceremony at Nazrul Mancha in the city.

Suspecting foul play behind the controversy, Banerjee pointed out, "Whether it was a trap needs to be looked into also. Sometimes some people lay a trap. We had a big rally on July 21. The very next day they arrived at 5 am. The BJP could not accept the perception of our success."

# "I do not support injustice. It is also not my hobby and profession to support corruption. Someone can make a mistake. If I make a mistake knowingly Pope apologises for 'evil' Christians committed in Canada's indigenous residential schools

MASKWACIS(KCN): Pope Francis issued a historic apology Monday for the Catholic Church's cooperation with

hospitalisation.

plause from school survivors and Indigenous community members gathered at a former residential school south of

Francis said. In the first event of his weeklong "penitential pilgrimage," Francis traveled to the lands of four headdress after he spoke, making him an honorary leader of

Francis' words went beyond his earlier apology for the "deplorable" abuses committed by missionaries and instead took institutional responsibility for the church's cooperation with Canada's "catastrophic" assimilation policy, which the country's Truth and Reconciliation Commission amounted to a "cul-

More than 150,000 native children in Canada were forced to attend government-funded Christian schools from the 19th century until the 1970s in an effort to isolate them from the influence of their homes and culture. The aim

the community.

said tural genocide."

**CONTINUED ON: P-7** 

# Resolution in Odisha Assembly to felicitate President Droupadi Murmu

BHUBANESWAR(KCN): The Odisha Assembly on Monday passed a

ister Niranjan Pujari was supported by members present in

purpose. A former member of the Odisha Assembly,



resolution congratulating President Droupadi Murmu for assuming office of the top constitutional position of the country. The resolution brought by Parliamentary Affairs Min-

the house. The resolution proposed to felicitate the President and said a delegation headed by Speaker Bikram Keshari Arukha should meet her in New Delhi for this

Murmu was elected to the House twice consecutively from 2000 to 2009 from the Rairangpur constituency Mayurbhanj district. She also served as a Minister of State for CONTINUED ON: P-7

Commerce Transport and Fisheries and Animal Resources Development in the Naveen Patnaik ministry from 2000 to 2004 when BJP was in alliance with the BJD State. Meanwhile, Minister Chief Naveen Patnaik who attended the oath taking ceremony at the national capital along with all the 21 BJD MPs, said he was absolutely delighted and honoured with a woman from Odisha holding the highest office in the country. "I would also like to congratulate the

New Delhi(KCN): Congress President Sonia Gandhi is expected to appear before the Enforcement Directorate (ED) Tuesday for her second The 75-five-year old Gandhi was questioned for over two hours during her first day of questioning in the case on July 21 where she replied to 28 ques-

> tions put forth by the agency, that is probing alleged financial irregularities in the Congresspromoted Young Indian Private Limited, which owns the National Herald newspaper. Officials said that like it was on the first day of her appearance, all Covid-appropriate protocols will be put in place

Tuesday as well such as stationing of doctors and an ambulance, 'Covid negative' certificates of investigators and proper physical distancing be-

tween Gandhi and the team of investigators. Gandhi's children Priyanka Gandhi Vadra and Rahul Gandhi are expected to accompany her to the ED

office again like they did last week. Vadra may again stay back in order to provide any

Monday but it was deferred by a day. medicines and other CONTINUED ON: P-7 PM Modi congratulates new Lankan President Wickremesinghe; bats for stability, economic recovery

Narendra Modi has congratulated Sri Lanka's in the face of public revolt against his gov-

round of questioning in the money laundering case

She is expected to depose before the federal probe

agency around noon today for recording of her state-

ment by the ED investigating officer, officials said.

Initially, she was summoned by the agency on

linked to the National Herald newspaper.



newly-elected President Wickremesinghe and said that India will continue to be supportive of the quest of the people of the island nation for stability and economic recovery, through established democratic means, the Indian High Commission said on Tuesday.

Wickremesinghe, 73, was on Thursday sworn in as Sri Lanka's eighth president after he was elected by lawmakers to succeed Gotabaya

COLOMBO(KCN): Prime Minister Rajapaksa who fled the country and resigned

ernment for mismanaging the economy.

"PM @narendramodi sent a congratulatory letter to H.E President @RW\_UNP on his election," the High Commission of India in Colombo said in a tweet.

"PM reiterated that India will continue to be supportive of the quest of the people of

Sri Lanka for stability and economic recovery, through established democratic means, institutions and constitutional framework," it said.

The Prime Minister also conveyed that he looked forward to working closely with the Sri Lankan President for the mutual benefit of people and strengthening the age-old, close and friendly relations between India and Sri Lanka, it added. CONTINUED ON: P-7



Canada's "catastrophic" policy of Indigenous residential schools, saying the forced assimilaof Native peoples into Christian society destroyed their cultures, severed families and marginalized generations.

"I am deeply sorry," Francis said to apEdmonton, Alberta. He called the school policy a "disastrous error" that was incompatible with the Gospel and said further investigation and healing is needed.

"I humbly beg forgiveness for the evil committed by so Christians many against the Indigenous peoples,"

Cree nations to pray at a cemetery and then deliver the longsought apology at nearby powwow ceremonial grounds. Four chiefs escorted the pontiff in a wheelchair to the site near the former Ermineskin Indian Residential School, and presented him

with a feathered

■Popular people's Daily of Odisha •

# WEV launches Mission Back to Village Gujarat Polysol Chemicals, PKH

Bengaluru(KCN): Waldenwood Eco Village(WEV) of Odisha launched a mega mission entitled 'Back to Village 'in Banga-



lore recently. Situated at the foot hill of Kapilash range of mountains in the border of Dhenkanl and Jajpur Districts of Odisha, the WEV has been growing as a popular destination for eco lovers of India and abroad. Conceptualised and designed by the founder of WEV Ram Krishna Dash, the launching of the mission was attended by the leading environmentalists, eco lovers and hygiene experts of the country.

Popularly known as the eco man R.K, Shri



Dash has been the sole initiator and architect of the unique mission aimed at inspiring the urban population to revert back to village and ensuring of world class amenities available in the rural areas.

Delivering the welcome address the main organiser and Chairman of New Delhi based Waldenwoods Foundation, Ram Krishna Dash disapproved the current trend of large-scale migration of people from rural to urban areas. The global warming clubbing with this kind of social aberration has been proved to be catastrophes for human race, Shri Dash observed. In search of better education, health care and employment opportunities people used to migrate in the past he added. Since the advent of modern technologies and state of the art infrastructures in rural areas the scenarios has recently been changed drastically, he pointed out. Keeping in view of the changed circumstances and massive scale development in rural belts, R.K gave a clarion call to the delegates to come back and settle in the villages. Particularly when the work from home has become a much popular practice at present due to corona factor, Shri dash appealed to include work from farm and work from garden in the same phenomenon. Addressing the gathering the chief guest former CMD Nayivali Lignite Corporation Sarat Chandra Acharya focused on the need to



realise the power of the time and urged the participants to accommodate themselves with the emerging situation as per the requirement of the hour. Shri Acharya further elaborated that the success of life depends on welcoming the changing lifestyle and adjusting with the evolving nature as per the time dictates. Appreciating the noble endeavours of enterprising odias like R.K ,the Guest of Honour renowned startup mentor Pranab Pani advised the audiences to take good care of the protection of environment and preservation of eco system, while working on sustainable development in rural areas. Drawing comparison between picturesque Kapilash hill with the Kurk region near Bengaluru, the Keynote speaker Shantanu Pradhan stressed on the need of building more and more Eco Villages in Odisha to attract the non resident odias to the State.Looking back at his twenty five years of service in corporate sector the Guest Speaker Ahimanikya Satpathy lauded the ini-



tiatives of WEV to divert the attention of urban population towards their roots and declared that he is going to embrace the farming profession shortly. The Young and Dynamic Director of Waldenwood Eco Village Nandini Dash proposed the vote of thanks.

The distinguished dignitaries present in the three hours long marathon and brain storming conclave, include Soumyashree Das, Surya Prakash Mohapatra, Reena Mohapatra, Ashutosh Panigrahi, Lipsa Panigrahi, Deepak Acharya, S. Mandy, Debasish Sahoo, Subrat Mohanty, Uday N Tripathy, Sabita Rani Das, Asha Satpathy and Sashmita Pradhan.

# Demand for Cholera Committee

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Opposition BJP and Congress members in State Legislative Assembly on Tuesday demanded the Speaker for formation of a House Committee comprises of members from all parties to assess the cholera situation in Kashipur area of Rayagada district.

Raising the issue during Zero Hour, the BJP and Congress lawmakers demanded that a House Committee should be constituted under the Chairmanship of Speaker BK Arukh, which will visit Kashipur area to assess the cholera situa-

BJP Chief Whip Mohan Majhi said though as many as 14 people have died of cholera in the area the Government claims that only 9 people have died so far. A 14-member team of the BJP had visited the area on July 24 and found that the disease has spread to Dasmantapur, Thuamul Rampur, and other nearby areas of Kalahandi and Koraput districts, Mr.Majhi said. "Such situation arises as Utkal Alumina is releasing water without treatment. Development is yet to reach Kashipur," Mr.Majhi alleged.

He alleged the cholera broke out as the people consumed polluted water from a tank and alleged the tank water was polluted after Utkal Alumina released its wastewater to the tank without treatment. The company has not set up

any water treatment plant, he said. While there is no road, the work for the construction of the mega piped water project announced by the Government has not yet been started, the BJP MLA said.

Congress lawmaker Tara Prasad Bahinipati too urged the speaker to take the issue seriously and constitute an all-party Committee on this issue. As many as 14 persons have died in Kashipur and three persons died in the Dasmantpur block of Koraput yesterday, he

"At least 17 persons have died due to diarrhea in undivided Koraput. The Utkal Alumina is not following the agreed norms and it is releasing contaminated wastewater from the plant," alleged Mr.Bahinipati. He also demanded a compensation of Rs 10 lakh to the next kin of the deceased.

Another Congress member Santosh Singh Saluja said the State Government has totally failed to provide drinking water to the people even 22 years after its rule. He also joined Mr.Majhi and Mr.Bahinipati in demanding formation of a House Committee under the Chairmanship of the Speaker to assess the situation. Following this, the BJP and Congress members trooped into the well and urged the Speaker to give a ruling on the constitution of a Committee. Speaker Mr. Arukh said there is already a House Committee under his chairmanship to look into such a situation. The Speaker however said he reserved his ruling and would inform the members about his decision on the issue soon.

# Ventures get Sebi's go ahead to float IPOs

New Delhi(KCN): Chemical manufacturer Guiarat Polysol Chemicals and construction and hospitality firm PKH Ventures have received capital markets regulator Sebi's go ahead to raise funds through Initial Public Offerings (IPOs).

The two companies, which filed preliminary IPO papers with Sebi in March, obtained "observation" letters to Rs 87 crore and an from the regulator during July 18-22, an update with the markets watchdog showed on Monday. In Sebi's parlance, its observation implies its approval to float IPOs. Going by the draft

Polysol Chemicals is looking to raise Rs 414 crore through its initial share sale.

papers,

The IPO comprises fresh issue of equity shares aggregating up

Gujarat

Offer-For-Sale (OFS) of equity shares aggregating up to Rs 327 crore by its promoters. The company will

use the net proceeds

to retire debt and general corporate purposes. As per the draft prospectus, the

initial share-sale of Ventures PKH consists of fresh issuance of over 1.82 crore and an OFS of 98.31 lakh

equity shares by its promoter.

Proceeds of the issue will be used to invest in subsidiaries — Halaipani Hydro Project Pvt Ltd and Garuda Construction — funding long-term working capital requirements, for funding strategic acquisitions and investments, among others.

Shares of the two companies will be listed on BSE and

# Installation Ceremony of Rotary club held at Barbil

Barbil(KCN): The members. ceremonial change of leadership team in the Rotatry Club of

Padmshree Tulashi Munda was too attended as guest of



Barbil in the district of Keonjhar was organized in

honour In her inimitable style fusion facts and

fun, the Chief guest

profusely

complimented the

performance in every

aspect. Lauding all

the preparations done

so far she was sure

that the club will

wholeheartedly

participate in all the

thrust areas and areas

Assistant Governor

Rtn Basant Kumar

confidence that with

the enthusiastic and

committed

leadership of Rtn.

emphasis.

expressed

for

Jayshree



Rtn.

club

Dani

spectacular event executed to perfection by the club team on July 25, 2022 at the World hotel, Barbil.Rtn. Manoj Manek received the baton of President from the Immediate Past President Rtn. Prabodh Mohanty. The chief guest for the evening was the District Governor Rtn. Jayshree Mohanty who also inducted the new Boards of Directors for 2022-23 and welcomed to the fold new Manoj Manek, the

Barbil kickboxer wins 470medals at WAKO India National Kick boxing championship Barbil (KCN): Team Barbil in the district of Keonjhar of Odisha state won 12 golds, 16 silver and 18 bronze on the last day of the WAKO India National Kick Boxing Championship-2022 which was concluded at the Eastern Sports indoor Stadium, Kolkata. In this sports the youth of Barbil team participated tremendously. They are Ajay kaibarta in male category low Kick event -57 kg — 1 Gold, Anita Gope female Kick light event -45 kg— 1 Gold, Subash Jamuda male point fight silver & Kick light event gold -21 kg—1 Gold 1 silver, Himmat singh male light contact & Kick light event -47 kg—2 Gold, Ansuman Prasad male point fight & Kick light -27 kg—2 silver, Simran Guriya female

club will achieve further great heights in the forth coming days

The new President Rtn. Manoj Manek in passionate acceptance address expressed gratitude to Rtn Prabodh Mohanty who has extended his heartfelt support to built up the identity of Rotary club amidst common people .He too narrate the projects planned in each of the avenues of service as well as the thrust areas lept the

club.On the ocassion Social organisations k 1 i Samvedna, Akanshathe creative mind,,Khushi -the incredible Bharat, Fast Step and singer Abhilpsa panda were awarded for their contribution to the society. Along with Rtn Manoj Manek Manjindar Singh as vice president, Sunil Jha as secretary, TN Anthony Devadi as treasurer elected as new office bearer .In other segment Rtn Divya Thakar as



audience in raptures. With laser like focus she shed light on the special focus area for this year detection prevention blindness and helping the visually challenged and plan for setting up an eye hospital at Barbil.He exhorted members of the club to contribute to the projects with determination and comparison always. Mr Kaushik Thakar read out annual report of the present.

Chair service project ,Rtn Prabodh Mohanty Rtn CA Chitrasen Swain as chair mebership and Rtn Ghanshyam Sharma as Chair public image elected for the year 2022 -23.Few new youth members were also inducted on the occasion.

Rtn Chatter president Thakar Ashok extended vote of thanks to dignitaries representative of other rotary district

low kick event -52 kg —1 silver, Sara Majhi female light contact & Kick light event -37 kg—2 silver, Yashpreet Singh male low Kick event +81 kg —1 silver, Akhileshwar Kant male point fight -51 kg — 1 bronze, Muhkam Singh male light contact & Kick light event -57 kg —1 silver 1 bronze, Parmeet Singh male point fight and light contact +69 kg—2 bronze, Sujit, ku Prasad had joined as the refree & Manjeet Singh as coach in the competition from Barbil. It is need not say that the kick boxing team has already shown their performance and bagged many medals to make the Inhabitants of Barbil and Odisha proud as well said, Pratap Das, chairman NDCC ,Barbil

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# CLASSIFIED Now a days the heroines have nothing much in the film, except to flaunt their glamour: Aarushi Sharma

The multi-faceted "Jag Jaanani Maa Her performance is Betiyaan", actress our mother and to corona pantalented actress Vaishnodevi" and being widely appre- Aarushi Sharma goes to Lalita demic. Now it may



delible impression TV serial "Ranju Ki

of her acting on

Betiyaan" being

Aarushi Sharma who has left an in-

"Muskaan" is now performing in the



ciated and her role says "I am playing a as Muskaan is being role of Ranju's



highly acclaimed by the viewers.

third daughter. My mother brings us



her TV serials like on "Dangal TV". "Ranju

Ki My father deserts



i s h r a start soon. That way (Deepshikha) and I was highly ben-



harasses our family. Till now my role was that of an innocent and bubbly girl. But henceforth my role will be different and the viewers will be taken aback by my new role. The viewers will certainly like the new twist in the story. About her film ventures Aarushi says "I had signed a film in the South. However

efitted by the ad films for "Parle Hide and Seek" and "Tata Tiago" car. I want to play only good and challenging roles portraying good characters. Talks are going on for many film projects, but now a days the heroines have nothing much to do except to flaunt their glamour. Comparatively there is a better scope for acting in

the project could TV serials. not start early due

### 'Emmys So White': Netizens call out award show for 'fake diversity' wrote while condemn-

Los Angeles: The 73rd Primetime Emmy Awards concluded on a disappointing note on Monday.

While setting a record for diversity, with 49 black or indigenous people of colour (BIPOC) nominated across all categories, all major acting trophies went to white actors at the Emmys

According to Variety, actors that were seen as solid contenders included Billy Porter and Rodriguez

and Kenan Thompson and Bowen Yang ('Saturday Night Live') ---



('Pose'), the late Michael K. Williams ('Lovecraft Country')

but in the end, all ended up empty-handed. The 2021 ceremony has undoubtedly failed to meet the expectations of people. Calling out the event, a

netizen tweeted, "Not a single Black actor won tonight. Not a single Asian actor won tonight. Not a single Latino actor won tonight."

Another one wrote, "#Emmys do this every year: Nominate a diverse selection of our faves, only to give them to the same white actors and/or stories. Middle-aged white folks in conflict or British period pieces will win over nuanced, multi-dimensional plots involving characters of colour."

#EmmysSoWhite has been trending all over Twitter since morning. "Black host, Black announcer hell even Black music. We doing everything but win. #Emm-ysSoWhite," a social media user ing Emmys 2021. "Lovecraft country won nothing tonight

and 98% of the winners were white despite the amount of black talent around #EmmysSoWhite," a netizen tweeted.

This time Black performers had a strong showing at the event. But all efforts went in vain when nominees of colour failed to win most categories.

Popular people's Daily of Odisha

# Viswhaguru India-Fantasy or reality?

Amid the clutter and clamour on India being judged as a multicultural entity with diversity bubbling every inch of its landscape, a huge section of its populace feels that there is a religious (in)tolerance for which India is often appreciated or criticised. As a country India professes and



feels proud - in many ways, about cultural its ancestry, that if not all, a great amount of political interceptions accept and silently

validate and often put an emphasis on. But tremors on the bedlam that a controversial media debate ignited followed by the blatant brutality in Udaipur can indeed be felt, though not profound but still capable to shake the very idea that the Indian wisdom represents - a collaborative upbringing irrespective of its irrational interpretations. What comes as an unfounded allegation is that not only politically but also culturally, India at present is under the captivity of a majoritarian mindset. Parties across the country began to feel the heat of an indelible imprint of a globally recognised era since 2014 which goes rampant against all that it identifies as a blockage in its path of a majoritarian success. Though it is yet to be established, windmills producing perceptions and narratives in this direction are active and this is what we need to put for analysis.

The present government dispensation at the centre under Prime Minister Modi is often heard propagating the idea of India being hoisted to the realm of a Vishwaguru, which most of his opponents call an unrealistic and unreasonable elucidation on the Indian state. The complexity that India's multiculturalism offers is genuinely visible and the essence of its spiritual wisdom seems to be fading but slowly, without being able to bring a

#### **Letter to Editor Encash Diamond Opportunity**

Falling demand and rising raw pricing pressure, according to agency CRISIL Ratings Limited, are dulling the brilliance of the diamond sector. In comparison to highs reached a decade ago, CRISIL Ratings projects that the Indian diamond industry's revenue will decline by large margin this fiscal year due to both a decline in demand and an increase in global crude oil costs. One of the main demand drivers is the Covid-19 epidemic and shutdown in China, a significant buyer of polished diamonds from India according to reports. Following the invasion of Ukraine, US sanctions against the Russian diamond mining Alrosa has also significantly decreased the supply of raw diamonds. Large customers in the US and EU have asked for origin certificates from India according to reports.Our country needs to give this some serious thought and has to make sure that polished diamonds remain in demand. Fortunately, according to reports consumers preferences for lab-grown diamonds, which are less expensive, have changed. Consumer interest in lab-grown diamonds, which are much like natural and less expensive diamonds, is developing as a result of rising prices and the shortage of natural diamonds. According to estimates, the market share for synthetic diamonds has increased significantly since last two years in our country. Our lab growing diamond industries must take advantage of this potential.

Yours faithfully, Vijaykumar H K, T-6-327 RTPS colony, Shaktinagar, Raichur, Karnataka State, India

convincing flavour to the platter of India's religious

concomitance. Seeing India as a world teacher amidst the modern tumult of a universal disorder was first conceived by Swami Vivekananda; who, throughout his deliberations in India and abroad had spoken about the potentiality that India held in terms of delivering a spiritual solace. The reasons he frequently highlighted were spiritual, scientific and the effect of the Vedic semantics which were propounded since a period unknown to the common minds. Undeniably, the government since 2014 in India was all afoot transforming the very idea of Vivekananda into its politically modified version of global leadership. Has the idea propagated by the folk got a meaningful depth? To look at it from the cultural perspective of India, we need to say yes. But the political incongruity that we devised since independence tells us a grisly tale of insensitivity with which we polluted the enormity of India's cultural essence, downsizing it into a mere political subject. What seems to be the most alarmingly deep-seated argument is that the Viswaguru India will be an India of ethnicities striving to conquer the world intellectually and economically with its principles spiritual eventually disseminated in various forms.

Contradicting the above view, the reality that India exudes at present does not give us a glimmer of hope. This is because the polity that has predominantly been carried away by divisive tendencies fail to muster up courage or lack tenacity to question the audacity of politics that redefined the allencompassing values that India was once a lighthouse of. Sanatana Dharma - that is what the cultural essence of India is hatred even when swords of invasion pierced its throat. This was the eloquence of its cultural beauty, acceptance of all

M.R.LALU

without views undermining any. Seeing the globe as

a family, with prayers pouring in from the hermitages of wisdom for the welfare of the global community, Bharat (to be precise) from its days of antiquity has been fulfilling the role of a global teacher. Nobody, not even the beliefs emanated across the globe could successfully articulate an idea that India proposed - to absorb the world as a family irrespective of the prevalent differences. This was the reason why India hesitated to invade any land militarily. While it sent emissaries for cultural exchange across continents and maintained trade relations with most of the land available on the planet for long, never did the idea of invading a space occurred to it. But the humongous challenge that the Indian nation is presented with is the self contradicting principles that the arrogance of Semitic beliefs brought into its social precincts and the unrest that the concomitance is troubled with.

The right leaning government of India in principle has confused its people on what it means by saying the chiselling of a Vishwaguru out of India with the potential furore of discontent that it carries in its underbelly. India has so far been known for its cultural eminence and natural diversities that its landscape is blessed with. But to a modern world, beleaguered by the blemish of bloodshed of wars and their intercontinental implications, India's role to heal and bring about solace by assuming the role of a global teacher with values seems to be a delusion. Surrounded by inimical neighbours and susceptible to its internal conflicts, India's stature as an emerging global guru would be like a bird waiting with its clipped wings before its literally termed as, never sent feelers of potential takeoff. Unable to come out of the differences that the interventions of invasions caused, India at present is inching towards a more complicated

social dynamics. Brushing it aside as hallucinatory will be catastrophic. In order to take a plunge in the direction of becoming the Viswaguru, India needs to rediscover its values of yore once again, remodelling and restructuring them for humanity.

India's pitch as a global player in a modern geo-political scenario needs to be seen as a push in the direction of a dream being fulfilled. Except its unfriendly neighbours it could successfully spread its wings everywhere and the acceptance and the global respect that it managed to garner tells us the gist of its real potential. Being an important stakeholder in an international system and a contributor for world peace; nothing, except the internal complications of India would pull it back from becoming a world leader. India's evolution as the Vishwaguru will remain an archaic idea as long as it is a nation with a large number of people staying under illiteracy, malnutrition, social backwardness and communal conflicts. This would remain a reality not so feeble and frail and get noticed internationally. India will still remain an important player globally with the largest population (projected to be) but the disorder that it seems to have failed to settle in its landscape would always be a hindrance. A political desire to transform India as a world leader is achievable only if it can afford to uplift its people from poverty, social inequality and many more maladies that it wriggles in. This new narrative by the Modi government should gain currency, not at an emotional sphere but practically articulating it to the ground, starting a course correction from home. India's ancient spiritual wisdom should act as a lubricant in this process but never should it be seen as a weapon to divide and

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### How Wildfire Smoke Raises Infectious Disease Risk

longside a global pandemic that has killed millions, residents of the American West have for two consecutive summers confronted unprecedented wildfire seasons. So far this year, roughly 43,500 wildfires have charred more than 5 million acres, and fires continue to grow in frequency and intensity. With them come a number of human health concerns, including the risk that bodies worn down by

exposure to smoke could more easily succumb to infectious diseases.



Teasing out the effects of wildfire smoke on health is both urgent and difficult. "With wildfires, we're generally looking in the rearview mirror, looking retroactively," says Sheryl Magzamen, a respiratory

epidemiologist at Colorado State University. While air pollution from cars can be studied in real time by placing sensors near roads, she adds, wildfires are sporadic and unpredictable. "Where they are and when they happen and where the smoke goes is re-

But a burgeoning interest in respiratory diseases born out of the pandemic are bringing together wildfires and human health in new ways. While many effects are ascribed to smoke making lungs more susceptible to diseases such as influenza and COVID-19, early research indicates that in addition, smoke may itself also be a vector for spreading pathogens. "Even though it's upsetting to think about sometimes, it's an exciting time to be doing this kind of work, Magzamen tells The Scientist. "There's energy and motivation that maybe wasn't there before.

San Francisco's famous Golden Gate Bridge was barely visible through the smoke on September 9,

© ISTOCK.COM, JASONDOIY How dangerous are hazy skies?

The health effects of air pollution are well-documented, and scientists are beginning to probe wildfire smoke as a particularly damaging subset. Dirty air—full of exhaust from cars and factories, dust, smoke, metals, and pollen—kills an average of 9

**AMANDA HEIDT** each year, and a global study published today (September 8) in The Lancet Planetary Health attributed 33,500 deaths each year directly to wildfire pollution. For decades, scientists have linked exposure to particulate matter in pollution to increased incidences of asthma, allergies, cardiovascular disease, diabetes, dementia, and certain cancers. "There's really no part of the body it doesn't touch," says Mary Prunicki, the director of air pollution and health research at Stanford University's Sean Parker Center for Asthma and Allergy Re-

million people worldwide

Fine particles less than 2.5 micrometers in diameter (PM2.5) are considered to be the most dangerous component in air pollution, including smoke. That's because the particles are so small that they can pass across the lungs and enter the blood. "There's localized inflammation in the lung itself, but when the particle size is small enough, that inflammation and other problems can now happen throughout the body," Prunicki tells The Scientist.

See "Q&A: Pollution Linked to 15 Percent Increase in COVID-19 Deaths'

Inside our lungs, PM2.5 interferes with oxygen exchange and negatively affects lung function, making it hard to breathe deeply and disrupting the ability of cilia in the lungs to clear mucus and the potential irritants it contains, including viruses. Once it passes into the blood, PM2.5 also causes inflammation in the heart and brain and primes our immune system to react aggressively to allergens and bacteria, leaving us more vulnerable to viral pathogens such as

A small increase in the daily average summer PM2.5 was associated with an increase in the subsequent winter influenza rate of between 16 and 22 percent. A study in rural Montana found that periods of dense wildfire smoke were associated with unusually bad influenza seasons in the winters that followed. University of Montana computational ecologist Erin Landguth, who led the study, says she originally expected smoke exposure in the weeks before flu season started to have the strongest association with the number of cases. Instead, PM2.5 levels from months before—during the height of the fire sea-

strongly with influenza cases: a small increase in the daily average summer PM2.5 was associated with an increase in the subsequent winter influenza rate of between 16 and 22 percent. "We were not expecting to see that long, long delay, but we threw a bunch of modeling at it and sure enough, it always popped out," she says. This and research on fires is leading scientists to a better understanding of the unique risks posed by wildfire smoke, and recent evidence has shown that it may actually be more dangerous than other types of air pollution such as car exhaust. A study published in Nature Communications found that in Southern California, PM2.5 attributed to wildfire smoke was associated with a 10 percent increase in hospitalizations for respiratory events—the highest rise attributed to any source the team studied—and that wildfire-specific PM2.5 appeared to be up to 10 times more harmful to human health than that from other

One reason may be that PM2.5 stemming from wildfires has a different composition than particulate matter from other sources. Wildfires burn wood, which can cause respiratory issues—as in the case of eucalyptus—but they might also burn rubber, metal, plastic, glass, or other synthetic materials, creating smoke that is more toxic when inhaled. Indeed, research in mice has shown that the respiratory toxicity of wildfire PM2.5 is three to four times greater than equal doses of ambient air pollution.

Evidence of the long-lasting damage caused by wildfire smoke in particular exists for people as well. For 50 days in 2017, smoke from across the West blanketed Seeley Lake, Montana, with a daily average air quality index of 221 micrograms per cubic meter (anything over 150 micrograms per cubic meter is considered unhealthy). Researchers at the University of Montana tracked 95 residents of the area over the next two years. Just after being exposed to smoke, roughly 10 percent of the participants had disrupted lung functioning similar to asthma, as measured by a spirometer. One year later, that number jumped to almost 46 percent, dropping only slightly to 34 percent the year after that.

# Stem Cell Therapy Saves Woman

Bhubaneswar: A 30-year-old woman suffering from a very rare blood disorder has been successfully treated at the Institute of Medical Sciences and SUM Hospital recently. The woman, hailing from Jajpur, was admit-

ted into the hospital in the last week of May for anemia and bleeding requiring repeated

blood and platelet transfusions spread over

The patient's bone marrow, the site of blood

cell formation, was biopsied for diagnosing

the disease and investigations revealed that

she was suffering from Severe Aplastic Ane-

mia, a rare blood disorder, where the bone

marrow was found completely empty and

unable to form new blood cells, Dr. Priyanka

Samal, Head of the department of Hematol-

"Such patients have very low hemoglobin, low

total white blood cell count and very low

platelet count," she said adding they complain

of severe weakness, bleeding from orifices

or menorrhagia which does not stop unless

These patients also get infected frequently

requiring hospitalization and administration

of intra-venous antibiotics and often suc-

She said the very severe form of Aplastic

Anemia had a very poor prognosis and such

patients survived only a few months. "The in-

cidence of this disease is higher in Asia com-

ogy in the hospital, said.

platelets are transfused.

cumb to sepsis, Dr. Samal said.

one month.

pared to the west and the only cure is available through stem cell transplantation," she added.

tion on July 5 with stem cells donated by her

28-year-old brother though they had a major blood group discrepancy which was taken care of very delicately, Dr. Samal said while pointing out that stem cells in the donor's body get replaced within 4-6 weeks without any adverse effect to the donor.

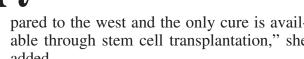
A growth factor of 4-5 days is required for the stem cells to get mobilized from the

bone marrow to peripheral blood. Following this, apheresis was done for 4-5 hours for harvesting only stem cells from the blood and it was just like a normal platelet donation process, she said.

The patient was then subjected to high dose chemotherapy after which the donor's stem cells were infused into her body like normal blood transfusion. It took 12-13 days for these donor cells to make the new blood cells in the patient's body.

The woman, whom the disease might not have given a few months to live, was discharged from the hospital on July 23 in good condition and full blood count recovery though she needs to be closely observed for the next few months for complete immunological recovery, Dr. Samal said.

"The patient can now hope to lead an uneventful life, at least from this ailment's aspect," she said. She also thanked the Medical Superintendent Prof. Pusparaj Samantasinhar, Additional Medical Superintendent Dr. Rajesh Lenka, the department of transfusion medicine, laboratory and radiology teams as also the nursing staff whose tireless efforts led to the success of the procedure.



The woman underwent stem cell transplanta-

### New Delhi: Draped

in a traditional Santhali sari, having green and red borders on a white background, that boasted of a rich tribal culture, Droupadi Murmu took the oath as the 15th President of India on Monday in a packed Central Hall of Parliament. She was administered the oath of of-

name of God in Hindi to "preserve, protect and defend the Constitution and the law". The new President was accorded a 21-gun salute, after which she signed the oath register amidst thunderous applause and thumping of desks. "Reaching the post of President is not my personal achieve-

Droupadi Murmu: My being President is success for all poor President Ranil Wickremesinghe, congratulated President Murmu on her assumption of office. Hailing from the Santhal community, Ms Murmu is the first tribal leader to reach the office of President. She is also the first President who was born in independent India. Her term of office

predecessor left in a ceremonial procession to Rashtrapati Bhavan, where at the forecourt Murmu inspected the tri-services guard of honour. Later in the evening, former President Kovind was given a formal farewell with the inspection of a guard of honour drawn from all the three services.



#### fice by Chief Justice of India N.V. Ramana in the presence of former President Ram Nath Kovind, vice-president M. Venkaiah Naidu, Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union ministers, governors, the leaders of Opposition parties, chief ministers, diplomats and the top ranks of the Indian armed forces. Also present was former President

Pratibha Patil. Accompanied by outgoing President Kovind, vice-president Naidu and the Lok Sabha Speaker, Ms Murmu walked in with grace through Parliament's welldecorated corridors to the Central Hall where she sat with poise on the dais next to Mr Kovind. Ms Murmu took the oath of office in the ment, it is the achievement of every poor (person) in India. It is the power of our democracy that a daughter born in a poor house, a daughter born in a remote tribal area, can reach the highest constitutional post of India. My election is proof of the fact that the poor in India can have dreams and fulfil them too," President Murmu said in her maiden speech after taking the oath. She added that tribals, the deprived and the marginalised were seeing their reflection in her. She started her speech with the traditional tribal greeting of "Johar", and followed it with "Namaskar". Leaders from across the world, including Russian President Vladimir Putin, Chi-

nese President Xi

Jinping and Sri Lanka

will be of five years till July 24, 2027, though the rules allow for her re-election. President Murmu will have the power to promulgate ordinances, grant pardons and sign proclamations of emergency in states and the country on the advice of the Union council of ministers headed by the Prime Minister. She is also the Supreme Commander of the Indian armed

forces. After the short ceremony, Ms Murmu and Mr Kovind then stepped out of the Central Hall amid the roll of drums and the blowing of trumpets. Ms Murmu was then accorded the "national salute" by President's the Bodyguard at Gate No. 5 of Parliament House. The new President and her Mr Kovind and his family then moved to his post-retirement residence at 12 Janpath, a bungalow that was once occupied by former Union minister Ram Vilas Paswan.

"As part of conven-

tion, honoured to receive former President respected Ram Nath Kovind ji at his new residence, 12 Janpath, New Delhi, accompanied by Rastrapati, Hon'ble Droupadi Murmu ji," Law Minister Kiren Rijiju tweeted. He also shared pictures in which BJP president J.P. Nadda, along with Union ministers Hardeep Puri and Gen. V.K. Singh too were seen receiving Mr Kovind at 12 Janpath, where incidentally he will be the next door neighbour of Congress president Sonia Gandhi.

# North Korea blames US for Ukraine crisis

SEOUL: North Korea has accused the United States of being the "root cause of the Ukraine crisis" while defending Russia, in Pyongyang's first official response to Moscow's invasion of Ukraine. ordered Russia troops into

unfolding disaster. Washington has pursued "military supremacy in disregard of the legitimate de-mand of Russia for its security" according to the commentary, attributed to Ri Ji Song, a researcher at the North's Society for International

stability" but "but it denounces for no good reason self-defensive measures taken by other countries to ensure their own national security.'

"Gone are the days when the U.S. used to reign supreme," the post said.

Russia is one of the North's few international friends and has previously come to the regime's aid.

Moscow has long held the line against increasing pressure on nuclear-armed North Korea, even asking for relief from international



neighbouring Ukraine this week, prompting global outcry and punishing sanctions from the West, some directed against Russian President Vladimir Putin himself.

But North Korea, in a muted response issued in the form of a commentary posted on the Foreign Ministry's website, said the United States was to blame for the Politics Study.

'The root cause of the Ukrainian crisis also lies in the highhandedness and arbitrariness of the US," said the post uploaded on the North's foreign ministry website on Saturday. Ri slammed the US for holding a "double standard" -- saying it meddled in the internal affairs of other countries in the name of "peace and

The response is a "low-key" official reaction as it was published under an individual name, said Park Won-gon, a pro-fessor of North Korean Studies at Ewha Womans University. "The conclusion is that it's all because of the US. The main

point is that you will suffer if you don't have power," he told AFP.

Along with Beijing,

sanctions for humanitarian reasons. China, North Korea's most important ally, has also blamed the United States and its Western allies in recent weeks for "hyping up" the Ukraine crisis. South Korea, a close security ally of Washington, said last week it will join international sanctions nomic against Russia over

invasion

Ukraine.

of

### Delhi man with no history of foreign travel tests positive for monkeypox

New Delhi: A 34-year-old man from the national capital with no history of foreign travel has tested positive for monkeypox virus, official sources said on Sunday. This is the fourth case of the disease being reported in India. The man had attended a stag party recently in Manali in Himachal Pradesh, official sources.

A resident of West Delhi, the man was admitted to the Maulana Azad Medical College Hospital here around three days ago after he showed symptoms of monkeypox.

His samples were sent to the National Institute of Virology (NIV) Pune on Saturday which came out positive, the sources said.

'Contact tracing process has been initiated," the sources said.

Three cases of monkeypox had earlier been reported from Kerala. The WHO had on Saturday declared monkeypox

as a global public health emergency of international concern. Monkeypox virus is transmitted from infected ani-

mals to humans via indirect or direct contact. Human-to-human transmission can occur through direct contact with infectious skin or lesions, including face-to-face, skin-to-skin, and respiratory droplets.

Globally, over 16,000 cases of monkeypox have been reported from 75 countries and there have been five deaths so far due to the outbreak. In the WHO South-East Asia Region, besides India, one case has been detected from Thailand. Rapidly spreading Monkeypox cases is matter of

concern: WHO Regional Director of WHO's South-East Asia Re-

gion on Sunday called on member countries to strengthen surveillance and public health measures for monkeypox, with the disease being declared a public health emergency of international concern by the global health body. Monkeypox has been spreading rapidly and to many

countries that have not seen it before, which is a matter of great concern, said Dr Poonam Khetrapal Singh, Regional Director, WHO South-East Asia Region.

"However, with cases concentrated among men who have sex with men, it is possible to curtail further spread of the disease with focused efforts among at-risk population,? she said.

Globally, over 16,000 cases of monkeypox have been reported from 75 countries. In the WHO South-East Asia Region, four cases of monkeypox have been reported, three from India and one from Thailand. The cases in India are among nationals who returned home from the Middle East, while in Thailand a Nigerian living in the country has been confirmed positive for monkeypox.

## Center Mulling Co-operation Policy 109 FCRA Regd. cancelled

Delhi: In have been cancelled



Odisha at least 109 FCRA Registrations Similarly, 55 cases

during last 3 years.

of renewal of FCRA Registration have been denied during these years.

This was stated by the Minister of State for Home Affairs, Nityanand Rai in a written reply to a question in the Lok Sabha today.

He said that during preceding 3 years (2019, 2020, 2021)registration certificates of 1811 number of Associations have been cancelled under the provisions of the Foreign contribution Regulation Act, 2010 (FCRA 2010).

Reasonable oppor- 2021).

tunity of being heard is given in terms of Section 14(2) of FCRA 2010, by issuing Show Cause Notice before a decision about cancellation of registration is taken.

BHUBANESWAR, WEDNESDAY 27 JULY, 2022

Applications for renewal of certificates of registration issued under the FCRA, 2010 are processed as per provisions of FCRA, 2010 and rules made there under.

783 number of applications for renewal have been denied during preceding 3 years (2019, 2020, New Delhi: Union Minister Co-operation, Amit Shah has said that the Union Government is formulating a new national level policy for cooperatives.

While several steps are taken by the Government

strengthen India's cooperative architecture, the proposed new Policy will be

formulated after receiving comments on Draft Policy from all the stake holders.

Detailing out the steps in a written reply in Lok Sabha, Mr.Shah said that the Government has provided relief to cooperative sugar mills by clarifying that they shall not be subjected to additional income tax for paying higher sugarcane prices to farmers up to the Fair and Remunerative Price (FRP) or State Advised Price (SAP).

He said as per the Budget announcement 2022, the Government reduced the surcharge for cooperative societies from 12% to 7% for those having a total income of more than Rs. 1 crore and up to Rs. 10 crore. Further, to provide a level playing field between cooperative societies and companies, Minimum Alternate Tax (MAT) rate for cooperative societies was reduced from 18.5% to 15%.

He said that Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for Micro and Small Enterprises (CGTMSE), non-scheduled Urban Co-operative Banks, State Co-operative Banks and District Central Co-operative Banks as Member Lending Institutions of the scheme with specified eligibility criteria. This will help in providing adequate, affordable and timely credit to the co-operative institutions to give a boost to the co-operative based economic development model.

He said that the Union Cabinet on 1 June 2022, the mandate of Government e-Marketplace - Special Purpose Vehicle (GeM -SPV) has been expanded to allow cooperative societies to register as buyers on the GeM platform.

A Centrally sponsored project for digitalization of 63,000 functional Primary Agriculture Credit Societies (PACS), with a budgetary outlay of Rs 2,516 crore, has been sanctioned to revitalize the cooperative sector. The implementation of this project has already begun.

In order to diversify the business activities of PACS and make them vibrant multipurpose economic entities, draft model Bye-Laws are being prepared in consultation with State Governments, National Cooperative Federations and other stakeholders.

A new scheme titled "Cooperation to Prosperity" is being formulated in consultation with all the stakeholders for all-round development of cooperatives at all levels.

In order to facilitate the Government to make appropriate policy interventions, a National Co-operative Database is being created in consultation with State/UT Governments, National Co-operative Federations and other stakeholders.

In order to modernize and professionalize the education and training in the cooperative sector, steps are being taken to reorient the training and educational Cooperative Institutions in consultation with all the stakeholders.

# State Effects OAS Reshuffle



Bhubaneswar: The posted as Additional Pritimaya, Sub-Col- retary, PR & DW State Government on Secretary to Govern-lector, Champua, Department is placed Tuesday effected a ment, Women & Keonjhar is posted as as Joint Secretary in reshuffle among senior Odisha Administrative Service (OAS) cadre officers by transferring 11 senior officials.

According to a notification issued by the General Administration and Public Grievances Depart-Rina ment, Mohapatra, Additional Secretary to Government, Tourism Department is transferred

Department.

Indramani Nayak, PD, DRDA, Bhadrak is appointed as Additional Commissioner, Transport, while Ananta Narayan Singh Laguri, Additional District Magistrate (ADM), Bolangir is transferred as Additional Secretary in the Tourism Department.

Similarly, Pratap

Child Development new PD, DRDA, Bhadrak; Lambodar Dharua, Sub-Collector Bolangir as ADM Bolangir; and Kumar Nagabhusan as the Collector, Sub Bolangir.

Senior OAS officer Shaktikanta Ray, (Admin.), APD DRDA, Khordha is transferred as General Manager, OTDC, Bhubaneswar whereas Trilochan Mohanty, Joint Secthe Odia Language Literature & Culture Department.

The Government has appointed Sukanta Majhi, APD (Admin.), DRDA, Jharsuguda as Sub Collector, Champua, Keonjhar while Tarani Suna, is the new Sub Collector, Athamallik in Angul district. Anandpur Tahasildar Tapan Kumar Naik is transferred and posted as PA, ITDA, Keonjhar.

awareness

drowning by conducting awareness



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# Utkal varsity, ODRAF create awareness on drowning

BHUBANESWAR: about State-spe- shop on drowning,



Utkal University and Odisha Disaster Rapid Action Force (ODRAF) on Monday created awareness among the students and villagers of Cuttack's Banki cific disasters.On the occasion of World Drowning Prevention Day, Utkal University under the guidance ODRAF organised a workwater safety measures and safe rescue skills in Banki's Arakha Padia.

Since last year, Utkal University has been creating

workshops in several areas of rural Odisha. The government had earlier declared eight natural calamities including drowning as State specific disasters. "As part of the University's community linkage and rural outreach programme, we plan to impart water safety and safe rescue skills among the students and people of Odisha," said VC Prof Sabita Acharya.

# Business/Commerce

## Rupee falls to all-time low of 80.05 against US dollar

Mumbai: The rupee depreciated 7 paise to an all-time low of 80.05 against the US dollar in early trade on Tuesday tracking the strength of the American currency and firm crude oil prices.

At the interbank foreign exchange, the rupee opened at 80 against the American dollar, then lost ground to quote at 80.05, registering a fall of 7 paise from the last close.

In initial trade, the local unit also touched 79.90 against the American currency.

On Monday, the rupee for the first time de-

clined to the low level of 80 against the US dollar in intra-day spot trading before ending the session 16 paise lower at 79.98 amid a surge in crude oil prices and unrelenting foreign fund outflows.

The rupee opened on a weaker note on Tuesday morning weighed down by outflows and high oil prices, Sriram Iyer, Senior Research Analyst at Reliance Securities said, adding that lack of intervention from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) could also weigh on sentiments.

### Pope apologises for 'evil' Christians committed in Canada's indigenous residential schools - Continued from page-1

was to Christianize and assimilate them into mainstream society, which previous Canadian governments considered superior.

READ HERE | Pope apologises for 'evil' Christians committed in Canada's indigenous residential schools

Ottawa has admitted that physical and sexual abuse was rampant at the schools, with students beaten for speaking their native languages. That legacy of that abuse and isolation from family has been cited by Indigenous leaders as a root cause of the epidemic rates of alcohol and drug addiction now on Canadian reservations.

The discoveries of hundreds of potential burial sites at former schools in the past year drew international attention to the schools in Canada and their counterparts in the United States. The revelations prompted Francis to comply with the truth commission's call for an apology on Canadian soil; Catholic religious orders operated 66 of the country's 139 residential schools.

Reflecting the conflicting emotions of the day, some in the crowd wept as Francis spoke, while others applauded or stayed silent listening to his words, delivered in his native Spanish with English translations. Others chose not to attend at all.

"I've waited 50 years for this apology, and finally today I heard it," survivor Evelyn Korkmaz said. "Part of me is rejoiced, part of me is sad, part of me is numb." She added, however, that she had hoped to hear a "work plan" from the pope on what he would do next to reconcile, including releasing church files on children who died at the schools.

Gerald Gladue holds a photo of his mom, Jeannie Gladue, who was a residential school survivor, while waiting for Pope Francis' arrival at the Sacred Heart Church of the First People, in Edmonton, Alberta, during his Papal visit across Canada on July 25, 2022. (Photo | AP)

Many in the crowd wore traditional dress, including colorful ribbon skirts and vests with Native motifs.

Others donned orange shirts, which have become a symbol of school survivors, recalling the story of one woman whose beloved orange shirt, a gift from her grandmother, was confiscated at a school and replaced with a uniform.

"It's something that is needed, not only for people to hear but for the church to be accountable," said Sandi Harper, who traveled with her sister and a church group from Saskatchewan in honor of their late mother, who attended a residential school.

"He recognizes this road to reconciliation is going to take time, but he is really on board with us," she said, calling the apology "genuine"

Despite the solemnity of the event, the atmosphere seemed at times joyful: Chiefs processed into the site venue to a hypnotic drumbeat, elders danced and the crowd cheered and chanted war songs, victory songs and finally a healing song. Participants paraded a long red banner through the grounds bearing the names of more than 4,000 children who died at or never came home from residential schools; Francis later kissed it.

"I wasn't disappointed. It was quite a momentous occasion," said Phil Fontaine, a residential school survivor and former chief of the Assembly of First Nations who went public with his story of sexual abuse in the 1990s. Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, who last year apologized for the "incredibly harmful government policy," also attended, along with other officials.

As part of a lawsuit settlement involving the government, churches and approximately

committed in Canada's indigenous ge-1 90,000 survivors, Canada paid reparations that amounted to billions of dollars being transferred to Indigenous communities. Canada's Catholic Church says its dioceses and religious orders have provided more than

\$50 million in cash and in-kind contributions

and hope to add \$30 million more over the

next five years. While the pope acknowledged blame, he also made clear that Catholic missionaries were merely cooperating with and implementing the government policy, which he termed the "colonizing mentality of the powers." Notably he didn't refer to 15th-century papal decrees that provided religious backing to European colonial powers in the first place.

Jeremy Bergen, a church apology expert and professor of religious and theological studies at Conrad Grebel University College in Waterloo, Ontario, said Francis made clear he was asking forgiveness for the actions of "members of the church" but not the institution in its entirety.

"The idea is that, as the Body of Christ, the church itself is sinless," he said via email. Pope Francis arrives for a meeting with indigenous communities, including First Nations, Metis and Inuit, at Our Lady of Seven Sorrows Catholic Church in Maskwacis, Canada, on July 25, 2022. (Photo | AP)

"So when Catholics do bad things, they are not truly acting on behalf of the church," Bergen added, noting it's a controversial idea on which many Catholic theologians disagree. Francis said the schools marginalized generations, suppressed Indigenous languages, led to physical, verbal, psychological and spiritual abuse and "indelibly affected relationships between parents and children, grandparents and grandchildren." He called for further investigation, a possible reference to demands for further access to church records and personnel files of priests and nuns to identify perpetrators of abuses.

"Although Christian charity was not absent, and there were many outstanding instances of devotion and care for children, the overall effects of the policies linked to the residential schools were catastrophic," Francis said. "What our Christian faith tells us is that this was a disastrous error, incompatible with the Gospel of Jesus Christ."

The first pope from the Americas was determined to make this trip, even though torn knee ligaments forced him to cancel a visit to Africa earlier this month.

The six-day visit — which also includes stops in Quebec City and Iqaluit, Nunavut, in the far north — follows meetings Francis held in the spring at the Vatican with First Nations, Metis and Inuit delegations. Those encounters culminated with Francis' apology April 1 for "deplorable" abuses at residential schools and a promise to do so again on Canadian soil.

Francis recalled that one of the delegations gave him a set of beaded moccasins as a symbol of children who never came back from the schools, and asked him to return them in Canada. Francis said in these months they "kept alive my sense of sorrow, indignation and shame" but that in returning them he hoped they can also represent a path to walk together.

Event organizers had mental health counselors on hand Monday, knowing the event could be traumatic for some people.

Later Monday, Francis visited Sacred Heart Church of the First Peoples, an Edmonton parish whose sanctuary was dedicated last week after being restored from a fire. The church incorporates Indigenous language and customs in liturgy, and both were on display during the event, with folksongs and drums and providing the backdrop to the pope's visit. According to Iyer, the range for the USD/INR pair for Tuesday's session is 79.75-80.12.



Meanwhile, the dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, was trading 0.12 per cent higher at 107.49.

Global oil benchmark Brent crude futures fell 0.35 per cent to USD 105.90 per barrel.

On the domestic equity market front, the 30-share Sensex was trading 86.4 points or 0.16 per cent lower at 54,434.75, while the broader NSE Nifty fell 26.75 points or 0.16 per cent to 16,251.75.

Foreign institutional investors were net buyers in the capital market on Monday as they purchased shares worth Rs 156.08 crore, as per stock exchange data.

#### PM Modi congratulates new Lankan President Wickremesinghe; bats for stability, economic recovery

Continued from page-1

Wickremesinghe, who is believed to be close to India and its leaders, was appointed as prime minister in May.

He was sworn-in as acting president on July 13 after President Rajapaksa fled the country amidst unprecedented anti-government protests.

Sri Lanka: A difficult road to recovery On July 22, Wickremesinghe appointed veteran politician Dinesh Gunawardena as the prime minister.

Wickremesinghe has a mandate to serve out the rest of Rajapaksa's term, which ends in November 2024.

Meanwhile, in Colombo, Indian High Commissioner Gopal Baglay on Tuesday paid a courtesy call on newly-appointed Prime Minister Gunawardena and conveyed greetings from the leadership, Government and people of India

"High Commissioner thanked the PM for his guidance in various capacities to strengthen the long-standing and close India-Sri Lankan relations in all areas of engagement. High Commissioner also thanked him for his whole-hearted appreciation for India's unprecedented support to the people of Sri Lanka," the Indian mission tweeted.

On Tuesday, Baglay handed over to crisis-hit Sri Lanka the third consignment of humanitarian supplies like rice and medicines donated by the government of Tamil Nadu.

"The Indian government and the people have come together for the people of Sri Lanka. The Indian High Commissioner here handed over the humanitarian supplies valued at over Sri Lankan Rupees 3.4 billion donated by the Tamil Nadu government," the High Commission said in a statement.

India extended 8 Lines of Credit worth USD 1.85 billion to Sri Lanka in 10 years: Jaishankar

As much as 40,000 MT of rice, 500 MT of milk powder, 100 MT medicines were received by the crisis-hit nation in the face of its worst economic crisis in history.

The Indian government's assistance to Sri Lanka has reached almost USD 4 billion since January this year.

Sri Lanka needs about USD 5 billion in the next six months to cover basic necessities for its 22 million people, who have been struggling with long queues, worsening shortages and power cuts.

The country is currently holding talks with the IMF and other foreign countries on financial aid to tide over the current economic crisis.

Wickremesinghe, who has been leading the crucial talks with the International Monetary Fund, has said that negotiations were nearing conclusion, and discussions for assistance with foreign countries were also progressing.

#### Telangana govt to waive 90% interest on property tax dues

Hyderabad: In a major reprieve to property tax payers, the Telangana government has decided to give a one-time waiver on payment of interest on outstanding property tax.

The Municipal Administration & Urban Development (MA&UD) announced a waiver of 90 per cent tax for accumulated arrears of the interest component on property tax under One Time Scheme (OTS).

The property owners have to pay only 10 per cent of their accumulated interest along with the principal amount of property tax before October 31.

Taxpayers are required to pay all accrued arrears of tax on properties under the OTS scheme in all ULBs, including GHMC, at one go, including the principal amount of property tax due through the years 2021–2022, as well as 10 per cent interest. For taxpayers who paid their entire property tax dues — including interest and penalties—up to March 2022 during the current fiscal year prior to the introduction of this plan, 90 per cent of any interest or penalties will be adjusted against future payments.

### Sonia Gandhi's second round of ED questioning today

Continued from page-1 medical care, if required.

medical care, if required.
The Congress has slamm

The Congress has slammed the agency's action against its top leadership and termed it "political vendetta".

The Delhi Police is also expected to deploy a huge force, including CRPF and RAF personnel, and barricade the entire over one kilometre stretch between her residence and the ED office.

The move to question the Gandhis was initiated after the ED late last year registered a fresh case under the criminal provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act.

This was after a trial court here took cognisance of an Income Tax department probe against Young Indian based on a private criminal complaint by BJP MP Subramanian Swamy in 2013.

Sonia and Rahul Gandhi are among the promoters and majority shareholders in Young Indian. Like her son, the Congress president too has 38 per cent shareholding.

Swamy had accused the Gandhis and others of conspiring to cheat and misappropriate funds, with Young Indian paying only Rs 50 lakh to obtain the right to recover Rs 90.25 crore that Associate Journals Limited owed to the Congress.

In February last year, the Delhi High Court issued a notice to the Gandhis seeking their response on Swamy's plea. Congress leaders Mallikarjun Kharge and Pawan Bansal were questioned by the ED in the case in April.

The Congress has maintained there has been no wrongdoing and Young Indian is a "not-for-profit" company established under section 25 of the Companies Act and hence there can be no question of money laundering.

It is understood that Rahul Gandhi, during his deposition before the ED, stuck to the position that there was no personal acquisition of assets by himself or his family.

According to the ED, assets worth about Rs 800 crore are "owned" by the AJL and the agency wants to know from the Gandhis how a not-for-profit company like Young Indian was undertaking commercial activities of renting out its land and building assets.

# Resolution in Odisha Assembly to felicitate President Droupadi Murmu

Continued from page-1

people of Odisha since a woman from the State is now the President of India," he said. BJP CELEBRATES AS MURMU TAKES OATH AS PRESIDENT

Bhubaneswar: The BJP on Monday celebrated after Droupadi Murmu took oath as the 15th President of India by dancing to the tunes of tribal musical instruments, bursting firecrackers and distributing sweets. Traditional tribal dance and other cultural events were organised on the premises of the party's State headquarters here. While, leaders and BJP workers watched the live swearing-in ceremony of Murmu on television. "July 25, 2022 will remain as a historic day for each of the Odia as a tribal woman coming from a remote area took oath as the President of India, a largest democracy of the world. It was indeed a proud moment for the State," said BJP's State president Samir Mohanty.

Describing Murmu's elevation as a glorious chapter in India's democracy, Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan said the speech of Murmu at the swearing-in ceremony has touched a billion hearts. "The personal touches, anecdotes and references is every bit a reminder of her reverence for tribal pride, history, culture and humble Odia roots. Her speech has touched a billion hearts, instilled pride and has also shown India the way forward to dream big and fulfil those dreams," Pradhan told reporters.

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### Neeraj Chopra wins silver in World Athletics Championships, scripts history again

Eugene: The gold eluded him but with a landmark silver here. Olympic champion javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra still created history one more time, becoming only the second Indian and first male track and field athlete to win a medal in the World Championships.

The 24-year-old Chopra, who had come into the showpiece as a hot medal favourite, produced a throw 88.13m, which came in the fourth round, to finish second bedefending hind champion Anderson Peters of Grenada (90.54m).

Legendary long jumper Anju Bobby George was the first Indian to win a medal -- bronze -- in the World Championships in the 2003 edition in Paris.

It was a nervy and unusual start for Chopra, as he opened with a foul throw and had 82.39m and 86.37m to be at fourth after three

But, to the big relief of the Indian contingent, and the legions of his fans back home, he got his rhythm back as he came up with a big fourth round throw of 88.13m, his fourth career-best effort, to jump to second place, which he held on to till the

His fifth and sixth throws were fouls. Chopra had won gold

in Tokyo Olympics last year with a second round throw of 87.58m and had just needed a first round effort of 88.39m to qualify for the finals at second place here. His silver saw India featuring in the medal table of the worlds for the first time in nearly two decades. India were placed at joint 28th in the standings.

The usual big smile was back as Chopra, the son of a farmer from Khandra village near Panipat in Haryana, did the 'calm-down' gesture and showed the vic-

tory sign with his right hand.

Chopra was, however, no match for Grenada's gold winner Anderson Peters, who produced a mas-

and then sent his spear to 90.46m in his second attempt. After a series of 87.21m, 88.11m and 85.83m in his next three throws, his javing the other athletes. Chopra had topped the Group A qualification round and made the final at second place behind Peters by sending his



sive 90.54m throw to defend the title he had won in the last edition in 2019 in Doha.

Peters, also 24, became only the second man in javelin history to defend World Championships title after the legendary Jan Zelezny of Czech Republic who had won gold in 1993 and 1995 editions.

Peters was a class of his own in the final as he had three massive 90m-plus throws. He opened with 90.21m

elin soared and landed at a distance of 90.54m in his last attempt to seal the win in style.

Olympic silver winner Jakub Vadlejch of Czech Republic took the bronze with 88.09m.

Chopra received his silver from the hands of Athletics Federation of India (AFI) President Adille Sumariwalla during the victory ceremony amid loud cheers from several Indians at the stands, includ-

spear to 88.39m for his third career-best throw. Peters had topped Group B with an effort of 89.91m. The other Indian in the fray, Rohit Yadav finished at 10th with a best throw of 78.72m. Rohit had finished 11th overall in the qualification round with a best throw of 80.42m. The 21-year-old Rohit had recorded a season's and personal best of 82.54m while winning a silver at the National Inter-State Championships last month.

Chopra had won Indian athletics' maiden gold in the Tokyo Olympics last year. He is only the second Indian to have won an individual gold in the Olympics, after shooter Abhinav Bindra, who clinched the yellow metal in 2008 Beijing Games.

Chopra burst onto the international scene with a gold in the 2016 World Junior Championships. He is currently the reigning Commonwealth Games and Asian Games gold medallist. He has also won a gold in 2017 Asian Championships.

With one silver and five finals, this is India's best-ever performance in the Athletics World Championships.

India's Eldhose Paul finished ninth in the men's triple jump final while the 4x400m relay team ended 12th overall.

The 25-year-old Paul produced a best jump of 16.79m in the three attempts he had, and failed to make it to the top eight. His series read 16.37, 16.79 and 13.86m. Only the top eight finishers after three rounds get three more jumps.

Paul had become the first Indian to qualify for the triple jump final after finishing 12th overall in the qualification round with an effort of 16.68m.

Paul, who reached here just a few days ago due to visa issues, has a season's and personal best of 16.99m which he had recorded while winning gold in the Federation Cup in April. Olympic champion Pedro Pichardo of Portugal won the gold medal with a best jump of 17.95m while last edition bronze medallist Hugues Fabrice Zango of Burkina Faso and Tokyo Games silver winner Zhu Yaming of China finished second and third with best efforts of 17.55m and 17.31m respectively. In the men's 4x400m relay, India finished sixth and last in heat number one and 12th overall.

The quartet of Muhammed Anas Yahiya, Muhammed Ajmal Variyathodi, Naganathan Pandi and Rajesh Ramesh clocked 3:07.29.

The top three in each and the next two fastest across the two heats qualify for the finals.

# We are proud of you: PM Modi congratulates Neeraj Chopra

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday lavished praise on Neeraj Chopra after he clinched the silver medal in the men's javelin throw final at the prestigious World

at @WCHoregon22 with his best throw of 88.13m, becoming the 1st Indian male and 2nd Indian to win a medal at the #WorldChampionships! Neeraj has now won

medal at every Global event!"

"Historic Silver Medal for #India Olympic Champion Neeraj Chopra wins historic Silver Medal at World Athletics Championship after Olympics. Congratulations @Neeraj\_chopra1. Your hard work has paid off & you've given India yet an-

other reason to celebrate after Tokyo Olympics," tweeted Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) National President JP Nadda.

The Olympic medallist started the proceedings with a foul throw, which was followed by 82.39m and 86.37m. It was finally in the fourth attempt when he recorded the distance of 88.13m, which put him in contention for the silver medal.

The last two attempts by Neeraj went foul throws, and thus, he ended up in the second position. The first position was held by defending champion Anderson Peters of Grenada, who recorded a distance of 90.54m. Neeraj also became India's first ever track and field athlete to take the silver medal in the World Championships, and second to bag a podium finish after the legendary long jumper Anju Bobby George had finished third in the Paris Worlds in 2003. On the other hand, World Championships debutant Rohit Yadav finished at the 10th position after making attempts of 78.72m, 78.05m and 77.95m.



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Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adiyanath. Meanwhile, Union Sports Minister Anurag

Thakur wrote, "Neeraj Chopra continues his

winning streak! Wins in Men's javelin throw

silver medal in Javelin throw event. Hearty congratulations and best wishes to you for this unforgettable achievement that is bringing glory to India. We are proud of you. Jai Hind! @Neeraj\_chopra1," tweeted Uttar

Athletics Championships in Eugene.

nal and secured the second position.

endeavours."

Neeraj recorded a distance of 88.13m in his

fourth attempt in the men's javelin throw fi-

Taking to Twitter, PM Modi wrote, "A great

accomplishment by one of our most distin-

guished athletes! Congratulations to

@Neeraj\_chopral on winning a historic Sil-

ver medal at the #WorldChampionships. This

is a special moment for Indian sports. Best

wishes to Neeraj for his upcoming

"In today's #WorldAthleticsChampionships

Neeraj Chopra Ji created history by winning

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