

### Poll failure may be analysed at Odisha BJP panel meet

BHUBANESWAR(KCN): The State executive committee of the BJP will meet for two days from July 28 after a gap of seven months to take stock of social and political situation

State executive committee is meeting just two days prior to the national executive committee meeting which has been scheduled to be held in Hyderabad, for three days beginning

sources in the BJP said. National BJP president JP Nadda had instructed all state units of the BJP at the three-day brainstorming session of office-bearers from across

panchayati raj institutions (PRIs), urban local bodies and the Brajarajnagar bypoll, this is likely to be discussed at the executive committee meeting, said a part functionary. Issues to be taken up at the meeting will be discussed at the meeting of pravaries besides, State and district functionaries to be held on June 28.

The State government's failure to resolve the contentious border disputes with Andhra Pradesh, corruption in all levels of administration, rise in unemployment, unscheduled power cuts, deteriorating health services and delay in disbursement of crop insurance claims to the farmers under Pradhan Manti Fasal Bima Yojana are some of the issues to figure during the meeting.



here. The highest decision-making body of the party last met in November 2021. The executive committee of the party could not meet during this period due to elections to rural and urban bodies followed by the by-election to Brajarajnagar Assembly seat.

Generally, the state executive committees meet after the national committee meeting to ratify the decisions taken at the national level and decide the plan of action for the next three months or till the next meeting of the national executive committee meeting, July 2.

the country in Jaipur, Rajasthan, to complete their executive committee meeting before the Hyderabad conclave and come prepared with a road map for the next general election. Since the State BJP has not taken stock of its dismal performance in the election to the three-tier

### Rebel MLAs' wives calling Rashmi Thackeray to get their husbands to return, says former mayor

MUMBAI(KCN): Former Mumbai mayor and Shiv Sena leader Kishori Pednekar on Sunday said the wives of several rebel MLAs were calling Rashmi Thackeray, the wife of Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray, to get their husbands to return to the state. Rebel MLAs led by Thane strongman

Eknath Shinde have been camping in Guwahati in Assam after raising the banner of revolt against the chief minister on June 21.

Pednekar was reacting to reports that Rashmi Thackeray was phoning the wives of rebel MLAs to get them to return.

### Droupadi Murmu likely to begin Presidential campaign from July 1 in a tribal-populated state: Sources

NEW DELHI(KCN): NDA presidential nominee Droupadi Murmu is likely to begin campaigning from July 1 in a state with a sizeable tribal population, sources said on

power in Tamil Nadu and Telangana's ruling TRS in the coming days, the sources said. Murmu had called up JMM supremo and Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren on

Jharkhand, had filed her nomination on Friday with Prime Minister Narendra Modi handing over her papers to Returning Officer P C Mody. She was accompanied

BJD, and AIADMK were also present during her nomination filing. With the Mayawati-led BSP, Odisha's ruling BJP and the YSR Congress which is in



Sunday. They said discussions are being held to finalise the state from where she will launch her campaign for the July 18 presidential election.

Saturday seeking his party's support for her candidature. Before filing her nomination papers on June 24, Murmu had dialled Congress president Sonia Gandhi, NCP supremo Sharad Pawar and West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee and sought their support. Murmu, a tribal leader from Odisha and former governor of

by a host of Union ministers, including Amit Shah, Rajnath Singh, Nitin Gadkari, and BJP president J P Nadda. Several chief ministers of BJP-ruled states, including Yogi Adityanath, Shivraj Singh Chouhan, Manohar Lal Khattar, Jairam Thakur, Pushkar Singh Dhama, and leaders of some NDA supporting parties such as YSRCP,

power in Andhra Pradesh backing her candidature, Murmu enjoys the support of about 55 per cent of the electoral college. After Murmu filed her nomination, BJP president J P Nadda had called Congress leader in Rajya Sabha Mallikarjun Kharge, its Lok Sabha leader Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury and JD(S) leader HD Deve Gowda seeking support for her candidature.

## Modi Wins Hearts

Bhubaneswar(KCN): They call it Prime Minister Narendra Modi's political masterstroke to nominate Droupadi Murmu, a lady from Santhal community for the ensuing Presidential elections. The political analysts also con-

clude that Mr. Modi named Smt. Murmu as the NDA's nominee keeping an eye on the assembly elections in Gujarat, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and also the 2024 General Elections for Lok Sabha and Odisha Legislative Assembly. Many people may say many things, but the fact remains that Modi has won hearts of 4.5 crore people of Odisha by just one action – one may call it a masterstroke or his love for this eastern state.



Of the 20 names, according to BJP President J P Nadda, the Parliamentary Board of the party zeroed in on the name of Smt. Murmu, a 64-year-old tribal woman from Odisha's Mayurbhanj district. What actually made Murmu distinct from 19 other names? Her nomination creates many firsts. She will

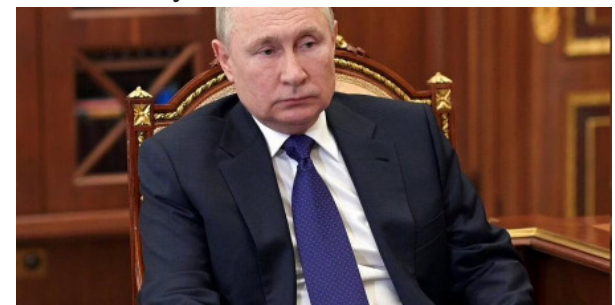
be the first tribal to occupy Raisina Hills, the first Odia to get the topmost Constitutional post and also the first President to be born after Independence. However, she is not the lone Presidential candidate

### G-7 to ban Russian gold in response to Ukraine war, says Biden

ELMAU (Germany) (KCN) : President Joe Biden said on Sunday that the United States and other Group of Seven leading economies will ban imports of gold from Russia, the latest in a series of sanctions that the club of democracies hopes will further isolate Russia economically over its invasion of Ukraine.

A formal announcement was expected on Tuesday as the

on the summit's opening day Sunday to discuss how to secure



leaders meet for their annual summit. Biden and his counterparts will huddle

energy supplies and tackle inflation, aiming to keep the fallout from Russia's inva-

sion of Ukraine from splintering the global coalition working to punish Moscow.

Hours before the summit was set to open, Russia launched missile strikes against the Ukrainian capital Sunday, striking at least two residential buildings, Kyiv Mayor Vitali Klitschko said. They

### Odisha: After Opposition criticism, BJD leaders called to CM Naveen's Dubai trip

BHUBANESWAR(KCN): Faced with sharp Opposition criticism, the delegation led by Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik to the upcoming investors' meet in Dubai will have several political leaders from the ruling BJD including a minister. The Dubai part of the foreign visit of the Chief Minister will start from June 26.

The Chief Minister will have meetings with the individual investors accompanied by the



The delegation, led by the Chief Minister, will attend the investors' meeting on June 29 besides meeting the Odia diaspora at Dubai. The four-member political team from BJD is likely to include Food Supplies and Consumer Welfare Minister Atanu Sabyasachi Nayak, Rajya Sabha member Sujit Kumar, senior vice-president of BJD Debi Mishra and former Industries minister Dibya Shankar Mishra and Head of Mo College Abhiyaan Akash Das Nayak.

Chief Secretary Suresh Chandra Mahapatra and Principal Secretary in the Industries department Hemant Sharma will reach Dubai to attend the investors' meet. The Chief Minister accompanied by 5T Secretary VK Pandian and Resident Commissioner Ravi Kant will reach Dubai from Rome on June 26. Principal Secretary in the Food Supply and Consumer Welfare department VV Yadav who is also the Principal Secretary in the Works department and chief administrator of Sri Jagannath Temple Administration (SJTA) will return to Bhubaneswar from Rome.

Chief Secretary and Industries Secretary. Later, he will address the investors' meeting where the political leaders will attend. The political leaders will also attend the meeting with Indian diaspora in the evening which the Chief Minister is expected to address.

A 10-member team of industrialists from the country will also attend the investors meet which is being organised by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI). Sources said that the political leaders will mainly attend the meeting of Odisha diaspora and other functions at Dubai. BJD State general secretary Prithviraj Harichandan and senior Congress MLA Suresh Kumar Routray had targeted the Chief Minister for not including any ministers in the delegation. However, the composition of the team of political leaders has raised eyebrows as it does not include the Industries Minister Pratap Keshari Deb and Steel and Mines Minister Prafulla Mallick.



## 8th International Day of Yoga celebrated by the Heritage School

Kolkata(KCN): 8th International Day of Yoga was celebrated by the Heritage School, Kolkata. Theme of the year is Yoga for Humanity. Children enjoyed both physical and online mode of the Yoga Session. Mr Vivek Dinodia a Hath Yogi from Isha Yoga Foundation was invited as the chief guest. He conducted the Yoga sessions over online platform.

Mrs.Seema Sapru, Principal of the Heritage School delivered her introductory speech on International Day of Yoga. Programme was coordinated by the Yoga teachers Mrs Ila Khandelia, Mr.Sanatan Mahakud &Mr. Animesh Panda. Programme was participated with all students, teachers and some parents.

## Rotary international, Barbil holds free health camp

Barbil(KCN): Rotary Club ,Barbil in collaboration with Apollo Hospital , Bhubaneswar organized free Medical Check-up

facility in different medical segments to the people of area under one roof. Since the place is a hilly and backward area where



camp here today at Rungta Town hall, Barbil. Medical fraternity of different specialised wings like Cardiology, Neurology, Medicine and paediatric along with other medical and para-medical staff from Apollo Hospital, provided free examination and screening facilities to the general public. Under the leadership of Dr Premananda Patnaik, MBBS, MD (General Medicine), Dr Laxmi dhar Choudhary, Dr Harikath Choudhary along with other para medical staffs Tapaswani Barik, Nibedita Mohanta, Mr Manas Nayak, Mr, Shiva Prasad from Apollo hospital treated and diagnosed in the camp. In the said camp 230 patients were screened and examined. In the said camp free counselling and free investigations were conducted. President Rotary Club ,Barbil, Rtn Manoj Manek in his remarks said that the purpose of organizing such multi specialty camp is to provide medical

medical health facilities are not advanced at Govt as well as private level, people have to go to far places in the States for availing such kind of medical facility. In another remark Rtn Ashok Thakkar assured to the general public to organize such kind of camps in future also with more specialised segments' camp was a huge success and dedication of Doctors and Para-medical staff was really appreciated by the citizens of Barbil and other surrounding area. President Elect Rtn CA Chitrasen Swain, Rtn Sunil Jha, Rtn Dharmendra Agarwal, Rtn Narendra Agarwal, Rtn Anthony Devadi, Rtn Mukesh Thacker, Rtn Priyanka Swain, Rtn Manjinder Singh, Rtn Balram Gupta, Rtn & Rotractor Group, Ankit Manek, Md, Arif, Miss Juhi Niwetia, Miss Anjali Devadi, Miss Sheetal Somee, Miss Jaspreet kaur & Members of Ashirwad Welfare Trust were participated in this health camp.

## BJP party, Barbil organised death anniversary of Dr Shyama Prasad Mukherjee

Barbil(KCN): Dr Shyama Prasad Balidaan Divas



Founder-president of Mukherjee's death (Sacrifice Day) was Bharatiya Jan Sangh, anniversary or observed by BJP as

## International Day of Yoga

KOLKATA (KCN): International Day of Yoga was celebrated on 21 st June, 2022 at

from India, yoga is essential for humanity as it gives the time tested Tools and tech-

cate Yogi Pratik Majumdar, Dr. J y o t i r m o y Chakraborty , United



Pragyan Bhawan, Rupchand Mukherjee Lane. Kolkata, organized by Pragyan Foundation in association with Divine Bliss Foundation under the guidance of Dr. Suresh Kumar Agarwal. "Yoga is an invaluable gift to the world

niques to lead a Healthy, Happy and Harmonious life" said Dr. Agarwal on the occasion. Dr. Anand Prasad Maurya Principle, Jam Institute of Yoga and Naturopathy, Lion Dr. Namita Chakraborty, Advo-

Yoga and Net Association, Dr. Md. Monjurul Ahasan from Bangladesh, Dr. Kalyan Dey, Yoga Teacher and many others actively participated in the celebration. The participants were awarded with an E-certificate.

## Aparajita releases her third report card; assures Bhubaneswar's development

BHUBANESWAR(KCN): Bhubaneswar MP Aparajita Sarangi on Saturday released the third annual report card of her performance as a Parliamentarian from the Capital city. Presenting the 96-page report card before the public, Sarangi said the year 2021-22 was considerably better in terms of her overall performance. "Development, as emphasised by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, was the major focus. Besides, grievance redressal and community outreach were in the priority list of my work," she said. Listing out 12 key achievements in the third year of tenure, the Bhubaneswar MP said she has managed to ensure implementation of projects worth Rs 6,473 crore through the National Highway Author-

ity of India. These projects include 10 flyovers, 28 vehicle underpasses, a 111 km-long Capital Region Ring Road, Khurda bypass road and four foot over-bridges. "Despite suspension of MPLAD funds temporarily for two years due to Covid-19 pandemic, major projects at community-level were taken up. 1,000 solar lights were also installed," she said. The MP said 1,036 out of 1,143 sanctioned projects under MPLAD were completed, while work is in progress in the remaining 107. Piped water supply was ensured for around 1.27 lakh out of a total 2.20 lakh rural households in Bhubaneswar constitu-

ency till last fiscal and steps are being taken to provide the facility to remaining 93,862 rural households by next year. "Nine mega piped water supply projects worth Rs 1,380 crore are at different stages of progress under Jal Jeevan Mission. The Rajua Diversion Weir Project proposed to provide irrigation to 2,666 hectare land in 41 villages of Khurda and Puri is also under implementation. Rs 170 crore has already been spent for this purpose so far," she said. Sarangi claimed that around 94,165 farmers of her constituency have been benefited under PM Kissan Samman Nidhi Yojana so far. The BJP national spokesperson said public grievances were heard at her office on a daily basis in which 6,166 issues were registered and 5,545 were redressed in last one year. She stated that she is striving to ensure upgradation of Bolagarh and Lingaraj passenger halts, modernisation of Bhubaneswar railway station, renovation of Chilika, construction of 150 bed ESIC MCH at Andharua, inclusion of three tribes including Durua and Kandha Kumbhara in ST list under Article 342 of the Indian Constitution, rejuvenation of Prachi river and direct flight from Bhubaneswar to Jammu and Shirdi.

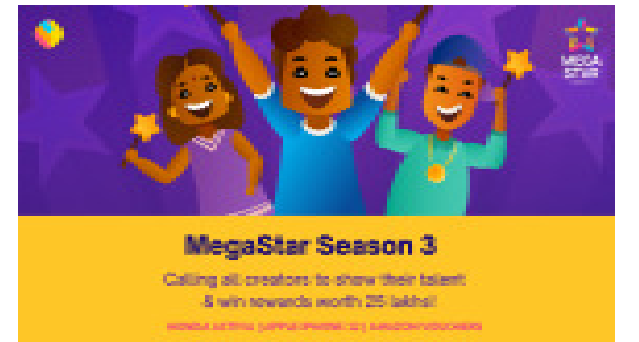
## ShareChat launches the third season of its popular talent hunt 'MegaStar'

Kolkata(KCN): ShareChat, India's leading social media platform, announced the launch of its popular talent hunt 'MegaStar'. In its third season, the contest aims to discover remarkable regional talent among digital creators across India in nine categories and ten languages. After successfully completing two seasons, MegaStar Season 3 is expected to be bigger and better as this time creators will compete in categories such as Automobiles, Gadgets and Tech, Business, Education and

**In the last season of the campaign, Ranabesh Mondal, Srikanta Kastha, Saheb Ghosh and Sneha Khan, won the title of Megastar in Bengali**

Jobs, Emotions, Entertainment, Humour, Lifestyle, News and Astrology and Devotion. This will be further spread across varied languages namely Hindi, Punjabi, Tamil, Telugu, Marathi, Kannada, Malayalam, Gujarati, Bengali and Odia.

The 60 days campaign will invite entries across content categories like images, short, long and motion videos and encourage content creators to join the platform and celebrate exceptional talent with great rewards. The



winners will be rewarded under four categories – 10 in MegaStars and SuperStars each, 60 in Promising Stars and 720 in Rising Stars, based on views and engagement on their content. Last year, the campaign saw participation of over 220K creators, who created over 2.9 million UGC that garnered over 1.5 billion views.

In the last season of the campaign, Ranabesh Mondal, Srikanta Kastha, Saheb Ghosh and Sneha Khan, won the title of Megastar in Bengali.

Commenting on the launch of the campaign, Shashank Shekhar, Sr. Director – Content Strategy and Operations, ShareChat said, "ShareChat has always focused on investing in its creator community across different regions of India and building a platform that allows regional creators to get recognised for their incredible talent. After witnessing an amazing response in the previous two seasons, we are very optimistic about this season of MegaStar. Our platform is home to over 32 million talented creators. This campaign aims to spotlight the top creators who entertain the ShareChat community with their original, fun content."

Throughout the campaign, the winners will stand a chance to win rewards worth Rs 25 Lakh including prizes like iPhone 12, Activas and Amazon vouchers ranging from Rs 1,000-5,000/. The winners will also get a chance to become premium original creators on ShareChat.

About ShareChat: ShareChat is India's leading multilingual social media platform, with over 180 million monthly active users. A homegrown platform, ShareChat allows users to share their opinions, record their lives and connect with like-minded people, all within the comfort of their preferred language. ShareChat is a unique social media platform where users have multiple options to express themselves through audio chatrooms, photo & video posts, microblogging and blogging, direct messaging - thereby fulfilling all their content needs.



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**Rowel Star- The new shining Star of the Rajasthan Music Industry**

Mumbai (KCN, Sanjay Sharma Raj): The Rajasthan music industry is going leaps and bounds, celebrating the new singing star Afjor Khan aka Rowel Star. This new generation of Rajasthan singers is making headlines for his outstanding singing style and making the world shake legs with his unique Rajasthani songs.

Afjor Khan, popularly known as Rowel Star on Social Media, has created a sensation in the Rajasthan music world with his mesmerizing voice and affective tone. "I am an ardent fan of Guru Randhawa and take his inspiration for my songs. I want to create some unique mix of folk songs with blending hip-hop and wanted to give something new to the music world, says Rowel Star." He recently gave his voice to two new songs, "Tera Shoot" & "Nahiyo Jeena", making the Rajasthan cultures a step ahead in this ever-evolving music world. The shoot of these songs has recently been completed in Dubai and will be out very soon to rock the floors!

About his upcoming projects, Rowel Star will be seen sharing the floors with re-

nowned Rajasthani Singer Sumsa Supari.



They together have shot the song recently in Dubai in various amazing locations. The song will be out soon and published on the YouTube channel Sumsa Supari Films.

Rowel Star's songs, Maro Sajaniyo, Bannasa ke Mijaj, and Jai Jasol Maa album are the most popular and trending, creating a sensation on his YouTube channel and blessing him with millions of views and subscribers.

Born and raised in a small village in the Panawara district of Barmer, Rajasthan, Afjor has been fascinated by the music culture since he was five. He was sent to his maternal house at Sindhari for schooling. During his school days, he sang songs and attracted many ears listening to his soulful voice. His teacher once gave him a chance to sing a song on Republic Day, which grabbed praise from the entire school.

It was the year 2007 when Afjor Khan won the hearts of millions for singing the famous Rajasthani song of those days, "Maharana Pratap", which rolled out tears from listeners' eyes. His soulful voice created a huge impact on people's minds. Afjor won the gift price of Rs.1500/- for his singing.

After the impressive response to his performance, there was no looking back for Afjor Khan, and his journey of becoming Rowel Star has kick-started!

**Neeraj Bharadwaj is shooting for web series 'Saazish' in Bhopal**



Mumbai (KCN, Sanjay Sharma Raj): Film and TV veteran and famous actor Neeraj Bharadwaj is

About which Neeraj Bharadwaj says, "I am playing the role of city's famous lawyer Abhay Pratap

hatched and then what happens is still a secret. My role in this is different, I hope people will like it,



shooting for the web series 'Saazish' in Kalua Khurd, Bhopal, which will soon be airing on Disney Hotstar. It is produced by Col. S S Pattnaik and the director is Hiralal Khatri.

Singh, who gets the brother of villain Shahbaz Khan punished. After that Shahbaz Khan commits a lot of oppression on my family and me. I am not able to do anything. After that conspiracy is

and just like before, I will definitely be able to make a place in the heart of the audience with my performance." By the way, Neeraj Bharadwaj will soon have a webseries named

Madgaon ...A Murder Case. Its shooting has been completed.

The main cast of the web series 'Saazish' are Mugdha Godse, Shahbaz Khan, Raza Murad, Mustakh Khan and

Dev Manaria with Neeraj Bharadwaj. Its screenplay and dialogues are by Vinod Vats, Vikas Vashisht and Ajay. Its cameramen are Manish Vyas and Amar Vyas, music is by Manish Bhanushali. It is

produced by Col.S S Pattnaik, co-producer Dev Manaria and executive producer is Anu Madrasi. It will be coming soon on Disney Hotstar. Its shooting is going on in Bhopal followed by Vadodara.



# Annual Information Statement

(Contd from 20 th July, 2022)

Introduction: Sec 285BB was inserted in Income Tax Act by the Finance Act, 2022, 1961 and rule 114-I was inserted in Income Tax



Rules, 1962 w.e.f. 01.06.2020. The purpose is to promote transparency and simplification in filing of Income tax returns. The new Form 26AS is an Annual Information Statement or AIS which will provide a

complete profile of the taxpayer for a particular year. The CBDT may authorise the Principal Director General of Income-tax (Systems) or the Director General of Income-tax (Systems) or any person authorised by him to upload the information received from any officer, authority or body performing any function under any law or the information received under an agreement referred to in section 90 or section 90A of the Income-tax Act, 1961 or the information received from any other person to the extent as it may deem fit in the interest of the revenue in the Annual Information Statement.

1. The following information will contain in the Annual Information Statement:

Part A: Permanent Account Number, Aadhaar Number, Name, Date of Birth/ Incorporation/ Formation, Mobile No., Email Address, and Address.

Part B of Form 26AS will contain the following Information:

1. Information relating to tax deducted or col-

lected at source.

2. Information relating to Specified Financial Transactions (SFT)

3. Information relating to payment of taxes

4. Information relating to demand and refund

5. Information relating to pending proceedings

6. Information relating to completed proceedings

7. Any other information in relation to Rule 114-I(2)

2. Objectives of Annual Information Statement: The main objectives of AIS are: Display complete information to the taxpayer; Promote voluntary compliance and enable seamless pre-filing of return and Deter non-compliance

3. Main Features of new AIS are the following:

a) Inclusion of new information regarding Interest, Dividend, Securities transactions, Mutual fund transactions, Foreign remittance etc.

b) De-duplication of information and generation of a simplified Taxpayer Information Summary (TIS) for ease of filing return (pre-filing will be enabled in a phased manner).

c) Use of Data Analytics to populate PAN in non-PAN data for inclusion in AIS.

d) To enable Taxpayer to submit online feedback on the information displayed in AIS and also download information in PDF, JSON, CSV formats.

AIS Utility will enable taxpayer to view AIS and upload feedback in offline manner.

**Narayan Jain**

AIS Mobile Application will enable taxpayer to view AIS and upload feedback on mobile.

4. Important Steps for information processing steps for AIS Preparation are:

PAN Population: In case no valid PAN is available in the submitted information, the PAN will be populated on matching Aadhaar Number and other key attributes.

Information Display: Generally, the reported information is displayed against the reported PAN holder.

The information display logic for specific information such as property, bank account, demat account etc. aims to show information to relevant PAN holders to enable review and submission of feedback Information De-duplication: In case where similar information is reported under different information types (e.g. reporting of interest/dividend in SFT and TDS) the information with lower value will be marked as "Information is duplicate / included in other information" using automated rules.

Taxpayer Information Summary (TIS) preparation: The information category wise aggregated information summary for a taxpayer is prepared after deduplication of information based on pre-defined rules. It shows processed value (i.e. value generated after deduplication of information based on pre-defined rules) and derived value (i.e. value derived after considering the taxpayer feedback and processed value) under each information category (e.g. Salaries, Interest, Dividend etc.). The derived information may be used for pre-filing of

Return.

5. AIS Feedback: The taxpayer will be able to view AIS information and submit following types of response on the information:

a) Information is correct b) Information is not fully correct

c) Information relates to other PAN/ Year d) Information is duplicate / included in other information

e) Information is denied or Customized Feedback

Taxpayers are advised to furnish proper feedback to avoid complications in assessments.

6. AIS Feedback Processing: The AIS Feedback processing approach is as under:

The feedback provided by assessee will be captured in the Annual Information Statement (AIS) and reported value and modified value (i.e. value after feedback) will be shown separately.

The feedback provided by assessee will be considered to update the derived value (value derived after considering the feedback from taxpayer) in Taxpayer Information Summary (TIS) Information assigned to other PAN/ Year in AIS will be processed and information will be shown in the AIS of the taxpayer using automated rules.

In case the assigned information is modified/denied, the feedback will be processed in accordance with Risk Management Rules and High Risk feedback will be flagged for seeking confirmation from the information source. (Concluded)

(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).

# Yoga Connects Human to Find Supreme Realisation

The 8th celebration of International Yoga Day will be celebrated in India as well as in most of



the countries around the world on 21st June 2022 with a new theme- 'Yoga for Humanity'. Yoga is being made a medium to connect human beings. In 2014, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had proposed to celebrate

Yoga Day in the United Nations meeting, after which it was announced on 11 December 2014 to celebrate 21 June every year as International Yoga Day. Due to India's efforts regarding the importance of yoga, countries around the world started celebrating Yoga Day at the world level. Through Indian Yoga and Meditation, India is succeeding in achieving 'Vishwa Guru' status and a unique identity in the world. That is why International Yoga Day has been accepted for the whole world. Taking a new initiative this year, the Ministry of AYUSH is going to do an innovative program named 'Guardian Ring', in which people will be seen doing yoga like the movement of the sun and moving from east to west with reference to different countries.

The vision and efforts of Prime Minister Narendra Modi has created an unusual atmosphere for the international acceptance of Yoga Day. Today every sphere of life is surrounded by problems due to pandemic, Great War, terrorism, rising inflation, poverty, unemployment, due to which every person and family is feeling extreme stress/pressure in their daily life. Everyone is living a life of doubt, conflict and mental turmoil. There is a crisis of life in front of man. Mental balance is getting disturbed. Mental balance means to establish harmony in different situations and to achieve this; the powerful and effective medium is yoga. Yoga is such a technique, a science that heals our body, mind, thoughts and soul. It removes our stress and frustration. When we do yoga, focus on the breath, do pranayama and exercise, all this inspires our body and mind to be happy and cheerful from within. Yoga is a powerful way to get rid of the hustle and bustle of life.

Yoga is the process of purifying and enlightening the consciousness of man, it is an undertaking to elevate man, it is a means to establish

balance in life and it is the science of oneness with God and the universe. Realization of self is the task of life, the goal. This realization can neither be attained by discourse, nor can it be attained by intellect, nor by listening a lot, for that it is necessary to have self-realization and this realization happens only to the one whose conscience is pure and selfless.

The pure conscience is the mirror in which the vision of the soul, the manifestation of nature and the vision of the self are seen. In a pure conscience, the intellect remains heavenly and clean, the mind as pure as the Ganges, the mind as steady as the light of a motionless lamp without wind, and the entire consciousness flowing like rivers to meet the ocean. Just as one's face is visible in the mirror only when the mirror is clear and stable, similarly the Supreme power of self is visible only through a pure conscience. Yoga is such an effective form of exercise, through which balance is created not only in the parts of the body but also in the mind, and soul. This is the reason that apart from physical ailments, mental problems can also be overcome by yoga.

The importance of yoga, which is found in our Vedas or even earlier literature, today the same yoga is gaining its fame all over the world and due to the corona crisis, the usefulness of yoga has increased more than before. Seeing its benefits, everyone seems to be adopting it in their rushing life and life crisis caused by epidemics, war, violence, economic instability and terrorism. Slowly, but people are understanding that by doing yoga, not only the biggest diseases can be driven away but also happiness can be brought in their life, life can be balanced, Work-efficiencies can be increased, peace and harmony can be established.

Yoga is the only way for physical, mental and spiritual peace of health. But in the occult age, the history of yoga is hidden in the infinite depths of time. By the way, some people also

**Lalit Garg**

believe that the science of yoga is older than the Vedas. In the excavations done by the Archaeological Department of Harappa and Mohenjodaro, many such sculptures have been found in which Shiva and Parvati are shown performing various yogasanas. Swami Vivekananda, who hoisted Indian Yoga to the world, says – "A pure heart is the best mirror for the reflection of truth. That's why all spiritual practice is for purifying the

heart. When it becomes pure, all the truths are reflected in it at that very moment. Unholy imagination is as bad as unholy acts." Modern materialistic and convenience life is pushing man towards disturbance, imbalance, tension, fatigue and irritability, due to which the disorder is increasing. Yoga is such a powerful medicine that keeps the mind cool and the body fit to keep such heterogeneous and discrepant life healthy and energetic. The pace of life can be given a musical pace through yoga. Yoga is the oldest identity of our Indian culture. The awakening of Yoga-consciousness leads to purification of the mind. Its process is to see the soul through the soul. Observing the tendencies and states of mind by the free consciousness of attachment and aversion. Right philosophy is a powerful undertaking to transform the Self. The secretions of the glandular system are balanced by the experiments of self-realization. Due to this the feelings remain pure, thoughts become healthy.



The word yoga is derived from the age of culture, which means the union of the soul with the universal consciousness. Yoga has been practiced for more than ten thousand years. According to the Vedic Samhitas, it is mentioned in the Vedas about the ascetics since ancient times. Sculptures depicting yoga and meditation were also found in the Indus Valley Civilization. In Hinduism, Yoga civilization was adopted by sages, monks and yogis from the very beginning, but not much time has passed since this method has spread among the common people. However, knowing the glory and importance of yoga, it is being adopted extensively for a healthy lifestyle, mainly because of its positive effects in busy, stressful and unhealthy routines. Yoga is necessary for us to stay healthy. Through yoga, you can get benefit from many diseases like asthma, diabetes, blood pressure, arthritis. Yoga removes stress and gets good sleep, appetite is good, not only this, digestion is also improved. Body fat can be reduced only through yoga. When man takes shelter of yoga to solve his physical, mental and spiritual problems are get their solution, then he connects with yoga, makes relationship, tries to bring it into life. But when one starts knowing something about it, knowing it steps in the process of action, then it reaches the limit of use. By making the role of this experiment an integral part of life, we can give a new shape to humanity.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who is deeply interested in Yoga, has implemented it with a great resolution. Surely his yoga-revolution will become the medium of development, happiness and peace in the life of world humanity. Yoga not only teaches how to live a beautiful and orderly life, but also teaches the art of improving personality, communal harmony, good governance and balanced life. Those who do politics in the name of yoga are doing great harm to humanity. Because Yoga is not associated with any religion, sect, caste or language. Yoga means to unite, so it talks about love, non-violence, compassion and taking everyone along. Yoga is an investigation into the process of life. It came into existence before all religions and it opened up infinite possibilities before human beings. This science related to inner and spiritual development, human welfare is a great gift for the whole world.

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## Maharashtra crisis: Shiv Sena leaders step up attack on Eknath Shinde camp; Pawar in huddle with MVA leaders



MUMBAI: The power tussle between Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray and Shiv Sena dissident Eknath Shinde became intense on Sunday with Sena leaders, led by Sanjay Raut, launching an acerbic attack on the rebels while NCP chief Sharad Pawar held closed-door meetings with MVA leaders.

On the second day in a row, Shiv Sena cadres staged protests against the dissidents in various parts of the state, including Mumbai and Pune.

State minister Aaditya Thackeray, son of Sena president Uddhav Thackeray, and Sena chief spokesman Sanjay Raut addressed party cadres in suburban Dahisar to drum up support for the beleaguered party leadership and slammed the Shinde camp.

Sharad Pawar met leaders of NCP, Congress ministers Balasaheb Thorat and Ashok Chavan, and Shiv Sena's Anil Parab and Anil Desai to discuss the political fallout of the six-day-old rebellion.

Striking an aggressive note, Raut said the present crisis was an opportunity to resurrect

Shiv Sena.

"We have learnt a lesson on whom to trust. These are bodies whose souls have died. Their mind is dead. 40 bodies will come from Assam and will be sent directly to the morgue for postmortem," Raut said in an apparent reference to the number of MLAs camping in Guwahati with Shinde while addressing Sena cadres.

Meanwhile, another Shiv Sena leader and cabinet minister for higher and technical education, Uday Samant, has gone incommunicado and is reportedly on his way to Guwahati from Surat. A 'passenger manifest' of an airport services company bearing the name of Uday Samant with destination Guwahati is doing rounds on social media. So far, state cabinet ministers Gulabrao Patil, Dada Bhuse, Sandipan Bhumre, and ministers of state Shamburaje Desai and Abdul Sattar (all Shiv Sena) have joined the camp of rebels. Another minister Bachu Kadu of Prahar Janshakti Party and an Independent minister from Sena quota, Rajendra Yedravkar, are also been camping with Shinde.

## Poor CD Ratio in 10 Dists

Bhubaneswar: As many as 10 out of 30 districts in Odisha have a Credit-Deposit (CD) ratio less than the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) stipulated norm of 60 per cent by the end of financial year 2021-22.

The districts are—Angul (58.59 per cent), Cuttack (55.85 per cent), Deogarh (55.85 per cent), Gajapati (47.29 per cent), Jagatsinghpur (41.82 per cent), Keonjhar (40.16 per cent), Malkangiri (53.80 per cent), Mayurbhanj (48 per cent), Puri (55.35 per cent) and Sundargarh (58.99 per cent).

However, there was no district with CD ratio below 40 per cent in the State till March end, 2022. Recently held by the State Level Bankers' Committee (SLBC) the issue came up for discussion.

The top three districts with high CD ratio are—Jharsuguda (305.26 per cent), Boudh (130.04 per cent) and Rayagada (118.90 per cent). Similarly, the bottom three districts are—Gajapati (47.29 per cent), Jagatsinghpur (41.82 per cent) and Keonjhar (40.16 per cent).

While total Deposit as on March end was Rs. 4,30,073.31 Crore, Advance Utilized in the State is Rs. 3,10,598.74 Crore. Thus, the CD ratio stood at 72.22 per cent.

Total Deposit as



on March end of 2021 was Rs. 381178.48 Crore and Credit was Rs. 237111.94 Crore. So, the CD ratio by the end of financial year 2021-22 was 62.20 per cent.

The CD ratio of public sector banks has been increased from 48.23 per cent (by the end of FY-21) to 60.63 per cent (FY-22). The CD ratio of RRBs slightly increased to 42.21 per cent from 41.43 per cent.

Similarly, the credit-deposit ratio of coop-

erative banks increased from 124.79 per cent to 129.18 per cent and small finance banks from 219.78 per cent to 224.56 per cent by the end of last fiscal.

However, the CD ratio for Private Sector Banks have de-

creased from 77.65 per cent as on 31.03.2021 to 72.47 per cent as on 31.03.2022 (especially Axis Bank, Bandhan Bank, HDFC Bank, ICICI Bank).

The main objective of the RRBs is to provide credit to the local people and other banking facilities to the small, marginal farmers, agricultural laborers, small artisans, etc. However, the lower CD ratio hinders the fulfillment of credit aspira-

tion of the people. As on 31.03.2022, CD ratio of Odisha Gramya Bank is 43.08 per cent and that of Utkal Grameen Bank is 40.57 per cent.

It is observed that the CD ratio of RRBs is lowest. Therefore, Odisha Gramya Bank & Utkal Grameen Bank have been asked to take all necessary steps for increasing the CD ratio. In the FY 2021-22, total Priority Sector loan disbursement is Rs.1,02,590.26 Crore against the annual target of Rs.1,10,241.02 Crore. Thus, the achievement under ACP is 93.06 per cent.

The credit flow to housing and education segments under the priority sector is quite low, where the annual credit plan (ACP) achievement is only 34 per cent. The MSME sector is the backbone of the State's economy and plays a significant role in employment generation. The ACP achievement for this sector in FY 2021-22 is Rs. 4,2691 crore which is 103 per cent of the target i.e. Rs. 41,325 crore. However, the growth in credit to this sector over the last year is less than 10 per cent.

## Oslo gay bar shooting: Norway Police arrest 'Islamist terror' suspect

OSLO: Norwegian police have arrested a man suspected of "Islamist terrorism" after two people were killed and 21 wounded in shootings near a gay bar in Oslo on Saturday, causing the city's Pride march to be cancelled.

But despite the official march being called off, thousands spontaneously gathered to march through the Norwegian capital in a display of unity also seen at Pride marches across Europe. The suspect, who was already known to security services, was arrested quickly after the shooting started around 1 am (2300 GMT Friday) in central Oslo.

Norway's domestic intelligence service PST, which is responsible for counter-terrorism, said it was treating the attack as "an act of Islamist terrorism". The suspect "has a long history of violence and threats," PST's chief Roger Berg said.

The suspect had been on the PST's radar "since 2015 in connection with concerns about his radicalisation" and membership "in an Islamist extremist network", Berg told a news conference. Intelligence services spoke to the suspect last month, but did not consider him to have "violent intentions", Berg said. He added that the PST was also aware the suspect had "difficulties with his mental health".

The suspect's lawyer, John Christian Elden, told Norwegian news agency NTB he expected his client to be put under "judicial observation" to determine his mental state, as is usually done in such cases. The suspect has so far refused to be interviewed by investigators. Police had earlier said the suspect was a 42-year-old Norwegian man of Iranian descent. Norwegian media named him as Zanair Matapour, describing him as a father of Iranian Kurdish origin who arrived in Norway as a child.

The two victims were men in their 50s and 60s, the police said, adding that the injuries of the wounded were not life-threatening. Police said they received the first reports at 1:14 am and the suspect was arrested just five minutes later, thanks to the "heroic contribution" of bystanders.

"We won't disappear" Organisers of the Pride march due to take place on Saturday afternoon called it off, saying they were following "clear" recommendations from the police. Oslo Mayor Raymond Johansen later said the Pride march -- the first for three years because of the pandemic -- was only postponed and would be held at a

later date.

Those who did march on Saturday could be heard shouting: "We're here, we're queer, we won't disappear." "I think it's fantastic that this march is taking place, otherwise he would have won," a visibly upset participant in her 50s told AFP.

Many people, some in tears, laid rainbow flags and flowers near the scene of the attack, which was cordoned off by police. Norway's Crown Princess Mette-Marit struggled to hold back her tears when she went to the scene, which was also visited by Prime Minister Jonas Gahr Store and other politicians.

"Today is a day that reminds us that Pride is a day we have to fight for -- the goal has not yet been reached," Trond Petter Aunas said near the scene. The shootings happened near the London Pub gay club, the Herr Nilsen jazz club and a takeaway food outlet in a central area packed with people on a warm summer night.

'Overwhelmed by grief'

Norway's intelligence services raised the country's threat level from moderate to "extraordinary". Police presence was stepped up throughout the capital and officers -- who do not normally carry guns in Norway -- were instructed to arm themselves. The attack led to enhanced security for Pride marches taking place across France on Saturday, the French government said. A moment's silence for the Oslo victims was held at the start of a pride March in Warsaw, where members of Ukraine's LGBTQ community joined Polish participants.

French President Emmanuel Macron and European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen were among the world leaders condemning the attack. US President Joe Biden's national security advisor, Jake Sullivan, described the shooting as "horrific".

Norway's premier Store said: "Today was supposed to be a day to celebrate love and brighten our streets in the colours of the rainbow. Instead, we are overwhelmed by grief."

Norway's King Harald V said in a statement that he was "horrified". "We have to gather together to defend our values -- liberty, diversity and mutual respect," he said. Generally peaceful Norway was the scene of bloody attacks on July 22, 2011, when right-wing extremist Anders Behring Breivik killed 77 people.

## Prime Minister Narendra Modi arrives in Munich to attend G7 summit

MUNICH: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday arrived here on a two-day visit to Germany

participate in the G-7 Summit. Later this evening, he will also address a community programme in

fuelling a global food and energy crisis. "During the sessions of the Summit, I will be exchanging views

with Indonesia, Senegal and South Africa as guests for the summit to recognise the democracies of the glo-



during which he will attend the G7 summit and discuss issues like energy, food security, counter-terrorism, environment and democracy with the leaders of the powerful bloc and its partner countries.

Prime Minister Modi is attending the G7 summit, to be held on June 26 and 27, following an invitation by German Chancellor Olaf Scholz. The summit is being hosted by Germany in its capacity as the chair of G7, a grouping of the world's seven richest nations. "An early morning touchdown in Munich. PM @narendramodi will

Munich," the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) said on Twitter. "At the invitation of @Bundeskanzler Olaf Scholz, PM @narendramodi arrives in Germany for the G7 Summit. Besides participating in @G7 discussions on climate, energy, food security, health, gender equality and more, PM will also hold several bilateral meetings on the sidelines," Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) spokesperson Arindam Bagchi said in a tweet.

The G7 leaders are expected to focus on the Ukraine crisis that has triggered geopolitical turmoil besides

with the G7 counties, G7 partner countries and guest International Organisations on topical issues such as environment, energy, climate, food security, health, counter-terrorism, gender equality and democracy," Modi said in a statement ahead of his visit.

Foreign Secretary Vinay Mohan Kwatra said on Friday that Modi will hold bilateral meetings and discussions with the leaders of the G7 and also the guest countries on the sidelines of the G7 summit. Besides India, Germany, the host of the G7 Summit, has also invited Argentina, In-

bal south as its partners. Modi said he also looks forward to meeting members of the Indian Diaspora from across Europe, who are contributing immensely to their local economies as well as enriching India's relations with European countries. From Germany, Modi will travel to the United Arab Emirates on June 28 to pay his condolences on the passing away of Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, the former president of the Gulf nation. Sheikh Khalifa passed away on May 13 after battling illness for the last several years.



# Bypolls 2022: Tripura CM wins, BJP wrests Samajwadi Party citadels, AAP suffers jolt in Sangrur

NEW DELHI/LUCKNOW/TRIPURA: Tripura Chief Minister Manik Saha was among the victorious BJP candidates in the by-poll results announced on Sunday as the

Counting of votes was held on Sunday for the June 23 by-election to three Lok Sabha and seven assembly seats spread across five states and Delhi.



party bagged three out of four assembly seats in the eastern state and wrested the Samajwadi Party strongholds of Rampur and Azamgarh Lok Sabha seats in Uttar Pradesh, while the AAP lost Punjab's Sangrur parliamentary constituency.

However, there was some cheer for Arvind Kejriwal's Aam Aadmi Party as it retained Rajinder Nagar assembly seat in the national capital.

ALSO READ: Bypoll results show only BSP has ideological and ground force to defeat BJP in UP: Mayawati The Congress won a seat each in Tripura, where it opened its account after drawing nil in the last assembly polls, and Jharkhand, while the ruling YSR Congress emerged victorious in Atmakuru Assembly seat in Andhra Pradesh.

## Bypoll results show only BSP has ideological and ground force to defeat BJP in UP: Mayawati

LUCKNOW: Bahujan Samaj Party chief Mayawati said on Sunday that the Lok Sabha bypoll results proved that only her BSP has the "ground force" to defeat the BJP in Uttar Pradesh.

The ruling BJP wrested the Azamgarh and Rampur parliamentary constituencies from the opposition Samajwadi Party. The BSP fielded its candidate from Azamgarh only.

Its nominee Shah Alam alias Guddu Jamali bagged 2,66,210 votes (29.27 per cent) as against the BJP candidate's 3,12,768 and the

2019 but vacated it after being elected to the assembly.

ALSO READ: 'A message to dynastic and casteist parties': Yogi on bypoll wins in Samajwadi Party citadels

In Azamgarh, also a pocket borough of the SP and vacated by party chief Akhilesh Yadav after his election to the state assembly, BJP candidate Dinesh Lal Yadav 'Nirahua' defeated Dharmendra Yadav of SP by a margin of 8,679 votes.

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath attributed the victory to the work done by the "double-engine" government of the BJP.

"People have sent a message they aren't ready to accept dynastic and casteist parties who incite communal tension," he said.

In Delhi's Rajinder Nagar, AAP's Durgesh Samajwadi Party candidate's 3,04,089.

"The UP by-election results have once again proved that only BSP has the ideological and ground force to defeat the BJP here. The party's effort to explain this to the entire population will continue so that the much-awaited political change can take place in the state," Mayawati tweeted in Hindi.

"The ruling party wins by-election in Azamgarh. The close fight the BSP has given despite the tactics of the ruling BJP and SP is commendable," she added.

In Uttar Pradesh, ruling BJP candidate Ghanshyam Lodhi won the Rampur parliamentary seat by a margin of over 42,000 votes.

Lodhi defeated SP's Mohd Asim Raja, considered close to senior SP leader Mohd Azam Khan who won the seat in

Pathak defeated BJP candidate Rajesh Bhatia by a margin of over 11,000 votes, officials said.

"People defeated their dirty politics and appreciated our good work. Thank you Rajinder Nagar, thank you Delhi," Chief Minister and AAP supremo Arvind Kejriwal said.

The party, however, suffered a jolt in Punjab as SAD (Amritsar) leader Simranjit Singh Mann won the Sangrur Lok Sabha seat defeating AAP's Gurmail Singh by a margin of 5,822 votes.

The seat was won twice by AAP leader and Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann.

The defeat came just three months after AAP registered a resounding victory in the assembly elections when it won 92 of the 117 assembly segments.

Shiromani Akali Dal (Amritsar) president and candidate Mann, 77, has been elected from Sangrur nearly 23 years after winning from the seat in 1999.

The BJP consolidated its position in Tripura winning three of the four assembly seats.

Chief Minister Manik Saha secured 17,181 votes, which is 51.63 per cent of the total votes polled.

"The people who voted for me, I thank them. This is the victory of BJP workers. I expected the margin to be a bit more. However, the results prove the understanding between the CPI(M) and Congress. We will work accordingly in the future, but people did not take this understanding in a good way," the chief minister told reporters.

The TMC, which was looking to make inroads in the northeastern state, performed dismally

with its candidates losing deposits in all the seats.

ALSO READ: Abhishek Banerjee urges electors to prevent split in anti-BJP votes Congress candidate Sudip Roy Barman won the Agartala seat by a margin of 3,163 votes. He secured 17,241 votes, which is 43.46 per cent of the total votes polled.

At least 19 people including Tripura PCC chief Birajit Sinha were injured in a clash between Congress and BJP supporters in front of Congress Bhavan in the state capital after the results of the by-elections for four assembly seats were declared.

Police fired tear gas to disperse the people. The CPI(M) lost its citadel of Jubarajagar to the BJP by a margin of 4,572 votes.

BJP candidate Malina Debnath got 18,769 votes (51.83 per cent), while CPI(M)'s Shailendra Chandra Nath secured 14,197 votes (39.2 per cent).

In Surma, BJP's Swapna Das won by a margin of 4,583 votes, securing a total of 16,677 votes (42.34 per cent).

Her nearest rival Baburam Satnami of TIPRA Motha got 12,094 votes (30.7 per cent).

The ruling YSR Congress retained the Atmakuru Assembly seat in SPS Nellore district of Andhra Pradesh by a huge margin of 82,888 votes.

YSRC's Mekapati Vikram Reddy secured 1,02,241 votes against his rival G Bharat Kumar Yadav of the BJP, who managed to get only 19,353.

Congress candidate Shilpi Neha Tirkey won from Jharkhand's Mandar seat, defeating BJP's Gangotri Kujur by margin of 23,517 votes.

# Dharmendra Pradhan appeals for less use of single-use plastic

BHUBANESWAR: Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan on Saturday appealed to social organisations and the general public to reduce the use of

There is a possibility of higher use of single-use plastic during the festival. As single-use plastic has emerged as a challenge for all and poses a serious threat

well as recycled plastic. "We have to take a pledge to keep the environment clean and safe by drastically reducing the use of plastic and finding

Patnaik expressed his gratitude to Pradhan for his appeal on less use of plastic during annual sojourn of Lord Jagannath. "Thank you so much sir for



single-use plastic during the Rath Yatra in Puri. Sharing a video message, Pradhan said the annual Car Festival this year is likely to attract more devotees than in the past as the grand festival is being celebrated in a normal way after two years of Covid-19 pandemic.

to the environment, Pradhan said a unanimous consensus has emerged on the drastic reduction in the use of plastic. Though it has not been possible to put a ban on the use of plastic, there is an emergent need to reduce the use of single-use plastic as

ways for reusable alternatives," he said. Calling upon social organisations and the general public to launch a mass movement against use of plastic, the Union Minister said Rath Yatra to Bahuda Yatra is the right time to start the movement. Sand artist Sudarshan

your appeal on upcoming #RathaYatra to reduce, reuse & recycle single use plastics. There will be great awareness during this festival among the millions of devotees. We will also work for this great cause to clean and save our environment," Patnaik tweeted.



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## Ongoing rate hikes won't lower headline inflation, which will remain elevated throughout FY23

Inflation seems unstoppable. But right now, most global central banks and their policy actions through unglamorous rate hikes, are largely going after only one thing -- managing the consumer psyche. Sounds like a cruel joke, as if the trauma of rising prices isn't enough, but read on. Economists and policymakers call the process 'anchoring inflation expectations.' It doesn't stop price rise as such, but pre-empt a build-up of price shocks in say rents, wages, services, or otherwise called the second-round effects.

In India, food and fuel prices constitute 55% of the CPI basket, but clearly much of the increase is due to external factors and beyond the control of either the RBI or the government. In the face of high food



and fuel prices, households -- whose consumption accounts for nearly 60% of our GDP -- adjust, rather cut down, their spending. It's a logical thing to do, but central banks don't want this segment to needlessly fear inflation and alter spending beyond what's necessary. So they raise rates to 'anchor' high inflationary expectations when temporary price shocks entail the risk of getting transmitted into actual inflation. The question is, what does temporary mean? By RBI's own projections, inflation will stay above 6% for next three quarters, i.e., at least until December.

Moreover, the latest round of RBI's household survey (in May) found that households' inflation expectations for three months ahead didn't change much compared to last year, but one-year ahead expectations jumped about 1%. As Deputy Governor Michael Patra recently noted, if RBI does nothing, it'll be seen as accommodating the inflation shock, reinforcing the public's view that inflation may persist, broaden and rise further. So, it must show that RBI is serious by tightening more than expected, which is why we saw an unscheduled 40 bps rate hike last month. In other words, raising rates demonstrates RBI's commitment to price stability and imparts credibility to monetary policy.

But that's that. The ongoing rate hikes won't lower headline inflation, which will remain elevated throughout FY23. Empirical evidence shows that inflation above 6% is unambiguously harmful for growth, so RBI will remain hawkish. But how much more tightening is in store?

## Congress fissures: MLA Suresh Kumar Routray voices support for Droupadi Murmu

BHUBANESWAR(KCN): Differences have cropped up within Odisha Congress over Droupadi Murmu's candidature

lady from Odisha, has been announced as the presidential candidate of the NDA. "As an Odia, I am very happy and want

come out in open support of Routray, it is suspected that some of them are likely to go for the NDA candidate.

Committee Sarat Pattanayak and leader of the Congress Legislature Party (CLP) Narasingha Mishra



in the presidential election with a section coming out in support of her. Senior party leader and MLA Suresh Kumar Routray on Saturday said he will seek help from party high command to unanimously elect NDA candidate Murmu as the next President of India. Routray told media persons here that as an Odia he is proud that Murmu, a tribal

that party president Sonia Gandhi should take steps for the unanimous election of Murmu as the next President of India," he stated. The Congress MLA said that he will write to the party president in this regard. He, however, maintained that he will go with any decision of the high command. While other MLAs of the party have not

Congress has nine MLAs in Odisha and all of them will be proposers for the Opposition candidate Yashwant Sinha. The MLAs who were summoned to New Delhi for an organisational meeting recently have been asked to go by party line in the presidential election. Besides, both president of the Odisha Pradesh Congress

had announced support for the Opposition candidate and said that party MLAs will not support Murmu. However, sources said that as the Odisha CLP is faction-ridden and some of the MLAs want a change of the leadership of the legislature party, they may not go by party line and vote for the NDA candidate.

## G-7 to ban Russian gold in response to Ukraine war, says Biden

Continued from page-1

were the first such strikes by Russia in three weeks.

Senior Biden administration officials said gold is Moscow's second-largest export after energy. Banning imports would make it more difficult for Russia to participate in global markets, they said.

Biden's Twitter feed said Russia "rakes in tens of billions of dollars" from the sale of its gold. In recent years, gold has been the top Russian export after energy, reaching almost \$19 billion or about 5% of global gold exports, in 2020, according to the White House. Of Russian gold exports, 90 per cent was consigned to G-7 countries. Of these Russian exports, over 90 per cent, or nearly \$17 billion, was exported to the UK. The United States imported less than \$200 million in gold from Russia in 2019, and under \$1 million in 2020 and 2021.

The UK also was expected to announce Sunday that it will ban Russian gold imports, followed by a formal announcement Tuesday involving all G-7 countries, according to the Biden administration officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss details before the announcement.

Biden arrived in Germany's picturesque Bavarian alps early Sunday morning to join his counterparts for the annual meeting of the world's leading democratic economies, where the reverberations from the brutal war in Ukraine will be front and centre in the discussion. He and the allies aim to present a united front in support of Ukraine as the conflict enters its fourth month.

Biden will open the visit by meeting with the summit's host, German Chancellor Olaf Scholz, before spending the afternoon in both formal and informal settings with the leaders of Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan and the European Union.

## Modi Wins Hearts

Continued from page-1

to be hailing from a humble background. India has seen many presidents including Dr APJ Abdul Kalam and Prime Minister Narendra Modi coming from humble families.

So far Mr.Modi's political move is concerned, the BJP has only 35 of the total 128 tribal seats in the four states like Gujarat, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh. In Odisha also, the BJP has only 11 tribal MLAs of the 35 assembly reserved seats. During his eight-year long tenure in two terms, Modi has announced many schemes for the development of Banabasis (forest dwellers) and BJP's sister wing Banabasi Kalyan Samiti also runs a parallel organization dedicated to the welfare of tribals for a long time. Still, the saffron party's acceptability among the tribal communities was less in comparison to the voters of general category. Tribal votes, which used to be the traditional vote bank of Congress, have of late gone in favour of regional parties or small parties and not BJP.

Through this nomination Mr.Modi tries to woo the tribals, particularly the Santhal community members who constitute one third of the tribal population in the country. The Santhal population is more in eastern and central India, mostly in Odisha, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, parts of West Bengal and also Madhya Pradesh. Bhagawan Birsa Munda is considered as a demi-god for Santals. Both Modi and Nadda have often highlighted Birsa Munda and tried to woo the Santals in some states including Odisha. Yet, the BJP failed to get the desired result. Making Smt.Murmu the President of India is considered as the one of the finest efforts of Modi to gain trust of tribals.

Coming to Odisha politics, Mr.Modi and his party have failed to win the confidence of the people in Jagannath Desh as Biju Janata Dal supremo Naveen Patnaik continues to dominate. The saffron party's all out efforts to oust Naveen have failed on different occasions. When the Modi wave swept votes in different parts of the country, it was Naveen's popularity that prevented the victory of the lotus party. AITMC Supremo Mamata Banerjee has also succeeded to withstand Modi's mighty electoral machineries while many regional leaders were crushed down by the Modi-Shah combine.

As Mr.Modi has failed in all his efforts to win the hearts of people in Odisha even after giving important ministries to Odias, good amount of allocation for railways and other sectors, he has no such move to counter Naveen's popularity. The Modi's Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Gramin), free food for

John Kirby, spokesman for the White House National Security Council, said Saturday that the summit will address problems such as inflation and other "challenges in the global economy as a result of Putin's war, but also how to continue to hold Putin accountable and subject to constant consequences."

"There will be some muscle movements," Kirby said from Air Force One as Biden flew to Germany.

Among the issues to be discussed are price caps on energy which are meant to limit Russian oil and gas profits that Moscow can put to use in its war effort. The idea has been championed by US Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen.

A senior German official, speaking on condition of anonymity consistent with department rules, said the US idea of price caps was being discussed intensely, in terms of how it would work exactly and how it would fit with the US, EU, British, Canadian and Japanese sanctions regimes.

Officials were also set to discuss how to maintain commitments to addressing climate change while also solving critical energy supply needs as a result of the war. "There's no watering down of climate commitments," Kirby said.

Biden is also set on Sunday to formally launch a global infrastructure partnership meant to counter China's influence in the developing world, which he had named "Build Back Better World" and introduced at last year's G-7 summit.

Kirby said Biden and other leaders would announce the first projects to benefit from what the US sees as an "alternative to infrastructure models that sell debt traps to low- and middle-income partner countries, and advance US economic competitiveness and our national security".

After Germany wraps up on Tuesday, Biden will travel to Madrid to meet with the leaders of the 30 members of NATO to align strategy on the war in Ukraine.

the poor under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana and others could hardly secure electoral benefits for BJP.

Though Mr.Modi announces schemes for the poor people in Odisha, ultimately credit goes to Naveen, who is smart enough to take advantage of the central programs. All good works done at the ground level is considered as the gift of Naveen and not Modi in Odisha. This is the impression being spread every day across the state.

Under such circumstances, Mr.Modi has no alternative than doing something different on which Naveen cannot make a claim. He picked up a tribal woman as the presidential candidate which has won hearts of the people of Odisha. The people have now realized that Mr.Modi actually loves Odisha, for which he gave an opportunity to an Odia, the first of its kind since Independence. Odisha has never seen a son or a daughter of the soil either becoming Prime Minister or President of India. Therefore, credit obviously goes to Mr.Modi for projecting an Odia in the national level. He was the PM who took three MPs, Dharmendra Pradhan and Bisheswar Tudu and former mandarin Ashiwini Vaishnaw in the council of ministers. He has given top posts to Odia officers like P K Mishra, GC Murmu, SN Pradhan, Shaktikanta Das, Mrutyunjay Mohapatra and others.

According to BJP State President Samir Mohanty, many talents which remained hidden in their regions, have been recognized and given Padma awards by the Modi government. All these actions obviously go in favour of Mr.Modi. But the nomination of Smt.Murmu has become Mr.Modi's tour de force. However, Team BJD also tried to take advantage of the situation. Immediately after Smt.Murmu's name was announced by BJP's Nadda, the BJD Supremo took to twitter and announced that he had been informed by Prime Minister Mr.Modi in this regard. He claimed to be happy over the nomination of an "Odia daughter" for the highest post. Anyway, the debate goes on the credit over Smt.Murmu's elevation. All said and done, Modi got the full credit and a general impression has been created that the Prime Minister was seriously trying to uplift Odias in the national level. Odias remained neglected both by the Congress and non-Congress national leadership in the past seven decades. This is for the first time in the last eight years since Narendra Modi came to power that Odias are getting their genuine place in different spheres like politics, bureaucracy, sports, art, culture and others, observes a veteran political observer.



## Wimbledon 2022: No Russians, no rankings, but Serena is back

WIMBLEDON: At least at the outset, before a tennis ball is struck, this edition of Wimbledon is as much about who — and what — is missing as who's here. And that's even taking this into account: It is no small matter that the grass-court Grand Slam tournament marks the return of Serena Williams to singles play after a year away. The No. 1-ranked man, Daniil Medvedev, was



barred from competing by the All England Club, along with every other player from Russia and Belarus, because of the war in Ukraine. "It's a mistake," International Tennis Hall of Fame member Martina Navratilova said about the ban. "What are they supposed to do, leave the country? I wouldn't wish that on my worst enemy."

Novak Djokovic, the No. 1 seed and three-time defending champion who will play in the first match in Centre Court on Monday, looked at the situation this way: "It's really hard to say what is right, what is wrong."

"As a child of a war — several wars, actually, during the '90s, I know what it feels like being in (the Ukrainians') position," the 35-year-old from Serbia said. "But at the other hand, I can't say I fully agree (with deciding) to ban Russian tennis players, Belarusian tennis players, from competing indefinitely. I just don't see how they have contributed to anything that is really happening. I mean, I don't feel it's fair."

The two professional tours reacted by pulling their ranking points from Wimbledon, an unprecedented move in a sport built around the rankings in so many ways. In turn, some athletes opted not to show up, including 2014 runner-up Eugenie Bouchard and four-time major champion Naomi Osaka.

For others, though, it was a no-doubt-about-it decision to show up. This is, after all, Wimbledon, with its unique surface and long-standing traditions, its powerful prestige and — let's face it — tens of millions in prize money.

"It's definitely hard to swallow that there are no points. I'm not going to sit here and tell you I'm happy about it. But the cards are dealt. At the end of the day, if I tell my mom I'm not playing Wimbledon, she'd be like, 'Are you nuts?!' So I'm going to go, no doubt," said Frances Tiafoe, an American who is seeded 24th in the men's field. "It's out of everybody's hands. It's a tough situation, a crazy time. And it's not just about you. It's not a 'Why me?' problem."

There were rumours among players that prize money would be cut, too, prompting one, Fabio Fognini, to joke that he'd be thankful for that because — without any ranking points available and with less cash on offer — he'd head to an island for some vacation time with his wife, 2015 U.S. Open champion Flavia Pennetta, and their young children.

But it turned out that's all that was — a rumour: The All England Club wound up announcing it would provide a record total of about 40 million pounds (USD 50 million) in player compensation.

There are other important names staying away

for different reasons.

Reigning women's champion Ash Barty retired in March at age 25. Eight-time men's champion Roger Federer still has not returned from the latest in a series of knee operations; he has not participated in any tournament since last year's Wimbledon. No. 2-ranked Alexander Zverev is sidelined after tearing ligaments in his right ankle at the French Open.

Also gone in 2022 at Wimbledon, for the first time in its lengthy history: a scheduled day off on the middle Sunday (so what had been a 13-day tournament becomes a full two-week event).

Ah, but guess who's back? Yes, Williams, thanks to a wild-card

invitation, bringing enough star power to fill the spotlight for however long she remains in the bracket.

The owner of seven championships at the All England Club — and 23 from all majors, a record for the professional era — last competed in singles in June 2021, when she slipped on the slick Centre Court grass and injured her right hamstring, forcing her to stop in the first set of her first-round match.

"I didn't retire. I just needed to heal physically, mentally. And I had no plans, to be honest. I just didn't know when I would come back. I didn't know how I would come back," Williams said Saturday. "Obviously, Wimbledon is such a great place to be, and it just kind of worked out."

She made a surprise appearance in doubles with Ons Jabeur on grass at Eastbourne this week, but the 40-year-old American will not have played singles before Tuesday's matchup against 113th-ranked Harmony Tan.

If Williams can crank up her best-in-the-game serve and move well enough to stay in points until she can end them with her stinging groundstrokes, who knows what she'll be able to do? Plus, she has made a habit of winning matches soon after returning from lengthy absences.

Also around is Rafael Nadal, who is halfway to a calendar-year Grand Slam for the first time after winning the Australian Open in January and the French Open this month. The latter title, his 14th in Paris and men's-best 22nd at a major, came despite chronic pain in his left foot, which made the 36-year-old Spaniard question whether he could be at the All England Club — or continue at all.

"First of all, I can walk normally most of the days, almost every single day. That's, for me, the main issue," Nadal said Saturday. "When I wake up, I don't have this pain that I was having for the last year and a half. So quite happy about that."

This fortnight will not lack for story lines, certainly. Full crowds are back after the coronavirus pandemic led to restrictions on spectators last year and the cancellation of the tournament in 2020. This marks the centenary of the current Centre Court, which made its debut in 1922.

French Open champion and top-ranked Iga Swiatek enters on a 35-match winning streak. And Djokovic bids for a 21st Grand Slam trophy, knowing that, as things currently stand, he will not be able to go to the U.S. Open in August because he is not vaccinated against COVID-19 — and he says he won't get the shots.

"That," Djokovic said, "is an extra motivation to do well here."

## Gareth Bale confirms move to Major League Soccer after Real Madrid exit

LOS ANGELES: Wales captain Gareth Bale confirmed his move to Major League Soccer's Los Angeles FC on Saturday following his departure from Spanish giants Real Madrid.

Bale confirmed his plans to join LAFC in a post on Twitter following widespread reports earlier Saturday about the move.

"See you soon, Los Angeles," the 32-year-old wrote. An accompanying video showed Bale wearing an LAFC shirt and cap.

Earlier the Los Angeles Times said Bale will be eligible to play for LAFC from July 1.

ESPN reported that Bale will fly to Los Angeles at the end of next week to sign a deal which runs to the end of this season, with an option for an additional year.

Bale was once the world's most expensive player and has spent the last eight seasons with Real Madrid, winning three domestic championships and five Champions League titles.

The Welshman has scored 139 league goals in his club career with 39 goals in 106

internationals for Wales.

Bale played a pivotal role in helping Wales qualify for this year's World Cup, where they will face the United States, England and Iran in the group stage in Qatar.

It marks the first time Wales have qualified for the tournament since the 1958 finals.

Bale's signing comes as LAFC bid to build on a strong start to the MLS season.

The California club lead the Western Conference standings with 30 points from 15 games. Bale will be the second high-profile international signing the club has made in recent weeks. Former Juventus and Italy international Giorgio Chiellini joined the club earlier this month.

News of Bale's decision to head to Major League Soccer comes just days after reports in Britain indicated he was in talks with Cardiff over a possible move.

His former club Tottenham and Newcastle were also mooted as possible destinations.



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