

Odisha now collects Rs 10K cr revenue per month

The overdrive for the collection of revenue has enabled the State Government to mop up nearly Rs 10,000 crore on an average per month.



Sirish C Mohanty

says revenue is experiencing positive growth of more than 25 percent. While it was targeted to collect Rs 1, 25,






600 crores during 2021-22 by September 30, the State Government has been able to collect Rs 57, 628 crores, nearly 46 percent of the

budget estimate for revenue collection. The total revenue receipts include own tax, own non-tax and share and grants from the Center was Rs 1, 06,891 crore in 2020-21.

While nearly Rs 20,000 crore more revenue was expected, trends show that there will be more collection, said officials. While the State's tax revenue and own non-tax revenue collection is on the rise, grants and share tax from the Center has fallen sharply, the (Page-5)

Bhubaneswar, Oct 14: In September 2021, the State Government collected Rs 9,805 crore and maintained the growth trend, officials admitted. The State Government's latest report on revenue




“ପବିତ୍ର ବିଜୟା ଦଶମୀ – ୨୦୨୧”
ଉପଲକ୍ଷେ ମାନ୍ୟବର ରାଜ୍ୟପାଳଙ୍କ ବାର୍ତ୍ତା

DADLS-26 ବିଜୟା ଦଶମୀ ହେଉଛି ଅସତ୍ୟ ଉପରେ ସତ୍ୟର, ଅନ୍ୟାୟ ଉପରେ ନ୍ୟାୟର ଏବଂ ଅଶାନ୍ତି ଉପରେ ଶାନ୍ତିର ବିଜୟର ପ୍ରତୀକ । ପ୍ରତ୍ୟେକ ବ୍ୟକ୍ତି ନିଜ ଜୀବନରେ ତଥା ସମାଜରେ ସତ୍ୟ, ନ୍ୟାୟ ଏବଂ ଶାନ୍ତିର ପ୍ରତିଷ୍ଠା ଦିଗରେ ନିଷ୍ଠାପୂର୍ବକ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟ କରନ୍ତୁ ବୋଲି ମୁଁ ଆହ୍ୱାନ ଜଣାଉଛି ।

‘କରୋନା’ ମହାମାରୀ ବିରୋଧରେ ଓଡ଼ିଶାର ଲଢ଼େଇରେ ସାମିଲ ହୋଇ ଆବଶ୍ୟକ ସରକାରୀ ନିର୍ଦ୍ଦେଶ ଓ ପରାମର୍ଶ ପାଳନ ପୂର୍ବକ ଧୈର୍ଯ୍ୟ ଓ ସାହସର ସହ ମୁକାବିଲା ନିମନ୍ତେ ସମସ୍ତଙ୍କର ସହଯୋଗ କାମନା କରୁଛି ।

ଗଣେ ଶ୍ୟାମ୍ଲିଲି
(ଗଣେଶୀ ଲାଲ)

OIPR-15001/13/0050/2122

ଶାରଦୀୟ ଦୁର୍ଗାପୂଜା-୨୦୨୧
ଅବସରରେ ବାର୍ତ୍ତା




DADLS-26 ପବିତ୍ର ଶାରଦୀୟ ଦୁର୍ଗାପୂଜା ଉପଲକ୍ଷେ ରାଜ୍ୟବାସୀ ସମସ୍ତ ଭାଇଭଉଣୀମାନଙ୍କୁ ମୁଁ ଆନ୍ତରିକ ଅଭିନନ୍ଦନ ଓ ଶୁଭେଚ୍ଛା ଜଣାଉଛି ।

ଦୁର୍ଗତିନାଶିନୀ, ଶକ୍ତି ପ୍ରଦାୟିନୀ, ଜଗଜ୍ଜନନୀ ମା' ଦୁର୍ଗା ସମସ୍ତଙ୍କ ଜୀବନରେ ସୁଖ, ଶାନ୍ତି ଓ ସମୃଦ୍ଧି ଭରି ଦିଅନ୍ତୁ, ଏହା ହିଁ ମୁଁ କାମନା କରୁଛି ।

ସମ୍ପ୍ରତି କରୋନା ମହାମାରୀ ସଂପୂର୍ଣ୍ଣ ରୂପେ ଦୂର ହୋଇନାହିଁ । ଏପରି ସ୍ଥିତି ସରକାରଙ୍କ ତରଫରୁ ଜାରି କରାଯାଇଥିବା କୋଭିଡ କଟକଣା ଅନୁପାଳନ ପୂର୍ବକ ଚଳିତ ବର୍ଷ ମା' ଦୁର୍ଗାଙ୍କର ଧରାବତରଣ ତଥା ଶାରଦୀୟ ଦୁର୍ଗାପୂଜା ଉତ୍ସବକୁ ଆନନ୍ଦ ଭରସା ସହ ପାଳନ କରିବାକୁ ମୁଁ ସମସ୍ତଙ୍କୁ ଅନୁରୋଧ କରୁଛି ।

(ଉପନିର୍ଦ୍ଦେଶକ ଦାସ)
ସୂଚନା ଓ ଲୋକସମ୍ପର୍କ, ଜଳସଂପଦ ମନ୍ତ୍ରୀ

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ମାନ୍ୟବର ମୁଖ୍ୟମନ୍ତ୍ରୀଙ୍କ
ପୂଜା ଅଭିନନ୍ଦନ

DADLS-26 ମାତୃଶକ୍ତିର ଆରାଧନା ଆମ ସଂସ୍କୃତିର ଅନ୍ୟତମ ବିଭବ । ଆଶ୍ୱିନରେ ମା'ଙ୍କର ଧରାବତରଣ ଚାରିଆଡେ ଏକ ଆନନ୍ଦମୟ ପରିବେଶ ସୃଷ୍ଟି କରିଛି । ପାର୍ବଣର ମହାର୍ଦ୍ଦ ଅବସରରେ ଆପଣମାନଙ୍କୁ ସମସ୍ତଙ୍କୁ ମୋର ଶୁଭେଚ୍ଛା ଜଣାଉଛି ।

ଚଳିତ ବର୍ଷ ନିରାଡ଼ମ୍ବର ଭାବରେ ମା'ଙ୍କ ପୂଜା କରିବା ସହିତ ଭିତ୍ତ ନ କରିବା, ଠିକ୍ ଭାବରେ ମାଞ୍ଚ ପିନ୍ଧିବା, ହାତ ଧୋଇବା ଏବଂ ସାମାଜିକ ଦୂରତା ରକ୍ଷା କରିବା ଆଦି କୋଭିଡ ନିୟମାବଳୀକୁ କଡ଼ାକଡ଼ି ଭାବରେ ପାଳନ କରିବା ପାଇଁ ମୁଁ ଆପଣମାନଙ୍କୁ ଅନୁରୋଧ କରୁଛି ।

ଦିବ୍ୟ ଜନନୀଙ୍କ ଆଗମନ ପ୍ରତି ପରିବାରରେ ଖୁସି ଓ ଆନନ୍ଦ ଭରି ଦେଉ, ଏତିକି ପ୍ରାର୍ଥନା ।

ନବୀନ ଖଟ୍ଟରାୟ
(ନବୀନ ପଟ୍ଟନାୟକ)
ମୁଖ୍ୟମନ୍ତ୍ରୀ, ଓଡ଼ିଶା

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Air Marshal Dilip Kumar Patnaik Is The New Eastern Air Commander

An alumnus of Kendriya Vidyalaya No.1 in Bhubaneswar, Patnaik is the first Odia Air Force Officer to be elevated to the prestigious post.



Bhubaneswar : Making Odisha proud, Air Marshal Dilip Kumar Patnaik has been appointed as the new Eastern Air Commander in Shillong. He will take over as Air Officer Commanding in Chief of the Eastern Air Command on October 3, 2021 (tomorrow).

An alumnus of Kendriya Vidyalaya No.1 in Bhubaneswar, Patnaik is the first Odia Air Force Officer to be elevated to the prestigious post. Patnaik, who hails from Bhubaneswar, was conferred the Vayu Sena Medal for gallantry during Kargil Operations in 1999.

He was also decorated with the prestigious Ati Vishist Seva Medal in 2020

for distinguished service of the exceptional order. Patnaik, a fighter pilot, was commissioned into Fighter stream of the Indian Air Force on June 8, 1984. He has flown a wide variety of fighter and trainer aircrafts including the Mirage 2000 and the Mig 21.

He has a rich operational flying experience of over 2500 hours. In the summer of 1999, he carried out the first ever night Laser Guided Bomb strike on Tiger Hill, facilitating its recapture from the enemy.

During his illustrious career in the IAF, the Air Officer has held numerous important appointments. He commanded a frontline Fighter Base as an Air Commodore. As an Air vice Marshal, Patnaik has held the coveted appointments of Chief Staff Officer (Air Vector) at HQ Strategic Forces Command and Assistant Chief of Air Staff Operations (Air Defence) at Air Head Quarters. He was also the Commandant of the Prestigious College of Air Warfare. He is an alumnus of Defence Services Staff College and College of Air Warfare.

Odisha MLA, Andhra Officials Face-Off Over Kotia Border Row

Phagunsineri(Koraput), Oct 13: Amid the long-pending border dispute over Kotia panchayat of Pottangi block in Odisha's Koraput district, a heated exchange of words reportedly ensued between Pottangi MLA Pitam Padhi and Andhra Pradesh officials on Wednesday.

As per reports, Parbatipuram PA-ITDA today held a meeting at Phagunsineri to sabotage the upcoming panchayat elections in Odisha. On getting information about the same, MLA Padhi rushed to the village and asked the Andhra Pradesh officials to leave. Soon, an altercation ensued between the MLA and the officials.



Later, the officials reportedly left the place after the situation turned tense. Recently, Koraput district collector Abdaal M Akhtar visited several villages of the panchayat and held discussions with the people about their issues on October 9. As per reports, Akhtar visited Madkar, Doliambo, Phatuseneri, Phagunaseneri and British Road in the disputed Kotia panchayat

and reviewed the progress of the ongoing developmental works in the region. On the other hand, two days back on October 7, the officials of Salur Mandal in Andhra Pradesh had reportedly conducted a gram sabha at Ganjeipadar and tried to lure villagers by assuring them that the Andhra government will take up several development projects in the region.

IMO scribe Sudhir Kumar Mishra honoured with sub divisional level Biju pattnaik wildlife award

Bolangir, Oct 12: 67th Wildlife Week was observed in Bolangir today. Divisional Forest

conservation in Patnagarh and Tiligirah subdivision. On this occasion, forest



Officer, Bolangir, Sri Nitish Kumar gave away the Biju Patnaik sub-divisional wildlife award to Journalist, Sri Sudhir Kumar Mishra (for Bolangir Subdivision) for his contribution to wildlife conservation in the district.

Sri Arindum Parischha and Sri Bikiji Nag were also honored for their contributions to wildlife

officials of different ranges and VSS members participated in a wildlife quiz, on the mode of popular KBC game, and winners were given prizes, and other members of the division were honored for their contribution in different spheres.

The IMO family congratulates Sri Mishra for his achievement.

Delay In Bridge Construction Over River Jira: BJP Holds 'Jala Satyagraha', Alleges Tender Fixing

It is alleged that even though the target to complete the construction of the Jira bridge was November 2, 2020, it is yet to be completed

Bargarh, Oct 9: Protesting the delay in the construction of a bridge over river Jira in Bargarh district, members of the district unit of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on Saturday resorted to 'Jal Satyagraha' demanding the early completion of the project.

They alleged that even though a target had been set to complete the construction of the bridge by November 2, 2020, the works are yet to be over.

The delay in the construction work has made lives of thousands of people in the region miserable apart from snapping communication of Bargarh's Ambapali town with Bolangir, Sonapur, Bijepur, Barpali, Padampur, Gaisilat, Jharband and Paikmal. In the absence of the bridge, people have to



cover a distance of nearly 10 km to reach the town.

As per reports, the project was initially taken up at an estimated cost of Rs 14 crore. However, the cost of the project has now gone up to Rs 20 crore due to the continuous delay.

"Even though we have been racking up the issue repeatedly and drawing the attention of the Odisha government about the tardy pace of work, no one is listening to us. Through our Jal Satyagraha, we want to urge Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik to order a probe to

find out how the tender fixing was carried out and what led to the delay in the completion of the project," said Aswini Sarangi, BJP Bargarh district president.

History Of Bridge Over River Jira

An iron bridge was built over river Jira in 1930s to connect Odisha with Madhya Pradesh (now Chhattisgarh). After Independence, when national highway plans came into force, the bridge became a part of NH-6. Later, an alternative road (by pass) was developed as a part of the NH.

Once the alternative road

came up, the iron bridge started being preferred mostly to drive in or out of the Bargarh town from Ambapali chhak as it cuts the travel distance down by almost 10 km.

However, decades later, lack of maintenance and apathy of the administration hit the iron bridge hard. Besides, it became a preferable spot for thieves to loot commuters. To avoid crime, especially on the bridge, the local administration installed iron barricade pillars on both ends of the bridge to prevent movement of four wheelers over it.

After much protest and demand for an alternative bridge, it was announced that the iron bridge will be replaced. However, even years later, the project is still to see the light of the day.

Tata gets AI for Rs 2700 crore, Power crisis new jolt



Prof. Shivaji Sarkar

Former HOD in English journalism in IIMC, Delhi

The sale of Air India, eight-year tax reprieve to Tatas, a severe power crisis that may give a jolt to industry and agriculture, and the stepping down of Chief Economic Advisor K Subramanian gives a new twist to the economy.

It is not an easy situation to steer through. The country may have a sigh of relief as it hives of an airline with over Rs 70820 crore losses as of March 31, 2020, combined debt of Rs 61,562 crore.

Tatas virtually take the assets over for cash of Rs 2700 crore. It does not get Air India tower at Nariman Point in Mumbai. Its future AI businesses would be funded from its future tax savings.

Of the total debt, the

Tatas take over Rs 15300 crore, and the remaining Rs 46262 crore will be repaid by the AI Assets Holding through monetizing of Rs 14,000 crore assets that are not given to Tatas, and the rest will be paid through government revenues. Since 2009-10, the government has pumped in Rs 1.10 lakh crore to support AI.

Tatas effectively take over AI, AI Express and 50 percent of cargo handler AI SATS Airport Services for Rs 2700 crore in cash, and the rest is adjusted against its debt takeover of Rs 15300 crore.

No wonder CEA in his exit statement avers that he served "a period of tremendous uncertainty and epochal change".

The addition of AI to

its portfolio gives Tata a significant leg-up in its international operations as it gets access to 1800 international landing and parking slots in India and 900 slots at airports overseas. It also gets 4400 domestic slots.

The country effectively reduces the recurring losses. For eight years, the Central Board of Direct Taxes allows Tatas not to bother about the taxes as these would be adjusted against losses Tatas are sharing. Still, nobody knows why AI and Indian Airlines' merger in 2007-08 by UPA led to continuous losses to a moderate profit maker. This was marked by a process of allowing many profitable routes to its competitors.

The power crisis is also unique. An almost entire generation is in the public sector while distribution and revenue earning has been virtually hived off to the private sector. With coal shortage, despite high reserves, it is to hive off profits, increase costs as coal prices rise internationally. It would heap a heavy cost on all activities as the tariff has to increase, add to severe inflation and cause production losses at a time when the country post-pandemic needs to move faster. The problem accentuates as petroleum crude prices also going beyond \$ 77 a barrel. There could be

more job losses against recent hopes of adding to employment.

Even AI sales would have repercussions on the 12085 AI plus 1433 employees of AI Express jobs for a year. After that Tatas can decide on the terms and effectively that means a large number of people would exit and new fewer new jobs would be created. The private sector has virtually tailored its operational strategy on staff, long working hours, and less concomitant benefits and It has not emerged as a model employer with hire and fire being the rule causing extreme uncertainties in the society.

That does not mean that the decision to hive off is not proper. It raises questions on why the 2007-08 merger happened and who was responsible for it. The country may have to decide on the process of decision-making, without a public discussion. The power sector is going through such a crisis. Since Independence, despite the Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru government offering to the private giants, no private sector has tried to get into the critical power generation. India is the world's third-largest producer and the third-largest consumer of electricity. The national electric grid in India has an installed capacity of

388.134 GW as of 31 August 2021. The private sector is marginally there.

India being the highest consumer of coal, as it reaches the international market, coal prices shoot up. Recently it has increased by 40 percent. During pandemic when crude prices fell to its lowest, it is shooting up now. It is turning into a global crisis. The international agencies are concerned and it may lead to another shock post-2007-08 Lehman meltdown. It means for 12 years the globalized economy could not come out of a crisis.


Another shock is the more the globe gets 'smaller and supposedly integrated more it is getting into different kinds of economic shocks. The more it is digitized, the more is the crisis. The model of activity in the digitized world has changed. It has moved out of the production-linked market to service and finance-oriented secondary operations. World over there are efforts to reduce manpower but aim at high growth. The impractical is happening and causing social instability.

This is contrary to the model of employing a larger number of people and empowering them for social good even at financial losses. It has changed to the opposite - minimum jobs and not bother much about the

social distress, working conditions. Air India interestingly enough fits into this bill.

The troubled national carrier has earned the dubious distinction of being an airline with the highest number of employees on its rolls per aircraft as it has been hiring staff to oblige political bosses. The AI has the highest 221 workers per aircraft. British Airways has 178 employees per aircraft, 140 by Singapore Airlines, and Lufthansa has 127. So a cut in jobs is natural. While such a high employment ratio looks impractical, the lows that many are adopting also are problematic, and that too at low wages. These include some of the highest degree holders in various private-sector jobs or contractual jobs in the public sector.

While the Tata takeover may have many emotional moments such as its creation by Jamshedji Tata in 1932. The government took it over in 1953, and after a long roller-coaster journey once again goes back to Tatas.

It is a lesson for countries to learn that the system has to be mixed. The public sector is needed and cannot be wished away as the present power crisis demonstrates. Similarly, private also has to exist for overall development. None should be given the extra weightage. 

SAIL ready to move to next realm of expansion: Chairman

Rourkela, Oct 9: Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) held its 49th Annual General Meeting on 28th September, through the virtual platform. Smt. Soma Mondal, Chairman, SAIL addressed the shareholders. In her address, she underlined some of the important highlights of SAIL. Describing FY'21 as the year of 'Growth and Scaling newer heights' for SAIL, she informed that SAIL has posted its highest ever EBITDA of Rs 13740 Crore, higher by 23% over CPLY. She mentioned the factors which helped improve the profitability like higher sales of secondary products, sale of iron ore fines, lower usage of other raw materials, improvement in techno-economic parameters, benefit in stores and spares expenses, decreased purchased power rates, reduction in interest



charges, higher dividend income and forex exchange gain among others. The Profit before Tax (PBT) of the company stood highest in the last ten years. The company's borrowings came down to Rs 35350 crore with a reduction of more than Rs 16000 Crore consequently improving the debt-equity ratio to 0.87 on 31.03.2021 vis-à-vis 1.36 as on 31.03.2020.

Chairman also talked about the challenges company faced due to the

COVID19 Pandemic and the measures taken by the Company to counter the impact of it. The company reworked its plans and strategies like optimal utilization of the operational facilities instead of operating a greater number of facilities at a sub-optimal level to sustain all-around activities. The company also took steps for a reduction in cost by reducing consumption levels for various inputs; the capital repairs were also

preponed wherever feasible. The company maximized sales volumes through potential channels like exports, dispatch to Railways while it reduced cash outflows by reviewing commitments and renegotiating contracts among others. She also added that Company focussed on continuing its operations with minimum disruptions and ensured this was achieved without compromising the safety of employees and

population in the nearby areas.

Chairman Mondal highlighted the development of medical infrastructure for handling the CoVID-19 pandemic as well as augmenting these facilities during the second wave. SAIL hospitals at all its 5 integrated steel plant locations initially earmarked 10% or 330 beds for CoVID-19 patients those were subsequently augmented to 1000 dedicated CoVID-19 beds with oxygen support.

Other initiatives to handle the surge of Covid-19 infection included the supply of more than 1 Lakh Metric Tonnes of Liquid Medical Oxygen (LMO) to date to the different states.

Talking about the growth plans of the Company, Smt. Mondal told the shareholders that with the improved leverage, the company is ready to move into the next phase of

expansion. Since its inception SAIL has been contributing to nation-building by supplying steel ranging from big projects of national significance and strategic importance to the smallest of the retail consumers. During FY'21, SAIL affected supplies to projects like Katra to Banihal Tunnel project, BRTF Leh-Ladakh project, Leh Airport, Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation, Lower Subansiri Hydel project in Assam, Agartala - Akhura Rail link project in Tripura among others.

The shareholders were informed about the regular initiatives being taken by SAIL to increase its presence in different areas by targeting defined market segments. The company is also expanding the 2-Tier and 1-Tier distribution network across the country to strengthen its retail presence.

MCL Funds IoT Lab at NIT

Rourkela, Oct 9: Foundation for Technology and Business Incubation, NIT Rourkela hosted the inauguration ceremony of MCL IoT Lab (Internet of things laboratory) at FTBI premise. NITR Director Prof. Animesh Biswas while inaugurating the MCL IoT Lab. said that it would cater to various needs and requirements

tool at the MCL IoT lab. It has established the state-of-the-art lab at FTBI, NITR to focus on the latest technologies and enable innovative starts-up to develop IoT-based applications, technical design products & solutions in various business verticals like Industrial, Agriculture, Health, Automotive, IT, and Education. Speaking on the Occasion,

immense pleasure to speed up this connection through this lab." He thanked MCL for supporting the cause of development in the area of science and technology which will eventually benefit many budding entrepreneurs incubated at FTBI-NITR.

Currently, FTBI houses 54 Starts up among which many tech and product-based start-ups require the latest IoT-based technology to grow their business. This ready-to-use IoT lab will bring transformative changes in its product innovation and development in the IoT domain. Using the lab facilities with the mentoring and funding support by FTBI, these start-ups can transform their entrepreneurial vision and contribute to nation-building. These setup machines, tools, and equipment will enhance the work format of integrated circuit designing, LED board designing, circuit designing oven machine, material sharpening, soldering LCR circuits, DC power supply, etc.

head of the center (FTBI), Dr. Debayan Sarkar (Associate Professor, Department of Chemistry, NIT Rourkela) Said, "Internet of Things (IoT) has been changing the way we interact with the physical world of electronic devices. IoT is an art of connecting Man and Machine and it is with our



of incubated start-ups and provide a platform to work more efficiently and smartly. Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL) as a part of its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) activities, provided financial assistance of Rs. 47 lakhs for the high-end equipment and

RSP Executives Brings Laurels for the Country

Rourkela, Oct 9: The team of executives from SAIL, Rourkela Steel Plant (RSP) has brought laurels for the country by bagging third place in the Global Management Challenge (GMC) International Finals held at Nizhny Novgorod, Russia from 27th to 29th September 2021. Three young executives of RSP Prakash Chandra Sahu and Bikrant Kumar Patel, Managers of Finance & Accounts Department, and Biswajit Jena, Manager of Instrumentation Department represented India in the prestigious global competition. It is noteworthy that GMC is considered the world's largest strategy and management competition. A total of 23 countries from all over the world participated in the event. Portugal bagged 1st place while China won 2nd place in the event.

Congratulating the winning team, Ms. Soma Mondal, Chairman, SAIL has



said that, "By bagging 3rd place in the prestigious global competition you have made us proud."

Mr. Amarendu Prakash, Director In-charge, Bokaro Steel Plant & Rourkela Steel Plant has expressed immense happiness over the team of young managers performing exceedingly well in the international competition and bringing glory to the country. He has congratulated the trio and wished them luck in future endeavors.

It is worth mentioning

that the nominated team to take part in the prestigious global event after winning the GMC India-2020 edition held in November 2020. The RSP team also has the honor of winning the coveted Asian Management Games held in July 2021 for the second consecutive year, organized online by MMA (Macau Management Association) and the All India Management Association (AIMA). Besides, the team had also won the Director (Personnel) Cup - Ran Niti of SAIL, for the year 2019-20.

Residents urge for NAC status to Kujanga

JAGATSINGHPUR, Oct 11: Ahead of the three tiers of Panchayat elections people of Kujanga and its adjoining villagers have reiterated their demand giving Notified Area Council [NAC] status to Kujanga. People from all walks of life including social activists, educationists, and political leaders skipping party affiliations have pressed for the longstanding demand to fulfill, awarding NAC rank to Kujanga.

According to sources that the demand is for about two decades, the locals have been drawing the attention of the government several times, and political leaders during elections have been

promising people that the proposed Kujanga NAC demand would be alleviated, ironically no major step has yet been taken in the direction, ruded renowned Kujanga based poet Pitambar Tarai. He also alleged that usually politicians are used the NAC status issue as a political plank during electioneering, fail to take up the matter in the right forum and pursue the case properly; Tarai blamed political unwillingness in this regard. The proposed NAC recognition to Kujanga is to include four villages as Balarampur, Kothiasahi, Nabadia, Kujanga, and its township with a combined population of about ten thousand.

Sources added that in this regard urban department had asked the district administration, block development officer, Tahasildar Kujanga to look into the matter and furnish a report. However, the officials have failed to submit the compliance report even after years.

Kujanga bar association strongly claimed to have all requirements for the NAC status such as population, infrastructures, revenue, business establishment, trading, market complex, several state government offices, different commercial banks, and insurance company branches. Besides, there are civil and judicial

courts to the extent of the additional district judge, at Kujanga which has become a semi-urban region after Paradeep. Despite fulfilling that state government ignores our NAC proposals, informed few senior lawyers.

Presently Jagatsinghpur district has two urban local bodies [ULBs] as Paradeep municipality and Jagatsinghpur municipality, if state government considers giving ULB status to any area Kujanga qualifies for the purpose due to its growing development and massive urbanization programs underway past one decade, sources revealed.

Dead Shark recovered from Erasama coast

JAGATSINGHPUR, Oct 04. A 20 feet long and 4-feet wide carcass of a dead whale shark was found in Ramatara coastal village near Erasama offshore, Kujanga forest division staff recovered the dead marine species by getting information from villagers sent for postmortem. The report said that the fishermen from Ramatara village while returning shore after fishing spotted a dead shark laying on the beach, so they informed Kujanga forest officials. The Kujanga forest squad led by range officer Ranjan Kumar Mishra rushed to spot and rescued the carcass of the rare marine mammal with



help of residents and sent for an autopsy. It's a rare whale shark mostly seen in the ocean. The cause of death can only be ascertained after the post mortem examination. The body of the big fish approximately weighing 9 tonnes would be buried in a deserted location after legal formalities are completed, range officer Mishra said.

Anti-narcotics drive, 63 arrested in two months, huge quantity of contrabands seized

JAGATSINGHPUR, Oct 12: The police after launching an anti-narcotics drive across Jagatsinghpur district in the last two months have registered as many as 34 narcotics cases in different police stations, arrested 63 persons about one kg of brown sugars and narcotics substances have seized worth over Rs lakhs, a huge amount of cash, two-wheelers, gold ornaments from alleged drug peddlers, informed district Superintendent of Police [SP] Akhileshvar Singh.

police areas.

According to police sources informed that as many as 10 narcotics cases violating NDPS Act U/S 21 [b] and 29 [1] have registered in Jagatsinghpur police station, followed by Paradip 4, Kujanga 3, Erasama 3, Tirtol 4, Balikuda 2, Abhyachandpur 2 and Raghunathpur 1 in last two months. The alleged drug traders were forwarded to the court, and many of them are languishing in jail.

The initiative of SP to finish drug trade in the district has been highly appreciated in the public domain, while people have raised voices against the efficiency of the district excise department and other agencies assigned controlling drug business, the report said that basically, youths are luring with drug consumption due to its unrestricted supply in the district.

Three of a family electrocuted 1 serious admitted to hospital



JAGATSINGHPUR, Oct 11: In a tragic incident, three members of a family were electrocuted and lost their lives in Benito village under Tirtol block and another one struggling for life in headquarters hospital here after being hurt following electric shock. The deceased persons were identified as Pintuna Swain [40], his wife Kamini Swain [36], and daughter Papali Swain [10], and an injured one was reported Kumar Bara Swain an immediate neighbor of the deceased.

The report said that the

deceased family lives in a mud thatched house in the village, as the heavy downpours occurred and the house was soaked by rain waters.

, Pintuna first came in contact with the live electric wire in the house and cried for help, then his wife rushed to rescue got a victim of electric shock, fazed by it the daughter Papali grabbed her mother to put a fix on the current.

After hearing the screams of the child Papali one neighbor Kumarbar ran to save her but became a victim of electric shock. Later few local villagers reached the spot and

rescued all victims, sent them to Manijanga hospital for treatment where except for Kumarbar all the 3 were declared brought dead by the doctor later Kumarbar shifted to headquarters hospital for treatment.

Police officials reached the location and recorded statements of eyewitnesses to rule out foul play. The bodies of deceased persons were kept in Manijanga hospital for autopsy, after completing legal formalities the bodies will be handed over to the deceased family for cremation, police said.

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Odisha now ...

officials said. So far as own tax revenue is concerned, the State Government has been able to collect Rs 11,753 crore, registering a growth of nearly 31 percent and nearly 47 percent of the budget estimate target. While the revenue collection is on the rise, expenditure by several development departments marked a sharp hike. But spending on infrastructure is not picking up, which causes worry, they said. The Agriculture Department has topped the list of spending with 49.96 percent of the budget estimate.

Expenditure in the primary sector has been stressed more by the State Government as the farm sector needs more fund infusion during the post-Covid scenario. However, the Fisheries and Animal Resources Development Department (FARD) sector has not been able to match the spending level of agriculture, though the primary sector has more scope to spend funds that would help improve the income of farmers. The Food Supply and Consumer Welfare, which is implementing the National Food Security program, has been able to spend 45.73 percent of the budget estimate. The social

sector spending is on the rise with departments like Women and Child Development, Panchayati Raj and Drinking Water, Co-operation, Social Security, Disaster Management performing well, though Industry and MSME sectors have not risen to the expectation.

Official sources said that the State Government is harping on more spending in the infrastructure sector. It is done to boost the State's infrastructure development and pumping more funds into the people's projects. Spending during the first six months of the current fiscal is Rs 50,465 crore against Rs 42,510 crore spent during the corresponding period of the previous year. The percentage of budget utilization is 34.7 percent as compared to the 30.10 percent of the previous year.

The program expenditure during April-September 2021 is Rs 24, 233 crores as compared to the Rs 19,266 crore during the corresponding period of the previous year. The percentage of budget utilization is 31.5 as compared to 25.3 percent the previous year.

Sea Wall and road in Udaypur-Talasari in Balasore district to revamp soon

Balasore, 13 October:- Balasore Irrigation Department will shortly commence the restoration work of a 2.6-km stretch of a sea wall and road in Udaypur-Talasari in Bhograi block which was damaged by the hit of 'Yaas'. Due to the damaged of the wall and road are also affecting footfall of tourists to the sea beach while lakhs of tourists are visited Digha in West Bengal State just a few kilometers from the Udaypur-Talasari coast and the West Bengal Government has earned



revenue and provide the source of income of local people.

Pravesh Kumar Pradhan the Superintending Engineer

of Balasore Irrigation Division told Wednesday that the National Bank of Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) had provided the fund of

Rs. 20.73 core after a technical committee headed by Engineer-in-Chief (CE) in Water Resources Department, CE in Planning and Design and CE and Basin Manager in Mahanadi and Kathajodi System (MKS) were jointly examined the site on 12 June and submitted an estimate report to Odisha Government. The restoration of the road was urgently required from the tourist point of view and the Tourism Department had been pressing hard to complete

the road restoration work as the tourist activity can start during November so that proposal was further studied, the Government directed to complete the work in two phases. The work for the revamp of the damaged sea wall and service road will initially start in the first phase which costs Rs.20.73 crore. He said that permanent measures for strengthening the sea wall be initiated in the second phase.

The damaged seal wall will be restored within 2:1 slope on the

seaside, which will strengthen by putting armory stone and Geo base of 300 GSM filled with 90 percent sand will be laid in one layer over the stone of the countryside slope of the sea wall and restoration of the road up to 2.6 km damaged sea wall as well as the construction of drain to save the embankment, said the Superintending Engineer. As soon as the tender process of the project is finalized, the restoration work will start for early completion.

Odisha's first museum at Baripada lies in neglect

Baripada, 12 October: Odisha's first museum situated at Baripada in Mayurbhanj district situated at the heart of the Baripada town and close to the collector office is laying neglected due to the apathy of district administration. The building starts officially functioning in 2008 after Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik inaugurated it. The building needs urgent maintenance. The shortage of adequate staff like peons and watchmen cripples the functioning. The longevity of more than 300 artifacts has been at risk due to the soaking of water.

The recent inspection by a two-members of a team consisting of Sahitya Raja the conservation scientist and Komal Joshi the conservator and restorer from Mehrangarh Museum Trust of Jodhpur (Rajasthan) and TATA Art Conservation Initiative who visited the museum with Maharani Rashmi Rajya Laxmi Bhanj Deo and her daughter Akshita M Bhanj Deo on



26 September expressed their views before the media for the immediate repair of the building and urged measures to revamp the artifacts by the Government.

The tourists, scholars, and researchers from

Odisha and outside the State also visit the Sreeram Chandra Library to gather the information to further their research work. Tourists have stopped visiting the museum as it is often closed owing to a shortage of adequate staff.

District Culture Officer Tanuja Sirka said that besides more than 300 artifacts, many were shifted to Odisha State Museum. The Culture Department in the Government of Odisha recently sent a letter to the District Culture Department to submit an estimate and proposal for the repair of the building.

STR Deputy Director insists implementation of Wildlife Protection Act

Baripada, 12 October: The Majhihadams and Dehuris the tribals priests play a vital role to protect animals and control fire in Similipal National Park in Mayurbhanj district as the tribal people are abiding the devices of their priests. The tribal priests should encourage the tribal people for the protection of forests animals, said Samrat Gouda the Deputy Director (DD) of Similipal Tiger Reserve (STR) during an awareness meeting in Baripada under the celebration of 67th Wildlife Week recently. The event was jointly organized by Baripada territorial forest division and Sangram a volunteer organization.

The Deputy Director said that the department has not targeted to make any harm to tribal people but they should be aware of dire consequences once they violate the Wildfire Protection Act-



1972. Once a young from the community is arrested under the Act, It will hamper his future career despite his became educated, the DD encouraged the tribal priests to aware of the young mass from the communities (tribal) in this regard.

"For the last 20 days of my frequent movements to Similipal Tiger Reserve, I cannot see a tiger since my 2 months of joining on the post. A tiger estimation report suggested that there were 50 tigers were living 20 years back in STR but the reason behind the poorest number of tigers in the

forest this time made me shocked despite the department is taking several initiatives in different periods," the DD encouraged that the department will try its best to create mass awareness program for the protection of forest and animals with help of local peoples participation besides the help of NGOs too.

Baripada DFO Santosh Joshi urged that the department is taking three initiatives to control the inferno in forests. Set up of fire line, use of blower machines, and community participation. The Baripada territorial forest division is

providing blower machines to members of Vana Surakshya Samiti(VSS) they are using the machine to check the fire. However, he requested the people not to set fire around the trees when they are collecting mahua flowers. There have some ways to clean around the mahua trees to collect flowers easily but they do not practically apply the systems one like the use of a broom, the DFO said adding that as the tribal people generally worship nature and trees as their God and Goddess they should not set fire in forests that will hamper to the ecosystem.

Puri Srimandir Servitors Welcome Dress Code, Mixed Response To Traditional Attire For Devotees

The decision of SJTA to fixed dress code for servitors has been welcomed, though the same for devotees has evoked mixed response



Puri, Oct 13: The Shree Jagannath Temple Administration (SJTA) will soon make dress code mandatory in the Srimandir in a phased manner. Chief administrator Dr Krishan Kumar disclosed the plans following discussions with Chhatisha Nijog, on Monday.

Kumar said that the dress code for the servitors would come into effect from Purnima, while for other staff of the Srimandir, it will come into force a day after Diwali (from November 5).

The decision of SJTA to fixed dress code for servitors has been welcomed, though the same for devotees has evoked mixed response.

"Wearing western casuals,

many servitors are reaching up to the 'Ratna Singhasan'. It is inviting resentment among the devotees who sometimes questions as to why can't they too enter the sacred place when others are allowed in such informal attire," said senior servitor Binayak Das Mohapatra.

"One shouldn't also visit Pokharia while wearing shirts and pants. So, we welcome the decision of the Srimandir administration," said Mohapatra.

Welcoming the decision of the Srimandir administration, Pandit Surya Narayan Rath Sharma said, "Puri Srimandir is not a tourist place that people can visit while wearing whatever they wish."

Moreover, chief administrator Dr Krishan Kumar informed that devotees too may have to wear traditional dress while entering the Srimandir. While a final decision in this regard is yet to be taken, the move has nevertheless, evoked mixed response from devotees.

While some feel there shouldn't be any problem in implementing the dress code as some temples in India don't allow male devotees in jeans and casuals and allow women only in traditional attire, others opined that the move will create problems for those visiting from far off places. Devotion shouldn't be determined on the basis of dressing manners, they argue.

"Dress code for the servitors will help devotees identify them. However, dress code for devotees doesn't seem feasible. Besides, it will only show a narrow mindset and I think having the darshan of the Lord Jagannath with such with a mindset will not be appropriate," said Ramesh Khadenga, a devotee.

Reservation Draft List Prepared In Haste, Has Several Faults; Alleges BJP

Bhubaneswar, Oct 9: Bringing serious allegations against the Odisha government, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on Saturday said that the draft list of reservation which was published on Friday has several faults because it has been prepared in haste.

BJP Spokesperson, Prithviraj Harichandan told reporters on Saturday that the State government had initially said that there won't be any change in reservation categories. "Then later they said there will be reservations. The proposals for reservations were received by the Blocks on October 6 and then they prepared the list and sent it back on October 8," he said, adding, "It was done in a haste and there seems to be no clarity on the procedure and yard stick followed."

Similarly, the Congress party too slammed the Odisha government by also terming the list 'faulty'.

"The BDOs have been influenced by the local political leaders to prepare the reservation list,"

Bringing serious allegations against the Odisha government, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on Saturday said that the draft list of reservation which was published on Friday has several faults because it has been prepared in haste



alleged veteran Congress leader and Jeypore MLA, Tara Prasad Bahinipati.

It is pertinent to mention here that the State government on Friday published the draft lists of reservations for the upcoming three-tier Panchayat elections in Odisha.

The reservation list contains a total of 6,800 Sarpanch and Samiti members, 92,000 Ward members, 853 Zilla Parishad members and 314 Block

presidents which was published on Friday.

As per the order, Candidates willing to object to the allotment of reservation for the posts of Ward member, Sarpanch, Samiti member and Block Chairman can file claims by October 16. The disposal of the claims shall be done by the Collectors at the district level by October 21. The final list of reservation will be published on October 26.

'Complete Kanpur project without further delay'

Joda, Oct 10: On Friday, Union Minister of State for Jal Shakti and Tribal Affairs Bishweswar Tudu visited Kanupur Irrigation project over Baitarani River at Basudevpur near Joda under Champua Assembly Constituency and expressed concern over the inordinate delay in completion of the project.

Tudu directed the concerned officials to not to make further delay. Further, he also told the officials to clear



dues in full to the affected people before evacuating them from the affected area. Project

Zonal Officer Charan Naik apprised the Minister of updated status report of the

project and assured that the project would take minimum two years to be completed. He had also

brought to the notice of the Minister that delay in NH- 520 passing by the project was also adding to the project delay.

Later on the day he has visited the 50-bedded Central Hospital at Joda. Once a premier hospital of the town has become defunct due to apathy of the Union government. Now a skeleton service runs with one doctor and three staff nurses. Most of the equipments remain idle gathering

dusts. The Industry and Mines Observer editor Sirish C Mohanty apprised the minister to attach with the DMF of Keonjhar district. The Union minister assured to take urgent steps and take up the matter at Delhi. Keonjhar Sadar MLA Mohan Charan Majhi, District BJP president Sabuja Mahanta, State BJP leader Sukeshi Oram, IMO editor Sirish C Mohanty and Joda townn BJP president Tiki Bebartta among others were present.

Why East coast states are way behind the states of West coast



Sirish C. Mohanty

The founders of the modern Indian state faced policymaking challenges of bewildering complexity. Among the most difficult was the need to finesse vast socioeconomic disparities. Much progress has been made since then-most of it in the post-liberalization era-in lifting people at the bottom of the ladder. But 75 years after independence, the problem of how to address the disparities remains.

Spatial inequality is arguably the most vexing aspect of this problem. It is sand in the gears of the federal structure, creating diverging incentives across states. It disrupts the policy consensus needed for essential structural reforms-witnesses the interminable birth pangs of the goods and services tax. It complicates the push-and-pull of Centre-state relations at a time when recalibration is underway. And it reduces income and occupational mobility, generating chronic poverty.

This inequality has usually been viewed as a north-south

divide. However, Prime Minister Narendra Modi located the problem along an east-west axis. There were political reasons for it, certainly. But it is an increasingly useful perspective. The analysis of unit-level data from the National Family Health Survey's (NFHS) 2015-16 survey of more than 600,000 households shows how clear the divide is. Heat maps of affluence and deprivation light up the north-west, west and south-west, and the east and north-east, respectively. Bihar, Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh (UP), and Assam have the highest share of poor households among major states, while a majority of households in Punjab, Haryana, Delhi, and Kerala are in the affluent category.

This is not just a snapshot in time. Conventional economic theory dictates that as aggregate prosperity grows, the states should converge economically. This is emphatically not the case in India. In the 2005 paper, Spatial Inequality in Rural India: Do Initial Conditions Matter?, It was found

that almost the entire rise in aggregate inequality between 1981-82 and 1998-99 was due to spatial inequality. And in the year 2016, we have seen that the difference in per capita income between the leading large states and the laggards had increased sharply post-1991. Unsurprisingly, western coastal states made up the former group while eastern coastal groups-except for Tamil Nadu-made up the latter.

Do starting conditions matter? In some states, yes; Bihar has consistently been at the bottom of the pile since independence. But West Bengal shows perversely that such conditions are not a defining factor. It has declined precipitously since its days as an economic hub. This cannot be blamed on the bifurcation of industry in Partition; as late as 1980, the state featured among the three leading large states. Nor is the east-west divide a matter of geography and natural endowments. Traditional powerhouses such as

Maharashtra and Gujarat might have been natural conduits for the rich Arabian Sea trade routes in the early years, but for the past few decades, it's the eastern states that have had coastal access to the most dynamic global economies.

Quality of governance and strength of institutions have had a greater effect. Odisha has shown what happens when governance declines and institutions fall apart. Despite having an abundance of natural wealth, the state is not able to match the developed states. The unique understanding between the central leadership and the state only fulfills the political objectives of both, but not the developments of the state. Consequently, People have no choice to choose an effective government. Kerala is the flip side of the coin. This has multiple knock-on effects. Resource-rich states such as Jharkhand and Odisha end up suffering from the resource curse, for one. Second, this results in an inability to build effective physical infrastructure, which prevents eastern states from using their demographic strength to create thick markets. And poor connectivity to urban areas means there is a lack of opportunities for economic diversification. Decrepit public services in health and education-the latter is strongly correlated with wealth in India-meanwhile perpetuates intergenerational poverty.

Caste plays a role too. Poverty and affluence in India are strongly distributed along caste vectors. By any measure, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes-a significant chunk of the population-are the most poorly served by the Indian state and uniquely vulnerable to chronic poverty. It shouldn't come as a surprise that Gujarat and Maharashtra have low concentrations of the SC/ST population, while Odisha and other eastern coastal states have high concentrations. SC/STs lagging in areas like education have second-order effects as well. The NFHS data shows that lack of education for women robs them of reproductive control. This results in younger pregnancies and higher childbearing rates, resulting in poorer performance on development indicators and greater strain on state infrastructure. And it reduces their economic participation.

Political economy conundrums in India rarely have easily identified roots and solutions. The growing east-west divide is no exception. However, that needs attention. Even after 75 years of independence, our lawmakers seldom bother about it, and they think that the change will reach later; the centrifugal forces that worried the Indian state are no longer existential threats. But spatial inequality will loom large over the country's growth and its federal structure if it is not addressed in time.

Why foreign media loves anti-BJP, champagne socialists as columnists

BJP-ruled India has an op-ed-shaped global problem. Ever since Prime Minister Narendra Modi came to power in 2014, his domestic critics have found new shores to launch their attacks from. These include The Washington Post, The New York Times, Gulf News, The Guardian, and Foreign Affairs, among others.

The problem has only deepened in the Modi government's second term

wherein the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) and the dilution of Article 370 revoking Jammu and Kashmir's special status were enacted.

So, why is it that only a certain point of view gets aired in allegedly "liberal" bastions like The New York Times? Or only negative stories about India make it to The Guardian? Why is it that The Washington Post's standards of proof and fact-checking required for Indian

The New York Times, The Washington Post, The Guardian and others are mostly written by Modi-hating Indians

claims of hitting Balakot in Pakistan are never applied in case of its star columnist Rana Ayyub, who has yet to produce a shred of proof for anything she has



A cartoon in the New York Times magazine

written so far?

The default choice of the Western liberal media is so pronouncedly anti-Modi government that it is easy to dismiss them as writers of fiction in India. It's not like the Indian press asks author J.K. Rowling to talk about Britain or Maya Angelou the US economy. But the British and American media do ask Booker awardees Aravinda Adiga and Arundhati Roy to comment on India.

Kahane ko bahut kuchh thaa magar kah nahin paaye, ankhon men ho ansuu bhi magar bah nahin paaye



Sirish C. Mohanty

Narendra Damodar Das Modi is the greatest orator that Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has ever had, and by his oratory skill, the saffron party could win the election of 2014 unexpectedly with a thumping majority. A promise of 'Achhedin' (better days) ahead propelled the Bharatiya Janta Party to a landslide victory beyond the calculations of the psephologists. On May 16, 2014, when it became clear that the BJP was on the verge of creating history, Modi tweeted 'Achhe Din Aane Wale Hai', and it soon become one of the most retweeted tweets ever. Such is the appeal of the slogan that in 2015, the then UK Prime Minister David Cameron used the catchphrase while introducing Modi at an event in Wembley Stadium. However, time and again, the opposition has used the same 'Achhe Din promise' to target the Modi government. However, Modi has stopped nowadays uttering about that 'Achhedin'. Why should he repeat; he knows the Tarika to invent many more.

Soon after the landslide victory, Modi as the PM took many innovative steps none of his predecessors have ventured to as the 'Swachh Bharat' and many more. His most prominent slogans are Make in India, Beti Bachao Beti Padhao, Minimum Government

Maximum Governance, Pehle Shauchalaya Phir Devalaya (Toilet first, temple later), Sabka Saath Sabka Vikas, and the last one is Sabka saath Sabkaka Biswas. Modi is extraordinarily vocal; many of his critics comparing him

what it was in 1962.

The country has improved its image in the international theatre, but what about the domestic front? Under the Modi-led government, the rich become richer, and nevertheless the poor get alms in regular

be a nationalist party so far after the independence. But things go differently. The opposition-led farmer agitation continues for almost a year, the government remains in deep slumber. The agitating groups have often called for

minerals, rivers, water bodies and the sea, and plenty of arable lands - is still stuck in the morass of abject poverty and under-development.

Odisha has the country's largest deposits of many minerals, is blessed with many rivers and water bodies, a coastline highly favorable for maritime trade, and vast tracts of highly fertile lands. But thanks to political and administrative apathy and lack of dynamic political leadership, a third of its population is poor, its agricultural productivity is one of the lowest in the country, and it is deep in debt. Also, the promised investments in the industry have not taken place and the state has missed the information technology (IT) bus.

After the unearthing of the great mining scam, the Naveen Patnaik-led government has changed its

But, should there crop up any law and order question, the administration has to step in to initiate a workable compromise. Now, that procedure appears scrapped. The administration's intervention becomes frequent in favor of the miners. The structure of the public hearing has become a farce. The real people whose voices matter in the public hearing proceedings are prevented from by the police force to attend; only select people authenticated by the agency are allowed to participate.

With the record rising fuel price, it is natural for the local truckers to demand a rate hike, and the miners have to settle by sharing with mutual understanding. But, this is not happening; instead, the police intervene and make arrests without merit. The citizen's constitutional right to protest peacefully is



with his predecessor Manmohan Singh ridicule him by saying 'Modi Chup Hota Nahin, Manmohan Kuch bolta nahin'.

Many of his words no doubt inspired the nation and have become a lexicon. But it's time to evaluate the outcome. Our international relations have improved, and the country is on the verge of becoming a superpower. Belligerent Pakistan has stopped uttering the threat of nuclear. The country's financial position has improved beyond imagination. The neglected majority of Hindus feel secured now. Kashmir Pundits have started to return to their homeland. He has gone one step ahead of solving the long dispute of Kashmir by abolishing article 370 and reorganized the state. India has shown China that the country has changed and is way ahead of

intervals thanks to the Modi sarkar. But the life of the common man becomes measurable even worse than that of the Manmohan-led congress government. Now the price of petrol has breached Rs 100 mark because of the myopic state and Union government's 'loot the public' taxation policy. Modi doesn't have that moral fiber to bring the petrol under GST. The price of essential commodities is skyrocketing to hurt everyone. The rate of unemployment reaches an all-time high. Youths can't wait for the 'Achhe din' to come while their stomach burns with hunger? A 'roaming- for a job- in vain' youth can't satiate his hunger with Modi's latest tweet of Atmanirbhar Bharat? Bhaat nahin toh Bharat kahan?

The BJP has proved to

Bands, block roads, virtually made the national Capital under seize. Many state governments raise voices against the Union government and their arguments for it to remain debatable. Thanks to the confusing Constitution that needs scrapping as it appears unfit for present-day India. Under the present circumstances, simply I have to put myself forward saying; Kahane ko bahut kuchh thaa magar kah nahin paaye.

Let's now come to Odisha. More than four decades ago, Odisha's legendary leader Biju Patnaik had said on the floor of the Lok Sabha that "Odisha is a rich state where poor people live". The same holds even today, though the state has been under his son Naveen Patnaik's rule for the past 22 years. Odisha, with its abundant natural resources -



course indented to save it from the scam. The casters of the scams now back the mining business on full scale with administrative support. Natural dependants like tribal and mining workers have been sidelined. Mining operations are a chain consisting of miners, mine workers, transporters. Dividends used to be shared with mutual discussions where the administration and police have little role to play.

considered a crime. The saga of the suffering of the mining area gets longer day by day. Odisha's longest serving CM Naveen acts deaf, and blind to peruse the cry. Had the government not led by the son of a legend, the Odiyas by their rich maritime inheritance wouldn't hesitate to show a spot fit for an inefficient regime at the bottom of the Bay of Bengal; ish liye - ankhon men ho ansuu bhi magar bah Nahin paaye.

Union Min Tudu feels humiliated by OAS officers



Bhubaneswar, Oct 14: Union Minister of State for Jal Shakti and Tribal Affairs Bishweswar Tudu has said he would offer black dresses to the agitating OAS officers of the Mayurbhanj district for exposing their "anti-people" activities and for humiliating an elected people's representative.

Tudu, a BJP leader, said this while reacting over the Mayurbhanj OAS officer black badge protest against him accusing him of abusing an OAS officer with filthy language over allotment of a room in the Circuit House at Baripada. The OAS Association also alleged that Tudu resorted to rude behavior and "derogatory remarks" towards State Government officials during his recent visit to Mayurbhanj. However, Tudu rejected the allegation and claimed that he was deliberately given a substandard room while a special suit was allotted to a State Government tribal department officer. "This is

a clear breach of privilege for a Union Minister. Above all, I am the MP of Mayurbhanj district," he said.

While the OAS Officers Association alleged that Tudu used unparliamentary language against one of its members prompting them to start the black badge protest, Tudu claimed that the officials are giving a false impression to hide their "anti-people activities".

Association president Rudra Narayan Mohanty, who is the Additional District Magistrate of Mayurbhanj, alleged that the Minister abused him on October 9. "The Minister on 9 October 2021 had rung the ADM, Mayurbhanj at about

4.26 pm and asked about the repair of Circuit House, Mayurbhanj.

The ADM, Mayurbhanj politely replied that the annual repair and maintenance is going on in the Circuit House. The Hon'ble Minister then used unparliamentary language, scolded the ADM & collector, Mayurbhanj. His language was so obscene and uncalled for which cannot be written in the proceedings (of a meeting)," the association said in a statement.

At a meeting on Monday, the district officers also resolved to wear black badges in protest against "such unwarranted behavior" and communicate it to the

State OAS Association with a request to bring the matter to the notice of the Governor and the Chief Minister. Asserting that he did not misbehave with anyone, Tudu, however, said he has expressed displeasure as there has been no progress in the implementation of certain welfare schemes for tribal people in Mayurbhanj and Keonjhar districts. "When I visited Mayurbhanj district from where I have been elected to the Lok Sabha, the officials allotted me a substandard room in the Circuit House just to humiliate me. Instead, an officer in the State ST & SC Department was given a special suit," Tudu said.

On the officers' black badge protest, he said he is going to meet the agitating officers. "I will offer all of them a pair of black dresses each. They should wear black dresses and people should know about their black deeds," Tudu said, adding that he would take up the matter with the State's Governor. There have also been allegations that Tudu had misbehaved with other officers in the recent past. "The MPs should fight for the rights of the people. When it comes to developmental activities, one should take all stakeholders into confidence and work as a team," senior BJP MP Suresh Pujari said.

Nandankanan Toy Train Catches Fire, Tourists Safe

Nandankanan Zoo Deputy Director Sanjeet Kumar informed that the engine of the train caught fire after the 4 pm ride following which it was stopped to avoid any mishap.

Bhubaneswar, Oct 15: The newly reopened toy train facility in Nandankanan Zoo in Bhubaneswar caught fire on Friday bringing the joy rides for tourists to a halt.

Nandankanan Zoo Deputy Director Sanjeet Kumar informed that the engine of the train caught fire after the 4 pm ride following which it was stopped to avoid any mishap.

It was a moment of relief for the authorities of the zoo as all the 60 passengers on board the train managed to safely get out of the train on time.

Although the exact reason behind the fire in the train engine is not clear, it is believed that a short-circuit in the battery which provides power to pull the train led to the mishap.

The Zoo Deputy Director has clarified that the toy train will remain out of bounds for the tourists until it is repaired and cleared for safety standards.



At present, RITES Limited, a Central PSU under the Ministry of Railways, is in charge of operation and track maintenance for the toy train.

The faster, RITES rectifies the problem and clears the train for resuming running, the quicker we will begin the joy ride once again, said Deputy Director of the zoo, Sanjeet Kumar.

Nandankanan Zoo added a brand new attraction, the eco-friendly toy train to its other facilities last Friday after inauguration by State Forest Minister. The new facility which makes a comeback to the zoo after nearly 7 years was set up at

the cost of Rs 3.05 crore. To make the joy ride accessible to all, the Zoo authorities have kept the ticket rates reasonable. For children, it is Rs.20 while for adults it is Rs.50. The train has 4 coaches which are pulled by an engine on a 1.2 km broad gauge line.

Nandankanan zoo rolled out a toy train for the first time in 1985 and it used to run on a 1.6 km track and ferry as many as 60 visitors for a 20 minute ride. But its service was stopped in 2014 after the Odisha government canceled its agreement with a private operator.

Odisha Publishes Draft List Of Reservation For Panchayat Elections

The draft lists of reservations for the upcoming three-tier panchayat elections in Odisha was published by the Panchayati Raj Department on Friday

Taking the first step towards the conduct of the upcoming three-tier Panchayat elections in Odisha, the State government on Friday published the draft lists of reservations for the same.

An order in this connection was issued by the Panchayati Raj Department to all the district Collectors, which said, "The General Election to PRIs is likely to be held in the State in the year 2022. Consequently, the reservation of seats is required to be completed within the time frame at the level of District/ Government as per provision of the PRI Act/ Rules." "A programme to complete the works approved by the government has been enclosed and you are requested to complete the work within the stipulated time as mentioned in the programme," stated the order.

The reservation list containing a total of 6,800 Sarpanch and Samiti members, 92,000 Ward members, 853 Zilla Parishad members and 314 Block presidents has been published

today.

As per the order, Candidates willing to object to the allotment of reservation for the posts of Ward member, Sarpanch, Samiti member and Block Chairman can file claims by October 16.



The disposal of the claims shall be done by the Collectors at the district level by October 21. The final list of reservation will be published on October 26.

Similarly, candidates for Zilla Parishad member can also file objections against the reservation in the draft list which was also released today. Claims and objections in such cases will be entertained till October 18.

The district Collectors have been empowered to

dispose of the claims by October 22. The government will approve the reservation list on October 29 which will be followed by the communication of the final list to the State Election Commission on October 30.

Speaking to reporters, the Panchayati Raj Minister, Pratap Jena, said, "The election will be held at the right time. The list of all the reservations will be

submitted with the Election Commission of Odisha."

After the final list is submitted to the Commission, it will begin the process to prepare the voter list for the election, which will take 45-60 days, informed Rabinranath Sahu, the Secretary of State Election Commission.

If sources are to be believed, the Panchayat elections next year will be held in multiple phases exactly like it was done in 2017.

Odisha's per capita debt burden Rs 23,000, rose twice over in 10 years

However, the government appears to have arrested the debt stock to 17.8 per cent of the GSDP midway through 2021-22 financial years which seems a positive sign for the pandemic-hit State economy.



BHUBANESWAR, Oct 14: Per Capita debt burden has more than doubled in the last 10 years in Odisha. From Rs 9,144.40 in 2011-12, per head debt burden reached Rs 23,761.83 by the end of 2020-21 financial years. Finance Minister Niranjan Pujari who informed this in the State Assembly on Monday also said that State's debt burden will reach Rs 1.22 lakh crore by the end of the 2021-22 fiscal.

According to a preliminary report of the Auditor General, Odisha, he said, the debt burden had already touched Rs 1.04 lakh crore (by July in fiscal 2020-21) which is 17.8 percent of the Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP). In its status paper on public debt released during the Odisha Budget 2021-22 presentation, the State government had announced that the debt burden will climb up to Rs

1.25 lakh crore by end of 2021-22. The gross debt was expected to rise from 20.91 percent of the GSDP in 2020-21 to approximately 22.46 percent of the GSDP by the end of 2023-24.

However, the government appears to have arrested the debt stock to 17.8 percent of the GSDP midway through the 2021-22 financial years which seems a positive sign for the pandemic-hit State economy. The mid-financial year assessment of the debt stock which was pegged at Rs 1.06 lakh crore has also fallen to Rs 1.04 lakh crore, the Minister stated.

He had announced in the budget paper that the State will have to borrow Rs 18,465 crore during 2021-22 to finance different programs and other day-to-day activities. Sources, however, maintained that the figure will be revised as the implementation of different programs other than those in the livelihood

sector had come to a standstill during the last one and a half years because of the lockdowns and shutdowns during the two waves of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Since the State economy got a jolt due to the Covid-19, the annual credit plan was revised to Rs 1.10 lakh crore for the implementation of priority sector programs. This is an increase of around 22.5 percent over the target of 2020-21. Sources maintain that post-Covid, the State economy is likely to be less impacted because of the government's focus on industries as well as the MSME sector, social sector, employment generation, and higher investment in infrastructure. The State government had maintained that the economy will grow in the range of 10 percent to 11 percent during 2021-22, from the lower base of this year.

Must remove intermediaries who don't add value: Naveen Patnaik



Bhubaneswar: Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik on Friday pushed for linking farmers directly to the market and removing intermediaries, with the objective to improve the income of farmers.

Speaking at the inauguration of the Odisha Agri Conclave 2021 via video conference, Patnaik said the emphasis of the state government is to enhance the income of farmers.

"We must respond to

the dynamics of the market. We need to streamline their connectivity to the aggregators and processors to play the role of producers. We need to remove intermediaries who don't add value to the supply chain," Patnaik said.

"Farmers lay the foundation of the nation's economy. The development of agriculture and the empowerment of farmers is our priority," Patnaik said.

Odisha Industries Facing Coal Crisis, Seek CM's Intervention

The UCCI also requested the state government to communicate to the Ministry of Coal to give necessary direction to MCL and CIL to step up the supply of coal to local industries in the state so that stock out of coal is obviated and safe level of coal stock is maintained in critical units to prevent any eventualities in operations.

The Utkal Chamber Of Commerce & Industry Ltd (UCCI), an association of industries, has urged the Odisha government to ensure adequate supply of coal to state-based industries which are facing an acute shortage of dry fuel to run their units.

In a letter to Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik, the UCCI Friday said: "We would

like to bring to your kind attention the current acute coal shortage situation in the state with many units having stock out or critical coal stock seriously affecting the viable operation of the industrial units."

While the suffering of small and medium industries are increasing day by day, large process industries like steel



plants, aluminium smelters and others are operating at a level where their operations are likely to become unviable if the situation continues unabated, the letter said.

Since these units with small and medium industries of the state provide employment to lakhs of people, the UCCI apprehended that the coal

shortage situation may give a deadly blow to the continuance of the employment of these people.

Though the state is blessed with abundant coal reserves, Odisha-based local industries are facing a coal deficit and forced to import coal /power as they are not getting enough share of coal, UCCI president Brahma Mishra said.

The state has coal reserves (about 25% of country deposits), and Coal India Ltd (CIL) subsidiary Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL) produces 150 million tonnes of coal. The Odisha based power plants (16,000 MW) requires 90-95 million tonnes of coal per annum, which is 60% of Odisha's coal production for cost-effective sustainable industry operations.

However, over 65 percent of Odisha's coal is being supplied to power plants based in other states. Hence, the Odisha-based local industries are facing a coal deficit and are forced to import coal /power as they are getting less than 45% of Odisha's coal

production, the UCCI said.

The industries body said that this is depriving the state of domestic value addition and creating local jobs and MSMEs within Odisha. Also, the acute coal shortage in the state is jeopardizing the manufacturing sector in the state further hurting the sentiments of global investors.

The UCCI also requested the state government to communicate to the Ministry of Coal to give necessary direction to MCL and CIL to step up the supply of coal to local industries in the state so that stock out of coal is obviated and safe level of coal stock is maintained in critical units to prevent any eventualities in operations.

DMK's Kanimozhi Meets Odisha CM Naveen, Seeks Support Against NEET For Medical Admission



Kanimozhi was in Odisha as part of Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M K Stalin's outreach to chief ministers of non-BJP states over the issue.

There was no official word on whether the two leaders discussed politics.

Meanwhile, educationalists and students in Odisha have said that there should be national-level examination like NEET for quality education and selection of right candidates.

"National-level entrance examinations like NEET, JEE and other competitive tests are need for Odisha students," said Sunil Kumar Sarangi, an educationalist.

Similarly, Asutosh Panigrahi, a student said, "Class 12 students of CBSE boards are scoring 98 to 99 per cent mark with ease. However, for CHSE board, scoring 92 per cent mark is a tough task. So there should be an entrance examination for medical and engineering courses."

Amid stiff opposition to NEET in Tamil Nadu, the ruling DMK's deputy leader in Parliament Kanimozhi met Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik on Wednesday and sought his support to stop the Centre's alleged interference in admissions to medical colleges set up by state governments.

Kanimozhi was in Odisha as part of Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M K Stalin's outreach to chief ministers of non-BJP states over the issue.

Kanimozhi handed over the letter to Patnaik and explained him the problems faced by students from rural areas and poor households in clearing the National

Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET) for admission into MBBS courses, a statement issued by the Chief Minister's Office (CMO) said.

In his Letter, the Tamil Nadu chief minister drew the attention of Patnaik to the problems faced by students in clearing NEET (under graduate) examination and

also stressed on the need to make the examinations inclusive, the statement said.

"The expert committee gave a report to Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik about how the NEET is discriminatory and not a yardstick of a good student. CM Patnaik has said that he would look into the matter," said A Sraban, DMK Spokesperson.

As per reports, several candidates appearing for NEET have ended their lives in Tamil Nadu over the years due failure to clear the nationwide entrance examination, prompting the

state assembly to pass a bill to dispense with NEET and allow admission on the basis of class 12 marks to ensure "social justice".

While a delegation of DMK MPs met Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy on Monday, Kanimozhi was deputed to meet Patnaik, who had earlier raised the issue with the Centre and stressed the importance of making national examinations inclusive, including those for admission to the IITs and those that are conducted by the UPSC.

Tomorrow if India stops funding, we can collapse: PCB chief Ramiz Raja

Ramiz Raja, newly elected Chairman of the Pakistan Cricket Board

Islamabad, Oct 8: Terming the International Cricket Council (ICC) a 'politicised body divided between Asia and West,' Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) chief Ramiz Raja said 90% of cricket's parent body's revenues are dependent on India and if they decide to stop funding, then it can be curtains for Pakistan cricket.

Appearing before the Senate Standing Committee on Inter-Provincial affairs on Thursday in Islamabad, Ramiz revealed 50% of PCB's budget comes from ICC funding and added it was time for the PCB to reduce that dependence by starting to tap the local market.

"The ICC is a politicised body divided between the Asian and Western blocs and 90 per cent of its revenues are generated from India. It is frightening," the PCB Chief said.

"In a way India's business

houses are running Pakistan cricket and if tomorrow the Indian PM decides he will not allow any funding to Pakistan, this cricket board can collapse," he added but did not elaborate on the specifics.

Talking about the pullouts from New Zealand and England, Raja said it was 'unacceptable' as New Zealand Cricket is yet to provide them with details about the security threat that prompted them to fly out of Rawalpindi hours before the scheduled first ODI.

"What New Zealand did was unacceptable because till now they have not shared any information with us on what led them to abandon the series in Pakistan. But they are now trying to reschedule the series," he said.

Ramiz hinted that there could be some good news regarding the postponed New Zealand series in a week's time.



He indicated that New Zealand cricket board was working on a new schedule to tour Pakistan. "The good thing is they are working on something which means they want to mend things with us."

The New Zealand cricket team had arrived in Pakistan on September 11 for the first time in 18 years to play three ODIs and five Twenty20 Internationals but left on September 19 without playing any match after their

government and security agencies cited security concerns.

Ramiz, in a candid briefing to the Senators, also said he would unveil his plans for Pakistan cricket and the board in a week to 10 days' time. "To me it is simple if the national team cannot do well and win matches it means that everyone in the board from the tea man to the top official have failed in their duties," he said.

Pradhan urges Patnaik to expedite implementation of PM SVAMITVA scheme in Odisha

Bhubaneswar, Oct 9 (PTI) Union minister Dharmendra Pradhan has urged Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik to ensure the expeditious implementation of the PM SVAMITVA scheme in the state for providing property rights to the residents of rural areas.

In a letter sent to Patnaik on Friday, the Union education minister who hails from Odisha, said that the PM SVAMITVA (Survey of Villages and Mapping with Improved Technology in Village Areas) scheme aims to provide property rights to people even in remote villages.

"As you are aware, the survey of rural land and its record of rights in India are age-old. There also remain many inhabited villages in India including the state of Odisha, where survey of land has not been done yet. As a result, many owners of property in rural areas of the state do not have requisite legal documentation for their property.

"Even after decades of Independence, the true potential of villages, homes and landed property in rural areas has remained shackled and often led to uncertainty and mistrust between neighbours in the absence of proper documentation," Pradhan stated.

PM SVAMITVA, launched on April 24, 2020, is a reformative step towards the establishment of clear ownership of property in rural areas, by mapping of land parcels using drone technology and providing record of rights to village household owners with the issuance of legal ownership cards (property card or title deeds) to property owners. The scheme will cover around 6.62 lakh villages across the country between 2021 and 2025. The pilot phase of the scheme was implemented in 2020-2021 in Maharashtra, Karnataka, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Madhya Pradesh, and some villages of Punjab and Rajasthan.

"I understand that the Government of Odisha has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Survey of India in February, 2021 and implementation on a pilot basis is in progress in Rayagada...the activities need to be ramped up and the state needs to permit the Continuous Operating Reference Stations (CORS) expeditiously in order to facilitate the survey," he added.

Durga Puja Violence

Bangladesh PM Sheikh Hasina Assures 'appropriate Punishments'

A day after communal violence broke out in parts of Bangladesh, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina assured of taking appropriate action against those responsible

A day after communal violence broke out in Bangladesh, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina assured appropriate action against those responsible. Hasina said that people behind the communal violence during Durga puja in Cumilla city will be hunted down and given "appropriate punishments."

The Bangladesh Prime Minister added that the people responsible need to be punished to stop the recurrence of communal attacks in the country.

Temples and pandals attacked in Bangladesh on Durga Puja

In a tragic incident on Durga Puja, at least three

people were killed while 60 others were injured in multiple cases of communal violence during the Durga Puja festivities in Bangladesh's Chandpur Hajiganj Upazila. Reports stated that violence broke out on Wednesday when devotees were celebrating Durga Puja, a widely celebrated religious festival of the Hindu community in Bangladesh.

Earlier in Cumilia, at least 50 people were left injured as a group of hardliners clashed with the police in the Nanua Dighirpar area after rumors of a communal incident surfaced. The attackers reached in big numbers at the Mandap area around 9 AM after a video



went viral on social media. Eventually, the situation was brought under control by law enforcement agencies that arrived at the spot.

In addition, the Deputy Commissioner and Superintendent of Police in the district held a meeting with the local Hindu community



and others. However, several factions affiliated with different religious associations gathered in Nanua Dighirpar. Locals and police said that the mob attacked the mandap around 10:30 am, Daily Star reported. Following this, the police and the government confirmed that

three cases of attacks were reported from Banskhal's Chandal area, Kali Mandir municipality, and Karnaphuli Upazila. In Kurigram's Ulipur Upazila, the destruction of several temples was reported, including one which was set ablaze.

MEA responds to communal violence in Bangladesh

Meanwhile, the Indian Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) issued its response after communal violence was reported.

MEA Spokesperson Arindam Bagchi said the Indian embassy and the High Commission in Dhaka are in close contact with Bangladeshi authorities on the

developments and trust the administration in conducting a fair investigation on the matter.

"We have seen disturbing reports involving attacks on religious places. We note the Bangladesh government's prompt response. We understand that the government has deployed security and police and the festivities have continued. Our Embassy and High Commission in Dhaka is in close contact with the Bangladesh authority in the capital as well as at the local level. We leave the investigation authority on the Bangladesh administration," Bagchi informed during a press briefing.

Youth's body found: Banspani rly stn ransacked; 4 RPF personnel injured

Joda, Oct 14: On Tuesday, a warlike situation prevailed at the Banspani railway station under in Keonjhar district after a body of a local youth, Laxman Patra, was found in the railway station.

Train movement under Chakradharpur division was disrupted from 8 pm to 2 am. Laxman had gone to the station where he was picked up by RPF, eyewitnesses said. Later, his body was

found at the Railway station.

Alleging that RPF personnel had beaten him to death suspecting him to be a thief, the villagers stormed into the station and ransacked the office building, waiting hall and ticket counter. The infuriated mob also dismantled the signal box. Besides, they attacked the RPF personnel. At least, four RPF personnel along with a SI were seriously injured. Three of them identified as PN Paswan, SK

Singh and Pankaj Kumar have been admitted in the TMH Hospital, Jamshedpur. The condition of SK Singh was critical.

Later, the authorities took the situation under control and train traffic resumed after emergency repairing. Laxman's family members have lodged an FIR in the Joda police station that Laxman was beaten to death by RPF. The RPF has also filed a counter FIR.

Pangolin seized in Bolangir, three arrested

Bolangir, Oct 12: (Sudhir Mishra) Acting on a tip off a team of forest officials led by Lathor Forest range officer Pravati Seth and others on Friday afternoon rescued, one Pangolin and two persons were arrested from the village Maharapadar while they were trying to sell the Pangolin. One of the accused who fled away from the spot was arrested later. The three accused were identified as Sushil Dharua, (32) Bhojraj



Dharua (33) and Bhisma Bariha

A two wheeler Bering no OD03S8732 has been seized.

Further investigation is on to

trace the linkages and supply chain says Divisional Forest officer Bolangir Sri Nitish Kumar to this correspondent over phone.

2022 Opinion Poll

Yogi-Modi magic expected to hand BJP another thumping win

Uttar Pradesh Opinion Poll: The Uttar Pradesh Assembly Elections are only a few months away and the ruling BJP and opposition parties including Samajwadi Party, Congress and BSP have ramped up their poll preparations. While the BJP is expecting to retain power in the state, SP and Congress are leaving no stone unturned to dethrone the Yogi government. The ABP-C-Voter has conducted an opinion poll to gauge the mood of the electors which has thrown some interesting results.

The NDA is likely to get around 241 to 249 seats, fairly above the majority mark of 202.

According to the C-Voter survey, the BJP led by CM Yogi Adityanath and Prime Minister Narendra Modi is likely to retain power in the politically crucial Uttar Pradesh. The survey indicates that while the BJP may lose some seats this time compared to the 2017 polls, it is expected to win the polls by securing a simple majority.



The survey revealed that Yogi Adityanath remains the top choice of people for the Chief Minister followed by Akhilesh Yadav. The BJP is likely to get over 41 per cent votes while the Samajwadi Party is appearing to benefit from parting ways with Congress. The SP's vote share is expected to witness an increase of 8.8 per cent from 23.6 per cent in 2017 to 32.4 per cent in 2022. The BSP may get only 14.7 per cent votes while the Congress may get just 5.6 per cent of total votes.

In terms of the seat, the NDA is likely to get around 241 to 249 seats, fairly above the

majority mark of 202. On the other hand, the Samajwadi Party may get somewhere between 130 to 138 seats while Mayawati's BSP may have to settle with 15-19 seats and Congress with just three to seven seats.

In the elections held in 2017, the NDA had secured a whopping 325 seats, Samajwadi Party had won 47 seats, Congress 7, and BSP 19. The opinion polls show that the people are satisfied with the Yogi government and are willing to give him another chance. On the other hand, it may prove to be a cause of concern for the SP, BSP and the Congress.

Who is capable of defeating Narendra Modi in the 2024 general elections, and who will be the PM candidate next?



Let's analyse one by one.

Firstly, we must remember that in the last 2019 general elections Modi got only 32 percent polling in his favour and 68 percent went to opposition parties. There are chances to defeat but ...

The youngest politician is Kejriwal and his trying his best to get into National Politics. Right now he is doing fairly well in Delhi, Punjab, Goa, Gujarat etc but not successful, still a long way to go. Secondly no political party will trust Kejriwal because he is too selfish and dangerous.

Next comes Mamata. She is also young compared to other politicians. She is already dominating Bengal and trying to capture, Tripura and Assam. As a Bengali she is confining only to her State and neighbouring States. It may be difficult for her to move to National politics

because Delhi is not Bengal.

However, she was able to defeat Narendra Modi in the recently concluded State elections despite huge power and resources thrown into Bengal election campaign by Shah. We definitely appreciate her for winning against Modi and Shah.

Next is Sharad Pawar. He is aged and unable to manage hectic electioneering and he may not withstand such a difficult situation. However, he may be the king maker if such a situation arises.

No doubt BJP has suffered defeat in Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Punjab, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh and Bengal but, it's only occasional loss but then Congress is experiencing several issues in their ruling States due to power struggle within. Congress supporters are disillusioned in these States.

Lastly Rahul Gandhi and Congress party. They have still 20 percent vote bank left in their kitty. They have the capacity to fight against Modi but they have lost the charming and glorious past leadership. Congress party is like a outdated zamindar, a feudal lordship without power, money and charismatic leadership.

Unfortunately, Congress is the only party who can give a tough fight but it has not elected it's own party President. How can a party work without it's formal President. The result is G23 who are rebelling against their own leadership.

When Babri Masjid was destroyed, Muslims moved away from Congress. So, Congress leadership must change and reinvigorate itself in the changed circumstances, but refusing to change.

BJP has changed and today it's a new party compared old BJP under Advani and Murli Manohar Joshi etc. The recent changes in cabinet reshuffle goes to prove my point. OBC and SC and ST are in majority against Brahmins. Compare this to Vajpayee's government where Brahmins were in majority.

Dalits, OBCs are leaving Congress and joining BJP due to changed perceptions about BJP leadership. In the recent

controversy of Jharkhand's separate Namaaz Room allotment, RSS Chief didn't open his mouth.


Why can't Congress leadership change like BJP?

History has proved that Indira Gandhi was defeated in 1977, Rajiv Gandhi was also defeated in 1989, and NDA was also defeated in 2004, so why can't they defeat Narendra Modi?

Before Joe Biden defeated Trump, Narendra Modi was so confident that he believed Trump may win and he campaigned for Trump as "Abki bar Trump sarkar", however the result proved otherwise.

If you have a will, there's a way, but who is there to defeat Modi?

Congress has no more pantheon of leaders, it's no more a formidable cult, it has also lost Gandhian Ideology. It must change but refusing due to insecurity? It is really strange that PK is brought into the party in order to save itself from leadership crisis; however will PK save, huh!

Let us end here, nobody has fuel to defeat Narendra Modi since he is unbeatable. Show one leader who could replace Narendra Modi? Mere criticism of Modi is not enough, but let them give an alternative leadership. 

The only number that can be divided by all the numbers from 1 to 10

At times, mathematics can be tricky. It is known that in mathematics, no number can be divided by all the numbers from 1 to 10. However, this one number

number can be divided by any number from 1 to 10, both even and odd. The rest is zero.

Let's have a look at the table.



Sri Srinivasa Ramanujan


is very strange and has left all the mathematicians in the world perplexed.

Discovered by the great sage Sri Srinivasa Ramanujan, let's observe the number 2520. Ramanujan outnumbered mathematics, contributed immensely to the number theory, infinity series, continued fractions, and much more.

The number 2520 seems to be one of many numbers, but in reality, it is not. It is a number that has surprised many mathematicians across the globe. This

$2520 \div 1 = 2520$, $2520 \div 2 = 1260$, $2520 \div 3 = 840$, $2520 \div 4 = 630$, $2520 \div 5 = 504$, $2520 \div 6 = 420$, $2520 \div 7 = 360$, $2520 \div 8 = 315$, $2520 \div 9 = 280$, $2520 \div 10 = 252$

The magic behind this one particular number can be explained by multiplication. Keeping in mind the Indian Hindu year, the riddle of this number is solved and explained below.

There are 7 days in a week, 30 days in a month and 12 months in a year, ie, $7 \times 30 \times 12 = 2520$. This perfectly reflects the dominance of time. 

PM Modi's Move To 'Make India World's Biggest Military Power

PM Narendra Modi today dedicated 7 new state-run defence firms replacing the Ordnance Factory Board. The government had decided to replace the over 200-year-old Ordnance Factory Board into seven fully entities to improve self-reliance in the country's defence preparedness.

New Delhi, Oct 15: Prime Minister Narendra Modi today said that 41 Ordnance factories will be converted into 7 government-run corporate entities, in a big move to improve India's self-reliance and defence preparedness. Launching the 7 new defence firms, he said, "the goal is to make India the world's biggest military power on its own".

"For the first time since Independence, many major reforms were rolled out in India's defence sector and it has more transparency and

trust than ever before," PM Modi said during the launch.

After dedicating the seven new state-run defence firms replacing the over 200-year-old Ordnance Factory Board, the Prime Minister said a single-window system has been put in place instead of stagnant policies to develop India as a major producer of defence equipment.

"Under the self-reliant India campaign, the country's goal is to make India the world's biggest military power on its own and development of modern military industry



in India," PM Modi said. "In the last seven years, the country has worked to carry forward this resolve with the mantra of 'Make in India'," he added.

In his video address at the event, PM Modi said that as India enters 75 years of Independence, projects are being completed that were

stuck for a long time.

"Today, there is more transparency, trust, and technology driven approach in the defence sector of the country than ever before. For the first time after Independence, so many major reforms are happening in our defence sector. Instead of stagnant policies, a single-window system has been put in place," PM Modi said.


After Independence, there was need to upgrade ordnance factories, adopt new-age technologies, but it didn't get much attention, he said.

The Prime Minister highlighted that 41 Ordnance factories across India are now being converted into seven corporate entities, as a measure to improve our self-reliance and defence preparedness. India is taking new resolutions to build a new future, he added.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and representatives from the defence industry associations were present on the occasion.

The government had decided to replace the over 200-year-old Ordnance

Factory Board into seven fully entities to improve self-reliance in the country's defence preparedness.

The seven new defence companies that have been incorporated are Munitions India Limited (MIL), Armoured Vehicles Nigam Limited (AVANI), Advanced Weapons and Equipment India Limited (AWE India), Troop Comforts Limited (TCL), Yantra India Limited (YIL), India Optel Limited (IOL) and Gliders India Limited (GIL), the PM's Office said. 

India slips to 101st rank in Global Hunger Index 2021; behind Pakistan, Bangladesh and Nepal

The report, prepared jointly by Irish aid agency Concern Worldwide and German organisation Welthungerhilfe, termed the level of hunger in India "alarming"

India has slipped to the 101st position in the Global Hunger Index (GHI) 2021 of 116 countries, from its 2020 position of 94th, and is behind its neighbors Pakistan, Bangladesh, and Nepal.

Eighteen countries, including China, Brazil, and Kuwait, shared the top rank with a GHI score of less than five, the website of the Global Hunger Index that tracks hunger and malnutrition said on Thursday.

The report, prepared jointly by Irish aid agency Concern Worldwide and German organization Welt Hunger Hilfe, termed the level of hunger in India "alarming".

In 2020, India was



ranked 94th out of 107 countries. Now with 116 countries in the fray, it has dropped to 101st rank.

India's GHI score has also decelerated -- from 38.8 in 2000 to the range of 28.8 - 27.5 between 2012 and 2021.

The GHI score is calculated on four indicators -- undernourishment; child wasting (the share of children under the age of

five who are wasted i.e who have low weight for their height, reflecting acute undernutrition); child stunting (children under the age of five who have low height for their age, reflecting chronic undernutrition) and child mortality (the mortality rate of children under the age of five).

The share of wasting among children in India rose from 17.1 percent from

1998-2002 to 17.3 percent in 2016-2020, according to the report.

"People have been severely hit by COVID-19 and by pandemic-related restrictions in India, the country with the highest child wasting rate worldwide," the report said.

Neighboring countries like Nepal (76), Bangladesh (76), Myanmar (71), and Pakistan (92) are also in the 'alarming' hunger category but have fared better at feeding their citizens than India, according to the report.

However, India has shown improvement in other indicators such as the under-5 mortality rate, prevalence of stunting

among children, and prevalence of undernourishment owing to inadequate food, the report said.

According to the report, the fight against hunger is dangerously off track. Based on the current GHI projections, the world as a whole -- and 47 countries in particular -- will fail to achieve a low level of hunger by 2030.

Food security is under assault on multiple fronts, it said, adding that worsening conflict, weather extremes associated with global climate change, and the economic and health challenges associated with the COVID19 pandemic are all driving hunger.

"Inequality -- between regions, countries, districts, and communities -- is pervasive and, (if) left unchecked, will keep the world from achieving the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) mandate to 'leave no one behind,' the report said.

Further, the report noted that it is difficult to be optimistic in 2021 because the forces now driving hunger are overpowering good intentions and lofty goals.

Among the most powerful and toxic of these forces are conflict, climate change, and COVID-19-three Cs that threaten to wipe out any progress that has been made against hunger in recent years, it added.

Surgical strike sent strong message to world on terror: Amit Shah

Panaji, Oct 15: Talking tough against Pakistan over terrorism, Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Thursday, October 14, 2021, said surgical strike carried out by India five years ago sent a strong message to the world that no one can interfere with its borders.

He said under the BJP-led NDA rule, India gives a befitting reply to terrorist attacks which was not the case when the Congress-headed UPA was in power. Mr. Shah was addressing a gathering after laying the foundation stone for the National Forensic Science University at

India responds in the same language which they (terrorists) understand, says the Union Home Minister

Dharbandora village in South Goa.

During the UPA government, terrorists from across the border used to infiltrate into India and cause unrest, and Delhi would do nothing, but now, India responds in the same language which they (terrorists) understand, he said.

Referring to the 2016

surgical strike, Mr. Shah said India, through the military action, sent across a strong message to the entire world that no one can interfere with its borders.

India had conducted the surgical strike on September 29, 2016, across the Line of Control (LoC) as a response to a terrorist attack on an Army base in the Uri



sector of Jammu and Kashmir.

Mr. Shah recalled the contribution of BJP stalwart late Manohar Parrikar as defence minister. Parrikar and

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will be remembered for years for introducing One Rank One Pension (OROP) in the armed forces, the home minister said. "Parrikar will be

remembered for introducing One Rank One Pension for all the three wings of the armed forces under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi," he said.

Sardar Ka Grandson



destiny turned their dreams to ashes as Gursheer was killed defending his family during the Partition riots. Sardar had to flee to India, carrying her newborn son and one of the bicycles crafted by her husband across the border. We are told that she got married again and her second husband -- who isn't shown in the

runs a transport company in America with the help of his fiancée and partner Radha (Rakul Preet Singh). While Amreek is high on ideas, he's clumsy as hell and that often leads to complications. Things take a turn for the worse between them and Radha, fed up with his unwillingness to grow up, breaks up with him.

Cast:

Neena Gupta, Arjun Kapoor, Rakul Preet, John Abraham, Aditi Rao Hydari

Direction:

Kaashvie Nair

Genre:

Drama

Duration:

2 Hours 20 Minutes

transporting her old house in Pakistan to India. How he manages to do that forms the crux of the story.

Sardar Ka Grandson is

cycle company into reality. Why is the second husband absent from the scene altogether -- we don't even see a photo of him in the household. Why isn't she as



The Partition is a sordid blood-drenched chapter in the history of Indian subcontinent. Thousands lost their lives in the riots that flared up after India and Pakistan became free of the British yoke. The afterbirth of independence was even more painful than the struggle that led to it. Such were the conditions that the masses had to flee sometimes with just the clothes on their backs across the border. The most precious possession they carried perhaps was the memory of their former homes. Old folks, who had to migrate from Pakistan, still retain those memories. They long to see their old houses once


before they die. Sardar Ka Grandson is said to be inspired by one such true story. Director Kaashvie Nair came upon the story of a man who waited for 70 years to catch a glimpse of his house in Pakistan. She was touched by the poignant tale and chose to weave a film around it.

The film is the story of Sardar Kaur, who is played by Neena Gupta (90 year old self) and Aditi Rao Hydari (20 year old version). Sardar loved Gursheer Singh (John Abraham), an expert bicycle mechanic who longed to start his own cycle company in Lahore. They got married in 1946 and soon had a son. But

film, maybe she's a widow twice over -- helped her establish a cycle company. The company is now managed by her grandson from her second marriage, while her favourite grandson, the child of the son she brought to India, Amreek Singh (Arjun Kapoor),

Sardar, who is suffering from cancer, hasn't got long to live and Amreek's father Gurkeerat Singh (Kanwaljit Singh) asks him to come back home. Amreek wants to fulfil his grandmother's dying wish of visiting Lahore. When she doesn't get the visa, he comes up with the audacious plan of

a feel-good wish fulfillment film for thousands of people affected by Partition. But one should ask -- does a house actually mean anything without the people living in it? Why does Sardar not have an equal, if not greater, regard for her second husband, the man who actually turned her dream of owning a

close to her second son and his family as she's to the first? A part of her life ended in Pakistan. But her real struggle, real journey towards rebuilding what she had lost her life as a successful entrepreneur was set in India. We see no glimpses of that either. Wouldn't that have been a more inspiring story? 

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