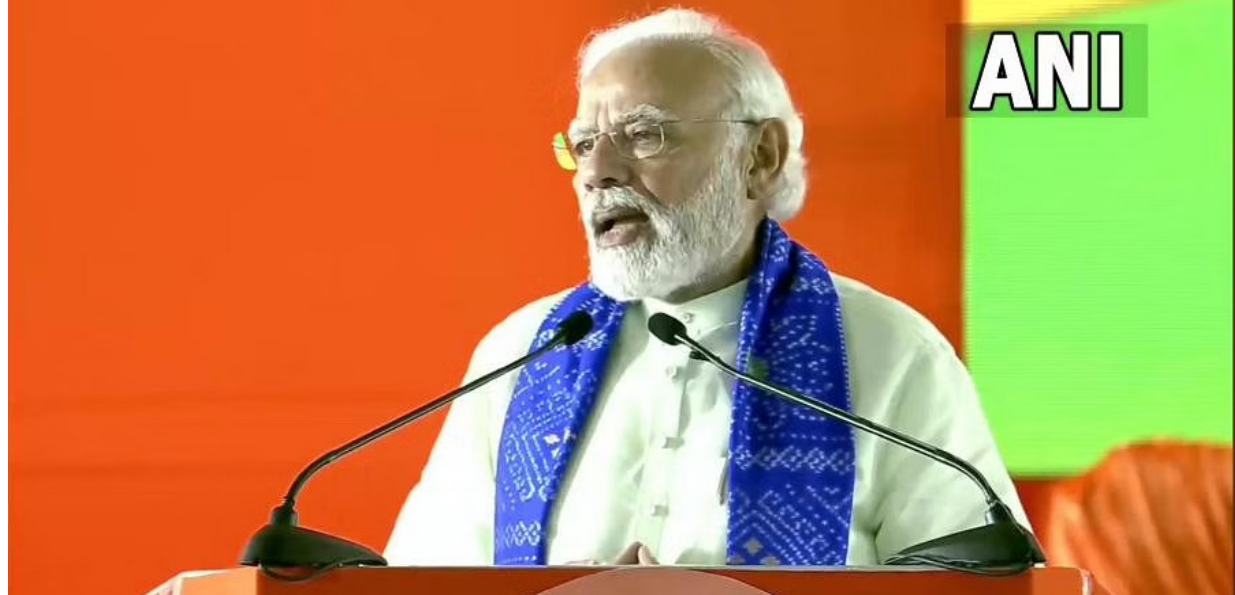


NDA govt striving to bring positive change to every Indian: PM Modi

HYDERABAD(KCN): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday said the NDA government at the Centre has been trying to bring positive change in every Indian's life and make people's life easier during the past eight years. Addressing a massive public meeting titled 'Vijay Sankalp Sabha' at Parade Grounds here, he said the people of Telangana yearn for a 'double engine growth' and asserted this will be fulfilled when the BJP comes to power in the state. Elections are due in Telangana next year. "During the past eight years we tried to bring positive change in every Indian's life. We are working tirelessly on how to make people's lives easier, and how



Continued from P-7

Continued from P-7

'Team India is one where people are united, not divided': Rahul Gandhi amid rows over Udaipur, Amravati killings

MALAPPURAM(KCN): Team India is one



where everyone comes together irrespective

Nupur Sharma row elgulf assembly proceedings of Budget session in Odisha

BHUBANESWAR(KCN): The budget session of the Assembly started on a noisy note on Saturday with the morning part of the first day witnessing several adjournments over Nupur Sharma's controversial statement on Prophet Mohammed and Supreme Court's admonition of her on Friday. Raising the issue during Zero Hour, leader of the Congress Legislature Party Narasingha Mishra sought the views of Chief Minister



Naveen Patnaik on Sharma's statement. "Nupur Sharma was the spokesperson of BJP. The Supreme Court reprimanded her on Friday and also criticised the political party indirectly. The BJP should be held responsible for the countrywide outrage over the statement. The party cannot escape its responsibility," he said.

His statement provoked the saffron party members who also stood up near their seats and hurled allegations against the Congress. Referring to the incident at Udaipur in Rajasthan where a tailor was killed in a

barbaric manner, deputy leader of the BJP Legislature Party Bishnu Charan Sethi asked whether the Chief Minister of that State had resigned. Questioning how can there be a debate over Sharma's remarks as she is not a member of the Odisha Assembly, Sethi said, BJP has already suspended her and she has also apologised for the statement. Sethi also targeted the Congress over the issue of exodus of Kashmir pandits. Members of both Congress and BJP rushed into the well of the House as slogan shouting continued over the issue. Speaker Bikram Keshari Arukha, who for the first time presided over the House after his election last month, said that there should not be discussion on a person who is not its member and not present. Congress members intensified their protest after the Speaker's statement. Unable to conduct the business, the Speaker adjourned the proceedings twice for 10 minutes each and later till 4 pm.

Budget a statistical jugglery: Sarat Patnaik



Bhubaneswar (KCN): The Odisha Budget has disappointed the farmers, laborers & the people of deprived sections. The Budget looks more like a statistical jugglery

than a real intent to improve the lot of our people.

Even as the needs and aspirations of people are soaring, we do not see concomitant rise in Budget provisions. Odisha, unfortunately, remains mired with poverty, inequality and lack of infrastructure, either in urban or rural areas. We expected the Budget to have addressed people's aspirations but it fails to do so.

A tiny hike in amount meant for local bodies is bound to ensure we continue to struggle for the basic facilities that are essential for a dignified living of people. While people were expecting for a shower, the Budget of Odisha has come as a trickle. The Indian National Congress will continue to raise the issue of people's deprivation and basic needs. The Government must act, and not only announce!

PCC president Sarat Patnaik has stated in his budget reaction.

Multiple rocket launchers shells Ukraine's Sloviansk, six killed

KYIV(KCN): Shelling from multiple rocket launchers killed "many" people on Sunday in Ukraine's eastern city of Sloviansk, which has come under attack from advancing Russian troops, its mayor said.

"Shelling from multiple rocket launchers on Sloviansk, the heaviest for a long time. There are 15 fires. Many dead and wounded," Vadim Lyakh said in a video published on

Facebook.

Tetyana Ignachenko, a spokeswoman for the Donetsk region to which Sloviansk be-



longs, told Ukrainian media that the strikes left "six dead and 15 wounded".

She also reiterated a call on residents to

leave the region, as the frontline is just a few kilometres (miles) away.

Ukrainian media said

one of the city's markets was on fire following the strikes.

Further south, the town of Kramatorsk, which is the adminis-

trative centre of Ukraine's Donbas, was hit for the second day in a row by Smerch rockets, according to the town's mayor Oleksandr Goncharenko.

The strikes, which hit a residential area and an unoccupied hotel, caused no casualties, he said.

Sloviansk and Kramatorsk are key targets for Moscow, particularly if the capture of Lysychansk in the northeast claimed by Russia on Sunday is confirmed.

Odisha Budget bets on High Growth

BHUBANESWAR(KCN): Aiming to give a big push to the pandemic-hit economy, Finance Minister Niranjan Pujari on Saturday presented a full-fledged budget of Rs 2 lakh



crore for 2022-23 expecting a growth rate of 8 to 8.5 per cent during the current fiscal. The budget size remains the same as what was projected on March 30, when the State government went for a vote on account for the first four months of the financial year. However, the projected growth, which will be above the national growth estimates, hinges on higher government spending and revival of the economy post Covid-19 pandemic.

The Finance Minister, though, has been cautious over the revival of the economy and announced to set up a Budget Stabilisation Fund (BSF) of Rs 10,000 crore to mitigate the revenue shocks in future. Odisha is the first State in the country to take such an initiative.

Though the programme expenditure remains the same at Rs 1 lakh crore, the administra-

tive expenditure has been slashed from Rs 89,624 crore to Rs 74,261 crore. The administrative expenditure includes provision of Rs 29,248 crore, Rs 18,221 crore, Rs 8,467 crore and Rs 5,856 crore towards salaries, pension, interest payment and maintenance of capital assets respectively.

The outlay for disaster risk management remains the same at Rs 3,210 crore while transfers from the State will be Rs 7,200 crore. The capital out-

lay has been projected at Rs 38,732 crore which is about 5.4 per cent of GSDP and 56 per cent increase over the previous year. Additionally, loans and advances, grants for creation of capital assets and other expenditure for capital formation together account for Rs 11,933 crore, which is an additional 1.7 per cent of GSDP.

Pujari proposed to finance the budget mainly through revenue receipts of Rs 1,63,967 crore and borrowing and other receipts of Rs 36,033 crore. The revenue receipts include the State's share in Central taxes of Rs 36,978 crore, State's own tax revenue of Rs 46,000 crore, own non-tax revenue for Rs 48,200 crore and grants from Centre of Rs 32,789 crore.

Pujari said, "As a sign of our economic prosperity, the share of

CONTINUED ON: P-7

Huge Quantity of Gur Wash, ID Liquor Destroyed by Excise Department



Khordha (KCN): In a state wide operations against illicit liquor teams of the Excise Department on Saturday raided illegal liquor production centres at Manibandh & Dadara Kantha under Begunia PS, area and destroyed 6800 litres Gur Wash and 410 li-

tre of illicitly distilled (ID) liquor. In a press release, prohibition and excise department said that the raids were aimed at illicit liquor production centres located in accessible villagers, forest areas and others. Officials said that individual cases were

being registered against ID liquor, manufactures, land-owners, sellers and all others involved. The raid was conducted by Bhairab Sahoo, Inspector of Excise, Khordha, Range, Sasmita Hota, Inspector of Excise, District

Mobile unit, Khordha, B. Manoj Kumar, OIC, Khordha, Geetanjali Behera, OIC, Jatni, Biranchi Narayan Mohanty, OIC, Begunia and all the Excise Staffs of Khordha, Begunia and Jatni were participate

Blood donation camp organised at DAV, Kalinga Nagar

Bhubaneswar(KCN): DAV Public

eswar and Cuttack city), the parents and

mark the occasion, Sri Mohanty high-

programme. On this occasion, the Chief



School, Kalinga Nagar organized a Blood Donation Camp in its premises today to mark the valediction of its Silver Jubilee Year. In this camp organized in association with Indian Red Cross Society, Odisha State Branch and Commissionerate Police (Bhuban-

teachers of the school donated more than 72 units of blood. Joining as the Chief Guest, Assistant Police Commissioner and Joint Secretary of Bhubaneswar Red Cross Society, Sri Lalitendu Mohanty inaugurated the programme. In the meeting organized to



lighted about the importance of the noble act of blood donation and its medical benefits for the donor. The Chairman of the school Sj Madan Mohan Panda and Principal Sri Bipin Kumar Sahoo encouraged the donors and the students with their presence throughout the

Guest also planted a sapling to mark the observation of ongoing Vanamahotsav Week by the school. The programme was smoothly organized under the direct supervision of the principal and the whole-hearted cooperation of all the staff members and the school alumni association.

Lord Jagannath Rath Yatra Celebrated in Bengaluru

Bengaluru(KCN): The Annual Rath Yatra Festival was

siasm and enchantments were marked among the devotees

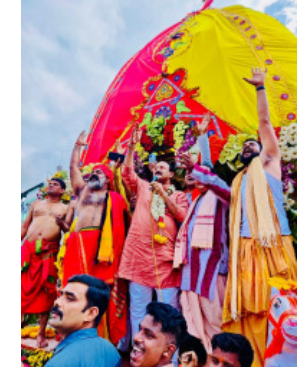
afternoon the pulling of the chariot started

Chief Minister of Karnataka Basavaraj S. Bommai, M.P. of Central Bengaluru P.C.Mohan, State Minister Arvind Limbavali and M.L.A. M. Satish Reddy. The entire arrangements of the Festival were conducted smoothly by the Trustees and



celebrated in Bengaluru with much

during the occasion. The Dhadi Pahandi of



fanfare and Festive fervour. Commencing from the wee hours of the day, the religious rituals like Mangala Arati, Abakash, Mailam, worshipping Sun, praying Gatekeepers and Sahanamela were performed at the main Jagannath Temple of the city situated at Agara. Since the Rath Yatra has been celebrated offline after two years of Corona interruptions, unusual enthu-

all four Deities were started 12.15 p.m. in afternoon. Lord Sudarshan, Lord Balabhadra, Goddess Subhadra and Lord Jagannath were taken in a procession from the Anasara room to the 28 feet high immaculately decorated colourful chariot stationed in front of the Temple. Trustee of the temple Sitikantha Sadhangi did the traditional job of Cherrapahanra. At about 2.30 P.M. in the



with the playing of Ghanta, Kartala, Mrudanga, Jhanja and chanting of Jai Jagannath slogans by the strong crowd of around 25,000 viewers. The distinguished Guests graced the Rath Yatra Festival this year include

Members of Temple Management Committee like Nihar Samantara, Dr. Pratap Pani, Kamakhya Panda, Justice J. P. Udgata, Hara Prasad Mohapatra, Manoj Patra and Purnyashlok Khuntia.

Photojournalist Ashok Panda dies in mishap near Satasankha

BHUBANESWAR(KCN): Senior photojournalist Ashok Panda died in a road accident while he was on way to Puri to cover Rath Yatra on Friday morning. He was 55. The mishap took place at around 6 am when Panda's motorcycle reportedly collided with a road divider near Satasankha within Pipili police limits. Personnel of Satasankha outpost, who were standing at a nearby tea stall, rushed to

his rescue. Photojournalist Ashok Panda Panda informed the locals and police that he was a journalist. He was rushed to a hospital in Sakhigopal before being referred to Capital Hospital in Bhubaneswar. However, Panda was declared dead in Capital Hospital at around 7.50 am. He had sustained head injuries in the accident, said police.

2Lac Cr Budget presented

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Minister Finance, Niranjan Puari on Saturday presented the Annual Budget for the year 2022-23 in the State Legislative Assembly with a total outlay of Rs 2 lakh crore, which is the highest ever allocation in the history of Odisha.

The Budget size is Rs 30,000 crore more than the Annual Budget of last fiscal 2021-22.

"The fiscal space created has been effectively employed for creation of physical, social and human capital. Over the last twenty-two years, there has been a seventeen-fold increase in budget size and this year, we are touching the landmark figure of Rs 2 lakh crore," Mr.Pujari said.

The Program expenditure has shown a twenty-eight-fold increase and Capital spending has increased by about fifty times during the same period, he said.

Total Program expenditure outlay for the financial year 2022-23 estimated at Rs 1 lakh crore, which is half of the entire budgetary allocation. In addition, Rs10,000 crore will be spent through off-budget sources and by Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs), he said.

Total Administrative Spending will be Rs.89,590 Crore during 2022-23.

The outlay for Disaster Risk Management Fund will be Rs.3,210 crore. Transfers from State will have an outlay of Rs.7200 crore, said the Finance Minister.

The capital outlay in 2022-23 is Rs.38,732 crore, which is about 5.4 per cent of GSDP and 56 per cent increase over the previous year. Additionally, loans and advances, grants for creation of capital assets and other expenditure for capital formation together account for Rs.11,933 crore, which is an additional 1.7 per cent of GSDP.

Informing about financing for the year, Mr.Pujari said the outlay is proposed to be financed mainly through revenue receipts of Rs.1,63,967 crore and

borrowing and other receipts of Rs.36,033 crore. The total revenue receipts for the year 2022-23 include State's share in Central Taxes for Rs.36,978

grants from Centre for Rs.32,789 crore. Thus, the Own Revenue/GSDP ratio would be 13.20 per cent in 2022-23, he informed.



crore. State's Own Tax revenue for Rs.46,000 crore, Own Non-tax revenue for Rs.48,200 crore and

"As a sign of our economic prosperity, the share of our own revenue in the State Budget has exceeded the devolution from the Central Government by a substantial margin," he said.

Today Odisha is on the path of all-round development as envisioned by Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik. His 5T Mantra has been the mainstay of the Government's development programs and transformation agenda, he said, adding, the State Government has taken up significant initiatives for transformation in healthcare, education and agriculture on a mission mode.

This budget focuses on achieving inclusive prosperity through human development, creation of physical and social infrastructure, provision of social safety nets for the disadvantaged and vulnerable sections and empowerment of women, youth, Scheduled Tribes, Backward Classes, Minorities, differently-abled and senior citizens.

A total sum of Rs.12,624 crore has been proposed for public health care, which is an increase of about 25% over previous year's provision. Similarly, an allocation of Rs.27,324 crore has been made for the education and skill development sector.

For conserving and developing the places of religious and cultural importance, the Finance Minister has allocated Rs.1,950 Crore under different schemes during 2022-23.

This includes an outlay of Rs.1,325 crore under ABHADA, Rs.200 crore each under EKAMRA and SAMALEI, and Rs.150 crore under Integrated Development of Heritage, Monuments & Tourists Destinations in the budget.

Stating our road infrastructure is one of the best in the country, Mr.Pujari said, "To further improve road infrastructure for the upcoming industrial regions and their connectivity with the mineral hinterlands and ports, it has been proposed to allocate about Rs.14,454 crore during the year 2022-23 for construction and improvement of roads in the State."

Apart from that around Rs.2,970 crore will be utilized for maintenance of the existing roads, he stated.

Similarly, Rs.830 crore has been earmarked for development of tourism sector, Rs.911 crore for sports, Rs 7850 crore for rural drinking water supply, Rs.7,258 crore for Housing & Urban Development Department, Rs.2,000 crore for the Mission Shakti Department, Rs.2,001 crore under MGNREGA, Rs.32,596 crore under Tribal Sub-Component and SC Sub-Component, Rs 3337 crore under social security pension schemes, Rs 1023 crore for Re1 per kg rice scheme, Rs.3,482 crore for power sector, Rs.1,269 crore industry & MSME sector, Rs.2,217 crore for the forestry sector, Rs.7,551 crore for judiciary and Rs.3,262 crore for Disaster Management.

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WANTED

Required Driver/Peon/Attendant/ Aya

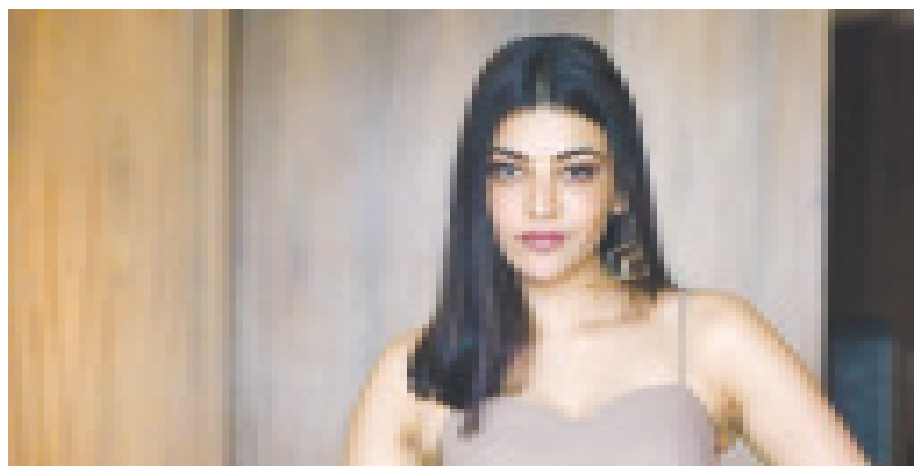
Please Contact-8984600400

ACCOMMODATION WANTED

Required double/Single/ Multi storied Bungalow type North or East Facing Independent building At-Nayapalli, Jayadev Vihar, V.S.S. Nagar, Mancheswar, Rasulgarh, Sallashree Vihar, Niladri Vihar.

Please Contact- 8338870595

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 has been a step up in

her over a decade-long 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.

Talking about what excited her most about the association 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 success or failure by taking a step back and I believe it gives you a lot of clarity."

On the career front, Kajal is keenly looking forward to the release of "Paris Paris", the Tamil remake of Kangana Ranaut's "Queen".

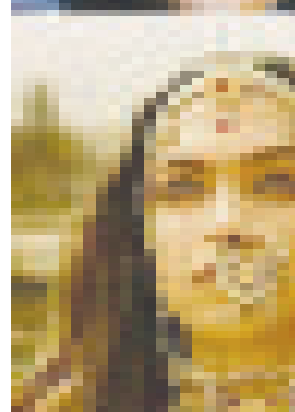
"Paris Paris" will be Kajal's first release of 2019.

"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.

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

of controversies. Yet some movies shined amid the storm.



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 Akshay Kumar 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 blockbuster' film. The movie showed the different phases of the controversial

ing Rs 293 crore. 4. Race 3:

'Our business is our business, none of your business' line

and the government freebie schemes.. A few scenes were deleted from the movie too. The matter was

ceived hilarious reactions on social media as well. Later, Aamir Khan apologised for failing to entertain

but it leaves you with a thought to ponder. 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.

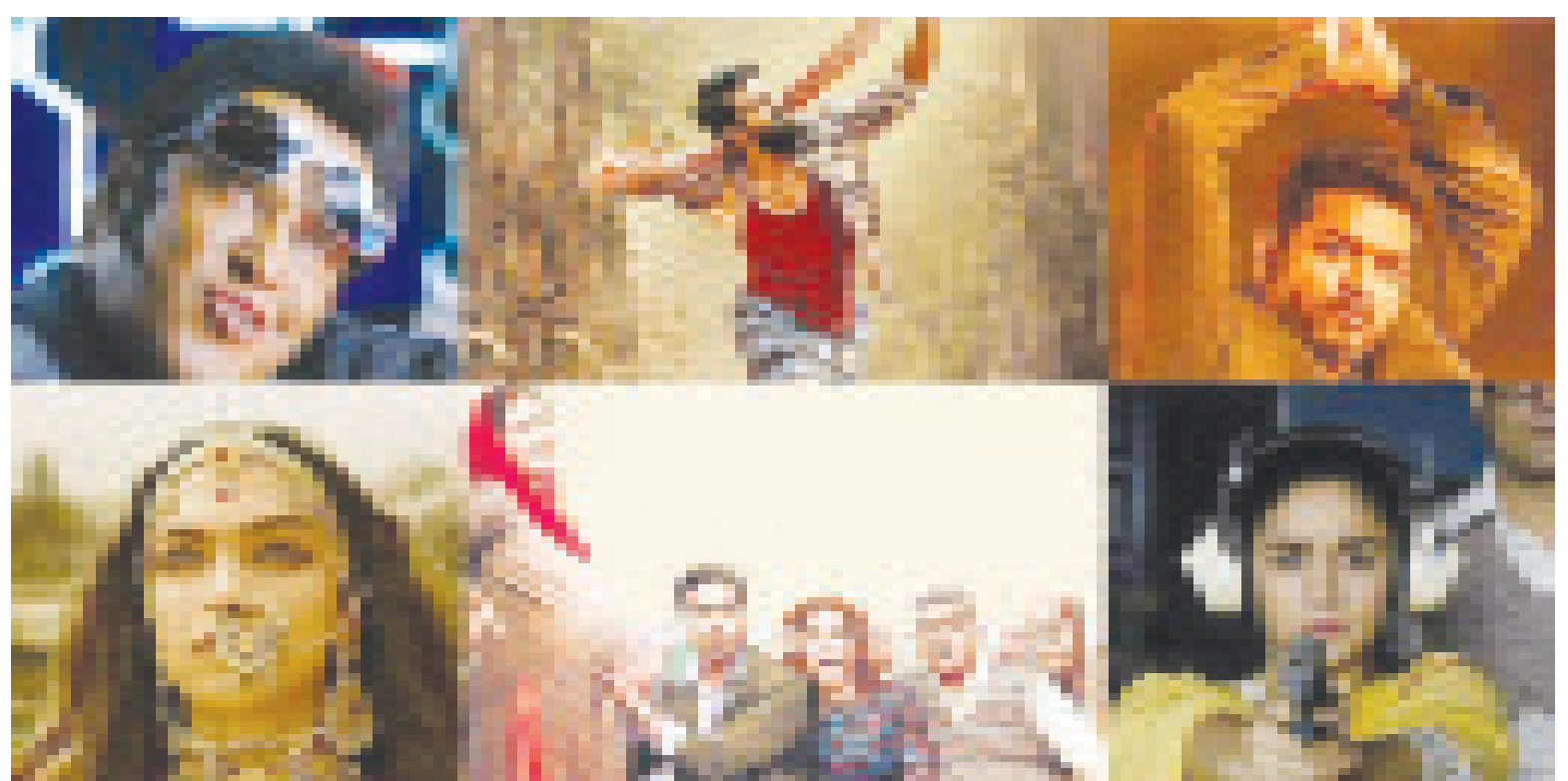
Just 'normal' to exclude women in decision making process: Adil Hussain

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 industry.

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.



actor Sanjay Dutt, which really didn't go well with some organisations. RSS openly criticised the movie in their mouth-piece 'Panchjanya.' 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 story revolves 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, earn-

ing Rs 293 crore. 4. Race 3: 'Our business is our business, none of your business' line

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Income Tax Return forms for asst. year 2022-23-Part 1

The CBDT has notified following forms for Return of Income for asst. year 2022-23-



ITR 1 Sahaj:

For resident individual other than not ordinarily resident having income from Salary, Family Pension u/s 57 or Income from one house property or income from other

sources

However, **ITR 1 is not applicable for the following persons:**

- (i) If he has assets (including financial interest in any entity) located outside India
- (ii) If he has signing authority in any account located outside India
- (iii) If he has income from any source outside India
- (iv) If he has income to be apportioned between spouses governed by Portuguese Civil code in accordance with provisions of section 5A.
- (v) If he has claimed deduction u/s 57, other than deduction claimed under clause (iia) thereof
- (vi) If he is a director in any company
- (vii) If he has held any unlisted equity share at any time during the previous year
- (viii) If he is assessable for the whole or any part of the income on which tax has been deducted at source in the hands of a person other than the assessee
- (ix) If he has claimed any relief of tax u/s 90 and/or u/s 91
- (x) If he has agricultural income exceeding Rs. 5,000.
- (xi) If Total Income of an Individual exceeds Rs. 50 Lakhs
- (xii) Where an Individual is having income taxable u/s 115BBDA for dividend exceeding Rs 10,00,000/-; or
- (xiii) Where he has income in the nature referred to in section 115BBE that is income of the individual includes income u/s 68,69,69A,69B, 69C or 69D
- (xiv) If he is a person in whose case tax has been deducted u/s 194N; or
- (xv) If he is a person in whose case payment or deduction of tax has been deferred under sub-section (2) of section 191 or sub-section (1C) of section 192;
- (xvi) If he owns more than one house property,
- (xvii) If he has brought forward loss or loss to be carried forward under the head house property,

(xviii) If he has income from winning from lotteries or horse races and has any loss under the head Income from Other Sources.

(xix) If he has income under the head capital gain or business or profession.

Form ITR-1 can also be filed in paper form where total income assessable under the Act during the previous year of a person, being an individual of the age of 80 years or more at any time during the previous year, and who furnishes the return in Form number ITR 1 (Sahaj) or Form number ITR 4 (Sugam).

Form ITR 2 –

It applies to all Individuals and HUFs subject to some exceptions. However the following are not eligible to file his return of Income in Form ITR-2 :

- (i) Individual who is required to file its return of Income in ITR Form-1
- (ii) An Individual or HUF deriving income under the head business or profession.

Form ITR - 3 –

In the case of a person being an individual or a Hindu undivided family deriving income under the head business or profession. However, Form ITR-3 is not applicable for Person who is required to file return of income in form ITR-1 (Sahaj) or form ITR-2 or form ITR-4 Sugam i.e. person opting for Presumptive Taxation Scheme.

Form ITR 4 Sugam –

For individuals and Hindu Undivided Family, who is a resident other than not ordinarily resident or a partnership firm (other than LLP, which is Resident) deriving income under the head Profit or gains from business or profession and such income is computed as per Presumptive Income Schemes u/s 44AD, 44ADA or 44AE;

Sugam Form is not mandatory: ITR Form 4 Sugam shall not apply at the option of the assessee if the assessee keeps and maintains all the books of account and other documents referred to in section 44AA(1) in respect of business or profession and the assessee gets his accounts audited and obtains report of such audit u/s 44AB. **In case the assessee opts not to file Return in form ITR 4 Sugam and fulfils the above conditions, then in such cases he may use ITR 3 or ITR 5, as the case may be.**

ITR 4 Sugam shall not apply to following person, who -

- (i) owns more than one house property, the income of which is chargeable under the head "Income from house property";

Narayan Jain

(ii) has asset (including financial interest in any entity)

- (iii) located outside India;
- (iii) has signing authority in any account located outside India;
- (iv) has income from any source outside India;
- (v) has income to be apportioned between spouses governed by Portuguese Civil Code in accordance with provisions of section 5A.
- (vi) is a director in any company;
- (vii) has held any unlisted equity share at any time during the previous year;
- (viii) **has total income, exceeding Rs. 50 lakh**
- (ix) has any brought forward loss or loss to be carried forward under any head of income;
- (x) is assessable for the whole or any part of the income on which tax has been deducted at source in the hands of a person other than the assessee;
- (xi) has claimed any relief of tax u/s 90 or 90A or deduction of tax u/s 91;
- (xii) has agricultural income not chargeable to tax, exceeding Rs.5,000;
- (xiii) who is having income taxable u/s 115BBDA for dividend exceeding Rs 10,00,000/-; or
- (xiv) whose income includes income u/s 68,69,69A,69B, 69C or 69D on which tax is chargeable u/s 115BBE.
- (xv) has income of the nature specified in clause (vi) of sub-section (2) of section 17 on which tax is payable or deductible, as the case may be, under sub-section (2) of section 191 or sub-section (1C) of section 192.

Filing of ITR 4 Sugam Return in paper form : An individual of the age of 80 years or more at any time during the previous year can file his return in Form **ITR 4 Sugam** in paper form.

Form ITR-5 –

It is for persons other than individual, HUF, company and person required to fill ITR 7, that is this form is applicable for a Firm, LLP, AOP, BOI, Artificial Juridical Person, Co-operative Society and Local Authority. It may be noted that a person required to furnish Return of Income u/s 139(4A) or 139(4B) or 139(4C) or 139(4D) or 139(4F) cannot use this form. They are required to use Form ITR-7. Individuals, HUF, Company, a Society or Trust or Institution or a person required to furnish ITR-7 are not entitled to use form ITR 5.

Manner of filing ITR 5: Such Return is required to be filed electronically under digital

signature; or alternatively by transmitting the data electronically under electronic verification code; or by transmitting the data electronically and thereafter submitting the verification of the return in return form ITR V. However, a partnership firm whose accounts are liable to audit u/s 44AB shall compulsorily furnish the return electronically with digital signature.

Form ITR-6 –

For companies other than a company claiming exemption u/s 11. This form is not applicable for companies required to fill up return of income in ITR-7. This form has to be compulsorily furnished electronically under digital signature.

Form ITR-7-

For assessee including company who are required to file return u/s 139(4A), 139(4B), 139(4C), 139(4D), i.e. for Charitable or religious trust or Institution or Society, Political Parties, Electoral Trust, Research association, news agency, educational and medical institutions, assessee covered u/s 10(23A) or 10(23AAA) or 10(23B) or 10(23C), or 10(23D) or 10(23DA) or 10(23EC) or 10(23ED) or 10(23EE) or 10(23FB) or Trade unions referred to in sec. 10(24)(b), Board or authority referred to in sec 10(29A) or Body or Authority referred to in sec. 10(46) or Infrastructure Debt Fund referred to in sec. 10(47) or university, college or institution referred to in sec 35(1)(ii)/(iii).

Manner of filing ITR 7: Such Return is required to be filed electronically under digital signature; or alternatively by transmitting the data electronically under electronic verification code; or by transmitting the data electronically and thereafter submitting the verification of the return in return form ITR V. However, a political party shall compulsorily furnish the return electronically with digital signature.

Investment fund referred to in section 115UB are required to furnish its Return u/s 139(4F). Investment fund means any fund established or incorporated in India in the form of a trust or a company or a limited liability partnership (LLP) or a body corporate which has been granted a certificate of registration as a Category I or a Category II Alternative Investment Fund and is regulated under the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Alternative Investment Fund) Regulation, 2012, made under the Securities and Exchange Board of India Act, 1992.

For certain assessee it is mandatory to file their Return electronically. **(Contd.)**

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

No Reduction in COVID-19 Hospitalizations, Deaths with Ivermectin

A large study investigating potential repurposed treatments for COVID-19 has found no benefit for ivermectin in



reducing a person's risk of being hospitalized or dying from the disease, according to a preprint posted by the researchers on medRxiv yesterday (June 12). The randomized placebo-controlled trial included more than 1,500 people, and adds to a growing body of research suggesting the antiparasitic drug is unlikely to be effective at staving off disease progression.

"Overall, most people improved their symptoms whether they took ivermectin or not," study coauthor Adrian Hernandez, executive director of the Duke Clinical Research Institute, says in a press statement. He adds that "there does not appear to be a role for ivermectin outside of a clinical trial setting, especially considering other available options with proven reduction in hospitalizations and death." See "Ivermectin (Still) Lacks Support

as a COVID-19 Drug"

The trial was conducted as part of ACTIV-6, a multi-arm study funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to investigate potential early treatments for COVID-19. Of



the 1,591 people enrolled for this arm, 817 received 400 µg/kg of ivermectin per day for three days, while the rest received a placebo. Just under half of the study participants had had at least two SARS-CoV-2 vaccine doses. The team found no statistically significant effects of the drug on hospitalizations or deaths. While there were 10 such events in the ivermectin group, there were 9 in the placebo group. The

Catherine Offord

only death recorded in the study was of a participant assigned to the ivermectin group. A separate analysis by the researchers suggested that ivermectin may have a slight impact on how long a person feels ill with COVID-19: participants receiving the drug reported feeling unwell for an average of 10.96 days compared with the placebo group's 11.45 days.

The trial is the latest in a string of clinical studies that have failed to find evidence that early treatment with ivermectin reduces risk of COVID-19 progression. Just last month, the TOGETHER trial, another multi-arm study, reported in the New England Journal of Medicine that treatment with ivermectin "did not result in a lower incidence of medical admission to a hospital due to progression of Covid-19 or of prolonged emergency

department observation among outpatients with an early diagnosis of Covid-19."

The NIH updated its clinical guidelines in late April of this year to recommend "against the use of ivermectin for the treatment of COVID-19, except in clinical trials." Prior to that, it had stated that there was "insufficient evidence" to recommend for or against the use of the drug as a COVID-19 treatment.

The ACTIV-6 trial is ongoing. Other arms that have yet to report findings include a study of the antidepressant fluvoxamine and a separate study of ivermectin at a higher dose of 600 µg/kg for six days.

After undergraduate research with spiders at the University of Oxford and graduate research with ants at Princeton University, Catherine left arthropods and academia to become a science writer. She has worked in various guises at The Scientist, starting as an intern in early 2016 before becoming a correspondent. As senior editor, she now writes articles for the online and print publications, and edits the magazine's Notebook, Careers, and Bio Business sections

Chinese homebuilders let farmers pay for homes with watermelons, peaches



BEIJING: Struggling developers in China have started taking payment for homes in watermelons, peaches and other agricultural produce, state media reported Sunday, as they attempt to lure buyers deterred by a property market slump.

China's housing market has been hit by a slowing economy and debt crisis precipitated by a government ban on builders taking deposits before construction begins on a project.

One developer in the eastern city of Nanjing said it would accept truckloads of watermelons worth up to 100,000 yuan as down payment from local farmers, state-run China News Weekly reported.

In the nearby small town of Wuxi, another developer was taking peaches as payment, the magazine said.

Homebuyers in Qi county, a major garlic-producing region in central China's Henan prov-

ince, can exchange their produce at three times the market price to settle part of their down payment.

Accepting crops at inflated prices has allowed developers to offer steeper discounts on homes than permitted by local governments while tapping into an underserved market.

"On the occasion of the new garlic season, the company has made a resolute decision to benefit garlic farmers in Qi county," homebuilder Central China Management said on social media in late May.

"We are helping farmers with love, and making it easier for them to buy homes."

About 30 properties had been sold since the garlic campaign was launched, it added.

Home sales in China measured by floor area have slid for 11 consecutive months and were down 31.5 percent in May compared to the same month last year, official data shows.

Activists, parties hold protest against move to construct Metro car shed at Aarey

MUMBAI: Environmental activists and some political parties, including the Uddhav Thackeray-led Shiv Sena and the AAP, on Sunday staged a protest at the Aarey Colony, a green belt in suburban Goregaon, against the Maharashtra government's proposal to build a Metro-3 car shed at the site.



Holding placards, the protesters raised slogans against the new government's proposal to shift the Metro-3 car shed project back to Mumbai's Aarey forest, an 1,800-acre area that is often termed as the megalopolis's 'green lung'.

In their first cabinet meeting held soon after their swearing-in ceremony on Thursday, Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde and his deputy Devendra Fadnis of the BJP had directed the state administration to submit a proposal to build the Metro-3 car shed in Aarey Colony instead of Kanjurmarg.

The previous Uddhav Thackeray-led Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) government had shifted the proposed car shed site to Kanjurmarg from Aarey Colony on the ground of environment protection, but the issue got embroiled in a legal dispute.

The Thackeray government had also declared Aarey as a reserved forest.

Some leaders and workers of the Shiv Sena as well as its youth wing Yuva Sena, which is headed by former environment minister Aaditya Thackeray, participated in the protest.

Opposition to Metro carshed in Aarey is about protecting Mumbai's biodiversity, says Aaditya Thackeray, who represents Worli Assembly constituency in Mumbai, tweeted that he was not able to join the protest due to the crucial session of the state Legislative Assembly on Sun-

day, but urged the government to reconsider its decision.

Party MP Priyanka Chaturvedi, who participated in the protest, accused the Eknath Shinde-led government of politicising the issue.

"What harm have Mumbaikars done to indulge in such politics? Why are you seeking revenge from Mumbai for your politics? If you have anything against us, fight us, why fight Mumbaikars," Chaturvedi said.

According to environment activists, the forest not only provides fresh air to the people of the city, but it also a key habitat for wildlife, including some endemic species.

The forest has some five lakh trees, and also has a couple of rivers and some lakes flowing through it, they say.

Ruben Mascarenhas, the working president of Aam Aadmi Party's (AAP) Mumbai unit, said Aarey is the only urban forest ecosystem in the world and must be saved at all costs.

He said as a minister in the Uddhav Thackeray-led government, Shinde was in favour of the Metro-3 yard being shifted to Kanjurmarg and was part of the decision.

"His U-turn right now is astounding," he said.

Activists up in arms again as Maharashtra decides to move Metro car shed back to Aarey Colony

Maharashtra Navnirman Sena (MNS) chief Raj Thackeray's son Amit also came out against the proposed construction of the car shed in Aarey. He said the government's decision has shocked many nature lovers like him and added that he hoped that the Shinde-led dispensation will reconsider its decision.

On Friday, addressing a press conference at Shiv Sena Bhavan, the party headquarters at Dadar in central Mumbai, Uddhav Thackeray had made a fervent appeal to the new government not to go ahead with the Metro-3 car shed project at Aarey Colony.

"I am very upset. If you are angry with me, then vent out your anger, but don't stab Mumbai in the heart. I am very upset that the Aarey decision has been overturned. This is not a personal property," he had said.

Israel holds first Cabinet meeting after caretaker PM Lapid takes over

TEL AVIV: Israel's caretaker Prime Minister Yair Lapid held his first Cabinet meeting on Sunday since taking over as leader, promising a functional government despite the political instability that is sending Israel to its fifth elections in less than four years.

Lapid, sitting next to his predecessor power-sharing partner Naftali Bennett, also warned that Israel would take any step necessary to defend itself after it shot down three unmanned aircraft launched by the Lebanese militant group Hezbollah.

Lapid took over last week as prime minister as part of an agreement forged last year that created the coalition government. Bennett led it initially but stepped down following a series of defections and legislative defeats. Parliament dissolved itself, triggering new elections and handing power to Lapid.

Israel will head to

the polls again on Nov. 1, when Lapid will seek to convince voters to adopt his centrist vision and

launched its unmanned aircraft toward an area where an Israeli gas platform was recently in-

der Bennett, will use his months as caretaker leader to prove to Israelis that he is prime minister mate-



deny former Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who was ousted last year after more than a decade in power, a chance to return to lead the country. Bennett will not run in November.

"In the coming months our goal, of this whole table, is to run the government as if there is no election campaign. The citizens of Israel deserve a functioning government at any given moment," Lapid said.

Lapid faced his first challenge on Saturday when Hezbollah

stalled in the Mediterranean Sea. The move appeared to be an attempt by Hezbollah to influence U.S.-brokered negotiations between Israel and Lebanon over their maritime border, an area that is rich in natural gas.

"Hezbollah continues its path of terrorism, undermining Lebanon's ability to reach an agreement on the maritime border. Israel will continue to protect itself, its citizens and its assets," he said.

Lapid, who served as foreign minister un-

der Bennett, will use his months as caretaker leader to prove to Israelis that he is prime minister mate-

rial. He travels to Paris this week for meetings and then next week hosts U.S. President Joe Biden, a potential pre-election boost.

The upcoming election, as in the previous four, will likely be a referendum on Netanyahu's fitness to lead at a time when he is on trial for corruption charges. He denies wrongdoing, but several political parties have refused to join a government led by him, complicating efforts to form coalitions and end the political turmoil.

In a security breach, man gets into Mamata's residence & lingers for hours before being held



KOLKATA: In a security breach at chief minister Mamata Banerjee's residence, a Z category security zone in south Kolkata's Kalighat, a man in his mid-40s was found beside the CM's official vehicle on Sunday morning. The suspect was handed over to the local police station. The police are questioning the accused to ascertain whether he is mentally unsound. Senior police offi-

cers, including commissioner of police Vineet Goyal, visited the CM's residence and reviewed the security arrangement. "We have tightened the security ring around the CM's residence following the incident of trespassing," said Murli Dhar, the joint commissioner of police (crime). Preliminary investigation revealed the man entered the premises of Mamata's

residence in the wee hours of Sunday.

"During interrogation, the person admitted that he climbed up the boundary wall of CM's residence around 1 am and spent the rest of the night hiding at the place where the vehicle was parked. We are surprised to know how did he breach the security and hoodwink the vigil of police personnel," said a senior police of-

ficer.

The officer said police were interrogating the suspect to ascertain the intention of the trespassing.

"We are also interrogating the police personnel who was on duty at the CM's residence," said the officer. Recently, an elderly couple was murdered in the same area raising questions about the security arrangement in the locality where the CM resides.

Beach Cleanup Programme Organised



Chennai(KCN): Meenakshi Academy of Higher Education and Research (MAHER) deemed to be University's Faculty of Yoga Science and Therapy (FYST) Staff and Ph.D Scholars participated in the 'Beach Cleanup' programme organized by the

'Square and The Hindu groups' at Injambakkam, Chennai today. HOD of the FYST congratulated and encouraged to all the participants to do similar social welfare activities in future for the betterment of society.

Health Ministry asks State to explain Jajpur MCH delay

BHUBANESWAR: The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has raised

be completed by 2020.. In a missive to the State government,

Sources said the State government had taken up the project in mid-2018.

the site for the project was selected at Ankula after the administration agreed to



serious concerns regarding slow pace of progress in construction works of the government medical college at Jajpur. The medical college and hospital at the industrially-rich Jajpur was sanctioned as part of the Phase II of Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY). The 100-seat new MCH project is being implemented at a cost of around Rs 430 crore and was to

the Ministry has cited though the entire Central share for the college has already been released to the State, yet only about 28 per cent (pc) construction has been completed. Asking the Health and Family Welfare department to submit the reasons behind the delay in construction of the infrastructure, the Ministry has asked to expedite and complete the project at the earliest.

It was decided to set up the medical college after upgrading the existing district headquarters hospital. Accordingly, the Collector was asked to identify 20 acre of land in the close proximity of the DHH. The project was then delayed due to local agitations over selection of site as a major section of the district demanded the college to come up at Panikoili. However,

set up a trauma care centre at Panikoili. A senior Health department official said the construction of Jajpur MCH had to wait due to delay in selection of site by nearly two years. The implementing agency L&T is constructing the main building, hostel block, staff residential quarters and ancillary buildings on turn-key basis. The project would be ready by the end of 2023, he said.

Cuttack Municipal Corporation makes face masks mandatory

CUTTACK: The Cuttack Municipal Corporation(CMC) has made wearing

move comes after a rise in Covid-19 cases in Cuttack and other parts of

days which requires caution among the citizens of CMC, read the order released by CMC on Saturday. As per the order, everyone residing within the CMC area and others coming to Cuttack shall wear face masks properly while moving out and in public places. The civic body has also advised all citizens

to maintain social distance of 2 meters among themselves at all times while in public places. All malls/shops/store owners shall ensure social distancing about 2 metres within their premises. The responsibility of maintenance of social distancing lies with the owner of the premises, the order stated.



of face masks mandatory as a part of precautionary measures to prevent Covid-19. The

the States. There has been a sudden rise in new cases within the CMC area in the last few

Pro-poor, to spur growth: CM Naveen Patnaik hails budget



BHUBANESWAR: Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik hailed the budget presented by Finance Minister Niranjan Pujari as progressive, pro-poor and development oriented and said it is in line with the State government's transformational agenda under 5T and 'Mo

Sarkar' initiatives. The State government's initiative to create a budget stabilisation fund will help in mitigating any revenue shock in future, he said and added that a separate budget for Mission Shakti with allocation of Rs 2,000 crore will further deepen engagement

with 70 lakh women of Odisha. The Chief Minister said priority of the budget is to create quality health care facilities, quality education including school transformation, life and livelihoods, women empowerment as well as infrastructure development. Besides,

capital spending will increase by more than 50 per cent giving impetus to further growth, he said. Stating that the budget size has increased to Rs 2 lakh crore and the programme budget to Rs 1 lakh crore, the Chief Minister expected that the budget will meet the aspirations of the people of the State.



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Demand for SUVs continues to outpace other segments

NEW DELHI: From mere 15% market share 2 decades ago to accounting for over 40% of the total domestic passenger vehicle (PV) sales, demand for sports utility vehicles (SUVs) continues to outpace other segments by a big margin.

A change in consumer preferences to opt for an upright driving stance and high ground clearance vehicle that got complemented with multiple options available at an affordable price point played a big role in mainstreaming SUVs, which a decade back were mostly associated with big, bulkier, diesel-powered vehicles that had off-roading capabilities.

Mitul Shah, head of research at Reliance Securities, said the launch of budget compact SUVs 7-8 years ago led to the beginning of the current trend of preferring SUVs to small cars. Significant lower pricing compared to conventional large SUV

with over 50% market share, had a 15% share last fiscal while Maruti Suzuki, with only two options, had nearly 12% share in the SUV market.

"Competition in the segment would further intensify with numerous launches planned by all the key players for the coming period, which may put some pressure on pricing and margins of the companies, going ahead, though overall margins of SUVs are better than small cars in general," said Shah.

Not only the established automakers, new carmakers and those who are trying to revive their fortune in India are banking heavily on SUVs. For example, Kia Motors, in less than three years has become a serious player in the Indian PV space by having an all-SUV portfolio (except for Carnival UV) while Volkswagen (including Skoda) has seen a big surge in sales in recent months after launching a mid-size



and increasing first-time buyers in lower age groups who prefer stylish sporty SUVs are key driving factors behind the rising contribution of SUVs in overall PVs, he added. Shashank Srivastava, Maruti Suzuki's senior executive director (marketing and sales), said SUVs currently account for 40% of all passenger vehicles sold in India.

"We expect the SUV segment to grow at a CAGR of 9-10% in the next 3-5 years and going by the vehicle-buying trends in other countries, which have seen a surge in SUV sales, this segment should comprise 49-50% of the domestic market in future," added Srivastava.

At present, there are about 50 vehicles in India that come in SUV body type while the number of hatchbacks has seen a steady decline over the last few years.

Cut Throat Competition

Three big launches from 3 top auto-makers and a brand new unveiling by Toyota highlights that demand for SUVs will remain robust. Hyundai recently launched the facelift of its sub compact SUV Venue to maintain its market leading position in the segment while Maruti Suzuki launched the all-new Brezza in what is seen as the first major launch to increase its share.

Home-grown auto-major Mahindra & Mahindra launched Scorpio N, the modern version of its highly popular Scorpio SUV, while Fortuner & Innova maker Toyota unveiled new Urban Cruiser Hyryder to challenge the likes of Hyundai Creta, Kia Seltos and other mid-size SUVs. Currently, Hyundai, with nearly 2.5 lakh SUV sales last fiscal, had a market share of 22% and leads the SUV segment, while its closest competitor Tata Motors had a market share of 18% in FY22 as it sold about 2.05 lakh SUVs.

Mahindra & Mahindra, which till last decade was the undisputed SUV champion

SUV.

Maruti's Big Come Back

The country's largest carmaker Maruti Suzuki is betting big on SUVs to conquer a 50% market share in the PV market, which now has come down to around 42-43%. Besides Brezza, MSIL is launching a fresh product in the mid-size SUV segment.

"The All-New Brezza is an important step in this direction. This model is the first offering in our upcoming vibrant SUV portfolio," said Hisashi Takeuchi, Managing Director and CEO of MSIL. He added that the company's new model will be high on design, technology and features. Currently, the carmaker has only two SUVs in its long line-up and has a share of about 20% in the compact SUV segment.

Srivastava of MSIL said that its first mid-size SUV 'hatchling' (the rebadged Toyota Hyryder) will be a hybrid vehicle in two variants - mild and strong hybrid. The SUV will be unveiled this month and mass production will begin from August.

Commenting on Maruti Brezza, analysts at Kotak Institutional Equity said that going by Google Trends data, they expect only a marginal increase in market share for the company in the compact SUV segment. It added that It will be challenging for Maruti Suzuki to enjoy the success of FY2017 when it used to have >40% market share in the compact SUV segment.

On Maruti's entry in the mid-size segment, Kotak noted that the company has only 5% market share.

"The company will soon be launching a mid-size SUV along with Toyota in order to address its product gap. While we expect the company to gain market share gain (+8-12%), we remain concerned on lack of diesel offering by the company (~60% of the sales in mid-size SUV is pertaining to diesel powertrain) given consumers preference for higher torque," the Kotak report said.

India's fuel sales soar with overall economy picking up pace in June

NEW DELHI: India's petrol and diesel sales soared in June on the back of the start of the cropping season, summer travels and an overall pick up in economic activity, preliminary industry data showed.

The start of the cropping season helped diesel demand register double-digit growth over the pre-pandemic period -- a record in recent years.



Diesel, the most-used fuel in the country, saw sales jumping 35.2 per cent year-on-year to 7.38 million tonnes in June. This was 10.5 per cent higher than sales in pre-pandemic June 2019 and 33.3 per cent more than June 2020. It was 11.5 per cent higher than 6.7 million tonnes of consumption during May this year.

Industry sources attributed the pick-up in diesel demand -- which first rose above pre-pandemic levels in April - to higher consumption by the agriculture and transport sectors.

Petrol sales by state-owned fuel retailers, which control roughly 90 per cent of the market, at 2.8 million tonnes in June were 29 per cent higher than the same period last year when a devastating second COVID-19 wave wreaked havoc on the economy.

Government imposes restrictions on exports of fuel

This consumption was 36.7 per cent higher than the demand in June 2020 and 16.5 per cent more than 2.4 million tonnes of sales in the pre-COVID June 2019.

Month-on-month sales were up 3.1 per cent, as per the preliminary data.

Sources said consumption in June was helped by the low base effect of last year.

Consumption has been on the rise since May when annual summer vacations led to higher travel.

April saw consumption drop due to a Rs 10 per

'Team India is one where people are united, not divided': Rahul Gandhi amid rows over Udaipur, Amravati killings

Continued from page-1

requires all its players to play as a unit to win, India too is a team whose success is "based on all its people, all the religions, all the languages, the States and all the communities" here coming together.

"That is what team India is. However, we have a ruling dispensation which does not understand this. They think by dividing India along religious lines, language lines, community lines, Team India can be successful. You can see the result of hatred and division. You can see the economic collapse that has taken place. You can see the joblessness that is apparent to every single person," he said.

"Therefore, my advice to you is that the same way you treat your fellow players in the team, treat all Indians as a team. Carry everybody together. Regardless of where they come from, regardless of their religion, language or community, treat them all the same. Then Team India will overcome all the challenges before it," the Congress MP said.

Gandhi, in his speech, further said that the only India possible was a "secular India".

"There is no other India that is possible. An India that is divided along religious lines, that is divided along linguistic lines, is no longer India. An India where people feel humiliated because of the State they come from, the religion they follow or the language they speak, this is not the true India. India is a union of all States, religions, languages and communities and India exists only if every person who belongs here feels comfortable here," the Congress MP said.

Gandhi was on a three-day visit to Kerala and will return to Delhi tonight.

litre hike in petrol and diesel prices after an over four-month hiatus.

The government had on March 25, 2020 imposed a nationwide lockdown to control the spread of coronavirus. The complete lockdown, which halted mobility and crippled business, was slowly eased after two months.

Cooking gas, whose prices were hiked by Rs

103.50 per cylinder since March, saw sales rising by a marginal 0.23 per cent to 2.26 million tonnes in June. This was 9.6 per cent higher than the consumption in June 2020 when the government extended free cooking gas to the poor to help them tide over the hardships of the lockdown.

LPG consumption was 27.9 per cent more than

June 2019 demand and 6 per cent higher than 1.77 million tonnes of sales in June 2021.

Jet fuel (ATF) sales more than doubled to 535,900 tonnes as the aviation sector opened up after two years.

ATF consumption was 150.1 per cent more than June 2020 but 12.9 per cent lower than the pre-COVID sales of 615,400 tonnes in June 2019. Month-on-month sales were up 6 per cent.

NDA govt striving to bring positive change to every Indian: PM Modi

Continued from page-1

to take the fruits of development to every person and region," Modi said.

Once the BJP government comes to power in the southern state, being ruled by the K Chandrasekhar Rao-led Telangana Rashtra Samiti (TRS) since 2014, the pace of development will be faster, Modi said.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, a disaster after 100 years, his government tried to support every family in Telangana, the PM added. Modi further said the BJP held its two-day national executive meeting on July 2 and 3 here keeping in mind the love of people of Telangana for the party.

Odisha Budget bets on High Growth

Continued from page-1

our own revenue in the budget has exceeded the devolution from the Centre by a substantial margin. Thus, the Own Revenue/GSDP ratio would be 13.20 per cent in 2022-23."

To achieve the high growth rate, several key social sectors have been allocated higher allocation. Social sector expenditure has been pegged at 34 per cent of the total budget while development sectors have been provided the rest of the funds.

While Rs 12,624 crore has been allotted for the health sector, an increase of 38 per cent over the previous year, housing has got Rs 6,406 crore, an increase of 97 per cent. In a bid to make Odisha a sports hub, Rs 911 crore has been provided for development of sports, an increase of 100 per cent. Similarly, energy, and industries and MSME have got provision of Rs 3,497 crore and Rs 1,269 crore respectively. The allocation for religious and cultural places is Rs 1,970 crore, an increase of 97 per cent.

Allocation for agriculture and allied sectors increased to Rs 21,166 crore in the 2022-23 budget, from Rs 20,344 crore that was projected in the vote-on-account. However, higher government spending will lead to a high debt burden of Rs 1,12,400 crore which is 15.6 per cent of the GSDP. The fiscal deficit projected in the budget will be Rs 21,588 crore, 3 per cent of the GSDP.

Several key schemes of the State government including KALIA and Biju Swasthya Kalyan Yojana (BSKY) have received higher allocation. While KALIA has been provided Rs 1,874 crore, the BSKY has received Rs 2,664 crore. Besides, Rs 2,325 crore has been provided under Mukhya Mantri Swasthya Seva Mission for upgradation of healthcare facilities across the State.

French soccer tournament celebrates diversity, fights racism

CRETEIL(KCN): An amateur soccer tournament in France aimed at celebrating ethnic diversity is attracting talent scouts, sponsors and increasing public attention, by uniting young players from low-income neighbourhoods with high-profile names in the sport.

The National Neighbourhoods Cup is intended to shine a positive spotlight on working-class areas with large immigrant populations that some politicians and commentators scapegoat as breeding grounds for crime, riots and Islamic extremism.

Players with Congolese heritage beat a team with Malian roots 5-4 on Saturday in the one-month tournament's final match, held at the home stadium of a third-division French team in the Paris suburb of Creteil. The final was broadcast live

on Prime Video. The event competition grew out of local tournaments modelled after the African Cup of Nations that have been held in recent years in suburbs and towns across France where former immigrants with African backgrounds have lived for years or generations. This tournament, however, was broader, and international in scope.

Along with teams from former French colonies in Africa, the participants included teams from European nations like Portugal and Italy. Players from France's former colonies in Asia also competed.

The tournament, which was launched in 2019, challenges the French ideal of a colourblind republic that doesn't count or identify people by race or ethnic background. The ideal was intended to provide equal opportunity by

treating everyone as simply French; in practice, people in places like Creteil experience discrimination and ethnic tensions daily.

"We are Afro-descendants, we are claiming our roots and we are proud," said tournament founder Moussa Sow, a French-Senegalese player who grew up in a Creteil neighbourhood with a tough reputation and who has played professionally in France and Turkey. "It's not because we carry this heritage that we are going to erase our French identity."

The France team — like its World Cup-winning national team — is made up of white, Black, Arab and multiracial players that reflects the country's diversity.

"We have players who have two or three nationalities. It is a strength for us, a richness," Sow told The

Associated Press. Sow witnessed firsthand the growing tensions among young people divided into rival groups according to which quarter of Creteil they were from, and wanted to gather inhabitants around the love of soccer and a celebration of cultural heritage.

Mohamed Diamé, who made 31 appearances for Senegal and played for West Ham and Newcastle in the English Premier League, former Mali and Paris Saint-Germain defender Sammy Traoré and Senegal manager Aliou Cissé all took part. In February, Cissé became a national hero after guiding Senegal to long-awaited victory in the African Cup of Nations.

Traoré and Diamé both made it to the top level in soccer and both grew up in Creteil, providing an

example to young people that success is within their reach, too.

"I started my first training here when I was 7. I considered people from this neighbourhood as brothers," Diamé told the AP. "This feels like a pro tournament. We have a group chat, we support each other, we are determined."

The amateur cup has grown since Sow started in 2019. Colourful placards of multinationals and local companies sponsoring the event were seen around the field. Young people and families can grab a merguez sandwich — a spicy sausage of North African origin long popular around France's soccer stadiums — or other snacks and sing along to popular French songs, played by a DJ

near the field.

"I am happy and proud, despite the anxious climate in France, to see people of different generations gathering," Sow said.

Even though the tournament is strictly amateur, the technical level among players was good. At last weekend's semifinals, high-quality cross-field passes and clever dribbles were cheered by the crowd. Some scouts were on the sidelines, sensing an opportunity to recruit talented young players.

Suburbs and satellite towns around big cities, known in French as "les banlieues," are fertile ground for soccer talents in Europe. Academies in France — notably Lyon, Monaco, Nantes and Rennes — are ranked among the best in the Europe along with

Spain for developing young players such as Real Madrid great Karim Benzema and World Cup star Kylian Mbappé.

But these same areas have also carried and been scarred by a rough reputation.

At the end of May, some far-right politicians blamed young people from the suburbs for violence outside the Champions League final at Stade de France in the Paris suburb of Saint-Denis. They were widely accused of vandalism, disruption of public safety and fraud.

Sow stressed that despite many people being suspicious of young people from the suburbs, where poverty and minority populations are concentrated in France, the tournament in Creteil has gone well. Defeats have been ac-

cepted with grace, and fans who have run onto the field after wins have been joyous rather than violent.

The mayor of Creteil supports the events, and a newly elected parliament member for the district, Clémence Guetté of the left-wing parliamentary coalition NUPES, came to the semifinals. Guetté called it a "unifying" event that promoted "beautiful values" that sport generates. Diamé, who made around 240 Premier League appearances, has never let that take him away from his roots. "No matter if you are Black, white, or Asian, everyone is welcome," he told the AP. "Children, parents, grandparents, uncles or aunts. Everyone is here to enjoy a pure moment of pleasure."

Federer hopes to play Wimbledon 'one more time'



Wimbledon champion Roger Federer hasn't given up hope of playing again at the All England Club. Federer received a standing ovation at a celebration of the centenary of Centre

back ... one more time," the 40-year-old Federer said from Centre Court, standing alongside other Wimbledon champions.

Federer's eight Wimbledon titles is a

at the grass-court tournament for the first time since his debut in 1999.

The 20-time Grand Slam champion hasn't played since losing in the quarterfinals at

pearance in the tournament.

He said he didn't think it would take this long to come back from knee surgery last year. He said: "The knee has been rough on me."

Wimbledon: Eight-time champion Federer pays a visit




WIMBLEDON: Roger Federer returned to Wimbledon as the All England Club prepared to celebrate the centenary of Centre Court. Federer has won eight Wimbledon titles — a men's singles record — but is not playing at the grass-court tournament for the first time since his debut in 1999.

The 20-time Grand Slam champion was

dressed in a dark suit and white sneakers as he walked the grounds toward Centre Court. Federer said earlier this year that any tournament comeback from his knee surgery last year will not be until at least the late summer.

The 40-year-old Swiss hasn't played since losing in the quarterfinals at Wimbledon a year ago in his 22nd appearance in the tournament.



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