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Popular People's Daily of Odisha

### Dhamnagar bypoll: BJP is defaming SHG members, claims BJD

BHUBANESWAR(KCN): The ruling Biju Janata Dal (BJD) on Wednesday alleged that the BJP is trying to insult and defame mem-

bers of Self Help Groups (SHGs) in Dhamnagar Assembly constituency where bypoll is scheduled on November 3.

A delegation of BJDled party spokesperson Lenin Mohanty

submitted a memorandum to chief electoral officer (CEO) SK Lohani alleging that BJP is deliberately using a woman with her face covered for distributing cash and then labelling baseless charges against the ruling party. While different political parties are busy campaigning for their candidates, BJP is trying to tarnish the image of members of women SHGs as part of a conspiracy, the BJD memorandum claimed. The memorandum said, "By indulging in such petty politics, BJP

is trying to insult and defame the SHG women members of Dhamnagar. BJP's game plan is politically motivated and should be condemned," it said.

Stating that BJD has all along been respecting the SHG members and working for their development, Mohanty said these women have also showered blessings on the party. Since, SHGs are going to support BJD in the by-election, BJP is indulging in petty politics fearing defeat, he said, adding the people of Dhamnagar will give a befitting reply.



NEW DELHI(KCN): A manufacturing facility for the production of Airbus C295 transport aircraft will come up in Vadodara in

Gujarat, Defence Secretary Ajay Kumar said on Thursday. The foundation laying ceremony for setting up of the facility will be held on October 30 and Prime

Minister Narendra Modi will attend it, officials said. "For the first time, the C-295 aircraft will be manufactured outside of Europe," Kumar said. In September last year, India sealed a nearly Rs 21,000 crore deal with Airbus Defence and Space to procure 56 C-295 transport air-

of the IAF under a project that entails manufacturing military aircraft in India for the first time by a private company.

Under the agreement,

tured and assembled by Tata Advanced Systems (TASL) in India as part of an industrial partnership between the two companies. The regulatory approval for the ambitious programme was accorded by the Directorate General of Aeronautical Quality Assurance

Airbus will deliver the first 16 aircraft in 'flyaway' condition from its final assembly line in Seville, Spain within four years and the subsequent 40 aircraft will be manufac-

# (DGAQA) last week.

### craft to replace the ageing Avro-748 planes Ukraine battles intensify; Russia eyes space retaliation

KYIV(KCN): Moscow-appointed authorities have fled the capital of southern Ukraine's Kherson region along with tens of thousands of residents as Ukrainian forces attacked



Russia's hold on the city Thursday while fight-

ing also intensified in the country's east. Amid the battles, a senior Russian official warned that Western commercial satellites used for military purposes in support of Ukraine

were a "legitimate target CONTINUED ON: P-7

# Team excise vigilant in Bye Poll

Cuttack(KCN): Tough Cop, Ashish Kumar Singh has directed the excise officials to keep a strict vigil on any untoward incident during the Dhamnagar bye-election.

State Commissioner Excise, Mr. Singh reviewed excise enforcement and the action taken in connection with the bye-election to-

A review meeting was held on the occasion

trols. Jajpur, Kendrapada, Keonjhar, Balasore District Commissioner has ordered daily raids in the surrounding areas of Bhadrak district. Excise Flying Squad and EI and EB Unit-2, Cuttack, camped at Bhadrak and raided. Dhamnagar Legislative Assembly has ordered everyone to be alert and vigilant for free, fair and peaceful elections and the Commissioner has warned that negligence will not be toler-



of Dhamnagar assembly bye election.

Commissioner Additional Excise Ramchandra Palta, Additional Excise Commissioner Ramchandra Mishra, Rajat Kumar Praharaj and Superintendents of Bhadrak, Jajpur, Kendrapada, Keonjhar, Balasore, Flying Squad, EI and EB Unit-II, Cuttack attended the meeting.

Excise Commissioner Mr. Singh has directed the Bhadrak Excise Officers to open more control rooms and conduct day and night paated under any circumstances.

The excise officials of Bhadrak's neighboring districts of Jajpur, Kendrapada, Keonjhar, Balasore have been directed to monitor the illegal movement of drugs and submit reports to the directorate daily. The SE of Bhadrak was also directed to submit the report in the prescribed format and personally monitor the enforcement. The Central Additional Excise Commissioner has been directed to monitor the promotion activities on a daily basis.

### PM Modi speaks to Sunak, both agree on early conclusion of Free Trade Agreement

NEW DELHI(KCN): Prime Minister Sunak took charge as British prime minister

Narendra Modi on Thursday spoke to new British premier Rishi Sunak with the two leaders agreeing on the importance of early conclusion of a comprehensive and balanced free trade

their first conversation since Indian-origin ahead. CONTINUED ON: P-7

on Tuesday. Sunak also tweeted his thanks to Modi and said he is excited

about what the two "great democracies"

can achieve as they deepen their security, defence and eco-

agreement between the two countries. It was nomic partnership in the months and years

# BJP releases 'mega' Munugode manifesto with 28 promises

HYDERABAD(KCN): With just a week until the Munugode byelections, an upbeat Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) released its manifesto with a slew of promises, including road development, textile park, and a fluoride research centre, to jumpstart development in various sectors in the constitu-

There are 28 promises in the manifesto titled "Mega Master Plan for Munugode Development," including building roads with Rs 200 crore central funds, establishing a textile park in Samsthan Narayanpur for the benefit of the weaving community, and building a fluoride research centre with Rs 100 crore funds and a 100-bedded hospital. "Each promise we are making is the outcome of in-depth consultations with Union ministers who deal with the related subjects. The Central government has assured that it will take up every aspect of the Mega Master Plan," said Komatireddy Rajgopal Reddy, the BJP candidate for the Munugode by election scheduled for November 3. Rajgopal Reddy, who was accompanied by party leaders, told reporters that the manifesto document is not just for the constituency but also outlines the BJP's aspirations for the state's overall development that will help communities and people from all facets of society.

The TRS government had deliberately neglected development of Munugode constituency, which barely received Rs 2 crore funding, while three VIP districts, Gajwel, Siricilla, and Siddipet, received between Rs 500 crore and Rs 700 crore each, he reneglected despite the TRS government bragging about improving irrigation facilities. Rajgopal said, "All it required was Rs 100 crore, but the TRS government hasn't done



marked. "I have received assurances from the Central government and I thank Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union minister Amit Shah for their commitment and dedication to the development of Munugode and Telangana," he added.

He cited the Udaya Samudram Lift Irrigation Scheme, which is still only a pipe dream, and asserted that Munugode has been

a thing yet.

Party leaders G.Vivek Venkatswamy, Etala Rajendar, Dharmapuri Arvind, and M. Raghunandan Rao were among those present at the press conference. Venkatswamy, the chair of the party's campaign committee for Munugode, said minister G. Jagadish Reddy attempted to practi-

cally blackmail people in the constituency

on Tuesday by claiming that the Chief Minister had ordered that government programmes like welfare pensions and Rythu Bandhu would cease in Munugode if people fail to vote for the TRS party. "We warn the Chief Minister that such tactics would not frighten people. The BJP will ensure that every eligible person gets the benefits they are entitled to," he assured.

Etala Rajendar said that the TRS development paradigm was undemocratic with only a select few constituencies getting the lion's share of funds at the expense of the rest of the state. "We are fighting against this because it is undemocratic. If development was equal in all constituencies, where is the need for TRS to send 100 MLAs and ministers to distribute liquor to people," he asked.

BJP's Munugode manifesto Rs 200 crore central funds for roads developmentRs 100 crore textile park in Samsthan Narayanpur to benefit weaversRs 100 crore fluoride research centre and a 100-bedded hospital Rs 100 crore lift irrigation project on Musi Rs 25 crore for ITI development in Choutuppal 10-bed ESI hospital in ChoutuppalAugment facilities at government hospitals under National Health Mission MUDRA loans for micro businesses for women and youth Navodaya school for Marriguda. Tags: munugode, bharatiya janata party, komatireddy rajgopal reddy, narendra modi, amit shah, samsthan narayanpur Location: India, Telangana, Hyderabad

■Popular people's Daily of Odisha •

# Swachhta Special Campaign 2.0 by India Post, West Bengal Circle

Kolkata(KCN): The Swachhta programme as received from the PMO and the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG) conveyed through Postal Directorate, Special Swachhta Campaign 2.0 is being observed in all the Sub Post Offices of



West Bengal Circle (including Sikkim, Andaman & Nicobar Island) during the period of October 2, 2022 to October 31, 2022. During this Campaign, all the Sub Post Offices of West Bengal, Sikkim and Andaman & Nicobar Islands have been cleaned from the inside and outside of the office premises. The Circle has also identified 30 offices which are functioning in Departmental Buildings for which special attention will be given and Wall Art will be painted in those offices. Oralkatcha has been identified as an office



in a remote area situated at North & Middle Andaman District of Andaman & Nicobar Island. In this office white washing, fencing, gardening and Wall Art painting will also be executed.

### **EO Warns Model Code Violators**

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Acting tough Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) Odisha, Sushil Kumar Lohani has said that violation of Model Code of Conduct (MCC) will attract severe action.

He said that the Election Commission has announced



Bye Election to 46-Dhamnagar AC vide press note dated 03.10.2022. The provision of Model Code of Conduct have come into operation with immediate effect in the district of Bhadrak since then.

Model code of conduct is a guiding principle which all the stake holders in the election process have to follow meticulously. Even all the Government

servants are bound by the provisions of model code of conduct. Off late a number of complaints are being received against various political parties regarding violation of model code of conduct.

There are specific provision under the law to deal with such cases of electoral offences, like 'bribery and 'undue influence' to interfere with the free exercise of electoral right of a person, provided under Section 171B, 171C, 171E & 171 F of the Indian Penal Code and under Sections 123(1) and 123(2) of the Representation of the People Act, 1951.

Some allegations have come to the notice of the Commission where bribery and undue influence are resorted to by some candidates/member of political party or their supporters. Any violation of the law and the Model Code of Conduct will attract severe action. Therefore, all candidates and political parties involved in the current by election are advised to strictly adhere to the MCC and legal provisions prohibiting such corrupt practices.

We had conducted an all party meeting with the representatives of political parties recently where in the Do's and Don'ts for guidance of political parties have been circulated. All are advised to follow those provisions meticulously.

C-Vigil mobile app The Election Commission of India has launched an online application for citizens to report model code of conduct (MCC) / expenditure violations during the election period. The application is called 'cVIGIL' to denote vigilant citizens of our country who can play a proactive and responsible role in the conduct of free and fair elections. cVIGIL Citizen App allows vigilant citizens to give live reports on incidents of MCC/ expenditure violation within minutes of having witnessed them. The commission has set time boundation of 100 mins, all the reported complaints will be taking care of, within a minimal time of 100 mins by the commission.

District administration has made elaborate arrangement for enforcing model code of conduct in the district and in the constituency

We have received 102 complaints relating to misuse of vehicles, violation of loudspeaker act, illegal meetings, inducement/gratification etc. Action has been taken in all cases including lodging of 2 FIRs against the violators. We have also detected 1614 cases relating to defacement of public & private property and also 2006 cases of posters, banners, wall writings on public and private property and action has been taken on all. Police has also initiated a number of enforcement measures.

# Department of Posts, WB Circle Takes Initiative Creating an Emission-free Environment

dia Post, West Bengal Circle takes a step forward for creating an emission-free environment for a bet-

Kolkata (KCN): In- Postmaster General, the nearest power mode only. West Bengal Circle Ms. J. Charukesi, at Kolkata GPO on Wednesday (October 26, 2022).



ter tomorrow. West Bengal Circle has joined hands with TATA **POWER** COMPANY LIM-ITED for installation of Tata Power EZ Charge-Public

A space measuring 50 sq m is made available at selected two (02) Post Office premises for the unmanned Public Charging Station with 24x7 access for the



Charge (PCS) at selected Post Office premises of India Post, West Bengal Circle. The project was inau-

power station will have two dispensers and two vehicles can be charged simultaneously.

gurated by Chief End user will locate

station through a web-based mobile application and book a time-slot online as

The West Bengal Circle will earn a revenue @ Rs. 1.00/per KWH Power



per requirement and availability. Accordingly, the user will

consumption plus GST applicable under the Retail Post Ser-



visit the selected PCS and charge the battery. It takes approximately 30 minutes to completely charge the battery. The app will calculate the charge consumed and the corresponding payment is to be made by the user through online vice. Initially, the project is onboard at two prime locations namely Kolkata GPO and Botanical Garden Post Office, Howrah. However, further addition of suitable locations is under consideration.

# SAIL 10K CR Procure @GeM

New Delhi(KCN): Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) becomes the first Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE) to achieve the major milestone of procurement value of Rs 10,000 Crore through the Govern-

ment-e-Marketplace (GeM) since incep-

SAIL has been at the forefront in partnering

with GeM and has played an active role to create different functionalities to enhance the reach of the GeM portal.

From a small beginning of Rs. 2.7 Crore in FY'18-19, SAIL has already crossed the total value of Rs. 10,000 Crore in this year. Incidentally, SAIL was the largest CPSE procurer on GeM in the previous Financial Year with a value of Rs. 4,614 Crore. In the current fiscal, SAIL has already surpassed the achievement of previous year with procurement of over Rs. 5,250 Crore till date and is committed to substantially increase the volumes on GeM

# BJD Slams Illegal Poll Practice

New Delhi(KCN): Governing Biju Janata Dal (BJD) Thursday approached Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) here alleging 'illegal electoral practices' of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in the By-Poll of Dhamnagar Assembly constituency and demanded the intervention of the Election Commission of India

to 'stop' such things while the BJP said that its workers engaged in campaigning were being harassed in the constituency by the police and local administration.

A BJD delegation in a memorandum to the CEC said that the BJP leaders and workers were also wilfully and maliciously tarnishing and defaming the im-

age of Mission Shakti Women Self Help Group members which is 'extremely sad and unfortunate.'

Citing specific complaints for the perusal of the State poll body, the party alleged that fake and fictitious videos are being 'manufactured' by State BJP leaders and being circulated in social media stating that Mission Shakti

women self-help group members — popularly known as Mission Shakti Maa- are distributing money in this election.

The party said that Odisha has about 70 lakh women as members in six lakh Women SHGs.

"The Odisha BJP is not only defaming them

of the Mission Shakti women members saying that they were circulating money in the election marks a new low in electoral politics in India, the BJD said.

The memorandum further said that huge money power is being used by State BJP leaders and workers to influence the voters of



and tarnishing their image but also doing a great disservice to the women of Odisha and the nation, especially at a time when they are growing economically and being champions of women's empowerment," the party's memorandum said.

It said the statements by the Odisha BJP leaders defaming and tarnishing the image Dhamnagar. "Whenever the State BJP foresees its electoral defeat, as in the case of Dhamnagar Assembly by-poll, they Immediately start pumping illegal cash to influence voters. In the past several elections, including the 2022 Panchayat and urban local body elections, a huge cache of cash from Odisha BJP leaders have been seized," it said.

The Odisha BJP has become an expert in vilifying and tarnishing the image of the local administration and by indulging in fake and false allegations against it, the saffron party is trying to create a fear psychosis in the the local administration with an intent to mentally harassing them from executing their Jobs In a free and fair manner. "This is extremely shocking as it's becoming a pattern by the Odisha BJP in any election in Odisha," it said. The ruling party delegation demanded that the Election Commission of India must intervene to ensure that the fake videos being circulated against the SHG members be stopped and State BJP leaders be restrained from tarnishing the image and defaming the 70 lakh Mission Shakti members of Odisha by making such baseless and false statements. It also demanded strict action and strong vigilance in the constituency by the Election Commission of India to ensure that the Odisha BJP leaders and workers did not succeed in illegally influencing voters through money power.

It further demanded that the BJP leaders be restrained from using media platforms to create a fear psychosis among the local administration by levelling false and concocted allegations against it so that the administration can undertake its work with fear or favour

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# Shanthnu Bhagyaraj joins Vijay's 'Thalapathy 64'



back-to-After back Thalapathy 64 updates over the past two days, it is clear that the makers of the film are keen to capitalise on the trend. Today, they have Bhagyaraj has in- Angamaly Diaries- Kaththi. Sathyan

announced yet another detail about Lokesh Kanagaraj directo-

As we had earlier speculated, actor Shanthnu

deed been roped in for Vijay's upcoming film, which already boasts of a stellar cast that includes names such as Vijay Sethupathi and

fame Antony Varghese. This project

will have Anirudh Ravichander composing for a Vijay film for the second time after Sooryan, who is the cinematographer for Lokesh's upcoming film, Kaithi, will handle camera duties in Thalapathy 64 as

well.

Xavier Britto of XB Film Creators, Thalapathy 64 is also speculated to feature Malavika Mohanan, and this might be the update that the makers are expected to Bankrolled by announce later to-

# Weird that women still need to protest for rights, says Shruti Haasan



### **MUMBAI(KCN):**

Shruti Actress Haasan has raised question over why women still feel the need to protest for their rights, not only in India but all around the world.

"People organise marches and protests for women's rights and I find it weird that we still feel the need to do these protests for women's safety and equality rights. It has been happening for years. I do believe there is a change in the scenario but I feel sad that the problem still exists," said Shruti, while interacting with the media at an RPG Foundationorganised get-together for women who work under their CSR initiative on Tuesday in Mumbai.

ALSO READ: Shruti Haasan's latest to cross over to Hollywood

She added: "I don't feel it is happening only in our country. It is happening all around the world. When you look at international news, you realise this topic comes up many times."

Asked what she felt about the fact that there were lesser female-cenbtric films made in India, she said: "I think slowly things are changing. Films are

being made that are around rooted women characters, so change is taking place. But it should have happened bit earlier."

ALSO READ: Shruti Haasan to have break-up song in her debut EP

Talking about Mahatma Gandhi's 150th birth anniversary on October 2, Shruti said: "It's such an important day and important part of our history. My father (Kamal Haasan) really believes in his philosophies.'

Shruti Haasan will next be seen in an untitled film directed by Mahesh Manjrekar, along Vidyut with Jammwal.

### 'Joker' review: Solid filmmaking, messy politics

In many of its seedy street side shots, Todd Phillips's Joker focuses on a theatre and clearly shows the titles playing. There is Zorro the Gay Blade, which came out in 1981, a time that seems closer to the mood this film is going for – the late 70s and impending Reagan era vibe of New York that it lends Gotham City. But the more interesting title it shows is probably Ace in the Hole.

Is it the Billy Wilder film? It's a film that hints at media manipulation and Joker insists on a kind of manipulation by everything from TV, press to upbringing and economic condition that drives Arthur Fleck (Joaquin Phoenix) to become the murderous eponymous character.

Ace in the Hole was also one of Wilder's famous critical and commercial failures. Failure and rejection are important driving forces in this film that's more honest and focused on its visual splendour than it is on the condition and circumstances that create the space

for a turn like that of Arthur Fleck's to Joker. Also, who refers to Harvey Dent as "ace in the hole"? Heath Ledger's Joker in The Dark Knight.

ALSO READ: There are many ways to see 'Joker', says director Todd Phillips The Gotham City and its socioeconomic atrophy that writers Phillips and Scott Silver envision can come across as unconvincing and out of context. It talks of class issues but without clear markers for the oppression it wants us to zero in on.

Popular people's Daily of Odisha

# Cheddi Jagan to Rishi Sunak- the unstoppable Indian Diaspora

As Rishi Sunak is elected as the Prime Minister of Britain and Indians across the world are happy thanks to his Indian connections, it



is time to revisit the history pages of Indian diaspora spread across the world. That was 1961 when tall and handsome Cheddi Jagan, a Guyanese politician whose ancestors

were from Basti district of UP, first elected as the Premier of British Guiana from 1961 to 1964, prior to independence. He later served as President of Guyana from 1992 to 1997. And still later the likes of Sir Shiv Sagar Ramgulam, Naveen Ramgulam, Sir Anerood Jugnauth, Pravind Jugnauth, Basudev Pande, Chandrikapersad Santokhi and many, many more became either the Presidents or Prime Ministers in island nations like Guyana, Mauritius, Trinidad and Tobago, Surinam. Their elevation to top post was a foregone conclusion as the majority populations of these countries belong to people of Indian origin. They all went there as an indentured labours. Kamala Harris even becomes the Vice President of US.

Rishi Sunak case is little different. He has become the PM of Britain and would stay at 10 Downing Street, the official residence of British premier in London, despite the fact that Indians are not at all a majority community in Britain. Sunak's grand-father shifted to Britain from Kenya in East Africa in 1965. That was his second migration. First was when he shifted to East Africa from Gujranwala (now in Pakistan) in Punjab in 1930s.

Indians are also happy after Rishi Sunak is elected as PM as he is a practising Hindu. Sunak will be the first practising Hindu to

preside over a nation whose King is the de-

fender of the Church of England. Sunak made history when he swore his oath to Parliament after the 2017 general elections with his hand on a copy of the Bhagavad Gita, as pointed out by `The Guardian`. And he was also the first PM of Britain to celebrate Hindu festivals.

Despite growing up in Britain and going to Winchester, Oxford University and then Stanford, Sunak has never glossed over his cultural roots, staying away from beef and keeping a statuette of Lord Ganesha on his work table. "I can proudly say that I am a Hindu and being a Hindu is my identity," he said in a media interview, adding that his faith "gives me strength, it gives me purpose. It's part of who I am."

Well, while the life and struggles of Indians in West Indies is well-documented, this is not true for the Indians who went to East African countries. In East Africa, the Indians are called as Muhindis. Their forefathers spent their blood, sweat, tear and toil to build Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda. It was in 1896 when about 32,000 Indians, mainly from Punjab, reached Kenya to build the Kenya-Uganda Railway. They took on jobs as skilled labourers, artisans, bricklayers, carpenters, plumbers, tailors, motor mechanics and electrical fitters. The Indians continue to shift there till mid 30s.

Of course, the Indians shifted there in search of work, opportunity and food for their families, and they worked under very hostile conditions. Many fell sick. Many were injured. Many died. But in enduring the hardship and harrows of their work, they also left a lasting legacy.

After completing the rail project, several Indians decided to stay back there. And since

Vivek Shukla

Uganda as their own though culturally they still identify with India. Alas, despite such an outstanding track record, some dare question their loyalty towards their adopted countries. Even after several generations away from your own land, you still do not forget your roots. For instance, former US President Barack Obama proudly talks about his Kenyan roots, does he become less patriotic American? No, not at all. Same way, if Indians in Caribbean islands or in any other country cheer Indian

Cricket/Hockey teams or their visiting Presi-

dent or Prime Ministers, what is so bad about

then they always con-

sidered Kenya or

it? Sunak is also proud of his Indian and Hindu background.

While the Rishi Sunak's family migrated to Britain for better life in 1965 and he was born and raised there, but still the Kenya has a very large Indian diaspora that is relentlessly building the beautiful country. While welcoming Prime Minister Narender Modi couple of years ago in Nairobi, President of Kenya Uhuru Kenyatta admits, "The Indian influence in Kenya is implicit in our food: in Chapatic

Uhuru Kenyatta admits, "The Indian influence in Kenya is implicit in our food: in Chapatis, Samosas, Chai and Bhujia." As Rishi Sunak has elected as the PM of Britain, it is important to remember that the Indian-Kenyans who made this country their home did not just work to build themselves and their families. They also sought, more broadly, to serve this country and support their African peers. Indeed, they were central to liberation efforts and many, many of them made great sacrifices

Sardar Makhan Singh, for instance, was the first person to call for an end to British Rule. He fought tooth and nail for equal pay among black, European and Indian workers, and he spent years in prison for his dissent. G.L. Vidyarthi, founded a newspaper-the Colonial

to see this country set free.

Times-and used it as a tool to challenge the colonialists' cruel treatment of Africans. Lawyers like Diwan Chaman Lal, A.R Kapila, Fitz D'Souza and Jaswant Singh built the legal infrastructure of East Africa. Indeed, East African freedom fighters received support from thousands of miles away from the then Prime Minister Pt. Nehru.

And for several decades, the hockey teams of Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania used to have Sikh players. And who can forget Avtar Singh Sohal Tari, considered to be the greatest Sikh Sportsmen outside India. He represented Kenya in Rome 1960 Olympic Games for the first time. He captained Kenya at the 1964 Tokyo Olympics, Mexico (1968) and Munich (1972) and was also captain at the 1st World Cup in Barcelona in 1971 where Kenya finished fourth. He visits India often on 'pilgrimage' as he himself says. Says Basudeo Pandey, former Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago, "When I first came to India in early 60s, I was in tears when our ship reached the shores of Bombay. The feeling I cannot describe in words. For us, India is like a place of pilgrimage. But, my commitment for my country is beyond any question."

All said and done, when it comes to politics, the Indians are matchless. The over 20 million Indians living across the world are not contended with only earning money. They are in the parliament of over two dozen countries. They would not have reached to dizzy heights without sheer hard work, honesty and love for their adopted countries.

Of course, Rishi Sunak as the Prime Minister of Britain would not compromise with the interests of his country. That's fair enough. However, India will always beat in his heart. That is for sure.

The Author is a columnist and former Editor

# Indo-Japan cultural festival celebrated in Japan

Japan, like India has a long incredible history, rich culture and heritage, diverse ethnicities and a wide variety of cuisines to



explore. Japanese people has great love and devoted passion for arts and literature, and hence are very supportive of celebrating their cultural and religious festivals with great

pomp and grandeur. They also like and appreciate the cultural beauty and ethnic diversity of other countries too. Hence, it is quite common to find galleries and theatres in Japan hosting cultural programs from other countries.

The relationship between India and Japan is





counted from the time Buddhism first reached the Japanese shores from China. The roots of Zen Buddhism practised in Japan has its cultural roots in China; which in turn falls back to Tibet and India from the time of the active spread of Buddhism beyond the traditional borders of India. This strong relationship was rekindled by Noble Laureate, Rabindranath Tagore; the iconic literary giant of Bengali literature during his visits to the country in 1916, 1924 and 1929. The Indian polymaths genius not only stayed in Japan; but also delivered a series of eru-

dite lectures and interacted with both aristocratic as well as

ordinary members and intellectuals of the erstwhile Japanese society. Furthermore, the revolutionary works of RashBehari Bose and Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose during World War II; and Japan's support for Azad Hind army in fighting the British in the war of independence has further cemented the cordial relationship of both nations for several decades. Japan is an important trading partner and a major investor in India; and buyer of industrial raw materials and products. An Indo-Japanese cultural festival was celebrated at the famous Okurayama Memorial Hall at Yokohama, Kanagawa Prefecture, Japan amidst much pomp and grandeur.

One of the mater piece of the cultural program was the outstanding dance performance by Ms. Sukrishna Ishii in conjunction with Rabindra Sangeet presented by an ex student of Sangeet Bhavan (Vishva Bharati University, Santinekatan, Birbhum, West Bengal, India), Ms. Okuda Yuka. This program was entitled as The Sounds of Bengal through Sitar and Tabla. All the groups made excellent heart warming and eye catching performances on stage. The events were well received and highly appreciated by the audience, that could be gaged from the roaring thunder of claps that echoed inside the heritage hall.

An outstanding art exhibition has been in display here that was inaugurated a few days back. This exhibition showcases the work of a team of ex students of Kala Bhavan (Arts Faculty), Visva Bharati University, Santinekatan, Birbhum, West Bengal, India. The artworks covers calligraphy, portraits, landscapes, human expression, Indian and Japanese mythology, history, tradition, culture, ethnicity and nature. Both traditional works as well as abstract arts and thoughts

#### Saikat Kumar Basu

the galleries. The galleries were attended by both locals and foreign tourists visiting the city generating a mixed crowd of art critics, enthusiasts and art lovers.

have been given

equal importance in

It is a matter of great pride that even today the legacy and influence of Rabindranath Tagore continues to be a strong factor for Indo-Japanese cultural relationship. The monumental literary work done by Tagore has profound influence on Japanese mind and intellect to this day. Furthermore, Tagore as a formidable orientalist is probably the first Indian intellectual to explore the diversity and intricate details of rich Japanese culture and heritage. His Visva-Bharati is possibly one of the pioneers of establishing School of Japanese studies in India. Thus Tagore serves as a great cultural bridge between the Indian and Japanese people. Rabindranath being a visionary was the first Indian who was successful in understanding



the potentiality of a future, long term post independent Indo-Japan relationship. Thus, the Indo-Japan cultural festival carries the legacy of Tagore forward and in bringing both communities closer to one another socially and culturally.

The Okurayama Memorial Hall at Yokohama, Kanagawa Prefecture is a his-

toric heritage building of the port city and Japan. It is intimately associated with the memories and legacy of Rabindranath Tagore. It is said that Tagore's thoughtful and valuable suggestions and insights were incorporated in the design and architecture of





the stage and other accessories of this heritage building known across Japan. This building was designed by Uheiji Nagona in 1932. It is open and available for public programs such as various government and private meetings, seminars, symposium, colloquiums and workshops; as well various cultural festivals including live performances on music and dance, drama, theatre, art exhibitions and galleries as well as public talks. It is unquestionably an important iconic cultural site of Japan.

The most significant aspect of this cultural program and festival has been to further strengthen the bridge of friendship between India and Japan. These two ancient civilizations rich in their history, ethnicity and cultural heritage is a perfect match as a cultural connectivity for both Indian and Japanese communities residing in Japan and India. We need to travel in the path shown by our beloved World Poet and one of the greatest literary scholar and humanist of his time, Noble Laureate Rabindranath Tagore.

378 Prince Anwar Shah Road, Kolkata, West Bengal India

# another term as JD(S) supremo



Bengaluru: Former Prime Minister H D Deve Gowda is set to get re-elected as the Janata Dal (Secular) supremo during the two-day national executive meet of his party starting from Thursday, party sources said.

The national executive meet and national council meet of the JD(S) began on Thursday at the JP Bhavan, the party board meeting and

headquarters here. The party leaders expect about 150 to 200 delegates from

13 states to take part

in the event. "Besides passing important resolutions, the party will re-elect former Prime Minister H D Deve Gowda as the national president," a party office-

According to him, the parliamentary

bearer said.

the delegates meeting will take place on Thursday.

The party will pass a set of resolutions pertaining to price rise, agriculture, problems faced by farmers, labourers, Dalits and women, the source said.

He also said an important resolution will be on communal harmony and the state of economy in the country.

The JD(S) leaders will also discuss political developments in the country and Karnataka.

During the two-day meet, the party will finalise the first list of candidates for the upcoming Assembly elections in the state. It will be announced on November 1 at Kurudumale Ganapati Temple in Kolar, the sources added.

# Trains diverted due to derailment

has diverted some trains due to derailment of a goods train at Gurpa in Gomo-Manpur

Railway Section of Dhanbad Division. Three New Delhi bound trains origi-

nating from Bhubaneswar and Puri will run on a diverted route in East Central Railway jurisdiction. The Bhubaneswar-New

Bhubaneswar: East Coast Railway (ECoR) Delhi Duronto Express will run via Adra,

Joychandipahar, Asansol, Jhajha, Patna, Din Dayal Upadhyaya Junction instead of Adra, Gomo and Gaya route. Similarly, Bhubaneswar-New Delhi Rajdhani Ex-

press and Puri-Anand Vihar (New Delhi) Nandankanan Express will run via Bhojudih.

### Uproar in Cuttack Municipal Corporation council meet

council meeting of Cuttack Municipal Cor-

CUTTACK(KCN): Uproar marked the 7th "It is unlawful that a blacklisted outsourcing agency has been able to participate in the ten-



poration (CMC) with several of its corporators across party lines raising voice against irregularities and favouritism in the tender process. Citing the quashing of the selection of Manju Services in Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC)'s sanitation tender by Orissa High Court for furnishing wrong information, many corporators including ruling BJD's Pradipta Khuntia, BJP's Gagan Ojha and Congress's Santosh Bhola criticised CMC administration for showing favouritism and demanded cancellation of the sanitation tender process through which the agency had been selected.

der floated by CMC in March 2 through a false affidavit in violation of all rules," alleged the corporators.Khuntia alleged that the civic body officials have also planned to award the work for door-to-door collection of waste materials by using light commercial vehicles (LCVs) amounting Rs 3.64 crore to Manju Services without any tender.

"We don't know as to who gave the proposal and how it was passed," questioned Khuntia.CMC Mayor Subhas Singh assured them that the civic body will write to the government against Manju Services after BMC takes action against it.

# Former PM Deve Gowda set for After Diwali break, Bharat Jodo Yatra resumes in Telangana

Hyderabad: After a 3-day Diwali break, Rahul Gandhi's Bharat Jodo Yatra has resumed in Telangana with an enlivening start from KV substation at Makthal, Narayanpet district. With hundreds of followers, some of them holding flags tried to catch the speed of the Congress leader who made headway with his brisk steps, beating the early morning cold. Even as Rahul Gandhi began his more than 25 kms of yatra of the day, people all over

Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka who is leading the State's Cultural Committee of Bharat Jodo explained to the leader about the background and significance of the art form.

Earlier, enthusiastic about the yatra in Telangana, AICC general secretary in-charge Communications, Jairam Ramesh recollected the importance of the erstwhile Mahbubnagar district. "Day 50 of Bharat Jodo Yatra began with flag hoisting at 5.25 am in



the way stood to catch a glimpse of the Congress scion, while others tried to shake hands with him. "Rahulji I would like to meet you. Please give me a chance," were the voices which can hear as he walked along with Telangana's senior leaders.

A group of Oggu Dolu artists wearing traditional dresses gave their performance, when Rahul stopped at Tekulapalli to have tea. Mesmerised by the dancing, singing and the movements, Rahul enquired about the importance of the art form in the State. CLP leader, Makthal. It'll be a 14 km walk to cross over to Mahbubnagar district, famous for its ancient temples and 700 year old banyan tree. Also, home of the great Burgula Ramakrishna Rao, first elected CM of Hyderabad," he tweeted.

Rahul is accompanied by PCC chief, A Revanth Reddy, AICC (TS) incharge Manickam Tagore, CLP leader Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka, former PCC president, N Uttam Kumar Reddy, AICC secretaries S A Sampath Kumar and Ch Vamsichand Reddy

# Kharge formally takes over as Congress president

New Delhi(KCN): Mallikarjun Kharge took over as the Congress president on Wednesday as the Gandhis abdicated the post almost after a quarter of a century. The taking over ceremony was attended by all the senior leaders of the party, including the outgoing party chief Sonia Gandhi, former president Rahul Gandhi and general secretary of the party

Priyanka Gandhi. His rival in the recently concluded party election, Shashi Tharoor was also present.

Speaking at the function Mr Kharge said: "It's an emotional moment for me as the son of a labourer, a common Congress worker, has taken

over as chief of the Congress party. I thank you all for this honour. I started this journey in 1969 as a block committee chief today you have taken it to such heights.

In a message to the party workers, he said it will be his "utmost" duty to look after party workers. He said, "We will uphold the Constitution of this country, respect everyone's rights and give equal opportunities, defeat those who spread hate, and fight inflation,

unemployment and hunger." Mr Kharge also spoke about the party's Udaipur Declaration and said that the proposal to give 50 per cent of party posts to those below 50 years of age will be implemented. Meanwhile, all the general secretaries and incharges of the party and CWC members have handed over their resignation letters to the party chief. A new list is expected soon.

A plenary session of the AICC is also expected early next year after the completion

of the Bharat Jodo Yatra.

Soon after the resignation of the CWC members, the new Congress president constituted a steering committee till the time a new CWC is constituted. The 47 members of the steering committee are mostly the former members of the CWC, including former PM Manmohan Singh, Mrs Gandhi, Mr Gandhi. Constituting the steering committee in the absence of the CWC is mandated in the party constitution.

Ahead of the function, Mr Kharge visited Rajghat in Delhi on Wednesday morning to

pay tribute to Mahatma Gandhi. He also paid a visit to Mr Singh at his residence.

Speaking at the function Mrs Gandhi said she felt "relieved" as Mr Kharge took over. She said, "I did my duty to the best of my ability. Today, I will

be freed of this responsibility. A weight is off my shoulder. I feel a sense of relief. This was a big responsibility. The responsibility is now on Mallikarjun Kharge."

She further added: "Congress had faced a lot of difficulties earlier as well. But I'm sure we will overcome the problems."

Mr Kharge has his task cut out and has to hit the ground running. As soon as he assumed office, he chaired an election committee meeting to shortlist the candidates for the upcoming Assembly elections in Gujarat.

The Assembly elections in Gujarat and Himachal Pradesh will be the first electoral tests of his presidency. With the festival season coming to an end and the new president taking over, the Rajasthan crisis and the leadership change issue will once again surface in the state.

Apparently backed to the hilt by the Gandhis, Mr Kharge trounced his rival, Mr Tharoor, by a huge margin in a direct election. The 80year-old veteran leader from Karnataka has become the second Dalit leader to lead the Congress party.

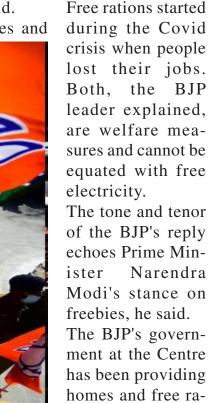
# Freebies to allure voters, welfarism policy intervention: BJP in letter to EC

New Delhi: Making a distinction between freebies and welfarism, the BJP has suggested in a reply to the Election Commission that parties should place emphasis on voter empowerment and capacity building rather than increase the dependency of people, a party insider said. The BJP spelt out its stance on the issue in response to the Election Commission earlier this month seeking the views of all parties on its proposal to amend the model code of conduct. It also asked parties to provide authentic information to voters on the financial viability of

Freebies are meant learnt, has no obfor alluring voters jections to the poll sis should be on drafting the reply Giving homes and

BHUBANESWAR, FRIDAY, 28 OCTOBER, 2022

gested that emphathe process of ment,? he said.



schemes. The Aam Aadmi Party, with which the party has been engaged in a bitter battle over freebies, has been providing free power Delhi and Punjab, the two

states where it is in

tion to poor under

its various flagship

power. The

Election Commission's move came amid the freebies versus welfare measures debate that triggered a political slugfest. In a letter to all recognised national and state parties, it asked them to submit their views on the proposals by October 19. The poll panel's proposal came weeks after Prime Minister Narendra Modi derided the "revadi" culture, a reference to freebies offered by political parties, sparking a war of words between the

BJP and the AAP. The Supreme Court has also observed that the issue concerning freebies is an important one and requires debate.



while welfarism is a policy intervention inclusive growth, the BJP specified in its re-

panel's idea that political parties should also submit financial viability of their poll prom-

empowering voters, increasing their capacity, imparting them skills to raise country's human capital,? a party

told PTI. ?The party feels that the political parties should give more emphasis on empowering people/voters and enhance their capacity for their overall develop-

free rations have a different purpose and providing electricity another, the senior leader added. Housing is a basic requirement and providing a home is a one-time help.

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#### The party, it is ?The BJP has sug- leader involved in their poll promises. Nehra in prime humour after Sunak's appointment as British PM

HYDERABAD: Ashish Nehra last played for India about five years ago, but, on Tuesday, the cricketer suddenly found himself thrust into the limelight of who's who, thanks to developments in Britain.

With Rishi Sunak being named Prime Minister of the UK, Twitter users posted photographs of the former fast bowler alongside those of the latest celebrity, and pointed to similarities in their looks. "Rishi Sunak and Ashish Nehra seem to be brothers who were estranged in Kumbh Ka Mela (sic)," one of them wrote.

Another felt "Ashish Nehra will find it difficult to roam freely on the streets of London." humourous plan to get the Kohinoor back. "Invite him (Sunak) to India; kidnap him when

he goes to his in-laws house and gets stuck in Bangalore traffic; send Ashish Nehra as UK PM; get a bill passed to return Kohinoor," he advised.

Keeping at the Kohinoor, another user said: "Well done Ashish Nehra on becoming the next UK Prime Minister. Bring 'IT' home." There was a bit of stiff upper lip too. "Will not confuse a tall fast bowler with a diminutive politician," one user wrote, pointing at Sunak's height — 5-feet-5. Nehra is a 6footer. This one surely had the last laugh. "Ashish Nehra has had the perfect retirement story. From taking 6 wickets against England in a World Cup game to having a retirement One adventurous writer hatched up a match for him to finally becoming the PM of England. That is indeed a dream come

### Police foil alleged attempt to buy four TRS legislators



HYDERABAD: Cyberabad police on Wednesday claimed that they had arrested three persons, including a Delhibased swamiji, at a farmhouse Moinabad for allegedly offering Rs 15 crore as an advance to four TRS legislators to leave the party.

Police said that they had seized Rs 15 crore cash in denominations of Rs 2,000 and Rs 500 (TS07HM2777),which is registered in the name of Gandhavaram Dileep

Kumar. Cyberabad police commissioner Stephen Raveendra said that they had a tip-off Ramachandra Bharathi Swami from Delhi, Simhayulu from Tirupati and businessman Nanda Kumar had con-

spired to influence

four MLAs from the ruling party, Guvvala Balraj, Pilot Rohit Reddy, В. Harshvardhan Reddy and Rega Kantharao. "Bharathi and others urged the MLAs to rebel against the ruling party in lieu of massive cash rewards. The swamiji also offered contract works to them. On getting information, we formed teams, which raided the farmhouse in

Moinabad police

limits," Raveendra said. The farmhouse belongs to the busin e s s m a n Nandakumar. When the three were offering money, the police caught them red-handed seized the cash and the car in which the amount was transported. "We will investigate the case thoroughly to find out the origin of the cash and who all were involved in the case," he said.

#### ■Popular people's Daily of Odisha **=**

# Over 20 women were taken to ex-Andaman Chief Secy's house in alleged jobs-for-sex racket

Jitendra Narain has been

directed to appear before a SIT

which is probing allegations that

a 21-year-old woman was lured

to his home with the promise of a

government job and was then

raped there.

former Chief Secretary of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Jitendra Narain is at the epicentre of a sexual allegation in which 20 women were allegedly taken to his Port Blair residence in a jobs-for-sex

racket. Some of the allegedly sexually exploited women were provided with government jobs.

The allegations came into the open after a 21-year-old woman alleged that the former Chief

Secretary Narain and the then Labour commissioner of Andaman and Nicobar Islands RL Rishi sexually exploited her and she was subjected to gang-rape.

Jitendra Narain's name was among the 'Top 50 Bureaucrats' list prepared by Fame India, Asia Post, and PSU Watch, in 2019.

A Special Investigation Team (SIT) was constituted to probe the young woman's allegations that she was lured to the chief secretary's home with the promise of a government job and then raped by top officials there.

KOLKATA: Senior IAS officer and later removed from his residence after he was transferred from Port Blair to New Delhi in July this year, IE reported.

> In a testimony from a member of the Chief Secretary's staff, as reported by IE, he said that he used to be instructed to

> > "pick the women up", and then pick up food from a local restaurant to ber served later at the residence, would then be asked to drop the women off at a fixed spot. The complainant

had filed an application before the Aberdeen Police Station in Port Blair on September 30, on the basis of which the FIR was lodged.

On October 17, Narain was suspended by the Union Home Ministry.

His accomplice, the former Labour Commissioner of the Andaman and Nicobar administration, has also been placed under suspension.

Narain had written to the Union Home Ministry and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands claiming that a conspiracy was being hatched against him and that he has



The Calcutta High Court on Thursday directed Jitendra Narain, a 1990 batch IAS officer, to appear before the SIT by October 28, holding that the case requires immediate inquiry.

A vacation bench comprising justices Bibek Chaudhuri and Prasenjit Biswas also granted interim protection against arrest to Narain till a date that will be fixed by the circuit bench of the Calcutta High Court in Port Blair on November 14 on its first date of sitting after the Puja vacation.

The woman's family has reportedly said they would move the Supreme Court for cancellation of the former Chief Secretary's interim bail.

The woman had alleged that she was introduced to Labour Commissioner Rishi through a known person and was taken to the residence of the then Chief Secretary Narain.

In her complaint, she alleged that she was offered alcohol at Narain's residence and when she declined it, she was forcibly raped and sexually assaulted by the Chief Secretary and the Labour Commissioner. According to an Indian Express (IE) investigation, the young woman said that the sexual assault was repeated two weeks later and that she was threatened to not disclose the crime to anyone.

IE reported that the Call Data Records (CDRs) of the two bureaucrats and that of the 21-year-old matched with the time of sexual assault as stated by the woman, as told by senior police officials. The tower location of the woman and two senior officers also matched her allegations, the cops said.

The hard disk of the digital video recorder of the CCTV camera at the Chief Secretary's residence was erased and

specific materials which demonstrate the fake nature of the case".

Reportedly, he claimed that he wasn't present in Port Blair on one of the two dates given in the FIR and showed air tickets to confirm he had been in Delhi that day. However, the woman's family informed that there had been was a mixup in the dates provided by her, thereby clearing the matter.

#### Ukraine battles intensify; Russia eyes space retaliation

Continued from page-1 for a retaliatory strike."

Ukraine has pushed ahead with an offensive to reclaim the Kherson region and its capital of the same name, which Russian forces captured during the first days of a war now in its ninth month. More than 70,000 residents from the Kherson city area have evacuated in recent days, the region's Kremlin-installed governor, Vladimir Saldo, said Thursday.

Members of the Russia-backed regional administration were included in the evacuation, the deputy governor, Kirill Stremousov said. Monuments to Russian heroes were moved, along with the remains of Grigory Potemkin, the Russian general who founded Kherson in the 18th century, that were kept at the city's St. Catherine's Church.

Tamara, 50, mourns at the grave of her only son, a military serviceman, killed during a Russian bombing raid, at a cemetery in Mykolaiv, Ukraine, Oct. 26, 2022. Tamara did not learn of her son's death until four months after he died when she managed to escape from her village in Kherson occupied by Russian troops. (PhotolAP)

Ukrainian forces were surrounding Kherson from the west and attacking Russia's foothold on the west bank of the Dnieper River, which divides the region and the country.

In eastern Ukraine, Russian forces continued to bombard the Donetsk region city of Bakhmut, making slow gains toward the centre. Amid the heavy combat on two fronts, a Russian officialwarned that the West could become part of the conflict.

The deputy head of Russia's delegation at a United Nations arms control panel, Konstantin Vorontsov, described the use of U.S. and other Western commercial satellites for military purposes during the fighting in Ukraine as "extremely dangerous."

"The quasi-civilian infrastructure could be a legitimate target for a retaliatory strike" Vorontsov warned without elaborating. As they have all month, Russian forces carried out attacks on Ukraine's energy infrastructure that have caused increasing worry ahead

Ukrainian tankers show a victory sign and thumb up in Bakhmut, the site of the heaviest battle against the Russian troops in the Donetsk region, Ukraine, Oct. 26, 2022. (PhotolAP)

A Russian drone attack early Thursday hit an energy facility near the capital, causing a fire, said Kyiv region Gov. Oleksiy Kuleba. He said in a video statement that the latest attacks inflicted"very serious damage."

"The Russians are using drones and missiles to destroy Ukraine's energy system ahead of the winter and terrorize civilians," Kuleba said in televised remarks. Kuleba announced new rolling blackouts and urged consumers to

#### save power. He said authorities were still pondering over specifics of the blackouts needed to restore the damaged power facilities. Kyrylo Tymoshenko, deputy head of

Ukraine's presidential office, said rolling blackouts would also be introduced in the neighbouring Chernihiv, Cherkasy and Zhytomyr regions.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy has said that Russian attacks have already destroyed 30% of the country's energy infrastructure.

In a likely response to Russia's attacks on Ukrainian infrastructure, a power plant was attacked just outside Sevastopol, a port in the Russian-annexed region of Crimea. The plant suffered minor damage in a drone attack, according to city leader Mikhail Razvozhayev. Razvozhayev said electricity supplies were uninterrupted.

A local resident removes things that can be salvaged from a property that was damaged after an overnight Russian attack in Kramatorsk, Ukraine, Oct. 27, 2022. (PhotolAP)

Crimea, a region slightly larger than Sicily which Russia annexed from Ukraine in 2014, has faced drone attacks and explosions amid the fighting in Ukraine. In a major setback for Russia, a powerful truck bomb blew up a section of a strategic bridge linking Crimea to Russia's mainland on Oct. 8. A senior Ukrainian military officer accused Russia of planning to stage explosions at the Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant and blame them on Ukraine in a false flag attack.

Gen. Oleksii Gromov, the chief of the main operational department of the Ukrainian military's general staff, pointed to Moscow's repeated unfounded allegations that Ukraine was plotting to detonate a radioactive dirty bomb as a possible signal that Moscow was planning explosions at the plant, Europe's largest nuclear power station. Russia took control of the Zaporizhzhia plant in the opening days of the invasion. Russia and Ukraine have accused each other of attacking the plant, whose reactors were shut down following continuous shelling.

Gromov also charged Thursday that Russian forces may have staged explosions at residential buildings in the city of Kherson before retreating from the city "to inflict critical damage to the infrastructure of the areas being reclaimed by Ukraine."

The war in Ukraine and the resulting energy crisis is likely to cause global demand for fossil fuels to peak or flatten out, according to a report released Thursday by the Parisbased International Energy Agency, largely due to the fall in Russian exports.

"Today's energy crisis is delivering a shock of unprecedented breadth and complexity," the IEA said, releasing its annual report, the World Energy Outlook. The blow to governments, the report said, was forcing the world's more advanced economies to accelerate structural changes toward renewable energy sources.

### RBI to hold special MPC meet on November 3 on preparing inflation report



MUMBAI: The Reserve Bank has called a special meeting of the Monetary Policy Committee on November 3 to prepare a report on its failure to keep retail inflation below 6 per cent for three consecutive quarters.

"Under the provisions of Section 45ZN of the Reserve Bank of India

(RBI) Act, an additional meeting of the MPC is being scheduled on November 3, 2022," the central bank said in a statement on Thursday.

Section 45ZN of the Act deals with failure to maintain the inflation target. The inflation has remained above the upper tolerance limit of 6 per cent for nine straight months or three quarters.

#### PM Modi speaks to Sunak, both agree on early conclusion of Free **Trade Agreement**

Continued from page-1

Modi tweeted, "Glad to speak to Rishi Sunak today. Congratulated him on assuming charge as UK PM. We will work together to further strengthen our Comprehensive Strategic Partnership. We also agreed on the importance of early conclusion of a comprehensive and balanced FTA.'

Sunak responded, "Thank you Prime Minister Narendra Modi for your kind words as I get started in my new role. The UK and India share so much. I'm excited about what our two great democracies can achieve as we deepen our security, defence and economic partnership in the months & years ahead." India and Britain launched negotiations for the freetrade agreement (FTA) in January with an aim to conclude talks by Diwali but the deadline was missed due to a lack of consensus on issues.

Sunak, in his previous role as Chancellor of the Exchequer, had expressed support for the FTA as he saw enormous opportunities for both countries in the fintech and insurance sectors.

Sunak is an investment banker-turned politician and at 42, is the youngest British prime minister in 210 years.

He is also Britain's first Hindu Prime Minis-

www.thekalingachronicle.com

# Neymar to team up with youngsters for Brazil at World (

SAO PAULO: When Brazil started playing Vinicius Jr. and Raphinha on the flanks dur-

SportS

ing World Cup qualifying, Neymar surprised his coach by praising his new attacking teammates. "These kids are wicked, boss," the Paris Saint-Germain striker told Tite, who recalled the conversation in a recent interview with The Associated Press. "They are relentless."

30-year-old Neymar is in great shape ahead of this year's World Cup in Qatar, but Brazil doesn't depend on him as much as four years ago. Tite has so many

options up front that at least two strikers at top European clubs are likely to be left out. Neymar is expected to play behind the centre forward, no matter if that is Richarlison, Gabriel Jesus or Roberto Firmino. Other exciting players, like Manchester United winger Antony, could also get playing time either as a starter or coming off the bench.

"We have a great number of rising players. It hurts not to bring them all," Tite told the AP. "I tell them to be at their best in their clubs, and then we will see."

Brazil will face Serbia, Switzerland and United and that Fabinho and Bruno Guimaraes Cameroon in Group G.

can take up their roles. The coach has also



Tite's changes

No matter what happens in Qatar, Tite will leave the job after six years as coach. He hoped to complete one entire World Cup cycle, and he has achieved that.

Unlike four years ago, Tite said he is ready to be quicker in making substitutions as the tournament goes on. In Russia, he kept Jesus in the starting lineup even though the striker didn't score a goal in the team's five matches. This time, Tite knows that Casemiro and Fred are not having their best days at Manchester

noted that defender Eder Militao can also play as a right back, a position with few options available.

He has also suggested he won't hesitate in replacing Neymar or Vinicius if he thinks they are not performing as well as the team needs. ALSO READ | Brazilian presidential candidate Lula da Silva says Neymar supports Bolsonaro over debt woes Flawed wings

For the first time in years, Brazil doesn't have obvious options for right back and left back. Danilo is the likely starter on the right, even though he has played a more central role at Juventus.

Another option could be 39-year-old Dani Alves, who missed the tournament in Russia because of an injury and now has a leadership role in the team.

That position on the right will be key since Tite wants to play 38-year-old Thiago Silva in central defence.

No one knows for sure who will be Brazil's left-back. Alex Sandro is the frontrunner, but Tite has also tested Alex Telles in that position. Neither have the attacking profile that Brazil once had for that position.

No. 9

Brazil has goal scorers of different characteristics to play in the penalty box.

Richarlison is expected to start if he recovers from a left calf injury. He scored five goals at the Tokyo Olympics in Brazil's gold-medal run and added another six in South American qualifying.

Tite's second option appears to be Jesus, who has been scoring for Arsenal in the Premier League this season. He is quicker than Richarlison, but also shorter than the Tottenham player.

Brazil can also play Firmino, who is recovering his form at Liverpool, as a false nine. Neymar has also played that role for the national team, which would allow Lucas Paquetá or Philippe Coutinho to play in his position. Tite could pull a surprise and use Flamengo striker Pedro at the tournament. He has scored 12 goals in 12 matches in the Copa Libertadores.

### Wawrinka beats Ruud, Murray also advances at Swiss Indoors

BASEL: On a stellar day for veteran Grand Slam champions, Stan Wawrinka beat third-ranked Casper Ruud and Andy Murray rallied to win in three sets in the first round of the Swiss Indoors on Tuesday. The 37-year-old Wawrinka hit his ninth ace to seal a 6-4, 6-4 win over Ruud, who was the US Open runner-up last month and delight his home crowd. Wawrinka is now ranked No. 194 after persistent injury problems but the win was his second over a top-five opponent in five weeks. He beat fourth-ranked Daniil Medvedev last month in Metz, France. "I fought despite the injuries. I wanted to come and play in

Swiss Indoors tennis tournament at the St. Jakobshalle in Basel, Switzerland, on October 25, 2022 | AP

Murray, a former U.S. Open champion like Wawrinka, earlier won 6-7 (5), 6-3, 6-4 against Roman Safiullin after the Russian led 4-1 in the final set. The 35-year-old Murray, who also won two Wimbledon titles, reeled off five straight games to complete the victory after more than 2½ hours on the court. It was the No. 49-ranked Scot's first match in Basel since 2005. "I changed the way I was returning a little bit and when I did that I was able to create a few more opportunities and front of you," Wawrinka said in a tearful on-court—frustrate him a little bit," Murray said. Wawrinka interview, thanking fans for their support. Russia's first played in Basel 19 years ago but never went Roman Safiullin returns the ball to Great Britain's beyond the semifinals at the event won by home-

### Andy Murray during their first-round match at the town favourite Roger Federer a record 10 times. Naveen launches SAFAL portal for Kisan credit linkage, over 300 products on offer

Patnaik on Wednesday launched a common credit portal SAFAL for farmers in the State. SAFAL is

BHUBANESWAR: Chief Minister Naveen ing farmers real-time notifications at every stage of

their loan application. The Chief Minister said SAFAL will provide the

a simplified application for agricultural loans through which farmers and agri-entrepreneurs will have access to more than 300 term-loan products offered by over 40 partner banks.

Launching the portal, the Chief Minister said that the application can revolutionise credit provisions for farmers and agri-entrepreneurs. The application is a one-stop-solution for farmers and agrientrepreneurs to avail formal sector credit from public and private sector banks, regional rural banks, state cooperative banks and small finance banks, he said.

The portal has been integrated with Krushak Odisha and has access to 70 plus model project reports. It will ease the loan application process benefiting both the farmers and banks significantly. The portal will also reduce information asymmetry by send-

government with complete visibility of demand and disbursal of formal credit across the State and ensure schemes are designed in a data-backed manner. He hoped that the portal will be a facilitator of credit to spur agriculture and allied sectors in the State and increase economic power of farmers in the long run. Stating that farmers are

the backbone of the State's economy and agriculture is the largest employer, Naveen said the government has given special emphasis to development of farming sector through various interventions supported by a comprehensive and inclusive agricultural policy.

Finance Minister Niranjan Pujari highlighted the Chief Minister's vision for empowerment of farmers inclusion in the economic process. Agriculture and Farmers' Empowerment Minister Ranendra Pratap Swain outlined the steps taken by the department for economic development and welfare of the farmers. CEO, RBI Innovation Hub Senapathy (Kris) Gopalakrishnan, CMD of UCO Bank Soma Sankara Prasad, Agriculture Production Commissioner Sanjeev Chopra and Agriculture Secretary Arvind Padhee were also present.

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