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# THE KALINGA CHRONICLE

**FRIDAY** 18 MARCH, 2022

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## Punjab CM Bhagwant Mann likely to make big announcement today



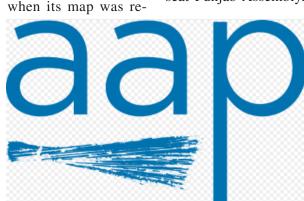
Chandigarh (KCN): Bhagwant Mann (left) as CM of Punjab may become a more powerful political figure than Arvind Kejriwal, who is the CM of Delhi. (Image tweeted

@arvindkejriwal) Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann said on March 17 that he will soon announce a "very big decision" that no one has taken in the history of the state.

The announcement comes a day after the Aam Aadmi Party AAP's historic win in the recently concluded Assembly elections.

The 48-year-old comedian-turned-politician is the first non-Congress and non-Akali leader to make it to the chief minister's office in the border state since 1966, AAP lawmakers to not be arrogant and gave assurance to the public that the government will work for the progress of the state.

The party registered a landslide victory, winning 92 seats in the 117seat Punjab Assembly.



drawn for the last time. After taking oath on March 16 in a ceremony held at Khatkar Kalan, the birthplace of freedom fighter Bhagat Singh, Mann appealed

as they have not re-

ceived miller author-

not procured even af-

ity slip (MAS).

Mann won by a margin of 58,206 votes from Dhuri Assembly seat in Sangrur district. He resigned as a Lok Sabha Member of Parliament from the Sangrur seat before the swearing-in.

## Chaitra Yatra to resume at Tara Tarini temple

BERHAMPUR(KCN): After remaining subdued due to Covid restrictions for the last couple of years, celebration of the famous Chaitra Yatra will resume at Tara Tarini temple in Ganjam district. At a meeting on Wednesday, Ganjam Collector Vijay Amruta Kulange directed the officials concerned to make all arrangements for smooth participation of devo-tees in the festival. The yatra is held every Tuesday of the Chaitra month (mid-March to mid-April) every year. Thousands of devotees from across the State and outside visit the 17th-century shrine to parstate and outside visit the 17th-century sinfine to participate in the month-long weekly festival and seek blessings of the presiding deity. This year, the yatra will be held on March 22 and 29 and April 5 and 12. Kulange said this year, devotees can reach the hill-top temple either by steps, ropeway or bus. However, all vehicles will be parked at the foothill. All devotees will have to wear mask while no makedevotees will have to wear mask while no makeshift shops will be be allowed near the temple. CCTV cameras would be installed at the hilltop. There will be total restriction on serving of prasad at the shrine. The temple management will sell prasad to devotees at the foothill. The administration will also place mobile toilets for devotees at the foothill. The Collector requested ailing and elderly persons not to



Warm Greetings to the People of Barachana Dharmasala dist.- Jajpur, Odisha on the occastion of Holi (The festival of colour). May the Festival of colour bring peace, progress and prosperity for everyone.

Dr. Pabitra Mohan Samantray Barachana – Dharamsala, Jajpur, Odisha

# Australia is partner country in Bengal Global Business Summit 2022

Kolkata (KCN): (Partha Roy) The Indo-Australian Chamber of Commerce (IACC) launched its East India Chapter to build stronger economic ties between Eastern India & Australia. The hybrid event in Kolkata was attended by industry and government partners, academia and media.



The Indo-Australian Chamber of Commerce (IACC), established in 1989, is the only bilateral Chamber of Commerce in India that promotes trade and investment between India and Australia. The Chamber was established on a vision of two former Prime Ministers – Mr. Bob Hawke, Prime Minister of Australia and Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, Prime Minister of India. IACC is a national bilateral Chamber, headIACC CEO, Ms. Petula Thomas, said "The IACC's East India Chapter will play a key role in driving the overall mission and objectives of the Indo-Australian Chamber of Commerce, in the East India region. It will serve as the local guiding point for business growth and advocacy, participating in strategic initiatives that enhance

B2B/B2G engagement like the upcoming Bengal Global Business Summit (BGBS 2022). We see opportunity for trade and investment collaboration in priority sectors like Resources and Energy, Mining Equipment Technology Services (METS) including critical minerals, IT and emerging tech, Agribusiness, Education and Healthcare. Along with our members we eagerly look forward to what the interim free trade agreement (FTA) to be signed between India and Australia, will offer our members in terms of easier market access, lower tariffs and other concessions."

Australia's Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment Mr. Dan Tehan MP, during his keynote ad-



dress (virtual) said "This launch is well timed because the Australian and Indian Governments have been working hard to conclude an interim free trade agreement as a pathway to a full Comprehensive

### to the newly elected chief minister after

BHUBANESWAR(KCN): With only two weeks left for paddy procurement to end and

secretaries of the Pri-

mary Agriculture Co-

operative Societies

(PACS) turning a deaf ear to the prob-

lems, farmers with

lapsed tokens are run-

ning from pillar to

post to get their

stocks sold. Worse,

officials overseeing

the procurement pro-

cess have no answers

A nexus of millers

to their concerns.

Food Supplies and Consumer Welfare department has made

as 17th chief minister of

"A very big decision will

be taken today in the in-

terest of the people of

Punjab. No one in the

history of Punjab would

have taken such a deci-

sion till date. I'll an-

nounce it shortly," Mann

posted on Twitter,

retweeted by AAP na-

tional convener Arvind

Congress's Charanjit

Singh Channi as the

replaced

Punjab.

Kejriwal.

Mann

the paddy procure-

tem (P-PAS) a mock-

ery by allowing un-

scrupulous traders

and landless farmers

to snatch away the

benefits from genuine

registered farmers.

The common refrain

of the PACS secretar-

ies who control the

paddy procurement

business is that the

designated millers are

not lifting the stocks

available with them

After generation of MAS, PACS tagged to the millers receive society authority slip (SAS) from the Civil Supplies officer(CSO)-cumdistrict manager for purchase of paddy. If one complains to the ment automation sys-CSO that his paddy is

are to be believed, millers are not lifting stocks from the mandis as the CSOs have not issued miller authority slips. Procurement is con-

trolled by the Food Supplies department and the Cooperation department has little role to play. The millers are playing to the tunes of the CSOs who tag them to



ter the appointed date, the officer shifts the blame to the miller. But if sources

mandis and decide the quantum of paddy to be allocated for **CONTINUED ON: P-7** 

party, Hooda is learnt

to have conveyed to

Rahul Gandhi that

such a step will be

unacceptable to the

grouping as Sibal had

only spoken about

strengthening the

Congress.

### and officials of the After G-23 meeting, Rahul Gandhi meets Congress veteran Bhupinder Singh Hooda

NEW DELHI(KCN): A day after the Group of 23 pitched for an "inclusive and collective leadership" in the Congress, Bhupinder Singh Hooda, one of its members, Thursday met Rahul Gandhi and the two leaders were learnt to

### **Message**

The Kalinga Chronicle family wishes its readers, hawkers, advertisers, writers and welwishers on the Eve of Holi (The festival of colour).

- Editor-in-Chief

### **Declaration**

The Office will be closed on 18th & 19th March, 2022 on the occastion of Holi(The festival of colour). The next publication will be on 21st March, 2022.

- Publisher

#### have discussed a revamp of the party organisation, a key demand of the dissenters.

The meeting is being seen as an attempt by the Gandhi family to reach out to the G-23, which has shown signs of increasing

Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Punjab, Manipur and Goa,

sources said. Gandhi, a former Congress president,



aggression on the leadership issue after Congress's abject loss in the assembly elections in five states.

During the meeting that lasted around an hour and half, the they deliberated on the party's defeat in

had called Hooda for a discussion on the political situation in Haryana. However, amid calls

Gandhi family loyal-

ists for action against

G-23 leader Kapil

Sibal, who recently

said the Gandhis

should step aside and

pave the way for

someone else to take

over the reins of the

The G-23 has been persistently seeking a restructuring of the organisation since it first wrote to Congress president Sonia Gandhi in 2020 about it after of a string of electoral losses and the party's diminishing clout.

After the meeting, Hooda, a former chief minister of Haryana, visited Ghulam Nabi Azad, the informal leader of the grouping, at the latter's residence.

Hooda and Azad **CONTINUED ON: P-7** 

### quartered in Chennai. Economic Cooperation CONTINUED ON: P-7 Yogi's swearing-in ceremony to be no small affair; BJP to invite 200 VVIPs including Gandhis

With preparations for the post-Holi swear-

ing-in ceremony of

the Yogi government

2.0 in the final leg,

BJP has chalked out

an extensive list of

over 200 VVIP guests

LUCKNOW(KCN): including the prominent opposition leaders. The oath-taking

The highly placed BJP sources claimed



ceremony has been that also thousands of planned in the state beneficiaries of various central and state capital's Atal Bihari Vajpayee Stadium, government welfare which has the capacschemes will also be ity to host a crowd of invited to be a part of

the moment. As per the common perception, beneficiaries have voted for the BJP as a huge chunk of voters beyond the caste and regional lines.

Preparations are being made to accommodate at least 45,000 people in the stadium for the swearing-in ceremony.

**Besides Prime Minis**ter Narendra Modi and Union home minister Amit Shah, who may attend the event, the date for which is **CONTINUED ON: P-7** 

Raghunath Nayak,

Banarjee, DPHCO,

Prakash

DPM,

# Smart City Rourkela among Top 11 Winners of EatSmartCities Challenge by MoHUA

Rourkela (KCN)Rourkela Smart City has been adjudged the winner among Top 11 cities to implement Eat Right initiatives and be involved for deep engagement over the period of next 12 months to scale up their plan including. Ministry of Housing and Urban Af-



fairs announced the name of winners in presence of Shri Manoj Joshi, Secretary (HUA). Smart Cities Mission, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) launched the EatSmartCities Challenge to enhance the health & wellbeing of the citizens and integrate sustainable food safety & nutrition systems within the smart city design, in collaboration with the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India on 15th April 2021.

The Challenge aimed to motivate cities to develop a plan that would support a healthy, safe and sustainable food environment strengthened by institutional, physical, social and economic infrastructure along with the application of 'smart' solutions to combat issues related to food. Rourkela has worked extensively in various thematic areas related to food including; reshaping market for distress sellers/ farmers, Food for all, stake holder/community participation in program planning, Wash program related to Food interventions, Redeveloping city food infrastructure, Food & Nutrition for Early Childhood Development, Purnanjali Program etc. All these programs were appreciated at the Ministry level.

Additionally, under Eat Smart Cities, Rourkela performed various activities such as, campaigns on Trans-Fat Free India, Licensing/ Registration, campaigns on Reducing Daily Intake of Fat, Salt and Sugar, Campaigns on Food Fortification and the F + logo, Various Food Adulteration Checking Camps, Drives to Collect and Recycle plastic waste (200 tons), Eat Right Campus Certifications (Rourkela Govt. Hospital and JP Hospital), Hygiene Rating of Meat Shops, Sweet Shops/ Bakeries, Restaurants/Hotels/Food Service Establishments, Places of Worship under BHOG – 01 (Maa Tarini Temple, Civil Township, Rourkela), Special surveillance drives

All cities under the Smart Cities Mission, capitals of States/UTs and cities with population of more than 5, 00,000 were invited to participate in the challenge where 108 cities registered themselves in the challenge. In its second phase of evaluation, 20 cities were shortlisted and asked to present the work done. Rourkela Smart City has been adjudged among Top 11 cities as winners by a jury comprising of members from Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), MUFPP, Food Foundation and NeTPRoFaN (Network of Professionals of Food and Nutrition).

# Heritage Institute of Technology student secures an All India Rank 3 in GATE 2022

Shri P.K.Agarwal,



Institute of Technology (HITK), Mr. Soumyajit Kundu from B.Tech-Chemical Engineering, Batch-2022, secured an All India Rank 3 in GATE 2022. This year around 9 lakh students have appeared for GATE examination and in Chemical Engineering more than 15000 students have appeared. The overall score of Soumyajit is 929.

It is also a matter of pride that student of autonomous Heritage Institute of Technology becomes the only private engineering college to be among the top 3 rank holders in GATE 2022 for chemical engineering. From B.TechSubhrojyoti Ghosh secured an All India Rank 13 followed by Debasmita Sarma Chaudhuri securing an All India Rank 20 which are very much promising indicating the mark of excellence sustained by HITK over the years. In Core engineering Mr. Tathagata Roy, B.Tech- Electrical Engineering, Batch-2022 secured an All India rank 136. More than 2 lakh students appeared for core engineering programmes this year in GATE 2022.

"It is a proud moment for the entire Heritage Family. Our students have secured top ranks making us proud. I thank all the faculty members who

Kolkata (KCN): A Biotechnology, have given their unstudent of Heritage Batch-2022, tiring efforts," said tute of Technology,

"Our students have secured excellent ranks and moreover in the core engineering sector they have also performed well," said Prof. Basab Chaudhuri, Principal, Heritage Institute of Technology.

Soumyajit aspires to take up a job in the public sector whereas Subhrojyoti aspires to study integrated PhD programme in Biotechnology at IITs.

13th Body Lifting celebration of Mahabir Gymnasium



Cuttack Sadar (KCN): Cuttack Sadar Athanga Mahabir Gymnasium observed there 13th Body Lifting celebration 2022. In this computation lots if participants are joined with the winners are awarded. In this program advisor of the GYM centre Prabin Mishra, president Satya Kumar Das, Secretary Dipak Kumar Sahoo, Assistant Secretary Sachikanta Ota, Organizer Milan Parida, Aurobinda Acharya, Rakesh Kumar Acharya, Soumya Ranjan Pattanik, Prasad Das, Susanta Mishara,& all members ware presents to success the GYM Competition

## CorBEvax Vaccination begins for 12-14 age group in Khordha District

Khordha (KCN): had planned to con-Covid vaccination for the 12 to 14 age group

duct vaccination for children aged 12--14



was launched in Govt.Girls High School, Khordha. On the first day of the drive 99 students from Govt. Girls High School, Khordha and 88 Children in Balakati PHC received the first dose of the vaccine. Although the local

at the health centre across the district. Around 38,964 in the target age group will be administered the CorBEvax vaccine for children. CDMO & PHO, Khordha, Dr. Artabandhu Nayak inaugurated the vaccination programme at Govt. Girls High health department School, Khordha. Artabandhu Nayak said "that every beneficiary should be vaccinated as soon as possible. So that all children build a strong immunity to the virus". He added that the vaccine is completely safe and everyone should get it without any fear".

Emphasising com-

plete vaccination

CDMO & PHO, Dr.

Pradyumna Mohapatra, Head Mistress Govt. Girls High School, Khordha, DMRCH, Ms. Minakhi Baral, DVLM, Ms. Yosada Rani Behera, DIC, Debasmita Sahoo and other

school Staff's were present. ADPHO (FW)Dr. JSW's new CCCC to minimize pilferages

Barbil (KCN): Country's leading steel manufacturer JSW Steel Ltd inaugurated the Central Command Control Centre (CCCC) at its Barbil office on March 11, 2022. The CCCC was formally inaugurated by RanjanNayak, COO (Odisha) of JSW Steel Ltd. Nayak congratulated the Odisha team for being one step ahead on digital technology. Project Head (Odisha) AsheshPadhy, Mines Head (Odisha) BiswaranjanPadhi and other employees were also present at the inauguration. In this connection, Head of IT Division, JSW Steel Ltd, Odisha BK Das said, "The CCCC will provide

a real-time visibility of dispatch operations, tracing of each fleet and dispatch vehicles from Pit to Port. Also, it will make easy to monitor and control the operation and to reduce pilferages."Das also stated that the CCCC connects all 4 mines through cloud to Barbil office which will be integrated with Central Surveillance System and Fleet Management System. Adding further, Das said that the CCCC with digital intervention will create an error free system, reduce Turn Around Time (TAT), increase productivity and eliminate pilferage and enhance dispatch efficiency.

# Odisha to start Aadhaar enrolment of newborns in hospitals

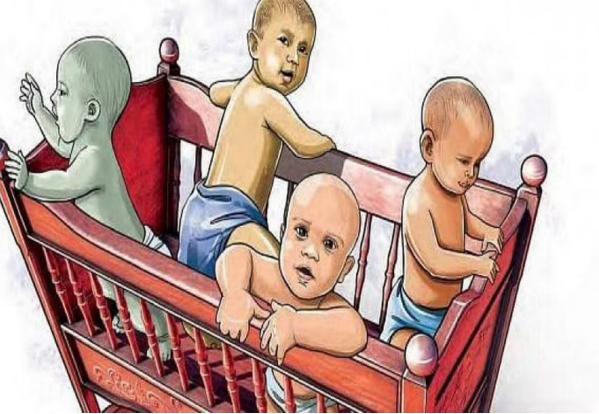
BHUBANESHWAR: The Odisha government, in its bid to ensure 100 per cent Aadhaar coverage, has decided to enrol newborns,

mented, could ensure they get immediately enlisted.

"Though (children) Aadhaar coverage was introduced across the ment decision, the would newborns will be linked enrolled without biometrics. The Baal Aadhaar, too, will have a 12-digit

As per the govern- tographs, which to Aadhaar card of their parents.

> "When they turn 5 and then 15, they



right after they are born in hospitals. The idea was mooted after it was noticed that Aadhaar enrolment for children in the age group of 0-5 years was "minimal", and this initiative, if implecountry earlier, Odisha will be the first state to introduce such facility hospitals," Manoj Mishra, the secretary of the Electronics and Information Technology Department, told PTI.

unique identification number, just like the ones issued to adults.

The unique identification number of the newborns will be processed on the basis of demographic information and facial phoneed to update their biometrics (fingers, iris and facial photograph)," the official said, adding that around 14.83 lakh of 40.36 lakh children in the age bracket of 0-5 years have been enrolled in the state thus far.

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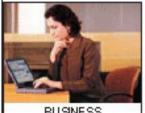
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## Vikrant Massey's 'Cargo' to be screened at South by Southwest festival in US



**MUMBAI(KCN):** Vikrant Masseystarrer "Cargo" will have its North American premiere at the 2020 edition of South Southwest (SXSW) festival.

The science fiction film, written and di-

Kadav, also features Massey's "Mirzapur" co-star Shweta Tripathi and actor Nandu Madhav. The story revolves

around a lonely demon Prahastha who has been working on a spaceship for years

Transition services with the help of a female astronaut where dead people are recycled for rebirth.

"Cargo" will be screened under the Global section of the film festival which will run from March

Vikrant, who most recently featured alongside Deepika Padukone "Chhapaak", said it makes him "proud" that the film has been chosen for the presti-

"'Cargo' is one of the first Indian sci-fi

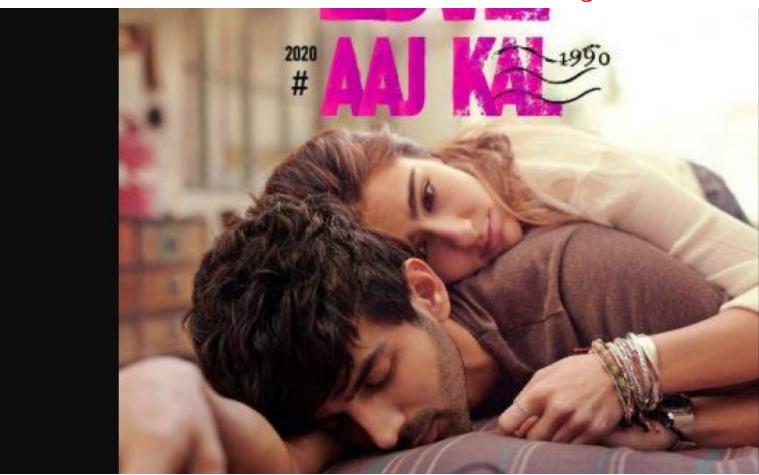
gious film gala.

films to be there. And I feel blessed for receiving so much applause not just from the country but across the world. People have loved Chhapaak, they have embraced it with

open arms and now 'Cargo' being selected

at this big a platform, I feel really fortunate," the actor said in a statement. "Cargo", which had its India premiere at the 2019 MAMI Film Festival under the spotlight section, is produced by Arati, Navin Shetty, Shlok Sharma and Anurag Kashyap.

### rected by Arati for the Post Death 13 to 21. First look of Imtiaz Ali's Love Aaj Kal two released



Kartik Aryan and Sara Ali Khan are the new romantic pair in Imtiaz Ali's Love Aaj Kal. Yes, the film's titled just that, not Love Aaj The poster also re-

Kal 2 or Aaj Kal. In a poster, we get a glimpse of their characters, Veer and Zoe, nodding off on top of each other.

considerable doubt

veals the film's timeline, which will run from 1990 to 2020.

"Meet Veer and Zoe, captured in their element. It's in these

simple, candid moments that love plays peekaboo, right? Love Aaj Kal," Imtiaz wrote. "Meet Veer and Zoe. Come get wound up in our whirlwind wonderland Love Aaj Kal trailer out tomorrow," Sara added.

The new Love Aaj Kal was shot in Day release.

Himachal Pradesh, Mumbai, Rajasthan. The sequel also stars Randeep Hooda. The film is slated for Valentine's

## No proof to link Netflix's '13 Reasons Why' to high US suicide rates: Study

**CN**): Contrary to the findings of a 2019 study that associated the Netflix series "13 Reasons Why" with an increase in monthly suicide rates among youth after the

show's release, a new

analysis finds no evi-

NEW YORK(K-

dence to draw such a link. The reanalysis, published in the journal PLOS ONE, revealed that after controlling for the dramatic increase in adolescent suicide in recent years, the show's re-

"Our reanalysis casts

lease had no clear ef-

on the show having an effect on boys,' said study author Dan Romer and research director of the Annenberg Public Centre Policy (APPC) from the University of Pennsylvania in the US. The reanalysis found that the increase in the suicide rate for boys observed in the original study by Jeffrey Bridge and colleagues for three months after the series' release was no longer evident after controlling for the

ongoing trend in ado-

lescent suicide.

In addition, the increase seen during the first month of the release began the month prior to the release, making it difficult to attribute the rise to the show. The reanalysis found no effects in the subsequent months of that year.

The original time-series analysis of suicide rates found an additional 195 suicide deaths among boys ages 10 to 17 during the nine months following the series' release, on March 31, 2017, but did not find a similar result among adolescent girls.

Romer said he questioned that finding for two reasons: "First, contagion would be expected to be stronger for girls than boys because this show focuses on the suicide of a high school girl. Second, the prior analysis didn't take into account strong secular trends in suicide, especially in boys from 2016-2017."

When the first season of the Netflix show appeared in 2017, it created widespread concern that its graphic portrayal of a teenage girl's suicide

would lead to imitation among vulnerable young people, especially adolescent girls.

The first such study found evidence of a jump in suicides among boys ages 10 to 17 in the three months following the show's release, but no effect for girls.

Romer said that analysis relied on a forecasting method to project the likely trend in suicide for 2017. But that forecast failed to anticipate the actual trend. A second study by different researchers, published in JAMA

Psychiatry had a similar problem, Romer said.

That study found an effect in boys and girls 10 to 19 years old in the three months following the series' release.

But it similarly failed to control for the secular trend in suicide, again making it difficult to separate the effects of the show from the trend. APPC's reanalysis did find a modest rise in the suicide rate among adolescent girls during the first month following the release of "13 Reasons Why," but it was not statistically reliable, the researchers

# Holi Skin and Hair care ti

Holi Hai!! The vibrant festival of colors of happiness is just around the corner. Barely a few days are left before you head to play joyfully and get dirty in colour



game. The Holi fever has set it and it the time of the year when you are excited for looking like a multicoloured canvas.

The festival brings with itself, a whiff of mishmash of dry gulal and buckets of

When you decide to indulge in a burst of colours, what bothers people most is how to deal with skin and hair issues caused by the rampant use of harmful toxin colours that can make your skin, hair dry and frizzy. While you've zeroed in on where you're going to be celebrating Holi with splashes of harmful toxins , make sure to follow these Holi skin care tips to give your hair and skin that extra protection from chemical laden harsh colors to counter ill effects on colour stained faces, parched hair and irritated skin. Holi is celebrated at a time when Nature renews and refreshes herself. With a little care, we can do the same and also sustain our youth and beauty.

The dry "Gulal" and the wet colours of today are not derived from natural sources. They contain chemicals, shiny particles of mica and even lead, which not only irritate the skin, but collect on the scalp. Since Holi is played out of doors, sun-exposure can also have a detrimental effect on the skin. Apart from harmful UV radiation, sun-exposure makes the skin dry by causing depletion of moisture and also tans the skin. The

skin can become dry and dull after play-

ing holi. Remember to apply a sunscreen 20 minutes before going out to in the sun. Use a sunscreen of SPF 20 and above. If your skin is prone to pigmented patches, select one with a higher SPF. Most sunscreens have built-in moisturizers. If your skin is very

dry, first apply the sunscreen, wait for a few

minutes and then apply a moisturizer. Light daytime make-up may be used. Touch up your eyes with eye pencil or kaajal and use a lip gloss.

The real problem is removal of colours after playing holi. Do not wash your face with soap immediately, because soap is alkaline and causes further dryness. Instead, use a cleansing cream, or lotion. Apply and massage it on the face. Then wipe off with moist cotton wool. Remember to cleanse the area around the eyes too, using a light touch. A cleansing gel helps to dissolve the colours and facilitates their removal.

To make your own cleanser, take half a cup of cold milk and add one teaspoon of any vegetable oil, like "til," olive or sunflower oil. Mix well. Dip cotton wool into this mixture and use it to cleanse the skin.

Sesame seed (til) oil can be used to remove colours from the body, massaging it on the skin. This not only helps to remove the colours, but gives added protection to the skin. Sesame seed (til) oil actually helps to counteract sun-damage. While bathing, scrub the body gently with a loofah or wash cloth. Immediately after your bath, apply a moisturizer on the face and body, while the skin is still damp. This helps to seal in mois-

The day after holi, you may have to deal with the effects of sun-exposure, like dry-

**Shahnaz Husain** 

honey with half a cup of curd. Add a pinch of turmeric. Apply this on the face, neck and arms. Leave it on for 20 minutes and wash off with water. Honey is a powerful natural moisturizer and helps to soften the skin, while curd will nourish and restore the normal acidalkaline balance. It also removes tan.

ness or tanned skin.

Mix two tablespoons

Hair Care

The dry "Gulal" and the wet colours of today are not derived from natural sources. They contain chemicals, shiny particles of mica and even lead, which collect on the scalp and irritate it. Apply a protective leave-on conditioner or hair serum before playing Holi. They coat the hair and protect it from chemical colours, pollutants and sun-exposure. They also add shine to the

While washing the hair, first rinse with plenty of plain water to wash away the dry colours and tiny particles of mica. Then apply a mild herbal shampoo, working it into the hair with the fingers. Massage the scalp gently and rinse thoroughly with water again. Add the juice of a lemon to a mug of water and use it as a last rinse. This helps to restore the acid-alkaline balance of the

Beer can also be used as a last rinse. In fact, it will soften and condition the hair. Add the juice of a lemon to the beer. Pour over the hair after shampoo. Leave on for a few minutes and rinse off with plain water.

If there is itching, add two tablespoons vinegar to a mug of water and use it as a last rinse. This helps to reduce itching. However, if the itching continues, and there is rash and redness, there may be an allergy to the colour. Consult a doctor as soon as possible.

Within the next few days give your hair a nourishing treatment. Mix egg yolk with almond oil or olive oil and massage it lightly into the hair and scalp. Then dip a towel in hot water, squeeze out the water and wrap the hot towel around the head, like a turban. Keep it on for 5 minutes. Repeat the hot towel wrap 3 or 4 times. This helps the hair and scalp absorb the oil better. Wash your hair after an hour.

Next day give your hair a nourishing treatment. Mix one tablespoon pure coconut oil with one teaspoon castor oil. Heat and apply on the hair. Then dip a towel in hot water, squeeze out the water and wrap the hot towel around the head, like a turban. Keep it on for 5 minutes. Repeat the hot towel wrap 3 or 4 times. This helps the hair and scalp absorb the oil better. Wash your hair after an hour.

Conditioning with henna would help to restore damage to the hair, adding shine and body. To the henna powder, add four teaspoons each of lemon juice and coffee, two eggs, two teaspoons oil and enough curd to mix into a paste. Apply on the hair and wash your hair after an hour.

Make your own natural colours for Holi Simmer Tesu flowers in water. Leave overnight. Strain and use the water to play Holi. Tesu flowers leave a yellow colour. The botanical name of Tesu is Butea monosperma. Henna powder can be mixed with gram flour (besan) or maize flour (makki) and used as dry green colour.

Turmeric (haldi) can be used both as dry and wet colour. Turmeric can be mixed with gram flour for dry colour. Or, it can be added to water and boiled. Leave overnight and then use.

The author is international fame beauty expert and is called herbal queen of India

# ngress and flowering AAP - India's latest political

The greybeards in the Congress Working Committee (CWC) have once again pressed the support button for its interim president Sonia Gandhi. The committee tried to disentangle the party's washout



in the recently concluded elections in five states. The party had its worst level of performance in all the states and the CWC once again ensured not to pin blame on anybody for the collapse. With every single election from the panchayat to the parliament becoming

an uphill task for the party, the Congress with its practically rudderless cadre has begun to face a massive existential crisis. This appears to be the toughest time that the party is passing through. With the fall of the Congress comes a vacuum that most of the regional parties want to fill. But at present, India's political scenario is terribly unbalanced, with no credible opposition to raise its eyebrows over the government's policies on issues of national interest. Passing the baton of responsibility for its failure time and again, the leadership of the party mostly forgot the values that a leadership is supposed to uphold. Until recently the fight was almost between a belligerent BJP and a critically downsized Congress, but a mettlesome contender. But the results of the state elections in Punjab brought an interesting picture to the political pundits. The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) has crushed open the last ounce of air that the Congress held tight in its chest. Neither its interim president nor her children would be held responsible for the defeat. Undoubtedly, the party is in search of someone from the middle of nowhere, on whom it can pin the blame on.

While proffering his resignation after the 2019 general election debacle, Rahul Gandhi was candid presenting his justification for the defeat in his tweet. The rank and file of the Congress was flabbergasted at his plain writing of words by passing the blame from his shoulder to someone who he did not want to shout the name of. For him, it was he who stood against Modi and the RSS, fighting a lone battle. Since 2014, the party has lost almost every election. Rallying its cadre to multiple humiliating defeats was the job that its leadership has been diligently executing. Unable to accommodate and incapable to mobilize and practically away from building an emotional connect with the essence of India, the party has been through an irreparable and turbulent internal rift. Unrealistic in strategizing and sharpening its weapons of political diplomacy against the BJP, the party has mostly concentrated on triggering its guns against a person, who indeed has managed to consistently find place in the hearts of the electorate.

Every unplanned, immature attack that the

Congress made against Modi, turned out to be a

blessing in disguise for him, strengthening him brick by brick, consolidating more power. Though the CWC pronounced the party's commitment to remain a vigilant and vibrant opposition, it does not hold the strength to try an arm twist with the BJP at present. For the party, it is Rahul Gandhi in whose hands, its future is going to remain safe. The reforms that he promised to bring in the Congress as its president, blowing a fresh flow of oxygen, could not happen for long, except for the party's loss in every election that it suffered under his presidency. The AAP with its renewed vigor is mindless about the existence of Congress. It sees a gigantic potentiality in itself to face the BJP nationally. At present, the AAP is gaining from the Congress's fall and is trying to fill the gap. Adding fuel to the fire, the already rebellious cohort, the G-23 is once again active, calling the conch of rebellion louder than before, shrieking at the blindfolded leadership to open its eyes. Murmurs from the G-23 kitchen reveals that the group wants the present leadership, who ruled the party for decades, to step aside and pave the way for a more creative, diplomatic, accommodative and open-minded leadership. For them, a last attempt of its revival was possible only, if the Gandhi family withdrew from the key posts and helped the party reestablish its relevance in India's Modi dominated politics. The AAP, with its grand victory in Punjab, has a reinvigorated fertility to gain more seats nationally and accepts to have got enough power to dismantle the Congress. This appears to be possible as Arvind Kejriwal does not come with the baggage of any particular language or region on his back. He can more easily connect with the people of the country than any other regional leaders who are inarticulate beyond the restricted stretch of their local language. There is no denying the fact that the Congress had won multiple elections under the leadership of Sonia Gandhi. But the party began to tremble and stumbled on to the rise of the Modi blitzkrieg in Indian politics in 2014. India's political scenario is changing on a daily basis. My personal understanding about Rahul Gandhi suggests that there is a certain level of innocence that he maintains as a leader, beyond which, he finds it difficult to hold a credible space among the galaxy of leaders cutting across multiple parties. The Congress faced a consistent fall in many key states where the party was once a strong force. States like Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Telangana and West Bengal, where the party once enjoyed a sound political legroom, as inching to 2022, it is facing a terrible existential crisis.

Vituperative of Modi in public, but being unable to show better alternatives, the Congress has probably

M. R. LALU

politically intellectual Shashi Tharoor understands it better than anybody. He finds it not uncomfortable to offer an olive branch of appreciation to the Prime Minister when the government makes any tenable and remarkable achievement in the larger interest of the nation. Calling PM Modi, a "man of tremendous dynamism", Shashi Tharoor was trying to take an out of track approach in the Congress recently. At the same time, he never forgets to question the politically disagreeable policies by the Modi

government. With Priyanka Vadra at the party's helm of affairs of the party in the state of Uttar Pradesh, the Congress had planted 148 women candidates in the election fray, out of which only one could relish the laddu of victory. The political scenario emerging in India is totally unfriendly for the traditional tactics of the grand old party. Its leadership needs to learn new strategies to keep the party relevant in the new dynamics of Indian politics.

The author is a Freelance Journalist / Social Worker, Meppurathu House, Puthusserimala P.O -Ranni, Pathanamthitta District, Kerala State.

# The festive of Colours

The Hindu religion believes there was a devil king named



Hiranyakashyap long ago.He had a

son named prahalad and a sister called Holika. It is believed that the devil king had blessings of Lord

been biting its own

tongue all the time. The

Brahma. This blessings meant no man,

animal or weapon could kill him as he became very arrogant. He ordered his kingdom to worship him in stead of God Vishnu, even not sparing his own son.

Following this, all the people began worshipping him except his son, Prahlad. Prahlad refused to worship his father instead of Lord Vishnu as he was true lover of Lord Vishnu. The disobedience of his son hurt devil king and he planned with his sister to kill prahlad. Holika was blessed by Brahma that fire can't burned her. She made her sit on the fire with her nephew Prahlad on the lap but! Where Holika got burned and Prahlad came out safe. This indicated that he was protected by his Lord Vishnu because of his devotion. From that day people started celebrating HOLI as the victory of good over evil.

Uma Shankar Prasad

People celebrated HOLI with utmost fervour and enthu-

siasm, especially in North India. One day before HOLI people conduct a ritual called "Holika Dahan". In this ritual, people pile heaps of wood in public areas to burn. It symbolises the burning of evil



powers revising the story of Holika and King Hiranyakashyap .The next day is probably the most colourful day in India. People in the morning offer puja to Lord Vishnu and they dress up in white cloths and play with colours. In short Holi spreads love and brother hood. It brings Harmony and Happiness in the country. Holi symbolises the triumph of good over evil. This Colourful festival unites people and removes all sorts of negativity from life.

Uma Shankar Prasad Columnist and Editor Margadarshi Khorda

Following the recommendation of the State Election Commission (SEC), the State Government on Thursday announced paid holiday for their employees to vote during the Urban Election in their respective area.

Revenue Department Secretary Joint Susamarani Devi has written a letter to all Departments, Heads Departments, **RDCs** and Collectors on Thursday.

The General Election to the three Municipal Corporation (Bhubaneswar, Cuttack

Municipalities/NACs will be held on March 24 (Thursday).

The Government em-



ployees who desire to exercise their franchise at a place away from their headquarters on the date of poll may be allowed Special Casual Leave for maximum three days i.e. on the day preceding poll, one day afdate of poll, said Devi.

The leave to be granted will be treated as Special Casual Leave in addition to normal Casual Leave admissible to them during the calendar year, 2022.

The State Government has also declared holiday for the employees of the State Government Offices and Executive Magisterial Courts (except Treasury and Sub-Treasury) on the polling day located within the 109 ULBs in order to enable above such employees to chise.

The Urban Election will be held on March 24 and the result will be declared on March 26.

Over 41 lakh voters are eligible to cast their votes in the Urban poll. About 27 lakh voters, 3,030 booths and 1731 wards are there in 106 Municipalities and NACs while there are 14.26 lakh voters, 168 wards and 1407 booths in three Corporations of Bhubaneswar, Cuttack and Berhampur. G-7 decries Russia's indiscriminate attacks

# Paid Holiday on Poll date SOA founder Prez Bereaved

(Dr.)

Bhubaneswar: Shri- Prof. mati Satyabhama Manojranjan Nayak,



Nayak, mother of Founder President of

Siksha 'O'Anusandhan (SOA) Deemed to be University, passed away here on Thursday.

She was 82. Survived by six sons and three daughters, she was suffering from old age related ailments for the last three years.

Family members and well wishers were

augurated by Chair-

man of Paradip Port,

PL Harnath and Arun

Maheshwari (JMD,

JSW Infrastructure

Ltd) in the presence

of senior officials

from APGENCO,

NTECL, Sembcorp

Energy India Lim-

ited, Chettinad Logis-

The terminal has

berthed its first

Panamax vessel 'MV

Captain P. Egglezos' for loading of ap-

tics etc.

when the end came. Her last rites were performed Swargadwar at Puri. SOA Vice-chancellor Prof. A. K. Mahapatra, Deans, faculty members and senior officials of the university and many prominent persons visited her Kalinga Nagar residence to offer their condo-

tonnes of thermal

coal for Andhra

Pradesh Power De-

velopment Company

JSW Paradip East

Quay Coal Terminal

shall be the prime in-

frastructure facility

for the coastal ther-

mal plant power pro-

ducers of Andhra

Pradesh, Tamil Nadu,

Karnataka etc. to

move coal from

Mahanadi Coalfields

Limited (MCL) to the

Limited.

present near her bed

## JSW Terminal Loads 1.41L tons



and JSW Steel's ini-

tiative has opened up

the opportunities for

the port users to ship

iron ore & pellets in

cape vessels at JSW

PTPL to reduce the

Also, JSW Paradip

East Quay Coal Ter-

minal commenced its

commercial opera-

tions of 30 MTPA

fully mechanized

coal loading facility

at Paradip Port on

March 15, 2022.

logistics cost.

BERLIN: Foreign ministers from the Group of Seven leading economies are calling on Russia to

as "indiscriminate attacks on civilians" by Russian forces including the siege of Mariupol and other

tion of infrastructure, hospitals, theatres and schools.

The G-7 said that "those responsible for

Criminal tional Court.

The group also said it stood ready to further increase the pressure



comply with the In-Justice's order to stop its attack on Ukraine and withdraw its military forces.

In a joint statement, the G-7's top diplomats condemned what they described cities.

President Vladimir Putin of conducting an "unprovoked and shameful war" that has forced millions to flee their homes and resulted in the destrucwar crimes, including of sanctions indiscriminate use of weapons against civilians, will be held responsible" and welcomed work to investigate and gather evidence in this regard, including by the prosecutor of the Interna-

Ukraine and provide further aid to those in need, including the small nation of Moldova. Moldova is offering shelter to the largest group of refugees from Ukraine

## JSW Infrastructure The terminal was inproximately 76,000 Covid-19 death toll three times higher than official records, India has highest excess deaths: Study

SEATTLE, WASH-INGTON: The first peer-reviewed global estimates of excess deaths indicate 18.2 million people may have died because of the Covid-19 pandemic by December 31, 2021. While the official

Bhubaneswar: The

Council of Higher

Secondary Education

(CHSE) on Thursday

announced that the

annual Higher Sec-

ondary (Class-XII)

examination will be

held in offline mode

It is mandatory for all

Class-XII students to

appear for the test,

which will continue

till May 24. More

than 3.2 lakh students

in arts, science, com-

merce and vocational

streams will appear

for the examination.

As the students are

facing difficult situa-

tions due to Covid-19

pandemic, the coun-

cil has adopted a new

format for the Plus II

examination and its

from April 28.

Paradip: The JSW

Paradip Terminal Pri-

vate Limited (JSW

PTPL) loaded the

highest ever of

1,41,200 tonnes of

iron ore in a cape ves-

The cargo was

shipped by JSW Steel

Ltd and this is the

record breaking iron

ore loaded in a single

vessel in Paradip port

since its inception,

the

claimed.

company

sel 'MV Star Lyra'.

death toll due to pact of the panthe pandemic was 5.9 million between January 1. 2020, and December 31, 2021, the new study estimates 18.2 million excess deaths occurred over the same period, suggesting the full im-

demic may have been far greater. Excess deaths – the difference between the number of recorded deaths from all causes and the number expected based on past trends – are a key measure of the true

death toll of the pandemic. While there have been several attempts to estimate excess mortality from Covid-19, most have been limited in geographical scope by the availability of data, said the study published in the Lancet.

## Putin approves bringing 'volunteer' fighters from the Middle East, elsewhere to join Russia's Ukraine offensive



NEW YORK: Rus-President Vladimir Putin has ordered that so-called volunteer fighters should be brought into Ukraine.

Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu said Russia knew of "more than 16,000 countries in the Middle East, many of them from people who he said helped Russia against the Islamic State group, according to a Krem-

lin transcript. They want "to take part in what they con-

sider a liberation movement," Shoigu said, on the side of Russia-backed separatist regions in eastern Ukraine.

Since 2015, Russian forces have backed Syrian President al-Assad Bashar against various

groups opposed to his rule, including Islamic State.

Putin told Shoigu that Russia should help would-be volunteers to "move to the combat zone" and contrasted them with what he called foreign "mercenaries" fighting for Ukraine. evaluation after holding discussion with all stakeholders in-

The council has

ffline exam for Class XII

adopted two schemes



cluding teachers, students and parents, the CHSE said in a statement.

In view of the heatwave condition, the examinations will be held in one sitting starting at 9 am. All practical examinations will be conducted at the higher secondary schoolfor evaluation of marks of the students. Under the first scheme, 20 percent weightage will be given to the marks obtained by a student in the internal examination conducted by the concerned school. For this, out of three internal examinations, two tests where

the student has secured higher marks will be taken into account. Remaining 80 per cent weightage will be given to the final examination to be conducted by the council from April 28.

The council further said it will give 100 percent weightage to the upcoming annual higher secondary examination under the second scheme of evaluation.

Highest of the marks obtained by the student in above two schemes shall be counted as the final mark in that particular paper, informed the CHSE.

# Periodic spurt in terror incidents in JK; forces curb them immediately: CRPF DG

NEW There is "definitely" a periodic spurt in terrorist incidents in Jammu and Kashmir but these are immediately contained by security forces, CRPF director general (DG) Kuldiep Singh said on Thursday.

The months of December and January have been "very good" for security forces and their success rate has been high and there are times when a spurt is seen in terrorist violence.

"There has not been a spurt in terrorist incidents as it was being thought. There have been 2-3 incidents recently and yes, if you feel that these incidents are increasing, then yes definitely there is a spike but this spike has been contained immediately," the DG said.

He was addressing a press conference ahead of the 83rd Raising Day of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) to be celebrated on March 19 in Jammu.

ALSO READ: I take blame for delay in helicopter evacuation operations, says CRPF DG Kuldiep Singh

The about 3.25 lakh personnel strong force was raised under the British rule in 1939 and it iscurrently designated as the lead internal security force of the country with a primary role in anti-Naxal operations and counter-terrorist duties in Kashmir.

On Wednesday, three terrorists have been killed in Jammu and Kashmir and sometime back a

foreign terrorist was killed, he said.

In the case of the killing of an off-duty CRPF jawan in Kashmir, the security forces got into quick action and have arrested the attacker, he

"So, it is a periodic thing....but we undertake quick and immediate action to control such incidents," the DG said. He added that these incidents are "not totally controlled by internal terrorists but from across the border too."

"Instructions for targeting someone in Jammu and Kashmir come from foreign soil too....there are intelligence inputs too. But the situation is not out of hand (in J&K)," Singh said.

He said that after the abrogation of Article 370 that accorded special status to Jammu and Kashmir, incidents of stone pelting have come down to "nil" now and the number of foreign terrorists operating in Kashmir Valley too is very less. According to CRPF data, a total of 175 terrorists have been killed by it in the past year in Jammu and Kashmir, 183 have been apprehended and two have surrendered.

Three CRPF personnel were killed while 61 injured between March 2021 and March 16 this

The DG also said that they are looking at a 'truck scanner" like gadget, called the multimode passive detection system, to detect hidden arms and ammunition in large vehicles. There have been incidents where armed terror-

ists hiding in trucks and four-wheelers have been intercepted at check-posts on roads in Jammu and Kashmir.

CRPF teams will go and see these technologies and gadgets in the US and some other places



where they are working on the ground and if found efficient, the force will procure them, Singh said.NEW There is "definitely" a periodic spurt in terrorist incidents in Jammu and Kashmir but these are immediately contained by security forces, CRPF director general (DG) Kuldiep Singh said on Thursday.

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# NCP: Malik's portfolios to be given 'temporarily' to his cabinet colleagues

MUMBAI: The NCP has decided to "temporarily" give charge of portfolios held by jailed Maharashtra Minister Nawab Malik to his cabinet colleagues from the party, but the ruling coalition partner will not seek his resignation, Water Resources Minister Jayant Patil said on Thursday.

Patil, who is also the NCP's Maharashtra unit president, said the party's decision will be of Malik's portfolios will be declared after the same is informed to the chief minister first. According to sources, the NCP may give the charge of minority affairs portfolio to Housing Development Minister Jitendra Awhad. The charge of the skill development department may go to Rural Development Minister Hasan Mushrif, they added.

Patil said the charge of Malik's guardian



conveyed to Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray who, he added, will take the final call in this regard.

Interacting with media persons here after attending a meeting called by NCP president Sharad Pawar to discuss the issue, Patil maintained the party will not take Malik's resignation as the latter "was arrested in a wrong man-

The meeting took place at Sharad Pawar's residence here. It was attended by Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar, ministers Chhagan Bhujbal and Dilip Walse Patil and party's senior leaders Praful Patel and Sunil Tatkare, besides Patil.

Malik, a senior NCP leader, is a cabinet minister who holds minority affairs and skill development portfolios in the Shiv Sena-led MVA government.

The 62-year-old NCP leader, arrested in late February by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) in connection with an alleged money laundering case, is currently in jail under judicial custody.

Malik, who heads the NCP's Mumbai unit, is also the guardian minister for Parbhani and Gondia districts. "His bail plea was rejected once again (recently). Hence, the charge of his responsibilities (portfolios) will be given to others in the next two to four days. We have decided to make this alternate temporary arrangement until he is available again," Patil said.

He said the details as to who will get charge

ministerships of Parbhani and Gondia will be given to Social Justice Minister Dhananjay Munde and Minister of State for Urban Development Prajakt Tanpure, respectively.

A formal request in this regard will be made to the chief minister, who will take a final call, the NCP minister added.

Patil further said Malik will continue to remain the party's Mumbai unit chief.

However, the party has decided to appoint two working presidents, Narendra Rane and Rakhi Jadhav, in the Mumbai unit in view of the forthcoming civic polls in Mumbai, he added. On BJP leader Devendra Fadnavis's remark in Nagpur that the BJP will win singlehandedly in the 2024 Maharashtra Assembly polls, Patil quipped, "I thank him on behalf of the MVA for saying that the alliance will be in power till 2024.'

He asserted that Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) MLAs will "not break away" and added that the alliance government is "stable and there is no threat to it".

The NCP and the Congress are constituents of the Shiv Sena-led MVA which came to power in November 2019.

Fadnavis, a former CM, recently created a flutter when he accused the MVA of hatching a conspiracy to target BJP leaders and submitted a pen drive "as proof" to the Deputy Assembly Speaker. Asked about the claim made by the Leader of Opposition in the Assembly, Patil said authenticity of the content in the pen drive needs to be verified.



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# Govt appoints ex-financial services secretary Debasish Panda as IRDAI chief

NEW DELHI: The government on Friday appointed former financial services secretary Debasish Panda as chairman of the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of Infollowing Subhash Chandra Khuntia completing his term in May last year.

In April 2021, the finance ministry had invited applications to replace Khuntia. As per the procedure secretary looking after insurance and financial inclusion division.

He was also the government nominee director on board of IRDAI and served on the boards of some (AIIMS), New Delhi. IRDAI is entrusted with the task of protecting the interest of insurance policyholders and bringing about speedy and orderly growth of the insurance industry



dia (IRDAI). The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved Panda's appointment as chairperson of the insurance regulator initially for a period of three years from the assumption of charge, sources said. Panda, a 1987-batch IAS officer of the Uttar Pradesh cadre. retired as financial services secretary in January this year after a two-year stint. The appointment of IRDAI chairman comes nearly 9

for the appointment of regulators, the name is suggested by the Financial Sector Regulatory Appointments Search Committee (FSRASC) headed by the Cabinet Secretary.

Based on interaction with eligible candidates, FSRASC recommends the name to the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet, headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, for its final approval.

Prior to elevation as financial services public sector banks and insurance compa-

Panda was also on the board of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). During his stint in Uttar Pradesh, he was Principal Secretary, Home and Agriculture and Cooperation, Resident Commissioner and CEO of Greater Noida Authority.

Panda also served as joint secretary in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and Deputy Director (Administration), All

(including annuity and superannuation accelerating for growth of economy.

It also helps promote fairness, transparency and orderly conduct in financial markets dealing with insurance and build a reliable management information system to enforce high standards of financial

### payments), for the benefit of the common man and to provide long term funds

months after the va- secretary, Panda India Institute of soundness among cancy was created served as additional Medical Sciences market players. LIC gets market regulator SEBI's approval for IPO



MUMBAI: The market regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has approved the initial public offering proposal of the Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC), sources said on

Wednesday.

The SEBI's approval came 22 days after the government-run LIC filed a draft paper for the IPO.

LIC had filed the Draft Red Herring Prospectus (DRHP) with the market

regulator SEBI on February 12.

Sources said the SEBI has issued the observation letter to the Life Insurance Corporation of India for the IPO. This is one of the fastest approvals given by the market regulator for an IPO.

As per the DRHP, up 31,62,49,885 (31.62 crore) equity shares will be on offer through the offer for sale (OFS), representing 5 per cent of the equity stake of Life Insurance Corporation of India.

## Investors' wealth jumps over Rs 10.83 lakh crore in three days

NEW DELHI: Equity investors have become richer by over Rs 10.83 lakh crore as stocks extended their rising streak for the third consecutive session on Thursday. The 30-share BSE benchmark Sensex soared 817.06 points or 1.50 per cent to close at 55,464.39. In three days, the benchmark has gained 2,621.64 points. Tracking the ongoing rally in equities, the market capitalisation of BSElisted companies jumped by Rs 10,83,103.27 crore in three sessions to stand at Rs 2,51,93,934.31 crore. "Markets today were driven majorly by election results across various states. Today post markets Russia-Ukraine are to hold talks which will have major effect on markets tomorrow," said Rahul Sharma from Equity 99. From the 30share Sensex pack, Hindustan Unilever Limited, Tata Steel, SBI, IndusInd Bank, Axis Bank, Bajaj Finserv, Nestle and Maruti Suzuki India were the biggest gainers on Thursday, jumping up to 5.17 per cent. In contrast, Tech Mahindra, Dr Reddy's

### After G-23 meeting, Rahul Gandhi meets Congress veteran Bhupinder Singh Hooda

Laboratories and Tata Consultancy Services

Continued from page-1

were learnt to have discussed "concrete proposals", the details of which were not immediately known, to strengthen the Congress.

The G-23 had made a strong pitch for "collective leadership" at its meeting here on Wednesday.

Deputy Leader of the Congress in Rajya Sabha and another G-23 leader Anand Sharma also joined Hooda at Azad's residence where they discussed the outcome of his meeting with Rahul Gandhi.

Later in the evening, Sibal also met Azad at the latter's residence.

The grouping had, in a statement on Wednesday, said the "only way forward for the Congress was to adopt a model of inclusive and collective leadership and decision making at all levels." They insisted they want to strengthen the Congress and "not undermine it in any way."

Rahul Gandhi's meeting with Hooda is significant in the context of the G-23 statement and the telephonic conversation Azad had with Sonia Gandhi on Wednesday. Sonia Gandhi had reached out to Azad ahead of the G-23 meeting. Sources said Azad is likely to meet Sonia Gandhi with the proposals soon and make a case for course correction in the party.

### Yogi's swearing-in ceremony to be no small affair; BJP to invite 200 VVIPs including Gandhis

Continued from page-1

yet to be finalized, all the prominent opposition leaders, including Sonia Gandhi, Rahul Gandhi, Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, UP's former CM Akhilesh Yadav, SP patriarch Mulayam Singh Yadav and BSP supremo Mayawati, will be invited to the swearing-in ceremony. Along with this, the Chief Ministers of BJP-ruled states are also likely to attend the extravagant

In the recently concluded Uttar Pradesh State Assembly elections, the BJP and allies created history by romping home with a two-third majority winning 273 seats for a second consecutive term after 37 years in the history of the state polity. The Congress had returned to power with a majority in the state 37 years

After this, chief minister Yogi Adityanath has not just made history by completing five successful years of governance but by also returning to power with a thumping majority. He has become the first such BJP leader to become the CM for the second consecutive term. While the Bharatiya Janata Party won 255 of the 376 seats it had contested, its allies Apna Dal (Sonelal) and NISAHD Party won 12 of 17 and 6 of 10 seats, respectively. The Samajwadi Party won 111 of the 346 seats it had contested on. SP allies including Rashtriya Lok Dal won 8 seats and Suheldev Bharatiya Samaj Party won six seats. The Congress and BSP faced the worst rout. While Congress could win just two seats with 2.3 per cent vote share, BSP came down to just one seat with a vote share of 12 per cent from 19 seats and 22 per cent vote share it had got in 2017. Apart from this, Raghuraj Pratap Singh's Jansatta Dal Loktantrik has captured two seats.

were the laggards. "Indian bourses started off with huge gains amid a volatile trading session as participants had their eyes on state election results. The trend...(shows) BJP as clear winners in 4 out of 5 state elections. All the sectoral indices ended in the green," said Harsh Parekh, Technical Analyst, Bonanza Portfolio. In the broader market, the BSE smallcap and midcap indices jumped up to 1.18 per cent. All BSE sectoral indices settled in the green, with FMCG, realty, metal and bank emerging as the lead gainers. Meanwhile, international oil benchmark Brent crude jumped 5.11 per cent to USD 116.8 a barrel. "Markets inched higher for the third successive session and gained over 1.5 per cent, tracking favourable cues. Positive global sentiment led to the gap-up opening in the benchmark. As the day progressed, sentiments were boosted as the state elections outcome so far indicated a clear majority to the BJP in 4 states out of 5, showing political stability," according to Ajit Mishra, VP - Research, Religare Broking Ltd.

### Australia is partner country in Bengal **Global Business Summit 2022**

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Agreement, known as CECA. The CECA will open new opportunities and deliver commercial benefits for Australian and Indian business. The IACC and its members can make helpful contributions to ensure the benefits of CECA for businesses are understood, supported and promoted. Government alone cannot grow the trade and business relationship between Australia and India. Business people and entrepreneurs such as IACC members can use their knowledge and networks to build the trade and investment and practical cooperation between our countries.".

Speaking at the event, Australian Consul-General in Kolkata, Ms. Rowan Ainsworth said "This launch marks not only a new chapter for the IACC, but a new chapter in business relations between Australia and India. Australia is pleased to be a partner country for the Bengal Global Business Summit, and so excited to be working with the IACC on this endeavour. Australia-India relations have never been stronger!" India was represented by Janab Firhad Hakim, Minister in Charge, Urban Development & Municipal Affairs, Department, Transport and Housing Department, Government of West Bengal & Mayor of Kolkata, Smt. Vandana Yadav IAS, Managing Director, WBIDC and Secretary, Department of Industry, Commerce & Enterprise, Government of West Bengal and Shri Rajesh Pandey IAS, Principal Secretary, Department of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises and Textiles, Government of West Bengal Some of the Australian companies operating in eastern & North eastern India are MD Mineral Technologies, SMEC India Pvt Ltd , Tata BlueScope Steel, Orica (Indian Explosives Pvt Ltd), Worley India.

IACC Eastern India chapter will be involved in multi- sectoral trade promotion in eastern and north eastern Indian states of West Bengal, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Odisha, Sikkim and Tripura.

### Miller-CSO nexus turns paddy purchase a farce

Continued from page-1

custom milling. Sources said with the Secretary of the department being the final authority, the CSOs act according to his instruction. Nirakar Senapati, a farmer of Musang village of Tihidi block in Bhadrak district, could not sell his 75 quintal of paddy as his token lapsed. "I am least concerned about the system or issue of MAS/SAS. The government is bound to procure as I have received a token issued by the Food Supplies department," he said. Faced with a similar situation, Binay Pradhan of Basantpur village under Narsingpur block of Cuttack district said it is a vicious circle. All functionaries and officials concerned are hand-in-glove.

The State Cabinet has decided that the government will procure whatever paddy comes to the mandi from registered farmers. The government has procured 55.74 lakh tonne till March 14 as against a target of 63 lakh tonne of kharif paddy. In most of the places in coastal districts, the window for procurement has been closed with circulation of fake news that the government has reduced the procurement target. The State government has fixed a tentative target to procure 77 lakh tonne paddy in the 2021-22 kharif marketing season. Announcing the food procurement policy, Chief Secretary Suresh Chandra Mohapatra had said that there is no bar on procurement of any higher quantum if more paddy comes to the mandis from registered farmers.

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# Manchester United midfielder Paul Pogba reveals burglary 'nightmare'



LONDON: Manch-United ester midfielder Paul Pogba has revealed his house was burgled during his club's Champions League defeat against Atletico Madrid while his children were asleep in their bedroom.

Pogba discovered that he had been burgled just minutes after United lost 1-0 to Atletico in the last 16 second leg on Tuesday, crashing out of the competition 2-1 on aggregate.

The France World

played as a second half substitute against Atletico, was stunned to learn of the breakin, which happened while his wife Maria Zulay Salaues was at Old Trafford watch-

ing the match.

"Last night our family's worst nightmare was realised when our home was broken into and burglarised while our babies were sleeping in their bedroom," he wrote on Twitter on Wednesday.

"The burglars were in our home for less than five minutes but Cup winner, who in that time they took one ever has to feel glary.

from us something more valuable than anything we had in our home... our sense of safety and security. "This occurred during the final minutes of last night's match when they knew that we would not be home.

"My wife and I rushed home not knowing if our children were safe and unharmed.

"As a father there is no feeling worse in this world than not being there to protect your children and I sincerely hope that no

what I felt last night. "It is for this reason that I would like to offer a reward for anyone who has a clue to help us."

Pogba's United teammate Victor Lindelof was the victim of what he described as a "very traumatic" break-in at his house as he played against Brentford in January. Swedish The defender's home was targeted while he was in London, forcing his wife to lock herself and their two children in a room for safety during the bur-

## Weight of captaincy removed, a stress free Virat Kohli could be dangerous news for opposition: Glenn Maxwell

Kohli nowadays been pleasantly sur- actually enjoy the this year is he's been looks "stress free" without the burden of captaincy weighing him down, a dangerous sign for the opposition teams in the

prising.

"He knows he's handing the captaincy over, which I think is potentially a big burden for him. It might next few years of his career without any of that sort of external pressure. I think playing against him in earlier days, he was a

NEW DELHI: Virat to be and that has to be relaxed a bit and ticed more from him really measured with his emotions. He's actually been really measured with his decision-making. He's certainly really



upcoming IPL, feels Royal Challengers Bangalore teammate Glenn Maxwell.

Kohli, who relinquished RCB captaincy after last year's IPL, has also resigned from T20 and Test captaincy while being removed from ODI leadership role.

Maxwll feels that Kohli now is no longer the "in-your face" aggressive cricketer that he used have been something that's been weighing him down for a while and now that he's been able to release it, it might be dangerous news for opposition teams," Maxwell told RCB Podcast.

The flamboyant Australian is happy that Kohli is in that phase when he would actually be enjoying being out there in thick of things. "It is amazing for him fiery competitor, getting in your face. He's always trying to impose himself on the game. Impose himself on the opposition."

The Australian allrounder is loving the cricketing conversations he is having with Kohli and is himself surprised that the former India skipper has become a close friend.

"Something I've no-

surprised me and probably how close we've both gotten to each other as well this year. Being able to talk about the game in a calm manner," Maxwell said.

"Because you do see that over-excited, in your face style when you play against him. But to play with him and have really good conversations about the game, I've really enjoyed that."

### Rafael Nadal shakes off foot trouble, looks toward Kyrgios clash at Indian Wells

INDIAN WELLS: Rafael Nadal needed all he had to fend off Reilly Opelka at the ATP Indian Wells Masters, and he doesn't expect an easier ride from longtime rival Nick Kyrgios in the

Kyrgios and Nadal have endured a sometimes bitter relationship on court.

In 2019, Nadal accused the Australian of "lacking respect" after Kyrgios won a stormy encoun-

Kyrgios responded by claiming the Spanish world number two was "super-salty".
They met again at Wimbledon that year, when

Nadal won but fumed after the Australian appeared to spear a ball directly at him.

In all they've met eight times, with Nadal coming out on top in five of those encounters.

"Nick is difficult in any conditions, no?" Nadal said Wednesday after booking the last-eight match-up with a 7-6 (7/3), 7-6 ( $\overline{7}/5$ ) victory over

"When he's playing well and when he's excited and motivated he's one of the toughest opponents without a doubt.'

Nadal battled two-plus hours to get past Opelka, the towering 2.11m self-described "servebot" who peppered the 21-time Grand Slam champion with serves routinely topping 140mph.

Kyrgios, meanwhile, advanced by a walkover when Jannik Sinner withdrew because of illness. In addition to being less rested for Thursday's afternoon clash, Nadal acknowledged that he is feeling the left foot injury that brought his 2021 season to a premature end.

"I felt my foot a little bit on the second set," he said. "I was able to keep going, keep running til the end.

"(But) I am not in the moment to lie or to hide things ... today was a little bit worse than other days. Something can happen, we know that." Nadal, who won a record-setting 21st Grand Slam title at the Australian Open in January and lifted the trophy in Acapulco last month, has now stretched his career-best season start to 18-

Whether he captures a fourth Indian Wells title or not, he has already opted out of next week's



Miami Open, saying he'll take some time off and then start preparing for the claycourt sea-

In the meantime, Nadal said, he prefers to focus not on his foot but on his next opponent, in this case Kyrgios.

"I am not thinking about the foot much," he said."I am just thinking about my tennis and my next opponent. If something happens, we need to accept it.

'Tomorrow going to be a tough match, but we are in quarter-finals of Indian Wells, Masters 1000. We can't expect another thing, no?"

Kyrgios, 26 and currently ranked 132nd in the world, is in the sixth Masters level quarter-final of his career and his first since Cincinnati in

He is playing is first tournament since capturing the 2022 Australian Open Men's doubles title in January with fellow Aussie Thanasi Kokkinakis.

The mercurial Australian has yet to drop a set this week, and toppled eighth-seeded Norwegian Casper Ruud 6-4, 6-4 in the third round.

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