

### Keonjhar covid hospital's shocking mismanagement draws flak

**Keonjhar (Bubhuti Patnaik):** The list of mismanagement is getting longer because of the rising number of deaths in the COVID-19 hospital at Raanki at dist headquarter Keonjhar. The increasing number of complaints are not being taken into cognizance, rather all efforts are on to suppress them it is alleged. Few political leaders and so-called social activists become the catalyst to the increasing number of suffering patients in the hospital.



Recently, due to a shortage of oxygen 15 Covid patients have died in a day, and the picture of their bodies while being taken away secretly became viral which has raised many eyebrows. The scene of crying women before the hospital has confirmed the mass death to which the hospital administration was in (Page-15)



### Odisha To Float Global Tenders To Procure Covid-19 Vaccines

**Bhubaneswar:** In a bid to widen the Covid-19 vaccination drive in the State, the Odisha government on Monday decided to float global tenders for the procurement of vaccines from global companies. A decision in this effect was taken during the State Cabinet meeting today.

The meeting, which was chaired by Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik, also decided to form a technical team for swift procurement of vaccines and vaccination. Moreover, in an (Page-15)

ବାର୍ତ୍ତା

DADLS-05



‘ମଇ ଦିବସ’ ଅବସରରେ ମୁଁ ରାଜ୍ୟର ସମସ୍ତ ଶ୍ରମିକ ଭାଇଭଉଣୀମାନଙ୍କୁ ଶୁଭେଚ୍ଛା ଓ ଅଭିନନ୍ଦନ ଜଣାଉଛି ।

ନିଜ ନିଜ ପରିସରରେ ପ୍ରତ୍ୟେକ ନିଷ୍ଠାପର ଭାବେ କର୍ମ କରି ନିଜ ପାଇଁ ତଥା ରାଜ୍ୟ ପାଇଁ ଗର୍ବ ଓ ଗୌରବର କାରଣ ହେବା ନିମନ୍ତେ ମୁଁ ଆହ୍ୱାନ ଜଣାଉଛି ।

‘କରୋନା’ ମହାମାରୀ ବିରୋଧରେ ଓଡ଼ିଶାର ଲଢ଼େଇରେ ସାମିଲ ହୋଇ ଧୈର୍ଯ୍ୟ ଓ ସାହସର ସହ ମୁକାବିଲା କରିବା ସହିତ ରାଜ୍ୟର ପ୍ରଗତିରେ କ୍ରିୟାଶୀଳ ଭୂମିକା ନିର୍ବାହ ନିମନ୍ତେ ସମସ୍ତଙ୍କର ସହଯୋଗ କାମନା କରୁଛି ।

ଶଶିଶ୍ୟାମାଳି  
(ଗଣେଶୀ ଲାଲ)  
ମାନ୍ୟବର ରାଜ୍ୟପାଳ, ଓଡ଼ିଶା

OIPR-15001/13/0007/2122

ବାର୍ତ୍ତା



DADLS-05

ମଇ ପହିଲା ‘ଶ୍ରମିକ ଦିବସ’ ଅବସରରେ ରାଜ୍ୟର ସମସ୍ତ ଶ୍ରମିକ ଭାଇଭଉଣୀମାନଙ୍କୁ ମୋର ଆନ୍ତରିକ ଶୁଭେଚ୍ଛା ଓ ଅଭିନନ୍ଦନ ।

ସମ୍ପ୍ରତି କରୋନା ମହାମାରୀ ସ୍ଥିତିରେ ସରକାରଙ୍କ ଦ୍ୱାରା ଜାରି କରାଯାଇଥିବା ମାର୍ଗଦର୍ଶିକା ସଠିକ ଭାବେ ଅନୁପାଳନ ପୂର୍ବକ ସେମାନେ ନିଜ ନିଜ କ୍ଷେତ୍ରରେ ନିଷ୍ଠାପର ଭାବେ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟ କରି ସମୃଦ୍ଧ ଓଡ଼ିଶା ଗଠନରେ ଅଂଶୀଦାର ହେବେ ବୋଲି ଆଶା କରୁଛି ।

(ରଘୁନନ୍ଦନ ଦାସ)  
ଜଳସଂପଦ, ସୂଚନା ଓ ଲୋକସମ୍ପର୍କ ମନ୍ତ୍ରୀ

OIPR-15001/13/0007/2122

ମଇ ଦିବସ ଅବସରରେ  
ମାନ୍ୟବର ମୁଖ୍ୟମନ୍ତ୍ରୀଙ୍କ ବାର୍ତ୍ତା

DADLS-05

ମଇ ଦିବସ ଅବସରରେ ଓଡ଼ିଶାର ଶ୍ରମିକ ଭାଇଭଉଣୀମାନଙ୍କୁ ମୋର ଶୁଭକାମନା ଜଣାଉଛି ଏବଂ ଶ୍ରମିକ ସମାଜର କଲ୍ୟାଣ ଓ ସର୍ବାଙ୍ଗୀନ ଉନ୍ନତି ପାଇଁ ରାଜ୍ୟ ସରକାରଙ୍କ ପ୍ରତିବଦ୍ଧତାର ପୁନଃଘୋଷଣା କରୁଛି ।

କରୋନା ସଂକ୍ରମଣକୁ ରୋକିବା ପାଇଁ ସରକାରଙ୍କ ନିୟମକୁ ଠିକ୍ ଭାବରେ ପାଳନ କରନ୍ତୁ । ସବୁବେଳେ ମାସ୍କ ପିନ୍ଧନ୍ତୁ ଓ ସାମାଜିକ ଦୂରତ୍ୱ ନିୟମକୁ ନିଶ୍ଚୟ ପାଳନ କରନ୍ତୁ ।

ନବୀନ ଚକ୍ରବର୍ତ୍ତୀ  
(ନବୀନ ପଟ୍ଟନାୟକ)  
ମାନ୍ୟବର ମୁଖ୍ୟମନ୍ତ୍ରୀ, ଓଡ଼ିଶା

OIPR-15001/13/0007/2122



## SN Mohanty Mining And Steel Company Donates Rs 1 Crore To CMRF



Bhubaneswar : SN Mohanty Mining and Steel Company today donated Rs one crore to the Chief Minister's Relief Fund (CMRF) here.

The Company's Chairman Pradeepta Mohanty and Director Prabodh Mohanty presented a cheque of Rs one crore to Chief Secretary Suresh Chandra Mahapatra as the Company's donation to the CMRF.

"Because of visionary Leadership of Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik, Odisha has set an example ineffective management of the pandemic. The timely and dedicated

action of the Government has made Odisha a leading State in Covid management. With the full cooperation of people, Odisha will be able to contain the disease," stated Chairman of SN Mohanty Mining and Steel Company Pradeepta Mohanty.

While complimenting the Company authorities for such cooperation, the Chief Secretary urged them to comply with all Covid norms in their office, workplace, and homes.

They were also requested to keep on their awareness creation and sensitization activities both at the official and societal level.

## Odisha Samaj UAE Hosts Eleventh Anniversary Celebration

Dubai/Bhubaneswar: Odisha Samaj United Arab Emirates (O.S.U.A.E.) hosted a glittering online Ceremony recently to observe its eleventh anniversary and Utkal Divas. Entitled as 'UTSAV', the virtual Festival witnessed the participation of representatives of Odia Samajs in different Countries, prominent non-resident Odias, and distinguished Odisha lovers from across the Globe. Chief Guest the Speaker of Odisha Legislative Assembly Dr. Surjya Narayan Patro inaugurated the celebration by lighting the traditional lamp. The participants observed one-minute silence in memory of covid victims. Addressing the meeting through video conferencing Dr. Surjya Narayan Patro lauded the efforts of OSUAE in mitigating the multiple miseries faced by migrant laborers, students, and distressed people during the covid period. Particularly

Dr. Patro had high praise for the office bearers and volunteers of the Samaj, who successfully organized the repatriation of more than 2000 stranded workers from Dubai to Bhubaneswar by hiring chartered flights at the advent of Corona last year. Dr. Patro appealed to non-resident Odias to remain united and extend helping hands to their motherstate Odisha to tackle the unprecedented crisis created by Pandemic. OSUAE felicitated Captain Madusmita Patnaik the first lady pilot of Odisha, who flown the migrant laborers from Dubai to Bhubaneswar during the Pandemic period in a chartered flight for her exemplary courage and excellent social service. Addressing the meeting captain Patnaik advised Odia brethren to keep their morale high and open their minds and hearts to help and support each other during this hazardous time.

National spokesperson of BJP Dr. Sambit Patra



appealed to the Odia Diaspora all over the world to keep Indians in their prayers and bless us during our ongoing fight against the virus.

General Secretary for OSUAE Prithish Dash proposed a vote of thanks. The ace anchor Sudhashree Dash presented and coordinated the entire program neatly and lucidly.

The dignitaries present during the web Festival include Dr. Nalini Pati, Santosh Mishra, Debarshi Mallick, Sumant Mansingh, Sibaranjan Biswal, Adris Brahmada, Pradeep Rath, Sukanta Sahu,

Sawat Padhi, Subash Sahoo, Balaram Baliarsingh, Sasmita Patnaik, Lopamudra Das, Goutam Das, Trilochan Tripathy, Mamata Mishra, Manoj Manmay, Pushpanjali Barik, Biswaranjan Padhi, Sukanta Jena, Hrushikesh Patra, Anshuman Mohapatra, Biraja Rath, Chidatmika Khatua, Manas Pradhan and Jitendra Parida OSUAEs able team of organizers, who successfully managed the show include cultural secretary Swayam Prakash and members Chinmay Jena, Rajib Das, Abani Patnaik, and Tanuj Sahu.

## RLDA to redevelop Cuttack Railway Station

### RLDA has invited bids for engaging consultancy services for conducting a techno-economic feasibility study for the station redevelopment

Cuttack : Rail Land Development Authority (RLDA) had invited bids for engaging consultancy services for Feasibility Study, Detailed Master Planning, Urban Designing, Engineering & Preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) for Integrated Re-development of the Cuttack Railway Station in Odisha. The station falls under the Khurda Road Division on the Howrah - Chennai trunk line of the East Coast Railway. The redeveloped station will be endowed with state-of-the-art amenities such as segregation of arrival and departure, retail and F&B facilities, amenities for the specially-abled, green building features, etc., and boost customer experience.

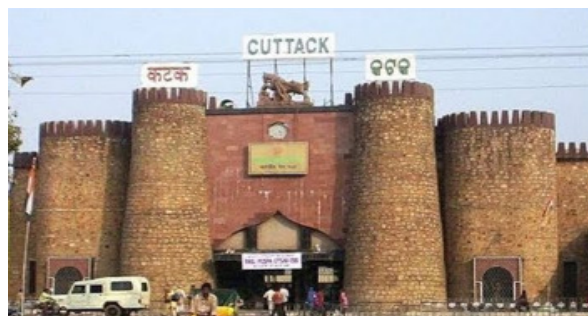
The objective of engaging the consultancy services is to attain clarity on the

development potential of the station and the surrounding land parcels for phased commercial development.

"Cuttack is the birthplace of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose and the second-largest city in Odisha. It is also among the largest textile hubs in East India and home to several medium and small-scale industries.

The redevelopment of the station is among the several proposed infrastructural projects in the city that will offer enhanced customer experience and augment Cuttack's tourism potential," said Shri Ved Parkash Dudeja, Vice Chairman, RLDA.

The study area spans 20 hectares. The consultant will be mandated with preparing the technical feasibility report, concept plans, and master plan for the



redevelopment of the station along with a plan for monetization of adjacent land parcels, including colony redevelopment. The consultant will also be entrusted with the bid management process. The consultancy tender shall be awarded soon. The estimated completion period of the consultancy assignment is 6.5 months.

Cuttack Junction was connected to the Indian railway network in 1899 and

is among the Indian Railway's top 100 booking stations. It is well-connected via public transport to the Badambadi Bus Stand located about 3.1 Km away. The nearest airport, Biju Patnaik International Airport, Bhubaneswar, is located at a distance of only 29.3 Km.

A total of 12 stations in Odisha have been entrusted to RLDA by the Ministry of Railways for conducting techno-economic feasibility

studies for redevelopment including Sambalpur, Rourkela, Balasore, Bhadrak, Brahmapur, Rayagada, etc.

RLDA is currently working on 60 stations in a phased manner while its subsidiary, IRSDC, has taken up another 63 stations. In the first phase, RLDA had prioritized prominent stations like New Delhi, Tirupati, Dehradun, Nellore, Lucknow, and Puducherry for redevelopment, and RFQs for shortlisting eligible developers for these stations are either finalized or in advanced stages of finalization. The railway stations across India will be redeveloped on a PPP Model as a part of the Smart City Project launched by the Government of India.

Rail Land Development

Authority (RLDA) is a statutory authority under the Ministry of Railways for the development of Railway land. It has four key mandates as a part of its development plan, namely leasing of commercial sites, colony redevelopment, station redevelopment, and multi-functional complexes.

Indian Railways has approximately 43,000 hectares of vacant land across India. RLDA has over 84 commercial (greenfield) sites across India for leasing and is currently handling 84 railway colony redevelopment projects. RLDA has recently leased out a railway colony in Guwahati for redevelopment. The eligible developers for each of its projects are selected through an open and transparent bid process.

# States vote for the new economy to reject privatization; Will Mamata lead opp!



**Prof. Shivaji Sarkar**  
Former HOD in English journalism in IIMC, Delhi

The recent election results reflect more than politics. Indian voters have larger issues and the economy at the core of their concern. Tamilnadu, Kerala, and Bengal have separately endorsed a new economic course for the nation.

Bengal remains at the center. A Hawai chappal and white sari donning Mamata Banerjee has virtually challenged the dazzling development model that has put India's public sector on sale and entered into a visual extravaganza of over Rs 30,000 crore (actually maybe over Rs 50,000 crore) to change Delhi's central vista. Nobody explains why that should be a priority instead of creating a strong health sector, and hospitals capable of producing their oxygen. Nobody has

tried to change that since the massive failure at the Gorakhpur hospital, where oxygen failure claimed 1317 lives in 2017, or the beginning of SAARS infections since 2002.

The populism of Mamata's largesse for women, youth, and Duare sarkar (government at doorstep), welfare policies of DMK in Tamilnadu or Left alliance in Kerala studied closely virtually refutes the "aggressive privatized development" model of the Centre. All these states have voted against farm bills, that seek to create large house monopolies, junk scrapping policy of poor man's vehicles, high fuel prices, fares, tolls, taxes, and so-called user charges.

The vote endorses

that the country has more poverty to address than create a cosmetic central vista that serves none but a few large corporate houses.

They have together rejected the Manmohanomics - that is causing political disaster for its proponent the Congress and their followers the BJP. The people are pitted against the disinvestment of prime banks, LIC, other financial institutions, defense establishments, and others with a target of Rs 1.75 lakh crore in 2021-22. This is lower than Rs 2.1 lakh crore it hoped to garner from divestment in 2020-21 - an admission of failure of government bid. This failed economic concept is rejected now by the voters.

While in Tamilnadu the change was inevitable, Kerala not very surprisingly voted for the Left government that in their perception has been delivering. The voters perceived that Congress-led UDF was incapable of opposing the BJP's onslaught for privatization, now a national concern. So the LDF has returned with a bigger mandate. In 2016, it had 91 out of 140 seats, and this time its tally has gone up to 99. Vote percentage increased from 43.3 percent in 2016 to 45.3 percent in 2021.

The massive vote surge in Bengal for Trinamool Congress was not possible had not the people perceived a grave

threat to the economic policies being pursued by the Centre. The Left-Congress-TMC and even a section of the BJP voted for the economic policy changes that ironically Mamata Banerjee symbolizes. The 47.93 percent votes for TMC up from 43.3 percent in 2019 and reduced numbers of votes for BJP to 38.13 percent from 40.2 percent in 2019 reveals a lot. The loss of all other parties was gain for TMC. It has also busted the myth that Bengal votes in communal terms. The washout of the Left and Congress for its alliance with highly communalized ISF is the testimony.

This also proves that Bengal votes for social and economic issues and rejects any polarization, except in parts, either for Furfura or Ram. Another noticeable aspect is the Bengal's vote for Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, whose anniversary BJP presented as Prakaram (Divas) and Mamata as Deshnayak - a person who conceptualized the Indian planning system, now rejected by the BJP. The venue is chosen, Victoria Memorial, a colonial structure that still echoes the British colonial exploitation was also not suited for the occasion to celebrate the anniversary of a national leader, who had raised a worldwide opposition to the exploitative British system during World War II. Bengal in particular and the nation as a whole

wondered at the central government symbolism. This was no tribute to a leader who virtually led to the end of colonial rule and its practices.

Surprisingly nobody pointed out this incongruity, which Mamata aptly encashed with heightened nationalistic presentation - a message went strong that the center is not only not respectful to Netaji but is also blatantly promoting some private houses. No wonder some days later the Rafael bribery became an issue by the French government exposure. It raised once again the high cost of Rs 36,000 crore for a deal that is again supposed to benefit some private parties.

India is not against private companies. Many have contributed significantly; many enjoy the trust and set standards. The nation, however, is against overt domineering by any group. The present elections have bared that. The country wants private neither at the cost of the public sector nor wants to get it enslaved to any private player. It wants private to serve the social cause without hurting a system the country built during the last 70 years. That is where the BJP's desperate bid to capture Bengal did not succeed.

The loss of the centrist party, which gained significantly for a supposed nationalist approach during the 2019

Lok Sabha election, should now reorient the Indian economy if the party led by Atal Behari Vajpayee and Lal Krishna Advani wants to survive. Else it may be the beginning of a regression endorsed also by its severe losses in the UP's Hindu rural heartland panchayats. The BJP gets only 580 against SP's 782, BSP's 361, Congress' 61, and 1266 others.

So will this election lead to an overt cry for economic changes? The rightist centrist party too inclined to the corporate may not do it. But the opposition though too has its corporate connections may try to ally to clinch a political change. Its leadership is not yet obvious. Mamata may emerge as one but her all-India acceptability may not be easy.

Some like SP's Akhilesh Yadav has spoken for her. But the change of guard may be inevitable. The combine would have to come out with a new economic policy - against privatization and for strengthening the people's economy, one may call it socialist or by any other name. It has to be contrary to a centrist aggressive privatization that the present rulers are trying to dispense with. India is at the threshold of an economic and political change. It may gel before the UP elections next year. 🇮🇳



# RSP expedites production and supply of Liquid Medical Oxygen



Living up to meet the unprecedented requirement of Liquid Medical Oxygen (LMO), SAIL, Rourkela Steel Plant (RSP) under the guidance of Mr. Dharmendra Pradhan, Hon'ble Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas & Steel, Government of India has expedited production and supply of LMO to different states of the country. The Oxygen Plant of RSP has maximized the production of LMO and sending the tankers

expeditiously. The department collective has been ensuring smooth and efficient filling as well as dispatching of the vehicles loaded with the lifesaving element.

Dipak Chattaraj, CEO, RSP accompanied by Pankaj Kumar, ED (Works) visited Oxygen Plant and interacted with the executives and employees of the Department on 26th April 2021. Mr. A K Pradhan, CGM In-charge (Services),

Mr. A Dasgupta, CGM (Utilities & Environment), Ms. Asha Kartha, GM In-charge (Oxygen Plant), and other Senior Officers of Oxygen Plant were present on the occasion. Three tankers containing the precious life-saving gas were despatched in the presence of the CEO and other Senior Officers. It is worth mentioning here that as per the advice of Dipak Chattaraj, fire brigade vehicles are being deployed at the Oxygen Plant at the time of loading of oxygen to prevent any untoward incident.

Commending the spirited effort of the team Oxygen Plant, the CEO said that riding on their performance, RSP has been able to provide critical support to the healthcare system at such a critical juncture when the Nation is waging a brave battle against

the pandemic. He urged upon them to strictly adhere to the safety norms as well as strictly adopt COVID-appropriate behaviors. It is worthwhile to mention that previously the LMO used to be despatched only in the daytime, i.e. in General Shift only. However, because of the emergency requirement and considering that the despatch is primarily dependent on tanker availability, the loading and despatch are nowadays taking place on around-the-clock basis. The employees of Oxygen Plant are enthusiastically coming forward in carrying out the yeoman service for the countrymen.

Notably, in April 2021, so far more than 2100 Tonnes of LMO has been supplied from Rourkela Steel Plant to Odisha and other States.

## RSP registers highest Torpedo ladle life in India

Excelling once again, SAIL, Rourkela Steel Plant (RSP) has registered a new national record in Torpedo ladle life. The plant scripted this record by clocking Life of 2552 heats in Torpedo ladle # 2 in a single campaign surpassing the earlier best Life of 2407 heats achieved in November 2020. The Torpedo

of Refractory Engineering (Services) and the Blast Furnace department. Notably such high life in torpedo ladles could only be possible with the adoption of innovative lining pattern and maintenance practices by the Refractory Engineering Department like metal heal practice, window



ladle#2 started its campaign on 13th June 2018 and after handling 7,62,207 tonnes of hot metal, it was ultimately put down for unbricking on 24th April 2021. The significant achievement was made possible because of the dedicated and coordinated efforts

repair concept, modifications in the heating cycle, online inspection, and thermography, etc. As of date, three mid repairs were carried out in the torpedo ladle in line with the scheduled maintenance plan.

## Journalist Adwaita Prasad Biswal Loses Battle To Covid-19



Rourkela: Veteran Odia journalist and columnist Adwaita Prasad Biswal passed away while undergoing treatment for Covid-19 at a private hospital in Rourkela on 30th April. He was 80.

Biswal, the founder and editor of a weekly Odia newspaper 'Shramika Malika', had worked as a reporter and in editorial positions at various newspapers in Odisha including Pragatibadi and Hindustan Samachar. He has been closely associated with the Industry and Mines Observer right from the launching. He was a founding member of the Odisha Journalists' Union and the Rourkela Press Club. Besides, he was the President of Talcher Bimlagarh Rail Link Action Committee. He was also a key member of Rourkela Cultural Academy.

The IM Observer family condoles his sad demise.

## Dalmia Cement Carries Sanitization in Rural Areas

Rajgangpur: The second wave of pandemic Covid 19 has created a panic among the people. Keeping this in view and realizing its responsibility Dalmia Cement (Bharat Ltd) Lanjiberna limestone Mines is making all-out efforts and taking all possible measures to combat and contain the Covid pandemic. The

various initiatives in this direction include proactive sanitization, communication drives. They have taken up

intensive sanitization programs in rural areas of Kutra and Rajgangpur blocks. Accordingly, Bastis, Bazars, shops, roads of Katang, Lanjiberna, Bihabandh have been sanitized. Apart from sanitization CSR department has started distribution of N-95 masks to Aanganbadi, Ashakarmi workers. To make people aware of the danger of the pandemic they are being trained to use masks, and regular hand washing.

Actively engaged in cleaning and decontamination of public places. Realizing its social responsibility towards the adjacent areas sanitization was carried out at various points of both blocks. It may be noted that the plant management had taken up a regular cleaning and sanitizing of different wards of the



Rajgangpur town, weekly bazaar, Barupada, Jitutoli, ITI Colony, Jagannath Mandir Complex, Liploi, Main Bus stand, police Station, station Pada, Railway station, different areas of the plant and residential areas of the township to prevent the spread of the disease and to ensure health safety of its residents. The company has assured to continue its efforts in coming days also.

## RSP Despatch 1st Rake of LMO carrying Oxygen Express

52.5 Tonnes of Liquid Medical Oxygen (LMO) was despatched in 4 tankers from SAIL, Rourkela Steel Plant (RSP) in a rake of Oxygen Express on 30th April for Haryana. This was for the first time that Oxygen Express of Indian Railways was used for the despatch of LMO from Rourkela.



Under the guidance of the Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas and Steel, Dharmendra Pradhan, the Steel Plant has mobilized its resources and optimized the production of LMO to serve the Nation. In the current month, RSP has despatched more than 2700 Tons of LMO by road to states like Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, and Gujarat apart from fulfilling the requirements of Odisha for treatment of COVID patients. Steadfast in its commitment to strengthening the battle of the country with the COVID pandemic, SAIL, RSP is consistently supplying LMO to various parts of the country. Since April 2020, more than 9500 Tons of LMO have been supplied from Rourkela Steel Plant.

Speaking in this regard, Dipak Chattaraj, CEO, RSP said, "SAIL, Rourkela Steel Plant is putting utmost importance on production and timely despatch of Liquid Medical Oxygen. We at Rourkela Steel Plant feel honored that we have been able to serve the country and humanity by making LMO available to critically ill patients. We are thankful to Indian Railways for the help extended in the noble initiative. We are also thankful to the Govt of Odisha for developing a green corridor for road despatch. We will continue to render every possible support to our Nation to combat the COVID pandemic."



# Government enhances Jagatsinghpur DHH bed capacity



**Jagatsinghpur :** The residents of Jagatsinghpur, political leaders cutting across party affiliations, scribes, lawyers, senior citizens, and people coming from every walk of life have greeted the state government and Chief Minister for enhancing district headquarters hospital [DHH] bed capacity existing to 300.

As per the health and family welfare department notification issued on Monday informed that for facilitating affordable and quality health care service to the general public state government has decided to enhance the bed strength of the Jagatsinghpur DHH 126 to 300. In this regard, the state

finance department has given its concurrence to go ahead with the proposal.

Soon after this good news reached Jagatsinghpur, district magistrate cum collector Sangram Keshari Mohapatra on behalf of the residents of Jagatsinghpur expressed gratitude to chief minister Naveen Patnaik, who has

acknowledged enhancing bed strength of the DHH which had been due for a long time.

Jagatsinghpur MLA and district planning board chairperson Prasanta Muduli described it as a historic day for the district, a long-standing demand of people increasing bed capacity of DHH was fulfilled by genuine consideration by chief minister Naveen Patnaik. Moreover, state water resources and I&PR minister Raghunandan Das termed his gratefulness to the chief minister as well as Tirtol MLA Bijaya Shankar Das, Paradip legislator Sambit Routray too have expressed their happiness for the state government decision.

District BJP president Satyabrata Mohapatra too has delighted knowing DHH bed capacity is going to

increase but quipped we seek quality health services, the overall infrastructure and staff strength of DHH far lack than its requirement we demand quality and quantity should increase frequently for delivering good health networks to people, Mohapatra opined. Furthermore, the district Congress committee [DCC] too has acknowledged state government decision with regards to the development of DHH, said DCC president Natabar Barik.

Sources informed that present collector Sangram Keshari Mohapatra has been trying hard since he assumed office for the development of DHH, meanwhile following his efforts a 100 bedded Mother and child care Hospital [MCH] work has been rolling.

Official sources said that meanwhile collector had given a status report to the government enhancing infrastructure and increasing bed capacity of DHH. The state health and family welfare department had pleased to satisfy with collector's proposal with regards to a new roadmap for Jagatsinghpur DHH and later recommended it to the chief minister's office for approval, which got the consent of the chief minister on Monday.

On the other hand, few people have suggested relocating the DHH from the existing site due to space constraint, overcrowding, and traffic snarl, increasing bed capacity is not the solution but it needs extensive infrastructural development of DHH, they advised.

## Two arrested connecting Di-addiction center inmate death



**Jagatsinghpur:** Police have arrested two persons connecting with the mysterious death of an inmate residing in a di addiction center at Chandagada village here one week ago. The accused persons were identified as Raj Kishor Das of village Bagalpur under Biridi block and Umakanta Swain a resident of Godida village under Balikuda area, moreover, police have seized one bike, two numbers plastic pipe and two napkins allegedly used by accused persons committing the crime, police said. The report said that one Sk Shera Ali of village Gandito under Chatra Municipality area here had lodged an FIR in Jagatsinghpur police station alleging his son Sk Jabar a 22-year youth who was residing

in Chesta Di abdication center at Chandagada for treatment was found dead in center premises on May 02 in mysterious circumstances. The ill-fated father had alleged against the di addiction center trainer Raj Kishor Das and manager have killed his son by exercising extra doses of physical treatment.

Police registered a murder case and launched a drive tracing the center trainer and other staff who had been absconded soon after the crime. Later police reached accused persons by tracking and intercepting their mobile phones, district police technical and cyber cell team supported the probe for which the accused persons were picked up, informed SDPO, Jagatsinghpur.

## Three persons were arrested for impersonating journalists

**Jagatsinghpur:** Three drunken persons posing themselves as journalists were arrested by Kujanga police on charges of misbehaving, assaulting, and airing lewd comments to cops at the police station. Moreover, police have seized an SUV used for the crime, a few wines, and water bottles, disposable glasses as well as a few lip-smacking eatable items stored inside the vehicle recovered.

The three accused persons were identified as Sangram Keshari Patnaik, Gagan Swain, and Pankaj Mohapatra all hailing from the Rahama area under Kujanga block, the trio was barked to Kujanga police station posing themselves as journalists working for web channel and newspaper.

According to police informed that the three persons riding an SUV reached at Kujanga police station on Saturday night and asked to meet IIC. The constable



Jagannath Killo who guarding the police station was told them IIC was busy at works in her chamber, she declined to meet them.

The Constable's response created a furor, then a trio of alleged trespassers started scolding IIC in filthy language including other police personnel, and vowed against police ignoring scribes when they have come to the police station for work.

As the situation turned violate the police picked up

three persons and sent them to Kujanga hospital for medical examination and apprehended them at the police station later forwarded them to Kujanga court.

According to reports that the alleged persons had approached Kujanga police station seeking loudspeaker permission on Friday, the lady IIC Paro Tudu declined to grant loudspeaker permission amid ongoing Covid shut down and then the enraged persons by impersonating journalists had come to the

police station on Saturday convincing IIC for their works.

While police did not tolerate unruly behaviors these three men showed at the police station, later arrested slapping against them section 341, 294, 323, 353, 506, 420, and 34 IPC and forwarded to court on Saturday, while Kujanga court heard the case virtually and reserved delivery order on May 12, meanwhile they sent to Kujanga jail, informed Kujanga police station IIC Tudu.



# Panchapidhi Sub-division faces a shortage of doctors

Baripada : At a time when the people are in panic due to the Covid infection, and the pandemic spreads to the entire tribal-dominated Mayurbhanj district, due to the shortage of doctors in Sub-Divisional Hospital, Primary Health Centre, Community Health Centres, and other government-run hospitals. People have adversely affected health services in Panchapidhi Upakhand, particularly in Rairangpur.

Though the district has a Government-run Medical College and Hospital

in Baripada the people in the bordering villages of Odisha are deprived of adequate health services due to the shortage of doctors in the Rairangpur Sub-Division. Apart from the village and Municipality, the bordering villages of Jharkhand and partly from West Bengal patients depend on medical facilities from Rairangpur Sub-Divisional Hospital as it is nearest for them. Despite demanding immediate health services during the second wave of the pandemic, the shortage of doctors triggered



resentment among the people here.

While one government-run Sub-Divisional Hospital at Rairangpur Municipality, at least 6 government-run Community Health Centres and one Primary Health

Centre in Rairangpur Sub-Division are functioning as medical facilities for the people but not a single medical center has adequate strength of doctors'. The official report revealed that as many as 12 doctors posts

out of 24 sanctioned posts are lying vacant in Rairangpur Sub-Divisional Hospital, 3 out of 5 doctors in Gorumahisani CHC, 3 out of 5 doctors in Jamda CHC, 5 out of 8 doctors in Bahalda CHC, 5 out of 5 doctors in Manda CHC, 3 out of 6 doctors in Bijatala CHC, 3 out of 6 Badampahar CHC and a PHC in Biosi where a doctor out of three are lying vacant for the last 15 years.

Dr. Sagar Nayak the Sub-Divisional Medical Officer of Rairangpur said that due to the shortage of doctors in all CHCs, PHC, and Sub-

division hospitals, medical services are managed by changing the duty of doctors' one CHC to another CHC and PHC too. He admitted that due to a shortage of doctors in these health centers, people are not getting proper medical facilities.

The Chief District Medical Officer Dr. Rupavanoo Mishra said that the total number of doctors in the Mayurbhanj district presently at 224 and out of 549 (sanctioned).

## COVID-19 is on the rise in the tribal-dominated Mayurbhanj district

Baripada : Despite the district police intensifying vigil the clock on the movement of migrating returnees, weekend shut down, receiving the RTPCT negative reports of returnees from outside, the pandemic is found to be on the rise. 308 infected cases were reported from the last 24 hours. Mayurbhanj is one of the largest districts in the State comprising 26 blocks. Neighboring district Balasore had reported 15 to 20 positive cases in the first

time of the second wave of the virus then it reached 101 for a single day mostly the employees of the second unit of Emami Paper Mills. A similar ratio was started in the Mayurbhanj district from the starting of this week. The health-conscious people opined that the infection cases in the district are on the rise due to the previous contacts. Apart from the two facts, lack of social distancing and use of masks by people are major concerns. These absences are commonly seen

by the people in both urban and rural markets in the district.

On yesterday, as many as 12 persons who came from Karnataka three days ago were roaming in Udala town despite they were testing RTPCT or stood home in isolation. When police intervened following the allegation of local people, later it found that two of them were already positive, the testing report revealed. All 12 were later sent to the quarantine center.

## Karanjia residents oppose the administration of burning body of a Covid patient near human settlement

Baripada : Hundreds of residents including women of Nautisahi and Gadasahi Ward No-13 and 14 under Karanjia NAC opposed when cremation of a Covid deceased was performed by the officials on Thursday morning. The person who belonged to Badampahar police station died from a deadly virus when he was undergoing treatment in Tato Covid Care Centre. As the district administration did not set a designated crematorium in the NAC despite the infection cases surge, the residents opposed the last rites of the infected body at the crematorium. The officials took the Covid deceased to a place under Ward No-12 on Wednesday but they returned the body as the villagers protested to perform the last rites at that place that was close to the Ward.

Ex-Ward Councilor Basanti Dash of Gadasahi came to know



when she was taken firewood for the last rites of her father-in-law this morning saw Karanjia BDO, Executive Officer of Karanjia NAC, and the tehsildar stood a few meter distance from the crematorium and three persons who wore PP kit performing the last rites of the Covid deceased there. Later, more than two hundred irate people were gathered and opposed the last rites of the Covid deceased as the crematorium was hardly 150 meters away from the Wards.

A team of police from Karanjia police station rushed to the spot to control the tense. In the presence of police and officers, the last rites of the Covid deceased performed. But one-and-half hour the tense situation prevailed there.

A place has been selected for the cremation of Covid deceased which is 5 km far from the NAC and no human settlement close to this place. Very soon its infra works will develop," said Karanjia Sub-Collector Dr. Rajanikanta Biswal.

## District administration urges to extend 400 additional beds for Covid care

Baripada : As the infection of Covid-19 surged 200 above, the district health department is planning to augment additional 400 beds for the infected patients. Chief District Medical Officer (CDMO) Dr. Rupavanoo Mishra said that as per the direction of the Collector Vineet Bhardwaj, as many as 1, 130 beds are arranged in five Covid Care Centres and at district headquarters hospital.

Before seeing the cases, the health department is planning to augment additional 400 beds, which will be set up in a polytechnic near Baripada town soon.

The CDMO said that capacity of 200 beds facility is availed in each CCC in Karanjia, Rairangpur, Udala, 100 bed capacity of a CCC in KC Pur and 350 beds facility in Kalinga Institute of Medical Sciences (KIMS)

at Bankisole in Suliapada police station and 80 beds facility in PRM MCH apart from 80 general bed and 20 ICU and 10 ventilators facilities in Bankisole Covid hospital under KIMS premises.

The district had reported 257 new cases from the last 24 hours. The total number of cases reported from the district is 18,597. When active cases were 1770, recovered 16734 and death cases were 93.



# Renowned sculptor and Rajya Sabha MP Raghunath Mohapatra succumbs to Covid-19

Bhubaneswar : Renowned sculptor and Rajya Sabha MP from Odisha Raghunath Mohapatra who was planning to build a replica of the Sun Temple at Konark, on Sunday succumbed to Covid-19 at AIIMS Bhubaneswar where he was being treated for the last two weeks. Mohapatra, 78, had turned critical and was in the ICU after having tested positive for coronavirus.

"Mohapatra's condition deteriorated this afternoon and he passed away at 3.49 PM," said AIIMS Bhubaneswar medical superintendent Sachidanand Mohanty. Mohapatra's two sons, Prashant and Jasobant are also in critical condition and undergoing treatment at AIIMS after testing positive for Covid-19. Prime Minister Narendra Modi earlier this week had spoken to Jasobant to inquire about their health.

Leader of opposition and senior BJP leader Pradipta Naik too is in the ICU at AIIMS Bhubaneswar after testing positive for Covid-19.

Condoling the death of Mohapatra, Prime Minister Narendra Modi tweeted:

"Saddened by the demise of MP Shri Raghunath Mohapatra Ji. He made pioneering contributions to the world of art, architecture, and culture. He will be remembered for his contributions to popularising traditional crafts. My thoughts are with his family and admirers. Om Shanti."

Nominated to the Rajya Sabha in July 2018 for his contribution to the world of arts, Mohapatra is considered a master of stone carving who had a deep knowledge of the traditional style of the sculpting of Odisha temple architecture. Mohapatra's ancestors were said to be involved in the building of the Sun Temple at Konark, a world heritage structure, and the Jagannath Temple in Puri.

Hailing from a family of illustrious sculptors, Mohapatra started sculpting at an early age. He studied till about class 3 but had become an authority in sculpting at a young age. At the age of 22, he won a national award.

In 1974 he came into prominence by creating a six-foot-tall grey sandstone statue of the Sun God, which is now displayed in the Central Hall

of Parliament. His other works include a wooden image of Buddha at the Buddha Temple, Paris, two white Dholpuri stone lamps in the Prime Minister's office, the decorative central circle and pillars in Park Street, Kolkata, and a 15-feet-high Mukteswar gate in red sandstone at Surajkund, Haryana. He also worked for the preservation of the Jagannath Temple in Puri.

His other works include two 15-feet-tall Buddha statues in white sandstone at the historic Dhauligiri Santi Stupa near Bhubaneswar, a gigantic lotus of 30 feet x 30 feet in a single black granite stone at former PM Rajiv Gandhi's samadhi at Vir Bhumi, and three 20-feet-high statues of Buddha in white sandstone at the Buddhist Monastery, Ladakh.

In Bhubaneswar, the 15-feet-high Konark horse installed at the Master Canteen square and 12 ft tall Konark Horse at Barabati Stadium, Cuttack is a famous landmark of the twin cities. He was the main sculptor of Emami Jagannath Temple (Balasore) and Maa Taratarini Temple (Ganjam). He also



sculpted the Viswarupa Vishnu Statue at Narayana Heart Hospital, Bangalore. Among his most ambitious venture was a "second Sun Temple" called Aditya Narayan Mandir on the outskirts of Bhubaneswar to give people a glimpse of the true glory of the original Sun Temple. He believed that the second Sun temple, once completed would allow future generations to know more about the original Sun Temple built in the 13th century. The current Sun temple at Konark is Jagamohan or frontal portion. Historians believe

that the main temple has been destroyed due to the vagaries of nature.

In 1980, he sculpted a 14-feet-high Konark wheel in red sandstone at the India International Trade Fair which is now displayed at the Ashoka Hotel, New Delhi. He had set up a school in Bhubaneswar where he has trained more than 2,000 students. He was awarded the Padma Shri in 1976, Padma Bhushan in 2001, and Padma Vibhushan in 2013.

Since 1963, he has served as a senior instructor and superintendent of the Handicraft Training and Designing Center of the

Government of Odisha. In 2000, he was nominated as a member of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations by the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India. Currently, he was a member of the Lalit Kala Academy and President of the Bhubaneswar branch of the All India Viswakarma Mahasangha. Mohapatra unsuccessfully contested the Rajya Sabha polls in February 2014 as a BJD-backed independent candidate. Though BJP had extended support to his candidature, he could not make it. The seat was won by Ranjib Biswal of Congress.

## Odia Community in Oman Celebrates Utkal Divas on Web



Muscat : (Kishor Dwivedi) Odia Community settled in Oman celebrated 85th Utkal Divas online in a grand manner. Hosted by the Odia wing of Muscat-based Indian Social Club (ISC), the glittering Internet ceremony witnessed a congregation of the representatives of Odia Samaj from different

Countries, prominent Non-resident Odias, and many distinguished Odisha Lovers from across the Globe. Addressing the Festival through Video conferencing the Chief Guest Revered Spiritual preacher Gururji Dr. Chandrabhanu Satpathy gave a clarion call to the global community to collectively face the

challenge posed by Corona Pandemic. Dr. Satpathy appealed to mankind to arouse the self strengths of Culture, Science, Spiritualism, and governance to fight against covid calamity.

Delivering his speech The Honourable Guest, Chairman of Oman's chamber of commerce and Industry His Excellency Eng. Redha Bin Jumma Al Saleh emphasized that the traditional and economic relationship between Oman and India dates back to 1000 years old. Describing that there have been tremendous commonalities between Oman and Odisha, H.E. Al Saleh proposed Bilateral ties up between

Odisha and Oman in agricultural, manufacturing, mining, and services sectors.

The Guest of Honour Indian Ambassador to Oman His Excellency Mr. Munu Mahawar appealed to the members of the Odia wing of Indian Social Club to remain together, Cool, calm, composed, and optimistic and spread positivity in society in this atmosphere of pessimism and negativity created by corona.

Speaking on the occasion former Special Secretary in Ministry of Finance of Government of India Prasanna Kumar Dash declared that Odisha is not a state - a way of life dealing

with humanity and an India in all its plurality. Shri Dash branded the Odias settled in Oman as the fortune bearers for Odisha.

The Chairman of the Indian Social Club Dr. Satish Nambiar lauded the outstanding social services being rendered by the Odia wing during the pandemic. Delivering the welcome address the convenor of the Odia wing Manoj Mohapatra observed that Odias have been earning World Wide recognition and reputation for their simplicity, generosity, honesty, and loyalty.

The celebration of Utkal Divas is solely meant to enhance the bilateral relationship between Oman

and Odisha in the fields of Business, trade, and job, Shri Mohapatra pointed.

Presenting vote of thanks co-convenor of Odia Wing Gupta Prasad Dash elaborated on the philanthropic and charity initiatives of Odia wing which include running of two Orphanages in Odisha. Apart from arranging the repatriation of 1200 stranded Odias in Oman, The wing has now been supplying oxygen concentrations and relief material to Odisha, Shri Dash specified.

Dipti Mishra Pujari and Girija Shankar Mohanty anchored the programs during the spectacular digital Jamboree.

# Long Beards Can't Grow Overnight



Sirish C. Mohanty

The dust of the electoral storm is yet to settle. Who wins or loses is not the matter as in every battle one comes out the winner. There is a saying- the leader may lose, but political workers always win. After the declaration of poll results in Bengal, the TMC wins but humanity is trounced. The Bengal election has raised many eyebrows and will continue for a long time to come. However, please come along to see some insignificant aspects of the spectacular battle.

The TMC wins with a thumping majority, but captain Mamta loses. On the other side, the BJP loses and the RSS wins. The result of the Bengal election will cause anguish to Modi but make Mohan Bhagwat happy. This may sound intriguing to many, but those who understand the ideology of the

RSS will accept it. Modi and BJP are political entities. Their endgame is winning elections, forming governments. But for the RSS, capturing power is not the ultimate goal, it is to make India a Hindu-dominant society. Their target is to raise Hindu consciousness and make every Hindu realize that they are a proud Hindu. Mamata Banerjee reciting the Chandi Path and calling herself a Brahmin girl would have certainly gladdened Mohan Bhagwat's heart.

And let us not forget that she is not the only leader who had to prove her Hindu credentials during an election; before her, Arvind Kejriwal was heard reciting the Hanuman Chalisa, and Rahul Gandhi was seen hopping temples and showing his sacred thread. The RSS had been upset all through that

leaders after Independence had a problem projecting themselves as Hindu, whereas leaders of other religions were always upfront about their religious identities. If the wheel of history has taken a turn and today, leaders of other political parties are equally proud of their Hindu identity, don't feel shy about flaunting their Hindu-ness, in public and during elections, then why should the RSS not be happy? This is what the RSS has desired since its inception in 1925. This way it has accomplished its goal. Now it is the BJP's turn to worry about its failure to carry forward the assignment.

The West Bengal election is a warning signal for Modi and Shah. Nevertheless, the BJP has undoubtedly come a long way in Bengal: from being a party of no relevance to gaining around 80 seats in the

Bengal assembly is an accomplishment. In 2016, BJP had only three assembly seats and only 10% votes. It had a spectacular showing in the 2019 parliamentary elections and won 18 seats with a 40% vote share. Then, the assembly configuration had seemed more encouraging. The BJP had leads in 121 seats. It was for this reason that the BJP was very upbeat about Bengal, and why it put in all resources and effort in the state, hoping to cause a major upset in Indian politics. But, never forget, for everything there are limitations.

The BJP returns to govern in Assam. But, to consolidate in Assam for the saffron party is a long story nobody recollects but fights for supremacy now. The rise of the BJP to power in Assam is attributed to many factors - nationwide yearning for change with Narendra Modi's ascension to power in Delhi, Amit Shah's acumen as a political strategist, his finding of an ambitious Congressman, Himanta Biswa Sarma. Yet, all these together don't tell the entire story. The groundwork for Hindutva's spread in Assam started long back - 20

years before Shah was born. It was in 1944 when Ram Singh Thakur, a pracharak of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), set foot in Assam. Two years later, another batch of pracharaks from Maharashtra landed. And then more and more batches from different states. The next seven decades have been a story of unrelenting, arduous efforts to propagate the ideology of the RSS among an ethnically, linguistically diverse population.

Let's come to Bengal theater; the background!

Bengal is a delicate state. Though Bengal harbored the British to spread its empire to the entire Indian sub-continent, yet the British could not read the Bengal mindset despite being there for over two hundred years. Bengal was divided into two on a religious basis by the British Raj but in vain. Again Bengal was reunited. But the damage was already done. Finally, the British to fix its failure had to shift the country's capital from Calcutta to Delhi in 1911.

The story doesn't end here. The British had the consolation of dividing

Bengal before quitting India. The Muslim League and the Indian National Congress were the two largest political parties in the Constituent Assembly of India in the 1940s. Consequently, in July 1946, the League withdrew its agreement to the plan and announced a general strike (hartal) on 16 August 1946 terming it Direct Action Day, to assert its demand for a separate homeland for Muslims. Against a backdrop of communal tension, the protest triggered massive riots in Calcutta. More than 4,000 people lost their lives and 100,000 residents were left homeless in Calcutta within 72 hours. In consequence, Bengal sowed the seeds for the eventual creation of Pakistan. The BJP couldn't read the jibe of Mamta- 'Kela hobe'. It was the same call as that of the call of 'direct action' by Suhrawardy the then Bengal PM in 1946. Nevertheless, the election results saved the country from another partition following a civil war. But it gives a stern message- Longbeards can't grow overnight.

## Letter to the Editor

Dear Sir,

At the outset, as a regular avid reader of your esteemed magazine, I convey my best compliments for completing 15 years of journey. You have, indeed, demonstrated Dedication, Devotion & Determination in publishing such a high standard magazine despite all odds.

Your editorial elaborately touched upon the strategy adopted by China govt. to fight the Pandemic by involving a residential committee. But, it is foolishness to expect a Govt. to adopt the "China model" that had already started drum beating for defeating the Covid pandemic.

Interestingly, the Central govt has declared hurriedly for vaccination for the age group from 18 to 45 years as a face-saving political gimmick when vaccine drive for the people of 45 to 60 years of age is not fully stabilized & streamlined.

It is a matter of misfortune, the country which is projecting itself as a "World leader" has now relegated to a miserable position for seeking help, charity, sympathy, & supply of oxygen, vaccines, etc.

Secondly, I was deeply moved to read your, superbly written special story which is like the spiritual discourse or religious sermon from a spiritual leader.

Atma is eternal, it never dies.

Therefore, if this thought or philosophy can be inculcated in the minds and it is imbibed by the person, then the man can effortlessly forget fear, by mustering courage & confidence, to enjoy the heavenly pleasure.

Lastly, your special story will undoubtedly enlighten, inspire, & motivate the readers to overcome fear & to defeat the covid pandemic easily.

Regards

Bharat Patra

Rtd Banker & Social activist, Kendujhar

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

:-Editor

Best Wishes from ::

**RADHE RADHE**





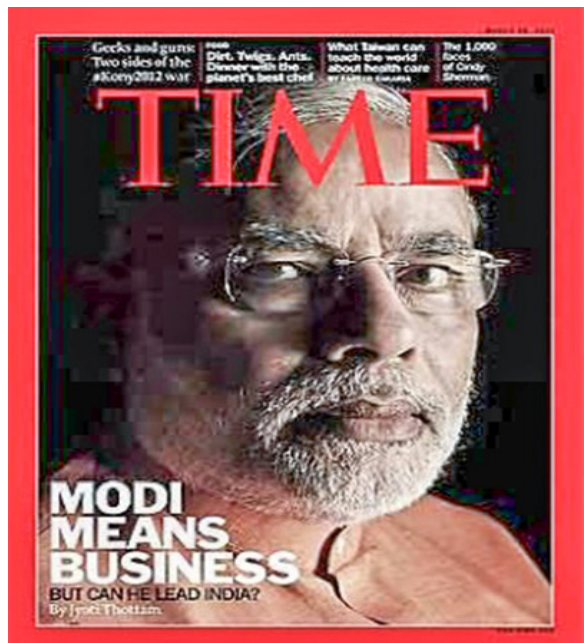
# Tum Itna Jo Muskura Rahe Ho, Kya Haal Hai Kya Dikhaa Rahe Ho



Sirish C Mohanty

Prasad Mukherjee. After the State of Emergency in 1977, the Jana Sangh merged with several other parties to form the Janata Party; it defeated the incumbent Congress party in the 1977 general election. After three years in power, the Janata party dissolved in 1980 with the members of the erstwhile Jana Sangh reconvening to form the BJP. Although initially unsuccessful, winning only two seats in the 1984 general election, it grew in strength on the back of the Ram Janmabhoomi movement. Following victories in several state elections and better performances in national elections, the BJP became the largest party in the parliament in 1996; however, it lacked a majority in the lower house of Parliament, and its government lasted only 13 days.

After the 1998 general election, the BJP-led coalition known as the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) under Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee formed a government that lasted for a year. Following fresh elections, the NDA government, again headed by Vajpayee, lasted for a full term in office; this was the first non-Congress government to do so. In the 2004 general election, the overconfident NDA with the 'shining India' mantra suffered an unexpected defeat, and for the next ten years, the BJP was the principal opposition party. Long-time Gujarat Chief Minister Narendra Modi led it to a landslide victory in the 2014 general election with the Jingle to bring 'achhedin'. Since that



election, Modi has led the NDA government as Prime Minister.

From the 2019 elections, until now in his second term, Modi has never uttered the word 'achhedin'. Nobody knows where that 'achhedin' has gone to. Modi's reputation as both a populist leader and a vigilant administrator started to fray in 2016 when a disastrous currency ban knocked down millions who largely relied on cash. The prime aim of the demonetisation was said to check the clandestine (black money) transactions. But what happened? The promised outcome so far is zilch. Just look at the recently held state elections, Political parties have pumped in several thousand crores of rupees. How that money came and where from? In the name of cashless transactions, the citizens were pushed to the clutch of the greedy and profit-mongering bankers over whom the government has no control. Banks now arbitrarily go around half of

the years closed and the Banks are free to ride over their customers!

At the onset of the pandemic Corona, people followed what Modi said with no ifs or buts, like 'Ghantabajaao' and 'Dajalao'. With the lockdown declared, the citizens of an aspiring superpower country were subjected to police brutality; to be beaten publicly on the street way ahead of the colonial police in brutality. There was competition in the electronic media to show the brutal beatings in the prime time shows. The police brutality becomes fiercer in Modi's most minion states including Odisha. Does the government forget that in a mature society, police brutality is never acceptable under any circumstances? Is it the 'achhedin' people voted for? The mismanagement of the pandemic earned a rebuke, but there's no denying the fact that Prime Minister Modi's cherished image has taken a bad hit. Arrogance, hyper-nationalism, and bureaucratic

incompetence have combined to create a crisis of epic proportions, while citizens suffocate and the government goes to damage-control mode. It has taken offense to the bad press, sparred with opposition leaders, and fumed at tweeters critical of its response.

With the introduction of the new Motor Vehicle Act, the Modi government in a prejudiced act gives the authority to the Police to trouble and punish the people with exorbitant fines as and when they wish to. The government argues that the law is framed to match global standards. But, 'Bhai AurBahnon' have you made our roads to international standards? No. Then why first make punishment to global standard? The government gives a free hand to loot through the Toll, probably its rates are the highest among the Asian countries. What to speak of the price of petrol and diesel, has passed Rs 100 mark, it is also the highest in the Sub-continent. The scraping policy of the vehicles will hit hard on the people but will be a boon for the industries.

The BJP as a party remains untouchable to the so-called secular parties like the Congress. But in practice, BJP is the only secular party in the country. The saffron party has done a tremendous welfare job for the Muslims like banning the 'triple talaq'. It's a boon for the Muslim woman. BJP after coming to power has reduced the undue authority of the Mullahs. The Party has reformed the Madarsas and the modern and recognized syllabus was

introduced to enable Madarsa students to compete in any stream of faculties like Medical and Engineering education. This could be considered as one of the best accomplishments of the BJP. But, would Muslims reciprocate?

The saffron party has from the very beginning promised to construct Ram Mandir at Ayodhya that is achieved. Article 370 has been abrogated in Kashmir as promised becomes another feather to the cap. The Chinese have started to care India is the best on the menu. BJP's heroic reform is the Swatchh Bharat mission. But, unspeakably all these inimitable plush points aren't enough to fetch votes to win.

It has become a bizarre trend of repeating, again and again, during the deliberations with 'Modijikinetritwamein'. As if a section of BJP Ministers try to hoist a larger-than-life portrait of Modi. It smells of groups and a power struggle has started exacerbating in the BJP which the party is trying hard to conceal. In states like Odisha, factionalism is more visible. Instead of fixing the shortcomings, BJP continues to parade all is well. BJP forgets to penetrate its roots to ground well ahead of the polls of 2024 as the strategy of 2004 polls could be repeated. Crores of Indians pin their hope on the BJP. 'Isliye, Bhai AurBahnon', the popular talk of the PM is losing fast its glamour: come out of slumber and see: Rekha? oñk? khelhaimuqaddar, Rekha? oñ se maatkha? rahe ho. 2024 is approaching very first!



# BJP, RSS Worry Over Covid Mismanagement, Electoral Impact

Sources say the BJP and RSS are concerned with the perception that the government dropped the ball on Covid, given that almost everyone in BJP's core support base is affected by the deadly pandemic

New Delhi : Anger over the scale of devastation in the fierce second wave of Covid and its impact on Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government has caused deep disquiet in the ranks of the ruling BJP and its ideological mentor Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), sources say. In seven years of PM Modi in power, public perception and election results have never spooked the powerful "SanghParivar" this much.

Sources say the BJP and RSS are concerned with the perception that the government dropped the ball on Covid, given that almost everyone in the ruling party's core support base is affected by the deadly pandemic. The middle class is the worst-hit - and now the virus is spreading to the villages, especially in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar.

While there are still three years to the next Lok Sabha polls (2024), when PM Modi will seek a third term, states like Uttar Pradesh are due to vote next year. If the results of the UP panchayat polls are any indication, the BJP has



reason to worry.

The discontent has floated to the surface. Union Minister Santosh Gangwar's letter to UP Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath flagging oxygen shortage, "black-marketing" of medical equipment, and delays in admitting Covid patients in his constituency Bareilly went viral.

Leaders say there is a strong belief that any damage control will require a shuffle in which some ministers must go and make way for new faces.

The Covid emergency

has exposed the poor health infrastructure and unpreparedness of the government, leaders admit.

Health is a state subject but that argument does not wash, they believe, since it is the Centre that had been leading the fight against Covid since last year. "People are disappointed with the central leadership and they blame lack of action on their part for the current situation, which has gone out of our hands," sources said.

PM Modi's campaign in West Bengal while Covid cases were spiraling in the

country has sent a "wrong message", senior leaders fear. Top BJP leaders were campaigning in West Bengal and attending huge rallies and roadshows without masks, prioritizing votes over public safety, and the imagery across global media could not have been worse.

These leaders also blame lack of communication within the government. "The Principal Scientific Adviser K VijayRaghavan warns us about the third wave but he never talked about the second wave," a leader lashed out.

There is an unsettling

perception that the BJP's famed machinery is invisible on the ground, and so are its leaders. They are not seen extending help to people this time, unlike last year when the party organization arranged food packets and other relief during the lockdown.


The government's mismanagement is also evident in what leaders call a "botched-up vaccination drive" tangled in rules and regulations.

Vaccine production capacity should have been enhanced when there was time, the leaders point out.

Those in the government have strongly defended the Centre's Covid response. They say the perceived ill-preparedness was mainly because of zero warning about the magnitude of the second wave. "It is a fact that the government was not prepared for the second wave but now all hands are on the deck," a minister said.

"The oxygen supply is being strengthened. The vaccination drive will be smoother. Our vaccine

basket has been increased and we will get more vaccines in the coming months," he said, adding that the Prime Minister was personally monitoring the efforts.

PM Modi "cut short his Bengal campaign as soon as it was brought to his notice", leaders say, and persuaded seers to wind down the mega KumbhMela - a religious gathering on the banks of river Ganga that heightened super-spreader fears. "It is understood that people are angry and in pain, but the government is trying its best to extend all possible help. BJP-ruled states are in the forefront," they say. The Yogi Adityanath-led Uttar Pradesh government, for instance, has launched a special drive in the villages to trace, test, and treat on a large scale. The leaders accuse opposition-ruled states of "playing politics" at this hour of crisis and putting their failure at the doorsteps of the Centre - they name Delhi and Maharashtra. 

## The world's most vaccinated country is witnessing a Covid-19 surge worse than India

New Delhi : Seychelles, an island nation in the Indian Ocean, announced the


country.

Seychelles began vaccinating its population against the coronavirus disease (Covid-19) using a donation of China's Sinopharm vaccines from

the United Arab Emirates. Later, the island nation used the Covishield vaccines, a version of AstraZeneca's shot manufactured by Pune-based Serum Institute of India (SII).

As per the latest data, more than 60 per cent of the Seychelles' population has been fully vaccinated and

around 70 per cent has been administered at least one dose of the Covid-19 vaccine. The percentage of the fully vaccinated population is more than other vaccine giants like Israel and the United Kingdom.

Despite these impressive vaccination figures, Seychelles this week reported the highest number of Covid-19 cases per capita, worse than a country like India which has not even 3 per cent of its population fully vaccinated. According to Our World in Data, the latest rolling 7-day average for daily new Covid-19 cases per capita in Seychelles is more than twice India's. 



reopening of borders for tourists in March to revive its economy which is heavily reliant on the tourism industry. The archipelago kicked off an aggressive vaccination drive to inoculate its population of nearly 100,000 and soon became the world's most vaccinated

## Jungle Cry Wins 'Best Film' Award At Dada Saheb Phalke International Film Festival

Jungle Cry won the 'Best Film' (Jury) award at the 11th Dada Saheb Phalke International Film Festival 2021. Based on the inspiring true story of 12 students from Kalinga Institute (KISS), the movie follows their triumphant journey to the International Junior Rugby Tournament held in the UK in 2007. The students go on to win the prestigious U14 Rugby World Cup in England. The Rugby film, helmed by Sagar Ballary of "Bheja Fry" fame and Prashant Shah of



Bollywood Hollywood Productions chronicles the journey of 12 students of KISS. KISS a home for 30,000 tribal students was established for tribal children empowerment by Dr. Achyuta Samanta. "I am

very glad that the Jungle Cry, a movie on how KISSians won the U-14 Rugby Championship in England braving all geographical, cultural and strategic barriers in 2007," Dr. Samanta said. 



# COVID-19 second wave: India should be under lockdown for 6-8 weeks, says ICMR head



Dr. Balram Bhargava, head of the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), said in an interview that lockdown restrictions should remain in place in all districts where the rate of infection is above 10% of those tested. The head of the main Indian health agency responding to the coronavirus has said districts reporting a high number of infections should remain locked down for another six to eight weeks to control the spread of the rampaging disease. Dr. Balram Bhargava, head of the Indian Council of Medical Research

(ICMR), said in an interview that lockdown restrictions should remain in place in all districts where the rate of infection is above 10% of those tested.

Currently, three-fourths of India's 718 districts have what is known as a test-positivity rate above 10%, including major cities like New Delhi, Mumbai, and the tech hub of Bengaluru. Bhargava's comments are the first time a senior government official has outlined how long lockdowns, which already encompass large parts of the country, need to continue to rein in the crisis in India.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government has shied away from imposing a nationwide lockdown because of the economic impact and has left it to state governments. Several states have introduced varying levels of curbs on economic activity and public movement to stop the spread of the virus, which are mostly being reviewed and extended on a weekly or fortnightly basis.

"The high positivity districts should remain (shut). If they come to 5% from 10% (positivity rate) we can open them, but that has to happen. That won't happen in six to eight weeks, clearly," Bhargava said in an interview at the New Delhi headquarters of the ICMR, the country's top medical research body.

Referring to the capital, one of India's hardest-hit cities where the positivity rate reached around 35% but has now fallen to about 17%, Bhargava said: "If Delhi is opened tomorrow, it will be a disaster." India is in deep crisis

in the current wave of COVID-19 infections with around 350,000 cases and 4,000 deaths being reported daily. Hospitals and morgues are overflowing, medical staff is exhausted and oxygen and drugs are running short.

Many experts say the actual case tallies and deaths could be five to 10 times higher. Modi and other top political leaders have faced a public backlash for addressing mass election rallies where no major COVID-19 safety protocols were followed. The federal government also didn't intervene to stop a religious festival in a northern state in March that was attended by millions of devout Hindus.

'SLIGHT DELAY'

Bhargava did not criticise the Modi government but conceded there had been a delay in responding to the crisis. "I think the only discontent we have was there was a slight delay accepting the 10% (recommendation), but that did happen," he said.

He said an April 15 meeting of the National Task Force on COVID-19 had made the recommendation to the government to lock down areas with a 10% positivity rate or higher. Yet, in a televised speech on April 20, Modi dissuaded states and said a lockdown should be used as a "last resort" and the focus should remain on "micro containment zones".

On April 26 - more than 10 days after the task force meeting - India's home (interior) ministry wrote to states, asking them to implement strict measures for "large containment areas" in hard-hit districts, but only for 14 days. India's home and health ministries, as well as Modi's office, did not respond to requests for comment.

Reuters reported earlier this month the head of the National Centre for Disease Control had privately told an online gathering that strict lockdown measures were required in early April.

Two senior ICMR officials told Reuters the organization was frustrated about political leaders addressing large rallies and allowing religious gatherings, saying the actions publicly flouted required safety measures. Modi himself addressed several of the political meetings, maskless.

"Our messaging has been completely incorrect, not in sync with the situation," said one of the officials, referring to the government. "We have miserably failed."

Bhargava denied there was any discontent within the ICMR and added the agency was on the same page with policymakers. Without commenting directly on political leaders, he said mass gatherings during COVID-19 should not be acceptable in India or anywhere else. "It's common sense," he said.

## Covid 2nd surge in Rayagada: Scribes form a social media initiative

Rayagada (Jogeswar Das) : In the context of a critical health situation due to the 2nd surge of Covid-19 in Rayagada, Collector Sri Saroj Mishra has delivered a message of caution to the public of Rayagada. According to him till last Sunday 24 persons did succumb to the Corona pandemic. So, the average death per day for 38 eight days since the second surge of Covid-19 comes to 1.6. During the 1st surge, the death number was 45 for the whole year. According to Mishra, the Covid +ve rate is 16.09, which is just near to the figure of the 1st surge during August-2020, ie, 17.30. This is due to new strain from AP & Telangana and the late arrival of positive patients after being very critically

ill. He has cautioned Rayagada citizens to strictly adhere to Covid preventive norms like wearing double masks, avoiding gatherings, washing hands very often, and maintaining physical distance as prescribed by the state authorities from time to time.

"The figures given by Collector are high, alarming, and a point of concern even for the local scribes & their family members, who are increasingly getting affected due to their occupational hazards. We, therefore, facilitated the en-masse vaccination of the working journalists of the district, with cooperation from the district administration. We have started a campaign through a WhatsApp social media

group called "Media Cares" to strengthen peer communication and arrange possible facilities for better health care for the journo and their family members. Special rooms have been arranged in Covid Care Centres in Rayagada (Penta), Gunupur, and Bissam Cuttack. Oxygen cylinders, oximeters, digital thermometers, steam inhalers, water heaters, PPE kits, and comprehensive corona kits including essential vitamins and drugs have been arranged to be supplied to CCCs and Covid Hospital in JK Pur.

ADM Sri Sarat Panda, Gunupur Sub-Collector Sri J Sonal, IAS, Rayagada Sub-Collector Sri Pratap Pradhan, and Tahsildar Sri Umashankar Behera are

working tooth and nail to contain this dreaded pandemic in the district. They alongwith Collector Mishra are continuously monitoring the border entry points to check the influx of migrants from neighboring Andhra Pradesh. In all the eleven blocks and Rayagada municipality thirty-five, Rapid Response Teams (RRTs) have been formed to respond to hospitalized patients with early signs of deterioration. With motivational strategies of the administration, 92% of the patients are getting treated under home isolation.

CDM & PHO Sri Artabandhu Nayak informs that there are 44 ambulances with oxygen facilities for emergency use of patients. 72 jumbo and 148 B-type



oxygen cylinders and 150 oxygen concentrators are being used in hospitals, CCCs, CTMCs, and TMCs. According to Sri Maheswar Nayak, PD-D R D A - c u m - N o d a l Officer, Covid-19, the district is well prepared and equipped to deal with the recent surge. The covid hospital in JK has 110 beds including 10 ICUs and 4 ventilators. There are

1480 beds in 8 CCCs, 2850 beds in 37 Cluster Temporary Medical Centres (CTMCs) 4307 beds in 86 Temporary Medical Centres (TMCs). Till last Sunday only 244 are being used leaving 8503 beds vacant. Nayak has appealed to the public not to hide the symptoms and get tested immediately if symptoms appear.



## If Didi Was A Tough Nut To Crack, Naveen Is Even Tougher For BJP



To be fair to the BJP, including its Odisha unit, there is much to gloat about in the election results in West Bengal for it. For one thing, it has taken a huge leap over its performance in the 2016 Assembly election, increasing its tally nearly 26-fold from a meager three to as many as 77 in the 294-member Assembly. For another, it has also increased its vote share from a mere 10% to 38.13%. But for a party that coined the slogan 'AbkiBaar, 200 Paar' in the run-up to the election, 2016 is too far back and is hardly the right base to judge its performance in this election against. A more appropriate reference point would be its tally in the 2019 Lok Sabha election when it won 18 out of the 40 seats and polled 40.2 % of the votes.

Even though the dynamics of parliamentary elections are different from Assembly elections, however, the point to note is that the party trumped the TMC in as many as 121 assembly segments in the LS polls. It was this performance that made the party aim higher and raised its hopes of coming to power in the state. It was this hope that spawned the '200 Paar' slogan, which has ended up as a bad dream with the party unable to reach even three figures.

Post the election results in West Bengal, state BJP leaders have said the party's 'Mission Purvoday' was well on course and Odisha is the next in line. But its experience of the last few years should

convince itself that if Mamata Banerjee was a tough nut to crack, Naveen Patnaik is an even tougher one. A simple comparison would reveal why. The party's '200 Paar' slogan resulted in a quantum jump for it from just three to 77 in Bengal while a similar 'Mission 120' slogan in Odisha could take it no farther than 23 in the 2019 Assembly election from just 10 in 2014. Rather than gloat over the loss of Mamata, the BJP state unit should be asking itself some tough questions. The foremost among such questions is why has it failed to dent the support base of the ruling BJD even though it had much going for itself in the last election: anti-incumbency against BJD after four successive terms in office, massive disenchantment of farmers (who constitute nearly 60% of the population), serious corruption charges, several cases of atrocities against women involving ruling party leaders, anger among rural women over the state government's unabashed promotion of liquor, the near-complete irrelevance of the Congress and so on. The BJP strategy of communal and caste polarization, which worked to an extent in West Bengal, is certain to come a cropper in Odisha if the electoral history of the state is anything to go by. Hence, the party must tailor its strategy in Odisha considering ground realities rather than repeat something that has worked elsewhere.

It should also ask itself why it has failed to win a single by-election since the

2019 polls. The loss in Balasore Sadar, in particular, should be an eye-opener for the BJP because it had, like the Assembly elections in April 2019, everything going for it. Madan Mohan Datta, whose death necessitated the by-poll, was a popular leader and had done nothing in the year and a half since being elected in the Assembly election that would make him unpopular. The party fielded his son Manas as the candidate, hoping to ride a sympathy wave in favor of his late father. On its part, the BJD chose to field Swarup Kumar Das, which led to intense bickering in the district unit of the party and the exit of three-time MLA Jeevan Pradeep Das from the party. That the BJP still lost the by-election should have forced the party to do some serious soul-searching on what went wrong. But it did nothing of the sort.

There are two things that the BJP in Odisha to note. First, it has refused to go full throttle against the BJD, as it did against the TMC in West Bengal. Instead, it has chosen to play footsie with the ruling party since the 2019 elections, inevitably inviting charges of 'foes in Bhubaneswar, friends in Delhi'. The party must realize that this 'running with the hare, hunting with the hounds' strategy is not going to take it anywhere and take Naveen and BJD head-on if it nurtures any hope of coming to power in the next election. Second, it must stop banking on recruits from disenchanted leaders from other parties and build its organizational strength in the state, which alone would enable it to fight the well-oiled BJD organizational machinery and its super-efficient election management.

## Suvendu Adhikari Elected Opposition Leader In West Bengal Assembly

*Union minister Ravi Shankar Prasad announced Suvendu Adhikari's name as the leader of the BJP legislature party in the assembly after a meeting of the legislators at the party's Hastings office.*

Kolkata: The BJP on Monday unanimously elected Suvendu Adhikari as Leader of Opposition in the new West Bengal Assembly to take on Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee in the house.

Union minister Ravi Shankar Prasad announced Adhikari's name as the leader of the BJP legislature party in the assembly after a meeting of the legislators at the party's Hastings office.

The saffron party has emerged as the main opposition party winning 77 seats in the 294-member house. Adhikari has been preferred by the saffron party ahead of senior party leaders like Mukul Roy, who also got elected from Nadia constituency, to take on Mamata Banerjee in the house.

The ruling TMC bagged 213 seats while the Indian Secular Front emerged victorious in one assembly segment and an Independent R S Lepcha, belonging to the Binay Tamang faction of the Gorkha Janmukti Morcha (GJM) won from Kalimpong. Congress and the Left party drew a blank. Voting in two assembly segments will take place in the future.

Since BJP has the overwhelming numbers in the opposition camp, Adhikari becomes the



leader of opposition in the house, party President Dilip Ghosh later told reporters at a media briefing. While 22 MLAs present at the meeting pledged support to Adhikari, those absent were either on the side of the workers facing TMC attack in the districts while two are down with COVID, Ghosh said when asked about the reason why not all the MLAs were present at the meeting.

Senior leader Mukul Roy, who was elected from an assembly segment in the Nadia district, said "Suvendu will lead BJP to greater height in the house and fight the misdeeds of the ruling party in the state." Roy once considered number two in the TMC, was the saffron party's chief architect in driving away many legislators from the ruling camp to them.

Mr Adhikari said "I

have been MLA since 2006. I have seen the arrogance of the then CPI(M) led regime. We have to constructively perform the role of opposition in the assembly adhering to parliamentary norms." He said the BJP will continue to take up the issue of Trinamool Congress's attack on political rivals, the terror unleashed by the TMC, and the fight for the democratic right of every citizen.

Union minister and senior BJP leader Ravi Shankar Prasad and Bhupendra Yadav were the observers at the election of Adhikari as BJP legislature party leader.

Adhikari had won the elections from Nandigram assembly seat, defeating his former boss-turned-political adversary Mamata Banerjee by a narrow margin of over 1900 votes.



# Lockdown Returns: Last Chance For Citizens To Mend Their Ways



This is the best that the Odisha government could have come up with. A prolonged lockdown had become inevitable given the rapidly rising Covid graph in the state over the last few weeks. And sure enough, the Odisha government on Sunday announced a 14-day-long lockdown in the whole state beginning Wednesday. The government certainly deserves

compliments for making the announcement two days in advance, leaving the people with enough time to plan for the long lockdown and thus ensuring there is no rerun of the kind of mad rush that followed the announcement of the first nationwide lockdown last year.

Some think the announcement came at least a week too late. But the

reluctance of the government to impose another spell of lockdown on the people, still trying to recover from the horrors of last year's long lockdown, is perfectly understandable. It kept trying to postpone a lockdown till the huge leap in positive cases over the last week or so left it with little choice but to go for one, only as a 'last resort' - as Prime Minister Narendra Modi had urged Chief Ministers to do in his last tete-a-tete with them through video conferencing.

In drawing up the list of 'dos' and 'don'ts', the state government has tried its best to combine the best of both the worlds; leaving just about enough room to ensure supply of all essential items and services to the people - for limited hours, for obvious reasons - while shutting the doors for all kinds of non-essential activities. Any activity that would engender crowding or a large gathering

of people has been understandably put on the 'don'ts' list. Life will not come to a halt this time, as it did last year after the first lockdown. But at the same time, it would not be business as usual, which would be a surefire recipe for disaster.

Although the people have been given two days advance notice about the impending lockdown - and the assurances of the traders' organization that there are enough supplies of essential items - the possibility of panic buying by the people cannot be ruled out. Recently, there was a spate of reports in the media about how essential medicines and other medical supplies flew off the shelves in the next to no time after reports of their shortage. Some people even purchased oxygen cylinders, often at a premium, even though neither they - nor any of their family members - were infected by the deadly virus! In this backdrop, there

would be a tendency among some people to stock up even non-essential stuff, especially because of the widely held apprehension that the 14-day lockdown could be extended further - as has happened in Delhi and some other places. The government and the traders' bodies must do all they can to assure the people that there would be no disruption in supplies and appeal to them repeatedly not to indulge in panic buying.

The people, however, need to do much more than just avoid panic buying if they want to ensure that there is no extension of the 14-day lockdown. As the Coronagraph started going through the roof in the last week of March, Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik, top government officials, and health experts repeatedly pleaded with the people to stay put at home unless it was unavoidable and display

'Covid appropriate behavior' at all times, if they are forced to go out for some reason. This, the public was repeatedly told, was the only way to stave off a lockdown that no one wants. But the people did not pay heed to the entreaties and forced a lockdown on themselves. They refused to stay home and went out often without enough reason. While going out, they either refused to wear masks altogether or, when they did, left it dangling from their chins, making a mockery of the whole thing. Even after constant harping by all concerned for well over a year, they are yet to realize the importance of 'social distancing. The same also goes for personal hygiene and hand sanitation.

This is the last chance for the people to mend their ways if they want to make sure the first lockdown of the year is also the last.

## Phenyl production ensures economic benefit and develops entrepreneurship in Bolangir

Bolangir : (Sudhir Mishra) It is a common sight to find students going to college for higher education after class 10 for a better career and the college provides higher education and degree, but they hardly provide any opportunity to develop their entrepreneur skill to make them a self-reliant person.

The Covid 19 pandemic which has hit all sectors of Indian economy, including education sector most and school and colleges were closed for months together, which reduces the earnings of educational institutions. It was a very difficult time for them to provide salary to teaching and non-

teaching staff.

To meet the challenge one institution ventured to produce the Centurion phenyl that started after the Covid 19 pandemic last year. Although they started with mushroom production on the campus, it stopped after a few months since that was seasonal and thereafter pondered about other options available.

A situation analysis by that time revealed people would attach importance to hygiene during the pandemic and after a detailed discussion with Ankita Gadtiya, Devajani Tripathy, both Lect. in Chemistry and senior laboratory Assistant Ramesh Sahu, decided to start the Centurion Phenyl, says Regional director Centurion



Campus JITM, Sri Pradeep Sarangi.

In the initial period to ensure the quality of phenyl we strived hard and suffered a loss. Besides utilizing the Centurion phenyl in all campuses of CUTM here, we also sell it outside. We maintain quality and there are a large number of bulk customers mainly

big commercial firms, and malls. And for the sake of the common man, phenyl in three different sizes is available at a price starting from 70/per liter. So far we have produced around 3000 liters of phenyl in two years, says Pradeep Sarangi, Regional Director of Centurion Campus at Bolangir

There are several schools and colleges under the jurisdiction of Centurion Campus, JITM Bolangir. After production from our unit, we have stopped purchasing it from outside which saved us around 70000 rupees annually, Sarangi points out.

After the lockdown

situation is over, we would send our interested students to collect feedback from the various business establishments which would be utilized to improve the quality of phenyl further.

Moreover, we are also making plans to supply Centurion phenyl to all other Centurion campuses at Rayagada, Parlakhemundi, and Bhubaneswar. The Centurion University which all along provides quality education at affordable cost, also strives to develop other qualities among students like entrepreneurship, so that they could face the challenges in the future effectively, Sarangi says.



## Bill and Melinda Gates to divorce after 27 years of marriage

*The couple was married in 1994 in Hawaii.*

*They met after she began working at Microsoft as a product manager in 1987*

Seattle : Bill and Melinda Gates announced Monday that they are divorcing. The Microsoft co-founder and his wife, who launched the world's largest charitable foundation, said they would continue to work together at the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. In identical tweets, they said they had decided to end their marriage of 27 years.

"We have raised three incredible children and built a foundation that works all over the world to enable all people to lead healthy, productive lives," they said in a statement. "We ask for space and privacy for our family as we begin to navigate this new life." In her 2019 memoir, "The Moment of Lift," Melinda Gates wrote about her childhood, life, and private struggles as the wife of a public icon and stay-at-home mom with three kids. She won Gates' heart after meeting at a work dinner, sharing a mutual love of puzzles and beating him at a math game. The couple's sprawling Seattle-based foundation is easily the most influential private foundation in the world, with an

endowment worth nearly \$50 billion. It has focused on global health and development and US education issues since incorporating in 2000.

The couple was married in 1994 in Hawaii. They met after she began working at Microsoft as a product manager in 1987. Last year, Bill Gates, formerly the world's richest person, said he was stepping down from Microsoft's board to focus on philanthropy.

Gates was Microsoft's CEO until 2000 and since then has gradually scaled back his involvement in the company he started with Paul Allen in 1975. He transitioned out of a day-to-day role in Microsoft in 2008 and served as chairman of the board until 2014.

The Gateses will be the second high-profile Seattle-area billionaire couple to end their marriage in recent years.

Amazon CEO Jeff Bezos and MacKenzie Bezos finalized their divorce in 2019. MacKenzie Scott has since remarried and now focuses on her philanthropy. She received a 4% stake in Amazon, worth more than \$36 billion.



## Congress defers party president polls once again, cites Covid-19 pandemic

New Delhi, May 10: The Congress party's internal elections to elect the successor of President Sonia Gandhi has been deferred once again as several members in the Congress Working Committee (CWC) meeting on Monday emphasized keeping the focus on the Covid-19 pandemic and the relief work, the CWC resolution stated.

In January, the Congress had decided to hold the long-pending organizational elections in June to elect a new president. Now, amid the second wave of Covid-19 pandemic raging across the country, the party has decided to defer the polls once again.

"Because of the nationwide emergent conditions prevailing on account of unprecedented Corona pandemic, the CWC was unanimous that all our energies should be channelized towards saving every life and helping every Covid affected person. CWC, therefore, unanimously resolved to defer the elections temporarily amid these challenging times," read the CWC resolution.

Congress chief spokesperson Randeep Surjewala said, "the election has been deferred for two to three months" but at least two other party insiders said that polls would not happen till the covid subsides.

In her opening remarks, Congress president Sonia

Congress chief spokesperson

Randeep Surjewala said, "the election has been deferred for two to three months".



Gandhi mentioned the internal polls and said, "There is another important issue on which I would like your guidance. When we met on January 22nd, we had decided that the process for electing a Congress President would be completed by end-June. The election authority chairperson, Madhusudan Mistriji, has prepared a schedule." The Mistri panel had proposed that the elections would be held in the last week of June. But leaders, including Rajasthan chief minister Ashok Gehlot, argued that this is time to hold party polls. In the meet, Congress also decided to form state-level committees to analyze the results of assembly elections in Assam,

West Bengal, and Kerala. The decision was taken at the Congress Working Committee (CWC) meeting.

At the meeting, the party leaders noted that in Assam, the difference of vote share between Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and Congress alliance was very narrow. The BJP was able to retain power in Assam by defeating Congress-led 'Mahajot'; Himanta Biswa Sarma took oath as 15th chief minister of the state on Monday.

The CWC meeting was convened to analyze the election results and review the party's performance in the recently concluded assembly polls. All the Congress leaders present at the CWC meeting maintained that the need of the hour is to maintain unity.

## Two bank staffers and a man arrested fraudulently siphoning money from a depositor account

Jagatsinghpur: (Kahnu Nanda): Police have arrested three persons including two bank employees fraudulently withdrawing money from a depositor account. Meanwhile, cops have recovered cash Rs 2 Lakh, 5 mobile phones, 15 SIM Cards, 4 ATM credit cards, fake Adhar and voter ID cards and a computer under their possession allegedly used for the crime.

The fraudsters identified as Pankaj Kumar Mishra a resident of Pankapal village under Kujanga block, Likson Biswal of Banikuda village, and Sidhrata Shankar a Probation officer working in the SBI Rahama branch.

The report said that one



Sarala Pradhan from village Badabelari under Erasama had opened a saving bank account in the SBI Erasama Branch in the year 2010 later the victim woman had made Rs 30, 00,000 fixed deposit in the same branch in the year 2011.

As the depositor had registered a mobile number

for getting SMS service from the bank but she did not receive any message from the bank till February 2021. When no message was received from the bank she had approached the bank authority with regards to the discrepancy and put forth a grievance.

Acting on the depositor

complaint Bank authority responded promptly and informed her that an amount of Rs 22, 50,000 loans have been sanctioned in favor of her fixed deposit, and meanwhile Rs 13, 75, 000 has been withdrawn from the loan amount through electronic mode in different banks. While depositor

Sarala Pradhan denied taking any loan and knowledge about the matter or never have approached the bank obtaining any loan against her fixed deposit, as a consequence she had lodged an FIR in Erasama police station and a formal complaint before SBI Erasama branch on April 17, 2021.

Basing on the depositor Pradhan complaint police launched a probe and during the investigation found that one Pankaj Kumar Mishra has hatched a plan to draw money from Pradhan account for which he had taken the help of a probation officer Sidharth Shankar and Gyanendra Sahoo assistance [both working in SBI

Rahama branch].

In the first course of action, Pankaj had changed the registered mobile number of depositor Pradhan and inserted his mobile number by help of both bank officials, then an amount of RS 22,50,000 loan had sanctioned in favor of Pradhan against her fixed deposit and subsequently Rs 13, 75,000 had been withdrawn using SBI YONO from different banks.

Basing on the documentary, circumstances, and electronic evidence collected during the investigation police reached the alleged three accused persons and arrested them and further investigation is on, informed IIC Erasama police station PK Majhi.



# Congress must draw 'uncomfortable lessons' from assembly poll results: Sonia

Congress chief Sonia Gandhi also raised the matter of electing a new party president. She decided to set up a small group to "candidly understand" the underlying causes behind the party's dismal performance in the recently concluded assembly elections



New Delhi : Congress president Sonia Gandhi on Monday said that the party has to take note of its "serious setbacks" in the recently concluded assembly elections across India. Highlighting the fact that Congress failed to dislodge the incumbent governments in Kerala and Assam, and drew a

complete blank in West Bengal, Gandhi said that she will set up a small group to "candidly understand" the underlying causes behind the party's dismal performance. "These will yield uncomfortable lessons, but if we do not look the facts in the face, we will not draw the right lessons," she said in a CWC meeting. The crucial meeting of the Congress Working Committee (CWC) was convened to deliberate and introspect on the party's performance in the latest elections. The

Congress fared poorly, drawing a blank in West Bengal and failing to win back power in Kerala and Assam, besides losing Puducherry. The party only came to power with the help of its ally -- the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) -- in Tamil Nadu. "To say that we are deeply disappointed is to make an understatement," Sonia Gandhi noted while addressing the crucial meeting of the top Congress body.

The Congress chief also raised the matter of electing a new party

president. "When we met on January 22, we had decided that the process for electing a Congress president would be completed by end-June. The election authority chairperson, Mr. Madhusudan Mistri, has prepared a schedule. Mr. Venugopal will read it out to you after our discussion on Covid-19 and the election results," she said.

The chief ministers of the grand old party were invited to speak first on the Covid-19 situation. Following their address, general secretaries for the

aforementioned states -- Jitender Singh for Assam, Tariq Anwar for Kerala, Dinesh Gundurao (in-charge of Tamil Nadu and Puducherry), and Jitin Prasada for West Bengal - were then invited to make their presentations.

"I expect them to brief us very frankly on our performance in their respective states. We want them to tell us why we performed well below expectation. These results tell us clearly that we need to put our house in order," noted Sonia Gandhi.

## From Page-1

### Keonjhar covid ...

denial mode. The words of praise are pouring on the man who prepared the Video and made it viral with his identity in a bold manner. However, the administration remains mum in either accepting the truth of the video or reject it. The immediate hiring of the services of oxygen man Muna Sharma virtually confirms the authenticity of viral videos. It also endorses the reality of the pieces of information catered by the administration to the general public as far from the truth.

Many families have been complaining about the loot of ornaments, money, and valuables of the dead patients, but the authorities have not yet taken cognizance of it. The BJP president Ansuman in the meantime has appealed to the Collector to improve the strength of doctors and services to the patients. Only by better management, the DMF money could be better utilized Sri Ansuman adds in his letter.

Another video too has surfaced that shows a man with slaine attached fled from the hospital and died on the road within 500 meters of the hospital. Many cases of bribery have been revealed. The administration is urged to take tangible action for the betterment of the district.

### Odisha To ...

attempt to strengthen Odisha's preparedness to fight the second wave of Covid-19, the Cabinet has also given nod to amendments in IPR 2015 to incentivize the production of medical oxygen in the State. This will offer benefits to those manufacturing medical oxygen and containers.

Reiterating its determination to fight the virus, the Cabinet also urged the Centre to exempt vaccines from all tax liabilities to reduce the burden on finances and facilitate Odisha's drive towards universal vaccination. Besides, it also requested for suitable sharing of various cess and surcharges at this juncture to augment States' resources.

While appreciating the hard work and sacrifices of COVID warriors across the State, CM Naveen expressed heartfelt gratitude to the people for their cooperation in the fight against pandemic-whether it is testing, tracing, vaccination and lockdown.

***"Odisha Cabinet urges the Centre to exempt vaccines from all tax liabilities to reduce the burden on finances and facilitate Odisha's drive towards universal vaccination"***

management of the covid hospital and improve the

## India's Consul General in the Afghan city of Mazar-e-Sharif dies

**External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar condoled Kalra's death**

New Delhi, May 10: Vinesh Kalra, India's Consul General in the Afghan city of Mazar-e-Sharif, passed away at a hospital in Kabul on Monday. It is learned that he was suffering from Covid-19 but died of a cardiac arrest at the hospital.

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar condoled Kalra's death. "Deeply grieved at the passing away of Shri Vinesh Kalra, Consul General, Mazar-e-Sharif. A conscientious and dedicated colleague, he will be missed by us all. Sincerest condolences to his family," Jaishankar tweeted. External Affairs Ministry Spokesperson Arindam Bagchi said Kalra showed exemplary commitment and dedication to the national cause by volunteering for a posting under difficult conditions. "@MEAIndia sincerely condoles passing away of Shri Vinesh Kalra, Consul General, Mazar-e-Sharif. A sincere, hard-working & reliable officer, he showed exemplary commitment & dedication to the national cause by volunteering for a posting under difficult conditions to Afghanistan," he said.





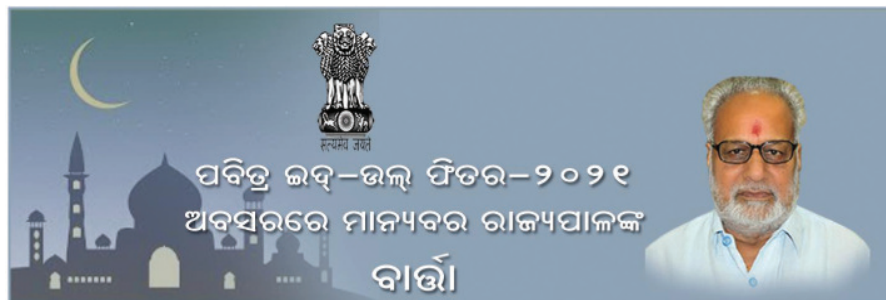
## Bishnupada Sethi Takes Charge As Principal Secretary Of I&PR Department



Bhubaneswar: Principal Secretary of Revenue & Disaster Management Department, Bishnupada Sethi, took over the additional charge as Principal Secretary of Information & Public Relations (I&PR) Department on Thursday. Speaking to OMMCOM NEWS after taking charge, Sethi said, "We will make

people empowered with genuine and authentic information, try to get their feedback and provide them relief from the administration, use technology as support for the information flow, assist everyone at the time of pandemic to face challenges with confidence." Sethi, a 1995 batch IAS officer, who is

currently the Principal Secretary of Revenue & Disaster Management Department with additional charge of Principal Secretary of Odia Language, Literature & Culture Department was given the additional charge of I&PR Department on Wednesday. He took over the office after Sanjay Kumar Singh, a 1997 batch IAS officer, who was holding the position of Commissioner-cum-Secretary of the I&PR Department, was appointed as Commissioner, Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC).



DADLS-07

ପବିତ୍ର ଇନ୍ଦ୍ର-ଉଲ୍-ଫିତର ଅବସରରେ ମୁଁ ଆମ ରାଜ୍ୟର ସମସ୍ତ ମୁସଲମାନ ଭାଇଭଉଣୀମାନଙ୍କୁ ଆନ୍ତରିକ ଶୁଭେଚ୍ଛା ଓ ଅଭିନନ୍ଦନ ଜଣାଉଛି । ଶାନ୍ତି-ମୌଜୁ-ହର୍ଷୋଲ୍ଲାସର ଏହି ପର୍ବରେ ସମସ୍ତେ ସାମିଲ ହେବା ସହ ମୁସଲମାନ ଭାଇଭଉଣୀମାନଙ୍କ ସର୍ବାଙ୍ଗୀନ ବିକାଶ ନିମନ୍ତେ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟ କରିବାକୁ ମୁଁ ଆହ୍ୱାନ ଜଣାଉଛି ।

‘କରୋନା’ ମହାମାରୀ ବିରୋଧରେ ଓଡ଼ିଶାର ଲଢ଼େଇରେ ସାମିଲ ହୋଇ ଧୈର୍ଯ୍ୟ ଓ ସାହସର ସହ ମୁକାବିଲା କରିବା ନିମନ୍ତେ ସମସ୍ତଙ୍କର ସକ୍ରିୟ ସହଯୋଗ କାମନା କରୁଛି ।

ଶାନ୍ତିମାଳିନୀ  
(ଗଣେଶୀ ଲାଲ)

OIPR- 15001/13/0009/2122

ମାନ୍ୟବର ରାଜ୍ୟପାଳ, ଓଡ଼ିଶା



DADLS-07

ପବିତ୍ର ଇନ୍ଦ୍ର-ଉଲ୍-ଫିତର ପର୍ବ ଅବସରରେ ମୁଁ ରାଜ୍ୟବାସୀ ସମସ୍ତ ମୁସଲମାନ ଭାଇଭଉଣୀମାନଙ୍କୁ ଆନ୍ତରିକ ଶୁଭେଚ୍ଛା ଓ ଅଭିନନ୍ଦନ ଜଣାଉଛି ଏବଂ ସମସ୍ତଙ୍କର ସୁଖ ଓ ସମୃଦ୍ଧି କାମନା କରୁଛି ।

ସଂପ୍ରତି କରୋନା ମହାମାରୀର ଦ୍ୱିତୀୟ ଲହରୀ ସଂକ୍ରମଣ ବିରୁଦ୍ଧରେ ଆମର ଲଢ଼େଇ ଜାରି ରହିଛି । ଏହି ପରିସ୍ଥିତିରେ ଲାଗୁ କରାଯାଇଥିବା କଟକଣା କଡ଼ାକଡ଼ି ଭାବେ ଅନୁପାଳନ କରିବା ସହିତ ସମସ୍ତେ ଧୈର୍ଯ୍ୟ, ସାହସ ଓ ଆତ୍ମବିଶ୍ୱାସର ସହ ମହାମାରୀର ମୁକାବିଲା ଦିଗରେ ସକ୍ରିୟ ସହଯୋଗ ବଜାୟ ରଖିବାକୁ ମୁଁ ନିବେଦନ କରୁଛି ।

(ବିଶ୍ୱନାଥ ବାସ)  
ଜଳସମ୍ପଦ, ସୂଚନା ଓ ଲୋକସମ୍ପର୍କ ମନ୍ତ୍ରୀ

OIPR- 15001/13/0009/2122



DADLS-07

ପବିତ୍ର ଇନ୍ଦ୍ର-ଉଲ୍-ଫିତର ପର୍ବ ଉପଲକ୍ଷେ ମୁଁ ସମସ୍ତ ମୁସଲମାନ ଭାଇଭଉଣୀମାନଙ୍କୁ ମୋର ଆନ୍ତରିକ ଶୁଭେଚ୍ଛା ଜଣାଉଛି ଏବଂ ସମସ୍ତଙ୍କର ସୁଖ ଓ ସମୃଦ୍ଧି କାମନା କରୁଛି ।

କୋଭିଡର ଦ୍ୱିତୀୟ ଲହରୀର ଭୟାବହତା ଦୃଷ୍ଟିରୁ ମାସ ପିନ୍ଧିବା, ହାତ ଧୋଇବା ଓ ସାମାଜିକ ଦୂରତ୍ୱ ବଜାୟ ରଖିବା ଆଦି କୋଭିଡର ସମସ୍ତ ନିୟମ ପାଳନ ସହିତ ପର୍ବ ପାଳନ ପାଇଁ ମୋର ନିବେଦନ ।

ନବୀନ ଚକ୍ରବର୍ତ୍ତୀ

ମାନ୍ୟବର ମୁଖ୍ୟମନ୍ତ୍ରୀ, ଓଡ଼ିଶା

OIPR- 15001/13/0009/2122

THE INDUSTRY & MINES  
OBSERVER

Vol.-15  
Issue -02  
May 15

Editor : Sirish C Mohanty

Our correspondents at

New Delhi, Rourkela, Jaipur, 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