

## The Congress Rahul walks away from

Soon after Ramakrishna Paramahansa died in 1886, Vivekananda (then Narendranath Datta) began his Indian travels by rail, bul-



lock cart, and foot. His travels lasted five years. Toward the end of 1892, when at Kanyakumari, he had a vision of 'One India'. From his pronouncements, it is the same vision (Bharat Jodo) that drives Rahul Gandhi 130 years later as he launched his march from Kanniyakumari. He has been on his feet for over ten days; walking is a tradition in India pioneered by Buddha, Adi Shankara, Vivekananda, and Mahatma Gandhi. It's a kind of meditation. You cease to be; you become

the others you observe.

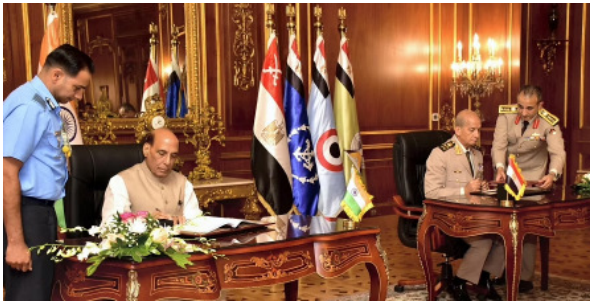
Rahul Gandhi is not an ascetic. If at all, he is the monk with the Burberry. But all day, he walks, a kind of Forrest Gump of Indian politics, a Lal Singh Chaddha among Indian politicians: he is different. Even perhaps a maverick. Who else would tear up his own prime minister's ordinance in full public view? Remember that Manmohan Singh

came out with in 2013 that sought to protect convicted politicians? His party and the BJP put that act of acrimony and defiance down to Rahul's immaturity. Perhaps it was. But it was also in keeping with his eccentricity of character, his natural and almost compulsive need not to play ball.

The general naivety ('Pappu') associated with Rahul was reinforced by Arnab Goswami's interview in 2014, where his trusting nature led to his virtual slaughter. **CONTINUED ON: P-7**

## India, Egypt sign MoU to enhance defence cooperation

NEW DELHI(KCN): Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and Egyptian Defence Minister General Mohamed Zaki signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in Cairo, Egypt on Monday on cooperation in the



field of defence. The Indian Defence Minister is on a two-day official visit to Egypt. Terming it a milestone event of the visit, the Ministry of Defence (MoD) in a statement said the MoU "will pave the **CONTINUED ON: P-8**

## Iran faces global criticism, protests over woman's death

DUBAI(KCN): Iran faced international criticism on Tuesday over the death of a woman held by its morality police, which ignited three days of protests, including clashes with security forces in the capital and other unrest that claimed at least three lives.

The UN human rights office called for an investigation. The United States, which is trying to revive the 2015 nuclear deal with Iran, called on the Islamic Republic to end its "systemic persecution" of women. Italy also condemned her death.

Iran dismissed the criticism as politically motivated. Separately, an Iranian official said three people had been killed by unnamed armed groups in the Kurdish region of the country where the protests began, the first official confirmation of deaths linked to the unrest.

Later on Monday, the semiofficial Fars news agency reported that small groups of protesters had again gathered in downtown Tehran, chanting "Death to the dictator." It said the crowd numbered around 300 and that the protesters damaged street signs.

UN decries Iran's 'violent response' after Mahsa Amini's death

The UN body said Iran's morality police have expanded their patrols in recent months, targeting women for not properly wearing the Islamic headscarf, known as hijab. It said verified videos show women being slapped in the face, struck with batons and thrown into police vans for wearing the hijab too loosely. A similar patrol detained 22-year-old Mahsa Amini last Tuesday, taking her to a police station where she collapsed. She died three days later. Iranian police have denied mistreating Amini and say she died of a heart attack. Authorities say they are investigating the incident.

"Mahsa Amini's tragic death and allegations of torture and ill-treatment must be promptly, impartially and effectively investigated by an independent competent authority," said Nada Al-Nashif, the acting UN high commissioner

for human rights. US Secretary of State Antony Blinken mean-



while said Amini "should be alive today." "Instead, the United States and the Iranian people mourn her. We call on the Iranian government to end its systemic persecution of women and to allow peaceful protest," he tweeted.

Italy's Foreign Ministry called for "the perpetrators of this cowardly act" to be held to account, saying "violence against innocent people, especially women and girls, can never be tolerated."

Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amirabdollahian rejected the criticism, accusing the US of "shedding crocodile tears." "An investigation was ordered into (the) tragic death of Mahsa, who, as (the) President said, was just like our own daughters," he tweeted. "To Iran, human rights are of inherent value — unlike those who see it (as) a tool against adversaries."

Iranian police released closed-circuit video

## Odisha CM Naveen Patnaik lays stone for teachers training centre



BHUBANESWAR(KCN): Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik on Monday laid the foundation stone for a teachers' training centre to be constructed in the Capital City at a cost of Rs 25 crore.

The CM laid the foundation stone while attending the foundation day of the Odisha Adarsh Vidyalay Sangathan here. The training centre will have facilities for stay of 100 teachers and an

auditorium with a sitting capacity for 300 participants. He also inaugurated 'BAJRA' scheme on the occasion. Under the scheme, the teachers will have to contribute one day of their salary to the

welfare fund so that they can be financially helped at the time of their needs in future. He presented awards to five best model schools and five students for their excellence in different fields on the occasion.

## Debris in Odisha's Barabati moat raises suspicion

CUTTACK(KCN): Dumping of huge quantity of construction and demolition debris in the gadakhai (moat) of historic Barabati Fort created confusion and suspicion in the minds of Cuttack city resi-



dents.

Actor turned politician Sritam Das of BJP, who had unsuccessfully contested the Cuttack Municipal Corporation (CMC) elections, in a tweet **CONTINUED ON: P-7**

footage last week purportedly showing the moment Amini collapsed. But her family says

tors on Saturday and Sunday. Several protesters were arrested.

The governor of Iran's Kurdistan province, Esmail Zarei Kousha, told Fars that three people were killed by unnamed armed groups, linking the violence to the unrest.

He did not identify the victims, but said one was killed in the town of Divandarreh by a weapon not used by Iranian security forces. He said the second body was found in a car near Saqez and that the third killing was "completely" suspicious.

The province has seen past violence between Iranian security forces and Kurdish separatists.

she had no history of heart trouble. Amjad Amini, her father, told an Iranian news website that witnesses saw her being shoved into a police car.

"I asked for access to (videos) from cameras inside the car as well as courtyard of the police station, but they gave no answer," he said. He also accused the police of not transferring her to the hospital promptly enough, saying she could have been resuscitated.

He said that when he arrived at the hospital he was not allowed to view the body, but managed to get a glimpse of bruising on her foot. Authorities then pressured him to bury her at night, apparently to reduce the likelihood of protests, but Amini said the family convinced them to let them bury her at 8 am instead. Amini, who was Kurdish, was buried Saturday in her home city of Saqez in western Iran. Protests erupted there after her funeral and police fired tear gas to disperse demonstra-

The protests spread to Tehran and other cities on Monday. A news website affiliated with state TV said 22 people were arrested at a protest in the northern city of Rasht, the first official confirmation of arrests related to the protests.

State TV showed footage of protests on Monday, including images of two police cars with their windows smashed. It said the protesters torched two motorbikes as well, and that they burned Iranian flags in Kurdish areas and Tehran.

The state-run broadcaster blamed the unrest on foreign countries and exiled opposition groups, accusing them of using Amini's death as a pretext for more economic sanctions.

Iran has seen waves of protests in recent years, mainly over a long-running economic crisis exacerbated by Western sanctions linked to the country's nuclear program. Authorities have managed to quash the protests by force.



# KRB Rail Miss forest signal

Bhubaneswar(KCN): The much-awaited Khurda Road-Bolangir (KRB) Railway line project is being delayed due to non-issue of Stage-I forest clearance by the Union Government.

Out of the total length of 301 km of the Khurda Road-Bolangir new railway project, 91 km from Khurda Road to Nuagaon has been commissioned while work is in progress

The Odisha Government has given land free of cost from 112 km to 301 km and bearing 50 per cent construction cost for the Khurda Road-Bolangir railway project. However, due to non-issue of the Stage-I forest clearance by the Central Government, the work cannot start in between 112 km to 118 km, an official admit.

Earlier, Union Railways Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw had informed the Parliament that the completion time of the Khurda Road-Bolangir new line project cannot be ascertained at this time. Giving a written reply to Rajya Sabha, Mr. Vaishnaw had stated completion of any railway project

depends on various factors like quick land acquisition by State Government, forest clearance by officials of forest department, shifting of infringing utilities, statutory clearances from various authorities, geological and topographical conditions of area, law and order situation in the area of project site, number of working months in a year for particular project site due to climatic conditions, etc.

This project involves acquisition of 6162 acres land and diversion of 1844 acre forest land, out of which 5208 acres land has been acquired and diversion of 170 acres forest land has been completed. Further, acquisition of 954 acres land and diversion of 1674 acre forest land have been taken up, he had informed. This Railway Projects was sanctioned in 1994-95 and even Prime Minister Narendra Modi during Pragati Review meetings had already expressed concern for delay in completion of the project.



from Nuagaon to Daspalla (91 km to 106 km) and target is set to commission it by March 2023, official sources said here on Tuesday. The work from Daspalla to Buguda (106 km to 121 km) is very slow due to non-issue of Stage-I forest clearance from the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, the source said.

Similarly, work from Buguda to Banigogchha is also yet to start due to non-issue of the Stage-I forest clearance.

In total, the Government of India is yet to issue required forest clearance from 112 to 180 km while the work from 180 to 275 km is in progress and work at 275-301 km already commissioned.

For forest clearance, the State Government has already sent its proposal to the MoEF Regional Office, Bhubaneswar. This issue was also raised during the recent meeting of the Regional Empowered Committee, the source informed.

## Jay Floats Cultivation Theory

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Ahead of the BJP National President JP Nadda's visit to Odisha, Leader of Opposition I Jayanarayan Mishra on Tuesday floated

"We are now at the stage of applying fertilisers on the crop. And in 2024, we will harvest the crop in 2024," he said after meeting Union Home Minister Amit Shah and JP Nadda in New Delhi yesterday.

He was saying preparations are underway to form the government in 2024.

The Leader of Opposition also ascertained that there is need for CBI and ED investigation on various leaders as corruption is at its peak in the state. On the other hand, Opposition Congress and the Governing BJD said the saffron party is day-dreaming.

Congress Lawmaker Taraprasad Bahinipati said, "How will they apply fertilizer and yield crops as there is no seed in the crop field. The 2024 result will say who applied the fertiliser and harvested the crop."

Commenting on the CBI and ED probe in Odisha, the Congress leader said the Central investigating agencies are not going there where corruption is at high. They are investing in the States, where BJP is facing a tough challenge, he added.

"Before the 2019 polls, the BJP had set a target of winning over 120 seats in Odisha. But how many seats the party bagged," BJD MLA Saroj Kumar Meher asked.

"The BJP is daydreaming of forming a government in the state. The results of the recently held municipality and panchayat elections show that the people of the state have full faith and trust in Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik," said Shri Meher.

Notably, Shri Nadda is scheduled to arrive in Odisha on a two-day visit on September 29.



paddy cultivation theory while briefing media persons about BJP's preparation for Mission 2024. Comparing the election preparation with the cultivation of paddy crop, Shri Mishra, who comes from a farmer background, said, "Crop can be cultivated in one single day. In order to get a good yield, one must sow the seeds at the right time, irrigate the field, remove weeds and apply fertilizers as per schedule as every venture needs to be taken up in accordance with a proper process and time frame."

## Susanta Nanda; New PCCF Nodal

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Veteran IFS Officer, Susanta Nanda has been appointed as Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (PCCF) Nodal in Odisha.

State Government has notified the new assignment of 1989 Batch IFS Officer Mr. Nanda here on 20 September.

Mr. Nanda has also given additional charge of Chief Executive of Chilika Development Au-

Mr. Nanda served as Project Director OFSDP before joining as CE CDA.

He was awarded highest award in Forestry in India, Indira Priyadarshini Brikhyamitra Puraskar in 2007, for his outstanding contribution to the Forest and Environment Sector.

Mr. Nanda has served as Managing Director of TDCC and Mission Director of OTELP,



thority (CDA).

He has also been assigned additional job of Project Director ICZMP Odisha.

Mr. Nanda and IITan from IIT Bombay, studied in Sainik School, Bhubaneswar and in Ravenshaw College, Joined IFS in 1989, Mr. Nanda has worked in BONAI, Jeypore, Ghumusur Forest Divisions.

A true nature lover and wildlife enthusiast Mr. Nanda was the First Field Director of Satkosia Tiger Reserve.

He has varied experience while serving in Departments of SC & ST Development, Food, Supply and Consumer Welfare and Horticulture Directorate.

which is considered as the Hall Mark of his 33 years long distinguished career.

Interestingly Mr. Nanda was primarily responsible for formulating and grounding Phase II of OFSDP at a cost of Rs.1000 Crore.

Mr. Nanda's new assignment comes at a crucial period when Forest and Environment Sector requires dynamism and pro-activeness.

So far his record is concerned Mr. Nanda is considered as one of the most hyperactive and hardworking IFS Officer having true love for nature and has the aptitude of maintaining balance between developmental activities and protection of flora and fauna.

## Ratho New SEIAA Chief

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Sisir Kumar Ratho has been appointed as the Chairman of the Odisha State Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA, Odisha).

mate Change on the recommendations of the State Government.

Sri Ratho has recently superannuated as Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head

Sri Ratho joined IFS in 1987 and worked in various capacities in the State of Odisha and Central Government as well as in the Constitutional Body like National Commission for Scheduled Tribe (NCST) and Statutory Authority like National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) in New Delhi.

He has wide experience of working in other cross-cutting sectors like sports infrastructure, rural and urban housing, urban transport, drinking water supply, sewerage, drainage, solid waste management, municipal administration, river rejuvenation, bio-diversity conservation, water pollution abatement measures, tribal welfare and

youth affairs.

Sri Ratho has co-authored a book "Agro Forestry Manual for Asia Pacific Region" published by United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) Secretariat, Bonn (Germany) in 2004. He also published a book titled "Eternal Wisdom of the Tribes" during the tenure as Joint Secretary in National Commission for Schedule Tribes, New Delhi in 2018.

With his vast experience in environment & forest sector at State and Central level it is hoped that Sri Ratho is expected to bring transformation in the accordance of Environment Clearances by the SEIAA, Odisha through an objective and expeditious manner.



The appointment is made by Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Cli-

of Forest Force, Odisha on 30 June 2022.

A civil engineer from NIT, Rourkela



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## 'Was difficult to play an 18-year-old': Aamir Khan on 'Laal Singh Chaddha'

How close is Laal Singh Chaddha to Forrest Gump, of which it is an adaptation?

We have tried to make it as close to Forrest Gump as possible, but it's an Indianised version. Atul Kulkarni (scriptwriter) and Advait Chandan (director) have made a few changes, and we hope the audience loves it. The Hollywood version had a few adult scenes, but since we wanted to make a family film, we decided to do away with them. We wanted to retain the innocence of the character from the original version.

Did you actually grow a beard for the role?



I grew my beard six inches long. It took me almost six months. I met a Sardar at my gym and liked his look. I told him I wanted to have this look for my next film. I did grow a beard but also used extensions.

Your son Junaid gave screen tests for the film. What happened?

Junaid studied theatre at the American Academy of Dramatic Arts and did plays for a year. I told Advait to shoot a few test scenes with him for the film to see if he could handle it. We made him Laal Singh Chaddha and he shot for two weeks. That helped us gauge what Junaid had learnt at school. He was so good as the character that I was in a dilemma if Junaid should do the film. I showed (the tests) to all my close friends who don't give any leeway to my work. Only two people said no—Atul (Kulkarni) and Aditya Chopra. They said that since it was an episodic film, a newcomer should not do it. It's a star vehicle, which is why it was Tom Hanks who played the role in the original.

How did you convince yourself for the role? I prepped for the film, but it stayed in my mind that Laal is an innocent and pure character. I am 57 and an idealist. You learn a lot throughout life and that innocence does not remain. I had to finally use Junaid's instincts for the

role. I got the cue from his screen tests as Laal.

You are 57 and the character's age spans from 18 to 50. What was the toughest part about it?

There were challenges during the run sequences. There were a lot of locations and I travelled a lot for one and half months. I don't look 18, but the technical team has done an amazing job with de-ageing. What was difficult was to mentally prepare as an 18-year-old. You made Kareena Kapoor Khan, who you

are working with after 12 years, audition for her role. Why so, and how was it working together again?

I watched her for the first time in Kabhie Khushi Kabhie Gham and I loved her. Then I did 3 Idiots and Talaash with her. She gets into the character completely and is a fantastic actor. She has never given a screen test, but she agreed for this one because we wanted to see how she would look in the film. After we did a reading with her, both Advait and I realised that she was perfect for the role.

What qualities of Laal have impressed you? He is innocent, doesn't complain, and knows how to leave the past behind. If anyone speaks ill of him, he keeps quiet. He knows that you can't rewind the past. A lot of us don't accept that. Even if he feels bad, he just moves on with life. His mother has taught him that. My relationship with my Ammi has been the same. That's why I could relate to the film. I have learnt a lot in life because of her.

Are you doing Kiran Rao's next film, Lapata Ladki?

I gave a screen test for it, but she rejected me. Both of us felt that I was not the right fit for the role. I was also busy with Laal, so we decided that if she cannot find anyone, I will be there as a backup.

Have you ever faced rejections in your career? I don't like rejections; they upset me. I was rejected from a Hindi play during my intercollege years, but when I went out, I saw a notice on the board about a Gujarati play. They wanted chorus players.

I said to myself, "Don't give up." I went and

auditioned for the Gujarati play.



Do you plan to launch Junaid soon? He doesn't want me to launch him. He is making his own career.

## Actor Dhanu Harsha roped in for Diganth's 'Edagaiye Apaghatakke Karana'

Dhanu Harsha is the newest talent in Sandalwood, and she is set to play the female lead in Samarth B Kadkol's directorial, Edagaiye Apaghatakke Karana. A film that revolves around the problems of south-paws has Dhanu paired opposite Diganth. An official announcement of Dhanu, a runner-up of Fresh Face season 13, coming on board was announced on International Lefthanders day.



Dhanu, who has previously worked in English films, a Tamil independent film Irandha Kaalam, and a Kannada film Ariha, is excited to bag her first solo lead.

"The title, (Edagaiye Apaghatakke Karana) translates as 'Left hand is the reason for the problem to happen' is a concept based on 'Left handers'. I play the role of Radhika, who is a left hander, in her mid 20s, who goes through an unfortunate turn of events. The role is challenging, and it is something I haven't done before. It will be a different process for me to get into this character," says the actor, who will begin shooting for the film this month. Dhanu, who is still pursuing her education, says she has started loving this profession.

"At present, this medium has become my passion, and it will be amazing if I can do it full time," Edagaiya Apaghatakke Karana is jointly produced by Gurudatha Ganiga and Samarth Kadkol, and has cinematography by Abhimanyu Sadanand.

## 'We miss you Pappa': Genelia shares note, pics on Vilasrao Deshmukh's death anniversary

Bollywood actor Genelia Deshmukh, on Sunday, shared a heartfelt note to mark her father-in-law Vilasrao Deshmukh's 10th death

Riteish Deshmukh's sons Riaan and Rahyl which is directed by Shaad Ali and is scheduled to be seen sitting beside the picture of



anniversary.

Taking to Instagram, the 'Force' actor dropped a couple of pictures, which she captioned, "Verified Dearest Pappa, Riaan and Rahyl asked me today. "Aai, if we ask Ajoba a question, will he answer?" Without a doubt my answer was, "He will answer, if you Hear him". I have honestly lived all these years speaking to you and getting every answer back, I know you have been with us through our toughest times and laughed with us through our lighter times, I know that you answer every doubt we have and I know even right now, you have read what I am writing to you..And I know it's your promise to us, that you will always be there, if we just keep our ears open to hearing you, our eyes open to seeing you and our hearts open to experiencing you. We Miss You Pappa P.s - Riaan and Rahyl insist that they are holding you on either side." In the first picture, Genelia and her husband

their grandfather.

In another picture, shared by the 'Tere Naal Love Ho Gaya' actor, her kids can be seen seeking blessings from Riteish's father Vilasrao Deshmukh. Soon after Genelia dropped the pictures, fans flooded the comment section with heart emoticons. Vilasrao Deshmukh was a two-time Chief Minister of Maharashtra, and he passed away due to kidney and lung failure on August 14, 2012.

Meanwhile, talking about Genelia, she has completed filming for 'Mister Mummy'



to release in the latter part of the year. Apart from 'Mister Mummy', she has also started working on a new project titled 'Trial Period', helmed by Aleya Sen. Manav Kaul is also a part of the film.



## Referring Questions of Law to Larger Benches is in Ignorance of the Doctrine of Stare Decisis

It is said that even Homer nods at times, meaning that sometimes even very eminent and scholarly men err, for, to err is human. Lord Halsbury,



known for his monumental work titled "Halsbury's Laws of England", in London Street Tramways Co. v. London County Council [1898] AC 375 (HL), had held that

House of Lords is bound by its own decisions. That was a great deviation from the view hitherto then in force that no precedent is absolutely binding, but is only a guidance. Justinian, known for his great work called "Corpus Juris Civilis", so too Chief Justice Edward Coke and Blackstone known for their works "Institutes of the Laws of England" and "Commentaries on the Laws of England", respectively, only contemplated that not the judgment, but the principle evolved in a judgment, the ratio decidendi, will be applicable to future cases as a precedent, the principle being stare decisis et non quieta movere: "to stand by decisions and not disturb the undisturbed." In a legal context, this is understood to mean that courts should generally abide by precedents and not disturb settled matters.

2. When Halsbury delivered the judgment in the case of London Street Tramways Co., no judgment was treated as a legislation or in substitution of a legislation. What was the precedent is the principle, if any, which a Court has evolved for the first time for resolution of the controversy before it for which no principle was available. Halsbury was such a tall figure that his decision that the House of Lords shall be bound by its own decisions was not questioned by anyone; there was no occasion for it as his view did not create any difficulty because what was a precedent was the reason for the decision and nothing else.

3. In the Government of India Act of 1935, it was expressly provided that the ratio decidendi of the judgment of the Federal Court and Privy Council shall be binding on all Courts and Tribunals within the territory of British India. The Constituent Assembly incorporated Section 212 of the Government of India Act in the Constitution of India, though it was worded differently. Article 141 of the Constitution reads thus:

"141. Law declared by Supreme Court to be binding on all courts- The law declared by the Supreme Court shall be binding on all courts within the territory of India.

But for Article 141, the law would have been simple, offering no difficulty even for a common man to comprehend. Chief Justice Edward Coke said that law is reason. The concept of precedent also is nothing but reason, namely, the 'reason' for a decision which a superior Court has adopted to be binding on coordinate Courts and subordinate Courts. However, we understood and interpreted Article 141 differently from what it ought to be in jurisprudence. In actual practice, we forgot the concept that what is a precedent is the 'reason' for the decision, namely, the principle, if any, which

the superior Court has evolved for reso-

lution of a dispute before it, and the 'reason' for the decision when repeatedly applied by superior Courts become settled principles. Our Judges misunderstood Article 141 as the power to legislate, and each sentence and word of a judgment became the law of the land. The concept of the 'reason' for the decision being repeatedly applied and thus assuming great authenticity was forgotten and our lawyers and Judges treated the latest decision on a subject as the binding one.

4. When Judges started legislating, completely misunderstanding the scope of Articles 141 and 142, a new era of large number of judgments, which cannot stand together, conflicting with each other, became the order of the day. The new practice of referring cases to larger Benches, because two judgments are in conflict, both involving no particular legal principle, became very common.

5. What is stated above could be said as the preface to the scenario leading to the constitution of a Five-Judge Bench to authoritatively decide which of the interpretation given by two different Three-Judge Benches of the Supreme Court about Section 24(2) of the Land Acquisition Act is the correct one. In Pune Municipal Corporation case, 2014, a Three-Judge Bench headed by Justice R M Lodha took the view that merely because the Government has deposited with the court the compensation amount to be paid to the land holders whose property was acquired, their right is not lost if the property is not utilized for the purpose for which it is acquired, but only if they have accepted the compensation. In 2018, another Three-Judge Bench headed by Shri Justice Arun Mishra in Indore Development Authority took a contrary view holding that the judgment rendered by the earlier Three-Judge Bench is per incuriam. A Bench headed by Justice Lokur wrongly faulted Shri Justice Arun Mishra for taking the said view observing that he was bound by the earlier decision in the Pune case. Justice Arun Mishra was unfairly accused of judicial impropriety. On the very next day, Justice Mishra, taking note of the observation of Justice Lokur, requested the Chief Justice of India to refer the issue for consideration of a larger Bench. The Hon'ble CJI accordingly constituted a Five-Judge Bench headed by Justice Arun Mishra.

When the said Bench assembled to hear the question, which was referred to it, some associations of farmers sought recusal by Shri Justice Mishra on the premise that His Lordship has al-

**Mathews J. Nedumpara**

6.

ready taken a view on the subject and, therefore, it is inappropriate for him to head the Bench, a proposition which has no foundation in jurisprudence.

I am afraid to say that the entire controversy has its root in the failure to be kept abreast of the first principles of jurisprudence. We forget very simple things; we are not often thorough enough about the concepts like res judicata, stare decisis, res inter alios, nullity, etc. The practice of referring a case to a larger Bench for decision on important questions of law is in ignorance of the first principles. As I said at the outset, law is reason, not numbers, at least when it comes to stare decisis. The number has relevance only when a Bench of three or more Judges decides a case and the judgment constitutes to be res judicata. If a Bench of three Judges is to decide a case between A and B, what matters is not the validity of the reason offered by the Judges, but who are in majority. The majority decision as res judicata will prevail, no matter right or wrong. This principle which is only applicable to res judicata, we have been applying erroneously to the doctrine of stare decisis. We did not accept the minority view in A K Gopalan's case as stare decisis because we got confused with the distinct concepts of res judicata and stare decisis. To repeat, so far as res judicata is concerned, all that matters is the majority view. On the contrary, so far as the doctrine of stare decisis is concerned, it is not the majority view which ought to matter, but the 'reason' for the decision. If reason for the decision is understood as the meaning of Article 141 and is followed in actual practice, we will be freed from the slavery and absurdity of needing to search for the law applicable from the thousands and thousands of judgments, reported and unreported and groping in darkness, not knowing what the law is. The majority view if rendered per incuriam will bind none, not even its authors and the minority if not per incuriam is binding as a precedent. The doctrine of res judicata often would mean injustice because unless we accept an erroneous decision of a court, acting within its jurisdiction, in conformity with the principles of natural justice and not involving any violation of the express statutory provisions as final, authoritative and binding, there can be no end to litigation - interest reipublicae ut sit finis litium (it is to the interest of the state that there be a limit to litigation). The doctrine of res judicata is a necessary evil. If we misunderstand stare decisis for res judicata, which is what we are doing when we advocate that judgements of a larger bench on a reference, like the instant case, be followed would mean that persons who were not par-

ties to a case too ought to suffer the irrational judgements of larger benches. We have suffered enough, for instance the Judges-2 case by which the Collegium system was established, because of Kesavananda Bharathi, PILs are filed claiming no fundamental right being violated but violation of the basic structure. The government could not establish a National Tax Tribunal because some lawyers could get it quashed alleging violation of basic structure. The worst instance in my mind is the quashing of the NJAC because certain "eminent" lawyers pleaded that it is in conflict with the Judges-2 case, which was nothing but the re-writing of the Constitution without the authority of the Parliament. The earlier we realize that, saying law is not reason but brutal majority would be insanity, the better.

7. A strict adherence to the concept of ratio decidendi would mean the principle employed in arriving at a decision and nothing else. Lawyers practising in subordinate Courts understand this principle better than those practising in the Supreme Court, for, when judgments of the Supreme Court, which are contrary to each other, are placed before a Munsiff, he has no option to refer the issue to a larger Bench but to decide it relying upon the various judgments placed before him, which carry the appropriate principle to be applied.

8. Those who agree with me will concede that the concept of stare decisis, which is embodied in Article 141, would mean that the principle which the superior Court has evolved and applied in resolving an issue before it is what is applicable to the coordinate Bench or subordinate Courts as a precedent and that the strength of the Bench does not matter at all, only the principle employed. I am sure that vast majority of my brothers and sisters would agree with me that legal principles are not discovered every day and every moment like new planets and moons orbiting the other galaxies forming part of the Milky Way. I am unable to think of even a single principle which the Supreme Court has evolved for the first time during its existence for the last 70 years which never ever existed for resolution of an issue before it which could act as a precedent, except the much hallowed doctrine of basic structure, which is founded on sand, being in conflict with the first principle of jurisprudence, ubi jus, ibi remedium - where there is a right there is a remedy-right, remedy and forum. Constituting Constitutional Benches of five or seven Judges is extremely counter-productive, for, it will cement the erroneous concept that precedent means numbers and not the reason for the decision or the principle employed. The earlier we repeal Article 141, the better for our legal system.

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

### Note from the Editor

On 20 th September 2022 issue of The Kalinga chronicle editorial Page 04 article "Referring Questions of Law to Large Benches.....Ritwik Mukherjee 's Name and Photograph has been Placed Similarly Article " Startups, Investors lap up unique Fundraising event.....Mathews J Nedumpara 's Name has been published Therefore Both the Articles are repeated on today's Issue

Sorry for the Inconvenience

## Startups, Investors lap up unique fundraising event-YiFi Next 2022, curated by FreeFlow

-More than 538 unique applications from early stage start-ups-cutting across verticals and from different parts of the country, cum-



ulatively Rs 230 crore of ask, possible sign-offs with more than 13 national corporates, engagements of

more than 6 startup ecosystems, research, development and principal advisory support from more than 80 nationally accredited mentors, a facilitation ecosystem of \$100k+ worth of IT credits/ HR/ Marketing / compliance for all finalists--however long haul it may sound to be, YiFi Next, the physical flagship fundraising event at YiFi 2022,



seems to have made it look so easy, courtesy Freeflow & Velocity1.

A large number of early stage start-ups from across the

country gathered in Kolkata recently to pitch before a battery of seasoned VCs, Family Offices, Angel Networks, HNIs to raise capital in the range of \$30K- \$5 million. The Union Minister of Road Transport and Highways - Nitin Gadkari, who was sup-



posed to address the startup owners, could not make it on health grounds (he addressed them virtually). But that failed to dampen the spirit of the entrepreneurs wannabes. Harshvardhan Neotia, Chairman-Ambuja

**Ritwik Mukherjee**

Mahindra Asset Management Company, Chetan Bhagat, Famed Author and former investment banker, spoke on the occasion. There was also a Fireside chat

Neotia Group-Nilesh Shah, Managing Director- Kotak



with the Unicorn Founder of Spinny, Mr Niraj Singh.

Freeflow & Velocity1 successfully organised this fundraising event in Kolkata on September 16 to enable early-stage startups raise capital in the bracket of \$30K to \$5 million. CII-Yi in association with ICAI (Institute of Chartered Accountants of India) - Eastern India Regional Council, supported by WBIDC (West Bengal Industrial Development Corporation) presented this year's YiFi 2022 - a unique Financial Conclave which promises to benefit the existing industries in Bengal

and also to provide a launchpad for Startups and Venture Capitalists. FreeFlow is an Incubator and Accelerator for Startups and amongst the only Venture builders in the

country that have been successfully funding start-ups. It's a government-affiliated body, a nationally accredited partner of Invest India, and were the primary partners and facilitators at the Startup India

Yatra in 21 states and spanning more than 60000 ideas and startups during this government initiative in 2019.

Significantly, this time round, unique startup applications were received from sectors like Fintech, AI & ML, IoT, Edtech, Medtech, IIoT, Blockchain, Web 3.0, Gaming, Mediatech, B2B, SAAS, D2C, Virtual Reality, E-commerce & many others. Interestingly, there were offerings for individuals from all walks of life - Industry, Business Owners, Professionals, Young Adults and home makers. The presence of 6 VCs, 2 family offices, 6 Angel networks, 3 deal platforms and 8 HNIs & uHNIs took this event to new heights. The top 30 Startups got a chance to the exclusive closed room pitching session, investor speed networking with VCs, Micro VCs, Angel Networks, HNIs & Family Office Funds.

**Author is a Kolkata based Freelance journalist.**



## Botched family planning surgeries: Hospital infection led to death of 4 women

HYDERABAD: The state government, which promised a "fully transparent" investigation into the death of four women following a family planning sur-

as the reason for the death because none of those involved in the surgery that day had followed basic sterilisation procedures. It was dis-

However, after being transported to the city and being treated at NIMS and Apollo hospitals, their lives were saved.

According to in-

Soundararajan who visited some of the family planning operations victims at NIMS and sought a report from the government is yet to be informed of



gery on August 25 at one of its hospitals, is holding on to the inquiry committee report into the incident, 15 days after the September 5 deadline for submitting the report.

It is learnt that the committee, headed by Director of Public Health and Family Welfare Dr G. Srinivasa Rao, "identified" hospital-induced staphylococcus infection

covered that a few employees at the Government Hospital in Ibrahimpatnam and an outsourced surgeon who performed the procedures did not adhere to the family planning regulations.

In all, 34 women underwent the surgeries on August 25, of whom four died within two days. The other women developed the same infection.

sider sources, the "investigation" into the episode did not entirely adhere to the protocol that is required in terms of questioning all parties involved, and the findings themselves were framed in a way to limit the government's liability in the incident that resulted in the deaths of the four women.

It is learnt that even Governor Dr T a m i l i s a i

the findings of the investigation committee.

Another government source said that the delay in making the report public was not done to conceal the "truth" but rather to declare a definite government plan to prevent future instances of such blatant disregard for patient safety and deliberate negligence on the part of hospital employees.

## Kejriwal calls for 'Bharatiya' system of education

VADODARA: Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Tuesday called for a "Bharatiya" or indigenous system of education in the country in the place of the one inherited from the British.

Speaking at a town-hall meeting with parents and teachers here as part of his campaign for the coming Assembly elections in Gujarat, the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) leader also said that India should become a destination for students from all over the world, like Nalanda University was in ancient times.

A participant at the program asked if the text books prepared by the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) should be changed.

"Not just NCERT books but the entire content needs to be changed. There is a need to start a Bharatiya education system in the country by abolishing the British education system," he said.

The country made a mistake by not doing away with the old education system after 1947, Kejriwal said. "The entire system of education was left to us by the British. It is the system Macaulay prepared in the 1830s

so that we could serve them by becoming clerks. I respect all freedom fighters, but when the country attained independence, we should have prepared a new system of education for indepen-

the AAP leader added.

"India attained independence 75 years ago. Despite having the best engineers, doctors, our country lagged behind. Today our children go to Ukraine for medical

admission to top medical and engineering colleges, he added.

"I am totally convinced that one thing that can rid the country of poverty is education. If we provide good education to



dent India by abolishing the old British education system," he said.

His government in Delhi is working on this, Kejriwal added.

"For example, our children start looking for a job after completing graduation. We need a system to prepare students who would not search for jobs but offer jobs. We have started the system in Delhi. For 11th and 12th students, we have started teaching them how to do business," he said.

Students in Delhi schools are also being taught patriotism and how to become a good human being,

education, it is a matter of shame," he said.

"Students from across the world came to study at Nalanda University in ancient India... Today our students are going abroad," Kejriwal said, adding that foreign students should come to India rather than the other way round.

In Delhi, four lakh students shifted from private schools to government schools as the AAP government reformed government schools, he claimed.

About 1,100 students from Delhi government schools passed NEET and IIT-JEE for

our children, then our country will no longer remain poor, it can become better than America," he said.

Kejriwal also alleged that the AAP tried to book 13 venues in the last four-five days for holding dialogues on education in Gujarat but the ruling BJP's workers threatened the venue owners. "They (BJP) think the country is so weak that if they threaten, there will be no dialogue on education. There will be dialogue on education, and both the government and private schools of Gujarat will be improved (if AAP came to power)," he added.

## India, UAE and France hold first trilateral ministerial meeting in US

New York: India, the UAE and France have held their first trilateral ministerial meeting here on the sidelines of a UN General Assembly session and discussed a new and more contemporary way of doing diplomacy with a focus on 'active exchange' of ideas between strategic partners and UNSC members.

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar arrived in New York on Sunday to participate in the high-level 77th session of the UN General Assembly, which kick-starts September 20 with the opening of the General Debate.

"A productive first trilateral Ministerial meeting of India-UAE-France. Active exchange of ideas between strategic partners and UNSC members," Jaishankar tweeted after the meeting, hosted by the UAE on Monday, with UAE Foreign Minister Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al-Nahyan and French Minister

for Europe and Foreign Affairs Catherine Colonna. Jaishankar began his hectic diplomatic week with a series of bilateral and multilateral engagements on the sidelines of the high-level session.

out how to specify and concretise these commonalities going forward, official sources said.

They said the three countries are very comfortable with each other and there are many areas where

pan, the US), I2U2 (India, Israel, the United Arab Emirates and the United States), trilateral between India, France and Australia as forums emerging as effective ways of finding a common

added that diplomacy is now changing and there are countries which are not neighbours or next to each other in a region but which have certain common interests and are working with each other.

that for India, things are moving very well on multiple fronts with the UAE, against the backdrop of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to the Gulf country in June this year and Jaishankar's visit two weeks ago for the 14th India-UAE Joint Commission Meeting.

Jaishankar also met with Egyptian Foreign Minister Sameh Shoukry.

"Our bilateral ties are growing strongly in the areas of defence, trade and investments. Cooperation in new initiatives like green hydrogen & ammonia and education sectors will further bolster them. Discussed our close cooperation at the UN and NAM. Recognised the value Egypt's participation in G20 will bring next year," he tweeted.

Official sources said that the meeting with the Egyptian leadership was important, asserting that Egypt is absolutely on the same page as India

when it comes to issues such as refocusing the world on development concerns, Global South.

Describing the relationship as a big meeting of the minds, sources added that India's economic relationship with Egypt is doing well, trade is at an all-time high and there are very strong investment interests.

Egypt is also chairing COP27 and they are big players in areas of renewables, especially green hydrogen and ammonia.

During a 'useful exchange of views' with Cuban Foreign Minister Bruno Rodriguez Parrilla, Jaishankar said he was looking forward to 'working together in the G-77 and other multilateral formats.'

"Spoke about rice supplies and development projects. Welcomed his appreciation of the Panchakarma Centre in Havana," he said. India has given Cuba a 100-million-euro line of credit for buy-

ing rice. Cuba is also expected to take over as the Chair of G77, the global south grouping which permeates through the UN processes.

In his meeting with Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ethiopia Demeke Mekonnen Hassen, Jaishankar appreciated his briefing on the latest developments in the African country.

"Discussed greater cooperation in education and trade," he said.

In his meeting with Olta Xhaçka, Minister of Europe and Foreign Affairs of Albania, Jaishankar said: "Valued our close cooperation in the UN Security Council. Discussed strengthening our bilateral relationship. Exchanged views on Ukraine and energy security."

Sources said that India and Albania working together in the UN Security Council has been a good experience and the two sides want to see whether they can build on the Security Council experience and take it into the bilateral relationship.



This was the first ministerial-level meeting of the India, UAE and France trilateral.

The three countries, while different, are strategic partners to one another and discussions focussed on areas of commonalities and on working

potentially they could be working in a more coordinated way.

Such plurilateral meetings signify a new and more contemporary way of doing diplomacy, they said, citing the example of Quad (Australia, India, Ja-

agenda. They added that typically, groupings were regional and contiguous in nature such as SAARC, BIMSTEC, ASEAN, and the EU with the exception of BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa). The official sources

Following his bilateral meeting with the UAE Foreign Minister, Jaishankar tweeted: "Reviewed the progress of our partnership. Appreciated his assessments and insights on the global situation." Official sources said



# Green Highways Soon Tough Action For Overloading

New Delhi: Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari has emphasized on reduction of logistics cost from 14

Jaipur two hours and Chennai to Bangalore also two hours . The Minister said Technology, innovation and

Cuttack (KCN): The State Transport officials have confiscated 108 Driving Li-

special drive will continue till September 25 in view of the festive season.

commonly seen that many goods vehicles plying in these regions do not comply with the rules causing accidents.”

were killed due to the load condition of the vehicles. Moreover, a total of 834 persons were grievously injured and 588 had minor injuries in accidents involving overloaded vehicles.



– 16% to 10% with cooperation, coordination and communication among stakeholders. Addressing program ‘Climate Goals: Technological Roadmap to Net Zero’ he said by reducing logistics cost there will be a great saving and by which 50% increase in exports can be achieved which is very important for our economy.

Talking about pollution he said we are importing 16 lakh crore of fossil fuel which is creating a lot of pollution. He said decision has been taken to make 27 green express highways to reduce travel time and by end of December there will be new highways wherein travel time from Delhi to Chandigarh will be 2 1/2 hour, Delhi to Amritsar 4 hours, Delhi to Katra 6 hours, Delhi to Srinagar 8 hours and Delhi to Mumbai 12 hours, Delhi to

research are very important for achieving the vision of Prime Minister for making India a 5 trillion dollar economy.

Addressing AIMA’s 49th National Management Convention – ‘Advantage India: Thriving in the New World Order’ Shri Nitin Gadkari said public transport needs to be encouraged with centre and states working together as a team.

He said India has a huge domestic market with young and talented engineering manpower, skilled workforce and low labour cost.

He stressed on diversification of agriculture into energy and power sector and use of alternative fuels like bio ethanol, LNG and bio CNG. The Minister said ethics, economy, ecology and environment are the three most important pillars of the society.



censes (DLs) for suspension on the first day of a six-day long special drive against anti-overloading.

A total of 92 challans were issued, 32 vehicles were detained and Rs.4.26 lakh fine collected for overloading yesterday. The

Lalmohan Sethi, Additional Commissioner Transport, Enforcement & Road Safety said, “The drive is being extensively carried out throughout the state with special focus in the regions having industrial and mining activities as it is most

State Transport Authority (STA) will take stern action against those found flouting Motor Vehicle (MV) rules. According to the Motor Vehicle Amendment Act 2019, the violators will be penalized under Section 194 (1). Overloading of vehicles would attract a penalty of Rs. 20,000 and additional fine of Rs. 2,000 per extra tonne. Also, the DLs may be disqualified for three months, he informed.

As many as 1442 accidents took place due to overloaded/hanging vehicles in 2021. A total of 673 people

had minor injuries in accidents involving overloaded vehicles. During the drive, fines have also been imposed against other vehicles for various offences. A total of 800 e-challans were issued for flouting other MV rules, 26 vehicles were detained and compounding fees of Rs.7,78,120 was collected.

Earlier in crackdown on overloaded vehicles, a total of 83 e-challans were issued, 25 vehicles were seized and 81 DLs were suspended. Compounding fees of Rs. 3,69,461 was collected.

## Protesters tear-gassed at rally over custodial death of woman held for improper hijab

TEHRAN: Iranian police fired tear gas to disperse a protest in the western, mainly Kurdish city of Sanandaj, where hundreds rallied to decry the death of a

died of a heart attack and have denied any allegations of torture or abuse. The semiofficial Fars news agency reported late Sunday that police also ar-

women protesting, claiming the police’s explanation about Amini’s death was “not reasonable.”

Amini, who was Kurdish, was buried on Satur-

said she had no history of heart disease.

Iran’s judiciary has launched an investigation into the case.

The headscarf has been compulsory for women in Iran



young woman while in police custody in Tehran last week, reports said.

The case of the 22-year-old Mahsa Amini, who was detained last Tuesday after Iran’s so-called ‘morality police’ found fault with her headscarf, or hijab, has set off a public outcry in the country, mainly on social media. Police said she

rested several people from about 500 protesters who had gathered on Sunday at Azadi Square in Sanandaj, the capital of Iran’s Kurdistan province. Fars said the protesters smashed car windows and set fire to street garbage cans. The agency’s website carried a brief video showing scores of men and

day in her home city of Saqez, also in western Iran. Protests erupted there after her funeral and police also then fired tear gas to disperse the demonstrators. After Amini’s death, police last week also released circuit footage from the police station, which they say shows the moment Amini collapsed. A relative has

since after the 1979 Islamic Revolution and members of the morality police enforce the strict dress code. The force has been criticized in recent years over its treatment of people, especially young women. Since 2017, after dozens of women publicly took off their headscarves in a wave of protests, authorities have adopted tougher measures.

measures.



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# Corporate integrity amidst crisis is an issue with 78% of Indians, says survey

NEW DELHI: It is difficult to maintain corporate integrity for 78 per cent professionals in India, compared to 60 per cent in emerging markets, amidst volatile market

is likely to be similar if not significant in the Indian startup ecosystem.

“As Indian startups continue to grow, introducing strong corporate governance practices



conditions, an EY report said on Tuesday. The EY report comprises the views of over 2,750 board members, managers, and employees from 34 emerging markets which includes 100 professionals surveyed across India.

“Organisations continue to remain vulnerable in volatile market conditions, with 78 per cent of respondents in India admitting that it is challenging to maintain their standards of integrity in periods of rapid change or difficult market conditions,” the report said.

According to the survey, entities in India have faced more action from regulators compared to other emerging markets covered in the survey.

“Amidst shifts in regulatory expectations and economic stress, 60 per cent of respondents from India said that regulators have taken action against their organisation for breaching integrity standards or regulations, compared to 38 per cent in emerging markets,” it said. At the same time, 65 per cent in India cited that it is difficult to adapt to the speed and volume of changes in regulations as against 45 per cent in the emerging markets.

EY - India and Global Markets Leader for Forensic and Integrity Services, Arpinder Singh delved into the responses of Indian professionals and observed that with 67 per cent of large organisations in India, having reported issues of misconduct to management or a whistle-blowing hotline, the percentage

will go a long way in enhancing regulatory compliance, preventing fines and penalties and protecting assets and reputation. More and more new age companies must prioritise proper implementation of compliance structures as they can significantly help organisations drive long-term sustainable value,” Singh said.

According to 65 per cent of respondents in India, it is difficult to adapt to the speed and volume of changes in regulations as against 45 per cent in the emerging markets.

The survey shows a gap between what companies said they have in the way of an ESG policy and how they demonstrate accountability.

“Only 33 per cent of emerging market respondents said their company has a policy on either Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) or ESG, as compared to 47 per cent in India,” it said.

For 43 per cent of professionals, cyber risk is the top risk when acquiring, partnering or investing in other organisations compared to 28 per cent in emerging markets.

According to the report, 8 per cent respondents in India knew very little of policies procedures for keeping office premises, equipment and networks secure as against 28 per cent in other emerging markets.

The survey was conducted in 33 emerging markets, including in India between June and September 2021, EY said.

## The Congress Rahul walks away from

Continued from page-1

Nassim Taleb talks about the delusion of the naive well-fed turkey. The bird is taken care of for 1000 days. It is fat and happy. It believes the world is a lovely place. On the 1001st day, it's killed and is dinner. The Times Now interview taught Rahul Gandhi he is not universally liked, contrary to what he was brought up to believe in the great and elite household of the Nehrus.

From there through 2016, when in Lok Sabha, when the oratorically gifted Prime Minister Narendra Modi famously painted Rahul in the colours of a clown, to the loss of his traditional Amethi seat in the 2019 elections, and the general condemnation of his senior compatriots in the Congress Party, by his admission, it has been a 'rough ride' for Rahul Gandhi.

But it has been a ride also where he has never stopped being quite human. In a 2018 meeting in Singapore, he said he had “completely forgiven his father's killers”. He went on to say: “I remember when I saw Mr Prabhakaran (LTTE chief) on TV lying dead, I had two feelings: one was why are they humiliating this man in this way, and the second was, I felt really bad for him and for his kids.”

TJS George Column: Congress can't be privately owned

This Gandhian aspect of Rahul's personality keeps him still a potent force in a world that is pretty quick to seek vengeance for the slightest wrong. And, again, it is this trait that is on display in the idea of the long walk from Kanniyakumari to Kashmir, a distance of some 3,500 kilometres, which he plans to cover in five months. An exercise that Rahul Gandhi hopes will help him in his 'Discovery of India'—the name of the book that his great-grandfather wrote in Ahmednagar jail between 1942 and 1945. This is not just an innocent journey, one in which Rahul Gandhi would just heal divisive society just by walking and talking. The fact is structurally and organisationally, the Congress is an exhausted political force. It is not reasonable to expect a party used to the custom of being steered by a small group of Delhi-resident politicians—and their intellectual retinue, generational accomplices used to the comforts of a certain

legacy—privileged, whether they are in power or not, to withstand the BJP.

A BJP that has, with great will and sustained ingenuity, tapped into the chimerical racial and religious subconscious of Hindu India so well that we have begun to look for our future in our past: once we were golden; now we are leaden.

The current woke fashion of victimhood externalises the individual's inadequacy primarily as another's fault. What the BJP is doing convincingly is that India's low performance—victimhood en masse—across all sectors for centuries could be blamed on Mughals, colonial powers, and the Congress. The last for the BJP is just another face of the British, a substitute. Therefore, as a people, Indians are not at fault. The BJP has helped India to externalise her inadequacy. A reason has been found; now we can, the BJP says, address the question and find an answer. And that answer is in the past. Invariably, it will lead us to the purity question of race and religion. The BJP is woke in reverse. And it is working in this Age of Victimhood.

The Congress, with just 53 MPs out of 543, has no idea how to fight the BJP. The righteous outrage of the Liberals is just that. It does not help. The Delhi-centric cabal that used to run the party is still talking about 'baithaks'. They talk of party elections and inner-party democracy. There was never such speaking when Indira Gandhi or even Nehru was in power. There were just the motions.

The truth is that the Congress worked on charisma and direct connection with the masses. It is not easy to attribute to Rahul Gandhi a hypnotic personality. But he can try to build a direct connection with the people, going over the heads of the other leaders of the Congress. Circumventing, in fact, the traditional course available to a political party. This is what he is doing. By hitting the road, Rahul Gandhi is not just trying to break the spell that the BJP has cast over India. He is also challenging the way the Congress has come to function. Instead of the sitting-down culture of his party, he has chosen to walk out into the great outdoors; walk away from conference halls and well-fed, familiar faces. When you walk, you leave things behind. And if someone wants to keep up, he/she must follow him. Rahul Gandhi is finally saying with his feet that he wants to lead.

# Peace should prevail

We observe International Day for Peace on September 21st of each year. The large bell known as the "peace bell" was donated to the United Nations by Japan in 1950. Two times a year, on the first day of spring, as well as on September 21 to mark International Day of Peace, the bell is rung.



Given the current circumstances, it is imperative that all nations choose peace over conflict. Everything on this globe looks beautiful when there is only peace. This year, the bell needs to ring louder in order to specifically reach the ears of the nations who are both directly and indirectly engaged in conflict. The world has been battling the pandemic for the past two years, but the war against COVID-19 is still far from over. In the interim, some nations have been engaged in territorial disputes. So peace is important topic at this time. What we call in Sanskrit Shanti Mantram is most required now. Here, it is possible to recall the tale of Alexander the Great. The ancient Greek Alexander the Great oversaw numerous military operations and built one of

history's biggest empires, spanning from Greece to India. He

completed all of this work when he was just about 30 years old. Alexander was ill when he got back to Babylon. As he lay dying, he reflected on the immense empire he had created, every single war booty he had taken, and the power of his military apparatus. He fell into a deep despair after realising that nothing was worthwhile because, despite living a very good life, he would eventually pass away. Before leaving, he wanted to spend one final moment with his mother, but he knew he would not be able to do it and would soon pass away. He made three final requests to his devoted Generals over the phone before passing away. My first wish is that my doctors should alone carry my coffin," he reportedly said to his devoted generals. My second wish is that the road leading to my grave be strewn with gold, silver, and all of the priceless items in my treasury, while my body is being brought to be buried. My third and final wish is to have both of my hands left hanging outside of my casket. The three wishes shocked the Generals, who questioned Alexander about the unusual requests. Alexander's first response was, I want my doctors to carry my casket so they may

Vijaykumar H K

spread the message that no doctor can cure anyone. They are

helpless and helpless to prevent death. The second is to scatter gold, silver, and other precious stones along the path leading to the cemetery to demonstrate to the public that, despite having spent my whole life acquiring wealth, not a single grain of gold will accompany me when I depart this world. When one yearns to be wealthy, it is a complete waste of time, energy, and tranquility. Third is sticking my hands out of the casket., I want people to know that I came empty handed into this world and likewise will go empty handed from this world So, therefore he wanted to teach the rest of the world that peace is ultimate thing to win hearths not wars. In regards to this year's peace day, the theme is "End racism and build peace" Every society's institutions, social structures, and standard of living are still tainted by racism. It still serves as a major contributor to enduring inequality. And it keeps denying people their basic human rights. The connections between racism and gender inequality are undeniable, and they destabilise societies, damage democracies, and diminish the legitimacy of governments. We have observed racial discrimination at

borders as wars continue to flare around the world and force people to flee. We have observed that some racial groups have been struck considerably harder than others as COVID-19 continues to strike our neighbourhoods. As economies struggle, racial minorities have been the target of hate speech and acts of violence. In order to promote peace, each of us must play a part. And one important way to participate is to combat racism. We may fight to undermine the institutionalised racism in our society. All across the world, we may help movements for equality and human rights. Education and restitution for past wrongs are two ways we may advance anti-racism. A world devoid of racism and racial discrimination should be our goal. A society where empathy and compassion prevail over prejudice and hostility. A world in which we may actually take pride. Real peace requires much more than just putting down weapons, so to speak. It necessitates creating cultures in which everyone feels that they may prosper. It entails establishing a society in where everyone is treated fairly, regardless of race.

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## Ban on using saliva to polish cricket ball made permanent as ICC announces changes

DUBAI: The International Cricket Council (ICC) on Tuesday made the ban on the use of saliva to polish the ball a permanent affair, while also introducing a clause whereby any "unfair" and "deliberate movement" while the bowler is running in to bowl could now result in the umpire awarding five penalty runs to the batting side, in addition to a call of 'dead ball'.

The ICC has announced several changes to its 'playing conditions' after the Chief Executives' Committee (CEC) ratified the recommendations from the Sourav Ganguly-led Men's Cricket Committee. The main changes to the playing conditions come into effect from October 1, 2022, which means they will be applicable in the ICC T20 World Cup in Australia from October 16.

In a statement on the use of saliva to polish the ball, ICC said, "This prohibition has been in place for over two years in international cricket as a Covid-related temporary measure and it is considered appropriate for the ban to be made permanent." On the issue of unfair movement by the fielding side, the new ICC rule says, "Any unfair and deliberate movement while the bowler is running in to bowl could now result in the umpire awarding five penalty runs to the batting side, in addition to a call of 'dead ball'."

The other rule changes that will come into effect from October 1, 2022 are:

**Batters returning when caught:** When a batter is out caught, the new batter will come in at the end the striker was, regardless of whether the batters crossed prior to the catch being taken.

**Incoming batter ready to face the ball:** An incoming batter will now be required to be ready to take strike within two minutes in Tests and ODIs, while the current threshold of ninety seconds in T20Is remains un-

### India, Egypt sign MoU to enhance defence cooperation

Continued from page-1  
way for enhancing defence cooperation across all sectors of mutual interest."

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh held bilateral talks with the Egyptian Defence Minister on Monday.

During the meeting, both sides discussed steps to strengthen defence ties and reached a consensus to enhance the conduct of joint exercises and exchange of personnel for training, especially in the field of counter-insurgency.

The two Ministers also agreed to identify proposals for expanding cooperation between the defence industries of India and Egypt in a time-bound manner. They also exchanged views on regional security and acknowledged the contribution of India and Egypt to peace and stability in the world. Both sides expressed happiness at the intensified defence engagement and exchanges over the last year, despite the COVID-19 pandemic.

Rajnath Singh in an official tweet described the meeting as excellent. "We had wide-ranging discussions on several initiatives to further expand bilateral Defence engagements. The signing of the MoU on Defence Cooperation adds new impetus and synergy to our relations", Singh added.

Prior to the two defence ministers holding bilateral talks, Rajnath Singh had a call-on with the President of Egypt Mr Abdel Fattah El-Sisi, both the Ministers agreed to consolidate and focus on enhancing security and defence aspects of bilateral cooperation.

Rajnath Singh also invited his Egyptian counterpart to the India-Africa Defence Dialogue and IOR Defence Ministers' Conclave, scheduled to be held as part of the 12th DefExpo in Gandhinagar, Gujarat between October 18-22, 2022.

As part of his day's engagements, the defence minister paid homage at the Unknown Soldier Memorial and Tombstone of the late Egyptian President Anwar El-Sadat in Cairo.

changed.

**Striker's right to play the ball:** This is restricted so as to require some part of their bat or person to remain within the pitch. Should they venture beyond that, the umpire will call and signal Dead ball. Any ball which would force the batter to leave the pitch will also be called No ball.

**Running out of the non-striker:** The playing conditions follow the Laws in moving this method of effecting a Run out from the 'Unfair Play' section to the 'Run out' section.

**Bowler throwing towards striker's end before delivery:** Previously, a bowler who saw the batter advancing down the wicket before entering their delivery stride, could throw the ball to attempt to Run out the striker. This practice will now be called a dead ball.

**Other major decisions:** The in-match penalty introduced in T20Is in January 2022, (whereby the failure of a fielding team to bowl their overs by the scheduled cessation time leads to an additional fielder having to be brought inside the fielding circle for the remaining overs of the innings), will now also be adopted in ODI matches after the completion of the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup Super League in 2023.

It was also decided that the playing conditions for all men's and women's ODI and T20I matches will be amended to allow hybrid pitches to be used, if agreed by both teams. Currently, hybrid pitches can only be used in women's T20I matches.

"It was an honour chairing my first meeting of the ICC Cricket Committee. I was pleased with the productive contribution of the Committee members which resulted in key recommendations being made. I thank all members for their valuable input and suggestions," said Ganguly.

The ICC Cricket Committee includes: Sourav Ganguly (chair); Ramiz Raja (observer); Mahela Jayawardena and Roger Harper (past players); Daniel Vettori and VVS Laxman (representatives of current players); Gary Stead (member team coach representative); Jay Shah (full members' representative); Joel Wilson (umpires' representative); Ranjan Madugalle (ICC Chief Referee); Jamie Cox (MCC representative); Kyle Coetzer (Associate representative); Shaun Pollock (media representative); Greg Barclay and Geoff Allardice (Ex Officio --- ICC Chair and Chief Executive); Clive Hitchcock (committee secretary); David Kendix (statistician).

### Debris in Odisha's Barabati moat raises suspicion

Continued from page-1  
on Sunday, urged the local administration to initiate action and remove the debris else the moat will be buried.

Acting on the complaint, a team of Cantonment police rushed to the spot and detained some vehicles carrying the debris. CMC Mayor Subhas Singh said he was unaware of the matter. He said civic body would seek details on the issue from the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), Bhubaneswar Circle. "The fort and its moat are protected monuments of the ASI. The civic body has nothing to do with it. We do not know who is dumping the debris in the moat," Singh said.

Superintending engineer, ASI, Bhubaneswar Circle, Arun Mallick said a temporary road is being constructed by ASI for setting up of a cofferdam for dewatering the moat to facilitate renovation and conservation of its inner wall on the western side. "After the renovation and conservation work is over, the construction and demolition debris will be removed from the moat," he added.

Locals said the ASI should have informed them before dumping the debris in the moat. "Had the agency put up an information slab at the work site, the dumping activity would have not created suspicion. It seems there is no coordination or simply a communication gap between ASI and CMC," they alleged.

## Osaka wins first match after Saville retires in Tokyo

TOKYO: Naomi Osaka, playing her first match since the U.S. Open, advanced to the second round of the Toray Pan Pacific Open when Australia's Daria Saville retired with a knee injury in the second game of their evening encounter on Tuesday.

The unseeded Osaka is the defending champion



having won in her birthplace Osaka in 2019 before COVID-19 shut down the tournament for two years.

"I feel really bad right now because of how it ended," the Japanese player told the fans at Ariake Coliseum.

"I've been injured for most of the year so I just want people to clap for her because she's a really amazing player."

Osaka, who was 1-0 up when Saville withdrew, had lost the first match in her previous three tournaments, including the U.S. Open last month, although she reached the final of the Miami Open in April. In other games, sixth-seeded Karolina Pliskova cruised past hard-hitting Bulgarian Isabella Shinikova 6-2, 6-1, Mexican qualifier Fernanda Contreras Gomez overcame 2020 Australian Open champion Sofia Kenin 7-6 (9-7), 6-4, fifth-seeded Brazilian Beatriz Haddad Maia defeated Japan's Yuki Naito 6-4, 6-2, and China's Zhang Shuai beat Japanese wild card Mai Hontama 6-0, 6-3.

All matches were played under a closed roof as

the tail end of Typhoon Nanmadol passed through Tokyo.

Former world number one Pliskova, the champion in Tokyo four years ago, had little trouble against 214th-ranked Shinikova.

The Czech player dominated her Bulgarian opponent, who had to qualify to make it into the main draw, and said she was back on form after being injured at the start of the year.

"I missed the beginning of the season because I broke my arm, so I had a slower start to the season, but I feel like in the summer in America I was playing really good matches," Pliskova said. "I reached the quarterfinals in the U.S. Open. So I think

I'm in good shape."

Kenin, 23, has seen her ranking plummet to 315 from a career-high of 4. She has failed to win her first match in 10 of the 12 tournaments she has played in 2022 after coming off a year plagued by injuries.

While her topspin forehand still had some magic, she didn't look match fit and the hard-serving Contreras Gomez, 24, only needed consistency to gain the upper hand.

Contreras Gomez slammed down nine aces in her victory, which earned a second-round clash with fourth-seeded Veronika Kudermetova.

World No. 180 Hontama, who reached the second round at Wimbledon this year, gave the home fans hope in the second set as she matched world No. 28 Shuai before tiring in the final three games. Shuai, who won in Lyon earlier this year and reached the last 16 at the U.S. Open, will face second-seeded Caroline Garcia next.

In the penultimate match of the day, fifth-seeded Haddad Maia brushed past Naito and next faces Osaka.




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