

Swamy for End of Parikrama Row

Puri(KCN): Veteran BJP leader and former Union Minister Subramanian Swamy on Friday said the ongoing controversy over the Srimandir Parikrama project should end. Mr. Swamy told this to the media after meeting Puri Shankaracharya Swami Nischalalanda Saraswati here at Gobardhan Peetha. Stating that he was aware of the controversies surrounding the project, Mr. Swamy said there is a need to end the controversy. "I am aware of the controversies surrounding the project.

The temples were the hub of knowledge and innovation and



Kings used to frequently pay visits to the places. It is everybody's duty to protect our temples," the BJP leader told reporters. Mr. Swamy said he will take up this issue to Chief Minister Naveen

Patnaik. "Biju Patnaik was a close friend and I have

said temples should be free from government control. "I have always been saying that religious institutions should be protected and the State Government/ Administration should assist in functioning and they should not take control," he said. A government can intervene if there are some irregularities, he added. Mr. Swamy's meeting with the Shankaracharya has assumed significance as the Seer had opposed the Srimandir project twice during the last one week and cautioned the State Government over the issue. good relations with his son and present Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik. I will take up the issue and speak to Naveen. There is a need to end the controversy," he added. Mr. Swamy further

HSRP for Old Vehicles

Bhubaneswar(KCN): The State Government has made affixation of High-Security Registration Plates (HSRPs) mandatory for all class of old vehicles which were registered prior to April 1, 2019. Earlier, the HRPS has already been made mandatory for all new vehicles registered on or after 1 April, 2019.



Transport Commissioner Arun Bothra has issued an order for this purpose in accordance with rule 50 of Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989.

Vehicle owners have been given at least 3 months' time to fix the HSRP on old vehicles before enforcement is undertaken by the transport department and police officials. Accordingly, different deadlines have been set for vehicles as per its registration number.

As per the order, August 31, 2022 is the deadline for the vehicles carrying Odisha registration mark and registration number ending with 1 & 2, while September 31, October 31 and November 30 is the deadline for the Odisha registration vehicles with numbers ending with 3&4, 5&6 and 7&8, respectively.

Similarly, the vehicle owners carrying Odisha registration mark and registration number ending with 9 and 0 will have to affix the HSRP by December 31, 2022.

To avoid last minute rush, Mr. Bothra advised vehicle owners to affix HSRP on their vehicles as soon as possible but not later than the above schedule.

If the vehicle owners fail to replace the existing number plates with HRPS before the above-mentioned deadlines, e-challans will be issued against the offending vehicle and attract fine of Rs. 5000 or Rs. 10,000 under Section 192 of M.V. Act, 1988 as the case may be, warned the commissioner. CONTINUED ON: P-7

Seven soldiers killed in road accident in Ladakh's Tuktuk sector

NEW DELHI(KCN): Seven Army soldiers were killed and 19 others were injured in

at a place that is around 25 km from Thoise, they said. Officials said the ve-

ALSO READ: PM Narendra Modi expresses anguish, says all possible assistance

is provided to the injured," said an official.

The officials said the vehicle fell into the Shyok river to a depth of approximately 50 to 60 feet from the road.

"A party of 26 soldiers was moving from the transit camp in Partapur to a forward location in sub-sector Hanif. At around 9 am, 25km from Thoise, the vehicle skidded off the road and fell in Shyok river," the official cited above said. All the injured were initially taken to the 403 Field Hospital at Partapur. Hours later, all 19 injured personnel have been shifted to Chandimandir in the Panchkula district of Haryana.



the Tuktuk sector of Ladakh on Friday when the vehicle they were travelling skidded off the road and fell into the Shyok river, Army officials said. The accident took place at around 9 am

hicle they were travelling in skidded off the road and fell into the Shyok river. As many as 26 soldiers were on their way from the transit camp in Partapur to a forward location in sub-sector Hanif.

being given to those affected "Seven individuals have been declared fatal so far. There are grievous injuries to others as well. Dedicated efforts are underway to ensure that the best medical care

UN official praises Indian peacekeepers for thwarting attack in Congo

UNITED NATIONS (KCN): Indian peacekeepers, as well as Blue Helmets from other nations, pushed back an attack by an armed group in Congo, a top UN official has said, lauding the peacekeepers' efforts and 'proactive role' in countering these assaults on the civilian population. India is the second-highest military (1,888) and fifth-highest (139) police-contributing country to the United Nations Organization Stabili-

zation Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

the UN peacekeeping missions. The UN Security

R é p u b l i q u e démocratique du Congo (FARDC) po-



(MONUSCO). India has been among the largest troop-contributing countries to

Council has strongly condemned the attack on (MONUSCO) and Forces armées de la

sitions by the Mouvement du 23 mars (M23) on May CONTINUED ON: P-7

India is fast-tracking Free Trade Agreements with UK, EU: Patel

NEW DELHI(KCN): India is fast-tracking negotiations for proposed free trade agreements with certain developed countries like the UK as well as with the European Union, and maybe by this year end, the government would be able to give a final shape to few of these pacts, minister of state for commerce and industry Anupriya Patel said on Friday. She also expressed hope that the trade pact with Australia would be operationalised "very soon".

India has already implemented a trade agreement with the UAE, and "we are fast-tracking our FTAs (Free Trade Agreements) with lot of other developed countries like the UK, and the EU- and maybe by this year end, we

would be able to give a final shape to few of these," she said while launching the Indian Business Portal of exporters' body FIEO here.

The minister added that these agreements will create better opportunities for domestic businesses. The portal is a B2B

The minister said that the portal will address issues like digitising exporters, supporting MSMEs (Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises) and encouraging greater exports of products made in India.

It is witnessed during the pandemic that online platforms such

eral of Foreign Trade, said that tech-enabled governance will play a key role in determining India's growth and competitiveness.

A Sakthivel, president, FIEO (Federation of Indian Export Organisations), said that the platform will empower SME exporters to identify new markets for their products and grow their sales with new buyers. Khalid Khan, vice president, FIEO, said that the portal would act as an international trade hub for Indian exporters and foreign buyers.

"The portal focuses on empowering MSMEs to leverage e-commerce to support millions of businesses to sustain themselves, she said. Speaking at the function, Santosh Kumar Sarangi, Director Gen-



digital marketplace to empower SME (Small and Medium Enterprise) exporters, artisans and farmers to identify new markets for their products and grow their sales globally.

as e-commerce have shown immense potential in supporting millions of businesses to sustain themselves, she said. Speaking at the function, Santosh Kumar Sarangi, Director Gen-

Mo Sarkar introduced new governance model: Naveen Patnaik

BHUBANESWAR(KCN): Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik on Thursday said that the Mo Sarkar initiative of the government has provided a new model of governance to the State and asked the officials to make it more inclusive. Reviewing the implementation of the programme at a high-level meeting here, the Chief Minister said that the success of Mo Sarkar required behavioural change of the government employees, which the programme has been able to achieve. The programme has changed the manner in which general people perceived government departments, he added. The Chief Minister had launched the Mo Sarkar initiative on October 2, 2019. He said the feedback re-

ceived from people under the programme is being recorded and steps are being taken as per their opinion. Naveen said that many departments have succeeded in changing the attitude of the employees towards their work and their

partners in implementation of different government programmes. He, however said, satisfaction of people should not be the goal. There should be constant efforts to improve and solve the problems faced by the people. The de-



interaction with the public. "Employees are behaving with more responsibility and have become sympathetic towards the people after the introduction of the programme," he added. The administrative process has become more inclusive and people have become

partments should find out ways to resolve the problems faced by the people, he added. With 31 departments being part of the programme, he also asked the departments to reward employees who excel in providing different services to the people. Giving a presenta-

tion, Secretary of the Electronics and IT department Manoj Mishra said 250 services of 31 departments have been brought under Mo Sarkar. He said that while 11,298 employees of different departments are engaged in implementation of Mo Sarkar, 199 officials have been entrusted with the task of getting feedback from people.

Stating that getting feedback from people on performance of different engineering departments are important, IT secretary VK Pandian said that action should be taken against employees who default in implementation of Mo Sarkar. Chief Secretary Suresh Chandra Mahapatra said that collection of feedback from people is important in implementation of Mo Sarkar.

Opportunities for Odisha based Architects

Rourkela (KCN): Chairman of NITRAA, Rourkela Chapter and Social Activist Bimal Kumar Bisi wrote to Union Railway Minister Aswini Vaishnaw and requested for opportunities for odisha based Architects. He says "What does one remember as one visits a capital city? The first memory for the majority of those arriving in the city is that of the Railway station. It is rare to find an Indian who has never travelled by train. Roadways are uncomfortable for long-distance journeys and flights are beyond reach for the majority of Indians. Railways move India and, in the process, integrate India. The flavour changes as Train takes a family from Northern India to Southern and from Eastern India to Western. Should we expect a Railway station to be just like INOX or a common High rise corporate mall? All INOXs are the same all Malls are the same. It's No more Hazrat Ganj of Lucknow or Connaught place of Delhi or Bada Bazaar

of Kolkata or Marine drive of Bombay. Malls are the same everywhere. Once one enters a modern mall, it is impossible to know whether a person is in India or Spain. Just like highly standardized Box Pizzas, readymade clothes with standard sizes or perfectly identical artificial diamonds. There is an all-pervading monotonous uniformity. Product uniformity does offer economies of scale and should be there to bring down the costs. But capital city Railway stations which are supposed to be icons must have a uniqueness that should identify them with the place. They are the real gateway to the city and the change of flavour must create a symphony of unity in diversity for the traveller. Here comes the role of the architects. Does Odisha not have the local talent to develop Railway station buildings in Odisha? Odiya Architecture whether that of Sun Temple, Konark, or Lord Jagannath's Temple Puri, has a world-class uniqueness and scientific

advancement. The Sundial carved in the wheels of a chariot is one of the highest examples of integration of science with art and spiritualism. Should we compare these with the Plastic shops, INOX type raw business structures that are nothing but the product of a mass produced product mix created by corporate Sales teams? The signature flavour of a cup of Dahi Pakhal or enchanting Rangobati beats? Does it not ring a Bell? The same applies to the Icons. The icons need not be historical temple architecture but must bring out what the best postmodern Odiya minds can imagine. Is it possible for the Delhi and Gurgaon-based Packaged Architects to bring the Odiya signature to the Iconic station structures? An architect whose visit to Bhubaneswar is limited to some business Hotel Room can only deliver a mass-produced packaged architecture, a concrete and glass boxed Pizza! Icons do not just mean concrete high rise and glass. It

is well beyond this. The functional station elements, in any case, are designed throughout the world based on the specialized formulae already developed. The Architect has to go beyond the arithmetic of design. Perhaps the best solution is to involve Architects of Odisha developing the signature facades of Odisha Railway stations. This will not only help create signature icons bringing out the specialty of the state but shall also develop skills and capacities in post-modern methods of Architecture, Engineering, and Construction management. The capabilities and abilities of those who created world-class icons deserve to be trusted again. No doubt the results will be mesmerizing. With the capabilities, odisha architects can meet the challenges of conceptual oriental design which we presume can be made with the cost of around rupees 40 cr besides international exposure." Bimal Kumar Bisi requested to consider this request positively for around growth for this area.

Ayush is currently raising funds of INR 16 crores through the crowdfunding platform ImpactGuru

Kolkata (KCN): Kolkata-based Das family is raising funds through the crowdfunding platform ImpactGuru.com for their 4-month-old son Ayush Das who is suffering



from SMA Type 1 (Spinal Muscular Atrophy). He is fighting against this deadly disease which is affecting him from doing basic activities like moving, eating, breathing, and swallowing and is also slowly corrupting his muscles. Ayush is currently raising funds of INR 16 crores through the crowdfunding platform for his Zolgensma therapy. So far, Ayush's ImpactGuru fundraiser has raised over Rs. 5 lakhs in the span of 7 days.

Ayush's father, Arpon Das is a government job employee while his wife is also a working professional in a private company. Ayush's parents are trying their best to save his life by giving him the complete and best treatment. However, the huge amount of INR 16 Crores stands as the biggest obstacle in their endless efforts. Seeing little Ayush

suffer from this deadly disease every second, breaks the heart of his family. Currently, he is in very critical condition and undergoing treatment at Peerless Hospital, Kolkata.

We are on a mission to give my baby a normal and healthy life which could be achieved with the life-saving drug Zolgensma a gene therapy medicine for treating spinal muscular atrophy. Ayush has been a strong warrior so far and has survived all the pain that life throws at it. However, as parents it is like walking on shattered pieces of glasses everyday while we see our little one suffer" says Arpon, Ayush's Father

SMA is a progressive neuromuscular disease caused due to defects in the SMN1 gene. The affected children develop muscle weakness involving upper and lower limbs initially, but over time develop breathing difficulty and swallowing difficulty. SMA affects 1 in 10,000 children generally, and there are nearly 800 children suffering from SMA in India currently, and thrice as many children die before they even reach their 2nd birthday. The best treatment available for SMA is Zolgensma, an American gene therapy replacement drug, carrying a duplicate copy of SMN1 protein. One shot of Zolgensma infused in the vein of a child below 2 years of age has the potential to stop the rapid clock of muscle atrophy (weakening and shrinking) in the body and restore the lost functions over time. "My little angel and all my hope are now in your hands. We desperately need your help to save my child. He is too small to be facing the challenges of this lethal disease and my heart is shattering by realizing the failure of not being able to afford the treatment. For you, it will be a donation but for Ayush, it will be a rebirth. Even the tiniest of your contributions through the ImpactGuru platform can immensely help us." appeals Arpon.

Honda India Racing Team lands in Malaysia for round 2 of Asia Road Racing Championship 2022

Malaysia (KCN): Sepang International Circuit (Malaysia), 25 May 2022: Honda Racing India – the solo Indian racing team from Honda Motorcycle & Scooter India (HMSI) is all set for Round 2 of Asia Road Racing Championship 2022. After the inaugural round in Thailand in March '22, Asia's toughest motorsports racing championship has now reached the Sepang International Circuit in Malaysia. This weekend, the duo of Indian riders Rajiv Sethu and Senthil Kumar will fight against 16 Asian riders from 6 countries (Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam) in Asia Production 250cc (AP250) class. Commenting on the upcoming round 2, Mr. Prabhu Nagaraj, Operating Officer - Brand &

Communication, Honda Motorcycle and Scooter India, said, "The 2022 ARRC season started on a good



note for Honda Racing India. Both Rajiv and Senthil lapped up valuable points for the team. Having prior experience of the Sepang International Circuit along with the sense of competition after round 1, our boys are targeting further improvements. As we enter round 2 this weekend, we are optimistic and looking forward to make the most out of it." Leading the ARRC charge in Asia

Production (AP250) class is the experienced Rajiv Sethu for whom 2022 is his 4th season in ARRC. It was at

Sepang that Rajiv recorded the best ever finish by Indian rider in AP250 class of ARRC at 11th spot in his 2019 outing. All charged up to show his prowess at Sepang, Rajiv enters the round with 8 points already in his kitty. Not only for Rajiv, Sepang is a special track for his teammate Senthil Kumar too. After all, it was in his debut ARRC race here that he notched his first Top 14 finish and earned 2 points for

the Indian team. Post round 1 of 2022 season, Senthil currently stands at 15th with 3 points.

Looking forward to round 2 of ARRC, Rajiv Sethu said, "I can't wait to get back on racetrack at Sepang. The grid looks impressive. Every single rider up there is a tough competitor for me. With the support of my team, the guidance of my mentor and assistance by skilled technicians I am confident of gaining better results in this round."

Marking his second year in the championship, Senthil Kumar said, "I am really happy to return to Sepang. It is a very special track for me as I recorded my best performance of ARRC on this circuit. For this round, my plan is to keep working hard and climb higher on the leader board."

Son of Manipur Felicitated with PMG

Imphal (KCN): In an investiture ceremony organized by GC CRPF Imphal, Sh. Loukrakpam Ibomcha Singh, Asst. Comdt, presently posted in

Fardeen Ahmad Khanday, Manzoor Ahmed Baba and one unidentified foreign militant in a fierce close quarter battle. In the operation, his



109 Bn CRPF was felicitated with 2 bars of President's Medal for Gallantry (PMG) today by Shri Manish Kumar Agrawal, IPS, IGP M&N Sector CRPF Imphal. Sh L. Ibomcha Singh was posted in Kashmir on 31/12/2017 where he got information of a fidayeen attack on CRPF camp in Lethpora, Pulwama. He rushed to the spot with his troops and in an extremely difficult operation that lasted for two days, he not only rescued 5 CRPF personnel trapped in Type IV Quarters, but also gunned down three militants namely

vehicle was also hit by UBGL grenade fired by the militants but because of his quick presence of mind and gallant act, he could exit from the vehicle unharmed. In another incident on 17/10/2018, firing took place between militants and CRPF troops during Cordon and Search Operation at Fateh Kadal, Srinagar. Sh. L. Ibomcha Singh, led the troops bravely and involved in fierce gun battle with the militants. In the operation two LET Terrorists and one 1 Over Ground Worker was killed and a huge cache of arms and

ammunition were recovered. In both the above incidents, Sh. L. Ibomcha Singh, was awarded PMG with 2nd Bar. He was also awarded 1 PPMG. Speaking on the occasion, Sh. Manish Kumar Agrawal, IPS appreciated the dare devil acts of the officer

expressed his gratitude to the CRPF and MHA, Govt of India for recognizing his role and rewarding with PMGs. He is resident of Wangkhie Ningthem Pukhri Mapal, Imphal East, Manipur and joined CRPF in the year 2013 and rendered his services in Kashmir



and expressed that such bravery and valor acts of the Force personnel bring pride and laurels to the whole organization. He encouraged all the Officers and jawans present to exhibit similar courage and gallant acts in discharging their duties. Sh. L. Ibomcha Singh,

Valley for more than six years from 2014 to 2020, where he got 1 PPMG and 3 PMG with bars. His wife is Ms. Senjam Kiranbala, a Medical Officer, Manipur Health Department and parents are L. Deben Singh, retd. Sr. Accountant, AG office and L. Anoubi, a house-maker.

CLASSIFIED

CAUTION

Readers are advised to make appropriate enquiries while responding to advertisements in these columns. The Kalinga chronicle publication does not vouch for any claims made by the Advertisers. The Printer, Publisher, Editor and Owner of The Kalinga Chronicle Publications shall not be held responsible/ liable for any consequences, in case such claims are found to be false.



AUTOMOBILE



REAL ESTATE

SALE

Kawasaki Bajaj in tiptop condition for sale
Contact: 2555326

SALE

Flats ready for possession before Rathayatra at Puri near Seabeach for sale.
Contact: 9861078308

PURCHASE

Required a Marshal/Commandor / Boleto in good condition. Contact 2555763

Residential plots at Pahala close to NH-5 and near Pata Railway Station, Bhubaneswar for immediate sale.
Contact : 0674-2556733

Residential plots at

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENT TARIFF

Classified advertisements are released daily. The normal classified advertisement is charged @ Rs. 5/- per word up to maximum number of 50 words. Any extra word will be Rs. 8/- per word. The minimum charges for any classified advertisement is Rs. 100/-. The options for bold lettering and outlining are also available and are charged @ 7/- and 10/- per word respectively. Extra charges for photographs Rs.100/-. For Box No. Rs. 100/-

HIRE

For hiring of Car / Jeep / Bus on monthly basis.
Contact : 2555763

Gohira Chhak in front of CV Raman Engineering College beside NH-5, near Tamando. Contact : 9238691168

PURCHASE

Simplex / Duplex building at BBSR contact : 9437002509



BUSINESS

Saving 10,000/- for high return, extra earn and Foreign trip opportunity, 9238694001. Independent business work from home, training in Singapore, 9338014287.

ACCOMMODATION WANTED

Required Single / Double / Triple Stored North/East facing building at Puri . Contact 9437143483



TOURS & TRAVELS

We provide luxury coach buses (16,25,32,41,52 seater) for Picnic, Excursion, Marriage. Maa Santoshi Travels, Contact : 9861079437 For Luxy Passenger vehicle, Contact : Sagasity Tours & Travels, Acharya Vihar, Bhubaneswar, Ph. 2540219



MATRIMONIAL

BRIDE WANTED

Wanted bride for Khandayat Boy, 37plus, Caste no bar, 0674-2555763

GROOM WANTED

Wanted Groom any service / business family for a Bramhin Girl. Contact 2555226

WANTED

Required Driver/Peon/Attendant/ Aya

Please Contact-8984600400

ACCOMMODATION WANTED

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

Please Contact- 8338870595

WATCH 'Manikarnika' trailer: This Kangana Ranaut-starrer looks like bits from a Bhansali product



MUMBAI (KCN): Finally it comes. The trailer of the beleaguered historical "Manikarnika - The Queen Of Jhansi" brings to us a furious, ferocious and feral Kangana Ranaut, who tells the 'gora log', "We both want Jhansi. But you want to rule. I want to serve."

Well, precisely. The Rani Of Jhansi was passionately

dedicated to her kingdom. I don't see much of that dedication in the trailer. Much of it is devoted to displaying its leading lady's skills on horses and with swords. The trailer gives us an epic primer on 'Kangana Rides The Horse', 'Kangana Swats The Enemy', 'Kangana Bays For Blood', so on and so forth.

There is so much

of the talented actress' efforts to appear queenly, the trailer barely offers a glimpse of the impressive supporting cast, namely Danny Denzongpa, Atul Kulkarni, Suresh Oberoi and others who flit by in this steamroller view of a woman warrior's day-out binge. Threadbare thunder in a fancy teacup.

Alarming and

annoyingly, the film wears a thick and heavy Sanjay Leela Bhansali hangover. In the way the camera zooms in and pans the long stretches of the battle scenes, I was taken back to Bhansali's "Bajirao Mastani". In fact one of Kangana's derring-do in a battle sequence here, she gambols over her army to strike was a move identical to

Ranveer Singh's in "Bajirao Mastani".

ALSO READ: Ready to do a good movie down south, says actress Kangana Ranau So is Kangana's Jhansi Ki Rani, Bajirao or Mastani or both?

It's a highly derivative world created by people who seem to have the resources but not the vision. We could do with a lot more chutzpah when

recreating such an important chapter from Indian history.

It's not all a wash-out, though. Kangana seems to convey sufficient fire and elasticity. Her accent is a downer, though.

This is the way the trailer moves: uplifting one moment down to being a disappointment the next. Let's hope the film is not as uneven in tone.

When Julia Roberts realised she was famous

LOS ANGELES (KCN): Actress Julia Roberts, 51, revealed that the first time she realised she was famous was when she was in a bathroom stall at age 21 and a fan asked her for an autograph.

The actress had just starred in the 1988 film "Mystic Pizza" at the time of her bathroom encounter.

The Oscar-winner told the story during an appearance on an episode of a podcast, reports dailymail.co.uk.

ALSO READ: 'Ben Is Back' film review She had her fame awakening after returning home to Georgia to visit her mother and younger sister. The three caught a movie and

Roberts stopped by the bathroom afterward.

"It was after the movie was over and I was in the bathroom and there was a woman in the bathroom who said, 'Hey, girl in stall number one, were you in 'Mystic Pizza?'" she said.

The pushy fan proceeded to slip something under the stall and asked the "Mystic Pizza" star to sign it.

Hansika in Mohanlal's next Tamannaah Bhatia and Shruti Hassan are the new gal pals

It seems Mohanlal-B new release Bogan. Venkatesh, who has



Unnikrishnan team's untitled film is getting bigger and bigger. After Vishal and Srikanth, another popular south star Hansika Motwani will be making her Bollywood debut through the film. The update was announced by the director himself on his official Facebook page.

"I wish great luck to @Hansika for her

She will have a very special appearance in my Mohanlal film produced by Mr Rockline Venkatesh," posted Unnikrishnan.

According to the director, who had last teamed up with Mohanlal for Mr Fraud, VFX and special effects will have a lot of importance in the the big budget project.

While Rockline

made films like Bajrangi Bhaijaan and Linga, is the producer, the project also boasts of an excellent crew. Manoj Paramahansa, who has cranked camera for films including Vinnaitaandi Varuvaaya and Nanpan, is the cinematographer.

4 Musics, the band behind the hit songs of Oppam, will be scoring the music.

Tamannaah Bhatia has been bonding with her contemporary Shruti Hassan.



for a while now. Tamannaah chose to take some time out last week to meet her new BFF Shruti Hassan to celebrate her birthday.

According to a source close to Tamannaah says. "Tamannaah and Shruti share a special bond, the two actresses may not be able to talk ev-

eryday due to their busy schedules, but they always make sure to make time on

each other's birthdays. Shruti Hassan, who celebrated her birthday couple of days ago with close friends, had Tamannaah as one of her special guests. It is said that Tamannaah makes it a point to not miss her friend's special day at any cost. She had also brought a special gift for

Shruti. Tamannaah says, "Shruti is a sweetheart and a dear

friend. Since we both have tight schedules, we don't get much time to spend with each other the rest of the year, so I needed to be at her birthday party so that I could be with her. I have been attending her birthday since the last three years and making sure to be with her on her special day."

"No one is more hated than he who speaks the truth"- Plato *A look at our legal system*

1. We have inherited from the British, a wonderful legal system. In doing so, the British was not doing us any charity. They needed a sound legal system for the governance of their own affairs, the common law. The common law is largely founded on Roman law, and Roman law reflects nothing but the thoughts of great philosophers such as Socrates, Plato, Aristotle, Cicero, Ulpian, et al. The doctrine of estoppel and res judicata is one of the cardinal principles on which the Roman law, nay, the common law -our law- is founded. Unfortunately, and unbelievably, the 'giants' among our lawyer fraternity seem to be ignorant of the basic principles or have deliberately acted contrary to the basic principles to the point where they have completely destroyed our legal system, nay, the very concept of democracy. Let me take the example of the Mullaperiyar dam.

2. The dam was constructed in the 19th century. It was expected to last for 50 years. Major leaks were observed in the late 1970s. The Kerala Government, based on expert advice, took the definite stand that the dam is not safe, that a new dam ought to be constructed in its place, and the old dam ought to be decommissioned. The Governments, namely, the Governments of the states of Kerala and Tamil Nadu and the Central Government were deeply concerned and were on the verge of reaching a unanimous decision to construct a new dam. While so, in 2000, a PIL came to be filed. With that, the Tamil Nadu Government took an adversarial stand, and the Supreme Court in 2006 held that the dam is safe and that even if it breaks the flood waters would flow in the natural course of the river to the Idukki reservoir, and that the Idukki reservoir would

be able to contain the entire flood waters. The Government of Kerala found the judgment to be contrary to reason and an invitation for catastrophe. Taking into account the frightening implications of the breaking of the dam, the Kerala Government brought in a legislation limiting the storage capacity of the dam to 136 ft. The State of Tamil Nadu challenged the constitutionality of the Kerala legislation. Realising that no dam can remain in perpetuity and particularly a dam made of lime and surkhi, at time when dam technology was at its infancy, the Kerala Government made a budgetary provision for the construction of a new dam.

3. In 2014 came the judgment of the 5-judge constitution bench of then Chief Justice R. M. Lodha. The Supreme Court held that in 2006, a 3-judge bench had found that the dam is safe, and therefore, the question as to the safety of the dam cannot be re-agitated, for to do so is barred by the doctrine of res judicata. The Court rejected the plea of the Kerala Government for the construction of a new dam at its own cost on the ground that the Supreme Court had held the dam to be safe in 2006 and, therefore, the issue of safety cannot be re-agitated.

4. A dam is not a static entity. Every fluctuation in the water level creates stress and strain on the dam structure. A dam, like all man-made structures, has a life. It cannot remain safe infinitely. The doctrine of res judicata is a legal fiction. It is founded on the realisation of Roman lawyers of the undeniable truth that no judge can assuredly ascertain the facts correctly, but that for the sake of finality and to avoid the scenario where parties to the same dispute reargue the issues, even an erroneous decision of a Court ought to be accepted as truth.

5. For the doctrine of res judicata to apply, the Court should have jurisdiction of the

Mathews J. Nedumpara

subject matter, the parties to litigation must be the same, the cause of action should be the same, the dispute should have been adjudicated on its merits, etc.

6. A dam is not a static entity. With the passage of time the structure deteriorates. The changes in the seismic activity of the area also affects the safety of the dam. The doctrine of res judicata has no application. Even assuming the dam to be safe in 2006, eight years down the line, it could not have been assumed to be safe in 2014. On a gross misconception of the doctrine of res judicata, the Supreme Court held that he dam is safe, because the Court in 2006 had held so and that decision is binding as res judicata. Res judicata is a concept which even a law student ought to know. Unfortunately, the legal giants who rule the roost failed to appreciate the true meaning of the term res judicata and the enormity of their error.

7. Global warming has meant drastic changes in the monsoon pattern. The quantum of rainfall has substantially increased, so too, the density of rainfall at a given time. In 2006, even at the peak of the monsoons, the Idukki reservoir was only half full. Now, every monsoon, the shutters have to be opened. The Mullaperiyar dam is believed by many experts to be far more susceptible than it was in 2006. But the Kerala Government cannot construct a new dam because in 2014, that plea was rejected by the Supreme Court. The only saving grace is that, apparently to overcome the judgment of the Supreme Court, the Central Government has brought in the Dam Safety Act of 2021. But it is doubtful whether the Kerala Government will proceed to construct a new dam in the teeth of the judgment of the Supreme Court of 2014.

8. What made the Supreme Court make such a humongous mistake which may

endanger the lives of millions of citizens and the wiping out of the districts of Ernakulam, Alleppey and Kottayam. Many, including the Kerala Government, express the view that the dam is unsafe. Tremors can lead to breaking of the dam. The increase in seismic activity in the area over recent years is, therefore, another cause for concern.

9. No prudent man can remain in the blind faith that the dam will not break. On the contrary, one should prepare to meet any eventuality, namely, that the dam may give away in the coming monsoons. Sadly, nothing is done except the forming of a few committees titled 'Supervisory Committee, committee under the Disaster Management Act', etc.

10. Our country has come to be ruled by the judges through PILs, by "enacting laws" under Articles 141 and 142, as opposed to interpreting the law. All these aberrations are the outcomes of another manifest error, the "basic structure theory" which has meant the re-writing of elementary jurisprudence. To put it succinctly, before Kesavananda Bharti, only a person whose rights are infringed could have approached a Court. Today, busy bodies rule the roost, openly declaring that none of their legal -let alone fundamental- rights are infringed, but that the "basic structure" is infringed.

11. Who can correct these errors which have assumed gigantic proportions? There are thousands of judgments "laying down the law of the land" all relying on the basic structure theory. The judges, too, have profited immensely by the so-called basic structure theory. Using that alone, they invented the collegium system where judges appoint themselves (mostly their own kith and kin) and struck down the NJAC.

(The author is the President of the National Lawyers Campaign For Judicial Transparency And Reforms)

15 tonnes of lifesaving COVID-19 supplies arrive in Samoa

A planeload of medical equipment and supplies touched down in Apia on Monday to bolster Samoa's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The goods were provided by the World Health Organization (WHO) for the Ministry of Health of Samoa and transported by the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) through its Pacific Humanitarian Air Service, with funding support from the European Union (EU). "They say that it is in times of crisis that your true friends are revealed, and WHO, WFP and the EU have shown themselves to be true friends indeed to Samoa - not just in this latest delivery of supplies, but in their ongoing tremendous support for our COVID-19 preparedness and response," said Minister of Health, the Honourable Valasi Luapitofanua To'ogamaga Tafito Selesele. "This equipment and medical supplies will be used by Samoan health workers around the country as they continue to test and treat patients and to remain safe themselves as they save lives. Faafetai tele lava for your kind assistance." Samoa detected its first community transmission of COVID-19 on 17 March 2022 after two years of being COVID-free. To date, the country has reported a total of 9,592 cases. However, with more than 92

percent of adults having received at least two doses of COVID-19 vaccines, the death rate has been low. The 15-tonne delivery consists of 280,000 surgical masks, 248,300 gloves, 72,000 gowns, 30,000 N95 masks, 10,300 face shields, 3000 pulse oximeters and 50 oxygen concentrators for Samoa from WHO's regional stockpile. Further items

Maria Shumusti

including oxygen concentrators and pulse oximeters also arrived on the plane to be sent by boat to neighbouring Tokelau. "We knew we needed to get this equipment and supplies into health workers' hands here in Samoa, but getting it here was going to be a challenge, due to limited flights and inflated shipping costs. Thankfully, we spoke with our colleagues at WFP and, with support from the EU, they made this flight possible," said WHO Representative to Samoa, Dr Kim Eva Dickson. The EU provides extensive support to WHO's COVID-19 response in the Pacific, both financially and as a partner in the Pacific COVID-19 Joint Incident Management Team. "As COVID-19 begins to spread in Samoa, it is absolutely critical to bring these life-saving supplies to the frontlines of the crisis," said Alpha Bah, Director of WFP's Pacific Multi-Country Office. "WFP is pleased to join forces with WHO in support of the Ministry of Health's efforts in containing the spread of the virus. We thank the EU for its ongoing support to the Pacific Humanitarian Air Service. Generous funding has enabled WFP and our partners to send flights to 15 Pacific countries so far." "The coronavirus pandemic is a global challenge which requires a global response. In the Pacific, the EU redirected EUR 20 million to WHO, WFP and the Pacific Community to help countries fight COVID-19 outbreaks on their shores. These resources continue to strengthen medical systems to respond to COVID-19. I am happy that the EU can

now contribute to the assistance provided to Samoa, with the hope that the situation will improve soon," said the Ambassador of the European Union for the Pacific and to Samoa, H.E. Sujiro Seam. WFP's Pacific Humanitarian Air Service is a part of the greater Pacific Humanitarian Team's COVID-19 Response Plan - a comprehensive regional response plan that seeks to consolidate efforts by UN agencies, governments, regional and multilateral organizations, NGOs, donors and development partners. It operates under the Pacific Humanitarian Pathway established by the Pacific Islands Forum and its member countries. With generous funding from the European Union, the Government of Australia and USAID, WFP has so far run 37 flights, transporting a total of 317 tonnes of critical medical cargo across the Pacific region. Supplies being loaded onto the Pacific Humanitarian Air Service flight in Nadi, Fiji. Credit: Matthew Donoghue/WFP



Citing Supreme Court stay order, UGC asks Odisha to halt recruitment in varsities for three months

BHUBANESWAR(KCN): UGC has asked the Odisha government and OPSC to refrain from recruiting faculty or non-teaching staff in universities for three months as the Supreme Court has issued a stay order on the Odisha

January 24, 2022 passed by the Orissa High Court in Writ Petition (C), which had upheld the validity of the Act by SLPs before Supreme Court, which stayed the operation of the impugned judgment for a period of three months," the letter stated.

The UGC pointed out that despite the stay order granted by the apex court, the OPSC proceeded with the recruitment process for the post of assistant professor in sociology and commerce streams.

"Since the recruitment of teachers/faculty by

the OPSC and that of non-teaching staff by the State Selection Board is directly in issue in the SLPs pending before the Supreme Court, the continuation of the recruitment process will be in the teeth of the stay order dated 20.05.2022 granted by the apex court," it stated.

"The UGC also reserves all its rights to take appropriate legal remedy in this regard," it added.

OPSC Secretary Ashok Das, however, said the commission was yet to receive the letter from the UGC.

The commission is continuing the ongoing recruitment process, he said.

"OPSC will take a decision in this regard after receiving the letter," he added.

A delegation of retired vice-chancellors and professors is scheduled to meet Governor Ganeshi Lal over the issue during the day.



Universities (Amendment) Act 2020 for that period.

The Act was passed in the assembly but the opposition alleged that the law will curtail the financial and administrative autonomy of the universities and that the institutions will come under the direct control of the state government. UGC filed special leave petitions (SLPs) before the Supreme Court challenging the Act, and the apex court put an interim halt on its implementation.

In separate letters to the Odisha Public Service Commission (OPSC) and the state Higher Education Department on May 25, University Grants Commission (UGC) Secretary Professor Rajnish Jain opposed the process for recruitment of assistant professors for sociology and commerce streams that violates the stay order.

"The UGC has assailed the judgment dated

Consignment of over 25 tonnes of medical supplies from India reaches crisis-hit Lanka

COLOMBO: India on Friday handed over 25 tonnes of medical supplies worth over USD 700,000 to Sri Lanka as part of its ongoing

The humanitarian supplies which came on board INS Gharial also include kerosene for use by Sri Lankan fishermen, the High Commission said in

critical relief material, got a "surprise call" from Rajnath Singh during which he appreciated the efforts of the Indian Navy and

prices heaped misery on the people.

The economic crisis has also triggered a political crisis in Sri Lanka and a demand for the resignation of



efforts to help the island nation combat its worst economic crisis and shortage of medicines.

"Ongoing commitment to the people of #SriLanka!!!...", the High Commission of India in Colombo tweeted.

Acting High Commissioner Vinod K Jacob handed over the donation of more than 25 tonnes of medical supplies with a value of SLR 260 million (USD 732,970 approx) to Sri Lankan Health Minister Keheliya Rambukwella in Colombo, it said, sharing photographs of the consignment handover.

another tweet, adding that these supplies will be distributed among the beneficiaries in the coming days.

Last month, India extended an additional USD 500 million credit line to help Sri Lanka import fuel as the country has been struggling to pay for imports after its foreign exchange reserves plummeted sharply in recent times, causing a devaluation of its currency and spiralling inflation.

Meanwhile, the office of the India's Defence Minister tweeted that the INS Gharial, which is in Colombo to deliver

emphasised on 'neighbourhood first' policy and "strong ties with our closest maritime neighbour". Last week, India had sent urgent relief supplies comprising 9,000 metric tonnes (MT) of rice, 200 MT milk powder and 24 MT life-saving medicines with a combined value of Rs 45 crore to Sri Lanka. Sri Lanka is going through the worst economic crisis since independence in 1948.

A crippling shortage of foreign reserves has led to long queues for fuel, cooking gas and other essentials while power cuts and soaring food

the powerful Rajapaksas.

India has said that as an eternal and reliable friend of Sri Lanka, New Delhi is fully supportive of the island nation's democracy, stability and economic recovery.

In keeping with India's Neighbourhood First policy, New Delhi has extended this year alone support worth over USD 3.5 billion to the people of Sri Lanka for helping them overcome their current difficulties, the Ministry of External Affairs said on May 10.

Odisha had 8,711 Covid deaths in 2020: SRS

BHUBANESWAR(KCN): At least 8711 people succumbed to Covid-19 in Odisha during the first wave of the pandemic in 2020. The figure is more than four times of the death numbers released by the State government. The data on medical certification of cause of death (MCCD) released by the Office of Registrar General on Wednesday revealed Covid-19 deaths accounted for 2.4 per cent (pc) of

pc), Himachal Pradesh (13.5 pc), Uttarakhand (12.8 pc), Andhra Pradesh (12 pc), Punjab (11.9 pc and Delhi (10.8 pc).

The disease of the circulatory system accounted for the highest 21.4 pc deaths in Odisha, followed by certain conditions originating in perinatal period (13 pc), diseases of the respiratory system (12.3 pc), certain infectious and parasitic diseases (6.4 pc), endo-

crine, nutritional and metabolic diseases (4.9 pc) and injury, poisoning and certain other consequences of external causes (4.9 pc). The State had recorded 3,62,982 deaths in 2020. An analysis of the data revealed, Odisha had seen a sharp spike in overall deaths during the period from Sep-



tember to December in the year as compared to the previous years. The September-December period of 2020 had witnessed the highest Covid deaths in the State as the peak of 4,356 cases were recorded on September 25. However, the State government had declared only 1,876 Covid deaths in 2020 triggering suspicion among health experts.

medically certified deaths in the State.

Deaths related to coronavirus have been featured at third slot among the nine major causes of deaths. As per registered medically certified deaths, Maharashtra has recorded the highest 17.7 pc medically certified Covid deaths, Manipur (15.7 pc), Uttar Pradesh (15

UGC extends CUET (UG)-2022 application deadline to May 31



NEW DELHI: The University Grants Commission (UGC) on Friday announced the extension of application deadline for the Common University Entrance Test (CUET)-UG till May 31. Over 11.5 lakh candidates have already registered for the test.

"In view of representations received from candidates regarding giving them an opportunity to submit their online application form for

CUET (UG)-2022, we have decided to keep the application process open again from May 27 till May 31," UGC Chairman M Jagadesh Kumar said.

The UGC chief had in March announced that CUET scores, and not Class 12 marks, would be mandatory for admission to 45 central universities, and that the central universities can fix their minimum eligibility criteria.

Bimal Gurung on fast, Gorkha Janmukti Morcha urges Mamata to consider demands

KOLKATA: The Bimal Gurung entered the third day. Gorkha Janmukti Morcha (GJM) on Gurung has been on

fast. The GJM general secretary Roshan Giri in 2012. The GJM had swept the polls, winning all



Friday urged Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee to look into their demands of postponing the election to the Gorkhaland Territorial Administration (GTA), which administers the Darjeeling Hills, and expand its jurisdiction as the hunger strike of party chief

hunger strike at the GJM's office in Singamari in Darjeeling since Wednesday. "Bimal-ji is fighting for the rights of the people of the Hills. His indefinite hunger strike entered its third day, and it will continue to press for the inclusion of 396 mouzas in the juris-

diction of GTA," said. "I have written a letter to the chief minister, requesting her to look into it personally," he added. The West Bengal government on Friday issued a notification, announcing the GTA polls on June 26. The elections to the GTA were last held

45 seats. The GJM has been demanding postponement of the election until the Memorandum of Proposal (MoP) submitted by it is implemented. Among others, it demands the inclusion of 396 mouzas in the GTA and transfer of some departments.

UP Assembly: CM slams Mamata over Bengal poll violence, counters Akhilesh

LUCKNOW: Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath slammed his West Bengal counterpart Mamata Banerjee over poll violence in her state and targeted Akhilesh Yadav, who heads the main opposition party back home, over his "false campaign" on farmers' issues.

Speaking on the motion of thanks on the Governor's address to the state legislature, Adityanath listed the achievements of his previous government, comparing them with the one led earlier by Akhilesh Yadav's Samajwadi Party. He hit out at Yadav for his reluctance to accept the "success" of the "double engine" government --- a reference to the BJP being in power both at the Centre and in the state. The "double engine", he said, "is working at triple speed".

He ridiculed the opposition leader for "blaming" the electronic voting machines for the SP's defeat in the recent assembly polls, which brought the BJP back to power in UP for a second term in a row.

"If they win, everything is alright. But if the BJP wins, there is some fault with the EVMs," Adityanath said.

"This is an insult to the people."

Without naming Trinamool Party leader Mamata Banerjee, Adityanath recalled her visit to the

state during the UP campaign.

"A 'didi' from West Bengal came in support of the Samajwadi Party in the elections," he said, while attacking her government for the violence during the assembly elections in her state in 2021.

He claimed that "12,000 incidents of violence" were reported from 142 of the 294 assembly seats in that state, and a large number of BJP workers targeted.

"The population of West Bengal is half of Uttar Pradesh. There was no pre-poll or any post-poll violence in Uttar Pradesh. This is an example of law and order," Adityanath said.

On law and order in UP, he said, "Our government conducted the urban local bodies' poll in 2017 without any violence. In the Lok Sabha polls too there was no violence. The 2021 panchayat elections were peaceful. The 2022 UP Assembly elections were also conducted in a peaceful manner."

He also compared Covid management in his state with that in Maharashtra.

The CM said the entire state of UP has become an advocate ('pakshdar') of "Ram Rajya".

"Ram Rajya is not a religious system," he added, calling it "eternal" and "universal".

Team for Doubling Farmer Income

Bhubaneswar(KCN): The State Government has formed a Working Committee to prepare strategies and roadmap for doubling the State farmers' income in a definite time frame.

The Committee has been formed under the chairmanship of Special Secretary, Department of Agriculture & Farmers' Empowerment.

The State Government has planned to involve one lakh farmers under this program. Their baseline survey will be made and they will be facilitated with different schemes of agriculture and allied sectors in convergence mode, officials said.

The Working Committee will study the baseline data of different parameters and progresses made so far and prepare strategies to be adopted & models to be introduced to manifold the farmers' income. It will also prepare a roadmap for agriculture and allied sectors for increasing farm-

ers' income. All the work will be completed within 4 months.

The panel will also collect information for the year 2021-22

gest the effective implementation and convergence of different schemes through bringing synergy among Departments.

best practices, design principles to create vibrant Farmers Producer Organizations (FPOs), to suggest effective measures for developing strategies to make the farmers resilient to shocks such as natural disasters, endemic pest/ disease, promotion of climate resilient agriculture and post-harvest management of produces, etc. The panel has nominated experts including ex- Chairman of Warehousing Development & Regulatory Authority Bibhuti Bhushan Pattanaik, cold chain specialist P Kohli, agriculture journalist Sandip Das, Bikash Kumar Pati, Pramod Kumar Joshi and expert in Rainfed Area Development Authority, Bisweswar Rath.

First meeting of the panel was held very recently, where all concerned departments and directorates have been asked to submit updated data. Next meeting of the panel will be held soon, the sources said.

Alert on PM KUSUM

New Delhi: Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) is implementing the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahabhiyaan (PM-KUSUM) Scheme, under which subsidy is provided for setting up of standalone solar pumps and for the solarization of agricultural pumps.

Farmers can also install grid-connected solar power plants up to 2 MW. The scheme is being implemented by the designated departments of the state governments and the details of all such des-

ignated departments are available on the MNRE website www.mnre.gov.in. After the launch of

PM KUSUM

Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha Evam Utthaan Mahabhiyan



the scheme, Ministry has observed that some fraudulent websites have claimed to be the registration portal for the P M - K U S U M

scheme. Such unauthorized websites are collecting money and information from the people interested in the Scheme.

In order to avoid any loss to the general public, MNRE has issued public notices in the past, advising general public not to deposit any registration fee or share any personal information on such websites. On receipt of complaints, action has also been taken against miscreants and several fake registration portals have been blocked. In addition to fraudulent websites,

WhatsApp and other means are also being used to mislead potential beneficiaries. Ministry has, therefore, strongly advised that people interested in PM-KUSUM Scheme should check the authenticity of the website before providing any personal information or depositing money. Ministry has further advised not to click on any unverified or suspicious link received through Whatsapp/ SMS which claim to be registration portal for the PM-KUSUM scheme.

Lankan envoy meets Sitharaman; raises need for bridge financing

NEW DELHI: Sri Lankan High Commissioner Milinda Moragoda on Friday met Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and explored the possibility of India increasing its financial assistance to the island nation to help it deal with its severe economic crisis.

In the meeting, Moragoda reiterated that Sri Lanka would require "bridging finance" until the economic adjustment programme with the IMF could be negotiated and finalised, according to the Sri Lankan High Commissioner.

"In this context, the minister and the High Commissioner explored the possibility of increasing and re-

structuring the assistance provided by India in the form of credits for essential commodities and fuel as well as the balance of payment support,"

Minister Sitharaman for the continuation of assistance that India is extending to Sri Lanka in the form of credits for essential commodities and

April in Washington DC, with the IMF, other multilateral institutions and bilateral development partners," it said. Moragoda briefed



it said in a statement. It said the high commissioner and the Indian finance minister evaluated the status of ongoing economic cooperation and discuss the way forward. "High Commissioner Moragoda thanked

fuel, and also for the balance of payment support," the mission said.

"He particularly appreciated her taking up the case of Sri Lanka on the sidelines of the IMF Spring Meetings in

Sitharaman on the present developments in Sri Lanka.

The meeting took place in the midst of widespread protests in Sri Lanka over the severe economic crisis.



2021-2022

ADMISSION OPEN

Maharishi Public School, Baripada

STD-NURSERY TO VIII

ENROLL YOUR CHILD TODAY

(Special discount for new admission before 15.03.2021)

Find the Difference

- Small Classes
- Experienced, trained & loving teachers.
- Individual attention to each child.
- Regular meditation and yoga.
- Unique exam system, evaluation & Principles etc.

25% reservation as per RTE Act (2009)

MAHARISHI PUBLIC SCHOOL
Baghra Road, Baripada
For details
Contact :
Call-9438102188, 06792-255227
Time : 8.00 A.M. to 12.00 noon
E-mail- mps.bpd@gmail.com

 Find us on
[Facebook.com/Mps, Baripada](https://www.facebook.com/Mps, Baripada)



Female CEO's pay rose 26% in 2021, but ranks remain small

NEW YORK: Pay packages for the women who run S&P 500 companies jumped in 2021 as the economy recovered and stock prices and profits soared. Median pay for the women occupying the corner office rose to nearly \$16 million, according to the annual survey done by Equilar for The Associated Press. Still, experts say there's much more to be done to improve gender diversity in the corporate ranks and close the pay gap between men and women.

Jane Stevenson, vice chair, Board & CEO Services at organisational consulting firm Korn Ferry said while it is good that women CEO's pay rose, there is still a lot to be done.

"I think the danger is to look at those cases of CEOs making more their peers and see a message about the pay gap being closed, it's not," she said. Of the 340 CEOs in the latest survey of S&P 500 companies, 18 were women, up from 16 in 2020. Profits for S&P 500 companies rose roughly 50% and the index gained about 27%.

Because the bulk of a CEO's compensation is tied to such performance, their pay packages ballooned after years of mostly moderating growth. Female CEO median pay rose 26.4% in 2021 to \$15.8 million, with 15 of the 18 women CEOs in the survey seeing an increase.

Median means half made more than that level, and half made less. That was a bigger jump than that for male CEO's median pay, which rose 17.7% to \$14.4 million. The overall median pay increased 17.1% to \$14.5 million.

The few women who are CEOs of the largest US companies typically make more money than their male counterparts.

But last year they weren't close to the top of the leaderboard for pay packages.

Last year, the top-earning CEO was Peter Kern of Expedia Group, who received a pay package valued at \$296.2 million.

Lisa Su of Advanced Micro Devices was the highest-paid woman CEO for the third year in a row, but her compensation valued at \$29.5 million ranked just 22nd in the survey.

Su's pay rose 9% from last year. That was partly due to stock and stock options awards, which totaled \$25.1 million as AMD's stock surged 57%.

Her base salary was about \$1.1 million.

Just behind her was Mary Barra, the CEO of automaker General Motors, whose pay jumped 25% to \$29.1 million, including a base salary of \$2.1 million and stock and stock options awards worth \$18.5 million. Jayshree Ullal, CEO of cloud computing company Arista Networks, saw the biggest jump in salary. Her pay more than doubled to \$16 million, mostly due to stock awards valued at \$15.4 million.

Arista's stock doubled in 2021 on strong demand for its cloud computing products.

The number of racially diverse CEOs is gradually increasing too.

According to a survey of companies in the S&P 500 and Fortune 500 by executive recruitment firm Crist Kolder, six had Black CEOs in 2021, 40 had Asian American CEOs, and 20 had Latinx/Hispanic executives leading them.

The Equilar survey includes only CEOs who have served at least two full fiscal years at their companies, in order to avoid the distortions of big sign-on bonuses.

The companies must have filed proxy statements between Jan. 1 and April 30.

The criteria left out some women named to the top job in the past two years.

Not included are CEOs such as Roz Brewer at Walgreens Boots Alliance, Jane Fraser at Citigroup, Linda Rendle at Clorox, Judith Marks at Otis Worldwide and Reshma Kewalramani at Vertex Pharmaceuticals.

If the ranks of women CEOs are to grow, there needs to be a better pipeline to promote women leaders, said Korn Ferry's Stevenson.

"Pay tells a story. We have more stories of some women getting ahead," said Stevenson.

"It's great, but it does not a system make. What we do not have is a systemic path forward for women, generally speaking, in a sustainable way, to be on the path to top roles and top pay."

Alison Cook, a professor of management at Utah State University who researches gender and diversity in the workplace, said there's been a recent push to get more women on boards, rather than in top C-suite roles.

That might help in the long run, she said.

"Hopefully the push into the board of directors translates into more women getting to the C-suite pipeline and available to be CEOs," she said.

The typical compensation package for chief executives who run S&P 500 companies soared 17.1% last year, to a median \$14.5 million, according to data analysed for The Associated Press by Equilar. The gain towers over the 4.4% increase in wages and benefits netted by private-sector workers through 2021, which was the fastest on record going back to 2001.

The raises for many rank-and-file workers also failed to keep up with inflation, which reached 7% at the end of last year.

CEO pay took off as stock prices and profits rebounded sharply as the economy roared out of its brief 2020 recession.

Because much of a CEO's compensation is tied to such performance, their pay packages ballooned after years of mostly moderating growth.

In many of the most eye-popping packages, such as Expedia Group's, valued at \$296.2 million and JPMorgan Chase's \$84.4 million, boards gave particularly big grants of stock or stock options to re-

cently appointed CEOs navigating their companies through the pandemic or to established leaders they wanted to convince to hang around.

The CEOs often can't cash in on such stock or options for years, or possibly ever, unless the company meets performance targets.

But companies still must disclose estimates for how much they're worth.

Only about a quarter of the typical pay package for all S&P 500 CEOs last year came as actual cash they could pocket.

Whatever its composition, the chasm in pay between CEOs and the rank-and-file workers they oversee keeps widening.

At half the companies in this year's pay survey, it would take the worker at the middle of the company's pay scale at least 186 years to make what their CEO did last year.

That's up from 166 a year earlier.

At Walmart, for example, the company said its median associate made \$25,335 in compensation last year.

That means half its workers made more, and half made less.

That's up 21% from \$20,942 a year earlier and came as the company's average hourly U.S. wage rose from \$15.25 in March 2021 to more than \$17 currently.

That increase was bigger than the raise CEO Doug McMillon got, on a percentage basis.

But his 13.7% raise netted him a total package valued at \$25.7 million.

Anger is growing over such an imbalance.

Surveys suggest Americans across political parties see CEO pay as too high, and some investors are pushing back.

Workers are trying to organize unions across the country, and the "Great Resignation" has emboldened millions to quit to find better jobs elsewhere.

The U.S. government counted more than 4 million quits during April 2021 alone, the first time that happened.

The monthly number has since topped 4.5 million twice. "That is going to add a huge cost to corporate bottom lines, to have these kind of turnover rates," said Sarah Anderson, director of the global economy project at the progressive Institute for Policy Studies.

"They should be thinking about what kind of mes-

UN official praises Indian peacekeepers for thwarting attack in Congo

Continued from page-1

22 in the area of Shanghi, North Kivu.

UN Under-Secretary-General for Peace Operations Jean-Pierre Lacroix, responding to a question by PTI on the attack on the UN mission and peacekeepers from India and other nations, said the M23 armed group has been active in the last couple of weeks in an area in eastern Congo.

"Indian peacekeepers, together with others coming from many other countries are involved in responding to the group and we appreciate that," he said.

Lacroix said MONUSCO has been playing a 'very proactive role' in countering the offensive of the M23.

"This is in keeping with our vision of a proactive peacekeeping, one that acts decisively to fulfil its mandate, particularly its protection of civilian mandate because the activities of the armed group have major consequences on the civilian population," he said.

Lacroix said the UN is following the situation very closely.

"We're also very much appreciative of the fact that in that particular area of eastern DRC, as well as in another region where the armed group Coopérative pour le développement du Congo (CODECO) is also active, MONUSCO has been "reacting in a way that has been proactive and that has resulted in protecting civilians, saving lives and also pushing back these armed group offensives," he said.

The Security Council stressed the importance of MONUSCO having the necessary capacities to fulfil its mandate and promote, including by taking additional measures as appropriate, the safety and security of the United Nations peacekeepers and its operations, pursuant to relevant Security Council resolutions. The Council members underscored that the primary responsibility for the safety and security of United Nations personnel and assets rests with host States and highlighted the importance of engagements and communications between MONUSCO and the Congolese Government.

The Security Council had also reiterated its strong condemnation of all attacks and provocations against MONUSCO.

Council members underlined that the deliberate attacks targeting peacekeepers may constitute war crimes under international law.

They called on the Congolese authorities to

sage they're sending to those people, about whether they're really valued in their jobs," Anderson said.

"When the guy in the corner office is making several hundred if not thousands of times more, that's sending a really demoralizing message."

Gains for CEO pay had been slowing in recent years, with the median rise easing from 8.5% in 2017 to 4.1% in 2019.

It ticked back up to 5% in 2020, which was a complicated year because the pandemic shut down the economy and profits at many companies tanked.

For 2020, many companies rejiggered the intricate formulas they created to determine their CEOs' pay. The tweaks made up for losses caused by the pandemic, something many boards said was an extraordinary event outside the CEO's control.

Then came 2021.

Thanks to a reopened economy, super-low interest rates from the Federal Reserve and other factors, stock prices soared and the S&P 500 jumped nearly 27%, setting records through the year.

Earnings per share soared roughly 50%.

Throughout the year, CEOs had to navigate snarled supply chains and shortages of chips and other key materials that impacted businesses across industries, said Dan Laddin, a partner at Compensation Advisory Partners, a consulting firm that works with boards.

"All this led to a desire to really reward" executives, said Kelly Malafis, also a partner at Compensation Advisory Partners, "because the financial performance was there, and the view was that management teams were exceptional in navigating the situation and delivering results."

Last year's 17.1% leap for median pay of S&P 500 CEOs was the biggest since a 23.9% surge for 2010 compensation packages, according to the data analyzed by Equilar.

Consider Marry Barra, CEO of General Motors. Her industry was particularly hard hit by the shortage of computer chips, which snarled auto production.

Even so, GM's board highlighted how the company still delivered record earnings before interest, taxes and some other items.

The automaker also accelerated development of its electric vehicles. Those are two of the factors that influence Barra's pay, and her compensation climbed 25.4% to \$29.1 million.

"I would hope that the corporation making record

swiftly investigate such attacks and bring the perpetrators to justice, and keep the relevant troop-contributing country informed of the progress.

The members of the Security Council expressed concern about the increase of armed group activity in the eastern provinces of Congo.

They reiterated their condemnation of all armed groups operating in the country, including the M23, CODECO, the Allied Democratic Forces (ADF), and the Forces démocratiques de libération du Rwanda (FDLR) and several other domestic and foreign armed groups.

They called on all actors to end violence and their violations and abuse of international human rights and international humanitarian law.

The members of the Security Council welcomed the commitment of the signatories of the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework to address the threat posed by all armed groups operating in the eastern Congo.

They called on all armed groups operating in the eastern Congo to participate unconditionally in the political process initiated by the Regional Heads of State Conclave on Congo in Nairobi, Kenya, and on eligible armed groups to lay down their weapons through the Disarmament, Demobilization, Community Recovery and Stabilization Programme (PDDRC-S).

The members of the Security Council expressed concern at the current humanitarian situation in eastern Congo, marked by a significant increase in the number of people in need of protection and humanitarian assistance.

They called on the government in Congo to address the underlying drivers of the current humanitarian situation and on partners to step up their support to the country in tackling these challenges.

The members of the Security Council recognised the efforts of the FARDC, including with the support of MONUSCO, in addressing the threat posed by armed groups in Congo.

They reiterated their full support for the stabilising action of MONUSCO and expressed their deep appreciation for MONUSCO's troop-and police-contributing countries.

profits would recognize that the workers doing the work are the ones generating the revenue," said Dave Green, a hot metal driver at a GM facility in Bedford, Indiana.

"We're just trying to get by."

He cited in particular temporary workers making roughly \$16 hourly, who have to work years before coming on as full-time employees and don't get many opportunities for days off in the meantime.

"The new people coming in, their kids are not going to be able to have the opportunities my kids had," said Green, who has two daughters and started at GM as a summer helper in 1989.

Closer to the top of the rankings for CEO pay last year was JPMorgan Chase's Jamie Dimon, whose compensation package valued at \$84.4 million was the fifth-highest in the AP survey.

That was up 166.7% from a year earlier, and most of it came from an award of stock options valued at \$52.6 million.

The board said it provided the options because of its desire for Dimon, who is 66, to keep leading the company for significantly more years and a "unique inflection point in Mr. Dimon's tenure."

It also said the options weren't a part of his regular annual compensation and that he must wait at least five years to begin exercising them.

Even so, only 31% of investors at JPMorgan Chase's annual meeting of shareholders recently gave a thumbs up on Dimon's pay package.

The vote is only advisory, though, and doesn't force the company to make changes.

Last year, a median of 92.6% of shareholders approved what's called their "Say On Pay" vote in the AP's survey. That was down just a bit from 93.4% the year before.

The AP's and Equilar's compensation study included pay data for 340 CEOs at S&P 500 companies who have served at least two fiscal years at their companies, which filed proxy statements between Jan. 1 and April 30.

Some high-profile CEOs are not included because they don't fit the criteria, such as Amazon's Andy Jassy and Twitter's Parag Agrawal.

The survey does not count changes in the value of CEOs' pension benefits and some other items in its totals for compensation

HSRP for Old Vehicles

Continued from page-1

The order also said that legal action will be initiated against dealers or any other person found to be selling and supplying HSRPs in the state without being authorized by vehicle manufacturers.

As per the guidelines issued by the TC, HSRP would be affixed by the vehicle manufacturers (OEMs) and their authorized dealers only. Only the HSRP vendor authorized by the vehicle manufacturers (OEMs) shall supply the HSRPs only to their authorized dealers.

The vehicle owner will have to book for fitment of HSRP and make payment for the purpose through an online portal authorized by the OEM to maintain the transparency and to prevent excess charging from the vehicle owners.

The portal authorized by the OEMs will offer the facility to the vehicle owner for selection of any dealer, location and date for affixing of HSRP as per his convenience, it said.

The portal authorized by the OEM will have the capability to inform the vehicle owner status of the order placed for fitment of HSRP through SMS.

The OEMs or its authorized dealers shall display a board at a conspicuous place at their showroom indicating charges to be paid by the vehicle owner for affixation of HSRP and also on the HSRP portal to maintain transparency at all times.

The OEMs or its authorized vendor/dealer may offer the services to the vehicle owners for fitment of the HSRP where the owner resides or has his place of business on payment of extra charges subject to willingness of the vehicle owner. The authorized dealers after affixing the HSRP on the vehicle shall ensure that the laser code is updated in VAHAN portal.

"The vehicle not having valid registration certificate and fitness certificate (for transport vehicle) and the vehicles having arrear tax due shall not be allowed to affix HSRP by OEMs or its authorised dealers," it said. The dealers will customize their portal accordingly.

All Regional Transport Officers (RTOs) have been instructed to comply with the order to ensure that HSRP are fitted on all motor vehicles registered prior to April 1, 2019 in a seamless manner.

The commissioner has directed the RTOs to convene meetings with the all dealers functioning under their jurisdiction to sensitize them about the modalities for fitment of HSRP on old vehicles within the scheduled date.

How Abramovich was forced to sell Chelsea in fall from grace

LONDON: Standing by the bar in a small Stamford Bridge hospitality suite was a figure who had not been spotted at the stadium in three years: Roman Abramovich.

Last November, the Chelsea owner was back in London at his English Premier League club to host the president of Israel. There was no obvious security entourage around the Russian billionaire and little fuss, just close associate and Chelsea director Eugene Tenenbaum.

After making small talk with guests and posing for photos with President Isaac Herzog in front of the pitch, the party moved onto an afternoon tea event for around 50 people, with scones and cucumber sandwiches.

Abramovich was feted with speeches praising his work through Chelsea to campaign against antisemitism. It looked like the gradual reintroduction of Abramovich into

memory of the victims of the Holocaust," Abramovich said, "is instrumental to ensure that future generations never forget what antisemitism, racism and hate can lead to if we don't speak out."

Yet, Abramovich never has practiced what he preached, even as Putin framed the war as one of denazification, falsely called the Ukrainian leadership "Nazis" despite President Volodymyr Zelenskyy being Jewish, and areas were reduced to rubble by Russian bombing and shelling. Yad Vashem suspended its partnership with Abramovich, as did the Imperial War Museum in London, where he funded a Holocaust exhibition and which hosted an event for him hours after the start of Russia's war on Ukraine.

It was only six days into the invasion when Swiss billionaire Hansjorg Wyss leaked that Abramovich was actually trying to quickly dispose of Chelsea and the club was publicly put up for sale.

"I hope," Abramovich said, "that I will be able to visit Stamford Bridge one last time to say goodbye to all of you in person."

A week later, any immediate hopes of returning to London were ended by the government. Sanctions and travel restrictions were

placed on Abramovich, his assets were frozen, and Chelsea was allowed to operate only under the terms of a government-issued license until the end of May.

New match tickets couldn't be sold by Chelsea. Players couldn't be handed new contracts. Even merchandise stores had to close.

The job of finding a buyer for Chelsea was placed with the New York-based Raine Group merchant bank. An array of prospective investors went public, some seemingly more viable owners than others, before the bank produced a shortlist of four bidders in early April.

The sale ended where it began with Wyss. The Raine Group -- working with Abramovich's associates on the board leading Chelsea -- eventually selected the group featuring Wyss and fronted by Boehly, part-owner of the Los Angeles Dodgers, with investment from Clearlake Capital.

The sale price was 2.5 billion pounds (\$3.2 billion), the most ever for a team in world sports, with the proceeds having to go to a foundation supporting Ukrainian victims of the war. Boehly also had to pledge to invest 1.75 billion pounds (\$2.2 billion) in the coming years in the teams and infrastructure.

The final stage of the process encapsulated how laced in politics the process was with approval needed from the British and European authorities that sanctioned Abramovich, ensuring he would not profit from the sale.

It was an unceremonious end to his 19 years as owner.

After buying Chelsea for 140 million pounds in 2003, Abramovich ended up with nothing. Not even a return of the 1.6 billion pounds of loans he had to write off to allow the club to be sold and continue playing.

It was never about money for Abramovich, though. More about status and winning trophies.

"In hindsight, especially with the public profile it would bring me, maybe I would have thought differently about owning a club," Abramovich was quoted as telling Forbes a year before losing control of Chelsea. "But, at the time, I just saw this incredible game, and that I wanted to be a part of that in one way or another."

No more, in England at least.

Ultimately, though, the association with Putin that Abramovich spent so long trying to distance himself from cost him the ability to retain the ownership of Chelsea.

Zlatan Ibrahimovic intends to continue playing, says AC Milan director Maldini

MILAN: Zlatan Ibrahimovic intends to continue playing despite the end of his contract with AC Milan and a lengthy layoff in store fol-

eight months. "We have made an appointment in a fortnight. I don't see any problem in reaching an agreement. He is cer-

cruciate ligament in his left knee reconstructed. The former Inter Milan, Paris Saint-Germain and Manchester United

ing Belgian striker Divock Origi from Liverpool to support Olivier Giroud, Rafael Leao and Ante Rebic in attack.

Milan does not currently have "the financial means" to make large transfers, said former 'Rossoneri' icon Maldini, with negotiations currently underway for the sale of the club which has won 19 Serie A titles.

Discussions between Bahrain-based Investcorp and AC Milan's current owners, American investment fund Elliott Management, ended on Thursday without a deal.

Another American investment fund, RedBird Capital Partners, are now thought to be in the driving seat to secure a takeover.



lowing knee surgery, club director Paolo Maldini said Friday.

"From what I understand, his intention is to continue," Maldini told

Gazzetta dello Sport, two days after the striker, who turns 41 in October, underwent surgery that is expected to sideline him for

eight months. "We have made an appointment in a fortnight. I don't see any problem in reaching an agreement. He is cer-

tainly not at ease playing so little. We will see what happens in the next two weeks," Maldini said. Ibrahimovic, who returned to AC Milan in January 2020 eight years after leaving and has just helped the club win their first Serie A title since 2011, has had the anterior

cruciate ligament in his left knee reconstructed. The former Inter Milan, Paris Saint-Germain and Manchester United



a more high-profile role around Chelsea again, attached to his social activism.

There was, maybe, a British visa to be regained after he withdrew his application for a renewal in 2018.

Then everything rapidly changed from Feb. 24 when Russia invaded Ukraine.

Three months later, Abramovich is being replaced as Chelsea owner by a group fronted by American investor Todd Boehly, a prospect unimaginable when the oligarch was on the field in Abu Dhabi on Feb. 9 lifting the FIFA Club World Cup.

It would turn out to be the 21st and last men's team trophy in 19 years running the team his wealth transformed from being glamorous but only occasionally competing for the biggest trophies, into one of the most successful in European football.

Abramovich tried to cling onto Chelsea, even as anger over Russia's unprovoked aggression toward its neighbor intensified, backed not just by loyal fans but club greats including John Terry hailing him as "the best."

Within hours of the war beginning, Abramovich was accused in the House of Commons of having links to corrupt activity and paying for political influence in Russia. The demands grew for Abramovich to be sanctioned by the British government, which had already thwarted his efforts to regain the visa in recent years, according to a legislator.

Sensing the need to act, Abramovich offered cosmetic changes to the ownership on Feb. 26 with the pledge to relinquish "stewardship and care" of the club to its charitable foundation trustees.

They had not signed off on the plan, though, and the vague proposal did not quell the anger that a man accused of being so closely linked to Russian President Vladimir Putin could retain the ownership of a high-profile status symbol in the heart of London.

Another public play to shield his reputation from Putin's war came on Feb. 28 when Abramovich's PR pushed an apparent move for him to broker peace. Abramovich did not condemn the war, and he has yet to do so despite talking about the need to publicly condemn atrocities only two days before the invasion. The rare comments came in a statement launching a new partnership backing the Jerusalem-based Holocaust museum.

"Yad Vashem's work in preserving the

MAHARISHI PLAY SCHOOL

Nurturing awareness Moulding Future

ADMISSION OPEN FOR

PLAY GROUP (2+) to Onwards

A great Place to grow @ MPS

Laugh
Play
Learn
Share

Call now for Application:

MAHARISHI PUBLIC SCHOOL

N-3 B/14-15, IRC Village,
Nayapalli, Bhubaneswar

PH. 2558884 / 2550786 / 8984600700 (M)

E-mail : maharishipublic13@yahoo.com

Find us on
facebook.com/maharishipchool

FOLLOW US
ON TWITTER
twitter.com/maharishipchool