

Dhamnagar bypoll: Who's queering the pitch for BJD?

BHUBANESWAR(KCN): A week back, the BJD's win in Dhamnagar by-poll was a foregone conclusion. The ruling party was set to repeat its winning performance in another by-poll. Now, the tide seems to have turned and BJD no more enjoys the advantage. The choice of party candidate is being blamed for the dramatic reversal of fortune. This,



many say, is the making of BJD's leaders in charge of the election. But who really queered the pitch for the party?

Former Dhamnagar MLA Rajendra Das was the first choice of local BJD. He had won in 2009 but in 2019, lost by only 4,625 votes to late BJP MLA Bishnu Charan Sethi. Despite his defeat, Rajendra successfully led the party to a resounding victory in the panchayat elections. It was only natural that party workers were dismayed when BJD chose Abanti Das over him as its candidate.

Xi Jinping swears by Marxism to make China first modern socialist country

BEIJING(KCN): Poised for record third five-year term and perhaps for life, Chinese President Xi Jinping's high-voltage Marxist rhetoric on Sunday with a vow to make China a modern socialist country has raised hackles at home and abroad that the Communist giant, which for decades relegated the ideology to the background, could be taking the turn to the extreme left.



From this day forward, the central task of the Communist Party of China (CPC) will be to lead the Chinese people of all ethnic groups in a concerted effort to realise the Second Centenary Goal of building China into a great modern socialist country in all respects and to advance the rejuvenation of the Chinese nation on all fronts through a Chinese path to modernisation," Xi said in his marathon speech at the key Congress of the party on Sunday.

BJD insiders point out that Chandabali MLA Byomakesh Ray was opposed to the idea of fielding Rajendra as the party candidate in Dhamnagar. Organisation secretary of BJD and Jajpur MLA Pranab Prakash Das reportedly tried to convince Ray but the latter remained hardheaded. Now with Rajendra entering the fray as an Independent, the party



has virtually been divided into two groups. A major faction of BJD workers is displeased with the way things were managed during candidate selection.

If dissidence of party workers was not enough, the possibility of division of Muslim votes due to Rajendra has become a major headache for the BJD. There are nearly 20,000 Muslim voters in Dhamnagar Assembly constituency, majority of whom support BJD. Rajendra is likely to eat into this vote bank as he has worked for

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Over 96% voting in Congress presidential election

NEW DELHI(KCN): After a long gap of 24 years, the Congress on Monday held an internal election to choose a non-Gandhi family member as party chief. The contest between veteran leader Mallikarjun Kharge and Lok Sabha MP Shashi Tharoor saw 96% turnout among the delegates. The winner will succeed Sonia Gandhi as party chief. The election comes three years after Rahul Gandhi resigned from the top post taking responsibility for the 2019 Lok Sabha poll debacle.

While Kharge and Tharoor cast votes in their home states, those who turned up in AICC headquarters include former PM Manmohan Singh, P Chidambaram, and Sonia Gandhi along with Priyanka Gandhi. After casting her

vote, Sonia Gandhi said that she has been waiting for the elections for a long time.

booths at Bharat Jodo Yatra camp. Though the Gandhis have claimed they

election authority over the 'deferential treatment' by senior leaders in several



Addressing a press conference, the party's central election authority chairman Madhusudan Mistry said the Congress has set a model for other parties by holding an open and transparent election. "Election was done through a secret ballot. Ballots will be counted by mixing and there is no way to find out which PCCs voted for whom," he said, adding 50 delegates including Rahul voted at the

were neutral, Kharge is widely seen as the 'official candidate' endorsed by the high command. While Tharoor focused on decentralisation and reforms, Kharge promised to follow the Udaipur 'Chitnan Shivir', in their frenetic campaigns to reach out to the 9,900- strong electorate. However, there were question marks over the fairness of the polls with Tharoor approaching the

states and discrepancies in the electoral rolls. Senior Congress leader and in-charge of Madhya Pradesh J P Agarwal said, "Elections to the CWC will be decided by the High Command. The president will take everyone along." 9,500 out of 9,916 delegates vote. Of the total 9,916 PCC delegates that form the electoral college to pick the party chief in a secret ballot, over 9,500 cast their ballot

When threats are global, responses cannot be local: PM Modi

NEW DELHI(KCN): Speaking at Interpol's 90th general assembly on Tuesday, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said there can be no safe havens for corrupt, terrorists, drug cartels, poaching gangs and organised crime. He called for a global response to combat these threats and urged Interpol to speed up red corner notices against fugitive offenders. The PM said: "When threats are global, responses cannot be just local and it's high time that the world comes together to defeat these forces."

Noting that a safe and secure world is "our shared responsibility", Mr Modi said, "When the forces of good cooperate, the forces of crime cannot operate," and added that corruption and financial crimes have harmed the welfare of citizens of many countries. "There can be no safe havens for corrupt, terrorists, drug cartels, poaching gangs, organised crime," he said at the global police organisation event attended by representatives of 195 countries at Pragati Maidan here. Referring to terrorism, CONTINUED ON: P-7



KIIT business incubator receives National IP award



BHUBANESWAR(KCN): The KIIT Technology Business Incubator has been conferred the 'National Intellectual Property Awards for 2021 and 2022' by the Controller General of Patents, Design, and Trade

Marks (CGPDTM). The awards for both years were presented under the category of 'Best Incubator for Nurturing the IP'. The award was received by Mrutyunjay Suar, CEO of KIIT-TBI

and was given during the 'National IP awards 2021 & 2022' ceremony in New Delhi on Saturday. It was presented by Union Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal, Secretary DPIIT Anurag

Jain, JS-IPR, DPIIT Shruti Singh and Prof Unnat P Pandit, CGPDTM. Expressing his happiness, KIIT and KISS founder Achyuta Samanta congratulated Suar for the achievement of KIIT School of Bio-Technology.

Naveen invites top industries to be part of Odisha's growth

BHUBANESWAR(KCN): Inviting top industry leaders to be partners in Odisha's phenomenal growth story, Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik on Monday said the State is

Chief Minister said the State's abundant natural resources, skilled manpower, progressive policies and strong result oriented governance provides a unique eco-system. A col-



witnessing a new era of industrialisation propelled by advancements in technology and a philosophy of sustainability. Exhorting the top business captains at the investors' meet at Hyderabad to come to Odisha and explore the opportunities, the

laborative effort between the government, industry and people is needed to ensure consistent growth, he said. The Chief Minister said the two-decade-old stable government in the State, its position in the ease of doing CONTINUED ON: P-7



AWARENESS PROGRAMME ON HAND HYGINE ORGANISED AT DAV PUBLIC SCHOOL, KALINGA NAGAR TO MARK THE GLOBAL HAND WASHING DAY

Ambulance services launched on Naveen's birthday



BERHAMPUR(KCN): The district unit of BJD launched free ambulance service from Rayagada to neighbouring Andhra Pradesh on the 76th birthday of Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik on Sunday. The party's State vice president N Bhaskar said people of Rayagada opt for hospitals in Andhra Pradesh for treatment as it is closer to the district. Most eligible persons in the district have been issued Biju Swasthya Kalyan Yojana (BSKY) which enables them to avail free treatment at empanelled hospitals and several other

states including Andhra Pradesh. "Several hospitals in Andhra Pradesh accept BSKY cards and the locals had been demanding transport to the neighbouring State," said Bhaskar. The ambulances will be stationed at Rayagada, Muniguda, Bissamkatak, Gunupur and Kalyansinghpur. Meanwhile, the party organised blood donation camp and free health check up for locals on the Chief Minister's birthday. This apart, blankets were distributed among the poor and a padayatra organised at Durgi.

BJP urges freezing of Dhamnagar SHGs' bank accounts



BHUBANESWAR(KCN): The BJP on Monday urged Chief Electoral Officer SK Lohani to issue necessary directions for freezing of bank accounts of women self-help groups (WSHG) operating in Dhamnagar Assembly constituency till the by-poll is over. A delegation of

the party led by its general secretary Lekshree Samantasinghar met the CEO and submitted a memorandum alleging the ruling BJD is distributing money among the electorate through WSHGs. "In previous elections, the BJD used ambulances for dis-

tributing money among voters with the help of police. Now the ruling dispensation has changed its tactics and utilising WSHGs for the job," said Samantasinghar. "We urged the CEO to ensure that the bank accounts of SHGs are monitored and it will be prudent

to freeze their accounts temporarily till the by-poll is over," she added. The BJP leader further alleged that master book keepers and community resource persons of Mission Shakti department are being used for distribution of money among voters.

Australian Odias Celebrates ORIOZ Sports Fest 2022

Canberra(KCN): on Resident Odias in Australia celebrated Orioz Sports Fest 2022 at Canberra with much pomp, splendour and fanfare. Around Hundreds of Aussie Odias gathered from all states of Australia at the Festival venues to witness and take part in the unique event showcasing both the excellence in sports and Fragrance of vibrant Odia Culture. The blending of sports and culture in such a large scale manner being hosted for the first time by Odias Association in Australia; ORIOZ INC., evoked unprecedented response, unusual interest and exceptional enthusiasm among the participants. The two days

pion Shriyanka Sadangi enthralled the audiences by her inspiring speech.

The colourful cultural programme presented by Orioz members at Pearce Community Centre, drew huge appreciation by the viewers. The spectacular show was well co-



long cultural jamboori and Sports extravaganza, specially conceptualised by Sambit Das from Queensland and ORIOZ President Dr. Nalini Pati was meant to ensure physical fitness as well as mental wellness of the ORIOZ members in post covid time, has earned immense popularity and was a massive success. The Festival commenced with a fun filled as well as competitive T12 Match between Australia Capital Territory (ACT) and New South Wales (NSW) Teams comprising young members of ORIOZ at Gowrie Oval. ACT Team led by Captain Saswat Pati won the match, defeating NSW led by Aavansh Asitav Nayak as captain in a photo finish sensational one run victory. The highlight of the second day of the Sports Fest 2022 was badminton tournament conducted at Australian National University Sports Arena. The game started from league level was ended with finals in differ-

ordinated at interstate level in an unparalleled unified efforts by Mumtaz Lenka, Smita Samantaray, Rozaline Rout, Barta Pendyam, Dr Ram Prasad Mohanty, Chinmayee Mohanty and Madhumita Swain. The special attraction of the Mega Event was the recital of Odia Bhajan, "Ki Sundara Aha Ki Ananda Maya" by the kids with the brilliant direction of Tarun Agasti. The dazzling evening also witnessed several fun frolic and heart touching performances by the members of the community across the states covering all age groups.

The ace anchors Mumtaz Lenka, Dr Ram Prasad Mohanty, Chinmayee Mohanty, Dharmteja Mansingh, Prisha Mahapatra, Pratyusha Mahunta, Krish Meher and Saswat Pati presented the programmes and conducted the proceedings in a seamless manner. The spectators were overwhelmed by the virtual appearance of Ollywood Superstars Sabyasachi Mishra and Archita Sahu.

Gracing the Inaugural Ceremony as distinguished guest the Indian High Commissioner in Australia H.E. Shri Manpreet Vohra lauded the vital contributions of Odisha and Odias in promoting Brand India Globally. Addressing the gathering, President of ORIOZ Dr Nalini Pati stressed on the dire need of sport-



ent categories. The players have shown exemplary professionalism and astounding sportsman spirit during the play irrespective of loosing or winning. The outcome of the matches were as follows: Men's Doubles Champion : Sambit Das and Dharmteja Mansingh; Runners Up: Debashish Choudhury and Anesh Mohapatra; Women Doubles Winners : Chinmayee Mohanty and Radhika Swain; Runners Up: Madhu Patra and Pragnya Jagadev; Mixed Doubles winners Dharmteja Mansingh and Akhansha Mishra; Runners Up : Sambit Das and Chinmayee Mohanty; Junior Doubles winners: Muskaan Lenka and Subhasree Patro; Runners up: Deepti Prava Sahu and Alisha Nayak. Orioz's President Dr. Nalini Pati and Former President Rajsekhar Acharya distributed the trophies, medals and certificates. Renowned Sports Star and International Shooting Cham-

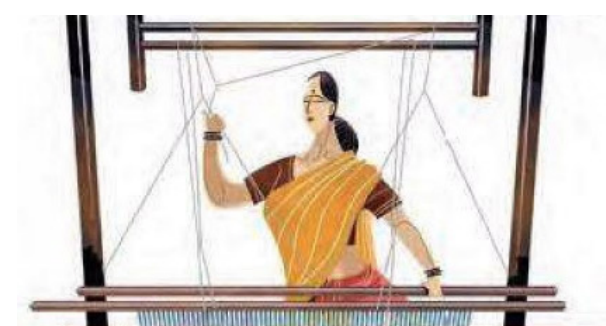


ing as well as cultural activities to keep the community fit both physically and mentally. Australian Shadow Minister of Multicultural Affairs Mr. Peter Cain was also present.

The robust organising team responsible for the massive success of the Sports Fest 2022 included Sambit Das, Mumtaz Lenka, Manoj Lenka, all the Executive Committee members of Orioz led by the President Dr Nalini Pati and the ever active Canberra families of ORIOZ Inc..

Ambassadors visit handloom hubs

CUTTACK(KCN): India's ambassador to Spain Dinesh K Patnaik and Guate-



mala Manoj K Mohapatra visited the handloom clusters at Birabarapur, Abhimanpur and Manibandha in Badamba block of Cuttack district. Both the diplomats met and interacted with artisans including national awardee Arjun Pal and appreciated the new designs. They also visited the

Maa Kalapata PG and Maniabandha Hastatanta PG to have a glimpse of the beautiful and exquisite designs of women entrepreneurs who acquired the skill through a training programme organised by Odisha Rural Development and Marketing Society (ORMAS) in association with Tata Trust.

Patnaik and Mohapatra appreciated the efforts of the women weavers and motivated them to further diversify their products and introduce the locally made products on the global platform. Among others, Collector Bhabani Shankar Chayani, local MLA Debi Prasad Mishra, Joint CEO, ORMAS Bipin Rout, Secretary and MSME, Bibhuti Bhusan Das accompanied the ambassadors.

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Rowel Star- The new shining Star of the Rajasthan Music Industry

Mumbai (KCN, Sanjay Sharma Raj): The Rajasthan music industry is going leaps and bounds, celebrating the new singing star Afjor Khan aka Rowel Star. This new generation of Rajasthan singers is making headlines for his outstanding singing style and making the world shake legs with his unique Rajasthan songs.

Afjor Khan, popularly known as Rowel Star on Social Media, has created a sensation in the Rajasthan music world with his mesmerizing voice and affective tone. "I am an ardent fan of Guru Randhawa and take his inspiration for my songs. I want to create some unique mix of folk songs with blending hip-hop and wanted to give something new to the music world, says Rowel Star." He recently gave his voice to two new songs, "Tera Shoot" & "Nahiyo Jeena", making the Rajasthan cultures a step ahead in this ever-evolving music world. The shoot of these songs has recently been completed in Dubai and will be out very soon to rock the floors! About his upcoming projects, Rowel Star will be seen sharing the floors with re-

nowned Rajasthan Singer Sumsa Supari.



They together have shot the song recently in Dubai in various amazing locations. The song will be out soon and published on the YouTube channel Sumsa Supari Films.

Rowel Star's songs, Maro Sajaniyo, Bannasa ke Mijaj, and Jai Jasol Maa album are the most popular and trending, creating a sensation on his YouTube channel and blessing him with millions of views and subscribers.

Born and raised in a small village in the Panawara district of Barmer, Rajasthan, Afjor has been fascinated by the music culture since he was five. He was sent to his maternal house at Sindhari for schooling. During his school days, he sang songs and attracted many ears listening to his soulful voice. His teacher once gave him a chance to sing a song on Republic Day, which grabbed praise from the entire school.

It was the year 2007 when Afjor Khan won the hearts of millions for singing the famous Rajasthan song of those days, "Maharana Pratap", which rolled out tears from listeners' eyes. His soulful voice created a huge impact on people's minds. Afjor won the gift price of Rs.1500/- for his singing.

After the impressive response to his performance, there was no looking back for Afjor Khan, and his journey of becoming Rowel Star has kick-started!

Neeraj Bharadwaj is shooting for web series 'Saazish' in Bhopal



Mumbai (KCN, Sanjay Sharma Raj): Film and TV veteran and famous actor Neeraj Bharadwaj is

About which Neeraj Bharadwaj says, "I am playing the role of city's famous lawyer Abhay Pratap

hatched and then what happens is still a secret. My role in this is different, I hope people will like it,



shooting for the web series 'Saazish' in Kalua Khurd, Bhopal, which will soon be airing on Disney Hotstar. It is produced by Col. S S Pattnaik and the director is Hiralal Khatri.

Singh, who gets the brother of villain Shahbaz Khan punished. After that Shahbaz Khan commits a lot of oppression on my family and me. I am not able to do anything. After that conspiracy is

and just like before, I will definitely be able to make a place in the heart of the audience with my performance." By the way, Neeraj Bharadwaj will soon have a webseries named

Madgaon ...A Murder Case. Its shooting has been completed.

The main cast of the web series 'Saazish' are Mugdha Godse, Shahbaz Khan, Raza Murad, Mustakh Khan and

Dev Manaria with Neeraj Bharadwaj. Its screenplay and dialogues are by Vinod Vats, Vikas Vashisht and Ajay. Its cameramen are Manish Vyas and Amar Vyas, music is by Manish Bhanushali. It is

produced by Col.S S Pattnaik, co-producer Dev Manaria and executive producer is Anu Madrasi. It will be coming soon on Disney Hotstar. Its shooting is going on in Bhopal followed by Vadodara.

There is no sincerer love than the love of food

World Food Day is celebrated all over the world on October 16. This global event marks a day calling for worldwide awareness and collective action to combat the issue of hunger and ensure healthy diets for all. World Food Day was established in November 1979, as



suggested by former Hungarian minister of agriculture and food Dr Pal Romany. All sorts of solutions basically rely on agriculture since it is the main source of food and also a source of income to many. Food is one of the basic needs of human life. One is able to survive without the other basic needs like shelter and clothing but one cannot go without food. This is the reason as to why many countries take measures to ensure food security. Food is also of utter importance to us as it helps our bodies grow and develop. Without eating food, our bodies would not grow and our organs would not develop. Food releases nutrients that help our bodies grow in size and weight. Malnutrition, undernutrition and overnutrition are the causes of hunger. Both malnutrition and undernutrition refer to the effects on people of not having enough food. The human body is just like a machine. Like an engine burning up fuel, in order to generate the required energy, the human body uses the consumed food in order to generate the driving forces to keep the heart beating, the lungs breathing and the limbs functioning. Healthy food is one of the most important part in leading a healthy life. Combined with physical activity, a balanced food can help us to reach and maintain a healthy weight. Healthy food habits can reduce the risk of chronic diseases. It can also improve our concentration and promotes our overall

health.

The famous proverb 'Health is wealth' reminds us about the

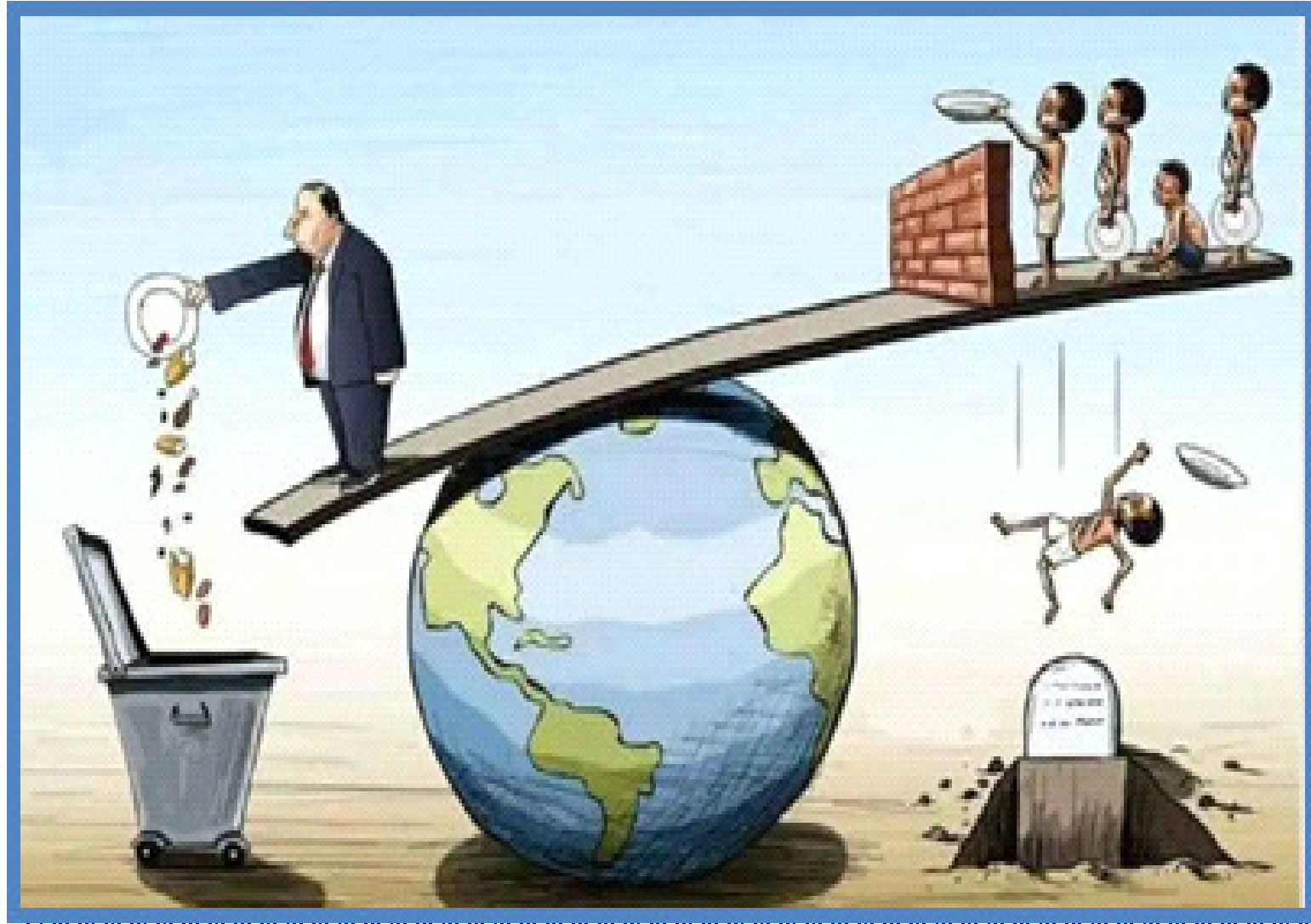
Vinod Chandrashekhar Dixit

importance of good

vital for health and maintenance of your body.

our daily life as vegetables can provide nutrients

the vital issue of in this society. Not only do the consequences of not enough or lack of food cause suffering in hunger and detrimental health, they are also slow in progress in many other



health. Healthy eating habits is one of the vital part in achieving good health. We should always try to take a balanced diet that contains the correct proportions of carbohydrates, fats, proteins, vitamins, minerals, and water. We should include more vegetables and fruits in

Food is essential to drive away hunger and malnutrition. Our body needs sufficient food to survive through. It gives us the required energy and sufficient nutrients to grow and develop to be healthy and energetic, to move around, work, exercise, play, think and learn. Eradicating hunger and malnutrition is one of

areas of development like education and employment. Food safety is the important things of to describe food handling, preparation, and the storage of the food in ways that foodborne illness. Food can be transmitted from a person to a person as well as servers as the growth medium of the bacteria that can cause of the food poisoning. The food is either spoiled during production or transport or thrown into the waste bins of households, retailers or restaurants. Further area of concern is generation of greenhouse gas like methane by food waste which is filling up the world's landfills. food is a very basic necessity for every human body to survive and to be healthy.

B-15 Jyoti-Kalash Society, Jodhpur
Tekra, Satellite, Ahmedabad

As the threat of a Nuclear War looms large

When Dr. Julius Robert Oppenheimer, the American nuclear physicist at the University of California and Director



of the Los Alamos Laboratory that produced the first nuclear bomb under Project Manhattan saw the first ever nuclear explosion on July 16, 1945 at Alamogordo, New Mexico. He cited a famous quotation from the **Bhagvad Gita** (Chapter-11 and Shloka-32) : " Now I am Death, the Destroyer of World." Presumably Professor Oppenheimer could foresee the impending doom that the beautiful world created by God is going to face in future. Oppenheimer

was shocked at the awesome power

Pradeep Kumar Nayak

of the nuclear bomb and apprehended that it would annihilate the human civilization if misused. The bugbear of nuclear war and nuclear bombs has virtually held the human civilization to ransom ever since the first atomic bomb codenamed Little Boy was dropped on Hiroshima city of Japan by America on August 6, 1945, during the Second World War. The large scale devastation, the instantaneous death of tens of thousand of people and the horror of radioactive fall-out had then shocked the civilized world. The advent of the Nuclear Age gave the foreboding of a sinister message for the mankind. It bluntly says that though God is the Creator, man in his arrogance and foolishness will not hesitate to destroy this living world through this Frankenstein's Monster called the nuclear bomb. After the detonation of the first atomic bomb by the USA other powerful countries too frantically tried and could succeed in developing their own nuclear bombs and weapons as deterrence. The World witnessed Cold War between the two Super Powers – the USA and the erstwhile USSR over the issues of development of nuclear weapons. Oppenheimer warned in 1952 that the two super powers would soon be like " two scorpions in a bottle, each capable of killing the other, but only at the risk of his own life ."The two Super Powers almost came to the brink of a nuclear war during the Cuba Missile Crisis in 1962 (October 16 to November 20) that centred round

the issue of deployment of Missiles by the USA in Italy and Turkey and in retaliation in Cuba by the USSR. Fortunately, American President John Kennedy and the Soviet Leader Nikita Khrushchev's timely negotiation saved the world from a certain war. Yuri Andropov, the Soviet General Secretary of the Communist Party said in 1983 " Nuclear war could occur not through evil intent, but could happen through miscalculation. Then nothing could save mankind." Now, that the Russia-Ukraine war has escalated into a full-scale war, the possibility of Russia using nuclear bomb or weapons against Ukraine can not be ruled out. It has endangered the safety of the mankind. As reported by the international media the members of NATO and other big powers have already held detailed discussion to prevent another nuclear mishap in the world and to bring Vladimir Putin to the negotiating table. Here, we must know that there are nine nuclear power/countries in the world at present viz; USA, Russia, France, China, UK, Pakistan, India, Israel and North Korea. Moreover, there are also seven Nuclear Threshold countries such as- South Africa, Israel, Iraq, Iran and Libya that are well on the way to acquire nuclear capability. Presumably, it will push the world into a multi-polar world on the basis of nuclear capability. The global nuclear stockpile of nuclear weapons possessed by the above countries is about 13,000 since

1945. To save the humanity from the scourge of a nuclear holocaust attempts have been made by civilized countries from time to time to find out a preventive measure and to reduce the stockpile to the minimum possible limit. The Partial Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (PTBT) was signed on August 5, 1963 by 126 countries in Moscow. It bans nuclear test in the atmosphere, in outer space and under water except detonation in underground. The next milestone in nuclear weapons restriction took place on July 1, 1968 when the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) was signed by 190 countries in Moscow. It came into force on March 5, 1970. If the human civilization has to survive by sustaining God's beautiful creation the nuclear power countries have to take adequate precautions to not misuse the nuclear bombs and weapons at the slightest provocation. The ICBMs(Inter Continental Ballistic Missiles) possessed by these countries carrying nuclear warheads can target and destroy far off cities and strategic locations within minutes. The worse of it, is the fear of forcible possession of nuclear arsenals by the terrorists who can annihilate the world with their foolishness. The pacifists and the peaceniks must come forward at this critical juncture to persuade Vladimir Putin not to use nuclear weapons or bombs against Ukraine or else it will be difficult to avert the possibility of the Third World War.

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Letter to Editor

Sir,
Generate Momentum
Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman statement that the rupee has not weakened but it is the greenback that has strengthened seems to be hilarious.
Defending the 8 per cent slide in the value of Indian currency against the greenback this year is honestly elusive. Comparison of our economy with other countries like Turkey is not acceptable instead the Finance Ministry should be very conscious particularly of external factors which are affecting badly and also with the fiscal deficit. Centre needs to play critical role in boosting investments. It has to provide conducive environment to unicorns to surge. Programmes like Gati Shakti and novel asset monetisation are badly required to generate momentum in economy so that we get the tag of the world's fastest-growing large economy in coming days.
Vijaykumar H K
Raichur

FICCI senior VP leads delegation of CEOs to the US



BHUBANESWAR: FICCI senior vice-president and IMFA MD Subhrakant Panda led a delegation of CEOs to Washington DC, coinciding with the visit of Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman to the US. The delegation met with faculty and students of George Washington University, think-tanks like ORF America and Atlantic Council, and the Chief Economist of IMF. Ambassador Taranjit Singh Sandhu hosted the delegation and shared his insights about

how business can engage to further strengthen the Indo-US relationship.

The delegation rounded off its trip with an interaction with the Finance Minister. Panda, during the interaction, complimented the Finance Minister for presenting India's growth story to investors and policy makers. India's achievements on the digitisation front has achieved through UPI and DigiLocker were discussed during the interaction.

UNHRC adopts resolution against Sri Lanka's rights record; India abstains from voting

GENEVA: India on Thursday abstained on a draft resolution in the UN Human Rights Council in Geneva on promoting reconciliation, accountability and human rights in Sri Lanka which was adopted.

While abstaining, India stressed that it will work with Sri Lanka and the international community to attain the related objectives of legitimate aspirations of Tamils of Sri Lanka and prosperity for all Sri Lankans.

The draft resolution on --Promoting reconciliation, accountability and human rights in Sri Lanka' was adopted at the 51st Session of Human Rights Council in Geneva, with 20 nations voting in favour in the 47-member Council, seven against, including China and Pakistan, and 20 abstentions, including by India, Japan, Nepal and Qatar.

The 20 countries that voted in favour of the resolution included, the United Kingdom, the United States, Argentina, Finland, France, Germany, Mexico, the Netherlands, Paraguay, Poland, Republic of Korea and Ukraine.

assistance to the people of Sri Lanka to face the challenges of the recent economic crisis.

"In finding a lasting and effective solution for peace and reconciliation in Sri Lanka, India has always been guided by the two fundamental principles of support to the aspirations of the Tamils for equality, justice, dignity and peace and unity, territorial integrity and sovereignty of Sri Lanka," he said. The significant feature in the resolution is its call to investigate the on-going economic crisis and prosecute those responsible.

It also "calls upon the government of Sri Lanka to address the ongoing economic crisis including by investigating and where warranted prosecuting corruption including where committed by public and former public officials and stands ready to assist and support independent impartial and transparent efforts in this regard".

The resolutions on promoting reconciliation, accountability and human rights in Sri Lanka



In a statement during the adoption of the resolution, Ambassador Indra Mani Pandey, Permanent Representative of India to UN & other International Organizations, said that while India has taken note of the commitments by the government of Sri Lanka on issues of implementation of the commitments in the spirit of the 13th Constitutional Amendment, meaningful devolution and the early conduct of provincial elections, "we believe that the progress towards the same remains inadequate." India urged Sri Lanka to work meaningfully towards early implementation of these commitments.

"Achieving prosperity for all Sri Lankans and realising the legitimate aspirations of Tamils of Sri Lanka for prosperity, dignity and peace are two sides of the same coin," Pandey said.

He stressed that as an immediate neighbour, India has substantially contributed to the relief, rehabilitation, resettlement and reconstruction process in Sri Lanka after 2009. More recently since January this year, India has stepped up and provided unprecedented

were previously moved in Geneva in 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2017, 2019, and in 2021. Sri Lanka had expressed opposition to the resolution as a violation of its sovereignty other than in 2015 when they co-sponsored the resolution.

According to the Lankan government figures, over 20,000 people are missing due to various conflicts including the three-decade brutal war with Lankan Tamils in the north and east which claimed at least 100,000 lives.

The Tamils alleged that thousands were massacred during the final stages of the war that ended in 2009 when the government forces killed Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) chief Velupillai Prabhakaran.

The Sri Lankan Army denies the charge, claiming it as a humanitarian operation to rid the Tamils of LTTE's control.

At the end of the civil war, the United Nations accused both sides of atrocities, especially during the conflict's final stages. International rights groups claim at least 40,000 ethnic Tamil civilians were killed in the final stages of the war.

TRS turns into Bharat Rashtra Samiti, sets eyes on national politics

HYDERABAD: Telangana's ruling Telangana Rashtra Samiti (TRS) on Wednesday changed its name to 'Bharat Rashtra Samiti' (BRS), heralding the party's foray into national politics. A resolution to this effect was passed at the party's general body meeting here, party sources said. Party president and Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao read out the resolution and announced that the party's general body meet unanimously resolved to change the name from TRS to BRS.

TRS activists who gathered outside the party

headquarters here, the venue for the meeting, burst into celebration soon after the announcement. Party leaders burst crackers, distributed sweets and chanted "TRS and KCR Zindabad". "Desh ke neta KCR" chants reverberated and similar slogans were seen in posters. "Desh ke neta KCR." "Dear India he is coming", and "KCR is on the way", were among the slogans prominently displayed in banners, that could be seen in and around the venue of the meet besides other locations in the city.

'Bad situation': Soaring US dollar spreads pain worldwide

Philippines (KCN): The cost of living in Cairo has soared so much that security guard Mustafa Gamal had to send his wife and year-old daughter to live with his parents in a village 70 miles south of the Egyptian capital to save money.

Gamal, 28, stayed behind, working two jobs, sharing an apartment with other young people and eliminating meat from his diet. "The prices of everything have been doubled," he said. "There was no alternative.?"

Around the world, people are sharing Gamal's pain and frustration. An auto parts dealer in

ing the likelihood of a global recession sometime next year. The dollar is up 18% this year and last month hit a 20-year high, according to the benchmark ICE U.S. Dollar Index, which measures the dollar against a basket of key currencies.

The reasons for the dollar's rise are no mystery. To combat soaring U.S. inflation, the Federal Reserve has raised its benchmark short-term interest rate five times this year and is signaling more hikes are likely. That has led to higher rates on a wide range of U.S. government and corporate bonds, luring investors and driving

nothing else we can do.?

Rich countries aren't immune. In Europe, which was already teetering toward recession amid soaring energy prices, one euro is worth less than a \$1 for the first time in 20 years, and the British pound has plunged 18% from a year ago. The pound recently flirted with dollar parity after Britain's new prime minister, Liz Truss, announced huge tax cuts that roiled financial markets and led to the ouster of her Treasury secretary.

Ordinarily, countries could get some benefit from falling currencies because it makes their products

up their currencies and keep money from fleeing their borders. But those higher rates also weaken economic growth and drive up unemployment.

Put simply: "The dollar's appreciation is bad news for the global economy," says Capital Economics' Ariane Curtis. "It is another reason why we expect the global economy to fall into recession next year." In a gritty neighborhood of Nairobi known for fixing cars and selling auto parts, businesses are struggling and customers unhappy. With the Kenyan shilling down 6% this year, the cost of fuel and



Nairobi, a seller of baby clothes in Istanbul and a wine importer in Manchester, England, have the same complaint: A surging U.S. dollar makes their local currencies weaker, contributing to skyrocketing prices for everyday goods and services. This is compounding financial distress at a time when families are already facing food and energy crunches tied to Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

"A strong dollar makes a bad situation worse in the rest of the world," says Eswar Prasad, a professor of trade policy at Cornell University. Many economists worry that the sharp rise of the dollar is increas-

up the U.S. currency. Most other currencies are much weaker by comparison, especially in poor countries. The Indian rupee has dropped nearly 10% this year against the dollar, the Egyptian pound 20%, the Turkish lira an astounding 28%.

Celal Kaleli, 60, sells infant clothing and diaper bags in Istanbul. Because he needs more lira to buy imported zippers and liners priced in dollars, he has to raise prices for the Turkish customers who struggle to pay him in the much-diminished local currency.

"We're waiting for the new year," he said. "We'll look into our finances, and we'll downsize accordingly. There's

cheaper and more competitive overseas. But at the moment, any gain from higher exports is muted because economic growth is sputtering almost everywhere.

A rising dollar is causing pain overseas in a number of ways:

— It makes other countries' imports more expensive, adding to existing inflationary pressures.

— It squeezes companies, consumers and governments that borrowed in dollars. That's because more local currency is needed to convert into dollars when making loan payments.

— It forces central banks in other countries to raise interest rates to try and prop

imported spare parts is soaring so much that some people are choosing to ditch their cars and take public transportation.

"This has been the worst," said Michael Gachie, purchasing manager with Shamas Auto Parts. "Customers are complaining a lot."

Gyrating currencies have caused economic pain around the world many times before. During the Asian financial crisis of the late 1990s, for instance, Indonesian companies borrowed heavily in dollars during boom times — then were wiped out when the Indonesian rupiah crashed against the dollar. A few years earlier, a plunging peso delivered similar pain to Mexican businesses

Survey to identify Jaga Mission beneficiaries



BHUBANESWAR(KCN): The Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC) on Monday announced to conduct a survey in all 436 slums in the Capital to identify beneficiaries eligible for land rights under Jaga Mission. The civic body signed an MoU with Sutra Consulting Pvt Ltd for conducting the Urban Slum Household Area (USHA) survey in the city. Municipal Commissioner Vijay Amruta Kulange signed the agreement with Executive Director of the consulting

agency Sunita Dash and said the agreement will be for 24 months. The survey is expected to cover over one lakh households in slums under BMC jurisdiction. As per the agreement, land rights guidelines prepared for Corporations as per the Odisha Land Rights to Slum Dwellers Act, 2017 will be followed to identify and provide land right to eligible slum dwellers in the city. The agency will conduct a detailed end-to-end slum household-level survey in digital mode with

biometric authentication to facilitate conferring of land rights to eligible families. Kulange said the agency was roped in for the task as the process of settlement of land rights requires accurate mapping of the area occupied by slum dwellers as well as other topographic features such as roads, drains, water bodies, community buildings, public spaces of the slums to know about the existing amenities available there and amenities required to be developed in fu-

ture. This is important as land rights apart, the objective of 'Jaga Mission' is also to transform all slums into 'Adarsh Colonies' through provisioning of basic infrastructure and services in the slums, he said. BMC officials said as part of the Adarsh Colony project under Jaga Mission, steps have already been taken for construction of community toilets, roads, community libraries and smooth supply of water and electricity to 115 slums in the first phase.

Rx Propellant announces launch of 9 lakh sqft of lab spaces in Hyderabad

H Y D E R A B A D / MUMBAI: India's leading life sciences infrastructure and cluster developers, Rx Propellant, on Tuesday announced the launch of 9 lakh sqft of lab spaces in Genome Valley of Hyderabad. The foundation stones for two new projects, B-hub and GVI, were laid by Industries & Commerce Minister K.T. Rama Rao. With a major footprint

which is Asia's most formidable Life sciences cluster. The foundation stones I laid for the projects will fuel the R&D ecosystem in the region facilitating global investment and local employment opportunities." "Telangana is home to over 800 Life Sciences companies and our scale makes us major contributors to Global healthcare. Investments such as these will

and Pharma, Telangana Government, Shakthi M. Nagappan, who was also a part of the foundation laying ceremony, said, that the government of Telangana was committed to enabling high-quality turnkey R&D laboratories, flatted factories, incubation centres and warehousing parks as a plug-n-play leasable infrastructure of international benchmark to the life sciences com-

panies investing in the State. He welcomed the investment and efforts made by Rx Propellant to add 9 lakh sq ft of lab space to the Genome Valley Cluster. Speaking during the event, Rx Propellant CEO Milind Ravi said, "We are pleased to announce the next phase of Rx Propellant's growth in Hyderabad and are thrilled that Mr. KT Rama Rao is a significant part of this launch. Rx Propellant is changing the paradigm of R&D Infrastructure in India along with the global outlook towards



in Genome Valley, Rx Propellant has already developed 5 lakh sqft of lab space, most of which are operational with marquee names in Life Sciences. In total, the current planned development of Rx Propellant at Genome Valley constitutes 7 independent projects namely, Innopolis, Genopolis, Touchstone, ARX, Nextopolis, GVI and B-hub, spread across 17 lakh sq ft. Laying foundation for the new projects, Minister K.T. Rama Rao said, "I am glad to be a part of yet another milestone in Genome Valley

enable faster scale-up of companies to continue charting the growth path, also significantly promoting economic growth in the state," he added. One of the key projects, B-hub, is a Biopharma accelerator being built in collaboration with Telangana government to boost the Research ecosystem in Genome Valley. Spread across 2 acres, the 1.6 lakh sq ft, B-Hub features a fully functional biopharma scale-up manufacturing facility along with a GLP grade turnkey incubator of 40,000 sq ft. Director, Lifesciences

India when it comes to research facilities and ecosystem. In fact, India's life science industry has been one of the fundamental drivers in achieving better health outcomes, domestically and globally and we aim to deliver an even more compelling environment to the Life Sciences industry that would be on par with the best-known global R&D hubs." The company has invested INR 900 cr in development of current Life Sciences infrastructure and is committed to invest an additional INR 2000 cr to build a cumulative portfolio over 100lac sq ft of lab space over the next 5 years across Hyderabad and other major Life Sciences hubs of India. Rx Propellant Managing Director Vishal Goel said during the event that, "India is at the centre of Global innovation and Drug Discovery which is demonstrated in India's vaccine developers' response to Covid crisis and the subsequent tremendous growth in Drug Discovery outsourcing to India. Rx Propellant is accelerating its growth to support the ambition of CROs and Drug Discovery companies in India. We have built a team which understands science and now we are translating it into creating curated infrastructure that supports quick ramp up of operations." Groundbreaking ceremonies for Phase II of three existing projects were also performed in Innopolis, Touchstone & ARX.

UK says working to stop recruitment of its ex-airforce pilots by China to train PLA personnel

LONDON: The UK government said on Tuesday it was taking "decisive steps" against a Chinese recruitment effort to bring in former and serving British airforce pilots to train its military personnel. While British military personnel frequently take part in training exercises with foreign armies, any collusion by ex-pilots with China -- which London has dubbed the "number one threat" to domestic and global security -- poses a serious concern. "We are taking decisive steps to stop Chinese recruitment schemes attempting to headhunt serving and former UK Armed Forces pilots to train People's Liberation Army personnel," a spokesperson for the British defence ministry told AFP. Armed forces minister James Heappey acknowledged to broadcaster Sky News that such collaboration "has been a concern within the ministry of defence for years".

"Our counter-intelligence people have been looking at it closely," he said. "The recruitment of pilots in order to understand the capabilities of our Air Force is clearly a concern to us and the intelligence part of the ministry of defence." Heappey said that officials have been warning pilots involved to quit. "We are going to put into law that once people have been given that warning, it would become an offence to then go forward and continue with that training," he said. UK media said that over 30 former pilots had ac-

cepted offers upwards of £240,000 (USD 273,750). Many of those recruited are in their 50s and having recently left the British air force. The practice has been going on since 2019 but has been stepped up recently, the reports said.

Britain's defence ministry said it was "reviewing the use of confidentiality contracts and non-disclosure agreements", adding that all serving and former personnel are subject to the Official Secrets Act, which prohibits UK public servants from sharing state secrets with foreign powers.

"The new National Security Bill will create additional tools to tackle contemporary security challenges -- including this one," the spokesperson added.

Chinese foreign ministry spokesman Wang Wenbin denied any knowledge of such employment of British pilots, telling a regular press briefing: "I am not aware of the circumstances you mentioned."

Relations between London and Beijing have soured following China's crackdown in former UK colony Hong Kong and disputes over technology giant Huawei's involvement in the roll-out of Britain's 5G network, as well as concerns about human rights and influence peddling.

In a speech in London this month, the director of Britain's GCHQ spy agency, Jeremy Fleming, warned China's growing technological dominance was "an increasingly urgent problem" for Western countries, urging them to act to defend their values and influence.





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Xi Jinping swears by Marxism to make China first modern socialist country

Continued from page-1
power after 10-year term.

Xi, 69, who came to power in 2012, has raised the ideological bar of the CPC, which earlier relegated the ideology to the backseat for the last three decades.

China emerged as the second largest economy after the US during this period riding on the success of opening up and economic reforms initiated by Deng Xiaoping, ending Mao's disastrous tryst with extreme Marxist-Leninist communist ideology.

Deng, who succeeded Mao after his death in 1976, ended the founder's ideological obsession and advocated a new theory of Socialism with Chinese Characteristics under which CPC remained all but a Communist party by name.

In the following years, it practised a policy of reform and opening up advocated by Deng attracting massive foreign investments to revive the country, which went bankrupt under Mao.

Deng, who is widely regarded as the father of China's economic rise, dismissed the importance of Marxist ideology bluntly at a CPC conference in 1981 with a cryptic remark "let's dispense with the theory", which became a buzzword for the party leaders.

His successors Jiang Zemin and Hu Jintao followed his lead, rapidly expanding the role of the market in the Chinese domestic economy and embracing a foreign policy that maximized China's participation in a global economic order led by the United States.

"Xi has brought that era of pragmatic, non-ideological governance to a crashing halt," Australia's former prime minister Kevin Rudd, who is widely regarded as the foremost expert on China, wrote recently in the Foreign Affairs journal.

"In its place, he has developed a new form of Marxist nationalism that now shapes the presentation and substance of China's politics, economy, and foreign policy," he said.

"Xi has pushed politics to the Leninist left, economics to the Marxist left, and foreign policy to the nationalist right," Rudd said.

Xi has "reasserted the influence and control the CPC exerts over all domains of public policy and private life, reinvigorated state-owned enterprises, and placed new restrictions on the private sector", Rudd said in his write-up ahead of the CPC Congress.

Meanwhile, Xi has "stoked nationalism by pursuing an increasingly assertive foreign policy, turbocharged by a Marxist-inspired belief that history is irreversibly on China's side. In short, Xi's rise has meant nothing less than the return of Ideological Man?", he said.

When threats are global, responses cannot be local: PM Modi

Continued from page-1

corruption, drug trafficking, poaching and organised crime, which have affected many countries, the Prime Minister said that the pace of change of these dangers is faster than before.

"At the click of a button, an attack can be executed or systems can be brought to their knees. Each nation is working on strategies against them. But what we do within our borders is no longer enough. There is a need to further develop international strategies"

Speaking to the 195 member countries of Interpol, which included a delegation from Pakistan led by its Federal Investigation Agency director general Mohsin Butt, Mr Modi said India has been combating transnational terrorism for several decades.

"Long before the world woke up to it, we knew the price of safety and security. Thousands of our people made the ultimate sacrifice in this fight," he said.

"Such crimes against people in one place are crimes against everyone, crimes against humanity. Further, these not only harm our present but also impact our future generations. Police and law enforcement agencies need to devise procedures and protocols to increase cooperation. Interpol can help by speeding up red corner notices for fugitive offenders," he said.

The Prime Minister also called for the "establishment of early detection and warning

Cai Xia, who worked as a professor for 15 years at CCP's Central Party School in Beijing, said Xi, a devoted student of Mao, is eager to leave his mark on history.

The Central Party School which was headed by Xi himself when he was the Vice President taught ideological subjects to the CCP cadre at various levels.

"And because previous reforms failed to place real checks and balances on the party leader, Xi has succeeded. Now, as under Mao, China is a one-man show," Cai, who migrated to the US after her retirement and turned a dissident, wrote in the Foreign Affairs journal.

"One part of Xi's plot to consolidate power was to solve what he characterised as an ideological crisis. The Internet, he said, was an existential threat to the CCP, having caused the party to lose control of people's minds" and cracked down on bloggers and online activists, censored dissent and strengthened China's "great firewall" to restrict access to foreign websites, she said.

"The effect was to strangle a nascent civil society and eliminate public opinion as a check on Xi," she said.

Chinese political experts on the other hand said Xi's "theoretical innovation" of the CPC has global significance as it offers countries around the world a new growth model.

Shen Yi, a professor at the School of International Relations and Public Affairs of Fudan University, told China's state-run Global Times that "the concept of Chinese modernisation was raised for the first time as one of the most important conclusions the CPC made from its past experiences."

Shen said that as there is no ready-made development path or mode for China to directly copy or imitate, China has finally concluded a Chinese path to modernisation after more than a hundred years of exploration and construction since the Revolution of 1911, providing a completely new alternative.

It also provides a third choice for all developing countries in the world which are searching for or struggling with their development modes with the wish to both realise rapid self-development and maintain sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity, he said.

In his speech on Sunday, Xi underscored the unique features of Chinese modernisation, which, he said, is the socialist modernisation pursued under the leadership of the CPC.

It contains elements that are common to the modernisation processes of all countries, but it is more characterised by features that are unique to the Chinese context, Shen said.

In his speech, Xi said that the next five years will be crucial for ensuring that the efforts to build a modern socialist country in all respects get off to a good start.

"Building a modern socialist country in all

systems, protecting transportation services, security for communication infrastructure, security for critical infrastructure, technical and technological assistance, intelligence exchange, many of these things need to be taken to a new level.

Mr Modi said corruption and financial crimes have harmed the welfare of the citizens of many countries.

"The corrupt find a way to park the proceeds of crime in different parts of the world. This money belongs to the citizens of the country from which they have been taken. Often, this has been taken from some of the poorest people in the world," he said.

He said such illicit money is pushed into evil activities and becomes one of the major sources of terror funding.

India has 780 active red notices as of now, of which 205 are related to criminals wanted by the Central Bureau of Investigation. Red notices are issued by Interpol to locate a fugitive who has fled the country where he is wanted. A member country can arrest or deport an individual against whom such a notice is circulated by Interpol.

The Prime Minister also released a commemorative postage stamp and a 100 coin to mark the 90th general assembly. He was welcomed at the venue by Union home minister Amit Shah, Interpol president Ahmed Naser Al Raisi and secretary general Jurgen Stock. India is hosting the Interpol general assembly after a gap of about 25 years to coincide with celebrations for the 75th anniversary of India's independence.

Rx Propellant announces launch of 9 lakh sqft of lab spaces in Hyderabad

HYDERABAD/MUMBAI: India's leading life sciences infrastructure and cluster developers, Rx Propellant, on Tuesday announced the launch of 9 lakh sqft of lab spaces in Genome Valley of Hyderabad. The foundation stones for two new projects, B-hub and GV1, were laid by Industries & Commerce Minister K.T. Rama Rao.

With a major footprint in Genome Valley, Rx Propellant has already developed 5 lakh sqft of lab space, most of which are operational with marquee names in Life Sciences. In total, the current planned development of Rx Propellant at Genome Valley constitutes 7 independent projects namely, Innopolis, Genopolis, Touchstone, ARX, Nextopolis, GV1 and B-hub, spread across 17 lakh sq ft. Laying foundation for the new projects, Minister K.T. Rama Rao said, "I am glad to be a part of yet another milestone in Genome Valley which is Asia's most formidable Life sciences cluster. The foundation stones I laid for the projects will fuel the R&D ecosystem in the region facilitating global investment and local employment opportunities."

respects is a great and arduous endeavour. Our future is bright, but we still have a long way to go. We must therefore be more mindful of potential dangers, be prepared to deal with the worst-case scenario, and be ready to withstand high winds, choppy waters and even dangerous storms," Xi said.

Zhang Xixian, a professor at the Party School of the CPC Central Committee in Beijing, said "the potential risks that could bring 'dangerous storms' would come from the risk of war? over Taiwan in the backdrop of increasing US support for Taiwanese independence forces.

China claims Taiwan is part of it and opposes any country supporting the Taiwanese government.

Chinese modernisation will be successful together with other nations' modernisation, and it will create chances for other countries to realize their modernisation and development, Zhang said.

Naveen invites top industries to be part of Odisha's growth

Continued from page-1

business and competitive cost, impact of investment facilitation, best incentives and highly skilled human resources have helped Odisha achieve a distinct competitive advantage over others.

Stating that Odisha is fast emerging as a major industrial destination in the country because of its natural resources advantage and strategic location, he said it is one of the fastest growing economies in India and has consistently grown above the national average in the last decade-and-a-half.

The Chief Minister also talked about establishment of Odisha start-up hub in Bhubaneswar to provide a world class incubation and co-working facility to State based start-ups and creation of Odisha Innovation Fund. Besides, the State has also developed various industrial parks and regions to provide best-in-class facilitation to investors across sectors. He said the Make-In-Odisha conclave will provide a platform for industry leaders from across the world to discuss a roadmap for industrial development in the coming years. "A humble beginning was made in 2016, which saw a footfall of 18,500 and received over 120 investment intents valued at over Rs 2 lakh crore. In 2018, we hosted the second edition which raised the bar even higher receiving an influx of 45,000 visitors and investments worth over Rs 4 lakh crore," he added.

The Chief Minister had one-on-one interactions with several senior industrialists across sectors to discuss their plans for Odisha. He personally invited them to the Make in Odisha Conclave-2022. During the discussions, the Chief Minister highlighted the major pro-business reforms undertaken by his government.

The industry captains included Rajiv Kumar, managing director of Microsoft India, Dr Krishna Ella, chairman of Bharat Biotech, PS Reddy, chairman-cum-managing director of CtrlSDatcenter, N Venkatram, managing director of Deloitte India, YR Nagaraja, managing director of Ramky Group and N V Ramana, CMD of Neptunus Ship Builders and Recyclers. The State government in collaboration with FICCI - the national industry partner for Make in Odisha Conclave '22, hosted the Odisha Investors' Meet at Hyderabad which witnessed about 40 government to business meetings with participation of 450 delegates. The third edition of Make-in-Odisha Conclave will be held in Bhubaneswar from November 30 to December 4, 2022.

"Telangana is home to over 800 Life Sciences companies and our scale makes us major contributors to Global healthcare. Investments such as these will enable faster scale-up of companies to continue charting the growth path, also significantly promoting economic growth in the state," he added.

One of the key projects, B-hub, is a Biopharma accelerator being built in collaboration with Telangana government to boost the Research ecosystem in Genome Valley. Spread across 2 acres, the 1.6 lakh sq ft, B-Hub features a fully functional biopharma scale-up manufacturing facility along with a GLP grade turnkey incubator of 40,000 sq ft.

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Groundbreaking ceremonies for Phase II of three existing projects were also performed in Innopolis, Touchstone & ARX.

Dhannagar bypoll: Who's queering the pitch for BJD?

Continued from page-1

the minority community during his tenure as BJD MLA as well as a party leader. Sources said Bhadrak municipality chairperson Gulmaki Dalawzi Habib, who won as an Independent in the ULB polls held earlier this year by defeating the BJD candidate, is likely to throw her weight behind Rajendra.

Another worry for BJD is the Independent candidate's influence in Tihidi block which is his home turf. There are a total of 44 gram panchayats (GPs) in Dhannagar and Tihidi blocks. Of the 13 GPs in Tihidi, Rajendra reportedly enjoys the support of sarpanchs and samiti members.

"Young BJD workers are toeing the party line and working to ensure victory of Abanti. However, senior BJD workers are in favour of Rajendra. We have already informed the party's poll observers about the situation," said a youth BJD worker of Tihidi.

In Dhannagar block and NAC, the situation is almost similar. Under the party whip, elected PRI members and councilors of BJD are expressing their support for Abanti. But deep within, they feel Rajendra was wronged and sympathise with him. If Rajendra manages to pocket around 20,000 votes, many believe, BJD might taste defeat in the by-election.

Poll observers blame BJD MLAs of Bhadrak for the crisis. "Instead of strengthening Brand Naveen, they are busy nurturing their own political aspirations. Due to the power struggle among local MLAs, the BJP is likely to benefit," said a senior BJD leader of Bhadrak on condition of anonymity.

However, general secretary of Bhadrak BJD and former chairperson of Dhannagar block Ashok Nayak said the 'Independent candidate' will have no bearing on BJD's prospects. "Our candidate will win with a comfortable margin," he added.

Rajendra squarely blamed Chandabali MLA Ray for the current state of affairs. "Last year, the Chandabali MLA formed a committee to look after party affairs in Dhannagar when he had no business to do so. I and my representatives were not included in the committee. For over a year, I was excluded from all party programmes. To humiliate me, Ray and his coterie chose one of my aide as the candidate," he claimed.

Cuba seeks World Cup qualification after nearly a century

HAVANA: Every recess, Gabriela Alfonso Cabrera would watch the boys play soccer out of the corner of her eye. She was so enthralled by the game that she finally approached her fifth-grade teacher, who frowned and reminded Gabriela she was a girl.

"I wanted to play, but they wouldn't let me play at school because what if I got hurt and started to cry," she recalled adults telling her. Now 14, Gabriela sometimes is still the only girl playing alongside boys who are bigger and stronger than her, but she is not quitting after waiting four years to share a field with them.

She is one of hundreds of players that coaches across Cuba are training as part of a newly launched program to elevate the soccer's profile and status in a country that last qualified for the men's World Cup in 1938, losing to Sweden 8-0 in the quarterfinals.

An initial group of 16 coaches were recently trained by international officials from FIFA, the Switzerland-based governing body of the sport, with the aim of building Cuba's next generation of soccer players on an island long known for its baseball and boxing superstars. Those coaches also will be responsible for training more than 1,500 other coaches across the island in the upcoming months. The aim is for Cuba to qualify for the World Cup in the next decade, something it hasn't achieved in nearly a century.

"We hope to make it," said soccer coach Héctor Noa Cuadro, who began playing at the age of 13 in the province of Guantánamo after seeing Argentina win the World Cup in 1978.

He said young Cuban soccer players have good physical strength but need to improve their technical abilities, including how to dribble the ball, use passing combinations between two or more players and sharpen their shooting techniques.



On a recent morning, Cuadro stood on the sidelines at the Pedro Marrero National Soccer Stadium in Havana and scrutinized the moves of more than a dozen young players, nearly all boys except for Alfonso, the eighth grade girl, and her twin sister.

"That's it! Let's move! Look alive!!" various coaches yelled as the players scrimmaged in green and bright orange vests.

The objective that day was for players to develop their offensive game by organizing attacks and penetrating through defenses.

Reniel Bonora, who has coached the under-20 men's team, looked on with approval as

he spoke about the challenges of transforming soccer into a popular sport in Cuba despite the U.S. embargo, a lack of resources and an economic crisis that has led to food shortages.

A couple years ago, Bonora said he opened

said Bonora, adding that Cubans have been forced to become incredibly resourceful to create things similar to plastic cones and other equipment used in practice.

The situation has prompted well-known Cuban soccer players to defect during regional tournaments, which has made it even harder to build a national team as talent drains from an island that FIFA currently ranks 167th out of 211 countries. Many have joined teams in the United States in the past two decades, including midfielders Osvaldo Alonso with Atlanta United FC and Maikel Chang with Real Salt Lake in Major League Soccer.

At one point, Cuba's entire national team left the island to play in Germany after signing a six-month contract with Bonner SC, a fourth-division club, in January 1999. The group included 15 players, two coaches, an interpreter, a physiotherapist and a cook.

Cuba's men's team best ranking was No. 46 in 2006, only to drop to its worst ranking of No. 182 in 2018. Meanwhile, the women's team is ranked 97th out of 185 countries. The recently trained coaches would like to see Cuba once again in double-digits, although such goals were not important to those playing soccer in a rundown public park several blocks away.

"For me, playing is more important than winning," 9-year-old Cristian Montes de Oca Peña said.

More than a dozen young boys surrounding him agreed before they rushed off to continue their game.

Roger Binny replaces Ganguly as Indian cricket board chief

MUMBAI: World Cup winner Roger Binny was on Tuesday appointed head of India's cricket board -- the world's richest

significant clout internationally in cricket but has been in chaos and there have been a slew of court cases involving

allegiance has been a regular source of media speculation, especially after the country's Home Minister Amit Shah, fa-

deadly violence last year. Ganguly's departure was a "political vendetta" by the government, opposition



cricket body -- and will replace Sourav Ganguly after three years at the top, the board's vice-president said.

Binny, 67, was elected president at a meeting of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) in Mumbai, where secretary Jay Shah won another term in office, Rajeev Shukla told reporters.

The BCCI, which has a net worth reported at \$2 billion, enjoys

the cash-rich body. Bangalore-born Binny, who was part of India's historic 1983 World Cup-winning squad, steps into the shoes of Ganguly, widely regarded as one of the sport's greatest captains.

Ganguly, 50, had initially been tipped to earn a second term as president but reports said he was shunted out because he refused to join India's ruling party.

Ganguly's political

ther of BCCI secretary Jay, visited him at home earlier this year.

Politicians from Ganguly's home state of West Bengal -- where the former player enjoys near-godlike status -- alleged that the former batsman was forced out.

India's ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has been pushing hard to win power in the eastern state, falling short in elections marred by

lawmaker Santanu Sen said on Twitter.

Shah's Hindu nationalist BJP has denied any involvement in Ganguly's ouster and accused their opponents of politicising the issue.

Ganguly has not spoken publicly on his departure but reports said he had been hoping to continue, especially after India's top court recently relaxed a rule that barred sporting officials from consecutive terms in office in the same position.



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