



**Grand Demonstration of Journalists across the country under the Banner of Working journalists of India held today at Jantar mantar New delhi and a memorandum submitted at the Prime minister's office in a delegation led By WJI President Anoop choudhary , Vice president Sanjay Upadhyay and Secretary General Narendra Bhandari.**

## Petrol crosses Rs 101-mark after 80 paise hike, diesel sees 70 paise increase

NEW DELHI: Petrol and diesel prices were on Wednesday upon the incidence of local taxation. hiked by 80 paise a litre each, This is the ninth increase in



prices since the ending of a four-and-half-month long hiatus in rate revision on March 22. On the first four occasions, prices were increased by 80 paise a litre - the steepest single-day rise since the daily price revision was introduced in June 2017. On the following days, petrol price went up by 50 paise and 30 paise a litre while diesel rose by 55 paise and 35 paise a litre. Petrol price was on Tuesday hiked by 80 paise a litre and diesel by 70 paise. In all, petrol and diesel rates have gone up by Rs 5.60 per litre each.

## 127 Cr Subsidy for Agri Industries

Bhubaneswar(KCN): The State Government has released a subsidy of Rs 127 crore to 1085 agri-based enterprises during the year 2016-17 to 2021-22. Agriculture Minister Arun Kumar Sahoo told the As-



sembly on Wednesday. While giving a written reply to a question asked by MLA Pradeep Panigrahy, the Minister said, during last six years (2016-17 to 2021-22), 1085 Commercial Agri Enterprises have been set up in the State through APICOL and Capital Investment Subsidy amounting to Rs. 127 crore has been released to different entrepreneurs against these projects, Sahoo said. Through the agri-based industries, employment for 10850 persons has been generated. In the 2016-17, subsidy of Rs 15.10 crore was sanctioned to 144 commercial agri enterprises while Rs 23.33 crore released to 188 agri units in 2017-18. Similarly, Sahoo said, Rs 24.62 crore has been released to 123 enterprises in the year 2017-18, whereas only 94 industries have received subsidies of Rs 15.99 crore in 2019-20. Subsidy amount of Rs 18.21 crore distributed to 168

agri-based enterprises in 2020-21. Moreover, the highest subsidy amount of Rs 29.72 crore has been released to 368 enterprises in the current year 2021-22, the Minister said.

He further said the State Agriculture Policy was declared during 1996 giving agriculture the status of an Industry. As on date, 92 projects have been included under State Agriculture Policy in various sectors (agriculture, horticulture, fishery, animal husbandry, food processing etc.). The policy provides financial assistance in the form of Capital Investment Subsidy (CIS) @ 40% of the fixed capital investment (50% in case of ST/SC/ Women/PWD/ graduates of agriculture and allied discipline) subject to a maximum limit of Rs. 50 lakhs per person, he informed. Apart from that under different schemes of the Directorate of Horticulture, another 51 Agri-based industries have been established. In these Industries there are 350 persons engaged in income generation through employment, he added. Out of the 51 units, 15 are cashew processing units set up in Koraput, Dhenkanal, Nayagarh, Cuttack and Mayurbhanj districts, 34 lemon grass units established in Koraput & Dhenkanal districts, one honey processing unit set up in Mayurbhanj district and another turmeric processing unit established in Gajapati district.

## Morning Classes from April 2

Bhubaneswar(KCN): With the mercury breached 40 degrees Celsius in many parts of the State, the Government has also decided to start morning classes of school students from April 2.



Speaking to reporters here, School & Mass Education Minister Sameer Ranjan Dash said, "The heat wave condition has forced us to revise the school timings so that the students face minimum heat during school hours." He said the physical classes for Class I to VIII students will start at 6:30 AM and end at 10

AM while the classes for standard IX and X students will be conducted between 7 AM and 11 AM.

Physical classes for students from Class 8 to 12, along with colleges, universities and other technical institutions had reopened from February 7. However, classes for students from KG to Class 7 were reopened from February 28.

At least eight places in the State recorded a day temperature of 40 degrees Celsius or above on Wednesday.

The mercury soared up to 42.7 degrees Celsius at Titilagarh, making it the hottest place in Odisha for the day.

According to the MET department, Titilagarh recorded the highest temperature followed by Balangir with 42.5 degrees, Sonepur with 41.9 degrees, Jharsuguda (41.2), Bhawanipatna (41) and Boudh (41). The maximum temperature was 40 degrees Celsius at both Sambalpur and Sundergarh towns.

The twin cities Bhubaneswar and Cuttack recorded a temperature of 34.8 and 38.1 degrees Celsius, respectively.

## Army's Medium Range Surface-to-Air Missile completes development trials, ready for induction

BHUBANESWAR (KCN): With two more successful trials of the Medium Range Surface-to-Air Missile (MRSAM) system, the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) on Wednesday confirmed to have completed the development tests of the weapon's Army variant.

The quick response missile was flight tested with deliverable configuration from the Integrated

Test Range (ITR) off the Odisha coast at about 10.15 am and



11.05 am paving the way for its early induction.

Defence sources said the missile system has once again

achieved direct hits against high speed aerial targets. The flight tests were conducted in the presence of senior officials of DRDO and the Indian Army. The network centric sleek missile was tested four times in the last three days at different attitudes and ranges. The trials were carried out for establishing the accuracy and reliability of the weapon system against targets cover

## BJD MP Prasanna Acharya demands censorship of OTT platforms, web channels in Rajya Sabha

NEW DELHI(KCN): Noting that there is a censor board for films but not for web chan-



nels, a BJD MP in the Rajya Sabha on Wednesday demanded a law to bring in censorship for OTT platforms and web channels to cull

out obscene scenes and content spreading religious hatred.

Raising the issue in the House through a zero hour mention, Biju Janata Dal's Prasanna Acharya said OTT platforms had gained unprecedented viewership during the pandemic when traditional entertainment sources were hugely impacted due to restrictions.

"Taking advantage of this, web channels are showing very obscene pictures and sometimes using very objectionable language...(this) is having a very bad impact, particularly on the younger generation. Such shows on web channels are also seriously

Bahinipati throws headphone towards Speaker's podium

BHUBANESWAR(KCN): Congress MLA Taraprasad Bahinipati created a ruckus in the Assembly on Tuesday by throwing his headphone toward the Speaker's podium demanding a discussion on the mining scam in the



House. The Congress MLA also stood on a chair in front of the Speaker's table.

Describing Bahinipati's behaviour as not appropriate, Speaker Surjya Narayan Patro said that such a senior member should not have acted like this.

Bahinipati alleged that 104 mine owners are looting the State and demanded action against them. He raised the issue during the zero hour and also moved an adjournment motion to discuss the issue, which was not accepted by the Speaker. He then walked out of the House. He raised the issue again during the afternoon session.

Responding to BJP's allegation about Congress' complicity as a result of which the issue could not be discussed in the House, Bahinipati later told mediapersons that he would quit politics if there is any truth in it. Government chief whip Pramila Mallik, however, said that Congress attempts to disrupt the proceedings when it has no issue to raise in the Assembly.



## Youth

....Some reminisce, some await, some walk at your front or back, Ye, youth, the most precious time, really you do possess, gathering from all corners, the stream of accolades. You have toned muscles to accomplish all toughs, thereby, shaping stimulating imaginations, glazing beauty on your face allures all, You have the dynamic voice to opine, and a stretched arena to examine, every opportunity open to avail, and what not? the herculean courage to pervade, sea, space, mounts n deserts. Nevertheless, dozens of challenge

Sanjib Kumar Dash

lying ahead, guys, judicious power use calls you, to overhaul apartheid, to end the racial fights, to intensify scientific temper, against growing hunger, to combat with the ghost of intoxications of all sorts, to transform the parched, into ever smiling greenery, last but not the least, to bury all evils and to discover, the precious, for history write up, possibly, of a clean, consistent earth.



Reader in Physics, Deogarh College

## The Better Prize

I see you're tired when I get home.  
You feel some days you're all alone.  
But what you're doing is priceless, dear,  
And one day you'll back-one year.  
Far from now when these kids are grown,  
You'll remember the days you spent at home.  
Wiping noses, washing dishes,  
Having tea parties, getting kisses.  
Playing ball and tying shoes,  
Dressing dolls and kissing boo-boo's,  
Then you'll look at me with tearful eyes,  
and know you got the better prize.

Author Unknown

## Quotation of the Day



*Life is like a book.*

Some chapters sad, some happy, and some exciting. But if you never turn the page. You will never know what the next chapter holds.

# 11 different types of Painting that every Artist should know

Over the course of history, the way artists have painted—and the mediums they use—has evolved. New technology and changing tastes mean that the paints used by artists have continued to diversify. But how do you know which is the right type of paint for you? Many of us are familiar with water-

color, oil, and acrylic paint, but there's so much more out there for artists to explore.

While some types of painting, like fresco and tempera, aren't practiced quite as frequently, others are seeing a resurgence. For instance, a renewed interest in hand lettering and sign painting has made enamel paint trendier than ever.

As an artist, how can you decide on the right type of paint for your artwork? Having a good grasp on the characteristics of each paint and the aesthetic they provide will help you narrow down your choices. Some painting techniques are easy for artists of all levels to pick up, while others may require more advanced technical skill.

Learn more about different kinds of paint to see what works best for you. Who knows? You just might be inspired to try a new type of painting.

Discover more about 11 types of painting that help artists express their creativity.

### OIL

For centuries, artists have been using oil paint to create their masterpieces. This slow drying



medium is made from color pigments suspended in oil. Due to its long drying time, artists can take their time producing work. Oil paint is often used to create wonderful textured effects thanks to its thick consistency. Though it can be messy to work with and requires care when working with mediums that contain toxic elements, it's still beloved by artists for the rich colors it produces. So, it should come as no surprise that it's one of the most popular types of painting. Learn how to pick the right type of oil paint in our handy guide.

### ACRYLIC

There are a wide array of acrylic paints in terms of texture and drying time. This water-soluble paint dries quickly, is non-toxic, and cost-effective, often making it a go-to choice for painters of all skill levels. Over time it holds up better than oil paint, as it's not prone

to cracking or yellowing. There are innumerable acrylic paint techniques and by combining the paint with



different mediums, artists have flexibility in the final look. Though acrylic is water resistant when completely dry on the canvas, its water-soluble nature when damp makes for easy cleanup.

Learn more about the difference between acrylic paint and oil paint, as well as the best acrylic paint for artists of all levels.

### WATERCOLOR

Typically painted on paper, watercolors are made from pigments



suspended in a water-based solution. Known for the transparent layers they create, watercolor paint remains soluble even when dry. This means that artists can make some corrections even when the painting is dry, but this also

### PASTEL

means that finished work must be protected carefully. There are many watercolor tech-

JESSICA STEWART

alistic portraits to washed out landscapes. Although paper is the most common support, watercolors can also be used on surfaces like fabric, wood, leather, and vellum.

Looking for watercolors? Check our guide to the best watercolor sets.

### GOUACHE

"Young Woman in a Rocking Chair, study for the painting 'The Last Evening' by Jacques Joseph Tissot, about 1873. Brush with gouache and watercolor, over graphite. (Photo: Getty Museum)

While gouache is similar to watercolor in that it can be re-wetted, this type of paint dries

matte and is a heavier paint due to the chalk that's incorporated into it. Gouache also has characteristics similar to acrylic in that it's an opaque paint. It's often used together with watercolor, and since it's water soluble, it requires a varnish over the top to seal the finished painting. A newer variation is acrylic gouache, which uses an acrylic-based binder that allows the paint to become water resistant when dry. Blick sells a wide variety of professional and student grade gouache.

### PASTEL

Sometimes known as "dry painting," the use of pastels has been popular since the 16th century. Their stick form and lack of drying time make them an easy and portable solution for artists. The most popular pastels—known as soft pastels—have chalk incorporated into them, but oil pastels with a waxy consistency are also available. Colors are typically blended straight onto the support and if



often use heat guns to extend the workability of the paint. Though encaustic—or hot wax painting—can be difficult to master, it is possible to create complex paintings full of dimension and color.

you're looking for a watercolor type effect,



there are also water-soluble pastels. These paintings are fragile, as the pigment can lift from the surface, so should be framed under glass.

Learn more about how to paint with pastels.

### ENCAUSTIC

This complex technique dates back to ancient Egypt and involves adding pigment to hot

bees wax.

The resulting paste is then typically applied to prepared wood, though canvas can also be used.

Special tools are then used to shape and sculpt the liquid prior to cooling.

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Jessica Stewart is a Contributing Writer and Digital Media Specialist for My Modern Met, as well as a curator and art historian. Since 2020, she is also one of the co-hosts of the My Modern Met Top Artist Podcast. She earned her MA in Renaissance Studies from University College London and now lives in Rome, Italy. She cultivated expertise in street art which led to the purchase of her photographic archive by the Treccani Italian Encyclopedia in 2014. When she's not spending time with her three dogs, she also manages the studio of a successful street artist. In 2013, she authored the book 'Street Art Stories Roma' and most recently contributed to 'Crossroads: A Glimpse Into the Life of Alice Pasquini'. You can follow her adventures online at @romephotoblog.



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



**MUMBAI(KCN):** Vikrant Massey-starrer "Cargo" will have its North American premiere at the 2020 edition of South by Southwest (SXSW) festival. The science fiction film, written and directed by Arati

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 for the Post Death

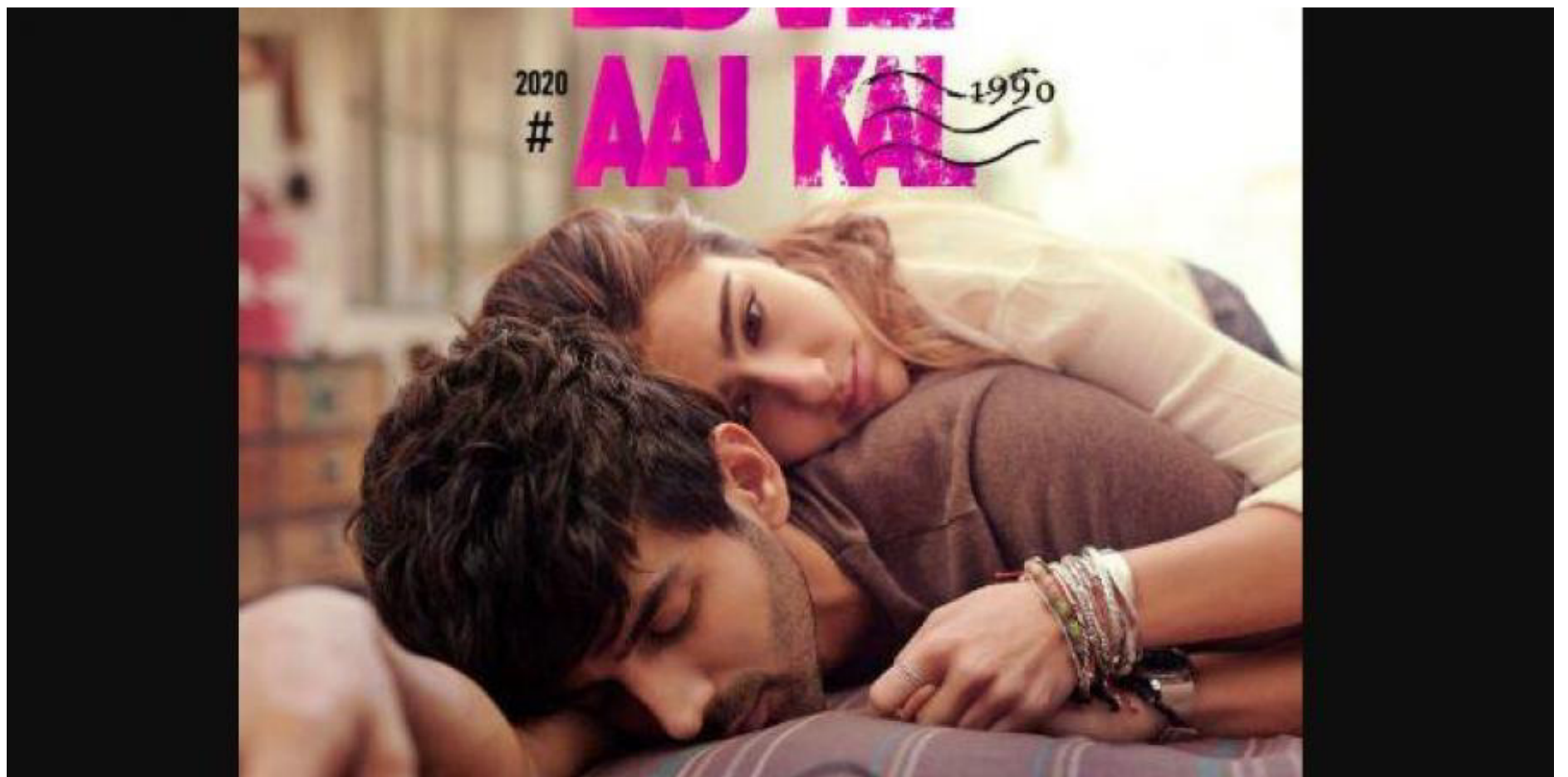
Transition services with the help of a female astronaut where dead people are recycled for rebirth. "Cargo" will be screened under the Global section of the film festival which will run from March 13 to 21.

Vikrant, who most recently featured alongside Deepika Padukone in "Chhapaak", said it makes him "proud" that the film has been chosen for the prestigious film gala. "Cargo" is one of the first Indian sci-fi

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.

**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

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. The poster also re-

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

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

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

**NEW YORK(KCN):** 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 evidence 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 release had no clear effect. "Our reanalysis casts

considerable doubt on the show having an effect on boys," said study author Dan Romer and research director of the Annenberg Public Policy Centre (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 adolescent 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 adoles-

cent 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 said.



# Why India needs tech for the common good

Government spending on innovation has contributed to some of the world's most used applications across a range of fields,



including technology and healthcare. For instance, most of the promising new drugs we see today are a result of research done by the National Institutes of Health. The internet actually originates from ARPANET, a programme funded by the Defence Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA). The current global positioning system (GPS), originally Navstar GPS, began as a 1970s US military project. The iPhone's touchscreen technology was created by a professor and his doctoral candidate at the publicly funded University of Delaware. Even Siri, Apple's digital personal assistant, is a spin-off of DARPA's project PAL (Personalised Assistant that Learns).<sup>1</sup> The Satellite Instructional Television Experiment by ISRO and NASA made available 2,400 black-and-white community TV sets across several villages in six Indian states for the first time in 1975 (when most urban homes didn't have a television).

Since the 1970s, a multitude of factors—including the rise of capitalism, targeting of public debt in the wake of the global financial crisis, and calls to spur private investment by cutting down government spending—have increasingly reduced the government's role in facilitating the private sector. In India, the R&D spending as a percentage of GDP has been decreasing. It is now approximately 0.66 percent of the GDP, almost equal to what it was in the 1990s (it spiked from 0.8 percent in 2004 to its highest—0.86 percent—in 2008, after which there's been a continuous decline).

The trend has more or less been the same in many countries. For instance, budget sequestration in the US (which entails the withdrawal of funding in certain areas) has led to cuts worth USD 95 billion in the federal R&D spending between 2013 and 2021, and the European fiscal compact is squeezing educational and R&D spending.<sup>2</sup> These moves are based on the assumption that market forces, when facilitated, regulated, and administered by governments, will themselves efficiently allocate resources. However, as we have seen over the years, market forces are blind to societal and environmental concerns.

Governments need to reconsider their role when it comes to public interest innovations and move beyond just facilitating. Therefore, governments cannot afford to remain facilitators when it comes to addressing challenges such as climate change, hunger, and inequality; they must go beyond fixing market failures, and create markets. Because, these deep-rooted multidimensional issues require long-term risky investments, innovation, and equi-

table solutions that neither give good returns in the short term nor yield the kinds of profits that venture capitalists seek. Therefore, governments need to fundamentally reconsider their role when it comes to public interest innovations and move beyond just facilitating.

The government must step up efforts to reap rewards on taxpayers' money through public investments. In this era powered by technological advancements, it means envisioning tech interventions for the public good and creating markets for their sustainability; it means looking beyond evaluating public spending by mere disbursement, and taking an active role to measure the impact.

Though in its infancy, public interest technology broadly means advancing equitable tech-enabled interventions for the common good. If not done well, these tech-enabled interventions will fall short of addressing equitability. For instance, VI-SPDAT, a data tool designed to help homeless people find housing facilities, ended up unintentionally improving white

**Abhishek Reddy M**

was rolled out to help the government formulate a policy response and operational measures, was only accessible to the 550 million people who have mobile internet. Also, the fabric of the application—which encourages users to self-validate symptoms of a stigmatised disease and contacts—puts a question mark on the credibility of its data.

This puts into perspective a key element—those developing public interest technology solutions should interact and engage meaningfully with those who are intimately familiar with the situation to produce interventions that address common good. This could be local nonprofits and/or the people that the tech seeks to benefit. This is not impossible to do, and there are many examples where doing this has had successful results.

Public interest technologies have citizens as participants and co-creators of the intervention.

For instance, Bangalore-based nonprofit Janaagraha created the online networking platform *ichangemycity*, wherein people

stant real-time peer-to-peer and person-to-merchant money transfers were planted way back in 2009 when the RBI formed the National Payment Corporation of India to integrate all the payment mechanisms available in the country—another great example of public investment in technology for good. The UPI pilot was launched only in 2016. This process doesn't suit the aspirations of venture capitalists and entrepreneurs, which is why the government must take a more active role in this area.

How can the government create a market for public interest technology?

Creating a market for public interest technologies requires looking beyond adding tech solutions to tackle government and nonprofit problems. The government needs to establish systems that seamlessly integrate technology-based solutions, design new academia for technologists that enable them to understand the ethical, social, economic, and political ramifications of new technology, create jobs for public interest technologists, train civil servants and nonprofits to become a part of the

movement, and establish networks of various stakeholders.

Understanding the current problems communities are facing, applying appropriate technologies, and iterating the solutions continuously by understanding the pulse of the public is a time-consuming process, which necessitates setting up an entire ecosystem that nurtures this process and rewards the stakeholders. By taking an active part as investors eager to



people's chances of getting housing over people of colour in the United States. This happened because many of the questions this application asks the users do not reflect vulnerabilities that people of colour are likely to say they experience. The United States Electronic Immigration System had similar faults. Software designers failed to collaborate with civil servants while developing the programme, and as a result they could not tailor the technology to make it accessible for all.<sup>3</sup>

Those developing public interest technology solutions should interact and engage meaningfully with those who are intimately familiar with the situation.

Further, Aarogya Setu, the Government of India's digital COVID-19 surveillance application, though well intentioned, doesn't consider constitutional rights to data privacy and usage. The application, which

from a neighbourhood can discuss and vote on civic issues such as garbage and water supply, and find a resolution through a complaint redressal mechanism. Reap Benefit, another nonprofit in Bangalore, employs gamification tools such as badges while empowering the youth to solve civic problems by developing their skills. The application enables youngsters to identify problems in their communities, and supports them with the skills needed to solve the problem through training.

These examples of public interest technologies have citizens as participants and co-creators of the intervention. The process is particularly slow, long, and iterative at a larger scale if it aims to promote detailed deliberation, sincere societal engagement, and inclusion. For example, the seeds for the hugely successful unified payments interface (UPI) that powers in-

maximise their returns, we believe that governments have tremendous potential to develop sustainable markets for public interest technologies.

Abhishek Reddy M is a deputy manager (communications) at Dr Reddy's Foundation. He has three years of experience working on writing, screenwriting, creative direction, social media management, employee engagement, photography, presentation, and design. He is a Young India Fellow from Ashoka University. He has a postgraduate certification in digital marketing and communications from MICA and a bachelor's degree in commerce from Christ University. Abhishek also leads creative direction at Six Elements Studio (Sculpture Studio).



## Khordha Model Police Arrest Three Members of Highway Robbery Gang. Loot Articles Recovered

Khordha (KCN): MukundPrasad Over Model Police ar- bridge on N.H-



rested three members 16. The accused have of a gang involved in been identified as (1) robbing in Chira ranjan

## Bill amending Jagannath Temple Act passed for land alienation

BHUBANESWAR: property for long. The Shri Jagannath Moving the Bill, Law Temple (Amend- Minister Pratap Jena



ment) Bill, 2022 was said the main purpose of the Bill is to amend section 16(2) of the Shri Jagannath Temple Act, 1954 to prescribe delegation of power to grant sanction to sell or otherwise alienate

## Poachers go after wildlife, blaze spreads in Similipal National Park

BARIPADA: As summer peaks and mercury soars, Similipal National Park has once been the target of poachers who have begun setting fire to hunt small animals and collect Mahua



flowers. The blaze has put the flora and fauna at risk as the fire continues to spread toward core area of the tiger habitat. While satellite images show fire continues to rage at several places, Forest department claimed that the incidents were reported from eight peripheral areas of the national park in the last couple of days and most of it is man-made. Officials of Similipal North division arrested five persons for allegedly starting a fire, attempted poaching, and illicit felling in Nawana Wildlife Range which is part of the core critical area. As many as six axes, two bows, arrows, and matchboxes were seized from their possession while forest personnel intensified patrolling on Tuesday. The five were identified as Rama Singh, Vima

Harichandan (32) (2) Amir Khan (32) (3) Javed Mohammed (22). Complaints Bibek Prasad Dumuri reported that at 7pm while he was returning with his pick up van along with Bikram Chaudhury, three persons stopped the vehicle by showing the knife near a rumbler at MukundPrasad over bridge and robbed Rs-38000/- and two mobile phone. Under instructions from SP, Khordha, Alekha Chandra Pahi, SDPO, Khordha, Sushil Kumar Mishra a team headed by Sanjaya Kumar Pattnaik, I/C

Model PS, Khordha was formed and raid was conducted and above noted accused persons were apprehended. Cash of Rs-24000/- and 10 numbers of mobile phone, two motorcycle used in committing the robberies from their possession were seized. One case was registered vide model PS, case no-144/22,U/S-394 IPC. The accused persons were forwarded to the Judicial court of Khordha. Police said "efforts are underway to nab other members of the gang who are on the run. Dillip Kumar Pattnaik, Khordha.

lands belonging to the Lord Sri Jagannath Temple Managing Committee. The grant of sanction to sell or alienate lands by the State government which was required invariably in all cases of alienation may not be necessary after framing of Rule in this regard, he said. The State Cabinet on January 5 this year approved amendments to the Sri Jagannath Temple Act, 1954 following

which the State government promulgated an ordinance as the Assembly was not in session. Earlier, people who had occupied or were in possession of the temple land for long had approached the government for the sale or transfer of the land. Since the process of resolution under the Act was time consuming, the government decided to simplify the process for prompt settlement of land rights.

## Government to form house panel on Srimandir project

BHUBANESWAR: The State government on Tuesday agreed to constitute a House committee to go into details of the Sri Jagannath Temple heritage corridor project following ruckus created by Opposition BJP and Congress members over the impact of the construction work on the shrine.

Making a statement in the House following a ruling of Speaker Surjya Narayan Patro in this regard, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Bikram Keshari Arukha said that a resolution was passed in the House on the heritage corridor project during which everybody had agreed to work together for the development of Puri and the 12th century temple. He said that the project work has already started and there is no danger to the temple from it. Referring to the de-

mand of the Opposition, the Minister said that different House committees will be announced on March

Alleging that deep pits which are being dug close to the temple may create cracks on the walls of

members can inspect the construction works being carried out within 75 metres of the shrine.



31. Government is ready to constitute a committee on the corridor project, he added. Earlier raising the issue during zero hours, BJP MLA from Puri, Jayanti Sarangi alleged that the construction works are being carried out close to the ancient shrine without the permission of the National Monument Authority (NMA) and Archaeological Survey of India (ASI).

the temple, Sarangi said that this may threaten the structure. Stating that he is not against the development of the temple and the town, Sarangi said that it should be done safely. He suggested that temple architectural experts should be consulted in this regard. Supporting him, Congress legislature party leader Narasingha Mishra demanded that a House committee should be constituted so that the

"As the local MLA has raised doubts over the safety of the temple's structure, a House committee should be formed so that the members can physically verify whether the construction is being done keeping in view the safety of the temple," he said. As Speaker SN Patro remained silent over the demand, the BJP MLAs trooped into the well of the House and raised slogans against the State government.

## Gujarat Congress claims industrialist and Patidar leader Naresh Patel will join party

AHMEDABAD: Industrialist Naresh Patel, an influential Patidar community leader in Gujarat who is also chairman of the Khodaldham Temple Trust, will "soon" join the Congress, leaders of the opposition party claimed on Wednesday. Assembly elections in the BJP-ruled Gujarat are due by the end of this year. Naresh Patel, a prominent figure in the numerically strong Patidar community, had earlier indicated that he was keen to join politics.

for more than two decades now, hopes to win over the Patidar community before the elections. The Congress had taken support of quota agitation leader Hardik Patel before the 2017 Assembly elections and he eventually joined the opposition party. This time they are hoping Naresh Patel will help them win over Patidar votes. The ruling BJP refrained from commenting on the Congress claim on Naresh Patel and said it will wait for an official announcement about his political plunge. "Everybody is free to join whichever party



the Congress and the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) extending an invitation to him. "Naresh Patel will soon join the Congress party," Gujarat Congress vice-president Hemang Vasavda claimed. Vasavda quashed speculation that Naresh Patel will be declared the Congress chief ministerial candidate ahead of polls, saying a decision in this regard will be taken by the party's central leadership. Naresh Patel, an industrialist, is a Leuva Patidar, a sub-caste of the community. He became popular in the community after a trust headed by him built a massive temple of Mother Khodiyar at Kagwad in the Saurashtra region. His clout had increased during the Patidar community's agitation for reservation in jobs and education some years ago. The Congress, sitting in opposition in Gujarat

they wish to. In this case Naresh Patel is a senior community leader. We will give our reaction at an appropriate time after a public announcement is made," said state education minister and BJP leader Jitu Vaghani. The AAP sounded sceptical about the Congress claim on the Patidar community leader. "I personally cannot believe the news that Naresh Patel will join a sinking ship like the Congress party. We had sent an invitation to Patel to join our party," AAP state head Gopal Italia said. Gujarat chief minister Bhupendra Patel had last week said that for Naresh Patel "the BJP is the best party to join". Naresh Patel was not available for comments despite repeated attempts. On Monday, the Patidar community leader had said he was keen to join politics and will take a final call after consulting his supporters.



## DATRI with Tata Medical Center organised a Donor Recipient Meet

**Bhubaneswar/Kolkata:** DATRI Blood Stem Cell Donors Registry organised a Donor Recipient Meet (DRM) at Tata Medical Center Auditorium, Kolkata. DATRI thanked and presented a memento to Dr Mammen Chandy,



Director of Tata Medical Center, Kolkata, for his relentless support and help to DATRI. It brings us immense pleasure to share this moment and our association with him since DATRI's inception in 2009.

On the occasion **Dr. Mammen Chandy, Director, Tata Medical Center** said, "I am happy to support DATRI in its lifesaving mission. An association of many years and saving many lives. With DATRI's India's largest database of blood stem cell donors registry, we are able to help many blood cancer patients who are in need of a donor. I would encourage everyone to step forward and register with DATRI. With this we can bring hope to many patients lives."

Every day we learn alarming figures, of the reported cases diagnosed with blood cancers in the country. **Thirteen-year-old**

**Aliva Rout (from Balasore, Odisha)**, was suffering from Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia (ALL) a blood cancer. Aliva along with her parents was invited on stage to meet her lifesaver Prashanth Venkataraman.

Adding to this **Prashanth Venkataraman, Aliva Rout's Donor from Chennai** said, "If you have donated blood at some point you come out of the hospital satisfied that the blood you donated today is going to save someone's life. Blood Stem Cell donation is just as safe and could gift a life to someone suffering from cancer. I thank DATRI for giving me this opportunity and I am humbled that such a small thing I did could have such a massive impact on someone else."

While addressing the audience, **Ms. Sumati Misra, Head - Counseling & Transplant Centre Management, DATRI** said, "While we celebrate these Gifts of Lives as these are testament to the work we do; we need to remember the patients still waiting for a match. Even though we have 4.7 lakh registered donors, we still have miles to go. In a country like India, registered donors are less than 1% of the population. Each of us needs to help spread the light of awareness, register new donors and dispel the darkness of ignorance and myths. Once matched, we need to support and encourage our friends and family to

donate. Days like today are a celebration as a survivor meets their donor. Challenges are opportunities and DATRI's mission is to give each patient a 2<sup>nd</sup> chance at life. Each new donor registered is a ray of hope for patients looking for a match, so register NOW!"

The second recipient was a fourteen-year-old **Chandranath Banerjee (from Agarpura, West Bengal)**, who was suffering from Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia (ALL) a type of blood cancer.

**Nizamudheen, Chandranath's donor from Mallapuram, Kerala** said, "I came to know about DATRI when I was in college. After two years of registering as a potential donor with DATRI, I got a call that I have been found as a perfect match for someone in urgent need of a blood stem cell donor. I feel I have just done my duty as a human being. It is the least anyone can do. When you can save someone's life through such a simple and safe process of blood stem cell donation. I appeal to one and all to join and register with DATRI and its lifesaving mission. Today, I'm extremely happy to meet and see that I indeed helped someone to gift a life. It adds immense joy and makes my life even more meaningful and worthy."

**About DATRI: DATRI Blood Stem Cell Donors Registry**, a not-for-profit organisation, has facilitated more than 930 Blood Stem Cell Donations to date. The

### Thirteen-year-old Aliva Rout (from Balasore, Odisha), was suffering from Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia (ALL) a blood cancer

journey began in the year 2009 to find unrelated matched donors for patients with leukaemia, Thalassemia or blood disorders whose life is dependent on an unrelated donor to survive. **DATRI, India's largest Blood Stem Cell Donors Registry, has more than 4,68,994 donors registered.** DATRI is working towards creating a wide and diverse database of potential Blood Stem



**Cell Donors** that can be accessed by any patient living anywhere in the world in need of a **Blood Stem Cell Donation**. Any healthy individual between the age of 18 years to 50 years can register as a blood stem cell donor with DATRI and potentially become a lifesaver when they're found to be a match for a fatal blood disorder patient.

For Further Details, please visit us at: [datri.org](http://datri.org)

## Barbil police arrested 4 youths in connection with truck theft

**Barbil (KCN):** Shankar Chandra, a Barbil police of resident of Ward No.



Keonjhar district 10 under Barbil arrested 4 accused in connection with a truck theft on 28<sup>th</sup> March. As per information, Krishna police station

alleging that his 12-wheeler truck was stolen from Tanto village under B h a d r a s a h i panchayat. Four youth namely Ijjaj Ansari, Sajan Ansari, Miraj Ansari and Mozambil Ansari were arrested and c o n f i s c a t e d. According to reports, a 12-wheeler truck vide reg.no OD09-B-9303 was parked in Tonto village under Bhadrasahi panchayat. The driver, who was not in the vehicle and the helper was asleep inside. Taking advantage of this, these culprits smashed the glass of the vehicle and entered into the truck. Seeing this, the helper resisted. They tied him up threatening him with a deadly weapon and took the truck to the state of Jharkhand. On the way they threw the helper out near a jungle adjacent to Hatgamharia and fled into their area. Investigating the matter Police confiscated the truck from Jharkhand and seized a number of dreadful arms. They were arrested under IPC 395/120-B and Arm Act 25/27 and taken to court, Badbil police IIC Sushant Dash informed.

## As chairman of Barbil, he is committed for good governance- Lakshman Mahanta

**Barbil (KCN):** The ruling Biju Janata Dal (BJP) has won 12 wards in the Barbilmunicipal election of Kendujhar district, while the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)

winning councillors on giving a bouquet of flowers on behalf of the municipal council. Addressing new elected councillor Lakshman Mahanta appealed for a corruption free,



has won three wards. Laxman Mahant alias Laltu defeated his rival Dillip Mishra by 8,605 votes to win for the chairmanship portfolio. Today, he formally marched with his party workers to the municipal office. Municipal executive officer Abhishek Panda greeted him with a bouquet of flowers and welcomed him to his seat. He also congratulated the other

impartial development of the city with good governance. The people of Barbil also do expect from Lakshman to extend his wholehearted good work for building a healthy, wealthy and prosperous city. But time will speak, how the new chairman capable of shouldering his responsibility, intellectual remarks.

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## Taxpayers not linking PAN with Aadhaar by March 31 would be required to pay penalty ranging from Rs. 500 to Rs. 1,000

Kolkata (KCN): The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) has notified Today Late fees for Delayed/ Non linking of PAN with Aadhaar vide Notification No. 17/2022 Dated 29th March, 2022 which ranges from Rs. 500 to Rs. 1000.

Amended Income Tax Rule 114(5) now provides "Every person who, in accordance with the provisions of section 139AA(2), is required to intimate his Aadhaar number to the prescribed authority in the prescribed form and manner, fails to do so by the date referred to in the said sub-section, shall, at the time of subsequent intimation of his Aadhaar number to the prescribed authority, be liable to pay, by way of fee, an amount equal to Rs.500 in a case where such intimation is made within three months from the last date for linking PAN with Aadhaar under section 139AA(2).

However this fee shall be Rs. 1000, in all other cases in which the Pan is linked with Aadhaar after 3 months of the last date i.e. 31st March, 2022.

Advocate Narayan Jain, Chairman Representation Committee of Direct Taxes Professionals Association informed that if any taxpayer do not link his PAN with Aadhaar, his PAN card will become inoperative or invalid. KK Jain, DTPA President has advised all taxpayers to link their PAN card with Aadhaar card before March 31, 2022.

Using an invalid PAN card may lead to Penalty of upto ₹10,000 under sec 272B of Income Tax Act.

The last date for PAN Aadhaar linking was extended to 31st March, 2022 by CBDT Notification No. 113 of 2021 dated 17 September, 2021.

## Finance Minister says inflation to come down in fiscal year 2023

NEW DELHI: Finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman has said that the government believes inflation would come

is the difference between nominal and real GDP growth rate, has been 3.15% over the past five years and the esti-

wholesale inflation is much higher than the retail inflation, but reiterated that the government believes the wholesale infla-

Sabha MP and former finance minister P Chidambaram's question on budget estimate of 11.1% nominal GDP growth even as the Economic Survey puts the real GDP growth rate at 8-8.5%. Chidambaram had, therefore, questioned the government's inflation (deflator) estimates in 2022-23.

The Finance Minister said that the Economic Survey is an independent report, and the budget estimates are based on advanced estimates released by the National Statistics Office (NSO). She hinted that there could be differences in the Economic Survey estimates and the Budget estimates.



down, and that 3.1% GDP deflator is feasible in 2022-23. The FM was responding to questions on credibility of budget estimates in the Rajya Sabha on Tuesday. She said that the GDP deflator, which

mate for 2022-23 is close to the five-year estimate. She said that deflator is neither consumer inflation (CPI) nor is it wholesale inflation (WPI) and that it has components of both. She admitted that the

tion would shrink in 2022-23. The Wholesale Inflation in February was 13.11% while the retail inflation was 6.1% during the month. She was responding to Congress Rajya

## India's indigenous 4G mobile network to be rolled out soon, says Vaishnav

NEW DELHI: India's indigenous 4G mobile network has been prepared in the shortest possible time and is ready for rollout soon while the 5G network will be ready by the end of 2022, Telecom Minister Ashwini Vaishnav said in Lok Sabha on Wednesday.

He said after many years, state-owned BSNL has been able to make operating profit after improvement in its services. Vaishnav said Indian engineers have prepared the country's own 4G network which is ready for launch very soon. "The whole world is looking at us with surprise how India has built its 4G network so soon," he said during Question Hour.

The minister said the 5G network is built on the 4G and the work is going on to

build the 5G. "The scientists have predicted that our 5G network will be ready by the end of this year," he said.

Replying to a supplementary on the poor connectivity in many areas of the country, Vaishnav said nine schemes have been taken by the government to improve mobile telecom network. He said the construction of over 9,000 towers in aspirational districts and Northeastern region. In addition, he said, a Rs 6,446 crore scheme has been taken to improve mobile infrastructure in over 60,200 villages

of the steps taken by the government, BSNL has been able to make operational profit after a long time and people should acknowledge it. "After the Rs 69,000 crore package announced in 2019, BSNL has become a

stable entity. In this year's budget too, Rs 44,720 crore provision has been made," he said.

The minister said the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India monitors the performance of Telecom Service Providers (TSPs), including BSNL, against the benchmarks for various Quality of Service (QoS) parameters laid down by TRAI by way of QoS regulations issued from time to time, through Quarterly Performance Monitoring Reports (PMRs) received from TSPs.

As per PMR for quarter ended September 2021, BSNL is meeting, in general, most of the QoS parameters for its cellular and basic services in Uttar Pradesh, including its aspirational districts, he said.



## SankalpTaru Foundation becomes the first Indian NGO in environmental conservation space to launch Blockchain

Kolkata(KCN): One of India's leading IT enabled NGO, SankalpTaru Foundation today



announced an integration with Polygon to adopt blockchain technology. This integration enables SankalpTaru Foundation to become the first Indian NGO in the environmental conservation space. It also helps to further enhance the trust of its donors that offers them an additional handle to check the veracity of information, including the tree data shared with them.

As a major agricultural producer, West Bengal is said to have good farming interventions, despite which the state's marginal farmers do not receive a good return over their crops due to low selling rates. SankalpTaru initiated Project Shyamolima with a pledge to promote biodiversity in the state through development of a sustainable plantation program, thus creating efficient and effective self-enthusiastic model for the project beneficiaries.

On this occasion, Mr Apurva Bhandari, **BJD MP Prasanna Acharya demands censorship of OTT platforms, web channels in Rajya Sabha**

Continued from page-1

affecting communal harmony as India is a multi-language and multi-religious society," he said.

"If there was a censorship provision, this could not have happened. In the name of freedom of creativity and in the name of expression of views, we cannot encourage debauchery and exploitation of women and disrespecting religious sentiments," he said, adding that there is a censor board for films but not for web channels.

Acharya mentioned the Delhi High Court's recent strictures against microblogging platform Twitter for allowing objectional comments against religious communities, creating an atmosphere of intolerance. "Law should be made to impose censorship on web channels who are taking undue advantage of not being censored and spreading hatred among religions and communities," he added.

Vijay Pal Singh Tomar (BJP) wanted lifting of the ban on some pesticides as there was no alternative available for them and costly imports were not as effective. Neeraj Dangi (Congress) raised the issue of all sportspersons not being allowed to import tax-free air guns of 0.77 inches 4.5 mm calibre bore.

"Only renowned shooters are allowed duty-free or GST-free import of air weapons, which is impacting the training of upcoming sportspersons. The import of air weapons which do not require to be registered for arms licence should be allowed for all the citizens who are seriously adopting this sport," he said, adding that spare parts of these air guns should also be exempt from import taxes.

M Shanmugham (DMK) demanded the convening of the Indian Labour Conference which has not been held since 2015, to discuss labour matters. He said all 12 recognised trade unions have given a call for early convening of the meeting.

Narendra Jadhav (Nominated) wanted the government to conduct a survey to find out the state of international medal-winning sportspersons and extend them recognition and social and employment security.

Jharna Das Baidya (CPM) raised the issue of large scale timber smuggling and migration in Tripura, Santanu Sen (TMC) need for better health services and education for adolescent women.

Founder of SankalpTaru Foundation says, "SankalpTaru has always pioneered through its various creative interventions and has brought technology closer to the cause.

Blockchain allows digital information like tree URL with basic details such as tree image, tree ID, and its geolocation to be recorded and distributed with no scope of editing, deletion, or destruction of any data. Through Blockchain, we would build trust among our donors and sponsors and encourage them to plant millions of trees to combat the war against climate change."

The Blockchain is an information management technology that uses a distributed processing architecture to enhance the resiliency of data transactions from unauthorized changes, hacks, and corruptions. If someone tries to alter or tamper with a record in one instance of the database, the other nodes would crossreference each other and easily pinpoint



the node with the incorrect information. Thus, this system helps to establish an exact and transparent order of events. This way, SankalpTaru would ensure that the trees planted by its individual and corporate donors are never duplicated or reassigned to anyone else. Every planted tree in the digital forest would bear unique data and a placeholder to cross-verify the details shared with the donors. The green patrons are environmentally aware and take a decision to contribute their time, money, and trust in making the planet liveable. Blockchain initiative of SankalpTaru and Polygon is there to assure that one's tree data is very much validated and immutable. This integration is foreseen to revolutionize the way data is stored and accessed. This integration is a shining example of bringing new green opportunities to the technological world.

**Army's Medium Range Surface-to-Air Missile completes development trials, ready for induction**

Continued from page-1

ing the sea skimming and high altitude functionality within the envelope.

A defence official said performance of all weapon system components including missile, radar and command post have been validated during the trials. With the conclusion of flight trials for different ranges and scenarios, the system has

completed its development trials and is ready for induction in the Army, he said.

Secretary Department of Defence (R&D) and Chairman of DRDO Dr G Satheesh Reddy congratulated the teams associated with the successful test firings of the weapon system. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh lauded DRDO, the Indian Army and industry for the successful flight tests. He said the successful launches have once again proved the reliability of the system.

The most advanced next generation missile has been developed by Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI) in collaboration with public and private sector enterprises. With a strike range of nearly 100 km, the 4.5-metre long supersonic quick reaction missile weighs around 2.7 tonnes and can carry a payload of 60 kg. Travelling at a speed of Mach 2, it can achieve high degrees of manoeuvrability at the terminal phase.

The weapon system has been developed with cutting-edge technology to neutralise airborne threats like jets, subsonic and supersonic cruise missiles, anti-tank systems and rockets.

One of the variants of the MRSAM system has already been handed over to the Indian Air Force (IAF). The missile is designed to provide point and area air defence for ground assets against a wide range of threats.

On March 27, the missile system was successfully flight tested twice against high-speed aerial targets for different ranges as part of the live firing trials.



## Ronaldo, Portugal among teams securing World Cup bids

WASHINGTON: Cristiano Ronaldo will get another shot at lifting the World Cup. Portugal beat North Macedonia 2-0 in a European playoff on Tuesday, securing a fifth World Cup appearance for the leading men's international scorer. It was one of seven spots in soccer's premier tournament decided on the day. Thirty-two teams, including the hosts, will play in Qatar starting Nov. 21. As of Tuesday, 27 teams had qualified with two additional spots to be determined on Wednesday.

Two intercontinental playoffs will be held in June along with two games to determine the final European berth. Portugal's win finalized the eight seeds for Friday's draw: Qatar, Argentina, Belgium, Brazil, England, France, Portugal and Spain. Pot two will include Croatia, Denmark, Germany, Netherlands, Switzerland and Uruguay, and if the teams qualify Wednesday, Mexico and the United States. All eyes were on North Macedonia, vying for its first World

Cup berth after surprisingly eliminated Italy with a 1-0 victory last week. But the small country that gained independence from the former Yugoslavia in 1991 fell short. Portugal made its eighth World Cup and sixth in a row. "Goal achieved, we are at the Qatar World Cup, we are in our rightful place! Thank you to all the Portuguese for the tireless support! Portugal strong!" Ronaldo posted to social media in Portuguese. The World Cup trophy is the one prize that has eluded Ronaldo, a

five-time Ballon d'Or winner. While the 37-year old is a lock for his team's roster in Qatar, fellow international star Mohamed Salah will miss out after Egypt fell to

Senegal on Tuesday. Senegal advanced on a

penalty shootout for one of Africa's five berths after fans shone lasers in Salah's face while he stepped up to take Egypt's first penalty kick. He blasted his attempt over the crossbar while he had green-colored lasers pointed at his face and body. Salah's Liverpool teammate Sadio Mané struck the winning penalty after the teams drew 1-1 on aggregate, sending Senegal to its third World Cup. Mané also had the shootout winner against Egypt in the African Cup of Na-

tions final on Feb. 6. Ghana qualified after Congo 4-1 to secure its spot 5-2 on aggregate. Tunisia played to a scoreless draw with Mali and qualified with a 1-0 aggregate victory. Robert Lewandowski converted a penalty in the 50th minute and Poland secured its second straight World Cup berth with a 2-1 victory over Sweden in another European playoff. It was Lewandowski's 75th international goal in 129 appearances. Canada has already clinched a spot in North and Central America and the Caribbean, its first World Cup appearance in 36 years. The United States and Mexico have all but secured berths with the final round of matches set for Wednesday. The U.S. men, who missed out on the 2018 World Cup, visit Costa Rica, while Mexico will host El Salvador. Costa Rica is currently in fourth place with a chance to go to an intercontinental playoff

against the winner of Wednesday's Oceania match between New Zealand and the Solomon Islands. The European teams that have qualified are Belgium, Croatia, Denmark, England, France, Germany, Netherlands, Serbia, Spain, Switzerland, Poland and Portugal. Brazil, Argentina, Ecuador and Uruguay have qualified in South America. Peru defeated Paraguay 2-0 on Tuesday night for fifth place, and will compete for a berth against the winner of Asia's fifth-place playoff between Australia and the United Arab Emirates on June 7. The Asian region teams that qualified are Iran, South Korea, Japan and Saudi Arabia. Ukraine originally scheduled was to play Scotland in a European playoff, but the match was postponed until June because of Russia's invasion. The winner plays at Wales for Europe's final spot.



## Celebrities pay tribute to cricketer Shane Warne at service

CANBERRA: An eclectic array of celebrities including singer Elton John, golfing legend Greg Norman and champion surfer Kelly Slater paid tribute on Wednesday to their

friend, former Australian cricketer Shane Warne, at a star-studded state memorial service. More than 50,000 mourners chanted their hero's nickname "Warnie" at the outset of the service at the Melbourne Cricket Ground as they used to do when he took to the pitch for a match. It was his hometown pitch where he cemented his sporting legend in 2006 by becoming the first bowler in the world to take 700 test wickets. Warne's death at a Thai resort of a suspected heart attack on March 4 at the age of 52 made headlines around the world. The pain was felt far beyond the cricket world. Tributes came from the fields of music, acting, business, golf, politics, surfing, comedy, poker and others. Elton John dedicated a rendition of "Don't

Let the Sun Go Down on Me" to Warne's children — Brooke, Summer and Jackson — who were among the crowd that included Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison. golfer Greg Norman recalled Warne's passion, energy and enthusiasm for life. "Rest in peace, Warnie. You are one of the best human beings I've ever met," Norman said in a

Robbins, who played Kel Knight in the series, told the service. Actors Hugh Jackman and Eric Bana also paid tribute to their friend. Bana described Warne as a "fun loving larrikin"




John and fellow British musicians Ed Sheeran, Robbie Williams and Coldplay frontman Chris Martin appeared on a large screen via video. So too did Australian singers (and sisters) Kylie and Dannii Minogue. Martin played "Eulogy," a piano piece that he composed for the occasion. In another video, Martin apologized for not attending the memorial in person. "We're on tour in Central America and there are a lot of background noises, but I feel like that might be OK with him," Martin said in a jungle setting. "I think chaos and Shane were good friends," Martin added before performing "Yellow" with a guitar. Sheeran described Warne as "such a great bloke." Australian-born former champion

video. American surfer Kelly Slater described Warne as an "Australian classic." Some knew Warne as one of the all-time great spin bowlers. Others knew him as the dapper one-time fiancé of glamorous British film star and model Elizabeth Hurley. "It seems too cruel that all the people who loved him will never have another Lion hug," Hurley posted on social media in a tribute to the former lover she called Lionheart after his death. She did not take part in Wednesday's service. Warne once appeared in an episode of the Australian comedy TV series "Kath and Kim" as a Warne impersonator named Wayne. "He turned up and he was so easy to work with, had so much fun," actor Glenn

— an Australian term for a mischievous troublemaker — whose feats had changed cricket. Former English cricket team captain Nasser Hussain and former West Indies team captain Brian Lara also spoke at the service. Warne's love life and off-field indiscretions were often fodder for tabloid journalists. But his determination to be his authentic, flawed and irreverent self endeared him to his friends and fans alike. A statue of Warne outside the cricket ground became a focus of public grief. Tributes left at the statue included beer bottles and cigarette packets. It was a nod to how Warne once described himself in words repeated at his service by his father, Keith Warne: "I smoked, I drank and I played a little cricket."

video. American surfer Kelly Slater described Warne as an "Australian classic." Some knew Warne as one of the all-time great spin bowlers. Others knew him as the dapper one-time fiancé of glamorous British film star and model Elizabeth Hurley. "It seems too cruel that all the people who loved him will never have another Lion hug," Hurley posted on social media in a tribute to the former lover she called Lionheart after his death. She did not take part in Wednesday's service. Warne once appeared in an episode of the Australian comedy TV series "Kath and Kim" as a Warne impersonator named Wayne. "He turned up and he was so easy to work with, had so much fun," actor Glenn




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