

## Gujarat Congress wants Rahul Gandhi to become party's national president

AHMEDABAD(KCN): The Gujarat Congress on Sunday demanded that Rahul Gandhi be made the party's national president. The demand was made at the party's state executive committee meeting held here, with all its members supporting the proposal with a round of applause.



All the members of the grand old party's state executive committee met here and expressed their feelings that Rahul Gandhi be made the president of the Indian National Congress. "They wanted this point to be presented before the national leadership," chief spokesperson Manish Doshi said. "It was demanded that respected Rahul Gandhi, who is the future of India and the voice of the youth, be made the president of the Indian National Congress. All the present

delegates of the state executive committee approved it with thunderous applause," the party said in a statement after the meeting. The state unit also resolved to win 125 out

of Gujarat's 182 seats in the upcoming Assembly election under the leadership of state president Jagdish Thakor. Earlier in the day, the Chhattisgarh Pradesh Congress Committee (CPCC) also passed a resolution demanding that Rahul Gandhi be made the party's national president, Congress leaders said. The resolution was passed in a meeting of 310 Pradesh Congress Committee (PCC) delegates (who will vote in party's presidential election) from Chhattisgarh chaired by Hussain Dalwai, state Congress communication wing head Sushil Anand Shukla said.

## Maoists attacked goods Train

Waltair(KCN) : As per the information received from the crew of goods train KVS11 that a group of about 50 Maoists were on track and a few were holding a red cloth across the track. Accordingly he applied emergency break and stopped the train at KM 433 in the block section Bachel-Bhansi of Dantewara - Kirandul section. They took the walkie talkie sets from the Driver, tied the cloth on the locomotive, gave them pamphlets and asked them to proceed to Dantewara and distribute the pamphlets there. When the train stopped, about 15 persons approached the Guard van, took his walkie-

talkie too. Most of the persons were carrying long fire arms. They didn't harm the crew. The train started from the spot after Maoists moved into the jungle and the train has safely reached Bhansi. The train has been allowed in the section with 15kmph speed restriction. All other trains have been suspended in between dantewara-kirandul section. The Coras Commando team is scheduled to move in the same section and they have been alerted about the Maoist movement. DRM, Waltair Mr Anup satpathy has said in an official statement

## Amid military setback in Ukraine, concerns from ally China, India mount more pressure on Putin

KYIV(KCN): Pressure on Russian President Vladimir Putin mounted both on the battlefield and in the halls of global power as Ukrainian troops waging a counteroffensive pushed Saturday to advance farther into the country's partly recaptured northeast.



At a high-level summit in Uzbekistan, Putin vowed to press his attack on Ukraine despite recent military setbacks but also had to address concerns over the drawn-out conflict voiced by India and China. "I know that today's era is not of war," Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi told the Rus-

sian leader in televised comments as the two met Friday in Uzbekistan. At the same summit a day earlier, Putin acknowledged China's unspecified "questions and concerns" about the war in Ukraine while also thanking Chinese President Xi Jinping for his government's "balanced position" on the conflict. The hurried retreat of his troops this month from parts of a north-east region they occupied early in the war, together with the rare public reservations expressed by key allies, underscored the challenges Putin faces on all fronts. Both China and India maintain strong ties with Russia and had sought to remain neutral on Ukraine. Xi, in a statement released by his government, expressed support for Russia's "core interests" but also interest in

## More political noise

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Of late, Odisha seems to be drowned in political noise with the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) as the leading rabble-rouser. After BJD supremo Naveen

among the BJP rank and file and it was further fuelled during the three-day training camp in Puri. Though the BJP's performance after 2019 general elections remained

ban polls while the BJD dominated in all the elections held in three years. After saffron master strategist and Union Home Minister Amit Shah said that BJP would form a Government in Odisha after 2024 elections, there seems to be no end to the excitement among the party cadre. The entire rank and file including senior BJP leaders is claiming that they are all set to oust the BJD from power in the ensuing elections. However, no one is ready to accept the reality of its back to back poll drubbings. The party in its training camp, however, claimed that BJP's vote share in the State Legislative Assembly and Lok Sabha elections has increased by more than 10 percent while Naveen's BJD lost some share of its votes. It is a fact that statistics is in favour of BJP, not the ground reality. The BJP should realize that situations do change and they happen over time. There is no certainty that the BJP will get more votes in 2024 keeping in view its performance in 2019. The saffron leaders should think that the BJP had only two MPs in Lok Sabha at some point of time and they are now 300-plus. Therefore, one should not conclude that the party will perform well in the 2024 elections as its vote share increased in 2019 from 2014. The vote share may



Patnaik received the Lifetime Achievement Award from a New Delhi-based NGO, the saffron leaders have gone hyperactive turning September into a saffron month for Odisha. In the first part of September, the BJP State-in-Charge Sunil Bansal's visit added to the euphoria

lacklustre and the party lost all the four by-elections, nobody seems to be bothered over the recent past. This is not all, the BJP which won 23 assembly seats in 2019 elections, lost in Balasore in the by-elections. This apart, the party also performed dismally in the recently concluded rural and ur-

CONTINUED ON: P-7

## Oscars Academy makes amends over 1973 Native American protest, honours Littlefeather

LOS ANGELES(KCN): Almost five decades after she refused an Oscar on behalf of Marlon Brando over the treatment of Native Americans by the US film industry, Sacheen Littlefeather was honored Saturday by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.



In a moving ceremony in Los Angeles filled with singing and dancing, the Academy publicly apologized to Littlefeather, who was defeted by activists in the wake of her protest, but blackballed by the movie world.

Apache and Yaqui, was

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## CM Patnaik nod to VSSUT transformation plan

BHUBANESWAR(KCN): Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik on Saturday approved a master plan for transformation of the Veer Surendra Sai University of Technology (VSSUT) into a centre of excellence. As per the master plan, the State government will invest Rs 2,000 crore in phases to create infrastructure to accommodate 10,864 students in different disciplines. Currently, 2,849 students are pursuing studies in various engineering and humanities streams. It has been planned to develop the premier institute to a multi-disciplinary engineering and research university by 2030. It will be on par with the premier engi-

neering institutes of the country like IITs and NITs. There are plans to have seven schools including School of Engineering, Skill Develop-

school will have classrooms, laboratories, professors' chambers and galleries. State-of-the-art research centres and laboratory facilities



ment Centre, School of Medical Technology and School of Basic Science. As many as 24 engineering programmes, more than 14 departments and 27 centres of excellence will be established in the seven schools. Each

will be available in all schools. The Chief Minister, chairing a high-level meeting, directed to complete the construction of all smart classrooms within three months. Required repair works of hostels and other

buildings will be completed as early as possible and authorities concerned have been directed to ensure uninterrupted power supply to the institution. Chief Secretary Suresh Chandra Mahapatra, Industries and Skill Development Principal Secretary Hemanta Sharma and Secretary to CM V K Pandian were present at the meeting.

# BJP Barbil, celebrated birthday of prime minister Mr Narendra Modi

Barbil (KCN):The BJP of Barbil unit, Odisha celebrated 72th birthday of Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the party's Barbil unit office on September

committee member and former chairman Barbil municipality Praised Mr Modi saying "the work for nation-building under his incomparable hard

vision and inspirational leadership have elevated 'Bharat' to newer heights of glory. On the occasion the party felicitated Dipendu Rana for his

among people. The women district vice president Sapna Sahu, the vice president BJP Mahila Morcha Shradhanjali Kar, District president of



18th. Party worker including people of Barbil gathered at party office and celebrated the birthday of Prime Minister Modi. They lit 72 lamps to wish his 72th birthday. Dillip Mishra, the BJP

work, dedication and creativity continue to advance. His good health long life would enrich India. Deb Prasad Mishra, Keonjhar district vice president wish Mr Modi his happy birthday saying his transformative

victory in Keonjhar Chemist and Druggist Association who have made proud for all Barbilian to become the president of the said association for the first time. On the occasion the party distributed sweets

Harijan Morcha Sanyasi Majhi, Anita Bhoumik, Paramjit Singh, Radhika Devi, Bandana Das, Ritu Barik, Chinmay Mahakud, Somanath Apat, Sunil Das along with many other party workers were present.

## Malkangiri Air Connect@15 Jan

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has asked the officials to make Malkangiri Airport operational by 15 January, 2024.

Accordingly, V K Pandian, Secretary 5T to CM is making detailed review and has directed senior officials to go for one of the most crucial Airport Project on Mission Mode.

Malkangiri Airport lies in the Hotbed of Maoists will be crucially important once it is completed and air service begins from the Red Corridor.

Malkangiri Airport will be ready for operation as on 15 January, 2024 and so far land acquisition, diversion of forest land and

1620X30 Meter. Malkangiri Airport Project will cost around Rs.55 Crore and it will be connecting the Capital City and other States.

Recently Chief Secretary Suresh Chandra Mahapatra visited Malkangiri and reviewed progress of the Major Airport.

District Administration of Malkangiri is extending all out efforts for the ambitious project of air connectivity.

Now soon the Jeypore Airport will be operational and it will be opened with IndiaOne Flight, ready for Flight Operations.

So with completion of infrastructure and operationalization of Malkangiri Airport,



fencing of the total area have been completed.

Timeline is fixed for completion of infrastructure, licensing, and operationalization of the Airport.

Rs.33 Crore Tender has been floated by the Department of Works for the construction of the airport.

Once operational, the airport will facilitate Intra-State flight operations and it will come up in an area of 234 Acres of land having a Runway of having a length of

South Odisha will be connected in a big way with Air Facility.

With CM's direction, senior officials of the Department of Commerce & Transport are working Jointly with other stakeholders for fast tracking the crucial air connectivity.

Bishnupada Sethi, Principal Secretary Commerce & Transport is coordinating with other Departments including Revenue & Disaster Management, Forest, Environment and Climate Change, Works and others.

Cuttack(KCN): Pankaj Lochan Mohanty, President Odisha Cricket Association (OCA) has said that the Legends League Cricket T20 Matches are scheduled to be held on 26, 27 and 29 September at the Historic Barabati Stadium.

OCA Chief Mr.Mohanty said that after successful hosting of T 20 International Match between India and South Africa in the Historic Barabati Stadium another International Standard Match is being hosted.

Mr.Mohanty said that all the Stake Holders Meet was held for smooth conduct of the upcoming Matches, which was presided by Twin City Police Commissioner Saumendra Kumar Priyadarshi.

Top Cop Mr.Priyadarshi conducted the Meeting smoothly in which all the stake holders participated whole heartedly.

Subash Singh, Mayor, Cuttack Municipal Corporation (CMC), Bhabani Shankar Chayani, District Magistrate, Pinak Mishra, DCP, Nikhil Pavan Kalyan, Commissioner CMC, Sanjay Behera, Secretary OCA, Subrat Kumar Behera, CEO OCA, Avishek Mazumdar, VP LLC and other stake holders attended the Meet.

Detailed discussion was held and it came to light that Government of Odisha has decided to extend all out support for the Upcoming Event.

Absolute Legends Private Limited is conducting Three T 20 Matches of the Legends League Cricket T20 in association with Odisha Cricket Association, said Mr.Mohanty, OCA

Chief. After successful hosting of the First Edition of this Legends League at Oman, the Company is conducting 2nd Edition of this League in India.

On 26 September, Manipal Tigers will take on Bhilwara Kings, on 27 September Gujarat



Giants will face Bhilwara Kings and on 29 September, India Capital Vs Manipal Tigers Match will be conducted.

Manipal Tigers are led by Harbhajan Singh, Bhilwara Kings are led by Irfan Pathan, Gujrat Giants led by Virendra Shewag and Manipal Tagirs led by Gautam Gambhir.

Online Ticket Selling is being done @bookmyshow.com. Offline Ticket selling will start from 22 September.

Offline Ticket selling for affiliated units and former Ranji Trophy Players is 24 September.

Since all the legendary cricketers are participating in this Legend League so the Department of Sports and Youth Affairs of Government of Odisha and Odisha Cricket Association will extend all kinds of support to the Teams for smooth conducting of all the matches.

## Plea for cases disposal

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Union Minister for Law and Justice, Kiren Rijiju has requested Orissa High Court Chief Justice S. Muralidhar to take steps for time bound disposal of cases in the Fast Track Courts established in the State.

The Fast Track Courts (FTCs) setup by the State Government for trial of cases related to heinous crimes, crimes against women, children, senior citizen etc. while the Fast Track Special Courts (FTSCs) setup under Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) for expeditious trial of rape and POCSO Act cases.

Mr.Rijiju said the 14th FC with the increased share of devolution of funds recommended for setting up of 1800 FTCs by the State Governments. As on July 31, 2022, total 896 FTCs are operational in 24 States/UTs in which 13,18,427 cases are pending. On analysis, it reveals that while 88,000 monthly new cases are registered, case disposal is ap-

proximately 35,000, leading to ever increasing pendency of cases, he pointed out.

The Department of Justice had started a Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) in October, 2019 for the expeditious disposal of cases related to rape and POCSO Act for setting up of 1023 FTSCs including 389 exclusive POCSO courts based on the then pendency

posal is 6,000 and hence pendency is continuously increasing, the Minister said. As on July, 2022, total pendency of rape and POCSO Act cases is more than 3,28,000 which is an alarming situation. In Odisha, 19,214 such cases are pending in the courts. In the month of July alone, 504 new cases were registered and 487 cases were disposed

funds and its timely utilization. However, in many States, the pre-requisite compliances for the release of CSS funds under the Public Financial Management System (PFMS) are not fully complete or are partially complete leading to under utilization of the allocated budget, he said.

"As the safety and security of our women, children as well as other marginalized categories are of paramount concern, the need for robust functioning of the earmarked FTCs and FTSCs becomes highly imperative," said the Union Law Minister.

In view of the huge pendency of cases, he urged the Chief Justice to open the balance number of FTCs in the State with due consultation of the State Government. As per the centrally sponsored scheme of FTSCs, the remaining number of courts may be set up and operationalized on priority basis, stated Mr.Rijiju. He also suggested to set up a strict monitoring mechanism for the timebound disposal of cases by the FTCs/FTSCs.



of cases.

Accordingly, as on July 31, 2022, 731 FTSCs with 412 exclusive POCSO courts are operational in 28 States/UTs which have disposed of a cumulative 1,08,702 cases. It shows that monthly 10,000 new cases are registered while dis-

off. The Government of India has been allocating sufficient funds in every year's budget for the FTSC scheme and the Department of Justice has been repeatedly following up with the State Governments and High Courts for availing the allocated

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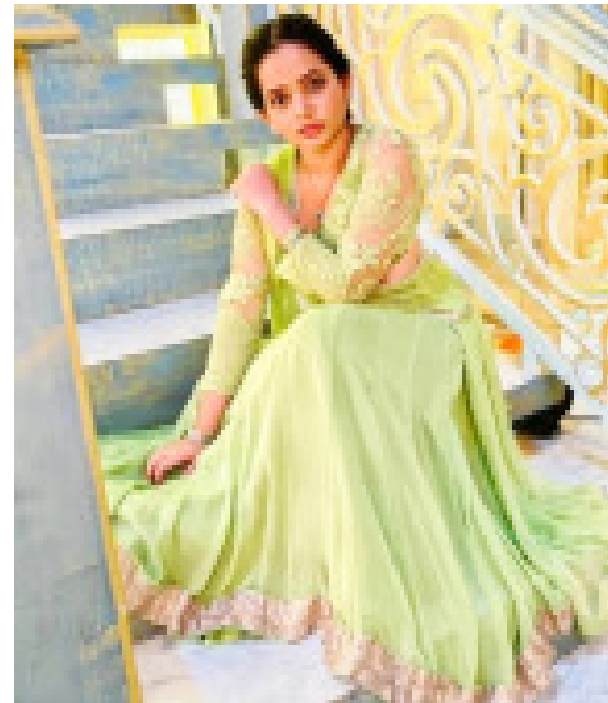
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**Now a days the heroines have nothing much in the film, except to flaunt their glamour: Aarushi Sharma**

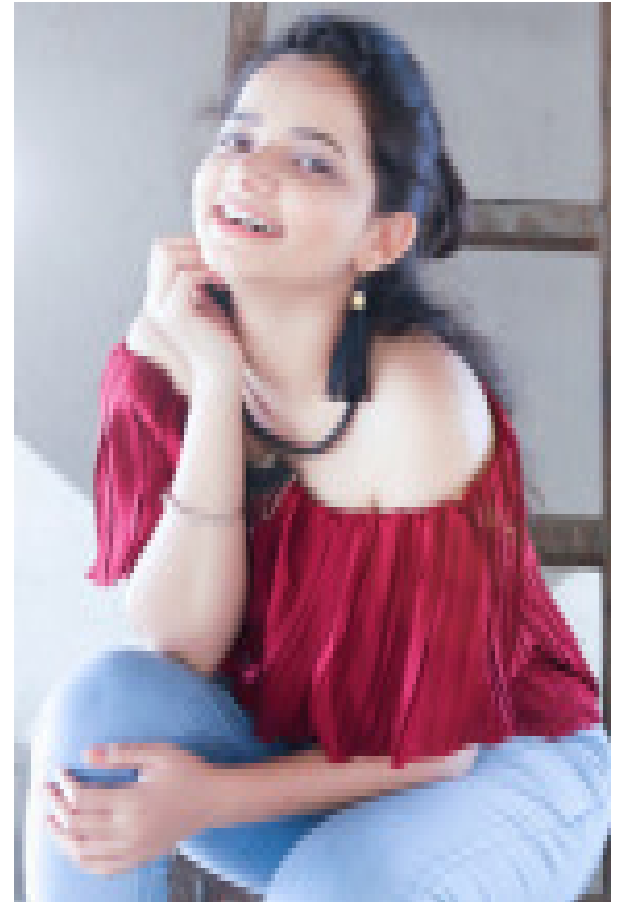
The multi-faceted talented actress “Jag Jaanani Maa Vaishnodevi” and Her performance is being widely appreciated and her role as Muskaan is being



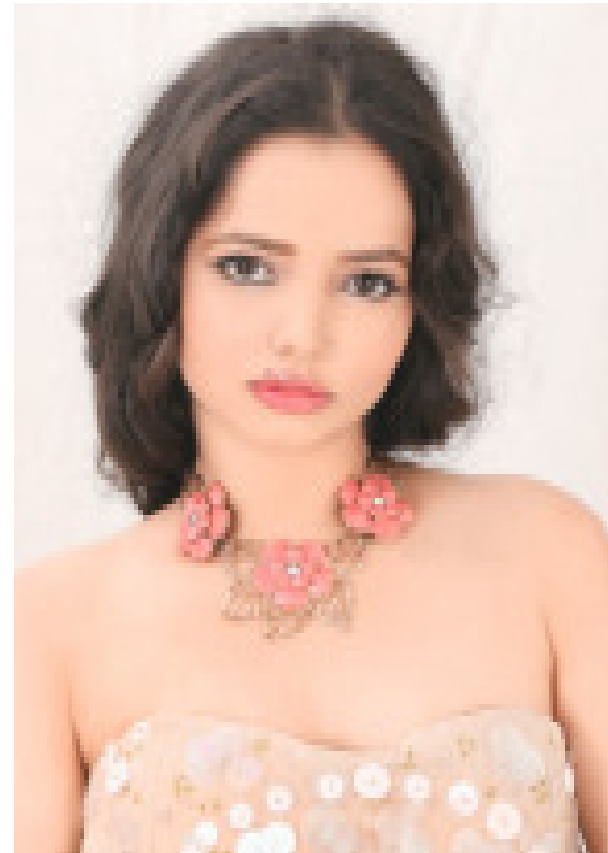
Aarushi Sharma “Muskaan” is now who has left an in-



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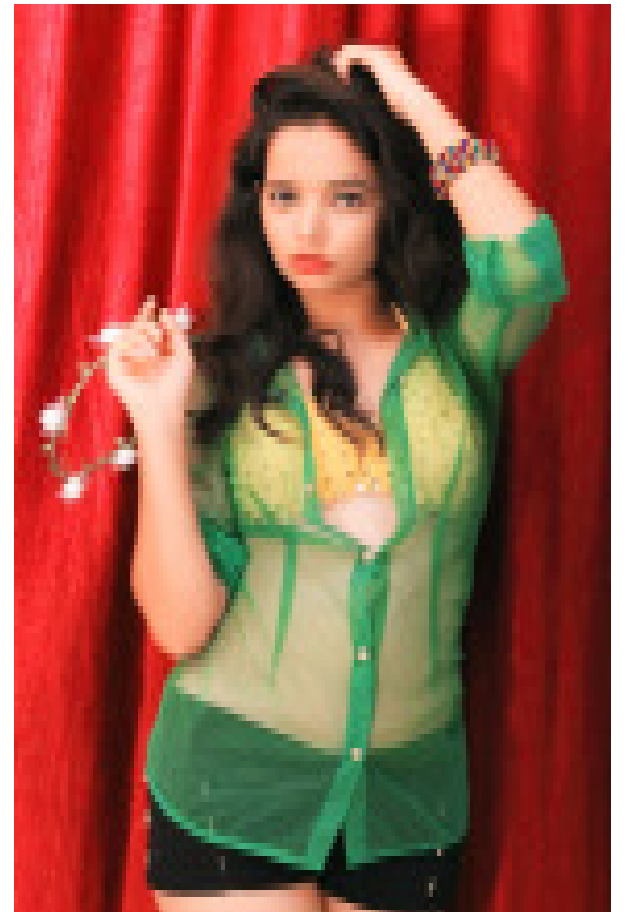
our mother and to corona pandemic. Now it may



delible impression of her acting on TV serial “Ranju Ki



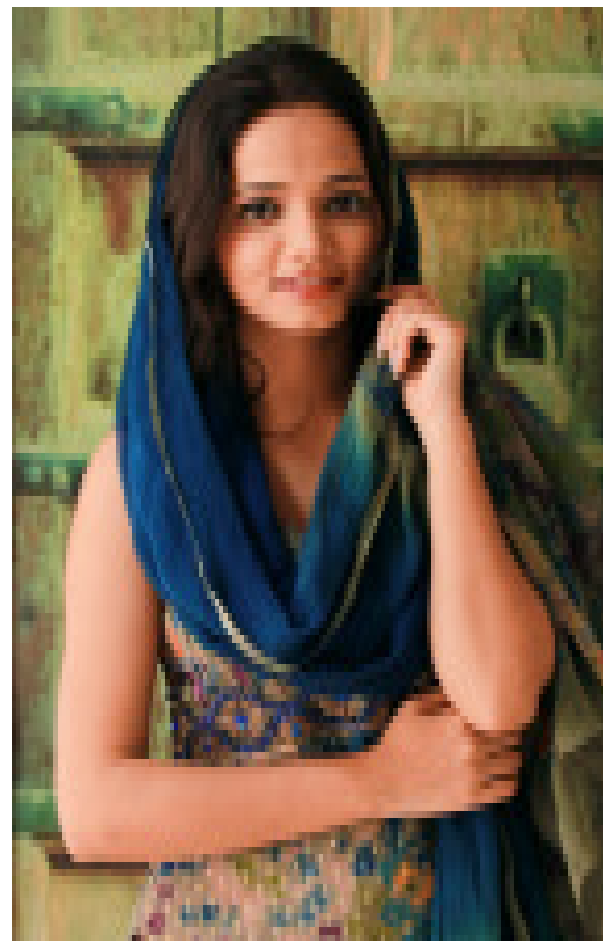
highly acclaimed by the viewers.



harasses our family. Till now my role was that of an innocent and bubbly girl. But henceforth my role will be different and the viewers will be taken aback by my new role. The viewers will certainly like the new twist in the story. About her film ventures Aarushi says “I had signed a film in the South. However the project could not start early due



viewers' mind with her TV serials like

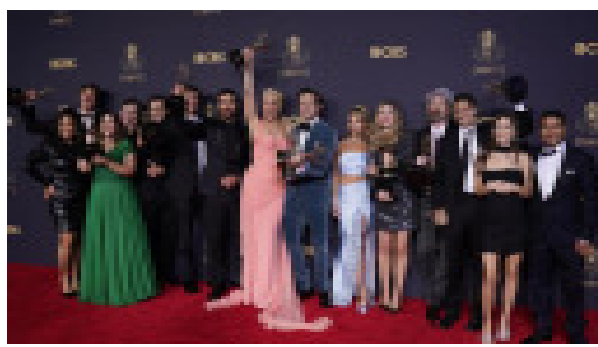


About her role in “Ranju Ki

**'Emmys So White': Netizens call out award show for 'fake diversity'**

Los Angeles: The 73rd Primetime Emmy Awards concluded on a disappointing note on Monday. While setting a record for diversity, with 49 black or indigenous people of colour (BIPOC) nominated across all categories, all major acting trophies went to white actors at the Emmys 2021.

According to Variety, actors that were seen as solid contenders included Billy Porter and Mj Rodriguez and Kenan Thompson and Bowen Yang (Saturday Night Live) --



(‘Pose’), the late Michael K. Williams (‘Lovecraft Country’) but in the end, all ended up empty-handed. The 2021 ceremony

has undoubtedly failed to meet the expectations of people. Calling out the event, a netizen tweeted, “Not a single Black actor won tonight. Not a single Asian actor won tonight. Not a single Latino actor won tonight.” Another one wrote, “#Emmys do this every year: Nominate a diverse selection of our faves, only to give them to the same white actors and/or stories. Middle-aged white folks in conflict or British period pieces will win over nuanced, multi-dimensional plots involving characters of colour.” #EmmysSoWhite has been trending all over Twitter since morning. “Black host, Black announcer hell even Black music. We do winning everything but win. #Emm-ysSoWhite,” a social media user wrote while condemning Emmys 2021. “Lovecraft country won nothing tonight and 98% of the winners were white despite the amount of black talent around #EmmysSoWhite,” a netizen tweeted. This time Black performers had a strong showing at the event. But all efforts went in vain when nominees of colour failed to win most categories.

## Cost of Acquisition for computing Capital Gains (Part 3)

(Contd. From 12<sup>th</sup> Sept. 2022)

### 1. Whether AO can take different market value as on 1.4.2001, for the purpose of cost of acquisition for different co-owners: AO should not take different valuations for computing cost of acquisition of the same land for different assesseees while valuing fair market value as on 1.4.2001 or 1.4.1981, as the case may be -Ramanbhai Ukabhai Patel (HUF) v. ITO [2019] 102 taxmann.com 109 (Surat-Trib.). W.e.f. asst. year 2021-22, the fair market value of an immovable property as on 1.4.2001 is to be taken on the basis of stamp duty valuation as on that day, wherever such valuation are available. Prior to the amendment fair market value on the basis of the report of an approved valuer was being accepted as well.



**Narayan Jain**

2. **Cost of acquisition of an asset of a charitable trust** : The Finance Act, 2017 has inserted section 49(8) with retrospective effect from 1st June, 2016, where the capital gain arises from the transfer of an asset, being the asset held by a trust or an institution in respect of which accreted income has been computed, and the tax has been paid thereon, the cost of acquisition of such asset shall be deemed to be the fair market value of the asset which has been taken into account for computation of accreted income as on specified date u/s 115TD(2).

3. **Whether interest on loan for acquisition of a house property will be considered as cost of acquisition if interest has been claimed u/s 24(b)**: The Chennai Bench of ITAT in ACIT v. C. Ramabrahmam [2012] 27 taxmann.com 104 (Chennai - Trib.) held that a perusal of sections 24(b) and 48 makes it unambiguous that none of them excludes operation of the other. In other words, a deduction u/s 24(b) is claimed only when concerned assessee declares income from 'house property', whereas the cost of the same asset is taken into consideration when the property is sold and capital gains are computed under section 48. There can't be any doubt that the interest in question

is indeed an expenditure in acquiring the asset. Since both provisions are altogether different, the claim of assessee to include the interest amount at the time of computing capital gains u/s 48 couldn't be denied.

4. **Whether any capital gain accrue in the hands of the firm if such firm makes an upward revaluation of its assets immediately before its conversion into company**: As per sec. 47(xiii) no capital gain arises on conversion of firm into company if conditions mentioned therein are satisfied as there is no transfer of assets- ITO v. Gulababdas Printers [2010] 4 ITR (Trib.) 264 (Ahd.).

5. **Cost of acquisition in a scheme of amalgamation within the meaning of section 2(47)**: In CIT v. Mrs. Grace Collis [2001] 248 ITR 323 (SC), the Supreme Court held that, in a scheme of amalgamation, there is a "transfer" of shares of the amalgamating company within the meaning of section 2(47). It is therefore a transaction to which section 47(ii) applies, and consequently the cost to assessee of the acquisition of the shares of the amalgamated company has to be determined in accordance with section 49(2), i.e. the cost is deemed to be the cost of the acquisition by the assessee of the shares in the amalgamating company.

6. **If the advance received against the negotiation for transfer/ sale of a capital asset is forfeited**: With effect from asst. year 2015-16, if the advance received against the negotiation for transfer/ sale of a capital asset is forfeited for non- materialization of sale or in case it does not result in transfer of such capital asset, the forfeited amount shall be taxed as income in the year of forfeiture under the head other sources u/s 56(2)(ix). Prior to the amendment the forfeited amount used to be reduced under section 51 from the cost of acquisition of the capital asset but cost of acquisition could not be negative - Smt. Smita N. Shah v. JCIT 95 TT J (Mum.) 640: 94 ITD 492 (Mum.).

7. **Cost of acquisition in case of conversion of debentures into shares**: The cost of acquisition of such shares

will be the cost of the debentures or part thereof, which has been appropriated, or adjusted towards the shares.

8. **Date and cost of acquisition in case of bonus shares**: The assessee who is allotted bonus shares should be taken to hold them from the date they are issued and not from the date he acquired the original shares in respect of which the bonus shares are issued - CIT v. Chunilal Khushaldas [1974] 93 ITR 369 (Guj.); Harish Mahindra v. CIT 135 ITR 191 (Bom.). Similarly, the debenture holder who is allotted shares in lieu of debentures should be taken to hold the shares from the date the shares, and not the debentures, were acquired - Mrs. A. Ghosh v. CIT 141 ITR 45 (Cal.).

Sec. 2(42A) Clause(i)(a) of the Explanation provides that in calculating the period for which a share in a company in liquidation was held by the assessee, the period after the date of liquidation must be excluded. In other words, the assessee must hold the share for more than 12 months prior to the commencement of the liquidation of the company in order that the share may not be treated as a short-term capital asset. Sec. 2(42A) Clause (i)(b) of the Explanation enacts that where the capital asset became the property of the assessee in any of the cases covered by section 49(1) (partition of joint family, gift, inheritance, etc.), the period for which the asset was held by the previous owner must be added to the period for which the asset was held by the assessee in determining whether the asset had been held for more than the prescribed period. Section 46(2) provides that where a shareholder on liquidation of a company, received any money or other asset from the company, he shall be chargeable to Income tax under the head capital gains.

Generally, short-term capital gains are assessable at the rates prescribed under sec. 111A or the rates applicable to ordinary income; whereas gains arising from the transfer of long- term capital assets are charged to tax as provided in sec. 112 or sec. 112A, as the case may be.

W.e.f. asst. year 1996-97 the cost of bonus shares, securities or any other asset, which is received by any person on the

basis of his holding any financial asset but without any payment shall be taken to be nil. However, the provision applicable in relation to cost of bonus shares upto asst. year 1995-96 are different as in those years the cost of bonus shares was determined by spreading the cost of original shares and bonus shares taken together as if the shares rank pari-passu. This averaging method used to be adopted on the basis of Supreme Court decision in CIT v. Dalmia Investment Co. Ltd. [1960] 52 ITR 567 (SC). It may be mentioned that the option u/s 55(2)(b)(i) for adopting the fair market value as on 1.4.81/01.04.2001, (as the case may be) is not available in case of bonus shares even if the same were acquired prior to 1.4.1981/01.04.2001, because of the insertion of provision in section 55(2)(aa)(iii).

9. **Indexation if an assessee purchased a flat at Rs. 1 Crore in 1990 and paid consideration in Instalments in 3 years**: For the purpose of computing capital gain u/s 48 the indexed cost of acquisition and indexed cost of improvement is to be reduced from the full value of consideration. It is immaterial whether the cost of acquisition has been paid in one instalment or multiple instalments. The index will be available from the date of acquisition on full value of cost of acquisition - Charanbir Singh Jolly v. ITO [2006] 5 SOT 89 (Mum.).

10. **Tax treatment in case of renouncement of 'right entitlement'** : W.e.f. asst. year 1995-96, as per provision of section 55(2)(aa)(ii), the cost of 'right entitlement' in the hands of the original shareholder will be deemed to be nil.

11. **Cost paid by shareholder for right shares or cost paid by the Renouncee**: It is also clarified that : (a) If the original shareholder himself applies for right shares, the cost of such shares will be the amount actually paid by him. (b) For the pre-nerson getting the shares as renouncee, the cost will be the aggregate of amounts paid for obtaining the right entitlement and the amount paid for right shares to the company.

(Narayan Jain is former Secretary General of AIFTP and author of the books "How to Handle Income Tax Problems" and "Income Tax Pleading & Practice" with CA DilipLoyalka).

# Namaste Cheetahs

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, deserves a big applause for releasing of cheetahs into



**Vinod Chandrashekhar Dixit**

quarantine enclosures in Kuno National Park in Madhya Pradesh. The eight cheetahs were a gift from the government of Namibia. The transcontinental is the first of its kind on any continent and the eight cheetahs will be the founders of a new population. About 12,000 years ago, a mass extinction occurred that eliminated 75 per cent of the world's large mammal species. Fortunately, a handful of cheetahs managed to survive this extreme extinction event and were able to restore the world's population of cheetahs.

India's successes in managing the world's largest population of wild tigers proves it has the credentials to bring cheetahs back. Project Cheetah was approved by the Supreme Court of India in January 2020 as a pilot programme to reintroduce the species to India. The

concept of bringing the cheetah back was first put forth in 2009

by Indian conservationists, along with Cheetah Conservation Fund (CCF), a not-for-profit organisation, headquartered in Namibia, which works towards saving and rehabilitating the big cat in the wild. The reintroduction of cheetah into the wild is a step towards correcting an ecological wrong and fulfilling Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Mission life.

But for 75 years — the entirety of its existence as an independent nation — India has been bereft of cheetahs, the world's fastest land animal. A small population of Asiatic cheetahs now only remain in Iran with which a deal to translocate the animals fell through considering the country has barely 50 of these beasts remaining in the wild. If cheetahs no longer existed, there would be a domino effect — referred to as a trophic cascade.

The cheetah was completely wiped out from India due to excessive hunting and shrinking grasslands, its natural habitat. Saving this

magnificent animal from extinction requires innovative conservation methods that address the welfare of both cheetah and human populations over large landscapes. The Cheetah is one of the most ancient large cat species, with ancestors dating back over five million years to the Miocene epoch. The Cheetah is also known for its speed. The Cheetah is the fastest terrestrial animal on the planet, living in Africa and Asia. Cheetahs are threatened by human-wildlife conflict, illegal wildlife trade, poor sperm quality, and lack of genetic diversity, but one of their greatest challenges to survival is the loss of habitat together with loss of prey base. The shrinking of their natural habitat is due to a combination of increasing human populations and climate change impact. The major population of cheetahs, of which only about 7000 mature individuals survive in the wild and it remains only in African countries like Botswana, Chad, Ethiopia, Kenya, Namibia, South Africa and Zimbabwe.

Thanks to Indian government's efforts to preserve cheetahs. 7 years ago, the Wildlife Institute of India launched a Rs 260-crore cheetah reintroduction scheme. This might be the first intercontinental cheetah translocation project in history. The Ministry of Environment announced an "Action Plan for Cheetah Introduction in India" at the 19th meeting of the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA). India plans to introduce eight to ten cheetahs every year and in five years, they hope to have a population of 50 wild cheetahs in India. There's certainly more to do. But the good news is that humans and cheetahs can survive and thrive together if we can create the right conditions. There is no doubt that if people can be persuaded to find a little room in their hearts for these shy, fragile cats, there's a chance to prevent them from sprinting further to extinction.

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

# Natural history museum in Odisha beats pollution with creativity

**BHUBANESWAR:** From creating exhibit models using bio-degradable and recyclable materials and waste to turning its premises into an environment-friendly campus, the Regional Museum of Natural History (RMNH), Bhubaneswar is en-

activity. Accordingly, the museum has started abandoning use of plastic exhibits and has been building display models using bio-degradable and recyclable materials and wastes such as paper mache, jute, old clothes, bio-degradable tape, waste wood and ply-

wood, clay, iron nails and wires. Museum officials said the unique initiative has already helped the museum to avoid over 900 kg of plastics in the last three years. Besides, building these models using composite bio-degradable wastes, a first-of-its-kind initiative by any museum in the Coun-

try, has even proven to be lasting and cost effective. "The models are as strong as other resin and fibre models and have an estimated life span of 7 to 10 years. These models also cost about 1/10th of the models made using plastic and fibre. The best



couraging visitors as well as institutions to go green by showcasing its own deeds. The museum spread over six acre in the heart of the City is one of the first and few plastic-free campuses in the City and manifests how people and institutions can beat plastic pollution with a little dedication and cre-

wood, clay, iron nails and wires. Museum officials said the unique initiative has already helped the museum to avoid over 900 kg of plastics in the last three years. Besides, building these models using composite bio-degradable wastes, a first-of-its-kind initiative by any museum in the Coun-

part is these bio-degradable models can be discarded anytime without causing any harm to the environment. They can also be recycled and re-used as many times as one wants," said scientist in-charge of RMNH Bhubaneswar, Gau-

clable waste models of a life-size African silverback gorilla, giraffe, Komodo dragon and sting ray is now working on an actual size hippopotamus model as well as a 23-foot long salt water crocodile, recorded in Bhitarkanika National Park in the past.

## Day-6: BBMP takes break, stops demolition drive

**BENGALURU:** After carrying out the demolition drive for the last six days, the BBMP on Saturday took a complete break and said its engineers and officials from the Revenue Department are carrying out a survey to determine the extent of encroachments. BBMP Chief Commissioner Tushar Girinath said the Palike has removed close to 90 encroachments and he has now asked chief engineers of respective zones to file caveats as some property owners have approached the

court. He said, "Once we get the report from the Bengaluru Urban deputy commissioner, we will go ahead with the drive." Following complaints from Union Minister Shoba Karandlaje and local residents of RMV 2nd Stage and Soundarya Park that the work of clearing the drains has been pending for the last four months, Girinath inspected the spot and said there are no encroachments. The areas get flooded as they are downstream, he added

# Mixed airfare trends after cap removal; air passenger traffic on rise: Experts

**MUMBAI / NEW DELHI:** After the removal of airfare caps, there seems to be a mixed trend with lower ticket prices for routes having relatively lesser passenger loads, according to travel industry experts.

More than two years after being put in place amid the coronavirus pandemic, the fare caps were removed with effect from August 31. The move also came against the backdrop of a gradual recovery in domestic air passenger traffic.

The average booking price has not changed much but there seems to be a mixed trend with certain sectors seeing a drop in fares while some others witnessing a rise, as per the industry players.

The country's largest airline IndiGo said the removal of airfare caps will give an opportunity to offer dynamic pricing and that there has been a consistent increase in the number of passengers over the last 5-6 months.

The airline did not provide a specific answer on the airfare trends cap removal.

Indiver Rastogi, President & Group Head, Global Business Travel, Thomas Cook (India) and SOTC Travel, said the removal of airfare caps enables carriers to offer the benefit of lower pricing to customers on sectors/routes where flight loads are comparatively lower than others.

"And this is already being seen for sectors like Amritsar, Lucknow, Dehradun, Surat, Nagpur and Pune where a drop of 8-10 per

cent is visible on fares compared to pre-cap removal."

"Airfares for September 1-15, 2022, to high-load/popular destinations from various hubs



like Mumbai, Pune, Delhi, Bengaluru are understandably higher compared to pre-cap removal; an increase of 20-25 per cent for Andaman, 15-20 per cent for Goa, 5 per cent for Kerala and Himachal, 10-15 per cent for Kashmir," Rastogi said.

Karthick Prabu, Head of Strategy at Cleartrip said it is too early to arrive at a trend due to removal of airfare caps.

A comparison of the first 15 days of August and September indicates that September has seen 23 per cent higher bookings than August, he noted.

"Number of segments that customers booked

# Chhattisgarh Congress passes resolution to appoint Rahul as party's national president

**RAIPUR:** The Chhattisgarh Pradesh Congress Committee (CPCC) on Sunday passed a resolution to make Rahul Gandhi the party's national president, Congress leaders said.

The All India Congress Committee (AICC) has appointed Dalwai as the election officer for the Chhattisgarh unit.

Chhattisgarh Congress president Mohan Markam, Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel, AICC general secretary P L Punia, and state ministers were present in the meeting held at Rajiv Bhawan, the ruling party's state office.



Talking to reporters, CM Baghel said he had moved the resolution for appointing Rahul Gandhi as the party's president, which was

seconded by PCC chief Mohan Markam, state Assembly Speaker Charan Das Mahant, ministers TS Singh Deo, Shivkumar Dahariya and Preme Sai Singh Tekam.

'Made my decision, will answer if I don't stand for polls': Rahul on being Congress chief again To a query, Baghel said, "The Chhattisgarh Pradesh Congress Committee today passed the resolution (to make Rahul Gandhi president) and the party's Rajasthan unit has also done this. If similar resolutions are passed in other states, then Rahul ji should rethink over it as the party's presidential election is nearing. Keeping in view the sentiments of all party workers, I think Rahul ji will agree (to become party chief)," he said.

Baghel said he and others also seconded another resolution moved by the PCC chief to authorise the Congress president to appoint the party's state chief and other office-bearers. Both the resolutions were passed in the meeting, he added.

The resolution was passed in a meeting of 310 Pradesh Congress Committee (PCC) delegates (who will vote in party's presidential election) from Chhattisgarh chaired by Hussain Dalwai, state Congress communication wing head Sushil Anand Shukla said. In June this year, the CPCC had passed a similar resolution that Rahul Gandhi should become the party president.

The Congress had last month said the election for its president would be held on October 17.

The result will be declared on October 19. If only one candidate is left in the fray after the withdrawal of nominations, the name of the president will be declared on October 8 itself, the party said.

The Congress last saw a contest for the post in November 2000.

Congress president or not, Rahul will always have a 'pre-eminent place' in party: P Chidambaram

**BJP wins election in cooperative body in Bengal's Nandigram**

**KOLKATA:** BJP swept the election in a cooperative body in Nandigram in Purba Medinipur district of West Bengal, a constituency of the Leader of Opposition, Suvendu Adhikari on Sunday.

The saffron party won 11 of the 12 seats of Bhekutia Samabay Krishi Samity, which was earlier run by TMC. Only one seat was won by the TMC, a district official said. The election to the cooperative body was held on Sunday and was marked by skirmishes between the two parties.

A winning BJP candidate alleged that the TMC tried to bring in outsiders to disrupt the poll

but the ordinary voters foiled their gameplan.



A local panchayat samity member, who did not want to be named but said he belonged to TMC, was seen on TV news channels being manhandled by some women, who tore his

shirt. He was rescued by personnel of the Nandigram police station.

The TMC spokesperson when contacted refused to make any comment on either the cooperative election or the incident.

Adhikari had trounced Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee at Nandigram in the 2021 state poll.

lers over the last 5-6 months.

"We have noticed a sharp increase in passengers preferring air travel within the country. Removal of airfare capping will give an opportunity to offer dynamic pricing to our passengers. As a leading airline, we would be able to offer the best fare structure to our customers," the spokesperson added.

In August, domestic airlines carried 1.01 crore passengers, which was a growth of more than 4 per cent compared to 97.05 lakh passengers flown in July.

"Passengers carried by domestic airlines during January-August 2022 were 770.70 lakh as against 460.45 lakh during the corresponding period of previous year thereby registering annual growth of 67.38 per cent and monthly growth of 50.96 per cent," aviation regulator DGCA said on Friday.

Jyoti Mayal, President of the Travel Agents Association of India (TAAI), said the decision to remove the fare caps was taken at an opportune time when the festive season is about to begin, which would result in good days for travellers.

"Airfares were on the rise due to the substantial increase in the ATF since the beginning of the year. However, with the decline in the price, fares are in control now and decrease further owing to the tough competition amongst the flight operators," she added.

TAAI has more than 2,500 members.

# From ICU to Home...rehabilitation project for patients at AIIMS Bhubaneswar

Bhubaneswar (KCN): Many patients undergo prolonged illness after recovering in the ICU. Often the treatment that helps them to breathe is a hole in the neck (tracheostomy), that needs to stay for a long time. The prolonged hospital stay becomes difficult for the patient, the family and the health system. A unique event highlighting 200 cases of home-rehabilitation of post ICU

patients and their family members come together on one platform to share stories.

The motive of the event was to enhance awareness among the various stakeholders to widen the reach of such rehabilitation projects. The project team was introduced, key parameters that ensure successful rehabilitation such as the AIR-mobile application, equip-

ment banking, training at bedside and home follow up were discussed. The Chief Guest of the program Prof. Ashutosh Biswas, Executive-Director, AIIMS Bhubaneswar congratulated the AIR team and the patient-family members for enabling home care of these patients. Prof. Biswas interacted directly with the patients and some of their families who shared their experiences. Dr. Dinabandhu Sahoo, Joint Director and Team Leader of National Health Mission Odisha, which has funded this Innovation Project, was the Guest of Honour. He spoke about the vision of the government and MD NHM to improve holistic health in the state. Family members with extensive contribution towards the program by motivating other families and patients were felicitated by the Director AIIMS Bhubaneswar. Satisfied family members also donated some equipment to the project for other needy patients.

Principal Investigator of the project Dr Swagata Tripathy presented the journey of Project AIR till date, along with its futuristic goal to more than 150 members in the audience. Project team from various Departments- Anaesthesia and Critical Care, College of Nursing (CON), Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation and participants including both patients and their families spoke about the benefits received and how they participated in the project along with health care workers. Other prominent members in the audience were Mr Malaya Kumar Panigrahi, State Finance Officer NHM Odisha, Medical Superintendent AIIMS, Dean Research Doctors and Heads of departments including Neurosurgery, Neurology, Anaesthesia and Critical Care, Nursing staff and Principal CON, AIIMS Bhubaneswar.

## Lokayukta police registers case against Yediyurappa, family members on graft charges

BENGALURU: The Lokayukta police in Karnataka have registered a case against former Chief Minis-

truption Act and the Indian Penal on a complaint by a social activist T J Abraham, alleging that the ac-



ter B S Yediyurappa and several members of his family in connection with a corruption case.

The case was registered on Friday following a special court direction to the Lokayukta police to book the senior BJP leader and his kin, including his son B Y Vijayendra, who is the BJP state vice president, his grandson and the then BDA commissioner.

The FIR was registered under various provisions of the Prevention of Cor-

ruption Act and the Indian Penal on a complaint by a social activist T J Abraham, alleging that the ac-

obtained bribes in return for granting BDA (Bangalore Development Authority) contracts. The case pertains to awarding a tender for the construction of BDA apartments at Konadasapura in Bidarahalli in the city. It is alleged that the accused took kick-backs from a builder, which were routed through shell companies owned by them when Yediyurappa was the Chief Minister from 2019 to 2021.



tracheostomized patients over last 2 years was organised by the AIIMS ICU Rehabilitation (AIR) project team on August 8 2022. The event named "200 and growing" witnessed health care workers, doctors, nurses, rehabilitated

ment banking, training at bedside and home follow up were discussed. The Chief Guest of the program Prof. Ashutosh Biswas, Executive-Director, AIIMS Bhubaneswar congratulated the AIR team and the patient-family mem-

# 5T care for VSSUT

Bhubaneswar: The State Government will spend Rs 2,000 crore in three phases for the complete transformation of

isting 2849 students. On August 25 last, on the direction of the Chief Minister, the Chief Secretary and 5T Secretary during

As many as 24 engineering programmes, more than 14 departments and over 27 Centres of Excellence would

eral repairs will be completed immediately and the institution will be provided with 24-hour power supply. The Chief



the Vira Surendra Sai University of Technology (VSSUT), Burla.

Chief Minister on Saturday approved the Master Plan for the development of the VSSUT, a premier technical institution of Odisha.

Steps would be taken for development of the institute in such a way that about 10,000 students will impart education in the institute in 24 undergraduate departments by 2026. As per the Master Plan, the strength of the students would be enhanced to 10,874 students from the ex-

their visit to the institute had advised officials to make a master plan to develop the University as a Centre of Excellence. As per the plan, the VSSUT would be developed as a Multi Disciplinary Engineering and Research University by 2030 at par with prominent engineering institutes of the country like IIT and NIT. To achieve the goal, it would have seven schools like School of Engineering, Skill Development Centre, School of Medical Technology and School of Basic Science.

be opened in seven schools. All the schools would have modern laboratories and research centres. Every Centre of Excellence would have partnership with industrial houses and each centre would have at least one old student to work as a mentor so that it would work as a nodal centre for the development of rural and urban areas.

In the meeting, the Chief Minister directed concerned officials to complete the construction of all smart class rooms within 3 months. The hostel and other gen-

Minister also discussed with the Chancellor and Professors of the university. They all praised the transformation work and promised to work with commitment for it. Skill Development and Technical Education Department, Principal Secretary, Hemant Sharma made the presentation while Chief Minister's Secretary (5T) VK Pandian moderated the programme. Chief Secretary Suresh Chandra Mohapatra and senior officers also attended the meeting.



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## Prepared to help deploy 5G tech in India, says telecom gear maker Nokia

NEW DELHI: Telecom gear maker Nokia has said it is ready to help deploy 5G technology in India and it is preparing for this for more than a year. In an interaction with TNIE, a spokesperson of the company also said it believes the rollout of 5G will have a huge impact on eco-

nomics growth and commercial activity in the country. "We are excited about the momentum on 5G, with leading Indian operators having announced their phased deployment plans," said the spokesperson. He added that the firm has been preparing for this since more than a year. Telcos are going to roll out 5G service in the country in next few months. While Reliance Jio said it would launch

its 5G service by Diwali, Airtel mentioned that it would roll out its 5G services in next few months. However, the Department of Telecommunication (DoT) kept Chinese equipment makers out of the Indian 5G market by amending the licence rule for the procurement of telecom

equipment. It mandated the telcos to source telecom equipment for expansion or upgrade of their existing network from trusted sources. The Chinese vendors like Huawei and ZTE don't fall in DoT's 'trusted source'. With this government's decision, the telcos are now dependent on firms like Nokia, Samsung, Ericsson and others for equipment procurement. However, the telcos and

has a solid presence in every advanced 5G market. "We have the largest manufacturing facility in Chennai, manufacturing 5G equipment for India and the world and are gearing up to meet the requirements of our customers," said the spokesperson. Currently, Huawei has a 29% share of the global telecom equipment market, followed by Nokia and Ericsson at 15% each.

## Amid military setback in Ukraine, concerns from ally China, India mount more pressure on Putin

Continued from page-1

working together to "inject stability" into world affairs. Modi said he wanted to discuss "how we can move forward on the path of peace." On the battlefield, Western defence officials and analysts on Saturday said Russian forces were apparently setting up a new defensive line in Ukraine's northeast after Kyiv's troops broke through the previous one and tried to press their advances further into the east. The British Defence Ministry said in a daily intelligence briefing that the line likely is between the Oskil River and Svatove, some 150 kilometers (90 miles) southeast of Kharkiv, Ukraine's second-largest city.

The new line emerged after the Ukrainian counteroffensive punched a hole through the war's previous front line, allowing Kyiv's soldiers to recapture large swaths of land in the northeastern Kharkiv region that borders Russia.

After the Russian troops retreated from the city of Iziurm, Ukrainian authorities discovered a mass grave site, one of the largest so far discovered.

ALSO READ | SCO summit: US media praises PM Modi for telling Putin this is not time for war in Ukraine

President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said Friday that more than 440 graves have been found at the site but that the number of victims is not yet known.

Zelenskyy said the graves contained the bodies of hundreds of civilian adults and children, as well as soldiers, and some had been tortured, shot or killed by artillery shelling.

He cited evidence of atrocities, such as a body with a rope around its neck and broken arms.

Ukrainian forces, in the meantime, continue to cross the key Oskil River in the Kharkiv region as they try to press on in a counteroffensive targeting Russian-occupied territory, according to the Washington-based Institute for the Study of War.

The Institute said in its Saturday report that satellite imagery it examined suggest that Ukrainian forces have crossed over to the east bank of the Oskil in Kupiansk, placing artillery there.

The river, which flows south from Russia into Ukraine, had been a natural break in the newly emerged front lines since Ukraine launched its push about a week ago.

"Russian forces are likely too weak to prevent further Ukrainian advances along the entire Oskil River if Ukrainian forces choose to resume offensive operations," the institute said.

Videos circulating online on Saturday indicated that Ukrainian forces are also continuing to take land in the country's embattled east.

One video showed a Ukrainian soldier walking past a building, its roof destroyed, then pointing up over his shoulder at a colleague hanging the blue-and-yellow Ukrainian flag over a mobile phone tower.

The soldier in the video identified the seized village as Dibrova, just northeast of the city of Sloviansk and southeast of the embattled city of Lyman in Ukraine's Donetsk region.

Another online video showed two Ukrainian soldiers in what appeared to be a bell tower.

A Ukrainian flag hung as a soldier said they had taken the village of Shchurove, just northeast of Sloviansk.

The Ukrainian military and the Russians did not immediately acknowledge the change of hands of the two villages.

Elsewhere in Ukraine, Russian forces continued to pound cities and villages with missile strikes and shelling.

A Russian missile attack early Saturday started a fire in Kharkiv's industrial area, said Oleh Syniehubov, the regional governor.

Firefighters extinguished the blaze.

Syniehubov said remnants of the missiles suggest the Russians fired S-300 surface-to-air missiles at the city.

The S-300 is designed for striking missiles or aircraft in the sky, not targets on the ground.

Analysts say Russia's use of the missiles for ground attacks suggest they may be running out of some precision munitions as the monthslong war continues.

Shelling of the nearby city of Chuhuv later on Saturday killed an 11-year-old girl, Syniehubov reported.

In the southern Zaporizhzhia region, a large part of which is occupied by the Russians, one person was wounded after the Russian forces shelled the city of Orikhiv, Zaporizhzhia's Ukrainian governor Oleksandr Starukh reported on Telegram.

Starukh said the Russian troops also shelled two villages in the region, destroying several civilian facilities there.

The central Dnipropetrovsk region also came under fire overnight, according to its governor, Valentyn Reznichenko.

"The enemy attacked six times and launched more than 90 deadly projectiles on peaceful cities and villages," Reznichenko said.

Meanwhile, Ukraine's atomic energy operator, Energoatom, said a convoy of 25 trucks has brought diesel fuel and other critical supplies to the Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant, Europe's largest, which was shut down a week ago amid fears that fighting in the area could result in a radiation disaster.

The trucks were allowed through Russian checkpoints on Friday to deliver spare parts for repairs of damaged power lines, chemicals for the operation of the plant and additional fuel for backup diesel generators, Energoatom said in a statement.

The six-reactor plant was captured by Russian forces in March but is still operated by Ukrainian engineers.

Its last reactor was switched off Sunday after repeated power failures due to shelling put crucial safety systems at risk.

The Russian military on Saturday accused Ukraine of renewed artillery shelling of the power plant and its personnel rebuffed the attack.

Ukrainian authorities did not immediately address the claim.

In Russia, one person was killed and two more wounded Saturday as the result of Ukrainian shelling of a village, according to Vyacheslav Gladkov, governor of the Russian border region of Belgorod.

## More political noise

Continued from page-1

go down if the recent rural and urban poll results are any indications.

If the BJP actually gains over the time, then why did its tally decline in the assembly? The party could have won all the four assembly seats in by-polls. But, that has not happened.

If one goes by statistics, one should remember that two plus two does not make four in politics, it could also be 22. It is, however, another matter if the BJP leadership makes such noise about forming a government in the state in order to boost the sagging morale of its rank and file.

In Odisha politics, noise has never been effective and silence has always paid a rich dividend for Naveen Patnaik in successive elections.

Recently, state BJP Kissan Morcha President Pradip Purohit claimed that the saffron brigade will adopt "Bengal style" protests in Odisha and put the BJD in trouble.

What exactly did Purohit mean? In general, people in Odisha believe that Bengal style means elections besmirched with violence.

Will the people of Odisha accept violence? This is high time that Purohit made his statement clear, otherwise a wrong message may go to people that BJP will create violence during polls.

Purohit's warning to government officials is absolutely political.

This is not all. Senior leader, former Union Minister and Sundargarh MP Jual Oram's statement has also not gone down well with the people.

In Puri, the prominent tribal leader said that BJP will take revenge against BJD as the party has now gained strength in the national politics.

Boasting that Narendra Modi will again become Prime Minister, Oram said that time is favourable for BJP to take revenge.

He claimed that BJP had installed a BJD Government in 2000 while the regional party dropped his party like a hot potato ahead of the 2009 general elections.

Will people of Odisha accept the revenge politics as it is happening in some southern states? The people of Odisha are mostly peace loving.

They are supportive of BJD not because of the number of welfare schemes, but for Naveen Patnaik's suave, gentle and soothing character.

Though BJD's governance style has undergone a lot of changes, people still see Naveen as undisputed and the tallest among all the leaders in Odisha.

Naveen's image is the only USP for the regional outfit that has been winning elections without ever tiring.

Both the opposition BJP and the Congress must admit that they have not been able to find fault in Naveen as a person.

The BJD will continue to take political advantage till Naveen's image remains intact, political analysts say.

Interestingly, when the state BJP leaders made noise after Shah's visit in August, neither of the party's national leaders including Sunil Bansal or BL Santosh has made any adverse statement against the BJD government or the chief minister.

Union Minister of State for Home, Nityananda Rai, however, made certain remarks. But, his words were not taken seriously either by the BJD or the people as a whole.

The leaders in the BJP should understand that Naveen has adopted the policy of "Silence is the Strength" while saffron brigade hurt their throats by making noise on the top of their voice.

It appears that Sunil Bansal as a seasoned politician and strategist has understood that the BJP needs a separate mechanism to deal with Naveen Patnaik.

The strategy based on which the BJP has been able to come to power in other non-Hindi speaking states, may not be effective in Odisha.

Therefore, a separate and dedicated strategy needs to be in place and the party rank and file should be asked to work silently and get the blessings of people instead of making controversial statements like "Bengal Style", "Take Revenge" and "Throw BJD in Sea" and so on.

The BJP may have already created its base in Odisha, but they are still miles away from strengthening 37,000 booths across the state, insiders admit.



economic growth and commercial activity in the country. "We are excited about the momentum on 5G, with leading Indian operators having announced their phased deployment plans," said the spokesperson. He added that the firm has been preparing for this since more than a year. Telcos are going to roll out 5G service in the country in next few months. While Reliance Jio said it would launch

## Oscars Academy makes amends over 1973 Native American protest, honours Littlefeather

Continued from page-1

booed at the 1973 Academy Awards -- the first to be broadcast live around the world -- while explaining on Brando's behalf why he would not accept his best actor Oscar for "The Godfather."

On Saturday she told a packed audience at the Academy's newly-opened museum how she had arrived at the ceremony just minutes before she took the stage because Brando had taken so long writing his non-acceptance speech.

"I went up there, like a proud Indian woman with dignity, with courage, with grace, and with humility," she said.

"I knew that I had to speak the truth. Some people may accept it. And some people may not."

She was greeted on stage by Norwegian actress Liv Ullmann and "James Bond" star Roger Moore, who proffered the statuette she refused to accept. Under strict instructions from Academy managers not to give an acceptance speech longer than 60 seconds, she delivered instead a dignified impromptu address.

"I said okay, and I had made this promise to Marlon (Brando) not to touch the Oscar. And so I wasn't under any pressure that night," Littlefeather quipped. She said veteran Western star John Wayne had to be restrained from physically assaulting her as she left the stage.

Littlefeather, a member of the Screen Actors' Guild, subsequently found it difficult to get work in Hollywood, with casting directors warned not to employ her.

Film academy apologises to Littlefeather who faced harassment for 1973 Oscars speech on Native Americans

'Courage'

Former Academy president David Rubin, who penned the apology earlier this year, took to the stage to read his words, which invoked "the emotional burden" Littlefeather bore and "the cost to your own career."

"For too long the courage you showed has been unacknowledged. For this, we offer both our deepest apologies and our sincere admiration."

Rubin's apology comes as the movie industry reckons with what many view as a culture of sexism, racism and impunity.

"The academy and our industry finds itself at an inflection point," Rubin said on Saturday. "We are actively examining our past and focusing on how best we can facilitate healing."

The museum, which opened last September, has pledged to confront the Oscars' "problematic history" including racism. One display already tackles the harassment of Littlefeather.

The Academy has also moved to confront accusations of a lack of racial diversity in recent years.

In 2019, "Last of the Mohicans" star Wes Studi became the first Native American actor to receive an Oscar, with an honorary Academy Award recognizing his career.

Its museum has also previously hosted events on women who achieved historic Oscars milestones including a talk with Buffy Sainte-Marie -- the first Indigenous person to win an Oscar, for best original song in 1983.

Asked by reporters ahead of the ceremony how she felt about having to wait so long to hear the word "sorry", Littlefeather was philosophical.

"It's never too late for an apology," she said.

"It's never too late for forgiveness."

## 1st ODI: Jhulan Goswami impresses but lower middle-order takes England to 226/7

HOVE: Jhulan Goswami was accuracy personified even in one of her last international games but England's lower middle-order put up a gutsy

fight to get rid of the seasoned Tammy Beaumont (7).

On a tacky track where ball wasn't always coming onto the bat, India cap-



tain Harmanpreet Kaur did the correct thing by opting to field. After seamer Meghna Singh (1/42 in 8 overs) hurried the other opener Emma Lamb (12) with a short ball, Goswami and the two spinners Deepti Sharma (2/33 in 10 overs) and

any hopes of a Brentford comeback when he collected a pass from Saka and unleashed a 30-yard curler with his left

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## Arsenal regains top Premier League spot with 3-0 win at Brentford

LONDON: Fabio Vieira marked his first Premier League start with a goal as Arsenal reclaimed top spot in the stand-

ings with a 3-0 win over Brentford on Sunday. The Portuguese midfielder curled in Arsenal's third goal with a long-range effort via the post in the 49th minute after starting in place of the injured Martin Odegaard.

reign of Queen Elizabeth II, whose funeral will be held Monday. As with all Premier League games this weekend, the queen's death was marked with a minute's silence before kickoff followed by a rendition of the national anthem.



ings with a 3-0 win over Brentford on Sunday. The Portuguese midfielder curled in Arsenal's third goal with a long-range effort via the post in the 49th minute after starting in place of the injured Martin Odegaard. Defenders William Saliba and Gabriel Jesus both scored with headers in the first half as the Gunners cruised to a comfortable victory in a stadium where they lost 2-0 last year in the season opener. Arsenal manager Mikel Arteta even had the luxury of sending on 15-year-old Ethan Nwaneri for the last few minutes, making him the youngest player ever

reign of Queen Elizabeth II, whose funeral will be held Monday. As with all Premier League games this weekend, the queen's death was marked with a minute's silence before kickoff followed by a rendition of the national anthem. Arsenal took the lead when Bukayo Saka swung in a corner from the right that was met by Saliba, whose looping header went in off the far post. Jesus then netted his fourth league goal of the season in the 28th by heading in a perfect delivery from Granit Xhaka, who dictated play in midfield throughout the game for Arsenal. And Vieira took away

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Rajeshwari Gayakwad (1/40 in 10 overs) choked the run flow consistently.

However, Sneha Rana (1/45 in 6 overs) and Pooja Vastrakar (0/20 in 2 overs) along with Meghna did leak a few runs as the home team did put up a 220 plus score in the end.

Dani Wyatt (43 off 50 balls), Alice Davidson-Richards (50 not out off 61 balls) and Sophie Ecclestone (31) were the notable contributors for England.

Even Charlie Dean played a nice cameo (24 no off 21 balls) towards the end to beef up the target.

Harmanpreet will be a touch disappointed that despite getting England on the mat at 128 for 6 by the 34th over, England's Nos.7, 8 and 9 added more than 100 runs, which could prove to be decisive in the end.

While Gayakwad and Deepti varied the pace of their deliveries, Rana was guilty of bowling at one speed which made it easier to score off her.

Davidson-Richards and Ecclestone added 50 for the seventh wicket and the home team's only half-centurion added another invaluable 49 for the unbroken eighth wicket with Dean.

## Dutch beat Americans to finish top of Davis Cup Finals group

GLASGOW: Boti van de Zandschulp and Tallon Griekspoor won their singles



against Americans Taylor Fritz and Tommy Paul for the Netherlands to finish top of their Davis Cup Finals group with a 2-1 win on Saturday. Van de Zandschulp settled the tie when he defeated Fritz, the world No. 12, 6-4, 7-6 (3) after Griekspoor opened with a 7-5, 7-6 (3) victory over Paul. The Dutch had an unassailable 2-0 lead, then Rajeev Ram and Jack Sock earned some compensation for the Americans by winning their doubles against Wesley Koolhof and M a t w e Middelkoop.

The United States and Netherlands were already assured of reaching the quarterfinals with two wins each in Group D. As group winner, the Dutch next face the runner-up in Group C, either Australia or Germany. The U.S. will play the Group A winner, most likely Italy. The Italians play on Sunday in Bologna against Sweden. Also on Saturday, Croatia defeated Argentina 3-0 for its second win after losing its opener to Italy.

Canada lost to Serbia 2-1 in Valencia but progressed anyway with two wins in Group B. France defeated Belgium 2-1 in Group C, where Australia and Germany were already assured of reaching the final eight.



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