

PM Modi lays foundation of new Parliament building; ministers, Ratan Tata attend



New Delhi, Dec 10: Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of the new Parliament building in Parliament House Complex on

Thursday. Tata Trusts' Chairman Ratan Tata, Union Minister HS Puri, Deputy Chairman of Rajya Sabha Harivansh, and various religious leaders were

also present at the event. Tata Projects Ltd has been given the contract for the project. Among other leaders, Union Home Minister Amit

Shah, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, Union Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad, foreign Envoys, and Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla also attended the ceremony.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi unveiled a plaque to mark the foundation stone laying ceremony of the new Parliament building. At 2:15 pm, Prime Minister Narendra Modi addresses the gathering on this occasion.

According to a release by the Prime Minister's Office (PMO), the new building is an intrinsic part of the vision of 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat' and

will be a landmark opportunity to build peoples' Parliament for the first time after independence, one which will match the needs and aspirations of 'New India' in the 75th anniversary of independence in 2022.

"The new Parliament building will be modern, state-of-the-art and energy-efficient, with highly non-obtrusive security facilities to be built as a triangular-shaped building, adjacent to the present Parliament. Lok Sabha will be three times of the existing size and Rajya Sabha will be substantially bigger," the re-

lease said.

The interiors of the new building will showcase a rich blend of Indian culture and the diversity of our regional arts, crafts, textiles, and architecture, it said. As per the PMO, the design plan includes space for a magnificent Central Constitutional Gallery, which will be accessible to the public. It said the construction process will use resource-efficient green technology, promote environment-friendly practices, generate employment opportunities, and contribute towards economic revitalization.

The IMO wishes the best farewell to 2020 with a deep breath to let in the new 2021.

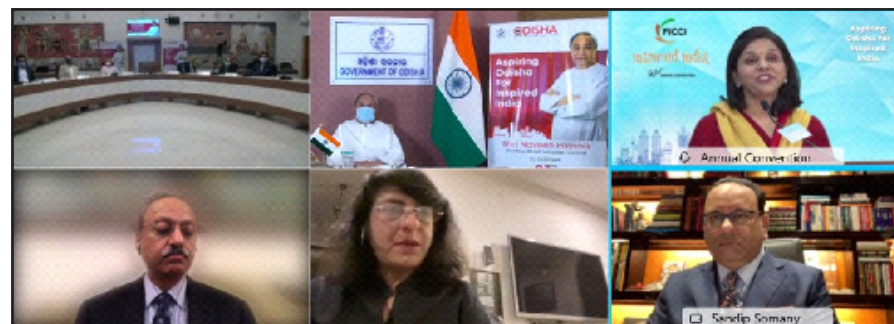
The erratic and self-centered pattern of life will hopefully change and we will enter into a new world of love, care, happiness, and sustainable growth.

Aspiring Odisha for inspired India

Odisha fast emerging as the investment hub in Eastern India; says Odisha CM Naveen

NEW DELHI, December 12: Naveen Patnaik, CM of Odisha today said that Odisha is not just amongst the leading states in attracting investments, but it also excels in the actual grounding of committed investments and ease of operations. Addressing the session, Aspiring Odisha for Inspired India during FICCI's 93rd Annual Convention, Patnaik said,

"Odisha is fast emerging as the investment hub in Eastern India. The focus of industrial growth in the state has shifted from a pre-2000 era, resource-dependent development to more rapid, broad-based, and inclusive economic growth. We are now targeting specific focus sectors based on our competitive advantage. Key amongst them is the ancillary and downstream



to the metal sector." Odisha is implementing technological reforms to reduce physical interface

for availing government services, Patnaik said. "As part of my government's initiative to reduce the regu-

latory burden on industries, new end-to-end online systems for over 30 Government (Page-13)

In this issue:

If costly medicines could save lives, why kings and emperors are not immortal? (Page 8)

The terrible year 2020 as I see it
Sirish C Mohanty
(Page-9)

Mamata on wrong footing before the approaching polls
(Page-12)

Kadaknath, The Unique Black Chicken
(Page-14)

Recreating The Golden Era Of Film Songs
(Page-15)

Soon cars will have flexible engines have the option to choose fuel:Nitin Gadkari



Union Transport Minister Nitin Gadkari has said that in the coming days, the vehicle owners will have the option to decide whether they would prefer their vehicles to run on petrol or ethanol. According to Nitin Gadkari, his ministry is working on the flexible engine, where customers will get the option to choose fuel.

According to Nitin Gadkari, customers will have the option of choosing 100 percent petrol or ethanol for their vehicle engines. More emphasis is needed on making ethanol from food grains. At the moment, many op-

tions are being considered.

Sugarcane juice also shows a lot of potential in ethanol. However, against the requirement of 1600 crore liters, only 450 crore liter of ethanol exists. As a result, there is a short supply of ethanol for oil companies. Now second-generation ethanol companies are setting up plants through biomass.

Benefits of ethanol

- Ethanol will be available at 50 to 55 rupees per liter. Although it will give lower mileage than petrol, still there will be considerable savings.

- Ethanol is made from sugarcane and can be made anywhere in India.

India will not have to depend on any other countries for ethanol.

- Ethanol will benefit the farmers of India the most. Ethanol is made from sugarcane and it is cultivated in many places in the country.

- While big oil companies benefit from petrol, the use of ethanol will benefit the farmers of India the most.

- The use of ethanol will save India's money and farmers will also benefit. The money coming from petrol sales goes to the accounts of big companies and Gulf countries.

- Ethanol is also friendly to the environment. Due to this, pollution in the car running is less than that of petrol.

- Ethanol is much less hot than petrol.

- Alcohol in ethanol flies quickly, due to which the engine does not heat up quickly.

Villagers build a dam by shramdan

Bolangir(Sudhir Mishra)

: It is a common sight to find villagers seeking irrigation facility, to their field to produce more, even though the village is located near a source of water. The villagers of Kuhimunda, in Degeon block, have set an example by constructing a small and makeshift check dam, by giving Shramadan. Utilizing the stored water, villagers enjoy the benefits of taking up vegetable cultivation and Ravi paddy cultivation.

Earlier, the villagers used to hire a JCB machine to dig a water resolver that is locally called CHHALA using sand. And water from that CHHALA, would be lifted and supplied to vegetable cultivations. But, that would cater the need barely for one hour which is too inadequate to meet our water requirements says a villager.

On 3rd December, the villagers assembled a meeting facilitated by members of Reliance Foundation Bolangir, after a short



deliberation, villagers decided to construct the makeshift check dam through Shramadan. The next morning, all the villagers, SHG members went to Keuti Jore, a dry rivulet, and packed bags with sand and put them in to make a dam in two places of the river, says Maithili Sahu, a village lady.

A big water resolver was ready to cater to the needs of the villagers. Now we can pump out the water for seven hours and we are cultivating smoothly with the availability of water says, Kshirodra Pradhan. This check dam would provide water to vegetable and paddy cultivation

till March. Nearby village farmers are also getting the benefit. The availability of water would further boost cultivation in around 30 acres area in the village says Sambhu Sahu, another villager.

The height of the check dam has been kept low as it is impossible to store the flow of water with only sandbags.

The villagers urged the district administration to take necessary steps to construct a permanent check dam here so that the 30 households of the villages would produce a huge quantity of vegetables, and rice in the season.

Reopening Of Schools remains uncertain: CM Naveen

Bhubaneswar : Hours after the School and Mass Education and the State Higher Education department in Odisha announced there is much likelihood on the reopening of schools and colleges in the State after New Year, Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik expressing displeasure raps the department for issuing speculated statements, and rapped the concerned authorities over showing lack of coordination.

Patnaik said the State government will only take appropriate decisions at the right time after reviewing the COVID situation in the state.

Earlier on Thursday, Secretary, Higher Education Department Saswat Mishra had said that the Department is hopeful that colleges across Odisha would reopen in January 2021. Similarly, School and Mass Education Minister Sameer Ranjan Dash on Thursday had said



that there is also the likelihood of reopening of schools in the State after New Year. Dash had also said that the

priority will be given to classes 10 and 12 and if possible, classes might also be continued on holidays and week-

ends.

Meanwhile, CM Naveen also reviewed Odisha's preparedness for the Covid-19 vaccination drive and expressed pleasure that the danger of a second wave gripping the state has been avoided.

Patnaik highlighted that everyone should be cautious yet optimistic that the winter should pass in an uneventful manner as well.

"The database and logistics for a swift vaccination drive are already in

place. Odisha has been amongst the best states in India for COVID management. Even the NitiAyog has praised us for the same," said Naveen.

Addressing the meeting, Additional Chief Secretary of Health Department PK Mohapatra said Sero Survey will be carried out in Ganjam, Nayagarh, and Koraput by December 31 while the exercise will be completed in Cuttack and Bhubaneswar in January 2021.

Do farmers have reasons to be unhappy?

Yes, they have; Farm yields return fall, FPI, corp ingress rise and law review is a must



Prof. Shivaji Sarkar

Former HOD in English journalism in IIMC, Delhi

Farmers get low returns but as farm laws start shaping up foreign portfolio investments (FPI) zoom and so does investments in silos.

It's a queer connection. Over the years, between 2013-14 and 2017-18, as farmers' return on their produce starts reducing, the FPI starts booming, and funding for silo construction increases. Since 1967, when the APMC Act was enforced, never have farmers been in such distress.

Normally, despite not being able to sell at MSPs, they were not unhappy at the returns. The MSP decided on a floor price and provided the bargaining strength to them against the market forces. In 2013-14, the paddy price was 58 percent higher than average input and labor

costs. This margin shrank to 41 percent in 2018. The difference in maize reduced from 43 percent to 25.6 percent. Other crops like wheat, moong, jowar, bajra, arhar, groundnut, gram, rapeseed, mustard, barley, cotton soybean also were noticed to be less profitable. The returns are either falling or stagnating. Despite the rise in MSP, in the past five years, the farmer's actual income has not seen a significant increase.

The farmers have reasons to be unhappy. Their yields are low as the world average for rice per kg per hectare in 2018 is 4679, maize 5924, all pulses 964, arhar 852, soybean 2791, groundnut 1611, wheat 3425, barley 2951 and gram 965. The Indian average is rice 2638, maize 3070, all

pulses 757, arhar 757, soybean 1192, groundnut 1422, wheat 3371, barley 2693, and gram 956. The prices they get are less and as the cost is high approaching international markets is not easy.

In this backdrop, if it is linked to FPI, the trend is surprising. In June 2020, the FPI was Rs 11,736 crore. It doubles to Rs 22,866 crore in July. The three farm laws were introduced as ordinances on June 5. In August as the farm bills were introduced for passing by Parliament, the investments jump to Rs 1,30,576 crore. About half the investments surprisingly came from two tiny countries, Mauritius and Singapore. Another large investor was not Netherlands.

These three countries have been at the top of foreign investors. These are destinations for round-tripping - that is the funds are routed through these countries by various investors and supposedly include domestic ones (Indians) too. The investments are reportedly made in farms, toll roads, rail corridors, airports, ports, smart cities, film cities, and similar ventures. Such investments have heavy baggage. The falling rupee-dollar parity and high Sensex are linked to these maneuverings.

The foreign funding flow has reportedly gone to two western provinces, Maharashtra and Gujarat. It is estimated that 55 percent of the funding

has gone to these states and one percent to Uttar Pradesh.

The International Monetary Fund and Copenhagen University report says that 40 percent of the total foreign capital comes from unofficial sources and could have a darker side. But international money flows like that despite many recent revelations. It is just not for tax saving but there are many other reasons. Many investors prefer to keep their footprints in shrouds to avoid competition and other strategic reasons.

The recent developments about the farm bills and construction of silos, giant steel structures for storing grains for a longer duration, are also being linked. It is being said that silos in Panipat and Katihar were built by some industrialists during the past few years. The modern silos have been built in Madhya Pradesh, Tamilnadu, and Andhra Pradesh and are likely to come up in other states as well. Earlier, these warehouses were being built by Central Warehousing Corporation and Food Corporation of India (FCI) largely. As the need for storage is increasing the private sector has joined the efforts.

The change was started being noticed in 2007. A Gujarat house has been building the silos for FCI. It has built such silos at Naultha and Jondhan Kalan, and Kaithal in

Haryana and Punjab's Moga. Some farmers alleged that now the farm produce would be straightway purchased by the business group as they could store as much as they wanted and the FCI would have to purchase it from it for releasing the requirements for the public distribution system.

The Adani group on December 9 has clarified in its Twitter handle, "The company has no role in deciding the volume of storages as well as the pricing of grain as it is only a service or infrastructure provider for the FCI".


The National Agriculture Policy since 2003 envisages that private sector participation will be promoted through contract farming and land leasing arrangements to allow accelerated technology transfer, capital inflow, and assured market for crop production, especially of oilseeds, cotton, and horticultural crops.

The farmers' apprehension of corporate ingress may not be incorrect. Many large companies have entered the area. It is also estimated that since most farms are small, there is large attrition from the area as well. It is estimated that 330 farmers leave their land every week. This void is likely to be filled up by the corporate.

It is also the largest producer, consumer, and

exporter of spices and spice products. Many companies are dealing with or cultivating various crops. Many are listed on the stock exchanges. As of March 31, 2019, 7374 companies are registered in the farm sector. There are about 2000 farmer producer organizations registered with NABARD. On July 5, 2019, the Centre announced a plan to promote 10,000 new farmer producer companies over the next five years.

The government by the three new laws has sought to create a new situation. There could be some convolutions. More so as the laws were passed without a detailed discussion, a relook is needed. The farmers' moves are not against reforms. The movement is apparently for the nation to chart out an informed course lest India becomes a Venezuela facing man-made disaster with currency distortions and government takeover of food distribution.

Since it is a critical issue, a detailed discussion and policy formulation is needed. For a reassuring national environment, the three laws having larger ramifications need a review with farmers, political parties, and finance and market experts. Let the nation not shy away from understanding the problem an apt solution. 

Advanced Sanitation Programme Launched In Sundargarh



Rourkela: Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik on 4th December, launched the Advanced Sanitation Programme that will cover Rourkela Municipal Corporation, Biramitrapur Municipality, Kutra, and Koira blocks in Sundargarh district.

Over 190 advanced machines and vehicles will be provided to facilitate sanitation management in the respective areas. Four Micro Composting Centres were also inaugurated in Rourkela on the occasion. More than Rs 69 crore has been allotted for the project funded by District Mineral Foundation (DMF), Sundargarh, and Rourkela Municipal Corporation.

Speaking on the occasion, Naveen said, "The sanitation workers play an indispensable role by keeping our surroundings clean and safe.

We should appreciate their role as the prime 'Sevaks' of society."

Similarly, women members of SHGs are being empowered to handle modern sanitation operations. They spread awareness among people, handle door-to-door garbage collection, and manage micro composting centers, he added.

District collector Nikhil PawanKalyan said, the sanitation scenario of Smart City Rourkela is going to be transformed. The work carried out manually by sanitation workers will be done by using machines, delivering quality services to citizens. "The program will also ensure safety and dignity to the sanitation workers. More machines and manpower will be provided to enhance the quality of service," he said.

RSP Record Highest Torpedo ladle life in India

SAIL, Rourkela Steel Plant (RSP) has registered a new national record in Torpedo ladle life. The plant scripted this record by clocking Torpedo ladle Life of 2407 heats in a single campaign surpassing the earlier best Torpedo Ladle Life of 2338 heats achieved in July 2020. Recorded in the Torpedo ladle #8, this is not only highest in SAIL but also the best life achieved anywhere in India. The Torpedo ladle#8 started its campaign on 26th December 2017 and after handling 7,35,406 tonnes of hot metal, it was ultimately put down for unbricking on 25th November 2020. The significant achievement was made possible because of the dedicated and coordinated efforts of Refractory Engineering (Services) and Blast Furnace#5 (Operation). The endeavor ensured both tangible as well as intangible benefits in terms of enhanced Torpedo Ladle availability, better logistics, and reduced refractory consumption. The effort is one amongst many such initiatives being undertaken by the enterprising RSP collective to reduce the cost of production and further improve the techno-economic of the plant.

AAI Officials Visit RKL Air strip

Rourkela: The steel city passengers are still agog to witness the D-day of launching of air traffic from Rourkela airport. Since Rourkela was included under Regional Connectivity Scheme-UdeDeshKaAamNagarik (RCS-UDAN) scheme in September 2017 the wait for air service here has turned into a mirage. Since that joyous announcement, many official delegations have visited Rourkela to implement the announcement but it is yet to see the light. In the latest development on 20th November a joint inspection of the Rourkela Steel Plant (RSP)-owned airport was conducted by officials from the Airports Authority of India (AAI), Odisha Government, Alliance Air representatives, and officials of Steel Authority of India Ltd (SAIL), RSP and Rourkela Airport. They inspected to assess the early implementation of

RCS-UDAN.

The nine-member AAI team led by S. Sreekumar, Executive Director (engineering), Officers of RCS-UDAN, planning, air traffic, engineering as well as electronics and communication were part of the team. The Air Alliance team led by Captain Naveen Garg and officers of operations, flight safety and security were also part of the inspection team.

Former Union Minister and Sundargarh MP JuaOram, Sundargarh Collector Nikhil PawanKalyan, Rourkela Municipal Corporation (RMC) Commissioner DibyajyotiParida, and senior officials of RSP were also present during the inspection.

The team moved around the airstrip to see the infrastructure, runway, departure and arrival lounge, parking area, air control system, 72-seater aircraft handling, passenger handling facilities, etc. The

team would submit the final finding of their assessment and then their final findings to higher authorities.

SKumar later said that inspection aimed to assess the possibility of running 72-seat aircraft. A review meeting was also held with Sundargarh Collector Nikhil PawanKalyan and RSP executive director (personnel and administration) Rajvir Singh.

Talking to media, Sundargarh MP JuaOram informed, "An assessment was made by the officials of Airports Authority of India, DG of Civil Aviation, flight operator Alliance Air in presence of officials of District administration, SAIL to see the feasibility of operating 72-seater aircraft from Rourkela airport or not. The finding will be technically submitted to the Centre."

Responding to a query on the possibility of regular passenger flights, the MP said, "Lots of points are to

be raised by the inspection team. Hence, it all depends on the time for all the things to be in place. Hence, it would be improper to tell the timeline. I assume it to be finalized soon."

It may be mentioned that the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) on 7th January 2019, had replaced the private airport license of Steel Authority of India Ltd with a commercial license. The AAI signed an MoU with SAIL for operation and management of the airport. It was scheduled to begin the commercial flight service at Rourkela in March 2020. But it didn't happen. The Principal Secretary of Commerce and Transport department, Madhusudan Padhi on October 15 chaired a meeting on upgradation of the airport from ARC 2B to ARC-2C to allow operation of 72-seat aircraft.

A specific date of operation has not yet been confirmed.

Bike Ambulance Service Launched In Odisha's Sundargarh

Sundargarh: To extend health care facilities to the people of remote areas, the district administration launched a bike ambulance called 'SwasthyaRakshyak' on 24th November.

District collector Nikhil PawanKalyan flagged off a fleet of nine bike ambulances. Three bike ambulances were provided to Koira, Gurundia, and Rajgangpur blocks in the first phase. The facility has been launched with the funds of Odisha Mineral Bearing Areas Development Corporation (OMBADC).

On this occasion, Kalyan said, "bike ambulance is a modern facility to reach remote areas which will help bring patients to the hospital in time and save their lives. The service will be extended to



other blocks in a phased manner".

The ambulance service will help increase the ratio of institutional child delivery while people living in inaccessible areas will also get timely treatment in Government hospitals. The quick response ambulance will also reduce infant and

maternal mortality rate in the district, the Collector added.

CDMO Saroj Kumar Mishra said, "Bike ambulances will play an important role in the ambulance service. We will allocate a dedicated number soon for the which will be communicated to the people through ASHA and

Anganwadi workers soon."

Sundargarh CDMO DrSaroj Kumar Mishra, A D M O DrPurnachandraSahu, SLO Dr Shakti Prasad Padhi, and DPM Deepak Kumar Mohanty were present at the inaugural program when the services were launched.

Paradip- Hyderabad pipeline project; administration resolves villager's demand



JAGATSINGHPUR : The district administration held a meeting with Dhinkia villagers over the Paradip-Hyderabad pipeline project on Saturday. District collector Saroj Kumar Mishra chaired the meeting accompanying IOCL pipeline division officials and affected villagers from Dhinkia villager under Erasama block.

Although lands have been acquired from private holders for the project trouble began occupying

government and pasture land of the locality, the villagers had opposed and declined to allow go ahead of the project. Responding to the local people's resentment civil administration decided to hold a talk with the unhappy villagers and resolve the crisis and invited the meeting on Saturday.

According to official sources informed that the meeting endorsed a conscious decision among the attending stakeholders

that the pipeline project would be processed as well as pipe would be stretched leaving the 200-meter length and 18-meter width in pasture land, the pipe would be stretched 6 feet deep.

The farmers will provide suitable compensation affecting cultivation during project works, moreover, developmental works would be undertaken by IOCL from CSR funds in affected villages as Dhinkia, Govindapur, and

Trilochanpur under the consent of district administration, the meeting decided.

Speaking at the meeting IOCL pipeline project chief general manager BS Rao revealed that the pipeline would be of a total length of 1212 km, covering 330 km in Odisha, till date 320 km pipe stretching works have been completed, pending 10 km works are incomplete due to resistance from residents of Dhinkia Panchayat.

Six miscreants were arrested for abducting the teacher

JAGATSINGHPUR : Acting on a tip-off Tirtol police have arrested six persons involved in teacher Rabinarayan Mishra kidnapping incident and recovered a sum of Rs 50,000, 4 mobile phones, and a TATA magic light motor vehicle under their possession. The report said that teacher Rabinarayan Mishra a resident of Eradanga under Tirtol block on 2 December was kidnapped by few miscreants while he was returning to the village at Nalibara. The alleged kidnappers have demanded a ransom of Rs 5 Lakhs from the Rabinarayan family for releasing him from their custody. Responding to kidnappers' telephonic calls victim's teacher family had paid Rs 4 Lakh to kidnappers and Rabinarayan was set free and reached the village safely. Soon after Rabinarayan freed the family members lodged an FIR in Tirtol police station, the police acted promptly, formed two teams conducting the probe finally picked up the alleged kidnappers from Tirtol area. The alleged kidnappers were identified as Tapan Kumar Das, Biswajit Patra, Pratap Mohanty, and Suryakanta Mohapatra, all inhabitants of Tirtol police limits. During custodial interrogation, they have confessed the crime and reported three other names who participated in this kidnapping bid later police arrested another two.

Miscreants set ablaze makeshift shops in Somanath Hat



JAGATSINGHPUR : Unidentified miscreants set ablaze 150 makeshift shops in Somanath Hat. Usually, local farmers from Jagatsinghpur district and few adjoining villagers from Cuttack district come to this Hat to sell their agricultural produces. Meanwhile, sources said, after the Hat gets closed it becomes a hub for the anti-socials, used the place consuming intoxicants. Victim traders suspect anti-socials to have set fire the Hat and demanded compensation from the civil administration.

Vigilance raids lady section officer houses in J'spur

JAGATSINGHPUR : Basing on allegation against Sanjukta Das a lady section officer working in district Panchayat office here acquiring disproportionate property. Sleuths from the vigilance Cuttack division raided four places and found the lady officer possessing property worth Rs 1.50 Crore. According to the vigilance department, a press release informed that the woman officer was found in

possession of one triple stored building in native village Satpura, one double storied building in Panisalia village, one 3 BHK flat in Mahanadi Vihar in Cuttack, and six plots in different locations. Moreover, the woman officer has one four-wheeler, two two-wheelers, and deposit in different banks and post office, gold ornaments, cash, and household articles.

NKS resorts Bharat Bandha

JAGATSINGHPUR : The frontal farmer's outfit Naba Nirmana Krushak Sangathan [NKS] on Tuesday resorted Bharat Bandha coinciding farmer's stir across the country opposing the farm laws 2020. Hundreds of NKS supporters were converged at Bungalow Chhak here resorted road blocked as consequence traffic movement on Cuttack - Machhagaon NH55 was completely disrupted. NKS leaders

sought slogans against BJP led union government described the proposed agriculture laws were anti-farmer demanded its immediate withdrawal. Moreover, NKS members have stalled vehicular drive on Cuttack - Paradip road at Raghunathpur. While the report said that farmers sponsored Bharat Bandha passed off peacefully sans any untoward incident across the district.

Corona warrior ASI succumbs to Covid 19

JAGATSINGHPUR : An Assistant Sub Inspector of police [ASI] Sanatan Mallick hailing from Biswanathpur village under Raghunathpur block succumbed due to coronavirus infection in a private hospital in Bhubaneswar. The deceased cop was cremated in the village crematorium after paying state honor adhering to Covid 19 guidelines on Tuesday. The report said that the deceased ASI Mallick was working in Begunia police station under Nayagarh district and returned village recently, he suffered illness and admitted in district headquarters hospital for treatment four days ago where he was reported Covid 19 positive and shifted to a private hospital in Bhubaneswar for treatment but died there on Tuesday.

Solar power projects under AMRUT scheme fails in Baripada town



Baripada : Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) one of the ambitious scheme to carter drinking water crisis in urban areas and reduce power consumption sofar proves meaningless for

residents in Baripada municipality of Mayurbhanj district as the Solar power units are not working properly due to alleged poor maintenance by the Public Health Engineering Department (PHED).As many as 12

solar power projects were installed in the municipality area during 2017-18 under the AMRUT scheme and the cost of the total projects was Rs.90 lakh. The department had installed the power projects nearest to pump houses

and sumps in 12 places in the town. While two solar powers are installed in the district headquarters hospital and Madhuban, Station Bazar, Murgabadi, Daraghadehi, Lal Bazar Club, Golapbag, KC Circle, BijayRamchandrapur, and Debendrapur areas in the municipality. Most of them are not working due to the obstacles of trees. One instance is Madhuban, where the two solar power projects are not functioning as many trees are creating shade on solar panels as a result they are producing poor energy. Most of the projects are facing similar problems as the authority

concerned does not pay any attention, consequently, the operators are forced to run submersible motors by electric energy. The residents alleged that many of the solar power projects which are used to generate energy for the functional of submersible motors for the supply of water are not functioning. Even the water supply through the pipeline is never used for drinking purposes due to the production of dust. An operator of a pump house anonymity said his name said the sumps and tanks have not been clean for a

year. No precautionary measures are taken by the department concerned. The swamp of caterpillars continued to make their nest around the water tank in Golapbag that create health hazards for the people to use water from this tank. When contacted, SitaramSethy the sub-divisional officer (SDO) of Baripada PHED said despite the non-operational of one solar power project in Station Bazar rest eleven power projects are running in the town and the department is taking care of sumps and tanks.

Demand to install Dialysis Machines in PRM MCH for HIV, Hepatitis and Covid-19 infected

Baripada : Former Rajya Sabha MP SarojiniHembram demanded separate Dialysis machines in Pandit Raghunath Murmu Government Medical College and Hospital (PRM MCH) for especially intensive care service to the HIV, Covid-19, and Hepatitis positive patients. She brought the attention ofthe Principal Secretary to Government, Department of Health and Family Welfare urged for the installation of Dialysis machines in PRM MCH as the positive infected are depriving of this facility. He also gave a letter to the Secretary on this issue on Tuesday. The patients here have been forced to go to private nursing homes and private clinics to get the service by paying money beyond their capacity as the separate Dialysis machines are not availed in PRM MCH or any other government-run hospital. At least two Dialysis machines were demanded by people to provide the intensive care facility to HIV positive and Hepatitis positive patients. Later it demanded an additional Dialysis machine for Covid-19 infected patients. The positive infected have to move to private nursing homes and private hospitals in and outside the district as such health care facility does not exist in any government-run hospital in the district. The infected patients have to pay more than Rs.12,000 per month

to get the intensive care facility. Banchanidhi Das, resident of Ward No-5 under Baripada municipality, a Hepatitis positive (kidney ailing) patient has to bear Rs.12,000 per month to get intensive care from a private nursing home. "I have to pay Rs.12,000 per month to get intensive care from a private nursing home. My family is facing hardship to arrange this amount every month. When I am battling with life for the infirmity and my family is reeling under financial crisis. The demand for the separate Dialysis Machines was brought to the attention ofthe government from the beginning of PRM MCH that was inaugurated by Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik on 6 September 2017. But this demand is not addressed so far. Chief District Medical Officer Rupavanoo Mishra said that as many as seven Dialysis Machines are functioning in the PRM MCH for giving intensive care facility for the patients and more than 24 to 25 patients are getting this facility per day. A private agency (Rahi Care) is providing the service with manpower of six persons but this service is not providing to Covoid-19, Hepatitis and HIV positive patients as no separate dedicated Dialysis machines have been provided in the medical college or any government run-hospital.

Project ChhaunitrainsShenai players in Mayurbhanj district



Baripada : In a bid to train instrumental musicians (Mahuris) particularly the Shenai, the project Chhauni in Baripada of Mayurbhanjundertakes the training program. The training program was held in the District Cultural Hall. Bibhudutta Das the

Director of Project Chhauni said the musicians from the district headquarters along with rural areas took part in the training. Guru Himangshu Kumar Bidharconducted the training and was managed by Chhau Guru Pagulu Jena and Trilochan Mohanty.

Lac cultivation gives hope to COVID-hit farmers, SHGs in Odisha

BARIPADA : The Integrated Tribal Development Agency (ITDA) of Karanjia sub-division in Mayurbhanj district has started an initiative to engage tribal farmers in lac cultivation in a bid to boost their income during the pandemic.A natural resin of animal origin, lac is obtained by rearing lac insects and

considered more profitable than Sabai grass or rubber cultivation. Apart from farmers, the agency has also engaged self-help groups (SHGs) and is imparting training to women in the making of lacquer crafts. Since June, 60 SHGs and 100 farmers from B a d a b a l i p o s i , Mandalajhari, and

Chirupada under Thakurmunda block are involved in lac farming. Their first batch of harvest is due during February and March. ITDA gave each farmer and SHG 16 kg of brood lac (a stick with lac larvae) along with technical guidance and training for rearing and processing. By the end of this harvesting season, over 60 kg to 70 kg

lac harvest is expected. The project manager of Karanjia ITDA Biswanath Mishra said earlier, tribals in Keshadiha panchayat used to traditionally cultivate lac on Kusum trees. The sale was poor due to a lack of market linkage. The profits were also not much as they sold lac in raw form. "While farmers sold raw lac at Rs 300 per kg, they can

now sell at four timesthe price after processing it. They will be growing lac twice a year as per the climate and environment suitability," he informed. The ITDA is also training SHG members in making lac products like bangles, bracelets, and paperweights. These products will be sold with market linkage under

Odisha Livelihood Mission , VanaDhanaVikasYojana, and producer groups under ORMAS. Steps are being taken to sell 'jou' or processed lac to the district administration for use in offices, Mishra said. Sources said plans are afoot to set up a processing unit in Keshadiha.

Eco Retreat kicked off at Bhitarkanika National park

Kendrapad (Rajesh Kumar Behera): Aiming to revive the tourism sector, which was badly hit due to the global pandemic, and to enhance the footfall of tourists to Bhitarkanika National park, the state government has kicked off the Eco-Retreat festival at Nalitapatia in Bhitarkanika National park.

With the inauguration of Eco-Retreat, the government has conveyed the message that now the tourism has been opened for all in the state and tourists can avail of the five-star hotel -feel packages offered in five tourist spots, where the Eco-Retreat is going to be continued for next three months especially from today to February 28th next, along with exploring the state governments' divers tourism offers.

The Eco-Retreat which is offered for tourists from 8th December to 28th February next was inaugurated by Chief



Minister Naveen Patnaik through video conferencing. Video messages of the CM, Union Tourism Minister Prahlad Singh Patel, and Union PNG and Steel Minister Dharmendra Pradhan were displayed at the Eco-Retreat center of Bhitarkanika during the inaugural ceremony at Nalitapatia.

The state Tourism and Culture Minister, Jyoti Prakash Panigrahi, the

MLA of Rajnagar, Dhruba Sahu, the MLA of Aul, Pratap Keshari Deb, the MLA of Kendrapada, SP of Kendrapada Shashi Bhushan Behera, the DFO of Rajanagar Niti Sekhar, Bikash Ranjan Dash of the Mangrove Forest and Wildlife Division, the Zilla Parisad President, Manas Parida, were the guest in the inaugural function at Bhitarkanika National park. "This time we have scaled it up to five unique

locations. The Eco retreats will offer tourists an excellent opportunity to discover Odisha's diverse tourism offerings, in style," said Naveen Patnaik, THE Chief Minister. In a note of assurance to tourists from across the country during Covid times, Patnaik said that all stakeholders in the tourism and hospitality sector across the State have been provided training on COVID-19 protocols. Consistent with

Odisha's stellar management of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Eco Retreats will be in complete compliance with guidelines and standard operating procedures prescribed by the Union Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, stated Panigrahi, the state Tourism, and Culture Minister. Guided trekking and excursions for the tourists during the day, sumptuous meals, storytelling sessions

under the star-filled sky would make the tourists sojourn at Eco retreat Odisha 2020 would be memorable.

Yoga and Meditation on water, visit Bhitarkanika sanctuary, Crocodile breeding center & Museum, High tea. Activities at the camp area with provision of the cultural program by the campfire in the evening and Eco Retreat theatre (open-air film screening) and Stargazing will be the attraction for the tourists in the Eco-Retreat festival at Bhitarkanika. With Eco Retreat 2020, Odisha Tourism brings luxury camps, offering 5-star facilities while under a million stars-studded sky to enjoy nature. To book for stays, an easy-to-use integrated portal - ecoretreat.odishatourism.gov.in - is available to tourists from across India, said a Tourism Department official.

Boat Sailing Ceremony hosted in the Netherlands

Amsterdam : Odia Socio-Cultural Association Netherlands (OSCAN) recently hosted the pious Kartik Purnima ritual and Boat Sailing Ceremony uniquely. Though the Nonresident Odias staying here used to gather at the bank of the river and sail their symbolic boats to mark the occasion with gaiety and grandeur for the last four years, this year's exception occurred due to Corona restrictions. The Grand Celebration had to be curtailed keeping because of the Covid Protocol. Strangely there was no symbol of discouragement, disenchantment, or depression found among the members of OSCAN. Rather their mood and morale were up a bit and high. Three hundred Odia families

associated with OSCAN found a novel and innovative way to celebrate the maritime golden history of Odisha in a befitting real as well as virtual platform. OSCAN team built a beautiful and vivacious Boat in the resemblance of the yesteryear's sea sailing mascot. The architectural Wonder was taken in around to the major cities of Netherlands like Amsterdam, Amstelveen, The Haag, Rotterdam, Leiden, Eindhoven, Utrecht, Almere, Hoofddorp in a procession by the volunteers of the OSCAN. The Odia inhabitants in each city gave a rousing reception to the Boat in their homes. The Boat carried the handwritings and goodwill messages of the Nonresident Odias in these cities. In the final leg of the memorable

sojourn, the Boat was taken to the bank of fame Amstel River and accorded a ceremonial farewell by the members of OSCAN. The serene, scenic, and sublime view of the Skyline and Whole ambiance was quite heartening and nostalgic. It was seeming like the re-enactment of the historic voyage to Bali island by the merchant sons of Odisha signifying their valor, vanity, and prosperity. A colorful cultural extravaganza formed part of the digital Jumbo Jamboree. The highlight of the online event was the recital of Odissi Dance, Jagannath Janana, and popular Bhajan Numbers. The special attraction of the spectacular show was a quiz on Odisha and a competition of Odissi dress among the Kids.

The genuine attempts of the OSCAN to enliven the extinguishing rich art, vibrant culture, and unblemished heritage of Odisha, sensitizing the younger generation about the pomp and proud history of their mother state and binding all Odia brethren in one string in the foreign soil are the main mottoes of organizing this Festival, described by OSCAN President and main Organiser Saswat Padhi. The entire arrangement was neatly executed by the able supervision of Shri Padhi. The Committee members like Chinmay Panigrahi, Paritosh Mahapatra, Sushil Das Mahapatra, Dipak Parida, Pragyannaramita Choudhury, V.V. Patra, Somnath Lenka, Anshuman Mishra, Ankita Mahapatra, Devdutt Das, Abhijit Nayak,



Debsmita Mishra, Shubhendu Acharjya, Sanghmitra Panda, provided active support in successfully organizing and managing the glittering ceremony.

If costly medicines could save lives, why kings and emperors are not immortal?



Sirish C. Mohanty

This is a delicate question put by Rabindranath Tagore in the short story 'Trust property'. Brindaban is very unhappy with his father, JagannathKundu, whom he blames for the death of his wife. The two had long disagreed about how to live. Jagannath wanted a traditional life of simplicity and holiness. During the illness of Brindaban's wife, the difference arose. Brindaban wanted a costly British-style of treatment, but Jagannath wanted traditional. Jagannath asks; If costly medicines could save lives, why kings and emperors are not immortal? Brindaban takes his small son, Gokul Chandra, and leaves to live a more materialist British-style life. Jagannath doesn't miss his son at all but is lost without his young grandson, and his spirits sink. The story goes

on until eventually, a great tragedy occurs.

Perform Or Perish! Naveen Patnaik's ambitious '5T' Plan To make Odisha efficient takes off on October 2, 2019. Teamwork, technology, transparency, transformation, and the time limit will be the five factors on which the performance of Bureaucrats and projects will be judged. Who is the judge? Interestingly the judges are the same Bureaucrats. The elected legislatures or Ministers have been virtually nowhere in this ambitious program. Perhaps that is the reason behind the 5T program getting a flop tag. Why the elected were kept away?

To find the answer we go back to 1997. The BJD was formed in 1997 by Naveen Patnaik, the son of prominent politician Bijayananda (Biju) Patnaik in

the Janata Dal. Biju Patnaik died earlier that year, and his son had won a by-election to take over his father's seat in the Lok Sabha. Naveen, however, objected to the JD's reluctance to support the coalition that was being assembled by the BJP. With the help of the BJD, the BJP was able to form a government following the 1998 Lok Sabha elections.

The BJD, riding on the popularity of Biju Patnaik, was highly successful in the 2000 Odisha state assembly elections, winning 68 seats, and alliance partner BJP won an additional 38 seats, in the 147-seat chamber. Pyarimohan Mohapatra, a career bureaucrat, came into Naveen's life in 1997 soon after the Biju Janata Dal (BJD) leader landed in Odisha after the death of his father, Biju Patnaik. Having

spent almost his entire life outside the state, Naveen did not know anyone when he came to Odisha.


During Biju Patnaik's tenure as chief minister between 1990 and 1995, Mohapatra worked as his principal secretary and was the eyes and ears of the legendary politician, but couldn't override him due to the strong presence of lieutenants around. With virtually no friends in Odisha, Naveen turned to his mother Gyan Patnaik, who advised him to seek the help of "Pyaribabu" to navigate the choppy waters of politics. Mohapatra paved the way for Naveen's smooth ascension to the throne in 2000 when he engineered the expulsion and subsequent political checkmating of Bijoy Mohapatra, the chairman of BJD's political affairs committee shortly before the assembly elections. Then the revenge of Mahapatra led the process of cleansing the veterans from the BJD started and the vacuum being filled by the politically naive and sycophants with allegiance to him. From early 2000, Mohapatra scripted almost all the moves of Naveen,

including advising him on the day-to-day running of the state. Naveen, a political greenhorn, depended on "uncle" Mohapatra and suggested his bureaucrats and ministers to often consult the retired bureaucrat on policy matters and politics. Mohapatra scripted plans to eliminate the importance of elected leaders and make the bureaucracy fillup the vacuum under his leadership. Mohapatra soon acquired a larger-than-life image in the party with bureaucrats queuing up before his house for orders on some policy issues.

But post-2009 polls, the bond between the two men showed signs of cracks as Mohapatra tried to assert himself as the most important leader of the party but Naveen asked his bureaucrats not to report to his political advisor. Mohapatra fell from grace on May 29, 2012, when he allegedly tried to engineer a coup in the party while Naveen was away in London on his first overseas trip after becoming CM. Mohapatra was ungraciously shown the door, but the legacy he planted in the system continued rather grown to colossal proportions.

Post-2019 polls, the

a l r e a d y consolidated Babudom begins to use the police force to get the murkiest jobs done to create paranoia among the people. Consequently, the cops extensively used coercive methods in the checking of helmets and seat belts and never the least the checking for masks in the name of awareness. A man capable of spending about lack for a two-wheeler, and round ten lacks for a car is certainly not an idiot of the ordinary order who needs preaching by a constable the importance of safety in driving! He is the authentic citizen of soon to be a developed nation, not colonies. Rather the police force urgently needs to learn the etiquette to deal with the citizenry. If not, why the cases of custodial deaths and tortures are on the rise?

No hesitance to say it a transition of power. People of the state have deposed faith in Naveen to rule. The mandate is only for him, to govern democratically, not ever autocratically. If the bureaucracy can run the governments, why there are elections and change of governments? The process is like a costly medicine that prolongs life, can't make it immortal! 

Letter to the Editor

Dear Sir,

Your Editorial A bend in the Baitrani is highly informative and educative was a pleasure to read. Being a native of Keonjhar district River Baitrani has been quenching the thirst of every living entity including me and I hardly knew about its 65 tributaries and the formation of hexadeltaic region in the coastal region. It was also shocking to know that most of the arable land is not cultivated. I wish this fertile land is cultivated then I am sure our state could easily overtake West Bengal in terms of rice production and Punjab in terms of wheat cultivation, or perhaps we could have been self-sufficient in producing vegetables which now we are heavily dependent on neighboring states for our consumption. Your article has enlightened and has highlighted what potential we have and couldn't recognize our strengths.

River Baitrani travels a mere 360 kms but the tremendous amount of wealth it leaves behind is phenomenal. It is Ratnabhandara but the irony is the children of River Baitrani are struggling for bare minimum civic requirements.

You have covered every aspect in your editorial but I felt as if the conditions of roads should have found a place in your editorial, people living in this region are leading a pathetic life when it comes to traveling on roads. As you have highlighted the mining revenue has crossed 12000 crores but this place is next to hell for people residing here. In absence of proper roads, traffic jams are a common sight. In addition to this, there is a blanket of dust that covers the towns.

As a responsible citizen, I appeal to the CM through your magazine to kindly look at this matter on a priority basis

Amarjit Mohanty
Entrepreneur and social activist

This column is open to all our esteemed readers to voice their valued opinion on the contents of the Industry and Mines Observer.

Editor

The terrible year 2020 as I see it : Sirish C Mohanty

If you told me at the beginning of the year that 2020 would go down in the annals of history as one of the most terrible years, I would flout at you as a pessimist of the highest order.



If you told me at the beginning of the year that 2020 would go down in the annals of history as one of the worst years, I would flout at you as a pessimist of the highest order. When the year crept up on us unsuspectingly, the mood was one of positivity and cheer. There is something about the beginning of a new decade that makes us set unrealistic targets for ourselves. Yours truly fell for the hype too. While nowadays I usually stay away from New Year resolutions, I allowed myself the luxury of making a few for myself. I would use the beginning of

the new decade to make myself healthy, wealthy, and wise. Of course, it's a different matter that I put in no effort to ensure I was early to bed, or early to rise. But a new decade brings with it new possibilities, I told myself and decided that 2020 would be the best year of my life. Little did I know that the beginning of the decade brings anaebretia of viruses, locusts, and the endangered mother nature!

If 2020 was tried in court, it would find it hard to defend itself. How does one justify riots across the world, a virus that has affected nearly 7million people, the death of 1.54 million with no cure in sight, economies crashing to the ground, and natural calamities? But if one were to peek into history, how does 2020 hold when compared to other disastrous years?

Take, for example, the Bubonic plague - a repeat offender that wiped off millions of people in the 6th, 14th and 18th

century, at a time when there existed no media and information, and scientific temper was restricted to praying to god to help people survive. If we move closer home, India witnessed five catastrophic famines in 1769, 1789, 1791, 1866, and 1943 where an estimated 50 million people died out of hunger. Is it possible to quantify the death and destruction of tragedies caused by humans - like the Holocaust or the atomic bombing of Japan? Probably not.

If anything, we in 2020 have access to media and information. We can alert each other about the dangers that are coming, and sharing resources related to preparedness. There's also the other fact that tragedy is personal, and through many parts of my life, I concluded that a particular year was the worst year, ever. As an energetic young man, no year could be more tragic than 1970.

It was the year my beloved wife passed away leaving behind a 4-month old infant. To keep the motherless infant alive, I had to swim to cross a swelling wild river the Mushal to procure a tin of Amul milk powder and I was off from my teaching job at school. Finally, left the place where I was born and grew up, in a new place that is it now with a new job that I'm still doing.

Then there was the year 2000 when I was ungraciously fighting to retain my youth in vain, enter my mature age little short of that of a senior citizen. It was a year when I had only two reasons that kept me going- uniting journalists to fight for their legitimate rights and spiling Madhuri Dixit. The latter would effectively retire from acting in 2000, and her charisma eloped with the painter MaqbulFida Hussain. My first favorite- fighting for the rights of the journalists was marred with comrades' betrayal to satiate narrow



interest. If I wrote this column back then, I would have undoubtedly called 2000 the worst year to be alive as a fighter for the cause of the scribes. The sense of betrayal I felt was beyond any grief I have felt ever since.

So perhaps it makes no sense to indulge in name-calling. Let us all give 2020 a few more chances. Even if the world seems to be burning all around us, perhaps the second half of 2020 makes a dramatic turnaround. This is a leap year, after all, the year the Americans chose their new government, while Japan's longest-serving Prime Minister Shinzo Abe retires

due to his fragile health. The world's most intelligent-inhabited Europe begins to identify its foolishness to have accepted easy Chinese investments and cheap labor. Communist China's hegemony over Asia including India comes to a humiliating cringe. Prime Minister Modi lays the foundation to construct a new Parliament building to be ready by 2022. Most significantly, the vaccine for the killer pandemic is almost ready for mass immunization across the globe, and for that 2020 would go down in the annals of history. Maybe what 2020 gives is a leap of faith from our side!

Allopaths object to surgery to be a part of Ayurveda

The government has notified compulsory surgical procedures for PG students of Ayurveda. How does Ayurveda deal with surgery, and why is the Indian Medical Association upset with the notification?

Pune : On November 19, a government notification listed out specific surgical procedures that a postgraduate medical student of Ayurveda must be "practically trained

to acquaint with, as well as to independently perform". The notification has invited sharp criticism from the Indian Medical Association, which questioned the competence of Ayurveda practitioners to carry out these procedures, and called the notification an attempt at "mixopathy".

The IMA has planned nationwide protests on December 8 against this notification and has

threatened to withdraw all non-essential and non-Covid services on December 11.

How far is surgery part of Ayurveda?

It is not that Ayurveda practitioners are not trained in surgeries, or do not perform them. They take pride in the fact that their methods and practices trace their origins to Sushruta, an ancient Indian sage and physician, whose comprehensive medical

treatise Sushruta Samhita has, apart from descriptions of illnesses and cures, also detailed accounts of surgical procedures and instruments.

P Hemantha Kumar, professor and head of the department of general surgery at the government-run National Institute of Ayurveda in Jaipur, claims that at least 1,000 major surgeries are performed every year at his hospital. "There



would be many more minor surgeries being done," he said.

There are two branches of surgery in Ayurveda - Shalya Tantra, which refers to general surgery, and Shalakya Tantra which pertains to surgeries related to the eyes, ears, nose,

throat, and teeth. All postgraduate students of Ayurveda have to study these courses, and some go on to specialize in these and become Ayurveda surgeons.

Nandkishore Borse, head of the department (P-15)

Oath Taking Ceremony Held For RPOP Office Bearers



New Delhi: The oath-taking ceremony of the newly-elected office-bearers of the apex body of non - resident Odias, Rashtriya Prabasi Odia Paribar (RPOP) was held Yesterday. Organized both on an online and offline basis, the new team was

extended a warm welcome and profusely greeted by their members, activists, volunteers, friends, followers, and well-wishers during the meeting. The entire assembly wished the new Executive Committee members of Paribar all the best for their ensuing tenure

and roaring success in their public service career. Former diplomat Amarendra Khatua and senior bureaucrat Sanjiv Patjoshi administered the oath of office and commitment to the newly elected 9 office bearers of the RPOP. Renowned

Philanthropist and the New Chief Convenor of Paribar, Prabir Mohanty took the oath in the name of Lord Jagannath first. Others who read the oath paper afterward were just elected president eminent social leader Minaketan Samal. Two vice presidents Pushpanjali Barik and Reeta Patra, General Secretary Minaketan Mishra, two Joint Secretaries Sarita Mohapatra and Santosh Rout, Treasurer Basant Jena, and co-treasurer Ajit Parida. By reading their oath papers the new office bearers vowed to work for ensuring unity, brotherhood, and prosperity among the nonresident Odias residing in Delhi and adjoining National Capital Region. They pledged to

dedicate themselves wholeheartedly to preach and perpetuate the soul philosophy of the Paribar, "One Odia: Best Odia". The Office Bearers also affirmed their commitment to promote, propagate, and popularize the language, culture, tradition, and heritage of their mother state Odisha in and outside of the state. The New team declared their resolution to earn recognition for the sacrifice and honor of the Odia race in the International arena. All the new executive committee members of the RPOP along with their family members and supporters congregated at the Jagannath temple in Thyagaraja Nagar, New Delhi, and worshipped the Lord. They sought God's

blessings for the success of their new findings. The oath administering session was conducted at the Subhadra Kala Mandap on the rooftop of the temple. Distinguished guests present during the occasion include noted poet Chandramani Brahmadatt, Senior Journalist Kishore Dwivedi, Corporate Wizard Bimal Bhal, Advocate Krushna Chandra Nayak, and social activist Jhum Jhum Padhi. The entire Programme was neatly presented and well Coordinated by Ace Computers Akash Mohanty and Anil Sahu. Covid protocol was strictly followed during the function.

Swara Samarpan Hosts International Digital Jagannath Jagaran

Puri : Puri witnessed the first-ever International Shri Jagannath Jagaran Puja and World Peace Yagnya recently. Delhi based front-ranking Cultural Organisation "Swara Samarpan" hosted the grand religious Jamboree both on an online and offline basis. The Head Priest of Shri Jagannath Temple Mahanayak Rama Chandra Badapanda Samant presided over both the Puja rituals and Mahayagna. The main motto of the massive exercise is to invoke the Lord of the Universe to protect mankind from the danger and devastation caused by Corona Pandemic and to bless each human being with

physical and mental safety, security, sagacity, and eternity. Addressing the gathering the Badapanda Shri Samant appealed to the devotees to spread the quintessence of the cult and culture of the Lord of the Universe to the nook and corner of the world through Shri Jagannath Jagaran Puja. Attending the ceremony as Guest of Honour famous religious leader Gourishankar Singhari explained that Lord Jagannath is omnipresent. His grandeur is widespread and His miracle is felt everywhere. Delivering his welcome address the main

Organiser, renowned vocalist and Founder of Swara Samarpan Acharya Abhimanyu informed that the Jagannath temples across the Globe will be interconnected through a video Conferencing system during this Jagannath Jagaran Jatra. The Purpose of the Jagaran Puja is to project, Promote and popularise the age-old and unique worshipping verses of the Lord among the devotees in the different states of India and all over the world in their local languages. Shri Acharya recommended the recital of Jagannath Jagaran Puja during auspicious occasions like home entry, birth anniversary, children's

naming, sacred thread, and wedding ceremonies. It is worth mentioned here that originally conceptualized, choreographed, and presented by Acharya Abhimanyu in the year 2016, Shri Jagannath Jagaran Puja received wide appreciation among the spiritual circle. Shri Acharya gave a clarion call to worldwide Lord Jagannath's worshippers to extend helping hands for the success of this spiritual venture. Held at the historical Shri Jagannath Ballav Math the grand Event was attended by dignitaries like priests, saints, Researchers, preachers, thought leaders, and



religious Gurus. The inaugural function was successfully conducted with the active and able supervision of senior

organizers like Damayanti Nayak, Kishore Chandra Jena, and Harsh Kumar Gupta.

A Race To Space

Maitreyi Shakalya, Member, International Relations Committee, DMS of IIT Delhi

In a historic decision, on June 24, 2020, the Modi government opened India's space programs for private companies. Now the private sector can participate in the entire range of space-related activities. The newly formed Indian Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre (IN-SPACe) will act as an arm of ISRO and help regulate and facilitate the Indian space sector. The private players will now be allowed to use ISRO's scientific and technical resources, infrastructure, and data for their programs.

India accounted for merely 3% of the global \$360 million space industry, of which only 2% is rockets and satellite launch. There was scarce participation from the private companies till now, which was primarily limited to the manufacturing and fabrication of components.

Most sectors today, ranging from transport to weather to even agriculture, need satellite data and imageries to chalk out their future business plans. ISRO would have to grow ten folds to cater to the growing demands within India effectively. This inability of ISRO to satisfy the ever-increasing requirements has led to the need for private companies to share this load without compromising on the

quality of the solutions. This need of the hour and the timely change in the regulations has led to the introduction of a few startups who are leveraging their skill sets and ideas for a better future for India.

Pixxel is India's first private earth imaging company, working to provide affordably and round the clock real-time satellite imagery. Pixxel has raised \$5 million seed funding from Light Speed, GrowX and is set to launch the first satellite by December this year from a Russian facility. Between December 2022 and June 2023, Pixxel has planned to launch a constellation of 30 satellites with the help of ISRO.

Skyroot, India's first space launch startup, was founded two years ago by a rocket engineer team who previously worked at ISRO. The startup has raised \$4.3 million to date and hopes to secure another \$51 million in 2021. It will launch its first satellite, "Vikram-1," in December 2021. They have reduced the engine's mass by 50% and lead time for manufacturing by 80% using 3D print technology. Vikram-2 and Vikram-3 are planned to be launched around 2023 and hence compete with SpaceX.

Astrome is a startup focusing on low internet connectivity in rural areas and different cities

across India. It could potentially compete with SpaceX to work upon connectivity problems by beaming high bandwidth internet. At IISc, the 18-member team plans to launch 200 microsatellites by 2021 into space to provide the internet with 100GBps capacity via their patented MM technology.

Agnikul Cosmos, incubated in IIT Madras, aims to democratize small satellite launches and is looking forward to its first launch by 2022. Intending to launch vehicle-spaceport interfaces, the company has established itself as a leading rocket technology company. The company aims to provide rapid, agile, and low-cost access to space. ISRO is working on the launch of more massive satellites, while Agnikul targets the market where thousands of satellites of around 100kg are set to be launched across the world.

From a million-dollar industry in the early '20s, Space tech valuations have reached a whopping \$360 Billion industry in 2019. The Indian Space economy is currently valued to be 2% of the global space economy. Indian space-tech ecosystem is a dark horse that is expected to increase its market share with a significant cost advantage, a large skilled human resource pool,

and high consumer-driven local demand for telecommunications. There were merely five significant deals in India amounting to just \$3.4 million. The downstream space sector consisting of satellite communication and application consisted of 68% and the upstream industry of satellite propulsion, launch vehicle, a lunar rover-based application consisted of 32% of the investment. At present, the ISRO undertakes two to three major satellite launches a year.

The Pillai committee recommended a greater role for the private sector for using ISRO facilities for satellite launches taking the number of annual launches to 15. The downstream space segment consists of the application of satellites for communication, scientific research, weather forecasting, geological and oceanographic studies, disaster management, agricultural studies, and all products and services related to these areas. With the right use of data analytics capabilities coupled with artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML) algorithms, the data generated by remote sensing satellites can be of immense value for decision making. There is huge scope for the commercialization of the ground operations like



mission support, satellite broadband gateways, and 5G backhauling. The future scope of public-private partnership is dependent on how well the two entities can work together to achieve a common goal. The need for the load-sharing has led to the change in the rules and regulations thereby leading to the public-private partnership which seems to be giving satisfactory results at the moment; however, various initiatives such as upskilling talent force, encouraging FDI, developing investor's confidence and technological innovations, etc., need to consistently increase which will require a perfect balance between the two entities. InSPACe is expected to be functional within the next few months. Even though the internal threats such as domination of profitability interests over society should be of prime importance, we cannot

ignore the foreign threats at the same time. The ambitions, current rate of raising funds, and the technological advancements of the Start-ups along with considering affordability and agility will lead to significant growth opportunities in the Indian space arena in the upcoming future and will help the start-ups to take the legacy of ISRO further, thereby strengthening India's position in the space sector. The estimated growth in the space sector, before involving the private entities was 5% by 2023; however, considering the current scenario, the new growth estimate is 7% by 2023. Therefore, it is more about uniting, evolving, advancing, spreading peace, and fighting against our enemy, if need be. So, let us win over the internal conflicts and secure our motherland by winning the race to space.

Grand BJP Show Mars TRS Victory

TRS loses vote share too, AIMIM retains vote bank but Cong routed in GHMC polls



Hyderabad : The ruling Telangana Rashtrasamiti (TRS) headed by K. Chandrasekhara Rao might have managed to retain the cash-rich Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) but not before suffering some considerable embarrassment.

Not only has the TRS lost its vote share, but lost 30 seats that it won in the 2016 polls.

Contrary to this, the BJP not only increased its vote share from a mere 10 to 36 percent but also managed to win 48 seats, the TRS in 55 and AIMIM in 42).

Interestingly, the AIMIM has managed to retain its minority vote bank by winning 42 out of 44 seats they won in the last polls. AIMIM legislator Akbaruddin Owaisi's speeches which went viral on social

media seem to have benefited the BJP most but cost its "discreet" ally, the TRS, dear. In the 2016 polls, the TRS had won 99 of the 150 seats and created a history of sorts, while the AIMIM 44. The TRS's decision to go solo in the polls was not to lose its Hindu vote bank, but if poll results are anything to go by, it did not impress the voters much.

And, the worst sufferer in the polls is the Congress, which failed to improve its performance since the last Assembly polls. One of the reasons may be because the party is losing its credibility as most of its MLAs or councilors chose to jump onto the TRS bandwagon. As a result, the voter too seems to have realized that voting for that party is as good as voting for the TRS.

The BJP which has emerged

strongly in the GHMC polls is likely to occupy the principal Opposition role, dislodging the Congress from its roots.

What the TRS did not realize was that its surprise move to bring the polls forwards by a month-and-half and get endorsed by its hand-picked state election commissioner would misfire. The BJP, fresh from its Dubbak victory, has not only accepted KCR's challenge but has also taught yet another hard lesson to his party and government. It quickly roped in its national leaders, including the national party leader JP Nadda and the Union home minister Amit Shah, besides other political heavyweights like Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath.

The BJP top guns' decision to campaign indeed rattled the

TRS, though not much the AIMIM. The AIMIM appears to have taken advantage of some hardcore BJP leaders' presence in election campaigns like Yogi to its advantage to win back its cadres.

took place after Independence?" he wondered. He held the saffron party responsible for creating fear psychosis among people to stay indoors and skip voting, which led to a low turnout.

Though the Congress's performance was dismal yet again, it managed to win a couple of seats and blamed the ruling TRS, BJP, and AIMIM, who all communalized the campaigning with their unwarranted language. "In such a scenario, the BJP managed to benefit the most," said senior Congress leader Marri Shashidhar Reddy.

Meanwhile, there is a possibility that some senior Congress leaders, who realized that the party has no future in the state, are waiting to cross over to the BJP camp. They have sent feelers that they are willing to join if they get an invite from top BJP leaders like either Amit Shah or Nadda. Prominent names that are making rounds are the Congress MP

Komatireddy Venkatreddy and another former MP Konda Vishweshwar Reddy. Konda Vishweshwar Reddy, who left TRS to join Congress just before the last Lok Sabha polls, had also tweeted saying that the BJP's emergence as a strong force in the state is an undeniable fact. Already, his tweet has stirred a hornet's nest that his intentions now appear to switch over to the saffron party.

Mamata on wrong footing before the approaching polls

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee and her nephew, the so-called 'Super Chief Minister' Abhishek Banerjee, are suddenly on the offensive because they are finding it difficult to defend themselves against public anger. The levels of corruption, nepotism, and arrogance seen in West Bengal under the TMC rule are so perverse that sitting ministers in the Mamata government are complaining that there is no merit being considered, cut money is the rule, and the nephew dictates and Mamata nods at violence, extortion, threats, appeasement of criminals and anti-national elements, to keep her hold on power.

The Bharatiya Janata Party, which sprang a surprise in the 2019 Lok Sabha elections, is breathing down their necks as the ground beneath the TMC rule shifts.

The tragedy of Mamata Banerjee is that she began by fighting for people's rights, and when in power, she fought with people who asked for those same rights. The lady who acted as the voice of the poor and landless in Singur, robbed them when she was in power as exemplified in the Narada and Saradha scam, where the TMC party, ministers, and MPs acted in connivance with corporates and chit fund operators to loot the poorest, landless and voiceless in the society. The voters of West Bengal

have seen the real face behind the mask of speaking for the poor and the farmers.

Suvendu Adhikari and others like him who built TMC in West Bengal are feeling suffocated in TMC. They see that except for daily humiliation at the hands of Abhishek Banerjee, whose wife was questioned for having a Thai passport, there is no development work possible in TMC. Mukul Roy, a confidante of Mamata Banerjee, left her when he saw through the Maa, Mati, Manush slogan.

The rise in political killings is part of a larger design to excite her base among criminals and illegal infiltrators to suppress the voice of ordinary West Bengal citizens and



frighten them. Mamata is giving a bone-chilling message to Bengalis: that if members of the BJP, the party in power at the Centre, are dying in West Bengal by the dozens, then who can save the normal citizens? The police in West Bengal have been bypassing all norms of rule of law and have become an extension

of the CM's office to further the political aims of the TMC. Mamata Banerjee has also forgotten the Constitutional duty of working for all citizens and is exclusively focusing on minority appeasement for power. This is the real reason why the voters of West Bengal have chosen the path of a silent

revolution: revenge by vote.

The writing on the wall is clear. West Bengal will see a democratic shift in politics in 2021, away from TMC's politics of political murders, exploitation of the poorest, corruption which leads to the destruction of the rights of the voiceless.

Expelled Pradeep Panigrahi Arrested

Panigrahi, till recently considered close to CM Naveen Patnaik, has been arrested on hurriedly framed charges of forgery, fraud, and criminal conspiracy

Bhubaneswar, Dec 4: In development with few precedents in the state, former minister and sitting MLA from Gopalpur Pradeep Panigrahi was arrested by the Crime

Akash, along with his father, senior Indian Forest Service (IFS) officer Abhaykant Pathak, has already been arrested for amassing huge amounts of money disproportionate to their known sources of income.

Panigrahi came under the scanner after it emerged during an investigation into the case of

about how he was taken away. A group of 12-15 Crime Branch officials, including some women, descended on Panigrahi's residence and whisked him away to an unknown destination, she claimed. "When I asked them where they were taking my husband, they said to the Economic Offences Wing (EOW). But when I reached the EOW, he was not there. I fear for the safety of my husband. If something happens to him, Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik will be responsible for it," she told the media.

Panigrahi was being questioned in connection with a case registered against him (case no 26/20202). The arrest came after he was grilled for two and a half hours. Sources in the CB said the agency may seek the remand of the arrested Gopalpur MLA to dig more into the case and may grill him face to face with the Pathak father-son duo, who are already in its custody.

There is little doubt that the case against Panigrahi has political undertones. But given the evidence of fraud that has already emerged during the disproportionate assets case against the Pathak father-son, it is difficult to see how he can wriggle out of the case. The state vigilance has already unearthed evidence of disproportionate earnings worth more than Rs 16 crores and expects to unravel more by the time the probe ends. With tell-tale evidence emerging now about money being funneled into Akash's account through Panigrahi, the former Naveen acolyte may well be in for a long haul.



Branch of Odisha Police on charges of forgery, fraud, and criminal conspiracy late on Thursday and sent to judicial custody for 14 days after his bail plea was rejected by the Bhubaneswar sub-divisional judicial magistrate (SDJM). In an equally rare happening, he had been expelled from the BJD for alleged 'anti-people' activities last Sunday.

Panigrahi has been charged with facilitating the duping of 68 youths in Ganjam district by his would-be son-in-law Akash Pathak, who has been arrested for collecting huge amounts of money from these youths by posing as the managing director (MD) of Tata Motors and promising them jobs in the company. Various sections of the Indian Penal Code (IPC), as well as the IT Act, have been pressed against the Gopalpur MLA, sources in the Crime Branch said.

disproportionate assets against Pathak that he (Panigrahi), along with the family of his would-be in-laws, had undertaken several trips to Mumbai, Pune, and other places on chartered flights and splurged huge sums of money in swanky hotels during and after the lockdown. But the arrest came only after specific evidence emerged during the ongoing Crime Branch probe that there were financial transactions worth over Rs 2.63 crores in Panigrahi's bank account in the last few months, a source in the CB said. The probe revealed that huge amounts of money had been deposited into Panigrahi's account, which had later been transferred to Akash's account.

The arrest of Panigrahi came under dramatic circumstances on Thursday evening with his wife raising questions

Odisha Girls Shine At Miss India Charming Face 2020



Bhubaneswar : The Miss India Charming Face 2020 is finally over, and guess what! Odisha has very strongly declared its presence in the beauty pageant held in Goa last weekend. On November 28, not one or two, several young models from Odisha brought laurels for the State by winning different titles at the 4th ICF (India's Charming Face) Miss India 2020. In the national pageant, there were two categories - Miss India Global universe, and Miss India Tourism. 24-year-old Priyanka Mohapatra from Jatni was crowned the winner of the Miss India Charming Face Tourism. Odisha's BabitaSabar, Sasmita Panda, and Aparna Dash were adjudged the first, second, and third runner-ups, respectively in

the Miss India Tourism category. What their achievement has proved is beauty isn't just about a pretty face, but an outstanding personality brimming with confidence. BabitaSabar also has a Miss Intellectual subtitle in her name while Sasmita Panda holds the subtitle of Miss Graceful. Sasmita is from Jagatsinghpur and wants to be a successful actress, and has done many music videos too. For her, this pageant was a new experience and now she thinks she is determined and ready for the next phases in life. BabitaSabar is a small-town girl from southern Odisha. Interestingly, she happens to be the first girl from the Soura tribal community to have stepped into the fashion industry with so much glory. She

aspires to be a supermodel one day. In the Miss India Global Universe category, Kirtana Raj has crowned the winner and Shruti the first runner-up. Odisha's PragatiSahu and Anwesha Bhanjadeo were declared the second and third runner-ups. "There's absolutely no doubt that Odisha is famous for its culture, custom, tradition which blends well with the beauty. Their win has proved that," said the regional director of Miss India Charming Face, Rajesh Ranjan Mohanty. The finale of the national pageant saw the participation of models from many States after they qualified the state-level round. Six contestants from Odisha were selected to represent the State.

From Page-1

Aspiring Odisha...

to Business services have been developed by various departments of the State," he added. Patnaik also said that to further ensure that the service delivery is prompt, the timelines for the services have also been included under the state's Right to Public Services Act. "Learning from past experiences, the State has also developed a land bank dedicated to industries. Over 1,00,000 acres of land has been made available on a GIS-based platform for easy site selection by industries," Patnaik added. In the past two decades, several leading companies from across the country have set up their base in the State. Odisha has been recognized as an investment destination of choice over the years, he noted. The state Chief Minister added that over the past few months, the state has also taken various initiatives to attract new investments in the identified focus sectors. "Our officials have held discussions with institutions and industries from Japan, the Republic of Korea, USA, and Vietnam to showcase the business ecosystem and investment opportunities in the state. I am happy to note that the investor sentiment towards Odisha is extremely encouraging," he further added. DrSangita Reddy, President, FICCI said that it makes for a fascinating story as to how Odisha has transformed itself into one of the most promising states in the country; how bureaucratic red tape has given way to the red carpet for the investors; as to how a state battered by natural calamities has become a model for managing disasters; as to how a state always short of skilled manpower has created a brand for Skilled in Odisha.

Kadaknath, The Unique Black Chicken

Demand for Kadaknath, a unique black fowl found in the tribal-dominated Jhabua district of Madhya Pradesh has seen a surge amid rising COVID-19 cases, of late.

According to government officials, amid the virus outbreak, the demand for black chicken (Kadakanth) has gone up sizably these days. The demand had dwindled amid lockdown induced by the

COVID-19 outbreak but ever since the unlock has come into effect, the demand is going up all the time.

The state government seeing the surge in demand has chalked out a plan to enhance its production and sale to ensure that the income of poultry farm owners is increased, an official statement of the MP government said.

This chicken has black

color skin, blood, and meat. Besides having immunity boosting features, the meat is low on fat, high on protein, and is beneficial for those suffering from heart, breathing, and anemic ailments, it added.

A total of 300 members from registered poultry farms in Jhabua, Alirajpur, Barwani, and Dhar districts to boost co-operative farming of this breed, said Addl Chief Secretary

Animal Husbandry JS Kansotia.

The poultry owners from across the country are coming to our hatchery in their vehicles to buy Kadaknath chicks, IS Tomar, chief of Jhabua's Krishi Vigyan Kendra said.

The KVK although hasn't carried out any separate scientific study regarding Kadaknath chicken in the backdrop of



Covid-19, it is a known and fact that this variety of chicken has a higher amount of protein and is low in fat and cholesterol than other breeds of chickens, said Tomar.

Vinod Meda, head of a Jhabua district-based cooperative organization associated with the production of this fowl, claimed the demand for this chicken has surged during the pandemic.

Kadaknath chicken from Jhabua district had got a Geographical Indication (GI) tag last year.

This variety of chicken, which is mainly reared in Jhabua and called 'Kalamasi' in the local dialect, is registered under the category of "Meat Product, Poultry, and Poultry Meat.

Eggs and chicken of this breed fetch almost ten times the normal ones.

The convoy of BJP's JP Nadda, Kailash Vijayvargiya attacked in Diamond Harbour



Kolkata : On his way to West Bengal's Diamond Harbour to attend a party event, Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) national president JP Nadda's convoy was attacked on Thursday. Protestors, standing at both sides of the road, hurled stones at Nadda's motorcade, alleged party's West Bengal chief Dilip Ghosh. BJP's national secretary and party's chief observer in West Bengal, Kailash Vijayvargiya's car was also at the receiving of stone-pelting. He shared a video on his official Twitter handle of stones being tossed at his car, leaving window panes and the front of the car damaged. "On our way to Diamond Harbour, TMC supporters

blocked the road and pelted Naddaji's vehicle and other cars in the convoy with stones. This only shows the true color of the TMC," Ghosh said.

Nadda, who is on a two-day tour of West Bengal to see the party's preparation for the 2021 Assembly polls in West Bengal, landed in Kolkata on Wednesday. Hew was greeted by protestors with the black flag during his first event of the Bengal visit.

On his way to inaugurate the party's election control room at Hastings in Kolkata, Nadda faced the heat of unknown protestors. They were reportedly against the three new farm laws introduced by the BJP government at the Centre.

Two security failures in as many days compelled

Ghosh to write to Amit Shah, Union Home Minister of India. Reportedly, Shah has summoned for a report from the West Bengal administration about the security arrangement for Nadda, following Ghosh's writing. BJP has alleged TMC-backed miscreants of creating the unrest ahead of Nadda's scheduled program

in Diamond Harbour, a coastal town in West Bengal's South 24 Parganas district.

Meanwhile, earlier on the day, a local leader was attacked before Nadda's visit. Diamond Harbour's president of BJP, Surajit Halder, was physically assaulted on Thursday morning. He has been taken to the hospital.

Another local leader, named Santana Mondal, was also at the receiving end of an onslaught, reported Bengali portal The Wall.

On both occasions, the Hindutva camp has alleged TMC of being the mastermind behind the attacks. The governing party, though, has refused the accusations. According to local BJP leadership, they were

preparing for Nadda's event and were putting the party's flags and banners in Diamond Harbour's Notunpole area.

At around 6 in the morning on Thursday, the BJP workers were attacked by TMC-supported goons with firearms, proclaimed the saffron party. Apart from Halder, several other BJP workers were wounded in the attack.

Best Wishes from ::

RADHE RADHE



Tata Power gets LoI for Odisha's WESCO and SOUTCO



New Delhi : Tata Power Co. Ltd on Friday announced that it has received the Letter of Intent (LOI) for supplying electricity to the consumers of two electricity distribution companies (discoms) in Odisha-the Western Electricity Supply Company of Odisha Ltd (WESCO) and the Southern Electricity Supply Utility of Odisha Ltd (SOUTHCO). Mint first reported on Thursday about Tata Power emerging as the winner in

bids for these two discoms in the privatization exercise. While WESCO supplies electricity to consumers in the distribution circles of Rourkela, Burla, Balgarh, Bolangir, and Bhawanipatna, SOUTCO serves Behrampur, Aska, Bhanjanagar, Jeypore, and Rayagada. Tata Power in a statement on Friday said that it has received the Letter of Intent (LOI) from the Odisha Electricity Regulatory Commission (OERC) for the

distribution and retail supply of electricity in Odisha's five circles of WESCO and six circles of SOUTHCO. A consortium of India Power Corp. and French government-owned power utility Electricite de France (EDF) were the only other bidders for WESCO and SOUTCO respectively. However, their bids weren't technically qualified, resulting in only Tata Power's bids being opened on Thursday. While PwC

was managing the sale of WESCO, Deloitte had the sale mandate for SOUTHCO.

"As per conditions of bid documentation Tata Power will hold 51 percent equity with management control and the state-owned

(CESU Odisha) last December. Tata Power is also now the only bidder for North Eastern Electricity Supply Company of Odisha Ltd (NESCO), which supplies electricity to the districts of Balasore, Mayurbhanj, Keonjhar,

Odisha has an average power demand of 4,000 MW. It was the first state to privatize its power distribution sector into four discoms in 1999. This was followed by Delhi, which privatized three of its discoms in July 2002-BSES Rajdhani Power Ltd (BRPL), BSES Yamuna Power Ltd (BYPL), and Tata Power Delhi Distribution Ltd.

"While WESCO serves close to 2.0 million consumers with annual input energy of 7520 MUs, SOUTHCO serves close to 2.3 million consumers with annual input energy of 3470 MUs. With WESCO and SOUTHCO, with the addition of both the discoms, Tata Power's consumer base will reach 10 million consumers from the present base of 5.7 million across Mumbai, Delhi, Central part of Odisha and Ajmer," the statement added.

With the two distribution coms, Tata Power will be supplying electricity to consumers in Mumbai, Delhi, Central part of Odisha, and Ajmer

GRIDCO will have the remaining 49 percent equity stake in the company," the statement added.

This comes after Tata Power won a 25-year license for distribution and retail supply of power in five circles of Central Electricity Supply Utility of Odisha

Jajpur, and Bhadrak, which has prompted the OERC to seek legal opinion.

"It is a proud moment for us. We are thankful to the Odisha Government and OERC for giving us this opportunity," said Praveer Sinha, CEO, and MD, Tata Power in the statement.

From Page-9

Allopaths object...

of surgery at Tilak Ayurveda College and Tarachand Hospital, a semi-government facility in Pune, said for several surgeries Ayurvedic procedures almost exactly match those of modern medicine about how or where to make a cut or incision, and how to perform the operation. There are significant divergences in post-operative care, however.

"The only thing that we do not do is super-specialty surgeries, like neurosurgery. For most other needs, there are surgical procedures in Ayurveda. It is not very different from allopathic medicine," Hemantha Kumar said.

Before the notification, what were the regulations

for postgraduate students?

Postgraduate education in Ayurveda is guided by the Indian Medical Central Council (Post Graduate Education) Regulations framed from time to time. Currently, the regulations formulated in 2016 are in force. The latest notification of November 19 is an amendment to the 2016 regulations.

The 2016 regulations allow postgraduate students to specialize in Shalya Tantra, Shalakya Tantra, and Prasuti evam Stree Roga (Obstetrics and Gynecology), the three disciplines involving major surgical interventions. Students of these three disciplines are granted MS (Master in Surgery in

Ayurveda) degrees.

Ayurveda practitioners point out that students enrolling in Ayurveda courses have to pass the same NEET (National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test). Their course runs for four-and-a-half years, followed by one year of internship, six months of which are spent at an Ayurveda hospital, and the remaining six months at a civil or general hospital, or a primary health care center.

Postgraduate courses require another three years of study. They also have to undergo clinical postings in the Outpatient and Inpatient departments at hospitals apart from getting hands-on training in Ayurvedic treatment procedures. Medico-legal

issues, surgical ethics, and informed consent is also part of the course apart from teaching Sushruta's surgical principles and practices, said Dr Vinayak Temburnekar, National President of National Integrated Medical Association (NIMA).

Ayurveda practitioners say the latest notification just brings clarity to the skills that an Ayurveda practitioner possesses.

"The surgeries that have been mentioned in the notification are all that are already part of the Ayurveda course. But there is little awareness about these. A patient is usually not clear whether an Ayurvedic practitioner has the necessary skill to perform one of these

operations. Now, they know exactly what an Ayurveda doctor is capable of. The skill sets have been defined. This will remove question marks on the ability of an Ayurveda practitioner," Hemantha Kumar of the Jaipur-based National Institute of Ayurveda said.

What are the IMA's objections?

IMA doctors insist that they are not opposed to the practitioners of the ancient system of medicine. But they say the new notification somehow gives the impression that the skills or training of the Ayurveda doctor in performing modern surgeries are the same as those practicing modern medicine. This, they say, is misleading, and an

"encroachment into the jurisdiction and competencies of modern medicine".

The fact that Ayurveda institutions prescribe textbooks from modern medicine, or that they carry out surgeries with the help of practitioners of modern medicine, is not reason enough to allow this encroachment, said K M Abul Hasan, chairman of the IMA Junior Doctors' Network.

The IMA has demanded that the notification, as well as the NITI Aayog, move towards 'One Nation One System' be withdrawn. "If the government does not accept our demands, IMA will file a petition in the Supreme Court," said R V Asokan, Secretary-General of IMA.

Recreating The Golden Era Of Film Songs



The velvety voice of Talat Mehmood and the seductive voice of Ameen Sayani can instantly lift one's mood.

Listening to Sudip Banerjee singing the songs sung by the velvet-voiced Talat Mehmood was a bit of an emotional ride. The songs in themselves are mostly layered with melancholy, rich in imagery, and set to tunes that flowed like moonlight over water when Talat sang them. As suited the music of the composers who used his tremulous voice to advantage, among them Anil Biswas, Khayyam, SD Burman, and Madan Mohan, the orchestration supported the voice, setting it off like a softly gleaming jewel, letting the words slide over the tune and reach the heart. Talat, popularly called the King of Ghazals took the genre in films to its height, and the songs wooed, lamented, or celebrated love in its many moods for heroes as diverse as Bharat Bhushan and Dilip Kumar.

Banerjee's performance at the Jasn-e-Talat show which premiered on the Royal Opera House's Mumbai Opera Online website this week was a series of songs excerpted from his performance at the Kala Ghoda festival. It was wonderful to listen to the old numbers, and to his credit, Banerjee tried to make the songs reach out to the younger audiences by bringing in more contemporary instrumentation and creating a zany vibe. The tune, the words remained in their appointed places, and for those who had never felt their power, there is every chance that the performance may have created a few fans at least for the songs, if not the original numbers.

Yet, credit is due, for an attempt to revive songs that still retain their freshness and ability to touch the heart; but are seldom heard as fm stations dare not venture into the past beyond the 1980s in their bid to hold

listeners. It's only on Vividh Bharti that one gets to hear Talat originals on and off. And of course on SaReGaMaPa's Caravaan, or one of the music streaming sites.

Readers may do well to check out the songs. And let Talat cast his spell. They will be surprised at how powerful it can be.


Announcer and radio personality Ameen Sayani combined interviews, research, and music with a seductive voice quality to woo generations of radio listeners as he announced the top songs of the week on Radio Ceylon's Binaca Geet Mala. The magic of his voice, the clarity of his enunciation, and the dexterity with which he used words to create a personal link with every single person tuned in to the program made him one of the most imitated, most valued of radio announcers. He did also have a parallel career as a publicist for films and music, but it is as a radio voice that Sayani has always been loved. There have been some radio stations that have mined his memories and the vast repertoire of interviews with film personalities, and singers, music directors, and lyricists that he owns, and thus even though the Geet Mala programs ended decades ago, Sayani continues to garner new fans and regale

The songs in themselves are mostly layered with melancholy, rich in imagery, and set to tunes that flowed like moonlight over water when Talat sang them. As suited the music of the composers who used his tremulous voice to advantage, among them Anil Biswas, Khayyam, SD Burman, and Madan Mohan, the orchestration supported the voice, setting it off like a softly gleaming jewel, letting the words slide over the tune and reach the heart.



old ones. The Geetmala ke chaoon mein series of cds, now converted into a segment on Caravaan is one treasure trove of stories and songs through the decades of the golden era of Hindi film music. But now, on fb.watch, fans can listen to the golden-voiced announcer regale them with stories from his own life, in an interview format program titled

Mujhe Yaad hai Sabh Zara Zarathat was first recorded in 2007. It's a trip through not just the history of India, but through the unfurling flow of matchless singers and music. He tucks in his nuggets of humor, like when he says that Pankaj Mullik sang even romantic songs in a marching mode, and as boys, he and his friends

would march to Mallik's Piya Milan ko Jaana. He talks about why KL Saigal was the adored singer he was in his time and why he is considered an all-time great, and in the process, you can hear long-forgotten songs by Saigal, actor Ashok Kumar, the less musically celebrated brother of Kishore Kumar, and others. 

THE INDUSTRY & MINES
OBSERVER
ORISSA OBSERVER

Vol.-14
Issue -16
December 16

Editor : Sirish C Mohanty
Our correspondents at

New Delhi, Rourkela, Jajpur, Jagatsinghpur, Kendrapara, Bolangir, Baripada, Dhenkanal, Bhadrak, Talcher, Nayagarh, Keonjhar, Joda, Sundargarh, Rayagada, Nabarangapur, Jeypore, Phulbani, Nuapara

Editorial office

LIG 491, NeeladriVihar PH II, Chandrasekharpur,
Bhubaneswar 751021, R.O: Uplands, Banspani, Joda 758034, Odisha
Editorial: 9437072248, Circulation and subscription: 9938229429
Email: imobserver@rediffmail.com,
Our offices at: New Delhi, Raipur, and Mumbai

Printed, Published, Owned & Edited by Sirish Chandra Mohanty at LIG 489 & 490, NeeladriViharPhII, Chandrasekhar pur, Bhubaneswar - 751021 & Printed at Web line, Weblines, D2/19, Sector-A, Zone-D, Mancheswar Industrial Estate, Bhubaneswar-751010