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# THE KALINGA CHRONICLE

28 MARCH, 2022

**MONDAY** 

(Air Surchange - 0.50P)

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### **CONCERN FOR CALCUTTA**

## Appeal to keep city Clean and use dust bins

Kolkata (KCN):Concern for Calcutta and Rotary Club of Calcutta Metropolitan organised a campaign for protection of



environment on Sunday at Jadu Babu Bazar, Kolkata. Speaking as Chief Guest on the occasion Ashim Kumar Bose, Local Councillor, Kolkata Municipal Corporation appealed to public to use dustbins to put garbage instead of throwing it here and there. He also appreciated the efforts of Concern for Calcutta for continued campaign against use of plastic carry bags for shopping. Ramakant Burman and Narayan Jain advised people to use Cloth Bags for Shopping to save drainage and environment. Mamta Binani, President, Concern for Calcutta; appreciated SR Singhvi for sponsoring the dustbins and also admired RK Burman of Greentech Environ Management for providing Cloth bags. Dr. Somen Ghosh, President, Rotary Club of Calcutta Metropolitan, and KS Adhikari, Chairman CC Environment Committee, Past President BG Roy also spoke on the occasion. The NGOs also distributed the Big garbage bins to Tea Shops and Eateries so that garbage is not spread on the roads. Sumit Roy sang a nice song on Kolkata which all appreciated. On this occasion Pawan Paharia, Deepak Jain (both past Presidents), Sharat Jhunjhunwala (Vice President), Mahesh Sonthalia, JK Sharma, Pratibha Kothari, Arundhati Mukuhkerjee, Dr Dipankar Adhya, Bidyut Poddar, Bibhas Maiti, AC Baid, Prithpal Singh, Santosh Harlalka, Ramesh Sheth, Bibhas Maiti, Jagat Baid, JK Sharma, Sonali



Dey, Subhra Jyoti Ghosh, BC Surana, Santanu Pal, Narendra Tulsian, Pradyot Banerjeeand others actively supported for the success of the campaign. Lekha Sharna, Secretary of Concern for Calcutta thanked all.

realized "he can't structure and pit it

## Sarat pattnaik mourns the death of former minister Ripunath seth Bhubaneswar (KCN): Former minister and

Bijepur MLA Ripunath seth died of a heart attack in a private hospital in Bargarh. He



was 67. He was elected to Odisha assembly from Bijepur constituency of Bargarh district in 1995 and served as the school and Mass education, energy, sports minister during congress government from 1995 to 2000. Former PCC president and Bolangir MP Sarat Pattnaik has expressed his his deepest condolences to the bereaved family and prayed peace for the departed soul.

### Congress disrupts question hour over rising crime in Odisha

BHUBANESWAR(K-CN):: The Assembly on Saturday witnessed noisy scenes during question hour as Congress members disrupted proceedings over the deteriorating law and order situation in the State, forcing

ernment official to the strongroom at BJB college where the EVMs of the urban local body elections were kept and burning of a strongroom in Navagarh should also be taken up for discussion.



Surjya Speaker Narayan Patro to adjourn the House.

Congress members demanded a discussion on the law and order situation as soon as the House assembled for the day for the question hour. They also demanded that the entry of a gov-

They trooped into the well and disrupted proceedings when the Speaker did not listen to their demands. Patro adjourned the House from 10.32 am to 11.30 am. The guestion hour was washed out as the Congress members continued

**CONTINUED ON: P-7** 

### SACRED THRED CEREMONY

**OF RUDRANSHU(TUTUN)** 



Venue: Khasjaga Kalyaan Mandap Harachandi Sahi Near Jameswar Temple

> **PURI** Date: 28/03/2022 Time: 1PM Onwards \*All are cordially invited\*

### lauds Rah

New Delhi(KCN): Prime Minister Narendra Modi heaped praise for an Odia youth from Puri district for his initiative and efforts to clean plastic garbage from the sea shore. Prime Minister mentioned name of Rahul Maharana while addressing the 'Mann Ki



Baat' programme. He cited the young man's work who works as a security guard after completing his graduation.

"There is another Swachhagrahi – Rahul Maharana of Puri in Orissa. Rahul goes to the pilgrimage sites in Puri early in the morning every Sunday, and clears the plastic garbage there. He has cleaned hundreds of kilos of plastic garbage and dirt so far," Mr. Modi said. The Prime Minister also named Chandrakishore of Nashik for the similar voluntary works. "Be it Rahul of Puri or Chandrakishore of Nashik, they teach us a lot. As citizens, we must carry out our duties, whether it is cleanliness, nutrition or vaccination... all these efforts also help us in staying healthy," he said. Elated over his name being mentioned by the Prime Minister, Rahul said he has taken up the plastic garbage clear work on his own and spends money from pocket without help from any organization or person. CONTINUED ON: P-7

### Ukraine intel: Russia may try to split country

Ukraine's military in- in remarks released

KYIV(KCN): Kyrylo Budanov said



telligence chief says that Russia could try to break Ukraine in two.

by the Defense Ministry on Sunday that Russian President Vladimir Putin has swallow the entire country" and would likely try to split the country under "the Korean scenario." That's a reference to the decades-old division between North and South Korea.

Budanov said that "the occupiers will try to pull the occupied territories into a single quasi-state Russia's attempts.

against independent Ukraine." He pointed to Russian attempts to set up parallel government structures in occupied cities and to bar people from using the Ukrainian currency, the hryvnia. Budanov predicted

that Ukrainian resistance will grow into a "total" guerrilla warfare, derailing

## ood Wishes Pour for B

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Governing BJD received good wishes from various quarters for having ensured a Development Commissioner Pradeep Jena, ACS Revenue, Satyabrata Sahu, ACS Water Re-

Principal Secretary Energy, Nikunja Dhal, WCD Secretary Bhaskar Jyoti Sarma, Textile Secre-

Priyadarshi, DIG Intelligence, Anup Kumar Sahoo and others. Thanking the officers for the goodwill ges-



landslide victory in the both Rural and Urban Polls held recently.

Chief Secretary, DGP, many senior officers, state government service associations Sunday met Minister Chief Naveen Patnaik and congratulated him over the "Spectacular Victory" in the twin polls.

The senior officers who met Chief Minister include Chief Secretary Suresh Chandra Mohapatra,

sources, Anu Garg, Principal Secretary Finance, Vishal Dev, Principal Secretary Food Supply and

tary, Subha Sarma and others.

Top Cops led by DG of Police SK Bansal, Director Intelligence.

ter asked them to work with more commitment for the development progress of the state. While State election Commission nounced Urban Poll results on Saturday reveals that BJD candidates won 76 posts of Chairpersons and

ture, the Chief Minis-



Consumer Welfare, V V Yadav, Principal Secretary Housing & Urban Development, G Mathivathnan,

Lalit Das, ADG RK Sharma, ADG Crime Sanjeeb Branch Panda, Police Commissioner SK

Mayors of the 108 Urban Local Bodies elections, the regional party has se **CONTINUED ON: P-7** 

## Pratap Jena 'Lucky Charm'

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Among the reasons which are attributed for BJD's historical success in the recently concluded local body elections both in rural and urban areas include popularity of Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik, robust organizational strength and well-oiled election machinery of the ruling dispensation and pro-people schemes targeting the rural and urban poor voters.

The man who engineered effective implementation of popular various schemes on the ground is Pratap Jena, who is currently heading both the crucial departments- the Panchayati Raj and

the Housing and Urban Development. Mr.Jena was assisted by an able team of senior bureaucrats and officials from the block to panchayat

Successful implementation of the schemes not only installed a sense of confidence among the

rural and urban poor, but it also helped to beat the anti-incumbency factor.

Mr.Jena, for some people in BJD, is also the "lucky charm" to head both the departments administering the Panchayati Raj institutions and Urban Local Bodies as the recent results are also the first for BJD since its inception on 26 December, 1997.

> The party has won 90% of zilla parishad seats, formed zilla parishads in all 30 districts, captured almost 90% of panchayat samitis in the panchayat polls while it also registered victory in around 90% of civic bodies, which it-

self a record for any political party in Odisha. Though Mr.Jena considers Naveen Patnaik as the only factor behind BJD's massive success as people repose their faith on his leadership, the Minister said as the State Government goes extra mile to ensure that CONTINUED ON: P-7

## Novel Prabasi released

Bhubaneswar (KCN): Taking the sorrow and sufferings and happiness of the odia families stayed outside of the country during the divi-



sion in 1947, the novel "PRABASI" written by Former D.G of Police, Eminent Administrator & Writer Shri Sarat Chandra Mishra is released. In a glittering ceremony arranged for the purpose presided by Shri Niranjan Rath, President, Loka Sevak Mandal, Odisha Branch at the Conference Hall of D.A.V. School of Business Management, Unit-8, Bhubaneswar, the book was released in the presence of the founder and president of Sarala Sahitya Sansad Er. Pravakar Swain, Eminent Speaker Shri Deba Prasad Das and the proprietor of the publisher of the book, Shri Lalit Mohan Pattnayak of Sudhanya Prakashani attended as the Guests of the honour. This book is the seventh creation of Shri Mishra reflected the life history of the some odia families stayed outside of the country during his visit to Silet district of Bangladesh while posted as the Counsellor of Indian High Commissioner at Dhaka. During the occasion, eminent literati Shri Santanu Kumar Acharya and Dr. Naba Kishore Mishra were felicitated. Among others the Regional Director of DAV Institutions, Dr. K. C. Satapathy, Asst. Regional Officer, Dr. (Ms.) Sujata, Eminent Administrator Shri Madan Mohan Panda, Shri Amarendra Mishra, Shri Nihar Ranjan Hota, Shri Arun Kumar Rath, Devi Prasanna Pattanayak, Eminent literati Smt. Manasi Das, the wife of the writer and spiritual guru Smt. Prativa Mishra, Heads of the different DAV institutions of Odisha, eminent writers were present on the occasion. To note, Shri Mishra has published many novels, life history, book review and stories among which the Dream, Kalahandi and the Rain God, Sonar Bangla etc. were very renowned. Written in the common language of the people will be appreciated, said the learned peoples present on the occasion. The entire programme



was organised under the direct leadership of Dr. D. N. Mishra, Principal, D.A.V. School of Business Management, Unit-8, Bhubaneswar.

## Odisha Gets New Sainik School

New Delhi(KCN): Odisha gets a new Sainik School with the Ministry of Defence (MoD) has approved setting up of such a School in Dhenkanal in partnership with private school. The new Sainik School will be set up in partnership with the Sanskar Public School (Abakash Foundation), sources said.

The Ministry has approved a total of 21 new



Sainik Schools including the one in Odisha, in partnership with NGOs, Private schools and State Governments.

These schools will be set up in the initial round of the Government's initiative of setting up of 100 new Sainik schools across the country in partnership mode. They will be distinct from the existing Sainik Schools, the Ministry said in a statement on Saturday.

The objectives behind setting up of 100 new Sainik Schools is to provide quality education to the students in tune with National Education Policy and give them better career opportunities, including joining the Armed

It also gives an opportunity to the private sector to work hand-in-hand with the Government towards nation building by refining today's youth to become responsible citizens of tomorrow, the ministry said.

Out of the total news approved schools, 17 of these schools are Brownfield running schools and 4 are Greenfield schools to be operational shortly.

While NGOs, Trusts and Societies have a share of 12 approved new schools, 6 private Schools and 3 State Government owned schools find place in the list of such approved new Sainik

Unlike existing Sainik Schools which are purely residential in nature, 7 new Sainik Schools are Day School and 14 such new approved schools have residential arrangements. These new Sainik Schools, besides their affiliation to respective education boards, will function under the aegis of Sainik Schools Society and will follow the Rules and Regulations for new Sainik schools in partnership mode prescribed by the Society.

In addition to their regular affiliated board curriculum, they will also impart education of Academic PLUS curriculum to the students of Sainik school pattern. Details pertaining to the modalities of operation of these schools available

www.sainikschool.ncog.gov.in. Willing students and parents are invited to visit the web portal and take advantage of this novel opportunity.

The admission into the new Sainik School pattern in these schools will be at class VI level only on the following lines.

At least 40 percent of intake in class VI will be from candidates who have qualified the All-India Sainik School Entrance Examination conducted by NTA through E-Counselling. Upto 60 percent intake will be from students enrolled in the same school and desirous of taking admission under this vertical of new Sainik Schools through a qualifying test, notification for which will be issued separately.

## Odisha civic polls: 110 sensitive booths in Bhubaneswar

BHUBANESWAR(KCN): Around 7.25 lakh voters will exercise their franchise in the elections to Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC) to decide the fate of 12 mayor candidates and 289 corporator candidates in 67 wards. The State Election Commission has stressed on security arrangements at 110 sensitive booths identified in the city and its periphery. According to Commissionerate Police, out of 705 booths where polling will take place, around 15 per cent are sensitive booths where security arrangements have been tightened.

Following the pre-poll violence in Laxmisagar, security measures have been beefed up in some of the polling stations in wards 32 and 33. Apart from 30 platoons police force and 55 mobile patrolling units, around 500 additional police personnel will be deployed in the city to maintain law and order. Sulochana Das is the Mayor face of BJD, while Suniti Mund is contesting for the post for BJP. Congress has fielded Madhushmita Acharya. Meanwhile, the Khurda administration announced closure of all educational institutions in the district on Thursday.

### Swachata Abhiyan of Utkal Vikash Parisad at Kishorenagar

Cuttack Sadar (KCN) : Cuttack Sadar based leading organization Utkal Vikash Parisad Sahoo, Mantu Samal, Soumya Ranjan Behera, Subhakanta



(UVP) done clean with sanitization of Kishorenagar Jagarajatra field in front of tahasila and made Awareness to the public. UVP team Dipak Kumar Samal, Manoj Behera, Jamini Mohan

Sethi, Sanjaya Bhoi, Sania Bhoi and all present and clean the entire field. UVP president Social Worker Er. Prakash Chandra Sethi gave thanks to all members for their good seba work.

#### BJD Wins Khordha Municipality Chairman Seat Khordha (KCN): The ruling Party Biju Janta Dal (BJD) has win the Chairman post of Khordha



Municipality as its candidate Mrs. Kanaka Lakshmi Mohanty won the seat. Mrs. Mohanty won the seat with margin of 852 votes. She has been elected as Chairman of Khordha Municipality defeating her opposition candidate from BJP Mrs. Kunilata Swain and Congress Mrs. Binodini Mohapatra. Out of the total 22 ward's in Khordha Municipality BJD won-13 wards,BJP -4 ward's and Independent Candidate won-5 wards. During polling on Thursday Khordha municipality witnessed a turnout of 67.42 percent. "The mandates in Khordha municipality prove that the BJD led by Chief Minister Naveen Pattnaik is still going strong and the people have faith on the state government "

## ??starting a prepaid MLA Khordha Joytrindra Nath Mitra, Said.

Bhubaneswar(KCN): The Governing Biju Janata Dal (BJD) headed by Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has made a landslide victory in the Urban Election, for which results were declared on

municipal corporations—Bhubaneswar, Cuttack Berhampur. BJP remained in second position by winning 16 chairperson seats,

Congress in 7 and independent candidates

capital city. However, Congress candidate Madhusmita Acharya was able to get only 11,006 votes and remained in third position in the race. BJD's Similarly, mayor candidate for candidate C Priyanka secured third position with 7,453 votes while Congress nominee Manju Rath remained in fourth position with 6,768 votes.

Thanking the people for re-imposing faith



Saturday.

The election for 109 ULBs was held on March 24. The results of 105 municipalities/ notified area councils (NACs) and three municipal corporations of Bhubaneswar, Cuttack and Berhampur were declared by the State **Election Commission** (SEC). However, the counting of votes of Dhamnagar NAC was halted due to some reason, sources said. The BJD has won chairperson seats in 73 municipalities and NACs and crucial mayor seats in all three

in nine. The regional party

won the mayor seats in Bhubaneswar Munici-Corporation pal (BMC), Cuttack Municipal Corporation (CMC) Berhampur Municipal Corporation (BeMC). All three BJD mayoral candidates won the seats with a comfortable margin.

candidate BJD Sulochana Das won the election from the contesting BJP candidate Suniti Mund with a margin of 61,143 votes and became first woman mayor of the

Cuttack, Subash Chandra Singh won the poll with a huge margin of over 45,206 votes from contesting Congress nominee Giribala Behera. In the millennium city, BJP candidate Sritam Das has remained in third position with 49,223 votes.

The BJD mayor nominee for BeMC, Sanghamitra Dalei too won the election with a margin of 20,286 votes from contesting BJP candidate Sabita Suar. In Berhampur city, Aam Aadmi Party (AAP)

in his party, BJD President Naveen Patnaik, in a tweet, said, "Thank all the people of #Odisha for the overwhelming support #OdishaMunicipalElection. The win is a reflection of the outpouring of love for @bjd\_odisha and the untiring effort of thousands of party  $w \circ r k e r s$ . #OdishaLovesBJD" He also congratulated all winning BJD candidates and appreciated the hard work of party workers.

### Inspection by Railway officials and Rourkela administration signs for initiating works soon- Amitabh Samal

Rourkela (KCN): Rourkela Municipal Corporation Commissioner Shubhankar Mohapatra, Deputy Commissioner

cluding Chief Com-

mercial Inspector

Rakesh Kumar Roy,

Deputy SS Commer-

Kamlesh Gagrai, CA

I R Rourkela Arvind

Kumar, Station Su-

perintendent AK

Mishra on behalf of

the railways of

Amitabh Samal, so-

cial worker and Presi-

dent of Rourkela

Jagran Manch and

member of Rourkela

Railway Consultive

Committee, jointly

inspected various

progressive works on

Saturday. There was

talk of starting the

road work from the

old taxi stand to the

railway station road

soon. The idea of

Rourkela

cial

Rourkela

auto at the railway station was considered. Let us remind you that in the past, through a letter by social worker Amitabh Samal, a re-



quest was made for various progressive works. It was said that PWD road project work should be started from Basanti Colony (malgodam) to BSNL office via Railway Colony, including completion of road work from old taxi stand to railway station road, starting prepaid auto at railway station, transfer of electricity (Which is near RPF office), Bisra Chowk to Rourkela Station Road work. It was also requested to arrange a meeting between RMC and Railway Administration for progress. In the inspection held on Saturday, it was said to expedite the works.

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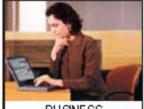
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## Signing 'Indian 2' has been a step up in my career, says Kaja



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

her over a decadelong career.

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

"I'm really thrilled to be part of

the project. I'm quite excited about my role and the skills I will get to learn on the job. I see signing 'Indian 2' as a step up in my career," Kajal told IANS along the sidelines of the launch of beverage brand 7Up's new campaign, 7Up Ponneram.

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

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

Talking about what excited her most about the association with 7Up, Kajal said: "It's a brand a lot of us can easily identify and relate with. I like the fact that it's a very clear beverage. It's also a drink that lets you take a step back and chill. I treat success or failure by taking a step back and I believe it gives you a

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

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

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

## From 2.0 to Raazi, top 10 Indian movies based on worldwide gross

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

declared as 'double blockbuster' film. The movie showed the different phases of the controversial

ing Rs 293 crore. 4. Race 3:

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

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

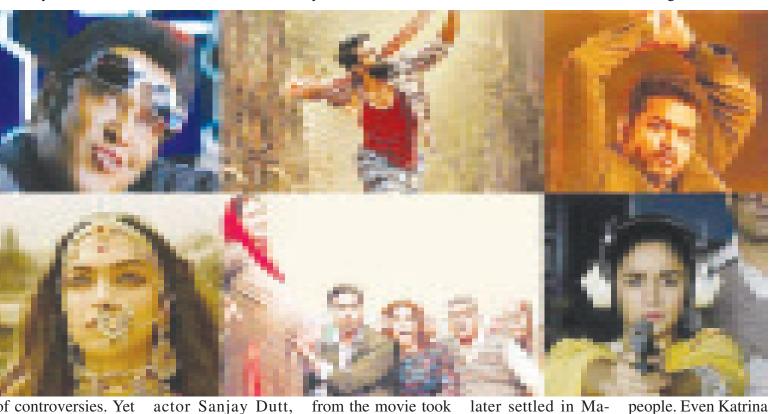
ceived hilarious reactions on social media as well. Later, Aamir Khan apologised for failing to entertain

but it leaves you with a thought to ponder. 9. Rangasthalam: With the right

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

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

budget of Rs 30 crore. It's been a great year for Indian cinema which took us on a journey of emotions, from laughter to tears, sometimes of joy. Though a lot of films didn't make it to this list, good films silently made it into the hearts of the au-



of controversies. Yet some movies shined amid the storm.

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

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

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

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

Initially scheduled to be released in 2017, the movie was caught in a row of controversies and finally got released early this year in January. Set in medieval Rajasthan, the story revolves around the life of Queen Padmavathi, which drew the flak from right-wing groups. Unlike the claims by the religious fanatics, the movie actually portrayed queen Padmavati in the best light. However, the film's team was asked to remove a few scenes from the movie before its release. Despite the fuss, the movie became a blockbuster at the box office, earnfrom the movie took the internet by storm and hundreds of memes were made on it. Based on relationship and royalties, this is the first film in the series that Salman Khan was a part of. Race 3 was critically panned and failed to do the expected business. But inspite of being a flop, it managed to mint Rs 166 crore in the box office.

5. Sarkar:

Sarkar's plot is about a successful businessman from the USA coming to India to cast his vote on election day. To his shock, he finds out that his vote has already been cast by someone else. So he decides to take up a political battle against the miscreants and how he survives the race makes the rest of the story. Directed by AR Murugadoss, the movie got into a huge and was criticised by the ruling Tamil Nadu government for allegedly misrepresenting AIADMK's late leader J Jayalalithaa later settled in Madras HC. It was much hyped that actor Vijay may begin his political career after this movie. Sarkar was well received by the Tamil audience and it made Rs 151 crore in the box office. 6. Baaghi 2:

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

7. Thugs Hindostan:

The film set in the 18th century earned Rs 130 crore in the box office against the 275 crore budget ending up a huge disaster at the box office despite having strong star cast including Aamir Khan, Amitabh Bachchan, Katrina Kaif. The film re-

#### movie will hurt your belly from laughing dience. Just 'normal' to exclude women in decision making process: Adil Hussain

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

Kaif, Fatima Sana

Shaikh expressed

their disappointment.

nothing but fun!

Made at a 30 crore

budget, the movie be-

came a mega-block-

buster, minting Rs

136 crore in the box

office. This uncon-

ventional story is

about a 25-year-old

man facing embar-

rassment in society as

his mother gets preg-

nant. Watching this

Badhaai Ho is

8. Badhaai Ho:

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

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

## Relevance of Digital Evidence in Income Tax: Part 1

**Introduction:** 

The Income tax department has started Faceless assessments and Faceless appeals as announced by the Hon'ble Prime Minister. Already lost of the



taxpayers are required to furnish their Income Tax Return as well as Tax Audit Reports electronically. The appeal before the CIT (Appeals) is also required to be e-filed. The Notices are issued by Income Tax Department by email and such Notices are

considered as valid service of Notice. In Income tax Search also gathering of Digital evidence is becoming powerful tool for the Income Tax Department in its efforts against tax-evasion.

Digital evidence helps to lay hands on past activity & transactions and also help in gathering evidence of illegal and unlawful activity. However, the steps should be taken to maintain integrity of the data so that digital evidence collected may be admissible in Courts. Digital evidence, which is ephemeral, also poses problems in course of survey, search and seizure. Problems are posed in recovery of deleted data are the challenges which law enforcement agencies tackle with help of experts. Digital evidence are credible evidences similar to paper documents/evidences. As these are of diverse and hi-tech nature and available in different form of software and programmed form, these are generally stored in various digital storage devices like Harddisks, CD & DVD Media, USB Pen-drives, Flash drives, USB i-Pods, USB MP3 players, Floppy Media, Mobile SIM cards, Memory Card as well as internal memory of devices.

- 2. Definition of Books of accounts include books maintained/kept in electronic or digital form[Section 2(12A)] as modified by the Finance Bill, 2022 (as passed by Lok Sabha):
  - Section 2(12A) of Income-tax Act defines the meaning of 'books or books ofaccount'. It includes ledgers, day-books, cash books, account books and other books, whether kept in the written form or as print-outs of data stored in:a) Floppy,b) Disc,
  - c) Tape; ord) In any other form of electromagnetic data storage device.
  - The Finance Bill has amended this definition to include books of accountkept in electronic form or in digital forms as well. This will now cover books of account maintained and stored in software installed on a computer or maintained and stored on a cloud or website. The amended definition is having larger scope now

### 3. What is Digital Evidence:

Digital evidence or Electronic Evidence is any probative information stored or transmitted in digital form that may be used before the Income-tax authorities and Courts. Section 79A of the Information Technology

Technology

(Amendment) Act 2008 defines electronic form of evidence as "any information of probative value that is either stored or transmitted in electronic form and includes computer evidence, digital audio, digital video, cell phones, digital fax

machines" The main characteristics of the

- digital evidences are:
  a) It is latent as fingerprints and DNA
- b) Can transcend national borders with ease and speed
- c) Highly fragile and can be easily altered, damaged or destroyed and also time sensitive. For these reasons, special precautions should be taken to collect, preserve and examine such evidence.
- 4. Relevance of Digital Evidence for the purpose of Income Tax:

As far as Income-tax Act, 1961 is concerned, it has been amended thrice by way of Finance Act, 2001, Finance Act, 2002 and Finance Act, 2009 respectively. By way of first amendment by the Finance Act, 2001, provisions of section 2(12A) was inserted to give legal recognition to the books of account maintained on computer and section 2(22A) was inserted to provide definition of 'document' which now includes- electronic record as defined under Information Technology Act 2000.

Digital Devices:
Sources for Digital Evidences The use of digital devices in day to day life has increased tremendously. Accordingly, we may come across a wide range of the digital evidence which include E-mail word processing documents, data base tables, files saved from accounting programmes, digital photographs, ATM transaction logs, instant message histories, internet browser histories, the contents of computer memory, computer back-up, global positioning system tracks, digital video or sound files, data stored in mobile telephones and the data stored in all types memory storage devices.

For easy understanding, a compilation of various devices and the potential evidences, these devices may contain, is provided below:
a) **Desktop Computer**: The device contains all the files and folders stored including deleted files and information which may not be seen normally. Analysis of key document files like word documents, excel files, email's, tally data may help in unearthing potential evidences. Retrieval of deleted files using Cyber Forensics can help get key evidences that have been destroyed.

b) **Pen Drives**: The pen drive stores many files and may be hidden easily. In many cases the parallel books of accounts maintained as tally data or excel sheets are kept in Pen Drives that can be easily hidden

leadership knows it is frequently biting dust in every

election. Not only with the BJP but its fights against

the regional parties have also been hitting its

prospects hard. The party began to shrink into its

delicate self, unable to withstand the consistent

electoral debacles. It is important for the Congress

leadership to take its last shot from the quiver to

cure the party before it takes its last breath. You

may call this situation the party's existential crisis.

It must be unthinkable for the party which ruled

India for decades, falling into the level of a complete

insignificance and oblivion. Everything started in

2014 and the Congress had the harshest of the falls

that it ever had. The Modi juggernaut was the blow

that left it with broken bones and bleeding skin

giving it nightmares on a daily basis. The Congress

is still unable to scale the unfathomable depth into

which it has fallen. Its complete dependence on

the trinity from the dynasty for years remains a bitter

reality. It probably sees nothing but darkness without

the dynasty. The trinity understands the party's

compulsions and the leadership circling the orbit

of servitude around the trinity also understands it

Don't get misguided by the use of the word trinity

here multiple times. It is the mother and children

representing the Nehru-Gandhi dynasty that the

Congress is destined to lean on. The party's

headquarters at the 24 Akbar Road in New Delhi

these days is gloomy and remorseful for various

reasons. Every election brings the party a reason to

recollect, recompose and regret. The main reason

is its failure but its inability to find the reality behind

its rigidity must be driving its leadership crazy. The

Narayan Jain

The device stores many files and may be hidden easily. Backup of earlier years may be kept and may be easily hidden.

c) Hard Drives

- d) Mobile Phones (Smart Phones), Electronic Organizer, IPAD, Personal Digital **Assistant and other Handheld Devices:** Much information can be obtained from the devices like Address Book, Appointment calendars/information, documents, emails, phone book, messages (Text and Voice), video recording, email passwords etc. Many applications like CHAT, Whatsapp application can store many crucial conversations important for the investigations. Remittances and transactions are done by fund transfer through mobile phone service providers utilizing money deposited with the latter bypassing banking channels. A person may do all his business through a mobile phone without any computer or laptop or warehouse for his inventory – as example, online business platform www.amazon.com maintains huge warehouse at several places in India where online traders can store their merchandise. In such cases the trader may make all transactions through mobile phone and store in small external microchips making detection difficult.
- e) **Smart cards, Dongles and Biometric Scanners**: The device itself enables to understand the user level access to various information and places.
- f) Display Monitor ( CRT/LCD/TFT etc),
  Screens of Mobile Phones (if switched on):
  All the graphics and files that are open and visible on the screen in the switched on systems can be noted as electronic evidence.
  This evidence can be captured only in video, photographs and through description to be noted in seizure memos
- g) Answering Machines: The device can store voice messages and sometimes, the time and date information about when the message was left. It may have details such as last number called, memos, phone numbers and names, caller identification information and also deleted messages.
- h) Local Area Networks (LAN) Card or Network Interface Cards: The device itself is a digital evidence and may contain crucial evidences.
- i) **Modems, Routers, Hubs and Switches**: The device may contain details of IP addresses, where the actual data is stored.
- j) **Servers:** These contains crucial data on business related applications like SAP, ERP, CRM, Mail Servers. The device is a potential evidence for pulling out audit logs using forensic analysis. Analysis of emails of key persons from Mail Servers can help in finding crucial evidences required for the case.
- k) Removable storage devices like SD Cards

party establishment is

- in Mobile phones: All new generation phones use these and store files in which evidence can be found.
- 1) **Scanners and Copiers**: The device itself, having the capability to scan may help prove illegal activity like making bogus bills etc. Copiers may also contain stored data which can be used as crucial evidences.
- m) **Digital Cameras:** The device can be looked for images, videos, sounds, removable cartridges, time and date stamps.
- n) **CD/DVDs**: The device stores many files which may contain the evidence
- o) **Fax Machines:** The device stores some documents, phone numbers, send/receive logs that can contain the evidence.
- p) **Pagers:** The device can be looked for address information, Text message and phone numbers
- q) Global Positioning Systems (GPS): The device may provide travel logs, home location, previous destinations etc which may be crucial in finding places where evidences may be stored.
- r) Cloud Data Servers: The device is available on all smart phones and tablets. The Cloud may be used to store hidden data where crucial evidences may be stored. Some enterprises offer service for storage of commercial data in servers located in foreign countries and business data are stored there through internet which can be accessed as per terms and conditions.
  - From the digital devices, two types of evidences may be gathered, one is persistent evidence and other is volatile evidence:
- i) Persistent evidence is the data that is stored on a local hard drive and is preserved when the computer is turned off. For example, Documents (word, slide, sheet, pdf etc.), Images, Chat log, Browser history, Registry, Audio / Video, Application, Email, SMS / MMS, Phone book, Call log etc.
- ii) Volatile evidences: It may include any data that is stored in memory, or exists in transit, that will be lost when the computer loses power or is turned off. For example, Memory, Network status and connection, Process running, Time information. It is to be noted that in certain cases, where volatile evidence is crucial, switching off a switched on system may result in destruction of volatile evidence. (Contd.

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India's modern political history is largely a portrayal of the activities of the Congress party. It had remained a platform of mobilization for the



freedom. It was nurtured by great personalities and it sustained as an idea of togetherness for long, encapsulating indomitable power to shake the East India Company's colonial dominance. The Indian

country's quest for

National Congress (INC) epitomized the soft face of the ideals that India represented. The party that Mahatma Gandhi wanted to be wrapped up when the long-struggled freedom was achieved, did continue to grow as a political power stretching its hands across India. The political upscaling of the Congress was consistent for decades until it began to shudder in the saffron storm that the country came across in 2014. That was the strongest ever shake the party bumped into and the one from which it failed to come out. For Gandhi, the purpose of Congress's existence was fulfilled on the day when India became free. He questioned the need of the party in a free India. Probably he could forecast the inevitable fall of the Congress passing through generations. "Congress Mukt Bharat" was the political slogan with which Narendra Modi's saffron hurricane hit the shore of India's election campaign. He seems to have discovered the USP in propagating this idea of an India without Congress or the corruptive mindset that he later intelligently tried to correct it as and declared that the country wanted to get rid of it. Whatever, the Congress in India, though it has a credible vote share, has almost disappeared from the power politics that it enjoyed for generations. Gandhi indeed wanted the idea of Congress that he and his cohorts of those days fostered to exist as an organization focused on the social, moral and economic freedom of the people, especially for the underprivileged and the rural poor. The Congress party's drubbing in the state elections

in Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Punjab, Manipur and

Goa once again made the party think in sustainable

# The fadingTrinity

lines to find solutions for its revival. The party

M. R. LALU

trying to knock on the doors of political strategists like Prashant Kishor to find a calculable and viable solution in the direction of its revival. Spending most of her life between the walls of her residence, Sonia Gandhi began to assume a role in political life after the death of her husband Rajiv Gandhi. Her stint as the party president from April 1998 was full of political experiments and expectations. No doubt, the lady with limited idea about the impulses that India was, managed to pull her party a long way through ups and downs. More than two decades of her presidency was accepted and appreciated at times and critically put for evaluation. She could metaphorically make the historic sacrifice that she is reported to have made denouncing the chair of the country's prime minister. For an enthralled Congress leadership, she was the incarnation of divinity in its femininity capable of transforming the party's destiny unchallenged, unparalleled and unbreakable. The dynasty's pursuit of finding an heir apparent to hold the heaviness of the grand old party naturally directed its fingers on Rahul Gandhi. A natural choice for the party, the young and dynamic Rahul Gandhi, with his visibly scanty maturity to run a complexity such as Congress had

It was not only Modi that Rahul Gandhi and the trinity had to take on. The gigantic Sangh Parivar, with its ideological intricacies essentially confusing and complicated to the dynasts, stretched its wings everywhere. Still unable to fathom the depth and veracity of the narratives that the Parivar scripted

trembled, stumbled and mumbled while

experiencing the storm that the people of the country

described- the saffron tide.

against the party, the trinity frequently convulsed in confusion. The second innings of Modi could shatter the influence of the Sonia, Rahul and Priyanka trinity almost completely. The recently held elections in the five states came as a testimony for the Congress and its unquestionable trinity coming face to face seeking answers to the uncomfortable questions that the G-23 has been asking. The dynasty, habituated to swallow praises in full length from the planets surrounding it in the orbits of servitude and surrender, began to see irritable goose bumps giving it itchy tickles. Without wasting time, unconventional to the principle of the dynasty, it offered to make a 'sacrifice' of the highest order in the form of resignation which the planets in the CWC rejected outrightly. The unquestionable dominance of the Nehru-Gandhi family remained for decades and the Congress is still running the train on the same track consecrated by the dynasts. The party's experiment in Uttar Pradesh with the third person in the dynasty, Priyanka Vadra had an unpleasant ending. It collapsed in all seats except in two where it managed to gain a skinny majority. The Congress and the dynasty waited for long before they decided to bring the Vadra brand to the forefront. As of now the party and the trinity are convinced to the extent of realizing that the revival of the Congress is an uphill task and there is no presentable face except those sunken three in the dynasty that could do anything to satisfy the party's withering hopes. Now the party is left with no choice but to compulsively repose its faith in the family after every defeat with no murmur of discontent. Though there are demands for a reliable titivation inside the party, its leadership is clueless as to what should be the strategy in case of it nosedives in the coming elections. The BJP, with its massive political machinery, is all set to win the 2024 general elections and the state elections that are due including the one in Gujarat. The Congress on the other hand is banking on its fading trinity.

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### ■Popular people's Daily of Odisha

### Meet Sulochana Das, Bhubaneswar's first woman Mayor

BJD's Sulochana Das

and BJP mayor candi-

BHUBANESWAR: feated her nearest rival bency factor and counter the saffron



has been elected as the first woman Mayor of State Capital as the ruling party swept the Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC) elections on Saturday.

Sulochana Das The BJD retained power in BMC by



winning a whopping 72 per cent (pc) corporator seats. Despite a dismal turnout of 43.30 pc voters on the day of polling on March 24, Das de- thwart the anti-incum-

date Suniti Mund with a huge margin of 61,143 votes.

Das, who is currently

serving as the party spokesperson, registered a significant lead from the beginning of the counting and garnered 1,74487 votes. Mund, however, gave a tough fight and polled an impressive 1.13 lakh votes. Concandidate Madhusmita Acharya was placed third with 11,006 votes. Besides, Niroj Nalini Samal of Odisha Janata Party secured 3,116 votes. Apart from winning the Mayor seat with a significant margin, the BJD also posted an impressive performance in the elections to corporator seats in the civic body. The

party gave a chance to

several new faces to

challenge.

BJD candidates won 48 out of 67 corporator seats compared to 49 seats in the previous urban polls held in 2013. On the other hand, the BJP that had won four seats in the last election, managed to improve its tally by bagging 10 seats. The saffron party candidates put their best despite a faction-ridden organisation and the top brass sidelining itself from campaigning.

Congress, on the other hand, could not even open its account. The grand old party that had secured two seats in the previous polls failed to win even a single seat this time. Independents, many of whom were rebels who contested the election after being denied tickets from the BJD, managed to secure nine seats. The number of independents who had won the corporator seats in BMC jurisdiction was 12 in the last elections. Sulochana Das

Addressing the waterlogging problems of the Capital city figures top on the agenda of Sulochana Das. She also wants to ensure that benefits of all the government schemes reach the last man at the bottom of the pyramid. Strengthening the grievance redressal system of the city and turning slums into Adarsh colonies figure in her five-year agenda. Das, a former journalist, quit Congress and joined BJD in 2017. Das was also the State Commissioner for Persons with Disability and is currently the BJD spokesperson.

"I thank all voters for voting me and congratulate winners from all parties. As a people's Mayor, I will ensure that the BMC reaches out to the people at their doorsteps to address their grievances instead of making them come to the BMC office. I urge all to join hands to make our city vibrant, smart and safe for citizens," Das.

## NFT of Nelson Mandela's arrest warrant auctioned for \$130,000

JOHANNESBURG: An NFT version of an arrest warrant for

or NFT, "sold for 1.9

(\$61,800), but the non-fungible tokens

tional flight in 54 years

Liliesleaf shuttered



anti-apartheid icon Nelson Mandela has raised \$130,550 at auction, with proceeds going towards a museum preserving the history of South Africa's anti-apartheid struggle.

South Africa's first democratic, black president was arrested on August 5, 1962, and later jailed for 27 years.

The reserve price at the Saturday night auction in Cape Town was 900,000 rand million (\$130,550) via a buyer online," Ahren Posthumus, CEO of the digital auctioneer Momint said on Sunday.

The buyer was a foreigner, based in the United Arab Emirates.

"Proceeds for the Mandela NFT will go to Liliesleaf museum, to keep their doors open and stay afloat," Posthumus told AFP. ALSO READ | Sri Lanka's oldest airport sees first internaits doors in September 2021 due to financial difficulties.

Selling art as nonfungible tokens, or NFTs, uses the same technology as cryptocurrencies such as Bitcoin. The buyer receives a verified digital token, which proves the artwork is an original.

"This is really a unique and novel way of generating income," Liliesleaf Farm museum founder, Nicholas Wolpe said.

The original document, dated 1961, now yellowed, with gnarled edges and bearing staple holes on one side, is handwritten in both English and Afrikaans. It has been kept at the Liliesleaf Farm heritage site archives in Johannesburg since around 2006, said Wolpe.

Between 1961 and 1963, the landmark farm in an upscale northern Johannesburg suburb served as the secret headquarters and nerve centre of the then-banned African National Congress (ANC), which led the fight against whiteminority rule.

Mandela hid there for some time under the guise of a farm worker, dressing in overalls, before leaving to raise funds abroad. Travel Industry Laud In'tl Flight Reopen

### Rahul hails Indian women's cricket team for fighting till end after its WC campaign ends



NEW DELHI: Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Sunday hailed the Indian women's cricket team for fighting till the end after it suffered a heart-breaking defeat against South Africa to crash out of the Women's World Cup. applaud #TeamIndia led by after suffering a

@M\_Raj03 (Mithali Raj) for fighting till end. Their #CWC22 journey embodied the team's never say die spirit. Wishing you all the best for your future battles," Gandhi tweeted. India crashed out of the Women's World Cup

three-wicket defeat against South Africa in a must-win leaguestage game that went down to the wire in New Zealand's Christchurch on Sunday. Smriti Mandhana (71). Shafali Verma (53) and skipper Mithali Raj (68) struck half-

announce that London

will be giving more

than GBP 1.1 million

to support migrants,

refugees and people

seeking asylum in the

capital, including

those coming from

Ukraine. We have a

proud history of pro-

viding sanctuary to

those fleeing conflict,

platform for India to reach a competitive 274 for seven at the Hagley Oval. Despite India's average bowling and fielding, the match went the full distance with offspinner Deepti Sharma needing to defend seven runs in the final over, but South Africa won on the last ball.

sion of the Government of India to reopen scheduled commercial international passengers services to / from India from 27 March, after a gap of

New Delhi: The deci-

view to prevent the spread of the Covid 19 pandemic. Earlier, the Govern-

commercial services

with effect from 23rd

March 2020, with a

ment of India had from September 2022

services. Raieev Mehra, President of Indian Association of Tour Operators said that this would definitely increase tourist traffic to India and adversely affected sectors by the Covid 19 pandemic, impacting livelihoods of stakeholders related to the tourism industry. The Ministry of Tourism has extended financial support in the



two years, has been hailed and warmly by all the travel industry stakeholders of the country.

The Directorate General of Civil Aviation had suspended operations of international

started granting of fresh Tourist visas to foreigners arriving on charter flights with effect from 15th October 2021.

Hailing the resumption of normal international passenger onwards, which is the start of the next inbound tourism season, a substantial amount of the affected business is expected to be back.

Tourism sector has been one of the most form of credit under the Credit Garuantee Scheme concessional rates, to tour operators, travel agents and Regional level tourist guides, approved by the Ministry of Tourism.

### centuries, setting the Thousands turn up for London Mayor's Ukraine solidarity march

LONDON: Thousands of Londoners turned up for a march and vigil called by the city's mayor for a message of solidarity with the people of Ukraine in its ongoing conflict with Russia.

London Mayor Sadiq Khan announced over GBP 1.1 million in funding to support migrants, refugees and people seeking asylum in London in his speech at the end of the march at Trafalgar Square on Saturday. The square had been dressed in the Ukrainian colours of blue and yellow for the vigil, which marked addresses by Ukrainian politicians, celebrities and anti-war activists.

"I'm proud that today Londoners are uniting to send a message of support to the people of Ukraine. These innocent people have been through unimaginable pain and suffering over the last month, and by joining together, we are showing that we stand with them," said Khan.

and this funding will ensure that support is there to help in their time of need," he said. The crowds chanted "We stand with Ukraine" and carried banners reading "Stop "I'm also pleased to Putin's war" as the mayor of the Ukrainian capital of Kyiv. Vitali Klitschko, appeared virtually on the

UK's help during the Russia-Ukraine conflict will "never be forgotten".



big screen at Trafalgar Square amid cheers. The Ambassador of Ukraine to the UK, Vadym Prystaiko, addressed the gathering to declare that the

The London Mayor also announced GBP 50,000 funding to match donations for the Here for Good

Project, which will

Advice

Ukraine

provide specialist immigration advice to Londoners and their families seeking to access the Ukraine Family Scheme and other routes opened for refugees in the UK. "It has been devastat-

ing to see this horrific ongoing attack against the people of Ukraine, and my thoughts are with them at this terrible time," said popular British actress Dame Helen Mirren. "All of our thoughts are with the people of Ukraine at this horren-

dous time for their

that the world unites to show them that they have our support in their time of need, and I'm so glad that London is joining as one to send a message of solidarity loud and clear," added fellow actress Dame Julie Walters.

country. It's important

The march was organised in partnership with the European Movement UK, CIRCA and the Yoko Ono "Imagine Peace" project, with support from Landsec, which owns Piccadilly

Hanya Dezyk, Board Director of the Association of Ukrainians in Great Britain, added: "We are heartened that Londoners and visitors from across the UK will be joining together in London to send a message of solidarity with the people of Ukraine.
"It has been incredibly difficult for Ukrainians living in the UK and across the world to see what is happening to our homeland, and the sight of people uniting in the streets in our name gives us hope and strengthens our resolve to fight for Ukraine's freedom.

Lights.

## Olive Ridleys clock a record Day-1 turn at Odisha's Gahirmatha sanctuary

KENDRAPARA: After much speculation and ary within Bhitarkanika National Park on

delay, a record number of Olive Ridley turtles arrived on March 25 at Gahirmatha Marine Sanctuary for mass nesting.

"A record number of around 2,45,188 Olive Ridley sea turtles came ashore for mass nesting at the Nasi-1 and

Nasi-2 islands of Gahirmatha marine sanctu-

March 25 night.

"We are delighted that for the first time on a single day more than 2 lakh turtles laid eggs at Gahirmatha. Last time around 3,49,694 turtles laid eggs from March 9 to March 23," divisional forest officer of Bhitarkanika

National Park, JD Pati said.

Nasi–1 and 2 islands of 5 km is an ideal nesting strip for the turtles because of no presence of predators and human habitation. The mass nesting would continue for a week, as the eggs normally take 45 days to hatch. Then the tiny hatchlings make their way to the sea, the forest officer explained.

The forest officer informed that about 30 forest officials including forest guards are guarding the beach to protect turtles and their eggs. The state government imposed a ban order on fishing activities inside the Gahirmatha Marine Sanctuary from Nov 1 to May 31 to protect the turtles. Gahirmatha was declared a marine sanctuary covering 1435 square kilometers from Dhamra mouth to Hukitola island in 1997 by the government.

### 4 lakh voters stayed away fro om elections in Bhubaneswar

BHUBANESWAR: Over four lakh voters abstained from exercising their franchise in the Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC) polls. While the State Election Commission (SEC) had informed on Thursday that



the polling in the BMC elections was around 50 per cent, it revised the turnout to 43.30 per cent, almost the same compared to the previous ULB polls in 2013, on Friday.

As per the statistics shared by the officials, out of 7,25,765 eligible voters in BMC jurisdiction, only 3,14,268 turned up for voting. The statistics suggest that 43.33 per cent male, 43.55 per cent female and 11.30 per cent voters of transgender community exercised their franchise. Ward 4 recorded the highest voter turnout of 70.09 per cent.

While political observers said the voter turnout was poor due to less participation of middle and upper class, educated and elite sections, Opposition BJP and Congress blamed the ruling dispensation for the low turnout.

BJP Bhubaneswar president Babu Singh alleged that the goof-up in preparation of the voters list in which names of members of most of the families were split to different wards resulted in the poor turnout. "This was done by the BJD government deliberately to discourage voters from exercising their franchise," Singh said.

Congress leaders also raised the same issue. Both BJP and Congress claimed that poor arrangements for the voters in booths was another reason behind low voter turnout.

BJD spokesperson Lenin Mohanty, however, rubbished the Opposition claims and said though some voters faced the inconvenience in the process of finalisation of the voters list, both BJP and Congress are deliberately trying to politicise the issue as they are aware of losing the elections. "It is an attempt on their part to justify the loss they are going to face in the ULB polls," Mohanty said.

## After panchayats, BJD does an encore in urban areas

BHUBANESWAR: It's been a yet another BJD show across the urban landscape of Odisha. After the landslide win in panchayat elections, the ruling party has done an encore in the municipal elections, winning one urban local body after another.

In Mayurbhanj district, it captured three chairman posts while one went to BJP. Rulparty's ing Krushnananda Mohanty won the Baripada chairman post by 9,609 votes, defeating BJP's Kavibishnu Narayan Satpathy. In Udala Notified Area Council (NAC), BJP chaircandidate Pramila Panda won by 866 votes defeating Ranjita Banerjee Down south, it was the same script. In Malkangiri Municipality, BJD chairman candidate Manoj Kumar Barik defeated Congress rival G. Srinibas Rao by 1276 votes. BJD bagged 14 wards, Congress won in five in the 19 member municipality.

However, Balimela NAC chairperson post was won by BJP candidate Pradeep Kumar Nayak. He defeated his immediate BJD rival G. Sanjeeb Kumar Dora. In the 12-member NAC, BJD won in eight wards and BJP in four.

In the western belt, Balangir saw a mixed result with BJD winning majority three municipalities and NAC. Hotly conference of 3,755 votes. BJD captured 17 seats, BJP nine and 5 went to independent candidates. BJD dominated in Jharsuguda ULB polls, with ruling party's chairman candidate Rani Hathi defeating BJP's Trinath Gual by a margin of 6162 votes. Hathi garnered 26,729 votes, while Gual secured 20,567 votes. In Jharsuguda Municipality, out of 24 wards, BJD secured 21 seats; BJP managed to win only three seats, while Congress failed to open account. Similarly, in Brajrajnagar Municipality, out of 23 wards, BJD won 20 seats while BJP secured two seats. In an electoral surprise, BSP won one ward.

Jayanti Patra won by a margin of 4,145 votes by defeating BJD's Anima Nayak. Out of total 23 wards in the municipality 13 were bagged by BJD while 9 went to BJP and one to an independent. In Angul Municipal-

ity Council election, BJP got majority with 13 seats while BJD got 10. The ruling BJD secured a majority of councillors seats in Koraput, Jeypore and Sunabeda Municipalities. However, it lost three chairperson seats in Jeypore, Sunabeda Kotpad urban bodies. Out of 21 councillors - BJD secured 15, Congress won in four wards and two wards were won by two In-



2021-2022

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of BJD. ALSO READ: BJD bulldozes rivals in Odisha civic polls In Karanjia NAC, BJD's Popi Prusty polled 4,961 votes to defeat BJP candidate Jyotsna Rani Mohanta by 945 votes and won the chairman post. In, Rairangpur BJD chairman candidate Abhishek Pattnaik defeated BJP candidate Naveen Kuamr Ram by 1,148 votes. Rairangpur Municipality saw as many as 11 councillor candidates winning from BJD and four from BJP. In Baripada Municipality, as many as 22 councillors were BJD candidates, three each won from BJP and Independent candidates. In Udala NAC, 6 councillor seats were won by BJD and 3 went to

BJP.

tested Balangir Municipality seat went to BJD's Lika Sahu who won with a margin of 14,525 votes. Sahu gave up her teaching profession and won the post of chairman. In the council, out of 21 wards, BJD won in 16, Congress in four and BJP in just one ward. In Tushura and Patnagarh NACs, BJDcandidates Ajaya Jaiswal and Manasi Biswal won with comfortable margins. Patnagarh, out of 15

council seats, 14 went to BJD and one was won by an independent candidate. Titlagarh's 15 wards saw BJD winning in 10, BJP getting five council seats.

While in Balasore district, BJD chairperson candidate Sabita Sahoo defeated BJP's Rashmi Rekha Deb with a difWhereas in Belpahar Municipality, out of 19 wards, BJD bagged 14 seats, BJP bagged three seats, whereas Congress managed to win two seats.

In Brajrajnagar Municipality, BJD chairperson candidate Jagyaseni Oram defeated Ritarani Dhurua of BJP by a margin of 8,982 votes. Congress chairman candidate for Belpahar Municipality, Nimai Charan Panda defeated BJD's Hitesh Thakkar by a margin of 3,109 votes.

Out of six ULBs that went to poll in undivided Dhenkanal district, BJP captured Dhenkanal municipality chairman post while all other chairman posts were won BJD. Dhenkanal Municipality, BJP candidate dependent candidates. Similarly, in Jeypore

Municipality, Congress candidate Narendra Mohanty won as chairperson defeating his BJD rival Suryanaryan Rath by 5,306 votes. Out of 28 councillor seats, BJD won in 15, Congress won in 12 and one ward was won by an independent candidate. In Sunabeda Municipality, out of 25 wards, 19 councillors seats were won by BJD, while three went to Congress, two to BJP and one was won by an Independent candidate. In Kotpad NAC, out of 13 wards, six wards were won by Congress, three each by BJD and BJP while one ward was won by an independent candidate.

# PSU disinvestment: SEBI proposes relaxing provisions for open offer price determination NEW DELHI: Mar- also come against the such developments", sory Committee. Fuel price hike: FM invokes' Nehru

kets watchdog Sebi backdrop of the gov-

it noted.

Now, the regulator



has proposed changes to the mechanism for determining open offer price with respect to disinvestment of public sector undertakings.

Issuing a consultation paper on review of the determination of offer price in case of disinvestment of public sector undertakings (PSUs), the regulator said the move is aimed at relaxing certain provisions, including doing away with the requirement of taking into account 60 days' volume-weighted average market price for calculating the offer price.

Comments from the public have been sought on the consultation paper till April 15.

The proposal to PSU concerned gets cussed by Sebi's Pri-rect acquisition," it

ernment planning to sell stakes in more companies.

Noting that strategic disinvestment of PSUs is at variance with privately executed agreements, Sebi in the consultation paper said the announcement of private transactions is made only upon execution of binding agreements and thus there is not much impact on the traded price of such target companies.

In the case of PSUs' strategic disinvestment, "Information comes in the public domain at the time of Cabinet approval and subsequent nouncements are also made at different stages and thus the market price of the For such stake sales, the acquirer will be identified only after the shortlisting of bidders, which may be months or years late since the date when the information was first in the public domain.

As a result, "the prospective acquirer shall be chasing a moving open offer price as the market price tends to rise pursuant to announcement of the divestment and various stages thereafter and thus its liability for open offer obligations may constantly increase till the execution of agreement of the PSU with the acquirer," the consultation paper issued on Friday said.

The issue was dis-

has proposed that "in case of disinvestment of PSU companies, the requirement of 60 days' volumeweighted average market price-based parameter for calculation of offer price, may be dispensed with".

In case such PSU companies have stakes in other companies and due to such disinvestments an indirect acquisition is triggered, the requirement of 60 days' volumeweighted average market price-based parameter can also be dispensed with, as per Sebi.

"The acquirer shall disclose upfront the negotiated price for both direct acquisition as well for indi-

NEW DELHI: Under attack from the opposition over increase in fuel prices, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman 'invoked' the country's first prime minister Jawahar Lal Nehru to justify the hikes.

Sitharaman read

BHUBANESWAR, MONDAY, 28 MARCH, 2022

Nehru's speech from the 1950s in Hindi, where the former prime minister had blamed the Korean War for inflation in the country. She argued that if Nehru could blame war in Korea for the rise in prices in the 1950s, when India was not as well connected with the world as now, why would the Russia-Ukraine war not impact prices today. The finance minister was responding to debates over the Finance Bill 2022 in Lok Sabha. The FM, however, hinted that the government has no role in increasing fuel prices and it is up to the oil marketing companies to decide the hike in price. She

average price. After keeping prices of petrol and diesel on hold for four

said that OMCs take

a call on fuel price

based on their 15-day

tailers have increased cumulatively Rs 2.40 in the country in the past one week. The price of petrol and diesel was on halt be-



tween 4 November 2021 and 21, March 2022 in the country despite high crude prices in the international market.

Responding to the discussion on the Finance Bill, the FM refuted the opposition allegation that the government is increasing the tax burden on the common man. Taking a dig at Congress, the FM said it was the Indira Gandhi government in 1970 that had increased the marginal income tax rate to 93.5%.

Meanwhile, on criticism that government is giving mixed signals cryptocurrency, the finance minister said the matter is under discussion whether the government wants to regulate it or ban it. Once the consultation is over the government months, the fuel remake its stance clear.

### **Good Wishes Pour for BJD**

Continued from page-1

cured majority in 95 Urban Local Bodies(ULB)s.
Of the 108 ULBs, including the Municipal Corporation of Bhubaneswar, Cuttack and Berhampur, the regional party got 76 chairpersons and mayor posts followed by BJP with 16 posts, Congress 7 and Independents in 9 places

As this time there was direct elections for the posts of Chairpersons and Mayors following amendment in the municipal laws, the party could win 76 ULBs.

But practically, the regional political party candidates contesting for the post of Councilors and Corporators won a large number in 95 of the 108 ULBs.

In the panchayat elections held last month, the BJD had also captured 90% seats in Zilla Parishads.

Though the State Election Commission (SEC) had conducted elections for 109 ULBs on March 24, the results of 105 municipalities/notified area councils (NACs) and three municipal corporations of Bhubaneswar, Cuttack

nicipal corporations of Bhubaneswar, Cuttack and Berhampur were declared on Saturday. The counting of votes could not be held at Dhamnagar Notified Area Council (NAC) due to some reason, sources said.

Similarly, out of 1,716 councillor seats in the 105 municipalities and NACs, the BJD has won 1,175 seats, BJP got 288, Congress—134, BSP—1, CPI—1, and Independent—

Out of 67 Corporator seats in the Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC), the BJD won 48, BJP got 10 and the Congress is in third position with 9.

#### Pratap Jena 'Lucky Charm'

Continued from page-1

benefit of welfare schemes reach target population, people now feel part of the Government.

"No matter how hard the opposition parties are working to spread lies and misinformation about the state government, there is a proincumbency here in Odisha. Our works for people speaks for itself. For us, people are the masters in a democracy. Unlike the opposition parties, who go to people only during polls, we work round the year for the poor and downtrodden," said Mr.Jena.

Meticulous implementation of two livelihood programmes-Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) for rural poor and the Mukhyamantri Karma Tatpara Abhiyan (MUKTA) for urban poor helped the state government to provide employment to lakhs of migrant workers, who returned to the state following Covid induced lockdown.

Odisha become a leading state in implementation of the rural job scheme even during the pandemic as over 20.81 crore person-days of works were achieved during 2020-21 under MGNREGS, which is 187% higher in comparison to 11.14 crore in 2019-20. During the 2021-22 financial year, over 18 crore persondays of works have been achieved till February. Over Rs 700 crore was spent under MUKTA scheme.

Around 31 lakh pucca houses have been completed since 2014-15 with an expenditure of Rs 31,000 crore while 12.25 lakh eligible households have been identified for coverage under different rural housing schemes. The system of incentive to the beneficiaries has set an example for other states to emulate.

In its target to achieve universal coverage of tap-water connections, as many as 63 civic bodies have already achieved 100% household connections in the state while Bhubaneswar and Cuttack have achieved 100% household connections in the entire country.

Besides, Puri is the only city in India to have achieved the distinction of joining the prestigious league of international cities like New York, London, Singapore and Tokyo of ensuring 24×7 supply of directly drinkable water rom tap under the Sujal plan.

Under slum upgradation and delisting activities, around 1.70 lakh families have already been granted land rights certificates and eight cities have already achieved slum free status. The state government has also planned a new programme—Biju Adarsh Colony programme that aims transforming slums to model colonies. As many as 2,974 slums across 114 civic bodies of the state will be transformed under the plan.

Among others, the use of technology to ensure doorstep delivery of urban governance, which earned the state several national and international recognition, is also considered a game changer to win hearts of urban voters.

## amend the provisions highly susceptible to mary Market Advi- added. Petrol, diesel price up by 80 p each; 3rd hike in a week

NEW DELHI: Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) on Friday again hiked prices of petrol and diesel by 80 paisa each for the third time in a week. Following the hike on Friday, petrol will now cost Rs 97.81 and diesel will be available at Rs 89.07 per litre in the national capital region (NCR).

In the last one week, the fuel retailers have increased cumulatively Rs 2.40 in the country. The price of petrol and diesel was on halt between 4th November 2021 and 21st March 2022 in the country despite high crude prices in the International mar-

During this period, the Brent Crude Future, the benchmark of global crude price, even touched the highest

\$139 per barrel on 7 March 2022. The prices were then revised by the fuel retailagain on 22 March.

ers on both diesel and petrol by 80 paisa per litre on 21 March and by the same amount Moody's Investors Service in its study highlighted that Oil

Indian Oil Corporation (IOC), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) are incurring around \$70 million in daily losses on petrol and diesel sales.

Thus, experts



Marketing Companies have lost around \$2.25 billion in revenues from 5th November to 21st March. This is the period when these retailers stopped revising fuel prices despite high crude prices in the international marbelievethat the hike on transport fuel is on expected lines and, in fact, more hikes are expected.

"Retail fuel prices of petrol and diesel have been kept unchanged since November 2021, whereas global crude

oil prices rose by close to \$30 per barrel during this period. The pass-through of rising crude oil prices to domestic fuel prices is, therefore, inevitable, and further hikes can also be expected," said Dipti Deshpande, Principal Economist, CRISIL.

Nehru's 1950s speech Sitharaman read Nehru's speech, where he blamed the Korean War for inflation in India. She argued if Nehru could blame war for rising prices, when India was not as well connected with the world, why would the Russia-Ukraine war not impact prices today Rs 2.40

After keeping prices of petrol and diesel on hold for 4 months, fuel retailers have increased cumulatively Rs 2.40 in India in the past one week.

### **PM lauds Rahul**

Continued from page-1

"Whatever little amount I receive as a security guard, I spend them for this social work. My parents have all along been encouraging and never opposed my works," he said.

While working silently and all alone, Rahul expressed wonder how come he was spotted and praised. He had launched a drive on January 8 to clean plastic waste in several parts of the state and had cleared almost 1000 kg of waste single-handedly. He had earlier carried out similar drive at Pir Jahania beach, Rushikulya mass nesting site and other places. The 22-year-old youth of Ambadiha village works as a security guard with a private company in Bhubaneswar.

"I prefer the social work on Sundays because, I have to join duty as a security guard on rest of the days," he said. Prime Minister also mentioned that health is also directly related to cleanliness.

### **Congress disrupts question hour** over rising crime in Odisha

Continued from page-1

sloganeering from the well. However, business of the House resumed during zero hour when it reassembled after the adjournment at 11.30 am. Leader of the Congress legislature party (CLP) Narasingh Mishra told mediapersons outside that he wanted to raise these issues but the Speaker did not even listen to the demands and adjourned the House.

Meanwhile, the CLP leader brought a privilege notice against Khurda district superintendent of police (DSP) for not intimating the Speaker as soon as the expelled BJD MLA of Chilika Prashanta Jagadev was arrested on March 22. Mishra wanted to why the SP informed about the arrest on March 25.

The Speaker read out the communication sent to him by the SP in the House on Friday after the issue was raised by the Congress.

## Salah's turn as Egypt beats Senegal in 1st leg of WC playoff

**CAPE** TOWN: Mohamed Salah had his say this time as Egypt beat Sadio Mané's Senegal 1-0 in the first leg of their World Cup playoff. Salah's early shot in Cairo on Friday cannoned off the crossbar, hit Senegal, defender, Saliou Ciss, and went in to give Egypt a slim advantage over the newly crowned African champion to take to the second leg in Senegal on Tuesday. The Salah-Mané international rivalry continued six weeks after the Liverpool teammates met in the final of the African Cup of Nations in Cameroon. Then, Mané hit the winning penalty in a shootout to give Senegal its

helpless. Egypt started the playoff at breakneck speed at Cairo International Stadium and the own goal from Ciss came in the fourth minute. Salah sprinted away after it went in and was mobbed in the celebration by just about every player from the Egypt bench.

first major title as

Salah watched on

There was a redemption of sorts for Algeria, too. The Algerians returned to the same stadium where they were dumped out of the African Cup in the group stage as defending champion to clinch a crucial 1-0 away win over Cameroon in the

ball during the English Premier League soccer match between Arsenal and Liverpool at Emirates Stadium in London. ( Photo | AP)

Cameroon was playing its first game under a new coach and former national captain Rigobert Song,



first leg of their play-

Striker Islam Slimani scored with a header in the first half at Japoma Stadium in Douala, justifying his promotion to the starting lineup.

Cameroon goalkeeper André Onana got a hand to the header but pushed it only onto the crossbar and watched the ball drop into the goal behind him.

Arsenal's Kieran Tierney, left, and Liverpool's Sadio Mane battle for the who was brought in to replace Toni Conceicao despite Conceicao leading Cameroon to a fairly impressive third place at the African Cup.

The debut didn't go according to plan for Song, and Cameroon must come from behind in the second leg in Blida to reach the World Cup in Qatar and extend its African record to eight World Cup appearances.

Algeria hardly ever loses at home. The playoffs will decide the five African teams to play at the World Cup in Qatar and could erase those painful African Cup memories for Egypt and Algeria.

second-half penalty

way over the cross-

Tarik Tissoudali ulti-

mately equalized for

Morocco with a

fierce first-time shot

after forward Yoane

Wissa scored an early

opener for Congo,

which is trying to

qualify for the World

second legs are all

on Tuesday.

Tunisia claimed a crucial 1-0 away win over Mali in scorching hot Bamako to give it the advantage in their tie.

That victory came largely thanks to a dire personal performance from Mali defender Moussa Sissako, who gave Tunisia its winner with a calamitous own goal in the 36th minute.

Sissako's attempted pass back was nowhere near goalkeeper Ibrahim Mounkoro and bounced over the goal-line as Sissako watched his error with hands-on head. Sissako then made Mali's task almost impossible when he was sent off four minutes later.

Morocco's 1-1 draw in Congo made it a strong night for the North African challengers, although it would have been even better for the Moroccans if Ryan Mmaee hadn't fired a

MIAMI GARDENS: Iga Swiatek wild trend in Miami — where started her week by deciding that she wanted to set her sights on becoming the No 1 player in the world, without knowing how long that quest would take. A few days and one surprising retirement later, mission accomplished.

Women's tennis has a new name atop its rankings, a 20-year-old who — now that Ashleigh Barty has retired and asked to vacate her No 1 spot on the world list — becomes the first Polish player to hold that distinction.

Swiatek's ascension was clinched Friday night with a 6-2, 6-0 win over Viktorija Golubic of Switzerland in the second round of the Miami Open.

Swiatek becomes the 28th different woman to hold the No 1 ranking since the computerized sys-

of that said she wanted to be removed from the rankings.

seeded women's players have had serious struggles. There were 32 seeds entering the tournament, and more than half of them are gone before the third round even gets started. Coco Gauff is one of the few exceptions.

The 14th-seeded American, whose home is about a 45-minute drive north from where she's playing this event, got past Wang Qiang of China 7-5, 6-4 on Friday — avenging a first-round loss to her in the Australian Open earlier this year.

"I feel like playing at a home crowd you either can get nervous playing in front of your family,



friends, or embrace it," Gauff said. "And today I think I em-

Coco Gauff celebrates a point against Wang Qiang of China, during the Miami Open tennis

### Swiatek clinches No1 ranking, wins debut at Miami Open

#### Cup for the first time tem debuted in November 1975. since its only previ-Her rise has been steady and conous appearance as stant; she ended 2016 ranked No Zaire in 1974. 903, cracked the top 500 for the Defender Ngonda first time in 2018, ended 2020 Muzinga was sent ranked No.] 17, then was No 9 off for Congo late when last year ended. in the game. Ghana Barty revealed her retirement debraced it.' and Nigeria drew 0cision on Wednesday, and as part 0 in Ghana. The

Swiatek and Badosa bucked a

## tournament.

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## IPL 2022: Ishan Kishan's unbeaten 81 powers MI to 177/5 against DC

MUMBAI: Wicketkeeper-batter Ishan Kishan showed im-

knock.

After playing a second-fiddle to his death with Mumbai

scoring 59 runs in the final five overs.



mense maturity as he anchored Mumbai Indians innings to a fighting 177 for 5 with an unbeaten 81 against Delhi Capitals in their IPL match here on Sunday.

\The 23-year-old opener, who became the most expensive buy of the IPL 2022 auction when MI bought him back for Rs 15.25 crore, proved his worth as he smashed 11 fours and two sixes in his 48-ball unbeaten skipper Rohit Sharma (41) inside the Power Play, Kishan came on his own to smash his third fifty in a row for MI, and 10th overall. Delhi put on the brakes in the middle overs, riding on Kuldeep Yadav's fine bowling effort of 4-0-18-3 which included the prized wickets of Rohit and Kieron Pollard (3).

But Kishan held fort even as wickets fell around him before exploding in the Mumbai debutant Tilak Varma also impressed in his 22 off 15 balls, but it was the Jharkhand batter who stepped on the gas in the death overs and also displayed a helicopter shot to prop up the total.

Playing with just two foreigners, Delhi missed their overseas recruits like Anrich Nortje (hip injury) and Lungi Ngidi as their pace attack of Shardul Thakur (4-0-

Khaleel

47-0),

Nagarkoti (2-0-29-0) looked ordinary. In a new avatar, Kuldeep bowled flat out and was spot on

Ahmed (4-0-27-2)

and

Kamlesh

with his lengths and did not let the batters have a go at him. He first had Rohit with a back of a length delivery and then got Anmolpreet holed out to long off with a tossed up delivery. Rohit and Kishan

gave Mumbai a rollicking start. The skipper smashed three boundaries and two sixes, while his left-handed partner Kishan hit three boundaries and a six as the duo raced to 53 runs in six overs.

Just when Mumbai was toying with the lacklustre Delhi pace attack, Kuldeep halted their run flow with his twin breakthroughs after the Power Play.

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