

## Amat Presents Supp Budget

**Bhubaneswar(KCN):** Information, Public Relations, Forest, Environment & Climate Change and Panchayati Raj & Drinking Water Minister Pradip Kumar Amat has tabled the Supplementary Budget of Rs 16,800 crore for the year 2022-23 in the State Legislative Assembly on Thursday. Mr. Amat presented the budget on behalf of Finance Minister Niranjan Pujari, who remained absent today. Perhaps for the first time in the history of Odisha Legislative

Assembly, a non-Finance Minister has tabled the Supplementary Budget in the House. Mr. Amat is an Ex-Finance Minister. Out of the total supplementary provision, Rs 9,200 crore has been allocated towards programme expenditure, Rs 4,934 crore towards administrative expenditure, Rs 2,610 crore towards disaster management funds and Rs 55.54 crore for transfer to local bodies (Panchayati Raj Institutions and Urban Local Bodies), said Mr. Amat.

Keeping in view the needs & expectations of the people in a welfare State, the Supplementary Budget is aimed at fulfilling the requirement of funds for public welfare and developmental activities in the State mainly through reallocation of available resources and receipt of tied-up resources from various sources, he said. The Supplementary provision of Rs.9,200 crore under programme expenditure is to be financed by tied up resources to the extent of Rs.2,066 crore and



through additional revenue collection and savings to the extent of Rs.7,134 crore. Out of Rs 4,934 crore administrative expenditure, Rs 3700 crore is provided towards transfer to the budget stabilization fund and Rs

173 crore is provided for maintenance of schools and primary health care centres by the Gram Panchayats. Under the disaster risk mitigation, the State Government has allocated Rs.200 crore for assistance to the farmers affected with crop loss during Kharif season in 2021. Out of the Rs 9,200 crore made under programme expenditure, the highest Rs 2,084 crore is allocated for education, sports and skill development sector while Rs 867 crore is allocated for public

health care, Rs 782 crore given for urban development and Rs 128 crore for promotion of Culture and Tourism. Similarly, Rs 388 crore has been allocated for energy, IT, Commerce, Transport and R&D sectors taken together. The Government has also provided Rs 552 crore for rural housing, wage employment, provision of drinking water and rural infrastructure. Further, Rs 172 crore is allocated for empowerment of women and child development, Rs 438

crore for ST & SC Development and Minority & Backward Class Welfare initiatives and Rs 306.65 crore has been allocated for irrigation facility, farmers' welfare and food security. With this supplementary budget, the State is likely to maintain revenue surplus, contain fiscal deficit within 3 per cent of GSDP and maintain the debt-GSDP ratio at the year-end within the mandated level of 25 per cent. Till September, 2022, the debt to GSDP ratio was 12.6 percent and the

interest payment to revenue receipt ratio was 2.8 per cent. The capital outlay for the year 2022-23 will exceed 5.5 per cent of GSDP including the supplementary provision, officials said. This will help in boosting the economic growth and at the same time enable the State to carry forward different developmental and welfare programmes, they said. Notably, the Supplementary Budget outlay of the State in 2021-22 was Rs 19,833 crore.

## Union Minister for Coal, Pralhad Joshi Harps on Achieving 50 MT Annual Coal Production Target of ECL during 2022-23

**Durgapur:** On the second day of his two-day visit to Eastern Coalfields Limited today, the Union Minister for Coal, Mines and Parliamentary Affairs, Shri Pralhad Joshi visited the ViewPoint of SonepurBazari Project under SonepurBazari Area of ECL, where he was accorded a warm welcome in a traditional manner. He was accompanied by Shri M. Nagaraju, Additional Secretary, Union Ministry of Coal. During this time, he inspected the entire project from the View Point, as well as held a review meeting of the project with the officials and gave



necessary instructions. During his two-day visit to Eastern Coalfields Limited, Shri Joshi stressed on achieving the 50 MT annual coal production target of ECL

during 2022-23, and directed to increase the coal production and dispatch to meet the energy requirement of the country. He also extended his best wishes

for the betterment of the company. After this, the Minister also inaugurated a 12.0 MTY, SILO and CHP in SonepurBazari area, which will help to

increase the coal loading capacity of the company as well as will also help to control environmental pollution caused by coal production and dispatch. The Union Minister of Coal reached the underground coal mine, Jhanjhara Project under Jhanjhara Area where he was given a warm welcome by Jhanjhara Area. He inspected the Jhanjhara Project, an underground coal mine, which is about 225 meters deep from the land, its annual coal production capacity is 3.5 MT. Shri Joshi is the first Union Coal Minister who went inside the underground mine of the

## Winter Session Begins

**Bhubaneswar(KCN):** The winter session of the Odisha Legislative Assembly commenced today without Covid-19 restrictions and thin presence of Treasury Bench Members. As per schedule, the House began its proceedings at 11 AM. Prior to that, as per practice, Assembly Speaker BK Arukha received guard of honour from police personnel. Secretary OLA Dasarathi Satapathy coordinated the visit of the Speaker and Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik, who was physically present in the House, moved obituary references to sitting MLAs Bijay Ranjan Singh Bariha and Bishnu Charan Sethi, and former Members Golak Bihari Naik, Kapil Narayan



Tiwari, Gopnarayan Das and Adikanda Sethi. Leader of Opposition Jayanarayan Mishra, Congress Legislature Party leader Naraisingha Mishra, CPI (M) MLA Laxman Munda and Speaker Bikaram Kesari Arukha paid rich tributes to the departed members. After holding a one-minute silent prayer, the Speaker adjourned the House till 5 PM. However, the House witnessed a thin attendance as about half of the Treasury Bench

members remained absent on the first day of the winter session. The ruling party members seem busy in the Padampur by-election, which is scheduled to be held on December 5. On the other hand, maximum Members from Opposition BJP and Congress have attended the House. As per schedule, the Supplementary Budget for the financial year 2022-23 will be presented before the

## PM Gati Shakti Multimodal Maritime Plan 2022

# Seamless Multimodal Connectivity to North-East Serves as Catalyst to Economic Growth & Port-led Industrialisation: Shantanu Thakur

**Kolkata:** A two-day summit on Prime Minister's Gati Shakti Multimodal Maritime Plan 2022 was inaugurated in Kolkata today by the Union Minister of State for Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Shri Shantanu Thakur under the aegis of Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port, Kolkata (SMP, Kolkata) in association with FICCI. Addressing the Summit, the Union Minister said, SMP Kolkata which was India's oldest Port has a strategic location for connectivity to the North-East and to the neighbouring countries like Bangladesh, Nepal and Bhutan. "The Port has immense potential which can be further

harnessed through PM's Gati Shakti Plan. The seamless multimodal connectivity to the North-East states is an important catalyst for economic growth and port led industrialisation," Shri Thakur added. Joining the inaugural session as special guest, Shri Gopal Krishna, Principal Programme Advisor of Cross Border Infrastructure and Connectivity (CBIC), USAID and Former Secretary of Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, said, "Gati Shakti is a much needed catalyst for growth in our country which will allow for a holistic development of industries and

infrastructure in India. The government's initiatives to create access to transparent and comprehensive data for the industry is an unprecedented step for the all round development and creation of infrastructure which will immensely help the private players to partake in the opportunities created by India's growth story." Addressing the Summit, Shri Shambhu Singh, Former Special Secretary & Financial Advisor, MoRTH, shared the benefits of the Gati Shakti Plan and the opportunities that it would open for infrastructural growth of the country. Shri Singh said, "Gati



Shakti is a unique platform which would help in cutting time and cost delays and lead to better planning of resources which is critical for the economic prosperity of the country." Shri P L Haranadh, Chairman, SMP, Kolkata said SMP,

Kolkata with its 150+ years of experience of handling EXIM cargo handling has a key role in connecting the hinterland and North-East India through inland waterways. Bangladesh, in particular, was an important node through the IBP (Indo-

Bangladesh Protocol Route) and the opportunities created by the waterways would create a win-win situation for both India and Bangladesh by reducing cost and time delays and allow for integrated connectivity for people and industry.

Shri Haranadh added, "Gati Shakti is a transformative approach for a riverine port like SMP, Kolkata which has huge potential in multimodality through Waterways, Rail and Road. Creation of a unified platform integrating physical infrastructure with procedural simplification will be a game changer in planning and implementation of projects to provide competitive service delivery" He also highlighted the connectivity vision of the Port and the development plan in Amrit Kaal with the Port poised to have a capacity of 200+ MMT. The Deputy Chairman

of Haldia Dock complex, Shri A.K. Mehera presented a brief summary of the port plans and offered the vote of thanks. Smt. Neerja Singh, Senior Director-Logistics, Infrastructure, FICCI also shared industry perspectives about PM Gati Shakti and the advantages that would benefit the market as well as the citizens at large. The inaugural session was followed by a technical session on demonstration of the PM Gati Shakti NMP Portal by BISAG-N and a session on Port Rail connectivity. The veteran experts from Eastern Railway, Sagarimala Development

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# e-Detection On Highway

**Cuttack(KCN):** To keep a check on vehicles plying without valid documents, the State Government has developed an e-detection portal. Department of Commerce & Transport is planning to roll out the e-detection on national highways (NHs) with effect from New Year (January 1st, 2023). For a vehicle to ply on a public road it is mandatory to have valid documents like registration certificate, fitness certificate and

permit if it is a transport vehicle, insurance and a Pollution under Control Certificate (PUC) and valid driving license. As per sample data collected from toll gates situated on the national highways, it is observed that a substantial number of vehicles are plying without valid documents. In order to detect such vehicles plying through national highways and state highways in Odisha, the Transport Department has

developed the e-detection portal. Informing about the portal, Dipti Ranjan Patra, Joint Commissioner Transport (Technical) said the portal will keep a check on such vehicles in a seamless manner. The objective of the portal is to collect the data from various toll gates on the NHs. In the first phase, toll gates of NHAI have been integrated with the portal. Later, data will be collected from mining and industrial areas as well, he said.



The data will be collected, analysed with details in Vahan portal and automatically challan will be generated for the vehicles plying without valid documents, Patra said. The Joint Transport Commissioner said the data will be collected in accordance with the data fetched through the FASTag and images captured when a vehicle will pass through a toll gate. He further informed, immediate information will alert the vehicle owners and help in reducing road accidents and fatalities.

"If any untoward incident or accident occurs, the vehicle owner or victim will not get any insurance claim if the vehicle involved does not have valid documents," Patra said. He urged the vehicle owners to keep the vehicle documents up-to-date. In order to curb accidents, it is important for all motor owners to follow the rules laid in the Motor Vehicle Act, 1988. Vehicle owners must also ensure that they have all the necessary documents to avoid penalties, he added.



Chief Minister Shri Naveen Patnaik paying floral tribute to statue of Nabakrushna Choudhury on the occasion of Birth Anniversary

## Firecracker explosion leaves over 40 injured in Odisha's Kendrapara

**Kendrapara(KCN):** More than 40 persons were injured in a firecracker explosion during Lord Kartikeswar idol immersion procession at Balia Bazaar under Sadar police limits in Odisha's Kendrapara district, late last night. The victims were initially rushed to the Kendrapara District Headquarters Hospital while around 30 of them have been shifted to the SCB Medical College and Hospital in Cuttack as their condition



deteriorated. As many as eight of the victims have been admitted to the ICU. Several children and women are among the injured

ones. According to reports, the mishap took place as a stock of firecrackers, which was to be used during the procession, caught fire. It resulted

in a major explosion leaving the participants injured. Condition of some of the victims was stated to be critical as they have sustained over 50 percent burn injuries.

## Murder mystery resolved by Barbil police, accused arrested

**Barbil, 24th Nov.(KCN):** Barbil Police in Keonjhar district of Odisha on Wednesday detained a man for allegedly killing a girl with whom he had an affair. As per the case details, the now-deceased Manisha Mahanta daughter of Kuna Mahanta of Santabahal area under Barbil police station found in hung condition near Hayarpur forest. Based on the complain of his father Alok Parida SI, Barbil police station investigated the incidents. Manisha and Arun Kumar Mahanta were in a relationship for a year. As per information on dt 17.11.2022 at about 06.00 PM Arun Kumar Mahanta called Manisha to Barbil Bus Stand to return cash of Rs 90,000/-. Manisha along with his brother Harish Chandra Mahanta had been to Barbil Bus Stand. Thereafter she sent her brother to home from the Barbil Bus stand by saying that, she will come to home by taking cash along with Arun. Seeing delay,



Kuna Mahanta tried to contact with her mobile, but her number found switched off, hence they searched her hither and tither. But they could not able to trace her. On dt 18.11.2022 at about 04.00 PM he got information that, her daughter was died by hanging in a tree, at road side of village Hayarpur. From the prima facie circumstances police suspected the case as murder and sent the body for post mortem. From the PM report it is obtained that the cause of death of deceased is due to asphyxia due to strangulation.

During investigation of this case, it reveals that the accused Aruna Kumar Mahanta is married and having one son of 15 years. But he was in illicit love relation with the deceased Manisha Mahanta. The deceased had been always forcing him to marry, but the accused had no motive to marry her. On the date of occurrence i.e. on dt-18.11.2022 at about 06.30 PM the deceased came to meet him at old bus stand Barbil where the accused and deceased both ate roll in the market. Ashok had raised doubt on Manisha as he had seen the deceased with

another boy in Barbil Market. He suspected that the deceased has extra love affairs with that boy. Thereafter the deceased demanded cash of Rs 2000/ to give the tuition fees of her brother for which both quarrelled with each other. The accused took the deceased towards Champua where they took tea at Champua market. The accused repeatedly asked her about the boy with whom the deceased was moving. But the deceased did not disclose his identity. There after, both returned to Barbil with that motorcycle. The accused further took

the victim towards Hayarpur Jungle and the accused and deceased both get down at a lonely place. Asking further about that boy and seeing the silence of the victim the accused slapped her and pressed neck to die. The accused hanged her dead body in a tree by using her shawl and escaped. He too threw the shoes, mobile and vanity bag in different spot to create confusion. On investigation, he was apprehended and during examination he confessed his guilty. The accused was arrested and forwarded to court informed Rajendra Swain, IIC, Barbil.

## Signal For Rail DPR

**Bhubaneswar(KCN):** The State Government has approved the Detailed Project Report (DPR) of Barbil-Bansapani electrified rail line project with an estimated cost of Rs 433.20 crores. According to official sources, the Department of Commerce & Transport (DoCT) has approved the much-awaited project of total length of 19.055 km in mineral rich Keonjhar district. The DoCT has informed the Managing Director of Odisha Rail Infrastructure Development Limited (ORIDL), the executing agency, about the approval of the Detailed Project Report (DPR) for the project. ORIDL is a joint venture company of the Odisha government (51 percent), and the Ministry of Railways (49 percent). The Ministry of Railways had accorded in principle approval to Bansapani-Barbil rail line project. However,



Odisha Government is providing 100 per cent funding of the project as the Centre has not allocated any fund for it, sources said. Accordingly, the State Government has approved the financial structure to fund the entire project cost through budgetary support of the State. The ORIDL has been asked to submit the approved DPR to the Ministry of Railways for formal sanction of the project by the Government of India. Once it is executed, the project will reduce the distance between Barbil and the steel plants in Kalinga Nagar in Odisha. It will help the mineral-ore based industries in Keonjhar for transportation of the natural resources. In March last year, the

State Government had proposed to utilize funds from the District Mineral Foundation (DMF) of Keonjhar to complete the Bansapani-Barbil new rail project, which has been hanging fire for the last six years due to financial constraints. The DoCT had requested Keonjhar Collector, who is also the managing trustee of DMFT to consider the new rail line project for funding from DMF. The proposed rail line will provide direct connectivity to iron ore loading stations on Noamundi-Bolani section to Bansapani under Chakradharpur division of South Eastern Railway (SER) for onward movement of minerals to steel plants and ports of the State for export.

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## Rashmika a Mandanna pens a touching note for all those going through 'painful or unbearable' moments

Rashmika Mandanna enjoys a massive fan following on social media. The actress who is all set to make her big Bollywood debut, recently took to her Instagram handle to pen a note for all those going through 'painful or unbearable' moments. Rashmika Mandanna and Varun Dhawan come together for a happy selfie on the sets as they shoot together. The actress shared beautiful candid pictures from an event. Rashmika looks gorgeous in a white organza saree and strappy blouse. The post was captioned as, "The world's a much better place with you in it! ??

By you I mean all of you.. you all make me so happy and each one of you are so important.. so if any of you are finding today difficult painful or unbearable..

## Bhediya: Kriti Sanon Shares Her First Impression Of Varun Dhawan And More

Kriti Sanon and Varun Dhawan are busy promoting their upcoming film Bhediya and seem to be having a lot of fun while they are at it. In an interview shared by the official Instagram page of IMDb India, the two are seen asking questions to each other. The best part? There are no rules, thanks to which Kriti and Varun can ask "anything." The video begins with Varun asking Kriti her first impression of him and guessing that she did not like him much. To this, she says, "You were a little bit of a flirt. Genuinely, I felt like you were very, very obviously high energy. Very talkative. Sweet,

but flirty." Before Bhediya, Kriti and Varun worked together in Dilwale.

Kriti Sanon then wants to know what, according to Varun Dhawan, was the most difficult scene in Bhediya. Varun answers, "The transformation scene... Definitely, it has to be one of the most physically draining things I've ever done. I was just running through a wall, my head was going through it..." To this, Kriti adds, "It looked mad."

Next, Varun Dhawan asks Kriti Sanon about her favourite scene to shoot. The actress says, "I think my favourite scene was the one where you are lying



down with your bum towards us," quickly adding amid laughs, "Not because of that reason." Talking about Varun Dhawan's annoying habit, Kriti Sanon also says in the clip,

"Something that annoys me a little bit, when you talk on the phone there is no 'hi, hello' nothing. 'Haa'. It's firstly that." The trailer of Bhediya was screened at the Burj Khalifa last week.

"And the Bhediya trailer howled loud on none other than the Burj Khalifa! Big moment," Kriti Sanon wrote, sharing the video. The clip features her, Varun Dhawan and other crew members cheering as the video lights up the structure. Varun Dhawan also posted a rather exciting video - he dropped the phone midway - and said, "Bhediya trailer at the Burj Khalifa. I got so excited I dropped my phone. Bhediya out on November 25." Bhediya has been directed by Amar Kaushik also stars Abhishek Banerjee and Deepak Dobriyal in important roles

## American Music Awards 2022: Taylor Swift Won Artist Of The Year. List Of Winners

American Music Awards 2022 was held in Los Angeles on Sunday (November 20), and for Taylor Swift, it was a big day as she won six awards, including Artist Of The Year. The other titles include Pop Artist of the Year, Favorite Pop

Album, Favorite Female Pop Artist, Country Album of the Year, Favorite Music Video and Favorite Female Country Artist. Singer Harry Styles also won two awards, including Favourite Pop Male Artist and Favourite Pop

Song. BTS created history at an award show by winning the Favourite Pop Duo or Group award for the fourth time in a row. The group was competing against Imagine Dragons, Coldplay, Maneskin and OneRepublic. Also, they won the Favourite K-Pop Artist award.



## Shweta Bachchan Shares An Early Birthday Post For Son Agastya Nanda: "You Make Me Smile Extra Wide"

Shweta Bachchan has dropped an early birthday wish for her son Agastya Nanda on Instagram. Amitabh Bachchan's daughter shared a major throwback picture of her son in which he is happily posing for the camera. Along with a photo, Shweta dropped a sweet note that read, "Happy Birthday son nobody quite sees the world the way you do, a little too wise even at this age. You make me smile extra wide. Never stop." Soon after Shweta shared the post, her daughter Navya Naveli Nanda dropped a heart emoticon in the comment section. Agastya will be celebrating his birthday on November 23. Shweta Bachchan's friends also flooded the comment section with birthday wishes. Chunky



Panday wrote, "Happy Happy Happy birthday," while Sikandar Kher dropped heart and balloon emoticons. Agastya Nanda is the grandson of Amitabh Bachchan and Jaya Bachchan. Soon, he is going to make his big

Bollywood debut with Zoya Akhtar's The Archies, which also marks the debut of Shah Rukh Khan's daughter Suhana and Sridevi's daughter Khushi Kapoor. The movie will release on Netflix, but makers are yet to announce the

release date. Shweta Bachchan often treats her Insta family to adorable pictures of her kids Navya Naveli Nanda and Agastya Nanda. A few days ago, she shared a major throwback picture of her kids playing with their

grandmother Ritu Nanda (Raj Kapoor's daughter) and captioned it as "The grandest of mothers." Shweta Bachchan is married to Nikhil Nanda, son of Ritu Nanda and Rajan Nanda. Together they have two kids, Navya and Agastya.

## Kriti Sanon looks glam in 'Shehzada' teaser, fans praise her chemistry with Kartik Aaryan

The much-anticipated teaser of Kriti Sanon and Kartik Aaryan's next 'Shehzada' is out and much loved by the public and the critics alike. Kriti Sanon is seen in a glamorous look as she sets the screen on fire with her fiery moves and looks, making us all wow along with Kartik. Going by the looks of the teaser, Kriti and Kartik are seen sharing an amazing on-screen chemistry. This is the second time the duo is sharing the screen space for the second time after 'Luka Chuppi'. It's interesting to see them romancing each other in the action-packed story of 'Shehzada'. In the teaser, Kriti can be seen dressed in her chic and the hottest self. In one frame, she has donned upon a silver one shoulder dress with her tresses left loose and makeup kept to minimal. The actress' hot and glamorous has created a frenzy on the internet. Fans of the actress could not keep their calm as soon as they saw the teaser and started showering their love for her on social media. "Kriti really you are looking sooo beautiful in this teaser," commented one fan. Talking about her chemistry with co-actor Kartik Aaryan, a fan wrote, "THEY'RE ALL SET TO SERVE US WITH THEIR CHEMISTRY AGAIN." Currently enjoying the best phase of her career, apart from 'Shehzada', Kriti is awaiting the grand release of 'Bhediya' co-starring Varun Dhawan. In the film, Kriti is seen as Dr.

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The trailer of upcoming thriller 'Vadh' has just released, and it features Sanjay Mishra and Neena Gupta in a never seen before avatar. The sizzling trailer promises 'Vadh' to be an

exciting thriller to watch out for. With India's two talented veterans coming together for the first time in what seems like an extremely engaging narrative, it will be exciting to watch how this story puzzles out.

The trailer has kept us immersed and at the edge of our seats throughout. While we have seen Sanjay Mishra play multiple roles in his career, this is for the first time we will see him go all menace. In the trailer,

Sanjay Mishra and Neena Gupta's tandem has kept us engaged and the audience is left surprised frame after frame. As unpredictable as this trailer was, we cannot wait to see how the film will turn out to be. While there is a lot of innocence in Sanjay and Neena's characters, the darkness to their personalities is the most startling element of the trailer. Speaking about Vadh, Sanjay Mishra said, "As an actor I have never imagined myself in this type of a character that too with Neena ji. I am eagerly looking forward to see how the

audience reacts to the movie." Neena Gupta added, "Vadh is an extremely intriguing thriller story and I have had a great time bringing life to the film. This story is much more than what meets the eye and audience will have a wonderful time watching the trailer as well as the movie itself." Vadh is written and directed by Jaspal Singh Sandhu and Rajeev Barnwal. The film is presented by Luv Films' Luv Ranjan and Ankur Garg and produced by J Studio and Next Level Productions. It will be released in cinemas on December 9, 2022.

## RAHUL GANDHI, SAVARKAR AND POLITICS OF HYPOCRISY

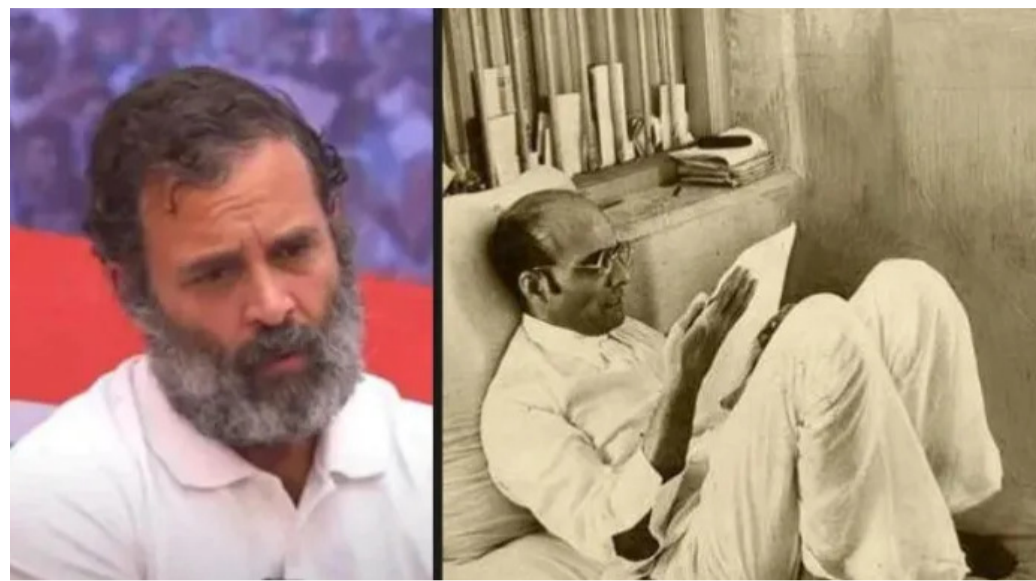
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Flashing a clemency letter written by V.D Savarkar to the British from the Cellular jail, Rahul Gandhi has once again done a favour to the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) recently. The BJP has all its weaponries ready against the Congress in its strong turf Gujarat, which the party has always been accused of turning into its Hindutva laboratory. Rahul Gandhi's untimely political gesture against Veer Savarkar needs to be categorised as the result of a political tutoring unsupplied with unadulterated facts. This could also be rated as his inability to sense the political temperature building up in the state of Gujarat. The results of the state's elections would definitely be seen as an indication to what the country is eagerly waiting for- the mega battle 2024- the national elections. Modi with his arms and armaments is all set to break his own record and the tripartite political war that the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) could transform the narrative about the Gujarat elections as, is going to be a show of strength of the Hindutva that the BJP has so far been nurturing.

Savarkar, for no reason could be counted as a coward by anybody with a sense of political understanding as the torture he had undergone was humongous. Despite his

being blamed for writing the clemency letters repeatedly, the period that Savarkar spent in the Cellular Jail from 1911 to 1924 had been a period of harassment that no other political prisoners, who later rose to hold positions in an independent India did go through. But to consider his Hindu sentiments and intellectual orientation to support a Hindu majoritarian state as an attitude of vehemence of a Hindu fanatic would equally help the Congress to alienate the party further from the community. The setbacks that the Congress party had at the hands of the Sangh Parivar consolidation both politically and culturally have been irretrievable. The Congress and its leaders have consistently been steering controversies on Savarkar ever since his death.

It was A.P.J Abdul Kalam who unveiled the portrait of Savarkar in the Central Hall of Parliament in 2003. The event was boycotted by the entire opposition and Sonia Gandhi, camping with other opposition leaders, wrote a letter to A.P.J Abdul Kalam asking him not to attend the function. Most of the parties that opposed the BJP government's move had justified their stand by saying that they did not want to 'give credibility to the activities and divisive policies' of Savarkar. Interestingly, the Congress had been perplexed and



literally suffocated and struggling to justify its Rajya Sabha Deputy Chairperson Najma Heptulla's attending the unveiling ceremony. The party seemed to have been confused almost every occasion when it came out sharpening its claws against Savarkar.

The reason why Savarkar's detractors and critics undervalue his patriotic personality is the letters that he is blamed to have written to the British administration. There are split views on his clemency letters. While one view points out his letters as mere clemency inscriptions, the other view sounds that he appealed for a reduction in his sentence and a transfer to another prison. But the fact of the matter is, despite the Congress and the other political opponents of the BJP driving their campaign against Savarkar's bravery, their detractive views have not so much trickled into

India's nationalistic sentiments. Large numbers of Indians view the veteran freedom fighter as a unique personality who underwent unprecedented persecution in the dungeons of the British jails and his attempts for clemency, if any, with contextual intonation, could be justified as a well thought-out approach to come out revamped for a better fight against the colonial hegemony.

'The Indian War of Independence of 1857' written by Savarkar had been an intelligent tribute to the war heroes of the first Independent struggle against the British fiefdom. The first impulse of revolt in a large scale against the British Empire could have been minimised as a sheepish attempt of mutiny by a small number of Indian soldiers, if the book authored by V.D Savarkar did not gain publicity. The book is a well documented referential guide which did

justice to all the martyrs of the rebellion and their sacrifice. The British had enough reasons to address the man in their secret confinement as the 'most dangerous'. Savarkar, as he begins his book categorically inscribes addressing the revolutionary upheaval as an outcome of the intense desire of patriots who wanted to set their country free and a passionate attempt to restore the ethos of their religion. This extraordinary revolt was not only against the British crookedness behind the greased bullets but also a war in the offing against the British Raj.

The narrative that was established in a post independent India describing Gandhi's nonviolent means of mobilization as the solitary winning strategy that India gained freedom with, could systematically undermine the contribution of a large number of revolutionaries.

Savarkar, through his endeavours to gain freedom for India remained one of the best examples as a patriot to a genuine student of India's independence struggle. His sacrifice was untainted and decisively genuine than that of Jawaharlal Nehru and many others. The level of his patriotic intellectualism was indisputably visible as we see him jump from the ship midway when the British arrested and transported him to India. As a young patriotic revolutionary, his political asylum at the shores of France did not sustain as a series of Anglo-French repartees overturned his ambitious experiment to escape.

The Congress has consistently been in denial and deliberately oblivious to the momentum that the ideology that Savarkar nurtured and the pace with which it began to gain relevance in India. Savarkar's book 'Essentials of Hindutva' deals with the basics of Hinduism. This book has evidential revelations and ideological convictions shining with much clarity. No doubt, the Hindutva that the Sangh Parivar has been channelizing its energy for has mostly been extracted from the ideals that Savarkar had spoken about. To substantiate his ideas of Hindutva, Savarkar writes, "This one word, Hindutva, ran like a vital spinal cord through our whole body

politic and made the Nayars of Malabar weep over the sufferings of the Brahmins in Kashmir. Our bards bewailed the fall of Hindus, our seers roused the feelings of Hindus, our heroes fought the battle of Hindus, our saints blessed the efforts of Hindus, our statesmen moulded the fate of Hindus, and our mothers wept over the wounds and gloried over the triumph of Hindus."

India's present political context is principally driven by the consciousness that an untouchable nationalist of the Congress, V.D Savarkar generated. To counter his eminence in the midst of a newly invigorated Hindutva sensationalism will be a herculean task for the Congress. If it keeps hammering on projecting him as the underdog of India's independence struggle, except his grey beard, nothing about his understanding and appearance would narrate Rahul Gandhi's maturity. But of course, his political rant on Savarkar had given him a media mileage, though his Bharat Jodo Yatra could not create a pan India narrative for change.

**Freelance Journalist/Social Worker Meppurathu House Puthusserimala, Pathanamthitta, Kerala State**

### Editor To Letter

#### Dear Editor, New Material New Hope

Scientists have discovered a novel material called "Conductive Play-Doh" that goes against conventional wisdom and paves the way for new designs in the field of electronics. They have created a this new type of material that can be made to look like plastic but conduct electricity like metal, breaking all known rules of electrical conduction and paving the way for a novel material that can even change the way electronics are manufactured. A team of scientists from the University of Chicago has recently created this material that still conducts electricity despite the presence of messy molecular fragments. Typically, conductive metals such as copper, gold, or aluminum, or organic materials synthesized for this purpose, consist of closely aligned rows of atoms or molecules that allow electrons to move easily. The scientists say that the new material, ignited that theory with a material with a disordered structure that still conducts ions, paving the way for a whole new direction for materials that conduct electricity. According to them, this opens the way in principle to design a whole new type of material that is conductive, easy to shape and very durable in everyday conditions.

The finding represents a new design principle for the evolution of electronic technology, including its handling options. For example, conventional metals often need to be melted to be formed into the right shape for a processor or device, which limits what can be made of them because of presence of other components must also have the same heat resistance. However, this new material does not have this limitation because it can be fabricated at room temperature. Therefore it is environmental friendly. Also because of its stability, one can use it for requirements where the device or its components must withstand heat, acid or alkali, or even humidity. The team is however currently exploring the further different forms and functions the material can have, such as 2D, 3D or porosity, which can potentially change its function.

**Vijaykumar H K Raichur, Karnataka Social worker and Environmentalist**

## Three city Russian Cultural Festival on to celebrate 75 years of India - Russia Diplomatic Relationship



Three city Russian Cultural Festival is being held in Delhi, Kolkata, Mumbai from November 21 to November 28, 2022 in India to celebrate establishment of 75 years of Diplomatic Relationship between Russia and India in 1947. Ministry of Culture of Russian Federation is organising the cultural festival in collaboration with Indian Council for Cultural Relations of Ministry of External Affairs, India. The event is organised by ROSCONCERT. Three city Russian Cultural Festival opened in New Delhi on November 21, 2022 in presence of Ambassador of Russia & other top dignitaries.

In Kolkata, the Russian Troupe performing on November 23, 24, 25, 2022 at Rabindra Sadan. In Kolkata, Russian Cultural Festival began in presence of His Excellency Consul General of Russia Mr. Alexey M Idamkin, ICCR Zonal Head & Director Ms. Minakshi Misra, ICCR Governing Body Member Mr. Arindam Mukherjee and Chief Guest of the program Dr. Sashi Panja West Bengal Cabinet Minister for Industries, Commerce & Enterprises and Department of Women and Child Development and Social Welfare of the Government of West Bengal. Shri Arindam Mukherjee in his address echoed the

### Partha Roy

spirit of the address of Russian Ambassador Denis Alipov in opening ceremony in Delhi

"There's a popular saying in India - 'Dosti se zyada kuch bhi nahi hota (There's nothing more important than friendship). The mission of the festival is to strengthen humanitarian ties through cultural events."

The cultural exchange between the two nations was affected due to the spread of coronavirus pandemic.

Consul General of Russia Mr. Alexey M. Idamkin mentioned Russia is resuming the tradition of reciprocal cultural festivals between the two countries after two years due to the pandemic.

Ms. Minakshi Misra, ICCR Zonal Head and Director mentioned Russian Cultural Festival will play big role in strengthening cultural ties between two nations.

Dr. Sashi Panja Cabinet Minister, Government of West Bengal mentioned Russian Cultural Festival will strengthen understanding of multifaceted cultural diversity of Russia.

Ms. Ekaterina Lazareva Head of Protocol, The Consulate General of Russian Federation in Kolkata was felicitated by Consul General of Russia Alexey M Idamkin and ICCR Zonal Head & Director for successful coordination of the program.

Top diplomats, members of Diplomatic missions in the city, Industrialists, Members of various Chambers of Commerce, Bureaucrats, artists & cultural personalities attended the opening of Russian Cultural Festival in Kolkata.

Cultural Festival will conclude with Russian Troupe performing in Mumbai on November 25, 26, 28.

During the festival, there will be concert performance by three famous Russian groups: --the State Academic Honored Dance Ensemble of Dagestan "Lezginka" --the Musical Ensemble "Terem -Quartet" and --the State Ensemble of Cossak song "Krinitsa". All three Russian performance are being performed in each of three cities. Each of three performing groups represent unique folk art of Russia.





The Union Minister for Defence, Shri Rajnath Singh visiting the Angkor Wat temple in Siem Reap, Cambodia

## With Over 30,000 Cases, China's Daily Covid Tally Hits Record High: Report

**Beijing:** China's daily Covid cases have hit a record high since the beginning of the pandemic, official data showed Thursday, as the country works to curb the spread with snap lockdowns, mass testing and travel restrictions. China recorded 31,454 domestic cases -- 27,517 without symptoms -- on Wednesday, the National Health Bureau said. The numbers are relatively small when compared with China's vast population of 1.4 billion. But under Beijing's strict zero-Covid policy, even tiny outbreaks can shut down entire cities and



place contacts of infected patients into strict quarantine. The unrelenting policy has caused fatigue and resentment among swathes of the population as the pandemic nears its third year, sparking sporadic protests and hitting productivity in the world's second-largest economy. Wednesday's figures exceeded the 29,390 infections recorded in mid-April when megacity Shanghai was under lockdown, with residents struggling to buy food and access medical care.

## One Who Wants To Serve Country Will Never Become Agniveer: Akhilesh Yadav As Rahul Gandhi's Yatra Enters Madhya Pradesh, BJP Has A Counter



**Mainpuri (Uttar Pradesh):** Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav on Wednesday criticised the Agnipath military recruitment scheme and claimed that someone who wants to serve the country will "never want to become Agniveer". He claimed no one got a job after the recruitment rally in Uttar Pradesh's Farrukhabad. Mr Yadav was

addressing the Ex-Servicemen Conference in Mainpuri, where his wife Dimple Yadav is a candidate for the December 5 by-election. "One who wants to serve the country will never want to become Agniveer. Recruitments were done in Farrukhabad, but no one got a job. The government is saying that it is saving the

budget through these schemes, but when the country itself will not survive, how can the budget survive," he said. Seeking the support of the ex-servicemen, the Samajwadi Party chief said, "Our party workers are working, our leaders are working hard. If you support us, there will be no worries for us. By-election to the Mainpuri seat, considered

a stronghold of the Samajwadi Party, was mandated due to the death of party founder Mulayam Singh Yadav on October 10.

Video: Akhilesh Yadav Touches Uncle Shivalpal Yadav's Feet At Poll Rally

The party has released a list of star campaigners for the bypoll, which includes Akhilesh Yadav's uncle Shivalpal Yadav, who heads the Pragatisheel Samajwadi Party (Lohiya). Other prominent names in the list are Akhilesh Yadav, Jaya Bachchan, and Azam Khan.

It was speculated that Shivalpal Yadav may contest from Mainpuri, but family sources suggest he supports the candidature of Dimple Yadav.

**Bhopal:** Hours before the Rahul Gandhi-led Bharat Jodo Yatra entered Madhya Pradesh on Wednesday, the ruling BJP launched a rally of its own in the state. The BJP's Janjatiya Gaurav Yatra began in Khandwa at the birthplace of tribal icon Tantya Bheel.

The Congress yatra will reach the historic place today while Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan and four state ministers attended the BJP's rally there yesterday. The BJP denies that its rally was planned as a counter to Rahul Gandhi's yatra. "Unlike Congress, we don't embark on yatra only ahead of elections. Our rally was planned well in advance," said Ram Dangore, a BJP MLA. The BJP rally will end on December 4 at Patalpani in Indore



where Tantya Bheel was killed while fighting against the British. December 4 marks the tribal hero's death anniversary. The same day, the Congress rally will enter Rajasthan, after covering six districts of Madhya Pradesh. Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra joined her brother Rahul Gandhi's yatra

for the first time today since it began in September. The rallies point to a major tribal outreach by both the parties ahead of next year's assembly election and amid the rising tribal outfit Jai Adivasi Yuva Shakti (JAYS), which is eyeing a major chunk of tribal youth votes. Tribals constitute over 21% of votes in 230

constituencies in the state. As many as 84 seats are tribal-dominated and 47 of those are reserved for Scheduled Tribe (ST) candidates. The BJP had won 60 of these 84 seats in 2013 but the numbers fell to just 34 in 2018. The Congress increased its tally from 24 to 57 seats during these two elections.

## Fugitive Nirav Modi Seeks Permission To Appeal Extradition In UK Top Court

**London:** Fugitive diamond merchant Nirav Modi has filed an application in the High Court in London, seeking permission to appeal against his extradition order in the Supreme Court. The 51-year-old diamantaire lost an appeal on mental health grounds earlier this month, when a two-judge High Court bench ruled that his risk of suicide was not such that it would be either unjust or oppressive to extradite him to India to face charges of fraud and money laundering in the estimated USD 2 billion Punjab National Bank (PNB) loan scam case. Nirav Modi, who remains behind bars at Wandsworth Prison in

London, had two weeks to file an application seeking an appeal on the grounds of a point of law of general public importance, which according to experts is a high threshold that is not met very often. It is unknown if and when extradition may take place as Nirav Modi still has legal challenges open to him, UK Home Office sources said. The Crown Prosecution Service (CPS), acting on behalf of the Indian authorities, is now expected to respond to the latest application, following which a High Court judge is to give a ruling on paper -- without a full hearing. The entire process may

eventually fall into the New Year, given the Christmas holiday period next month. On November 9, Lord Justice Jeremy Stuart-Smith and Justice Robert Jay who had presided over the appeal at the Royal Courts of Justice in London ruled that they were "far from satisfied that Mr Modi's mental condition and the risk of suicide are such that it would be either unjust or oppressive to extradite him". Their verdict also found every reason to accept that the government of India (GOI) will treat its assurances on Nirav's medical care at Barrack 12 of Arthur Road Jail in Mumbai with "appropriate



seriousness". "On the basis of the assurances that the GoI has given, we accept that there will be suitable medical provision and an appropriate plan in place for the management and medical care of Mr Modi, which will be provided in the

knowledge that he is a suicide risk (i.e. a person who, in the absence of preventative measures, may or will attempt suicide and will or may succeed)," the judgment read. If his attempt to have his appeal heard in the Supreme Court fails, in principle, Nirav Modi

can apply to the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR) to try and block his extradition on the basis that he will not receive a fair trial and that he will be detained in conditions that breach Article 3 of the European Convention on

Human Rights, to which the UK is a signatory. The threshold for an ECHR appeal is also extremely high because he would also have to demonstrate that his arguments on those grounds before the UK courts have been previously rejected. The dismissal of the High Court appeal earlier this month marked a major win for the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) and Enforcement Directorate (ED) case against the businessman, who has been in prison since his arrest on an extradition warrant in March 2019. The latest High Court ruling noted three sets

of criminal proceedings against the diamantaire in India -- the CBI case of fraud on the PNB which caused losses equivalent to over GBP 700 million, the ED case relating to the alleged laundering of the proceeds of that fraud and a third set of criminal proceedings involving alleged interference with evidence and witnesses in the CBI proceedings. Then UK Home Secretary, Priti Patel, had ordered Nirav's extradition based on Judge Sam Goozee's Westminster Magistrates' Court ruling in April 2021 and the case has been undergoing an appeals process since then.



Chief Minister Shri Naveen Patnaik at the inauguration ceremony of the Happiest Minds Development Centre at Fortune Tower, Bhubaneswar

## Racist remark slur against Khordha Collector as PA levels harassment allegation

**Bhubaneswar(KCN):** Khordha Collector K S u d a r s h a n Chakravarthy landed in controversy as his Personal Assistant (PA) Hemant Kumar Bhoi has accused the IAS officer of abusing

and harassing him mentally by making racist and casteist remarks. Bhoi's wife Sabita Nayak today lodged a written complaint in this regard with the Khordha police

mentioning that the Collector will be responsible if anything happens to him or his family. The complainant has also alleged that the Collector was not allowing her husband

to enter the office and asking him to supervise cook and gardener at the bureaucrat's residence. "The Collector has been harassing me mentally for the last two months. I am being rebuked my him regularly over petty

matters. I am unable to bear it further. My wife today lodged a police complaint seeking justice," said Bhoi. Till the filing of this report, the Collector was yet to comment on the allegations.

## BJD MLA's brother appears before ED in Archana Nag case

**Bhubaneswar(KCN):** In ongoing probe into money laundering case against Archana Nag, another businessman appeared before the Enforcement Directorate (ED) in connection with 'suspicious' monetary transaction with the woman blackmailer. Reputed businessman and car showroom owner Gangadhar Samal, who is the brother of BJD MLA from Dhenkanal Assembly Constituency Sudhir Kumar Samal, appeared before the ED for interrogation to ascertain lakhs of financial transactions made with Archana Nag.



mounting to Rs 30 lakh was made between Gangadhar Samal and Archana Nag through the former's car showroom. A day after marathon interrogation of Shradhanjali Behera, Archana's aide and one of the accused persons in the money laundering case, Samal's appearance at office of the ED in Bhubaneswar raises

doubt over alleged involvement of many politicians mostly from ruling BJD in Archana Nag case. Yesterday, ED officials had grilled Shradhanjali for about 14 hours in honeytrap and blackmailing case involving Archana Nag. Earlier, businessman Amiyakant Das was questioned by the ED in connection with 'dubious' financial

transaction with Archana Nag. Reportedly, he confessed before the interrogating officials that he had deposited Rs 7 lakh in bank account of Archana during the financial year 2021-22. Currently, Archana is lodged at Jharpada Jail in Bhubaneswar following a complaint by renowned Ollywood filmmaker Akshay Parija alleging blackmailing. According to the complaint, Archana was involved in a sextortion racket. She demanded Rs 3 crore from Parija threatening him of making his objectional videos and photographs with a woman public.

## 12-hour bandh in Titlagarh, Kantabanji over district status demand



**Balangir(KCN):** Various organisations are today observing a 12-hour bandh in Titlagarh and Kantabanji demanding district status for the two regions.

A Kriyanusthana Committee is observing the bandh in Titlagarh.

Members of the committee had urged the people of the area to extend their support to the dawn-to-dusk bandh from 6 am to 6 pm. The agitators have congregated at various junctions in the area to press their demands.

While shops and business establishments remained closed in Titlagarh, vehicular movement came to a halt due to the bandh. On the other hand, Saintala Traders' Association and Saintala Vikash Parishad are

observing a 12-hour bandh in Saintala demanding sub-division status for the area. Movement of vehicles between Kalahandi and Balangir on NH-26 was affected due to the bandh. Similarly, the Kantabanji Zilla Sangharsh Samiti is observing bandh in Kantabanji over the demand of district status for it. The agitators blocked roads at various places affecting vehicular movement. Shops and educational institutions remained closed in view of the bandh.

## School peon murder: Accused arrested, confesses to murder in drunken state in Odisha Capital

**Bhubaneswar(KCN):** A day after a school peon was found dead near Paikarapur hill under Chandaka police limits on the outskirts of Odisha Capital, police arrested a 20-year-old youth after the latter confessed to the crime here today. The deceased had been identified as Bansidhara Jena of Retang area, a peon at the Paikarapur School. He was reportedly stoned to death by the accused Guna alias Prakash Balwant Ray of the same village when the latter was in an inebriated state. Police said on the day of the incident, Bansidhara and Guna had gone to have dinner together. After picking up food and alcohol, they went to Mundia area. While

they were having their drinks, Bansidhara reportedly made offensive statements towards Guna's parents which did not go down well with him. Provoked by the verbal abuse, Guna attacked Bansidhara. As the latter fell and hit a rock, Guna then went ahead and smashed his head repeatedly with a stone leading to Bansidhara's death at the spot. Guna then fled the scene and went back home. After Bansidhara's family found his body, his son Jyoti Ranjan filed a case with Chandaka police alleging his father was stoned to death. Police on investigating the matter, tracked down Guna where he confessed to the

crime and surrendered. The accused however dismissed any prior rivalry and said he was triggered by Bansidhara's comments and attacked him when he was drunk. Police however said the murder was pre-planned. "The accused had planned the murder over past enmity. He was holding grudge against Bansidhara as the latter had earlier passed similar offensive remarks against one of his cousins who is a transgender. When Bansidhara again passed comments at the character of Guna's parents, he flew into a rage and committed the crime in a drunken state," Zone 5 ACP Ramesh Chandra Bisoi told mediapersons.




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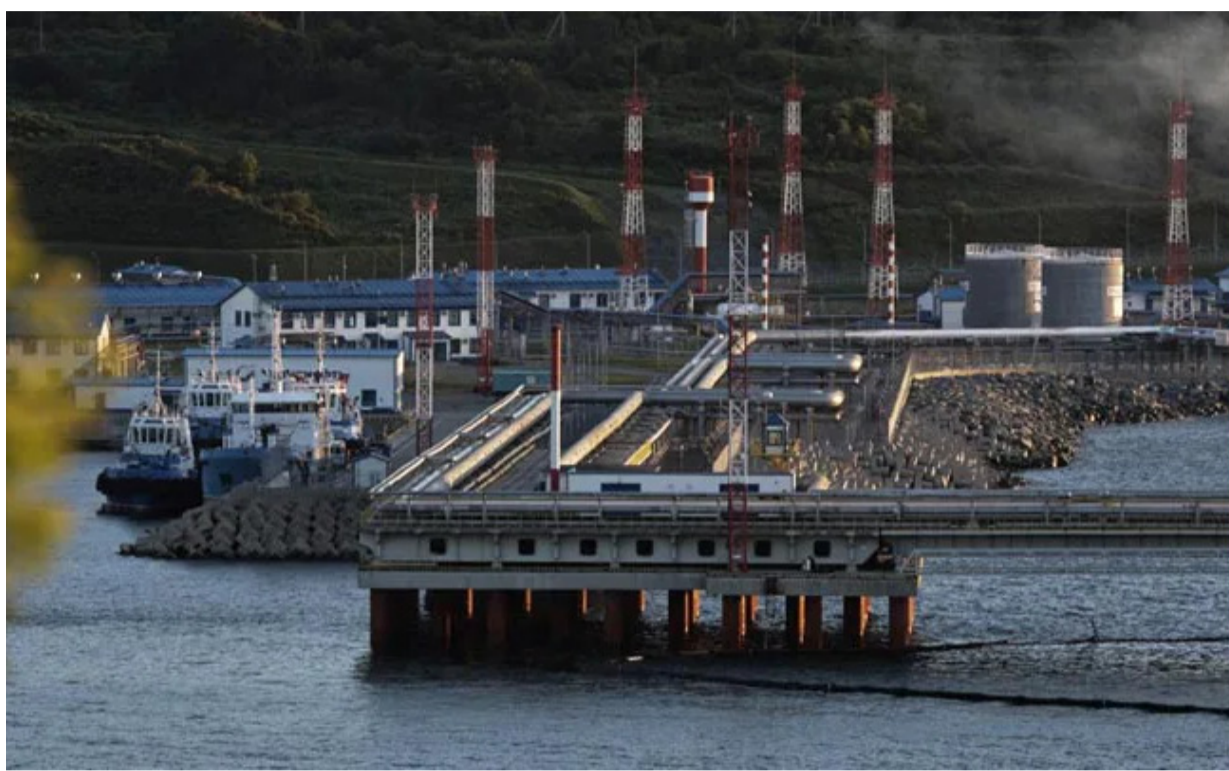
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# G7's Oil Price Cap Sanctions To Have Little Impact On Russian Revenue

**LONDON/NEW DELHI / MOSCOW:** The Group of Seven (G7) nations' proposed price cap of \$65-\$70 a barrel on Russian oil would have little immediate impact on Moscow's revenues, as it is broadly in line with what Asian buyers are already paying, five industry sources with direct knowledge of the purchases said on Wednesday. The goal of the price cap is to deprive Russian President Vladimir Putin of revenue to fund the military offensive in Ukraine, without causing major disruption to global oil markets that would drive energy prices higher. Oil and gas exports are forecast to

account for 42% of Russia's revenues this year at 11.7 trillion roubles (\$196 billion), according to the country's finance ministry, up from 36% or 9.1 trillion roubles (\$152 billion) in 2021. The G7, including the United States, as well as the whole of the European Union and Australia, are planning to implement the price cap on sea-borne exports of Russian oil on Dec. 5. India has emerged as the second-largest single buyer after China of Russian oil since the conflict began in February. Indian refiners have taken the place of refiners in countries that have imposed sanctions on Russian crude



imports, or have steered clear of Russian crude to avoid negative publicity. Some Indian refiners are paying the equivalent to a discount of around

\$25 to \$35 a barrel to international benchmark Brent crude for Russian Urals crude, two sources said. Urals is Russia's main export crude. With Brent

trading at around \$85 a barrel on Wednesday, that would imply a price of \$50-\$60 a barrel of Urals, which is below the cap. That would indicate

Western shippers and insurers living in countries that have imposed sanctions on Russia would be able to provide services to cover shipments of Russian crude without

fear of being sanctioned. It also means that Russia would not need to make good on its threat to stop supplying buyers that adhered to the price cap - because the market is below that cap anyway. The U.S. Treasury guidance published on Tuesday said the cap will be placed on what are known as Free on Board (FOB) prices, which do not include the cost of insurance and shipping. That would be the price that the crude would be sold at if a buyer went and picked it up from a Russian terminal. Indian refiners typically pay for crude to be delivered to them. That price includes insurance and freight. Even for delivered

Urals crude, India is paying \$15-\$20 a barrel below Brent, one source said. That means even the delivered cargoes are about the same level as the price cap. Urals is trading to other buyers at a similar discount of \$30-\$35 to dated Brent, trading sources said. Oil produced by the sanctioned state oil firm Rosneft is at the lower end and non-Rosneft slightly higher. The U.S. Treasury guidance does not allow buyers in countries that have imposed sanctions on Russian crude imports, such as in the United States and the European Union, to buy Russian oil even under the price cap.

## Sensex, Nifty Surge Over 1% To Close At A New Record High

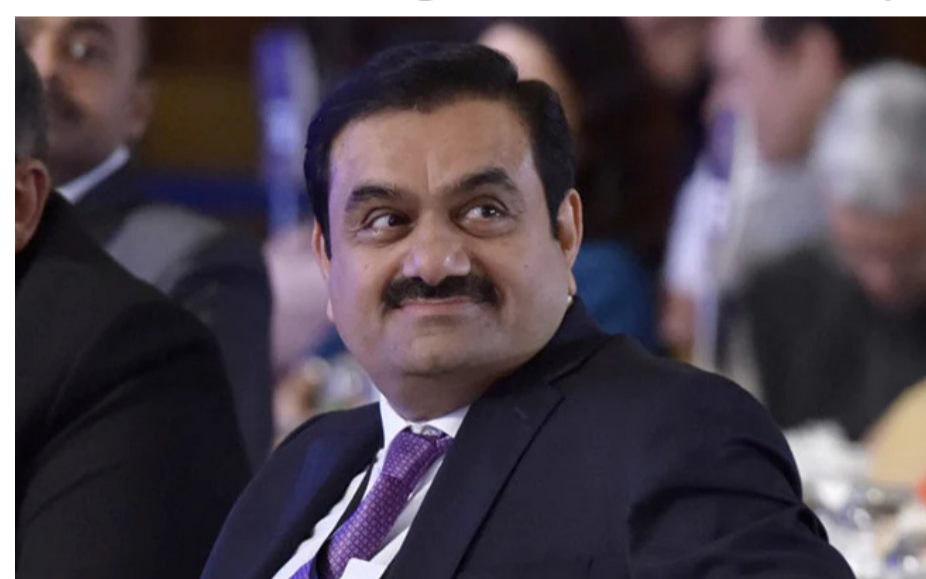
New Delhi: Indian equity benchmarks surged to close at a new all-time high, extending their gains for the third straight session, boosted by an advance in global risk assets after Federal Reserve meeting minutes showed support for smaller rate hikes from now on. "Investors wound up their short positions on the expiry day, triggered by US Fed minutes indicating a moderate pace of rate hikes going ahead that eventually

propelled benchmark indices Sensex & Nifty to new all-time highs," said Shrikant Chouhan, Head of Equity Research for Retail at Kotak Securities. The 30-share BSE Sensex index jumped 762.10 points, or 1.24 per cent, to a new record closing high of 62,272.68, and the broader NSE Nifty-50 index rose 216.85 points, or 1.19 per cent, to end at an all-time high of 18,484.10. "Markets maintained

their firm footing on the last day of the current month expiry and cheering the bulls were the November Fed meeting minutes' which pointed to a slowdown in tightening," said Prashanth Tapse, Senior Vice President for Research at Mehta Equities. "For the (Nifty) index, the immediate goal post is seen at its all-time-high at 18,605 mark and then aggressive targets at the psychological 19,000 mark," he added.

## Gautam Adani's Mega Port Project Stalled As A Fishing Community Protests

**VIZHINJAM India:** On the main road to billionaire Gautam Adani's planned Vizhinjam mega port on the southern tip of India, a shelter built by the coastal region's Christian fishing community blocks the entrance, preventing further construction. The simple 1,200 square-foot structure with a corrugated-iron roof has since August



stood in the way of ambitions for the country's first container transshipment port - a \$900 million project that seeks to plug into the lucrative shipping trade flowing between juggernaut manufacturers in the East and wealthy consumer markets in the West. Decorated with banners proclaiming "indefinite day and night protest", the

shelter provides cover for roughly 100 plastic chairs, although the number of protesters taking part in the sit-ins on any one day is usually much lower. ntsk6ce Across the street, supporters of the port including members of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's ruling party and Hindu groups have set up their own shelters. Even when protester

numbers are low, up to 300 police officers with batons will gather nearby each day to carefully monitor the situation. Despite repeated orders by Kerala state's top court that construction should proceed unhindered, the police are unwilling to take action against the protesters, fearful that doing so will set flame to social and religious tensions simmering

over the port. For Adani, the world's third-richest person according to Forbes, it's a high-stakes impasse with no apparent easy solution. Reuters interviewed more than a dozen protesters as well as port supporters, police officials and reviewed hundreds of pages of filings in legal actions brought by the Adani conglomerate against the Catholic priests

leading the protests and against the state government. All point to an intractable divide. Protest leaders allege construction of the port since December 2015 has resulted in significant erosion of the coast and further building promises to wreak havoc with the livelihood of a fishing community they say numbers some 56,000. They want the government to order a halt to construction and independent studies on the impact of the port's development on the marine ecosystem. The Kerala state government, which has been in talks with protesters and argues that erosion has occurred due to cyclones and other natural disasters, did not respond to a request for comment.

## Continued from page-1

### Winter Session...

House in the second-half session.

The Assembly is under a three-level security arrangement by Commissionerate Police. Besides, 28 platoons of police force have been deployed for security. Five control rooms have already been set up to monitor movement of people.

The Winter Session will continue till December 31. It will have a total of 33 working days including six private members days.

Notably, since the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic till the last session, the Assembly functioned under Covid-19 restrictions. MLAs were attending the proceedings from different galleries of the House, District Headquarters and the Secretariat. Most of the time, Patnaik was attending the house virtually. All members and their staff, officials and journalists were undergoing Covid tests prior to the beginning of the sessions.

This time also, the Speaker has allowed the Chief Minister, Minister Prafulla Mallick and MLA Prafulla Samal to attend the House proceedings virtually on health grounds. This announcement made by the Speaker also created a buzz in the Assembly Hall about the health condition of the CM.

### Union Minister for Coal...

Jhanjhara Project, underground coal mine, the most coal producing underground mine of India, inspected the coal mine and encouraged the coal workers and officials.

He also dedicated the Jhanjhara Expansion Project (5.0MTY), an underground coal mine to the nation and planted saplings in the courtyard of Jhanjhara Project.

Shri Pramod Agarwal, Chairman, Coal India Limited, Shri A.P. Panda, CMD, ECL, Shri J.P. Gupta, Director (Technical), Md. Anzar Alam, Director (Finance), Smt. Ahuti Swain Director (Personnel), Shri Mukesh Kumar Mishra, Chief Vigilance Officer, General Managers, Head of Department, officers from ECL Headquarter, General Managers of various Areas of ECL, officers and union officials were present on the occasion.

During his two-day visit to Eastern Coalfields Limited, Shri Joshi stressed on achieving the 50 MT annual coal production target of ECL during 2022-23, and directed to increase the coal production and dispatch to meet the energy requirement of the country.

### PM Gati Shakti...

Company, Pipavav Railway and others led the deliberations in these two sessions. The Summit saw a wide participation from various stakeholders and a healthy round of discussion with the industry leaders. SMP, Kolkata is playing a key role in the strategic planning and development of integrated connectivity approach for creation of modern infrastructure.

## LIC Launches 2 New Term Assurance Plans

**New Delhi:** Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) has launched two new products -- New Jeevan Amar and Tech Term -- today. Both are term assurance plans. New Jeevan Amar and Tech Term are non-linked and non-participating plans, which means policyholders pay fixed premiums and receive guaranteed returns. Non-linked plans are low-risk products that are not linked to the stock market. Jeevan Amar offers the flexibility to choose

from two options: level sum assured and increasing sum assured. A customer can also choose a single premium payment or a regular premium payment. A limited premium payment option is also offered. While women can avail special rates under the New Jeevan Amar plan, premium rates differ for non-smokers and smokers, according to information available on the LIC website. Under the single premium plan, the minimum premium



is ₹ 30,000. For regular and limited modes, the payment is ₹ 3,000. Non-smoker rates will be based on the findings of the

urinary cotinine test. The surrender value under the regular premium plan is nil. A customer can also opt for an accident benefit

rider on payment of an additional premium. While the basic sum assured is ₹ 25,00,000, no maximum sum has been set.

# FIFA World Cup 2022: Gavi becomes youngest after Pele to score as Spain rout Costa Rica

**New Delhi:** Not since Pelé in 1958 had someone as young as Gavi scored a goal at the FIFA World Cup 2022. The 18-year-old midfielder led the way on Wednesday (November 23) as Spain pulled off the biggest World Cup victory in their history, routing Costa Rica 7-0. "I could never have imagined it," said Gavi, who was named the game's most valuable player. "I know I'm the youngest in the team and I respect everyone, but on the field it's different and I bring out my best." Pelé scored two goals in the 1958 final, when Brazil won its first World Cup by beating Sweden 5-2. "I'm proud to be in that podium," he said. "Not even in my dreams I had imagined this." Gavi only managed to score one goal on Wednesday, but his

teammates added plenty of others. Not long after Japan surprised Germany 2-1 in the other Group E match, Spain's young squad avoided any chance of an upset with Dani Olmo, Marco Asensio and Ferran Torres scoring a goal each in the first half. Torres, Gavi, Carlos Soler and Álvaro Morata added to the lead in the second half. In addition to Gavi's mark, Olmo's goal was the 100th at World Cups for "La Roja," which became the sixth nation to score more than 100 times in the tournament. It was the first time Spain scored seven goals in a World Cup match, and the first time a team completed 1,000 passes in a 90-minute game at the tournament. "Our only goal is to control the game continuously, and to do



that you need to have the ball," Spain coach Luis Enrique said. With Gavi and 19-year-old Pedri starting, Spain also became the first European nation with two teenagers in the starting lineup of a

World Cup match in 60 years, according to statistics platform Opta. Gavi and Pedri were among the many youngsters picked by Luis Enrique in a revamped squad in Qatar — the third-

youngest team among the 32 nations, after the United States and Ghana.

The young duo helped Spain control the pace of the match from the start at Al Thumama Stadium. The 22-year-

old Torres, who is dating the daughter of coach Luis Enrique, scored his first World Cup goal from the penalty spot in the 31st minute. The others came during the run of play. "When things go your way like

this, soccer becomes wonderful," Luis Enrique said. "We played exceptionally well with and without the ball." Costa Rica looked overwhelmed throughout the game in its third straight World Cup campaign, failing to even get a single attempt on goal. The team came to Qatar hoping to repeat its surprise run to the quarterfinals in 2014 in Brazil, and avoid a repeat of its winless showing four years ago in Russia. "We didn't hold on to the possession as we should have done it," Costa Rica coach Luis Fernando Suárez said. "We couldn't complete three or four passes." Spanish players made it look easy with the ball on their feet, finishing the match with 72 per cent of possession.

Spain, which didn't get past the round of 16 in Russia, is trying to break through with a major title after making it to the final of the Nations League and the semifinals of last year's European Championship. This year the team also qualified for the Final Four of the Nations League for a second straight time. Spain's last major triumph came at Euro 2012, two years after it won its lone World Cup title in South Africa. Only five countries have scored more goals than Spain at the World Cup — Brazil, Germany, Argentina, Italy and France. Spain next faces four-time World Cup champion Germany on Sunday in one of the most anticipated matches of the World Cup.

## Kuldeep Sen, Shahbaz to replace Dayal and Jadeja for Bangladesh ODIs

**New Delhi:** Pacer Kuldeep Sen and all-rounder Shahbaz Ahmed have been named as replacements for Yash Dayal and Ravindra Jadeja for the three-match ODI series against Bangladesh, the BCCI stated in a release on Wednesday (November 23). Both Sen and Shahbaz were originally part of the Shikhar Dhawan-led ODI squad for the New Zealand tour but they have been pulled out of the series and instead will be travelling to Bangladesh with the rest of the squad that will be captained by Rohit Sharma.



No replacements have been named for the ODI team in New Zealand. Jadeja, who was part of the Bangladesh tour subject to fitness, has not yet recovered from a knee injury that he sustained during the Asia Cup, which also kept him out of the T20 World Cup. He will continue to be supervised by the BCCI medical team. Dayal, meanwhile, had a lower back issue ruling him out of the Bangladesh series. India's squad for New Zealand ODIs: Shikhar Dhawan (C), Shubman Gill, Deepak Hooda, Suryakumar Yadav, Shreyas Iyer, Rishabh Pant (VC and WK), Sanju Samson (WK), Washington Sundar, Shardul Thakur, Yuzvendra Chahal, Kuldeep Yadav, Arshdeep Singh, Deepak Chahal, Umran Malik

India's squad for Bangladesh ODIs: Rohit Sharma (C), KL Rahul (VC), Shikhar Dhawan, Virat Kohli, Rajat Patidar, Shreyas Iyer, Rahul Tripathi, Rishabh Pant (WK), Ishan Kishan (WK), Shahbaz Ahmed, Axar Patel, Washington Sundar, Shardul Thakur, Mohd. Shami, Mohd. Siraj, Deepak Chahal, Kuldeep Sen. The three ODIs will be played on December 4, 7 and 10, with Dhaka hosting the first two matches while the third game will be held in Chattogram. Pujara, Umesh to play for India A in second four-day game. The BCCI also announced the squad for India A's two four-day matches against Bangladesh A which will be played ahead of India's Test series in the country. Cheteshwar Pujara and Umesh Yadav are part of the squad, captained by Abhimanyu Easwaran, for the second game. The first four-day match will be played from

November 29 to December 2 in Cox's Bazaar while the second game will be held from December 6-9 in Sylhet. The two-Test series against Bangladesh, part of the World Test Championship, will be played from December 14-18 and December 22-26 in Chattogram and Dhaka respectively.

India A squad for 1st four-day game: Abhimanyu Easwaran (C), Rohan Kunnammal, Yashasvi Jaiswal, Yash Dhull, Sarfaraz Khan, Tilak Varma, Upendra Yadav (wk), Saurabh Kumar, Rahul Chahal, Jayant Yadav, Mukesh Kumar, Navdeep Saini, Atit Sheth. India A squad for 2nd four-day game: Abhimanyu Easwaran (C), Rohan Kunnammal, Yashasvi Jaiswal, Yash Dhull, Sarfaraz Khan, Tilak Varma, Upendra Yadav (wk), Saurabh Kumar, Rahul Chahal, Jayant Yadav, Mukesh Kumar, Navdeep Saini, Atit Sheth, Cheteshwar Pujara, Umesh Yadav, KS Bharat (wk)

## BBL 12: Sydney Thunder sign Fazalhaq Farooqi

Sydney: Fazalhaq Farooqi has been roped in by Sydney Thunder for the upcoming edition of the Big Bash League, the club announced on Thursday (November 24). Farooqi, who will be available to play the opening nine rounds, has been signed up as David Willey's replacement.

The England international was initially picked up by Thunder as their platinum signing in the inaugural BBL draft but he pulled out of the competition last week. Farooqi has so far played seven ODIs and 17 T20Is for Afghanistan and looked impressive in the recently concluded T20 World Cup as well. Farooqi finished the tournament with an economy rate of 6.52 and ended up with figures of 2/29 against Australia in Afghanistan's final Super 12 game which they narrowly lost. Known for his prowess at the death, the left-arm seamer has also featured in the Indian Premier League. "Fazalhaq Farooqi is an emerging talent," Head



of Thunder, Andrew Gilchrist, said. "He joins Thunder in great form after playing exceptional cricket in the World T20 Cup and the Asia Cup tournament. While it was very disappointing to have lost David

Willey, it has opened the door for Farooqi to further enhance his reputation and growing status in world cricket. mendment representation in the BBL over the years. Rashid Khan has been embraced by Adelaide Strikers fans as a genuine superstar and honorary South Australian resident, while others, including Zahir Khan, Noor Ahmad and Mohammad Nabi (Renegades), Mujeeb Ur Rahman (Heat) and Qais Ahmad (Stars) have made their marks.



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