

# Sailaja Bishuba Sanskruti observes Odia New Year



IMO editor honored in the function

Barbil, Apr 14: While completing 50 years, Sailaja Bishuba Sanskuti observed Bishuba Milan at Sri Mandap Barbil. The function was presided over by Barbil Chairperson Laxman Mahanta, eminent lawyer, and Zilla Parishad member Ashis Chakravarty, Kusha Apat. Mrudula Mohanty delivered her speech as chief speaker. A cultural program was performed by Gunjan Dance Academy, Bhawanipatna. Bijay Mohanty and Nirmal Pati successfully organized the function. IMO editor Sirish C Mohanty and eminent physician Dr. Anil Kumar Das were honored at the function.

DADLS-09

ପବିତ୍ର ମହାବିଷୁବ ସଂକ୍ରାନ୍ତି ଉପଲକ୍ଷେ ବାର୍ତ୍ତା

ଓଡ଼ିଆମାନଙ୍କ ଅସ୍ଥିତାର ପର୍ବ ମହାବିଷୁବ ସଂକ୍ରାନ୍ତି ଏବଂ ଓଡ଼ିଆ ନବବର୍ଷ ଅବସରରେ ବିଶ୍ୱର କୋଣ ଅନୁକୋଣରେ ରହୁଥିବା ଓଡ଼ିଆ ଭାଇଭଉଣୀମାନଙ୍କୁ ହାର୍ଦ୍ଦିକ ଶୁଭେଚ୍ଛା ଓ ଅଭିନନ୍ଦନ ଜଣାଇବା ସହ ସମସ୍ତଙ୍କର ସୁଖ-ସମୃଦ୍ଧି କାମନା କରୁଛି ।

ଓଡ଼ିଶାର ମହାନ ଐତିହ୍ୟ, ସମୃଦ୍ଧ ପରମ୍ପରା ଏବଂ ଅନନ୍ୟ ସଂସ୍କୃତିକୁ ଉଦ୍ଧାରିତ କରି ରଖୁଥିବା ବିଭିନ୍ନ ପର୍ବପର୍ବାଣୀ, ଓଷାବ୍ରତ ଓ ଯାନିଯାତ୍ରା ମଧ୍ୟରୁ ମହାବିଷୁବ ସଂକ୍ରାନ୍ତିର ସ୍ଥାନ ସ୍ୱତନ୍ତ୍ର ।

ବିକାଶଧାରାରେ ସାମିଲ ହୋଇ ଓଡ଼ିଶାକୁ ଦେଶର ଶ୍ରେଷ୍ଠ ରାଜ୍ୟରେ ପରିଣତ କରିବା ପାଇଁ ଆଜିର ଏହି ପବିତ୍ର ଦିବସରେ ସଙ୍କଳ୍ପବଦ୍ଧ ହୋଇ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟ କରିବାକୁ ମୁଁ ସମସ୍ତଙ୍କର ସହଯୋଗ କାମନା କରୁଛି ।

(ରଞ୍ଜନ ଲାଲ)

ଜଳସଂପଦ, ସୂଚନା ଓ ଲୋକସମ୍ପର୍କ ମନ୍ତ୍ରୀ

OIPR-15001/13/0012/2223

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ମାନ୍ୟବର ରାଜ୍ୟପାଳଙ୍କ ବାର୍ତ୍ତା

ପବିତ୍ର ମହାବିଷୁବ ସଂକ୍ରାନ୍ତି ତଥା ଓଡ଼ିଆ ନବବର୍ଷର ପ୍ରଥମ ଦିନରେ ରାଜ୍ୟବାସୀଙ୍କୁ ମୋର ହାର୍ଦ୍ଦିକ ଶୁଭେଚ୍ଛା ଓ ଅଭିନନ୍ଦନ ଜଣାଉଛି । ଓଡ଼ିଶାକୁ ଦେଶର ଅନ୍ୟତମ ଶ୍ରେଷ୍ଠ ରାଜ୍ୟରେ ପରିଣତ କରିବା ପାଇଁ ସମସ୍ତେ ମନପ୍ରାଣ ଦେଇ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟ କରିବାକୁ ମୁଁ ଆହ୍ୱାନ ଜଣାଉଛି ।

(ରଞ୍ଜନ ଲାଲ)

ମାନ୍ୟବର ରାଜ୍ୟପାଳ, ଓଡ଼ିଶା

OIPR-15001/13/0012/2223

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ମାନ୍ୟବର ମୁଖ୍ୟମନ୍ତ୍ରୀଙ୍କ ଶୁଭେଚ୍ଛା

ପବିତ୍ର ପଣା ସଂକ୍ରାନ୍ତି ତଥା ଓଡ଼ିଆ ନୂଆ ବର୍ଷ ଅବସରରେ ଆପଣମାନଙ୍କୁ ସମସ୍ତଙ୍କୁ ମୋର ଅଭିନନ୍ଦନ ଜଣାଉଛି । ମହାପ୍ରଭୁ ଜଗନ୍ନାଥଙ୍କ କୃପାରୁ ନୂଆ ବର୍ଷ ସମସ୍ତଙ୍କ ପାଇଁ ମଙ୍ଗଳମୟ ହେଉ ।

ଆସନ୍ତୁ, ସମସ୍ତେ ମିଶି ଓଡ଼ିଆ ଜାତିର ବିକାଶ ପାଇଁ କାମ କରିବା ଓ ଓଡ଼ିଶାର ଗୌରବକୁ ସବୁଠାରୁ ଉଚ୍ଚତମ ଶିଖରକୁ ନେବା ପାଇଁ ପ୍ରୟାସ କରିବା ।

ନବୀନ ଲକ୍ଷ୍ମୀ

ମୁଖ୍ୟମନ୍ତ୍ରୀ, ଓଡ଼ିଶା

OIPR-15001/13/0012/2223



# All is not well in BJP's top leadership, claims seniors cabinet minister: Report



Trouble seems to be brewing in the top leadership of the BJP after reports of infighting emerged in the ruling party. A senior cabinet minister told Lokmat Times that major differences have emerged.

A newspaper interview on the feud between Narendra Modi and one of his ministers claiming to enjoy the support of 252 BJP MPs has triggered a huge social media storm. The interview was published by Maharashtra Lokmat Times, which did not reveal the identity of the minister claiming to threaten Modi with the support of 252 MPs. The said interview was published in the Nagpur edition of the Lokmat Times.

According to the cabinet

minister, Rajnath Singh's son, Pankaj Singh- an Uttar Pradesh MLA was prevented by Prime Minister Narendra Modi from becoming a minister in Yogi Adityanath's cabinet.

According to the report, Rajnath Singh used to argue with PM Modi but now he turns silent on the issue before the PM, and the frequency of their interaction gradually looks diminished. The minister also alleged that PM Modi has been using Central agencies like ED, Income Tax, and CBI against the Opposition.

The minister further challenged that he has the power to take away 252 MPs and bring down the current government. And he further

challenged the Prime Minister to remove him if had the guts. The report went on to claim that the unnamed minister was once so hurt that he told the prime minister, 'If you have the guts, then try to remove me from the council of ministers.' The unnamed minister continued that he had the power to bring down the Modi government as he has the support of 252 MPs, but the ideology stands in his way.

The report by Lokmat Times also stated clear differences between Amit Shah and Narendra Modi. The 'interview' has a social media storm with users reacting to the content. Whilst detractors of Modi are taking a dig at the government, his supporters are taking a dig at the Maharashtra-based newspaper by calling the interview an imaginary piece of work.

One thing is clear from the recent political events that have unfolded, in different states during the last few months - "all is not well with the Modi-led NDA government." If there were a

political thermometer, like there's one for the human body, it would have indicated that the political temperature in India has changed somewhat. There is a clear sign of emerging disenchantment and dissatisfaction with the government from amongst multiple sections of people- the youth, the business community, Dalits, and sections of the middle class - evident across the country, including in Gujarat, the home state of both Prime Minister Narendra Modi and HM Amit Shah.

But at this moment, this change in political mood is only to the extent of being a matter of concern for the BJP, not yet something that is giving its leaders sleepless nights. This changed political mood will surface in the ensuing 2014 General elections. But BJP leaders must realize that this slow wind of change in political mood has the potential to gather into a storm, and things just might slip out of the party's hands in 2024.

## Odisha Journalist chained to hospital bed: IIC, IO transferred

Balasore, Apr 8: In the latest development in the Nilagiri journalist torture incident, the concerned IIC Draupadi Das and the IO Subarna Behera have been transferred, said Central Range IG Narasingha Bhola.

It is to be noted that Nilagiri Police in the Balasore district of Odisha recently handcuffed the legs of a scribe and tied him to the hospital bed, when he was undergoing treatment at the district headquarter hospital.

It had been reported that a Home Guard named Niranjana Rana of Nilagiri Police Station earlier hit the vehicle of journalist Lokanath Dalei while the latter was returning home on Tuesday night. A heated argument erupted between the two following the accident. However, they left the spot after some locals intervened and pacified the duo.

However, Dalei was picked up by a team of Nilagiri police from his house on the following day based on the complaint lodged by Home Guard Rana. He was detained on the allegation of assaulting an on-duty government servant.

Journalist Dalei was allegedly subjected to torture so much so that he was admitted to the district headquarters hospital after his condition became critical. Video footage also showed that one of his legs was tied to the hospital bed with a shackle. Journalists across the State heavily condemned the atrocity of the cops and demanded a fair investigation into the matter and stringent action against the accused.



## Pana Sankranti, Odia New Year Observed Across Odisha; PM, CM Greet People

Hanuman Jayanti, the birth of Hindu God Hanuman is also being celebrated across the State. Devotees have thronged temples to have darshan of Hanuman.

Bhubaneswar, April 15: Maha Vishuba Sankranti also known as Mesha Sankranti and Pana Sankranti and Odia New Year is being celebrated today across the State with religious fervour and gaiety.

Special arrangements have been made at several places to observe the auspicious Pana Sankranti with traditional fervour. Pana bhoga is being offered in every household on the occasion.

Pana Sankranti also marks the end of the 13-day Danda and Jhamu Yatra observed in Southern Odisha.

While famous Meru Jatra was observed at several places of Ganjam district, most of the places will observe the festival today. In Athagarh of Cuttack, Dhuli Danda and Jhamu Jatra will be held at Maa Kalikamana pitha to mark Meru Jatra.

Hanuman Jayanti, the birth of Hindu God Hanuman is also being celebrated across the State. Devotees have thronged temples to have



darshan of Hanuman.

The district administration of Sambalpur has made elaborate arrangements for procession taken out on the occasion. In order to ensure peaceful procession and avoid any untoward incident, 30 platoons of police forces, 150 sub inspectors and ASIs, 32 inspectors, 11 DSPs and two additional SPs have been mobilised.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi extended greetings to the people of Odisha on the occasion of Pana Sankranti and Odia New Year.

"May the new year be filled with abundance of happiness. May the spirit of brotherhood in our society be furthered and may everyone be in best health," Modi wrote.

## Odisha Extends Free Rice Scheme For 6 More Months



Bhubaneswar, Apr 1: On the occasion of Utkal Divas, the Odisha government has extended distribution of free rice to the beneficiaries covered under its

own State Food Security Scheme (SFSS) for six more months.

Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has directed concerned officials to extend distribution of additional 5 kg of rice per month free of cost to beneficiaries of the SFSS from April 2022, Chief Minister's Office (CMO) said in a statement on Friday. Earlier, the benefit of 5 kg free rice was extended for the beneficiaries of the SFSS from December 2021 to March 2022. About 8.09 lakh beneficiaries covered under the scheme will be benefited from this move.

For this purpose, the state government will distribute 24,270 tonne of rice from the State pool with an expenditure of Rs 91.70 crore from its own fund, it said. This will facilitate beneficiaries enrolled in the SFSS to remain at par with beneficiaries under National Food Security Act (NFSA), the CMO said. Notably, the Union government has recently extended the free foodgrains distribution scheme under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) for six more months from March 2022. Under the PMGKAY, the Centre gives an additional five kg of rice or wheat per month to beneficiaries of the (NFSA) over and above their usual monthly quota for free.

## Odisha Ex-MLA Anup Sai Awarded Life Term In Double Murder Case

Burdhan Toppo, another accused, who was also arrested in connection with the case, has been acquitted by the Raigarh District And Sessions Court in Chhattisgarh

Raigarh, Apr 2: Ex-MLA and former BJD Leader Anup Sai was awarded life imprisonment in connection with the sensational double murder of a woman and her daughter in 2016, by a Chhattisgarh court on Saturday.

Burdhan Toppo, another accused, who was also arrested in connection with the case, has been acquitted by the Raigarh District And Sessions Court in Chhattisgarh.

Toppo was working as the driver of the former MLA from Brajaraj Nagar. Both Sai and his driver were arrested by the Chhattisgarh police in February 2020 on the charges of murdering one Kalpana and her minor daughter Bubli near Hamirpur forest in Chhattisgarh's Raigarh district in 2016. Though the ex-MLA only wanted to kill Kalpana, later he killed her daughter fearing that she would expose him, police had then said.





# MPC tough, Govt manages thru more FTAs, tie-ups



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

The feel-good factor may be impacted as RBI estimates the growth to lower, inflation to remain high, and crude prices to be around \$ 100 a barrel.

RBI Monetary Policy Committee's (MPC) revised assumption of the crude oil price for making inflation and growth forecasts is sharply higher than the previous one. The growth estimates to lower to 7.2 percent from 7.8 percent even as it keeps the repo rate unchanged at 4 percent and reverses the repo at 3.35 percent.

Inflation averaging 6.3 percent in the first quarter (April-June 2022), 5 percent in the second quarter, 5.4 percent in the third quarter, and 5.1 percent in the fourth quarter (January-March

2023) will be a concern.

Inflation projections have been primarily revised upwards due to war-induced factors, according to Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Governor Shaktikanta Das. "In the sequence of priorities, we have now put inflation before growth. Time is appropriate to prioritize inflation ahead of growth," the RBI governor said.

It may entail difficult times as government finances may be impacted in meeting the inflationary pressures.

CMIE finds the rate of recovery slowing down after the second pandemic wave can reduce consumer sentiments and by March 2023 it could be 15 percent lower.

On the other hand, 83

unicorns valued at \$ 277 would be able to create 11 lakh jobs, Nasscom-Zinnov says. The net non-farm employment growth has to sustainably rise till 2030 at 1.5 percent a year so that there are at least 9 crore jobs. This may get delayed due to lower consumer sentiments, and manufacturing and other activities can be affected.

The challenges are many. India's foreign exchange reserves (forex) came down by \$ 14 billion though it is still considered comfortable with \$ 619 billion reserves. The value of gold reserves also declines by \$ 1.831 billion to \$ 42.011 billion.

Proposals for foreign investment in infrastructure are fraught with risk. There are suggestions from former RBI governor Bimal Jalan that infra development should be done in rupees. This would hedge the rupee as well as the economy. Higher FDI would also have higher outgo in repatriation. Jalan suggests tax cuts and says rising petrol prices, supposedly the highest in the world, are concerns. As the UNCTAD had predicted in its Asia-Pacific report, it is stoking discontent as viewed by the strike of cabs against the CNG price hike.

No action is off the table when the need is to safeguard the Indian economy, Das says. Some more belt-tightening is possible though the center

may like to adhere to the possible extent of its budgetary programs.

Meanwhile, the government accepting the International Energy Agency's initiative has joined its initiative of a coordinated release of 120 million barrels of oil from its emergency reserves to calm oil prices. The petroleum ministry is looking at the way it can outreach the IEA initiative. India has a daily consumption of 4.5 million barrels and a reserve of 39 million barrels, not considered high. In November 2021 too it had agreed to release 5 million barrels from its reserve as part of a US-led initiative for lowering crude prices when they breached \$ 80 a barrel.

These initiatives impinge on the smooth growth of the country. The Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE) says that the slower recovery does not bode well. Various international impediments add to risks. Such consumer sentiments can impact spending and therefore, growth in private final consumption expenditure which accounts for about 55 percent of the country's GDP.

The consumer sentiment expanded by 5 percent in January but in March it declined to 3.7 percent. The average monthly rate of increase during the last three months has been 4.23

percent. It would take three years to recover to the pre-covid level provided there is no other jerk to the economy. The RBI took note of it.

The Ukraine war-related sanctions imposed by the US affect India's exports to an extent as well.

The relationship with Russia through good is at a low level. The trade is less than 2 percent. In the present circumstances, it may not be able to increase. The new insurance conditions prohibiting flights to Russia and Ukraine have led to Air India suspending its flights to Moscow. The Russian carrier Aeroflot has also stopped its flights to Delhi. India has reaffirmed its ties with Russia though it also faces western pressures amid its suspension from UN Human Rights Commission. India may have to reposition its diplomacy.


The government has taken to various international tie-ups to tide over the crisis. The latest free trade pact with Australia is a move to counter China. It is a trust, Australia says, it has in India. It opens up avenues for coal and other raw material imports as well as is likely to export garments, pharmaceuticals, steel, and other products. The exports to Australia are at a mere \$ 345 million. It also allows Australian liquor and other companies to set up their units in India.

Another decision to

invite Gulf country companies to invest in Kashmir is being seen as a major gain. These companies in their meeting with the governor say they have spotted 4226 sites for setting up hotels, tourism centers, and factories under the FTA with UAE. While this is being considered a good move for the development of the state, it also has raised certain concerns within the Parivar.

Meanwhile, phasing out imports of 101 more defense items will give a push to self-reliance and save forex. The plan is to make the country a global hub for defense manufacturing. It could be a big forex earner as well as create an aura for the country.

It is hoped that these would gradually tide over the balance of trade issue. At present, despite \$ 400 of exports there remains a trade deficit of \$ 192 as imports in value terms have become expensive. It also adds to forex loss despite higher earnings. It is not easy to tide this over as the rupee continues to slide beyond Rs 75. In the present global scenario boosting the rupee is a herculean task.

Amid these problems, FDI has increased to over \$ 560 million. It shows the confidence of the investor in the country's policies. The country is through a difficult phase but it has to get over it for a bright future. 



# Tribal Fair 'Aadi Mahotsav' Organised in Steel City

Steel city turned into a venue for the celebration of tribal culture, craft, cuisine, and commerce when the 'Aadi Mahotsav' a 10-day grand tribal fair was jointly organized by SAIL, Rourkela Steel Plant (RSP), and Tribal Co-operative Marketing Development Foundation (TRIFED) at exhibition maidan sector-5 from 30th March to 8th April.

The Aadi Mahotsava, a celebration of tribal art and culture in a holistic manner, acquaints people with and gives a peek into the rich tribal heritage and culture. The festival organized by TRIFED is a way to draw the Adivasis into the mainstream and give individual tribal artisans, tribal SHGs, agencies, organizations working with tribals a chance to display their unique and range of products to a larger audience.



Atanu Bhowmick, Director-In-Charge (DIC) of RSP while inaugurating the fair on 30th March said "Unity in diversity is the essence of Incredible India, Aadi Mahotsav propagates this culture,".

Nikhil Pawan Kalyan, Collector, Sundargarh, in his address said that the collaborative effort in

organizing the fair in the post-pandemic period is praiseworthy. "The event has two objectives, to promote rich tribal culture and accelerate their economic development," he added.

Bisweswar Tudu, Minister of State for Jal Shakti & Tribal Affairs, graced the concluding evening as the Chief Guest on 8th April.

Shankar Oram, MLA, Biramitrapur, Kusum Tete, MLA, Sundargarh, Atanu Bhowmick, Director In-charge, RSP, and Prof. Dr. K Uma Maheswar Rao, Director, NIT, Rourkela were the Guests of honor.

Minister Tudu applauded the initiative by RSP and TRIFED which aimed at promoting the art & craft of

tribal people and said, "Programs like Aadi Mahotsav bring to the limelight the immense talents of the tribal people in art, culture, and handicrafts".

Aadi Mahotsav registered a record footfall and was a grand success. Fair saw a multitude of rich cultural performances by troupes from different parts of the state. It witnessed the splendor of various folk dance forms like mellifluous Mayurbhanj Chhou dance, a foot-tapping Ghumra Dance from Kalahandi, storytelling on the history of Odisha by Prachitara from Bhubaneswar, scintillating Sambalpuri Dance, Sarhul Dance, laudi dance, a splendid Gotipua dance, a Mundari dance, Odissi dance, and Bajashal dance enthralled and mesmerized the audience.

The national tribal festival saw the participation

of over 200 tribal artisans, chefs, artists, and cultural troupes from different parts of Odisha and of the country.

The Mela with around 100 stalls witnessed brisk selling with Rourkelites taking a keen interest in buying forest produce and beautifully crafted products of tribal artisans. The tribal entrepreneurs carried out the business of more than Rs 50 lakhs during the Mela.

During the fair, several eminent personalities of Odisha were felicitated on different days. The felicitated person list included Padmashri Dr. Jitendra Haripal, Daitari Naik, and Smt. Matilda Kulu who won a place in the Forbes India Women-Power 2021 list, Arjun Award winners Minati Mohapatra and Sunil Patra, and Subhadra Pradhan, former Hockey International.

## DMF Help in Building 16 new roads in mining-affected blocks



Sixteen new roads constructed in mineral-rich Lahunipara and Koira blocks of Sundargarh district were dedicated to the people at a special function organized on 7th April. Out of these 16 roads 12 roads have been constructed in Lahunipara while 4 roads in Koira block. The construction of these roads has been built with the funding of the District Mineral Foundation (DMF), Sundargarh.

Bonai MLA Laxman Munda inaugurated the projects at a special event in Pratappur village of Lahunipara block in presence of the Collector

Sundargarh Nikhil Pavan Kalyan.

A total of 24 km of the road network connecting over 28 villages would benefit 12000 people across Lahunipara and Koira blocks. These roads would improve connectivity with the national highway, local markets, and urban centers, enhancing the life and livelihood of general people.

In Lahunipara block, the new roads connect Sadhubahal to Digi, Kardahudi to Pratappur via Rengalbeda, Thiaberna to Kudapada, SAIL Road to Deodevpur via Ghatitala, Sasa to Rugudi, Talbahali to Bhuyan

Sahi, Rangamatia to Rangamatia, Sananugaon to Girijatola, Sananugaon to Bhuyan Sahi, Sanjal to Taldihi, Budhabhuin to Budhabhuin, Ladapani to Ladapani. Similarly, the new roads in Koira block include National Highway 215 to Tukutola, National Highway 215 to Rengalbeda slum, Soyamba to Chardhipa, and Badabalijor to School Sahi area.

Bonai Sub Collector Pradeep Dang, along with other senior officials of ITDA, District Administration, and District Mineral Foundation were present on the occasion.

## RSP Achieve New Production Records in FY 2021-22

A series of records and benchmarks were set by SAIL, Rourkela Steel Plant (RSP) in the just concluded the Financial year 2021-22 in varied fields of endeavor right from production and productivity to technoeconomics and projects. Annual Business Plan (ABP) targets were achieved in several areas for the first time while many old Mills too recorded their best performance since inception.

The production of Hot Metal from the Blast Furnaces touched an all-time high of

4337016 Tonnes, which is a rise of 13% above the previous best of 3836421 recorded in the year 2018-19. Similarly, the Total Crude Steel production touched its best-ever figure of 3987259 Tonnes, which is an increase of 8.6% over the previous best of 3659597 Tonnes registered in 2018-19. The same trend was reflected in another key parameter that is Saleable Steel which was 3666261 Tonnes in 2021-22 against the previous record of 3334851 Tonnes achieved in 2018-19. The dispatch of saleable steel also

saw a new all-time high of 3639669 Tonnes with a growth of 8.5% over the previous best dispatch of 3356051 tonnes achieved in 2018-19. Congratulating the RSP collective over the exceptional performance, Atanu Bhowmick, Director In-Charge said, "If the previous year was quite eventful, the new fiscal is going to be even more challenging. I am confident that with our committed and cohesive efforts we can reach any goal we aim for."

## Nehru Puraskar Presented to RSP Employees

The prestigious Nehru Vishista Karmachari Puraskar of SAIL, Rourkela Steel Plant (RSP) was presented to 86 employees in a function organized at Civic on the occasion of Utkal Diwas on 1st April. Atanu Bhowmick, Director In-Charge, RSP presented the awards.

Each of the winners was presented with a certificate, an award of Rs 10,000/- that was added to their Sodexo card, and a gift.

The annual Nehru Vishista Karmachari Puraskar is awarded

to the employees for their exemplary contributions made towards the performance and production of the plant in terms

of their commitment to duty, ingenuity, and continued excellence in their respective areas of work.





# JSW foundation sponsors Mega health camp at Dinkia village



JAGATSINGHPUR, Apr 10: The JSW foundation sponsored a mega health camp in collaboration with Mumbai-based NGO Jagannath Cancer and

Foundation at Dinkia village under Erasama block on Sunday.

The mega health camp gifted free checkups of diseases like cancer, diabetes,

blood pressure, SPO2, and a few curious ailments. Dr. Sisir Sathy a prominent cardiologist from Tata Memorial hospital Mumbai attended the camp

accompanying medicine specialists Dr. Subhrajit Dash, Dr. Kumar Auyesh, surgery specialist Dr. Baibhab Mohanty, gynecologist Dr. Narayan Sahoo and a few physicians.

The camp was attended by as many as 225 residents from Dinkia, Gadakujanga, and Nuagaon Panchayat, the attending patients were supplied free diagnosis and medicines by the JSW Foundation.

Dinkia Sarpanch Kishor Parida, JSW Paradeep unit head Subrata Sahoo, CSR Prashant Biswal, Paradeep unit CSR Abhijit Mohanty, Narendra Barik, and NGO Jagannath foundation representatives Chittaranjan Dash, Gayatree Mohanty Preeti Raj, Udaya Bhanu Das, Ranjan Ray, Kabita Mishra were coordinated the camp.

## DGCC award wins Balikuda women's college

JAGATSINGHPUR, Apr 12: The Mahatma Gandhi National Council of Rural Education [MGNCRE] a subsidiary body of the union ministry of higher education has bestowed the District Green Champion Certificate [DGCC] award to Balikuda women's degree college for successfully launching the Swachha Action plan for the year 2021-22.

MGNCRE verified the manifolds activities mandated under the Swachha Action plan and finally recognized the Balikuda



women's college in Jagatsinghpur district and was selected for the award. The Swachha Action plan included the implementation of best practices in the areas of sanitation, hygiene, waste management, water, and energy and greenery management in their educational institution.

Jagatsinghpur collector Parul Patwari gave away the prize and certificate to Balikuda women's college Principal Tanujabala Kaunongo on Tuesday in an official function held in the collector's office here.

## BJP bags Jagatsinghpur municipality VC post, independent won in Paradip

JAGATSINGHPUR, Apr10: The elections for the municipality vice-chairman [VC] post for the Jagatsinghpur and Paradip urban bodies were held and the results were formally announced on Thursday.

Apart from poll results informed that Rajendra Kumar Bisoi a BJP councilor from ward number 14 elected as vice-chairman of Jagatsinghpur municipality. Bisoi defeated his BJD contestant Manoj Mohanty by only one vote. Bisoi polled 11 votes and Mohanty 10 votes after counting of votes held in



municipality office. BJP had won 2 councilors in elections, 7 Congress councilors, and 2 independents supported Bisoi and cast their votes as consequence BJP captured the post for the first time in Jagatsinghpur municipality. On the other hand, BJD had won 9 councilors out of

a total of 21 wards but was unable to reach magic number 11 despite one independent councilor and a BJD rebel candidate supporting BJD's Mohanty. Moreover, BJD received a jolt in Paradip municipality VC elections, an independent candidate Chhabilata Rout elected as vice chairwoman, Rout defeated her rival BJD backing Pravhati Nayak by four votes. Rout earned 10 votes and BJD's Nayak 6 votes, 3 BJP councilors abstained from the election process. Interestingly BJD had gained 7 councilors but one of its councilors crossed the vote to independent VC candidate Rout.

## JSW Utkal steel gets Environmental clearance from union MOEF

JAGATSINGHPUR, Apr 11. The JSW Utkal Steel Ltd has obtained the environmental clearance for setting up its 13.2 million tonnes Greenfield integrated steel plant and its other ancillary industries from the union ministry of environment and forest and climate change [MoEF &CC], a JSW press release informed on Monday.

The JSW official information adds that the mega project will generate employment opportunities

for about 72,000 people directly and indirectly in the project site region and will boost the economy of the Odisha and country.

The project will establish on approximately 2.950 acres of land that included 2.06 acres of privately owned land from the locality, the land givers have been given their consent to provide land for the project, the project is estimated to cost Rs 65,000 crores, the project works will launch phase

wise after the government of Odisha handed over the required land to JSW, the release revealed.

As the approved project has been designed as a 10 MTPA cement grinding unit, a 900-megawatt captive power plant, and a 52 MTPA capacity captive jetty. Earlier JSW Utkal steel applied for a grant of term and reference [ToR] to MoEF.

The MoEF verified the public hearing conducted by JSW and local civil

administration which was held in December 2019 where people from affected villages at large participated and five public consultations camps were organized by Jagatsinghpur district administration village wise and they studied the quantum of compensation and implementation of R&R policy of Odisha government, after carefully examining the several facts and circumstances MoEF granted the environmental clearance, the press release said.

## 87th Utkal Diwas is celebrated in Jaipur

JAGATSINGHPUR, Apr 02: The 87th Utkal diwas celebration was held in Adikabi Sarala Das Sanskruti Bhawan here on Friday, newly elected Zilla Parishad president Manoj Kumar Bhoi attended the event as chief guest,

accompanying chief speaker Professor Santosh Kumar Tripathy, ADM Satchidananda Sahoo, municipality chairwoman Archana Singh, Sub collector Dharmendra Mallick, DIPRO Kaminiranjan Pattnaik and

culture officer Dilip Kumar Jena. Speaking on the occasion attending guests reiterated memory of all the struggles that derived a separate state for Odisha which became the first independent state of the country

formed on a linguistic basis. The Jagatsinghpur town wore a glittering look where all government offices both central and state, collector-building many others dazzled with colorful lights.



# Artistes from rural troops performed Chhau dance in the first night of Spring Festival in Baripada Chhau field on Monday



Baripada, 13 April:-In bid to live the cultures, Moroda MLA Rajkishore Das demanded Chhau and Jhumar training centers in Mayurbhanj district while he was speaking at the inaugural ceremony of Mayurbhanj Chhau festival or it is known as Spring Festival and Pallishree Mela at Chhau field in Baripada town on Monday evening.

Mr. Das said that

Mayurbhanj is a tribal-dominated district that has witnessed in and outside the State and nation for Chhau Dance and Similipal National Park. At least two training centers one for Chhau dance and the other one for Jhumar are mostly required to keep the culture alive in the district and the training centers would be generated, new artists. So it will need the effort of district administration, leaders

of the district, and State Government respectively to set up the training centers, he said.

The Revenue and Minister for Disaster Management Sudam Marandi the Chief Guest of the inaugural event of Cahhu and Pallishree Mela spoke that Mayurbhanj is the soil of Art and among the cultures of Odisha more than 50 percent is from the

## Moroda MLA demands Chhau and Jhumar training centers in Mayurbhanj district to keep alive the Mayurbhanj culture

district while above 1400 artists are officially registered and got a stipend from the Government. Chhau dance in Mayurbhanj is an art form that is quite separate from other dance forms. While Chhau in Purulia is only the artistes perform their skill with using masks of God and Goddess but Mayurbhanj Chhau only the artistes perform their skill without mask only the powders and colors are painted on the face of artistes and the art form is performed by the artistes as per music only. Earlier, only the male artists were taking

part in the art form but last some years the female artists are taking part in the art form, said the Revenue Minister.

Collector Vineet Bhardwaj said that the Chhau festival is traditionally observed for three days. While rural troops take part on the first night of the festival, the Uttar Sahi and Dakshina Sahi Chhau troops take part in the last two nights. To boost up the festival, the district administration organized Pallishree Mela where more than 138 stalls are displaying rural handicrafts and

handlooms as well as other articles.

Among the guests, were Zilla Parishad President Bharati Hansdah, MLA of Sarashkana Dr. Budhan Murmu, Rairangpur MLA Nabacharan Majhi, Karanjia MLA Basanti Hembram, SP of Mayurbhanj Risikesh D Khilari, Project Director of District Rural Development Agency (DRDA) PAnvesh Reddy have attended the events. The Chau dance was started around 10.30 pm and at least 13 troops from rural pockets of the district were skilled in their art forms after the inauguration ceremony of the two events.

# Water crisis in Baripada municipality

## No measures taken for the survival of bats from sizzling heat

Baripada, 13 April:- Indubati Bag a resident of a slum pocket in Ward No-15 of Baripada municipality in Mayurbhanj district gets up around 4 am the early morning and waits to get a port of water but she was failed to get due to poor water supply has been given to the ward through the pipeline. She said that no she but many women and men are in a queue at the water tape with empty pots and face the same situation for which they have been forced to go to other persons' houses to bring a pot of water. The people in the ward who have their water facilities are not happy if the slum people are bringing port of water again from their houses.

Indubati said that there were two pipelines were set to her colony, while one is provided poor water supply another did not provide a drop of water either it may chock on its way or lock the key by the PHED department for five years. To cater to the drinking water crisis in the slump pocket, the municipality allegedly encouraged them to set additional pipes from the main two pipelines and there no tax has been provided to

people as it is a slump pocket. Though the families were additionally connected people lines from main pipelines to cater to the water crisis spending money from their own pockets the water has not passed through the additional pipelines owing to poor water coming through the main pipeline. The irate residents are failing to get the basic facility despite bringing the issue before the PHED and concerned department of the municipality.

A tribal colony on the backside of the Collector's residence in Belgravia Ward No-1 is also facing an acute water crisis. Laxmi Majhi, Sankar Majhi, and Sujata Behera the residents said that they are facing in-convivance owing to the irregular water supply. They have been facing this misery for more than seven decades. There were more than 30 to 40 ward councilors who were changed several times but the quandary of the ward could not solve. "We are receiving false assurance from the candidates before the municipal polls, just after the polls, the elected candidate does not pay heed to address the ward problem. Though a boring

facility was set up in the ward the water did not receive some parts of the ward. Despite the problem being in knowledge of concerned officers but they are ignoring it. To cater to the crisis, the residents are bound to go to Budhabalanga river to bring water for domestic purposes and bath there," they said.

The water crisis was grim in all wards and residents claimed before the municipal and PHED officials to provide at least two times water supply facilities in the summer season.

However, the water kiosks as a provision to set up on roadsides, bus stands, and other gathering places for the commuters have not been made yet by the Baripada municipality.

To cater to the drinking water crisis in all 28 wards of Baripada municipality, Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik laid the foundation stone of the Jambhira mega water supply project in 2013 and the deadline for completion was set at six months. But the project, as per official sources, started four years later but it has not been completed yet. The cost of the project has been overrun from Rs 53 crore to Rs 83.91 crore due to the delay in its work.

Baripada, April 13: With the scorching heat continuing to flow at 38 to 42 degrees Celsius for the last couple of days, is posing a risk for the bats who are unable to bear the heat. With the continued flow of the heat in the summer, the creatures who are living on the trees in Gandhi park and Jubilee Park in Baripada town of Mayurbhanj district are falling from trees. The mammals were freed from the risk a little while they were getting water from ponds near the parks but drying of water for pond renovation on both sides of Gandhi Park and a pond near Jubilee Park is making the subsequent risk for the mammals to survive in the severe heat of the summer.

Though the renovation works of these ponds were begun last July they have not been completed to date.

The animal lovers expressed their concern as the municipality and forest department would not take precautionary measures for the survival of bats that need water during the summer. While the bats were falling from the trees and dehydrated to death, the

local children were taking away the bats for the feast. Even the bats who are searching for water to survey have not got a drop of water as the ponds have remained dried up for the renovation.

David Mohammad, a resident of Ward No-5 of Baripada town who had been working tirelessly to save the bats in the last some years, expressed that this year it would be critical to saving the bats from the sizzling heat this summer. Bats were getting water from these ponds to survive during the summer but the incomplete renovation of ponds, such essential support would fail this season.

"No one is aware of the survival of bats. There is no provision of the forest department and municipality to provide water for the bats and spray water on trees which would be a little comfort for the mammals to survive," he said, adding that he also provides water to dehydrated bats. But this service is not enough while hundreds of bats are facing the threat in the sizzling heat and many of them would succumb to the lack of



water if the step is not taken very soon.

He has decided to meet Vanoo Mitra Acharya and discuss the possible steps that would be taken to save the mammals.

Locals said children from slum pockets had taken away the dead bats from Gandhi Park.

Contacted, Divisional Forest Officer of Baripada Santosh Kumar Joshi said that adequate steps would be carried out for the save of bats.



## Rape survivor beaten in kangaroo court for approaching police; 8 arrested



BHUBANESWAR, Apr 2: Eight people including five women were arrested in Odisha's Nayagarh district after a minor girl was tried in a kangaroo court and beaten for hours after she lodged a rape complaint against a 21-year-old man of the village, police said.

Police said the family members of a Std X girl student in a village under Ranpur police station of Nayagarh district on Wednesday lodged an FIR alleging that the accused man had raped the girl 3 months ago. The family alleged that

after the incident, a meeting was called by the villagers to sort out the issue and the girl's family was advised not to lodge an FIR at the local police station.

When the family of the girl lodged an FIR with Ranpur police on Wednesday seeking justice, the family members of the accused took hold of the girl and tied her to an electric pole before she was beaten up for daring to lodge the complaint, police added.

The victim's family then lodged another complaint against 11 people including the rape accused after which the

### A Std X girl student in a village under Ranpur police station of Odisha's Nayagarh district lodged a rape complaint against a 21-year-old man of the village

police arrested 8 persons including 5 women. Inspector of Ranpur police station, Jyoti Prakash Parida said a case was registered against them under the Indian Penal Code (IPC) sections 376 (rape), 341 (wrongful restraint), 294 (utter obscene words in public place), 323 (voluntarily causing hurt), 342 (wrongful confinement), 506 (criminal intimidation) and 34 (acts done by several persons in furtherance of common intention) and sections 3(2)(v), 3(a), 3(1)(r)(s) of Pocco Act and SC/ST Act.

Kangaroo courts have become a nuisance in Nayagarh district over the years. In November last year,

a 35-year-old civil contractor who had an altercation with the doctor at a local primary health centre and later punished by a Kangaroo court in his village over the incident allegedly died by suicide following the torture. In October last year, four people in a village under Daspalla block of Nayagarh district were made to drink menstrual blood and faeces in a kangaroo court by villagers who suspected them to be involved in black magic incidents. The victims were asked to pay ₹1 lakh penalty and threatened that they would have to pay Rs. 5 lakh each if they dared to approach the police.

## NCST Issues Arrest Warrant Against Keonjhar Collector For Repeated Defiance

District Collector Ashish Thakre has earned the ire of the statutory body after he failed to appear for the commission's hearing in the State Capital on April 4 this year

Keonjhar, April 12: In a major development, the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST) has issued an arrest warrant against Keonjhar Collector for 'absconding' and failing to appear before the statutory body despite repeated summonses.

District Collector Ashish Thakre has earned the ire of the statutory body after he failed to appear for the commission's hearing in the State Capital on April 4 this year.

The commission since September 2021 had been issuing several summonses to the Collector to attend the hearing. But the Collector did not respond. The NCST Tuesday shot off a letter to

Odisha DGP Sunil Bansal to arrest the errant Collector and produce him before the Commission's office in New Delhi.

As per the NCST's letter accessed by OTV, the statutory body for the tribal, set up as per Article 338 A of the Constitution, had



summoned Keonjhar DM in a matter of non-payment of compensations and employment benefits to Dara Singh Khutia under land acquisition by the ISLF Ltd. The petitioner has been a resident of Lahanda village in the Keonjhar district.

A source close to Ananta

Charan Naik, Ex-MP and member of the commission reveals that NCST had been serving summonses to Ashish Thakre since June 21 on numerous occasions on the matter of non-payment of compensation and employment to one Darsingh Khuntia a resident of Lahanda

Village in Keonjhar district under land acquisition by Tata Steel Long Product Ltd to but the Collector has not responded to any of them.

However, after the news of the warrant of arrest against Ashish Thakre, there has been a revival of hope among the tribal and other people whose genuine grievances have been neglected by the district administration since 2018 after Ashish Thakre joined Collector, Keonjhar.

Due to the law and order problem prevailing at the mining town of Joda, the deadline for executing the warrant to Ashish Thakre, Collector, Keonjhar, and producing before National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST) was extended to 19th April 2022.

The NCST had issued four summonses to the DM to present in person during the hearing on the matter. The Commission even asked the DM to appear before the body's hearing at Bhubaneswar on April 4 to which he also did not respond.

Following non-appearance before the statutory body on April 4, the NCST invoking the powers of the civil court vested on it under clause (8) of Article 338 A issued an arrest warrant Tuesday. The commission has asked the State DGP to arrest Thakre by Wednesday 11 am.

## Rs2Cr Seized From Engineer's House At Tata Ariana In Bhubaneswar

Bhubaneswar, April 7: In the largest ever cash haul by the Vigilance in the State, the Odisha Vigilance on Thursday seized around Rs 2 crore from the house of Kartikeswar Roul and his second wife Kalpana Pradhan from a flat in Tata Ariana.

The seizure happened during ongoing searches against Kartikeswar Roul, Asst. Eng., O/o Executive Engineer, MI, Bhanjanagar, Ganjam. A counting machine was deployed to count large number of wads of currency notes.



Kalpana Pradhan, the second wife of Roul, in Salia Sahi area in Bhubaneswar. With, the total cash seized from Roul and his family members goes to a record Rs 3, 41, and 66,280.

After hours of

interrogating, the Vigilance officials later arrested Roul's second wife Kalpana Pradhan. Both Pradhan and her sister

### The Odisha Vigilance on Thursday seized around Rs 2 crore from the house of Kartikeswar Roul and his second wife Kalpana Pradhan from a flat in Tata Ariana in Bhubaneswar.

As per reports, the raid today was a continuation of Wednesday, when properties amounting to Rs 2.76 Crore was unearthed, which included two apartment flats, seven plots, a duplex at Jagamara in Bhubaneswar, bank deposits of Rs 37.27 lakh and cash of Rs 2.5 lakh, belonging to the engineer.

However, the seizure of Rs 2 Cr cash today came as a shock for the vigilance sleuths who had to deploy cash counting machines to count so much money.

Issuing a statement, the Odisha Vigilance Director said, "We have our eyes on corrupt officials who have amassed assets disproportionate to their known source of income. We will take strict action against them."

Odisha Vigilance Arrests Asst Engineer Kartikeswar Roul's Second Wife; Additional Rs 1.4 Cr Cash Seized

The cash was recovered from the house of the sister of Kalpana Pradhan, second wife of Roul, in Salia Sahi area in Bhubaneswar. With, the total cash seized from Roul and his family members goes to a record Rs 3,41,66,280.

The officials of the Vigilance Directorate on Saturday recovered Rs 1.4 crore more cash belonging to arrested Kartikeswar Roul, Assistant Engineer of the Minor Irrigation Division in Ganjam district.

The cash was recovered from the house of the sister of

were grilled by the investigating agency in connection with the seizure of cash today. Senior officials said that Pradhan was arrested for actively abetting the offence of her husband under the PC Act and for concealing the illgotten money acquired by him through corrupt practices.

"We have also found 354 grams of gold and property documents indicating purchase of a Triplex from M/s Kesari Estate Pvt Ltd at Pokhariput on cash payment of Rs 78,50,000," tweeted Odisha Vigilance.

Earlier, Rs 2 crore cash and 20 gold biscuits weighing around 580 gm were recovered during a search which was conducted on the properties linked to Roul following allegations that he had accumulated assets disproportionate to his known sources of income. This was the highest ever seizures of unaccounted cash of Rs 2.05 crore from unscrupulous government officials by the Vigilance.

The raid was conducted on the house of Roul and his second wife Kalpana Pradhan at a luxury apartment in Bhubaneswar on Thursday. Apart from this, two apartment flats, seven plots, a duplex at Jagamara in Bhubaneswar, bank deposits of Rs 37.27 lakh and Rs 2.5 lakh belonging to the engineer were also detected.

Roul was subsequently arrested on Friday on charges of amassing assets disproportionate to his known sources of income.



# When a leader grows taller than the party



Sirish C Mohanty



Two politically indispensable

Narendra Modi and Amit Shah know how to win elections. But politics is as much about electoral battles as the art of governance - a craft they are yet to master. This is why even this formidable duo cannot do without two of their most seasoned and grounded hands - Union Ministers Rajnath Singh and Nitin Gadkari, especially when a crisis is at their doorstep. There is a

Narendra Singh Tomar. Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari, meanwhile, is a man for all seasons and reasons. He, perhaps, is the only minister in the Union cabinet with as much domain expertise as political acumen and the ability to charm even the critics. His powers may have

to sit across the table to iron out the differences between them. Policymaking, implementation, and managing the consequences of tough decisions are the key to remaining in government. But Modi and Shah are way too political and focus on what may yield them electoral dividends to manage all aspects alone, and efficiently.

The list of issues where the Modi government and the opposition parties haven't seen eye to eye is long. This is evident in the abrogation of Article 370, the Triple Talaq law, the Citizenship Amendment Act, the constant tussle over the implementation of Goods and Services Tax, and the handling of Chinese aggression along the Line of Actual Control, and the bickering about Covid management. Disagreements are one thing, but having acrimonious equations is quite another. Nitin Gadkari and



Vocal and local opposition leaders

multitude of factors that make Rajnath and Gadkari near-indispensable to the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) government at the Centre, a fact both the prime minister and the home minister are well aware of. Rajnath and Gadkari bring the bulk of their experience to the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) government. They are seasoned, grounded, have a deep understanding of politics, are doers and at the same time amiable and respected across the political spectrum. Importantly, contrary to the rumor mill, the two are in no position to, or perhaps even keen to, stage any sort of a 'coup' against Modi or Shah, thus bringing in no danger of instability.

Rajnath Singh, though defense minister, has been roped in to manage the farmers' crisis, and he played a key role in handling it along with Agriculture Minister

been clipped in the ministry but he is still politically indispensable.

## Why Modi-Shah is not enough

That Narendra Modi and Amit Shah know their politics, their elections and their ability to appeal to the Indian voter is now a fact universally acknowledged. They have sailed their way through in elections, nationally as well as provincially. What they are yet to grasp fully despite their long Gujarat stint is the craft of governance. In a democracy, sustaining one's grip on power requires negotiating, reaching out, and giving your rivals and critics the confidence of sitting across the table to talk to you.

Modi and Shah, however, in a democratic panorama seen as polarising figures. The ability to reach out to and pacify adversaries is hardly their forte. Most critics and rivals don't find it palatable

## practice

Modi's open declaration to make India 'Congress Mukta' opined as an error by a PM if seen from a democratic perspective, and provided a plank for the opposition to get united against the ruling party. India's first PM Jawaharlal Nehru considered the Communists as trouble makers. When EMS Nambudripad was sworn in Kerala as the first communist CM on April 5 1957 alarm bells began ringing in Delhi. But, Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru wasn't unduly concerned. Rather, as a democrat, he conceded due space to the opposition in a federal structure. But, as soon as Indira becomes the Congress chief, Nehru under pressure sacked the EMS Nambudripad ministry on July 31, 1959. Nehru never said to make India 'Communist Mukta' thereby showing his democratic acumen.

Modi preaches 'Congress Mukta' while practices 'Congress Jukta' is gradually coming to the fore. The high command culture of the Congress system begins eclipsing the BJP. It's top leaders lose their liberty to express their views during the in-party deliberations; no leader in the BJP gathered the courage to point out the lapses of the party. After every

most leaders except a few that while they start it; begin with 'Modiji ke marg darshan se....' Few hand-counted leaders in the BJP who do not practice this unwritten law are Nitin Gadkari and Rajnath Singh, who matter most in the NDA's governance.

BJP's incessant wins made the opposition lick the dust, but, yet to befall a pan India party. Up till now, it couldn't set foot on the Eastern coast- be it Bengal, Odisha, Andhra, Tamilnadu, and a little tilt to west Kerala. However, in Odisha, the party got the opportunity to share power

with. PM Modi however, responded by inviting all Odisha MPs and Ministers to breakfast with a platter of seasonal fruits, rice cakes (chakuli), pakoda, and chai on April 7 Thursday, as there was no consensus in the party to make a strategy to deal with the Naveen-led BJD government in Odisha, finally, the Odisha BJP leaders return empty-handed after chai without charcha from the PM's residence tasting only Odia Chakuli made in Delhi.

Resentment in Odisha against the BJP continues to be on the rise. The people of



Rajnath Singh, one of the great intercoolers of BJP

with the regional party BJD from 2000 to 2009 and was abruptly dumped to the ground due to the myopic fantasy of the party. The 2014 electoral miracle brought another chance. With 21 BJD MPs, Navin Patnaik virtually kowtowed before Modi-led NDA, but BJP fell again into the craftiness trap. Nevertheless, for some reason or other, BJP became active in Odisha and the result of the 2019 polls rewarded eight MP seats and a substantial increase in the MLA seats.

Soon after the humiliating defeat in the Panchayat and Urban polls 22 in Odisha, BJP's rank and file in Odisha made a disturbing noise in the BJP headquarters while celebrations were on the eve of electoral victory in four out of five states. According to the sources, except Modi and a few of his loyalists, most top leaders of the BJP believed to strengthen the state BJP to challenge the Naveen-led BJD and set foot on the Eastern coast of the country, to begin

Odisha also are fading up with the Modi government because of its ongoing stealthy political-economic relations with the incumbent government in the state. It is nice that in a federal system like ours, the relation between the Union and the state has to be congenial despite being the state ruled by a different party. Political ideology must be paramount. Relations between Bengal and Odisha with the Union are far from being normal; hostility between the Union and Bengal has no limit, and contrastingly hospitality between the Union and Odisha breaches all limits. Non-confronting relations between state and Union with an ideological limit make a flavor. There is a saying- that the taste of molasses is sweet when rightly put in the mouth, but if placed elsewhere; no sweetness but the ant is biting. Exactly, there're consequences when a leader grows taller than the party.



After Tasting Odia Chakuli made in Delhi

Rajnath Singh proved their ability to act as intercoolers to deal with the above issues. Contrastingly, Modi and Shah don't believe in talking to those who differ from them. Due to this approach, the Opposition and other critics have also decided that engaging with them isn't an option.

## Preach what you can

election victory, the top leader gets the felicitation, but on electoral debacles, accountability is seldom fixed or the reason behind is discussed. The issue closes with the remark that we are exploring and reviewing. That ends there and waits for the next polls. A trend is visible through the deliberations of



# ବିକାଶର ନୂଆ ପରିଭାଷା, ଗଢ଼ିବା ନୂଆ ଓଡ଼ିଶା

- **‘ବିଜୁ ସ୍ୱାସ୍ଥ୍ୟ କଲ୍ୟାଣ ଯୋଜନା’**ରେ ରାଜ୍ୟର ୯୬ ଲକ୍ଷ ପରିବାରକୁ ନୂଆ ‘ସ୍ମାର୍ଟ ହେଲ୍ଥ କାର୍ଡ’ ଯୋଗାଇ ।
- ବିଜୁ ସ୍ୱାସ୍ଥ୍ୟ କଲ୍ୟାଣ ସ୍ମାର୍ଟ କାର୍ଡ କରିଆରେ ଘରୋଇ ହସ୍ପିଟାଲ୍ରେ ଗୁରୁତର ରୋଗୀଙ୍କ ଚିକିତ୍ସା ପାଇଁ ବୈଦିକ ହାରାହାରି ୨.୫ କୋଟି ଟଙ୍କା ବ୍ୟୟ କରାଯିବା ସହିତ ଏପର୍ଯ୍ୟନ୍ତ ମୋଟ ୨୩୨ କୋଟିରୁ ଉର୍ଦ୍ଧ୍ୱ ଟଙ୍କା ବ୍ୟୟ କରାଯାଇଛି ।
- ମାଲକାନଗିରି, ନବରଙ୍ଗପୁର, ନୂଆପଡ଼ା ଓ କଳାହାଣ୍ଡି ଜିଲ୍ଲାର ଜନସାଧାରଣଙ୍କୁ ମେଡିକାଲ କଲେଜର ବରିଷ୍ଠ ବିଶେଷଜ୍ଞ ଡାକ୍ତରମାନଙ୍କ ଦ୍ୱାରା ସୁପର ସ୍ପେଶାଲିଷ୍ଟ ସ୍ୱାସ୍ଥ୍ୟସେବା ଯୋଗାଇବା ପାଇଁ **‘ପୃଷ୍ଠ୍ୟମନ୍ତ୍ରୀ ବାୟୁ ସ୍ୱାସ୍ଥ୍ୟସେବା ଯୋଜନା’**ର ଶୁଭାରମ୍ଭ ।
- ୨୦୨୧-୨୨ ଅଗ୍ରାମ ଆକଳନ ଅନୁଯାୟୀ ଜାତୀୟ ଅର୍ଥନୀତି ଅଭିବୃଦ୍ଧି ହାର ୮.୮ ରହିଥିବା ସ୍ଥଳେ ଓଡ଼ିଶାର ଅଭିବୃଦ୍ଧି ହାର ୧୦.୦୧ ପ୍ରତିଶତ ରହିଛି ।
- ମହାମାରୀ ସତ୍ତ୍ୱେ ପୁଞ୍ଜି ନିବେଶ ଅଗ୍ରଣୀ କ୍ଷେତ୍ର ଭାବେ ପରିଗଣିତ ହୋଇ ଓଡ଼ିଶାରେ ବିଗତ ତିନିବର୍ଷ ମଧ୍ୟରେ ୪.୪ ଲକ୍ଷ କୋଟି ଟଙ୍କାକୁ ଅଧିକ ପୁଞ୍ଜି ନିବେଶ ସହ ୧.୫୩ ଲକ୍ଷରୁ ଉର୍ଦ୍ଧ୍ୱ ନିୟୁତ୍ତି ସୁଯୋଗ ସୃଷ୍ଟି ।
- ମହିଳା ସ୍ୱୟଂ ସହାୟିକା ଗୋଷ୍ଠୀମାନଙ୍କ ସଶକ୍ତିକରଣ ପାଇଁ ଆରମ୍ଭ କରାଯାଇଥିବା ଏତିହାସିକ ଆନ୍ଦୋଳନ **‘ମିଶନ ଶକ୍ତି’**ରେ ୭୦ ଲକ୍ଷ ମହିଳା ସାମିଲ । ‘ମିଶନ ଶକ୍ତି ସୁଧ ରିହାତି’ ଉପକ୍ରମରେ ୧ ଲକ୍ଷ ୮୬ ହଜାର ମହିଳା ସ୍ୱୟଂ ସହାୟିକା ଗୋଷ୍ଠୀଙ୍କୁ ୨୦୨୦-୨୧ ବର୍ଷରେ ୧୨୬ କୋଟି ଟଙ୍କାର ସୁଧ ରିହାତି ପ୍ରଦାନ ।
- ତିସେମର ୨୦୨୧ ସୁଦ୍ଧା **‘କାଳିଆ’** ଯୋଜନାରେ ରାଜ୍ୟର ୫୭ ଲକ୍ଷ କ୍ଷୁଦ୍ର ଓ ନାମମାତ୍ର ଚାଷୀ ଏବଂ ଭୂମିହୀନ କୃଷକ ପରିବାରଙ୍କୁ ସହାୟତା ପ୍ରଦାନ ।
- **‘୫-ଟି’ ‘ଉଚ୍ଚ ବିଦ୍ୟାଳୟ ଗୁପ୍ତାବରଣ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମ’**ର ପ୍ରଥମ ପର୍ଯ୍ୟାୟରେ ରାଜ୍ୟର ୧,୦୭୬ ଉଚ୍ଚ ବିଦ୍ୟାଳୟର ଗୁପ୍ତାବରଣ ।
- କ୍ଷେତ୍ର ସାବୁରେସନ୍ ପ୍ଲାନରେ ୫୦ ହଜାର ୨୬୩ କୋଟି ଟଙ୍କାର ପୁଞ୍ଜି ବରାଦ କରାଯାଇ ୨୦୨୪ ସୁଦ୍ଧା ରାଜ୍ୟର ସମସ୍ତ ଗ୍ରାମୀଣ ପରିବାରକୁ ପାଇଁ ପାନୀୟ ଜଳ ସଂଯୋଗର ଲକ୍ଷ୍ୟ ।



**କାଳିଆ**  
କୃଷି କଲେ ଉନ୍ନତ ସକଳ ଉନ୍ନତି

- ରାଜ୍ୟର ୬୩ଟି ସହରାଞ୍ଚଳରେ ଶତପ୍ରତିଶତ ପାଇଁ ପାନୀୟ ଜଳ ସଂଯୋଗ କରି ଓଡ଼ିଶା ଆଜି ଦେଶର ଏକ ପଥ ପ୍ରଦର୍ଶକ ରାଜ୍ୟ । ‘ସିଧାସଳଖ ଟ୍ୟାପରୁ ବିଶୁଦ୍ଧ ପିଇବା ପାଣି ମିଶନ’ରେ ଲକ୍ଷନ, ଲସ୍ଏଞ୍ଜେଲ୍ସ ଓ ସିଙ୍ଗାପୁର ଭଳି ଅନ୍ତର୍ଜାତୀୟ ସହର ସହିତ ସମକକ୍ଷ ହୋଇଛି ପୁରୀ ସହର ।
- ବିଭିନ୍ନ ଗ୍ରାମୀଣ ଆବାସ ଯୋଜନାରେ ପଙ୍କାଘର ପାଇଥିବା ୩୧ ଲକ୍ଷ ହିତାଧିକାରୀ ପରିବାରଙ୍କୁ ଘର ମରାମତି ଓ ରକ୍ଷଣାବେକ୍ଷଣ ପାଇଁ **‘ବିଜୁ ପଙ୍କାଘର ଯୋଜନା’**ରେ ୧,୪୪୪ କୋଟି ଟଙ୍କାର ଆର୍ଥିକ ସହାୟତା ପ୍ରଦାନ ।
- **‘ବନ୍ତ୍ର ଉନ୍ନତିକରଣ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମ’** ମାଧ୍ୟମରେ ରାଜ୍ୟର ୧ ଲକ୍ଷ ୭୦ ହଜାର ଭୂମିହୀନ ପରିବାରଙ୍କୁ ଭୂମି ଅଧିକାର ପ୍ରମାଣପତ୍ର ପ୍ରଦାନ କରାଯାଇ ରାଜ୍ୟର ୮ଟି ସହରକୁ ବନ୍ତ୍ରଶୂନ୍ୟ କରାଯାଇଥିବାରୁ ରାଜ୍ୟକୁ ‘ଏସିଆ ପାର୍ସିଫିକ୍ ସାଉଥିଂ ଫୋରମ୍ ଇନୋଭେସନ୍ ପୁରସ୍କାର-୨୦୨୧’ ପ୍ରଦାନ ।
- କ୍ରୀଡ଼ା ଦୃଶ୍ୟପଟର ଗୁପ୍ତାବରଣ ସହିତ କ୍ରୀଡ଼ାବିତ୍ତମାନଙ୍କୁ ସଶକ୍ତ କରିବା ଆମ ସରକାରଙ୍କ ମୁଖ୍ୟ ଲକ୍ଷ୍ୟ । ୧୨୦ କୋଟି ଟଙ୍କା ବ୍ୟୟରେ ରାଉରକେଲାଠାରେ ନିର୍ମାଣାଧୀନ ଦେଶର ସର୍ବବୃହତ୍ **‘ବିର୍ସାମୁଣ୍ଡା ଆନ୍ତର୍ଜାତୀୟ ହକି ଷ୍ଟାଡ଼ିୟମ୍’** ସହିତ କଳିଙ୍ଗ ଷ୍ଟାଡ଼ିୟମରେ ପୁରୁଷ ହକି ବିଶ୍ୱକପ-୨୦୨୩ ଆୟୋଜିତ ହେବ ।
- ଟୋକିଓ ଅଲମ୍ପିକ୍ସ ୨୦୨୦ରେ ଭାରତୀୟ ହକି ଦଳର ଚମତ୍କାର ପ୍ରଦର୍ଶନକୁ ଦୃଷ୍ଟିରେ ରଖି ଆଗାମୀ ୧୦ ବର୍ଷ ପାଇଁ ଅର୍ଥାତ୍ ୨୦୩୩ ମସିହା ପର୍ଯ୍ୟନ୍ତ ଉଭୟ ଭାରତୀୟ ହକି ଦଳର ପ୍ରାୟୋଜକ ଆମ ରାଜ୍ୟ ଓଡ଼ିଶା ।
- କ୍ରୀଡ଼ା ଓ ଅନ୍ୟାନ୍ୟ ଜନ କଲ୍ୟାଣ ଉଦ୍ଦେଶ୍ୟ ସାଧନ ପାଇଁ ୭୦୦ କୋଟି ଟଙ୍କା ବ୍ୟୟରେ ରାଜ୍ୟର ବିଭିନ୍ନ ସହରାଞ୍ଚଳରେ ୮୯ଟି **‘ବନ୍ତ୍ରମୁଖୀ ଜନତୋର ଷ୍ଟାଡ଼ିୟମ୍’** ନିର୍ମାଣାଧୀନ ।

ସୂଚନା ଓ ଲୋକସମ୍ପର୍କ ବିଭାଗ





# Trouble in Jharkhand Govt as Congress Summons 30 State Leaders to Delhi for 'Further Deliberations'

**Rumour mills are abuzz that all might not be well in the JMM-led coalition government of Jharkhand after state's Congress in charge Avinash Pande summoned 30 senior party leaders, including the four ministers of the party, to Delhi for further deliberations.**

Congress sources said that CM Hemant Soren not responding to the Common Minimum Programme (CMP) proposal sent by the Congress has not gone down well with the party, prompting Pande to call the 30 senior leaders, including four ministers and state party president Rajesh Thakur, to New Delhi for further



deliberations, Indian Express reported.

This comes two months after State Health Minister, belonging to the Congress, had alleged that efforts are

being made by Chief Minister Hemant Soren to 'politically finish' the grand old party.

Rajesh Thakur confirmed that they have been summoned by the

Congress high command. "Party high command has called us to New Delhi to discuss how to strengthen the organization. All the 30 senior Congress leaders, including four ministers, are leaving for New Delhi today itself," Thakur was quoted as saying.

He also accepted that all is not well into the ruling alliance, but added that it happens in coalition governments.

CM Hemant Soren has reportedly not responded to the Common Minimum Programme (CMP)

proposal sent by the Congress party even after 29 days, however, the move by Congress to summon the leaders is said to have left many in the party puzzled.

They said that meetings must have a purpose, adding that calling them to Delhi put additional financial burden on many leaders, who don't have much financial means.

"Two days back, he was in Ranchi where he could have held the meeting. Important issues of the party in Jharkhand are taking a back seat," one of the Congress leaders said.

## Internet suspended after fresh clashes in Odisha town; schools, shops shut

A day after a clash between two communities in the mining town of Joda in Odisha's Keonjhar district, there was more violence Tuesday late at night.

According to the police, two groups pelted each other with stones on Joda-Baneikala road, followed by a road blockade at Saheed Nagar Chhak in the area during which vehicles belonging to police and fire service were vandalized, prompting the officials to extend Internet suspension in the town till Thursday, officials said.

"As many as 16 platoons of police force have been deployed. Prohibitory orders under Section 144 of the CrPC continue and Internet services will also remain suspended till Thursday. All educational institutions and shops have been shut," Barbil sub-divisional police officer Himansu Behera said.

Following the fresh clashes, the Keonjhar district police on Wednesday conducted a flag march in the locality. On Tuesday, the district police had called for a peace intervention between the



**On Tuesday, the district police had called for a peace intervention between the two communities but only a handful of people turned up**

**On Monday afternoon, two groups had clashed over hoisting of Ram Navami flag at a temple located in Baneikela market area in Joda town)**

two communities but only a handful of people turned up.

On Monday afternoon, two groups had clashed over the hoisting of the Ram Navami flag at a temple located in the Baneikela market area, a Muslim-dominated Ward in Joda town.

According to the police, permission to hoist a flag was denied Sunday late at night, however, on Monday, around four people went to the Shiva temple where they were allegedly attacked by

members of the other community. In the clash that ensued, around 10 people from both sides were injured.

No FIR has been filed in either case, police said.

In April a peace committee met at the Municipality office under the stewardship of Keonjhar SP. Both the community members and senior citizens of the town attended and agreed to resolve the issue with immediate effect. However, the 144 in town to continue till the 15th.

## Azaan row: Bengaluru police begin seizing mics from places of worship

**With several right-wings Hindu groups launching campaigns against playing of 'azaan' through loudspeakers at mosques, Bengaluru city police began seizing microphones from places of worship which allegedly defied court orders on noise pollution.**

Bengaluru, Apr 5: City police commissioner Kamal Pant on Tuesday said that several microphones were seized from religious places where court orders were violated. The police have booked cases and the drive will continue to monitor the prescribed decibel levels and action will be initiated, he added.

Pant said that 301 religious places, including temples, churches and mosques, have been issued notices in Bengaluru and asked to stick to the rules on noise as per the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB).

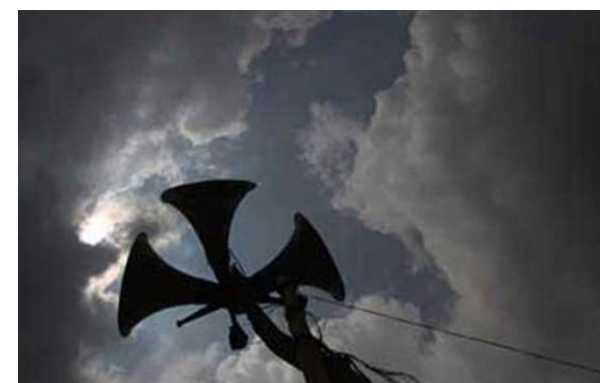
While the police called it a part of an awareness drive, it has come in the backdrop of Hindu fringe activists vowing to play Hanuman Chalisa through loudspeakers in the morning to counter the azaan. Sri Rama Sene Chief Pramod Muthalik on Tuesday warned that if the government fails to remove microphones from all the mosques, the Sene would intensify its protest by singing bhajans using loudspeakers in temples.

According to the Noise Pollution (Regulation and

Control) Rules, 2000, restrictions on the use of loud speakers or public address systems include not using one "except after obtaining written permission from the authority," and not using a loud speaker/public address system at night between 10 pm and 6 am, except in closed premises for communication within - auditoria, conference rooms,

midnight on or during any cultural or religious festive occasion of a limited duration not exceeding fifteen days in all during a calendar year," the rules add.

Last year, the south division police had launched a special drive and seized microphones, booked cases and issued notices to temples and mosques. This year, south



community halls and banquet halls.

"The State Government may subject to such terms and conditions as are necessary to reduce noise pollution, permit use of loud speakers or public address systems during night hours (between 10 p.m. to

division police had issued notices to 11 places of worship, including the famous Dodd Ganapathi Temple, warning them of cases if they violate noise pollution norms. However, the notices were withdrawn as it drew flak from the BJP leaders.



# Utkal Alumina Organizes Ama Nrutya Ama Sanskruti-2022 To Promote Tribal Folk Dance

RAYAGADA: Apr 02: (Jogeswar Das) RAYAGADA Utkal Alumina International Ltd., a subsidiary of Hindalco Industries limited of Aditya Birla Group is committed to preserve and promote tribal folk dance "Dhimsa". The company has been organizing this unique Dhimsa Dance Festival since last 8 years and is receiving overwhelming response from amongst the villagers of the periphery. This year also, the company has organized Ama Nrutya Ama Sanskruti on 30th & 31st March, 2022 at Nuapada Township (Helipad Ground).

24 teams from the peripheral villages have participated in the competition in the first day of Dhimsa Dance Festival i.e. on 30th March 2022 while various folk dance forms of Odisha like Odishi, Gotipua, Paika, Malkhamb, Medha Nacha & Jodi Sankha was performed by



renowned artists of Odisha on the second day i.e 31st March 2022.

Sri Somanath Pradhan, OAS, ADM Rayagada has inaugurated the program as Chief Guest in the first day in presence of Sri Goura Chandra Patnaik, BDO Kashipur, Sri Kantha Majhi, Block Chairman, Kashipur and Sri Mazhar Beig, Unit Head & President of Utkal Alumina.

Hindalco industries limited, of Aditya Birla group is always committed toward

preserving and promoting culture and tradition of the very place we operate from. This is in our DNA to live in tandem with the local traditions while nurturing & supporting them. The Unit Head and President Sri Mazhar Beig mentioned this in his host address.

Sri Goura Chandra Patnaik, BDO Kashipur praised Dhimsa Dance Festival and commitment of Utkal Alumina towards it's promotion.

On the second day, the Sri

Jagadananda, Former State Information Commissioner Govt. of Odisha & Founder Member Secretary CYSD have attended the program as Chief Guest, while Sri Vivekananda Sharma, IPS Superintendent of Police Rayagada and Sri Pratap Chandra Pradhan, Sub-Collector Rayagada have graced the occasion as Guest of Honor.

Sri Jagadananda while addressing the audience, has appreciated Utkal Alumina in

replenishing and bringing new hopes of promoting art and culture after this pandemic. He emphasized that; this positive vibes from Kashipur will spread across for promoting and preserving local art and traditions. He hopes that this effort of UAIL will find hidden talents who will further exhibit their dance in the national and international level.

Shri Vivekananda Sharma, Hon'ble SP Rayagada has appreciated the effort of Utkal Alumina and encourages the local artists.

Sri Pratap Chandra Pradhan, Sub-Collector Rayagada mentioned that, this effort of Utkal Alumina will create a sperate place in the world map of art and culture and further he expressed his willingness to take this to national and international level by further accelerating such efforts in

the future.

All the dignitaries were felicitated by the company with citation.

It is notable to mentioned that Mailiguda Tribal dance Group was the winner of this Tribal Dimsa Dance competition while Bagrijhola become the First Runners up and Badamaribhatta as Second Runners up among 24 tribal dance group from different periphery villages.

Dr. Lopamudra Priyadarshini, Head CSR, CR & Sustainability coordinated the event along with team.

Sri Rakesh Pratap Singh, Unit HR Head, Sri Sudhakar Biswal, Chief Finance Officer, Sri Jai Tiwari, Head Safety, Sri Mukesh Jha, Head Mines and Dr. Arindam Roy Choudhury, CMO Utkal Alumina have among the dignitaries. This mega cultural extravaganza was witnessed by more than 5000 people

## Apathy of Odisha Government: Children of bordering village deprive of educational facilities

Balasore, 13 April:-The territory dispute due to the apathy of Odisha and West Bengal Governments is abetting numerous impeding in developments of bordering villages. One Sankahmedipur village under Analia Panchayat in the Bhograi block of Balasore district is facing many challenges in the land dispute due to the alleged apathy of the Odisha Government.

As per official reports, the village is home to 160 families with a population of 556 and 283 voters. They cast their votes in both Odisha and West Bengal States as the voter's name is officially registered in both States, unfortunately, the children of the village are unable to get educational facilities from Odisha after Class V as the

parents of the children do not submit adequate documents to enroll their children in upper classes in Odia medium school owing to the apathy of the Odisha Government. While they want to issue resident, income, and caste certificates for their children to enroll in upper classes in Odia medium schools, the local tehsildar cancels their applications due to objections to their land records. Owing to this obstruction, the children are forced to get educational facilities from West Bengal and accuse the Odisha Government of irresponsibility.

Sanjay Jena a villager said that as per the land reformation of 1922-23 the revenue department of Odisha collected land revenue up to the year 1882

but the collection stopped from 1883 without any ground. The West Bengal Government later included the village under its territory in 1990 through a settlement process, he said.

Another villager Sapan Jena said our children are reading Odia medium up to Class-V. Due to the poor collection of land revenue by the Odisha Government, the villagers do not get any certificate for the admission of children to the upper classes in Odia medium schools. "We had been getting all facilities from Odisha Government since our forefather times, but sudden stop collection of land revenue from 1983 by the State Government abetting many problems in which the villagers are deprived of facilities like a loan, pension houses under

various schemes have been sponsored by Odisha Government due to the dispute of land records.

Balasore Collector K Sudarshan Chakraborty told media persons that he had ordered the Tehsildar of Bhograi to inquire into the matter and that adequate steps would be taken for the village.

Sources said as many as 81 bordering villages in Bhograi and Jaleswar blocks in the district are facing different challenges due to the territory dispute due to apathy of the State Government

Akhil Giri MLA of Ramnagar Constituency of West Bengal told the media that though the villagers' names have on voters lists of Odisha and the West Bengal States, they have the right to cast their votes in both locations.

## Foreign liquor, wine to be cheaper in Odisha

Bhubaneswar, Apr 2: The Odisha government has reduced excise duty on Foreign Made Foreign Liquor (FMFL) and wine in its Excise Policy for 2022-23.

With this, the FMFL and wine will be cheaper in the state. Excise duty on FMFL has been reduced by 15 to 20 per cent while it has been decreased by 10 to 15 per cent on wine, official sources said. The state government took the decision to reduce the excise duty in order to address the disparity in MRP with neighbouring states and promote high-quality FMFL and low-strength wine.

People of Odisha reportedly preferred to buy FMFL and wine from neighbouring states like Chhattisgarh and West Bengal due to lower price there. As a result, the state exchequer was incurring losses.

However, excise duty on Indian Made Foreign Liquor (IMFL) and beer remained unchanged. On the other hand, license fee, minimum guaranteed quantity and application fee for manufacturers, suppliers and retailers have been increased nominally in the new excise policy.

Besides, no license will be granted to a liquor shop having the name of deities/ eminent personalities (living or dead) which can hurt the sentiments of the people. Home delivery of liquor will also continue in the state.





# The Kashmir Files

## The Kashmir Files movie review

- ❑ Anupam Kher is the soul of this gut-wrenching film that's brazen and brutal
- ❑ Vivek Agnihotri paints a horrifying picture in his film about the genocide of Kashmiri Pandits.
- ❑ Anupam Kher in a still from the movie

Subtle depiction of horrific events often fails to do justice to the actual tragedy that was once suffered. Filmmaker Vivek Ranjan Agnihotri makes it clear from the word go that his film, *The Kashmir Files*, will not be subtle. A gut-wrenching watch, it is based on the plight of Kashmiri Pandits who faced a massacre and forced exodus from their land by the Islamic militants.

The film opens with a visual of kids playing cricket in the neighborhood with commentary on Indo-Pak relations booming from a transistor. Shiva, one of the kids, cheers for Sachin Tendulkar, and it instantly leads to a breach in harmony. From this moment, you know that *The Kashmir Files* is going to revisit the wounds that are still fresh, even three decades later.

Showing the events most brutally and explosively, Agnihotri's narrative triggers varied emotions coupled with some of the finest performances, emotionally moving scenes, and a few barbaric sequences. Relive, Tsalive ya Galive - convert to Islam, leave or die - these words echo in your mind for a long time after watching the film, one can only imagine what it must have done to those

### The Kashmir Files

Director Vivek Ranjan Agnihotri  
Cast Anupam Kher, Mithun Chakraborty, Darshan Kumar and others

who lived their days and nights threatened by it.

While Kashmiri Pandits continue to hope for justice even after over 30 years, the film attempts to document the ordeal of these displaced families with authenticity and not just for a cinematic recreation.

There's a scene where a telecom engineer gets brutally shot multiple times as he hides in a rice barrel. His wife is made to eat a handful of rice mixed with her husband's blood to save the rest of her family from being killed. That is just one of the many disturbing visuals that are

not for the weak-hearted. The film also recreates the Nadimarg massacre where 24 Hindu Kashmiri Pandits were cruelly killed by militants dressed in combat uniforms. Watching these only take you closer to the brutality that Kashmiri Pandits witnessed. Also, the brazen way with which women across age groups faced physical violence, rape, abuse, and merciless humiliation makes for a difficult watch as well.

Characters in *The Kashmir Files* are nothing short of 'real people'. The way they emote on screen makes you feel their pain, leaving a lump in your



throat. Anupam Kher as Pushkar Nath delivers by far his strongest and most convincing performance. Given that Kher himself is a Kashmiri Pandit, Agnihotri couldn't have cast a better actor than him for the role.

Bhasha Sumbli plays Pushkar's daughter-in-law, Sharda Pandit whose sons - Shiva and Krishna - meet different fates in the aftermaths of this tragedy. Farooq Malik Bitta (played by Chinmay Mandlekar) is menacing as the terrorist and the brains behind this exodus, and sends shivers down your spine with his inhuman acts of shooting

innocent people without any remorse.

The scene with grown up Krishna Pandit (played by Darshan Kumar) are hard-hitting, especially the portions with Professor Radhika Menon (played by Pallavi Joshi) who succeeds in brainwashing him until he himself travels to Kashmir to find out the truth.

The supporting cast including IAS officer Brahma Dutt (Mithun Chakraborty), journalist Vishnu Ram (Atul Shrivastava), Dr. Mahesh Kumar (Prakash Belawadi) and police officer DGP Hari Narain (Puneet Issar) lend

able support to the story as helpless witnesses to this massacre in Kashmir.

Agnihotri's research about the tragedy shows in every scene in the film even though the nearly three-hour length of the film doesn't do it any favours. The non-linear screenplay doesn't let you get immersed in any one character's story. Just when you are feeling terrible for what happened to Pushkar and his family, Krishna's quest to find the truth about his family's massacre takes over and you immediately switch to present-day. Krishna's journey and the story of finding the truth about what happened to his family needed more conviction and clarity.

Having said that, *The Kashmir Files* is not an easy watch. You would cry, sob, and feel scared watching the tragedy of lakhs of men and women who were made refugees overnight. Thankfully, it is not your typical Bollywood masala film based on true events and told with the colours of a rainbow. Agnihotri tells the horrible tale as it should have been told.





# Modi urges BJP MPs to focus on 'seva', welfare

New Delhi, April 5: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday told Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) lawmakers to attend the 15-day 'samajik nyay pakhwada' (social justice fortnight) from April 7 to create awareness about social justice programmes and people-centric policies of the government. The programme is part of the party's celebration of its foundation day (April 6).

Addressing the BJP's parliamentary party meeting at the Ambedkar Centre in Delhi, the PM said lawmakers should ensure that schemes such as Har Ghar Nal (piped water in every house) and Ayushman Bharat (a health insurance programme) are reaching intended beneficiaries and people are aware of the schemes tailored for their specific needs. Effective welfare schemes (and the ability to communicate and connect with the beneficiaries of these) have been a key part of the BJP's successful poll strategy.

According to a BJP



functionary present, lawmakers, ministers, legislators and party workers have been asked to create awareness about 14 central schemes at the local level. On April 8 for instance, party workers will create awareness about the PM Awas Yojana (a housing scheme); on April 9 about Har Ghar Nal; on April 10 about PM Kisan Nidhi (a farmer fund), the functionary added.

"The PM told the lawmakers to make the best

use of the fortnight to meet people in their constituencies. He said they should be armed with specific information and facts and figures about programmes that are being run, so that they can answer questions and create awareness. He also told them that delivery of schemes to the last man in the queue is the reason for the party's success," this person said, asking not to be named.

Parliamentary affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi told

reporters that Modi asked the MPs to actively participate in the programmes. "They should dedicate themselves to seva (service)," Joshi quoted the PM as saying.

The PM told the lawmakers to focus on programmes designed to celebrate Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav (the 75th anniversary of India's independence this year) and utilise the funds allocated under MGNREGA, the government's flagship rural

jobs programme to undertake work related to water and ecology conservation.

"He told them that in western India people still remember Lakha Banjara (a nomad trader), who made water bodies from his own resources. The PM said if, for instance, the lawmakers use money allocated under MGNREGA for creating water bodies, they too will be remembered by the future generations," said a second functionary who too asked not to be named.

The PM will also address party workers on Wednesday on the occasion of the party's foundation day. Party workers have been instructed to wear a saffron cap with a lotus embroidered on it for the celebration. For the first time, the party is inviting foreign delegates to participate in its foundation day celebrations. Heads of mission of Switzerland, Poland, Bangladesh, Slovakia, Italy and Singapore are among 13 envoys who are expected to

attend an interaction with BJP chief J P Nadda.

The BJP has been focusing on beneficiaries of various social schemes, terming them as 'labharthis'. Senior party leaders credited the party's success in the assembly elections held in four states recently to these social schemes.

The party's increasing footprint in the North-East, and the fact that it has 100 MPs in the Rajya Sabha for the first time ever were also referred to at the meeting, according to the first functionary.

An energy-bar that has been developed by a Gujarat-based company was also distributed at the meeting. "Poshan Abhiyaan is the PM's pet project; he keeps underlining the need for providing nutritious food to kids. A Gujarat-based company has manufactured chocolates for kids that have proteins and other nutrients that were also distributed at the meeting," said the second functionary.

## Russian Warship Sinks In Black Sea, Ukraine Claims Successful Missile Hit

Guided missile cruiser Moskva had been leading Russia's naval effort in the conflict, in which civilian killings have sparked accusations of genocide



Odessa, Ukraine, April 15: Russia's Black Sea flagship sank Thursday after an explosion and fire that Ukraine claimed was a successful missile strike -- as the Kremlin accused Kyiv of targeting its citizens in sorties across the border. The guided missile cruiser Moskva had been leading Russia's naval effort against its neighbour in

the seven-week conflict, in which civilian killings have sparked accusations of genocide.

Russia's defence ministry said the blast on the vessel was the result of exploding ammunition and added that the resulting damage had caused it to "lose its balance" as it was being towed to port. "Given the

choppy seas, the vessel sank," the Russian state news agency TASS quoted the ministry as saying.

On the Ukrainian side, Odessa military spokesman Sergey Bratchuk said the ship had been hit by domestic Neptune cruise missiles. In Washington, Pentagon spokesman John Kirby said he

was unable to verify either version, but stressed that the sinking of the Moskva dealt a "big blow" to the Black Sea fleet.

Investigators have descended on areas around Kyiv previously occupied by Russian forces, looking into reports of war crimes that Russian President Vladimir Putin has dismissed as "fakes". The atrocities -- some of which were witnessed by AFP -- have led Biden to accuse Putin of genocide, a term key European partners including France and Germany have hesitated to use.

The French government, which has allocated 100 million euros for humanitarian support to victims of the conflict, said its embassy would return "very soon" to Kyiv from the western city of Lviv, where it had been relocated after the invasion.

## Mahanga quintuple murder case: Police to take Siba Sahu on 3-day remand

Cuttack, Apr 13: Mahanga police in Odisha's Cuttack district to take Siba Sahu, the accused in the sensational Mahanga quintuple murder, on a three-day remand.

The Salepur JMFC Court has reportedly allowed the police to take Sahu on a three-day remand. The police had prayed before the court to take the accused on a five-day remand period.



The investigating team will interrogate Sahu further over the murder case and is likely to recreate the crime scene during his remand period.

Sahu reportedly murdered five members of his elder brother's family in a fit of rage late on Monday night over some land issues and then surrender before Balichandrapur police in Jajpur.

Later, the police reached the crime spot and launched a probe in the presence of the magistrate.

The deceased persons have been identified as Alek Sahoo, his wife Rashmi Sahoo, 20-year-old daughter Payal, 17-year-old son Guddu, and their younger son Ishi aged 15 years.



## Radhika Menon, India's First Merchant Navy Captain



was assumed the ship would become stranded. The ship was then quietly turned towards Krishnapatnam by Captain Menon, who escorted it safely. Similarly, she once saved the lives of seven fishermen, aged from 15 to 50.

India's first female Merchant Navy Captain, Radhika Menon, made India proud by winning the top international bravery award by the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) in London November 22, 2016. She was facilitated for risking her own life to save seven fishermen from drowning at sea in a sinking fishing boat in the Bay of Bengal. Coincidentally, Menon also became the first woman ever to be awarded by the IMO.

A resident of Kodungallur in Kerala, Menon made headlines when she became the nation's first female Merchant Navy Captain. After graduating from school, Menon studied a one-and-a-half year radio course at the All India Marine College in Kochi. After completing her

radio course, she assumed the post of radio officer with Shipping Corporation of India (SCI). Menon served all the required hours at sea to appear for her master's certificate that she cleared in 2010.

By 2012, a diligent Menon cleared a series of examinations for the posts of second mate and chief mate and gradually ascended up the ranks. Menon created history when she became the first woman captain of India and took charge of MT Sampurna Swarajya, a Merchant Navy ship. For the IMO award for Exceptional Bravery at Sea, Menon was nominated by the Government of India as she displayed great courage in leading a dangerous rescue mission.

Menon lives with her family in Cochin and spends quality time with them when she is not sailing for the most part of the year.

**PM repeats the mantra of 'Nari Tu Narayani'**

A woman reflects the policy, loyalty, decision-making power, and leadership.



Menon with rescued fishermen

Women's consciousness in India has kept the flame of freedom burning in the country, even during the freedom movement, and has contributed in every field, including social upliftment, spiritual, industrial, and technical advancement. That is why women are prioritised in almost every central government policy. From Jan Dhan to Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, Standup India, Mudra Yojana, Startup India, Ujjwala Yojana, Sukanya Samridhi, Women Self Help Group, and Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, schemes such as Swachh Bharat Abhiyan have emerged as

significant steps towards women's empowerment. Addressing a seminar in Kutch on Women's Day, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said, "Our Vedas have given a call that women should be able, empowered, and capable of giving direction to the nation." Sometimes we say one thing: Nari Tu Narayani! But we must have heard one more thing: it is said here that if a man performs Karni, then he becomes Narayan! That is, the man has to do something to become Narayan. But what has been said about the woman, Nari Tu Narayani? It's amazing how much of a difference it makes!

Radhika is from Kodungallur, Kerala. It happened on October 27, 2012. Captain Radhika Menon was on board the 21827-tonne oil tanker Suvarna Swaraj, which was sailing off the coast of Nagapattinam, Tamil Nadu. It was pouring heavily, and the

wind was blowing at 60 knots. A large ship hiccupped like a toy in the sea. The ship's anchor was broken twice. This situation continued for two successive days. The Meteorological Department forecasted that Hurricane Neelam would make landfall in Sri Lanka on October 29. It

## Know Why Some People Feel Colder Than Others

Not every human body is the same. We all have different sensitivity levels and that is why, you must have noticed that some people usually feel colder than others. For example, you must have a friend who also has cold hands all the time or someone who would put on a jacket even when the temperature on a normal day drops by 2 degrees.



There are some reasons behind it, and in this story, we will explain them to you. Before we dive into this topic one must understand the difference between feeling cold and being cold. When you are being cold, your body temperature drops. For example, when you go to a high elevation area, your body temperature lowers and you might even get hypothermia, which can damage your body.

However, when you feel cold, your body temperature

remains normal but the exterior factors make you feel colder.

Now read about the reasons why one feels colder than the other:

Many physical factors of all sorts contribute to how cold you feel. The basic concept of feeling cold or hot is related to our blood vessels. But some factors affect your body temperature such as:

**Body fat:** This one is a basic fact as the more fat you have under your skin the more secure you are from cold.

**Age:** As you get old, your body gets unable to regulate its temperature, making you feel colder even at room temperature.

**Sleep:** This must be a shocker for many people, but sleep can also affect your body temperature. Sleep affects your stress level, metabolism, brain activity, and more. These things directly affect your body temperature which is why sleep is also on the list of reasons why people feel colder than others.

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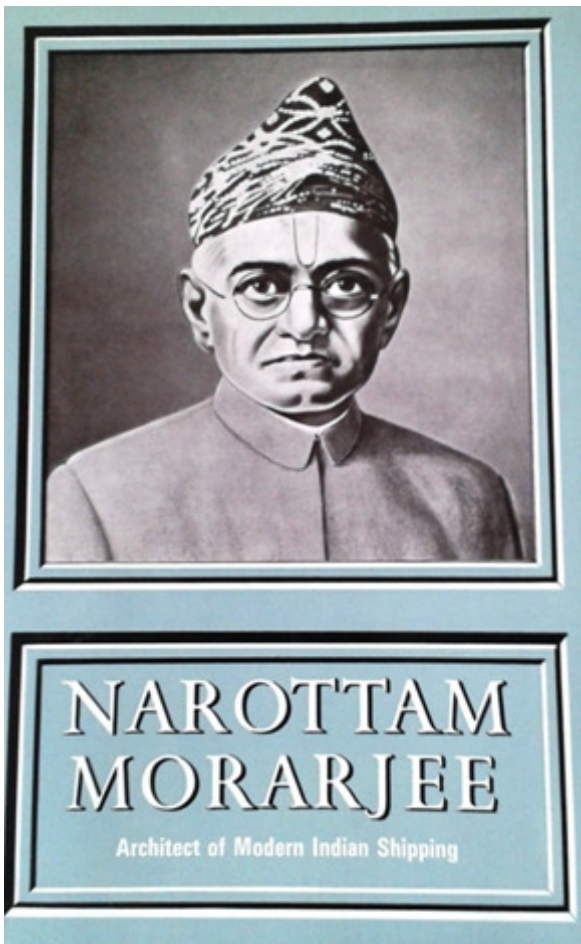
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# National Maritime Day and history of Scindia Steam Navigation Ltd



Businessmen and mutual friends, Narottam Morarjee and Walchand Hirachand saw that the British would not allow any Indian-origin person to go ahead with an enterprise in maritime businesses. The duo then set their sights high and even took steps to build a shipyard at Visakhapatnam, a gift of their company Scindia Steam Navigation to India.

Mahatma Gandhi too had praised the Herculean efforts the two entrepreneurs took up for sheer survival, making their company's history an important part of India's freedom struggle.

India being a peninsular country and an important part of global trade since ancient times had been no novice to maritime activities when the British arrived on its shores. Over the last

several thousand years, its tradition of shipping had grown to glorious heights. But once the British colonisers tightened the noose around Indian businesses and overseas traders to turn India into nothing but a raw material hub and ready market for finished British goods, the Indian maritime industry - along with its other enterprises - began to decay.

Mahatma Gandhi had summed up the history of that period by saying that "Indian shipping had to perish so that British shipping might flourish."

## The brute actions of the British regime:

It was not as though there were no shipping entrepreneurial efforts by Indians until Narottam Morarjee and Walchand Hirachand came by. The early efforts of men like Jamsetji

Chidambaram Pillai - who were fired by the spirit of Swadeshi - were relentlessly crushed by British shipping companies which had established a monopoly in Indian waters through Britain's political supremacy.

What makes the Scindia Steam Navigation story an epic one is because Narottam Morarjee and Walchand Hirachand persisted and because theirs was the first successful effort to revive national shipping and regain India's lost maritime heritage. The pioneering partners Narottam Morarjee and Walchand Hirachand waged a grim and prolonged fight against overwhelming odds to exercise their economic nationalism, says Jog in his book.

## Why is April 5 celebrated as National Maritime Day in India?

During World War I time (1914-18) no new shipping company could be started. It was a chance meeting between Walchand Hirachand - a Bombay-based textile industrialist and a man named Watson who was a British engineer - during the former's railway journey from Delhi to Bombay on February 16, 1919 he learnt that a passenger ship was up for sale at Bombay.

The ship named SS Loyalty owned by Maharaja Madho Rao Scindia of Gwalior that the royal had purchased from the Canadian Pacific Line and transformed into a hospital and put into Army service at his own cost. Now the British Raj -

Government of India was ready to allow him to sell it as he pleased.

He put it up for sale for Rs 25 lakhs to be sold to the first bidder. Enter Narottam Morarjee and Walchand Hirachand. They established a syndicate to form a syndicate and soon Sir (then not knighted) Lalubhai Samaldas and Kilachand Devchand joined the syndicate. Loyalty changed ownership before February was over. Within a month's time, on March 27, 1919, the Scindia Steam Navigation Company Ltd was registered with an authorised capital of Rs 4.5 crores.

On the ninth day thereafter, on April 5, 1919, the SS Loyalty sailed from Bombay as an Indian passenger ship bound for Europe and the UK.

Narottam and Walchand were primarily businessmen and they never took an active part in politics. But they were very open and fearless about their sympathies lying in entirety with the Indian National Congress.

This was a historic day in Indian maritime annals and the day on which the great ancient seafaring nation's national shipping was reborn. Appropriately, since 1964, April 5, is celebrated annually as India's National Maritime Day.

But the duo's story does not end here; their struggles had just begun:

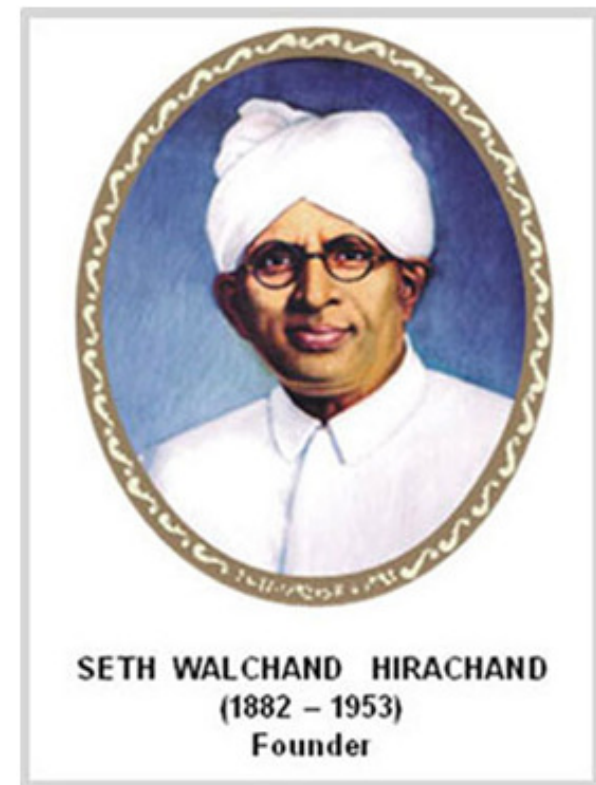
History enthusiast (also a navigation officer) Aneesh Gokhale tells us about how the enterprising duo were in a duel of David

versus Goliath of British shipping powers. SS Loyalty was still a hospital ship when they purchased it and 38-year-old Walchand decided to refit it into a passenger-cum-cargo ship after reaching England, where the cost at one lakh rupees was one-tenth the cost in India.

The voyage that began on April 5, 1919, was blessed by Mahatma Gandhi as well as by Maharaja Hari Singh of Kashmir. By the time the fourth week in its journey dawned, this first Indian owned merchant ship sailing with the banner of a Swastik had docked at

called the Napoleon of shipping. Over the next thirty years, Walchand Hirachand fought him and other British shipping interests to keep Indian shipping afloat.

"The Company persisted in spite of various challenges thrown at it. British companies made it difficult for them to procure cargo, gave them second class insurance ratings without any reason and at one point even offered to buy out the company by proposing a large sum! It was the leadership and patriotism of Walchand Hirachand Doshi that



the French port of Marseilles. Its rough voyage began after entering English waters. No Englishman was ready to upset the British India Steamship Company boss - James McKay who was at that time the tenth richest person in England. Walchand Hirachand was now up against the man

allowed the shipping company to prevail," Aneesh Gokhale tells Times Now.

Though the company does not exist today in the same form that it was incorporated in 1919, its very inception was a crucial step in India's shipping history when sea routes were controlled by the British.

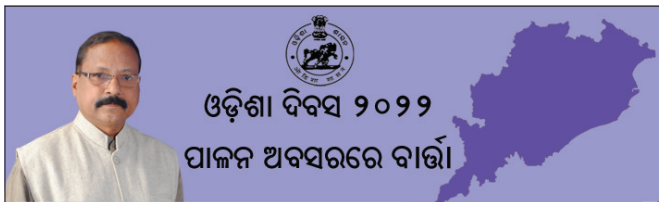


# Rama katha Mahotsav celebrated by the Reki mission at Mancheswar



Bhubaneswar, Apr 14: The Reiki mission at Mancheswar celebrated Ram katha Mahotsav on Ram Navami with pump and pleasure. Rev Guru Sri Santh addressed the gathering and in the evening usual rituals were performed. Thousands

of Bhakts seekers were blessed by the Guru. The head of the mission, Rashmiranjan Dash wonderfully organized the events. Sri Guru Santh in his special advice called upon all the seekers to be vigilant on the health-related issues. The function was concluded after the Prasad seban.



DADLS-78

ପବିତ୍ର ଓଡ଼ିଶା ଦିବସ - ୨୦୨୨ ଉପଲକ୍ଷେ ରାଜ୍ୟବାସୀ ସମସ୍ତଙ୍କୁ ମୁଁ ଆନ୍ତରିକ ଆଭିନନ୍ଦନ ଓ ଶୁଭେଚ୍ଛା ଜଣାଉଛି ।

ଆମ ରାଜ୍ୟର ଗୌରବମୟ ଇତିହାସର ସ୍ମୃତିଚାରଣ ହେଉଛି ଓଡ଼ିଶା ଦିବସ ପାଳନର ଆଦିମୁଖ୍ୟ । ଭାଷାଭିତ୍ତିକ ସ୍ୱତନ୍ତ୍ର ଓଡ଼ିଶା ପ୍ରଦେଶ ଗଠନରେ ଅତୁଳନୀୟ ଅବଦାନ ରଖୁଥିବା ଆମ ରାଜ୍ୟର ବରପୁତ୍ରମାନଙ୍କ ଉଦ୍ଦେଶ୍ୟରେ ମୋର ବିନମ୍ର ଶ୍ରଦ୍ଧାଞ୍ଜଳି ଜାପନ କରୁଛି ।

ଆସନ୍ତୁ, ଆମେ ସମସ୍ତେ ଆମର ସେହି ପୂର୍ବପୁରୀମାନଙ୍କର ସ୍ୱପ୍ନକୁ ସାକାର କରିବା ପାଇଁ ରାଜ୍ୟର ବିକାଶଧାରାରେ ସାମିଲ ହେବା ଏବଂ ଏକ ସଶକ୍ତ ଓ ସମୃଦ୍ଧ ଓଡ଼ିଶା ଗଠନରେ ସଂକଳ୍ପବଦ୍ଧ ହୋଇ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟ କରିବା ।

*(Signature)*  
(ରଘୁନନ୍ଦନ ଦାସ)

ଜଳସଂପଦ, ସୁତନା ଓ ଲୋକସମ୍ପର୍କ ମନ୍ତ୍ରୀ

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## ମାନ୍ୟବର ରାଜ୍ୟପାଳଙ୍କ ବାର୍ତ୍ତା

ପବିତ୍ର ଉତ୍କଳ ଦିବସ-୨୦୨୨ ଅବସରରେ ମୁଁ ରାଜ୍ୟବାସୀଙ୍କୁ ମୋର ଆନ୍ତରିକ ଶୁଭେଚ୍ଛା ଓ ହାର୍ଦ୍ଦିକ ଆଭିନନ୍ଦନ ଜଣାଉଛି । ଓଡ଼ିଶାକୁ ଏକ ସମୃଦ୍ଧ ଓ ବିକଶିତ ରାଜ୍ୟରେ ପରିଣତ କରିବା ପାଇଁ ଆଜିର ଦିବସରେ ସମସ୍ତେ ସଂକଳ୍ପବଦ୍ଧ ହେବାକୁ ମୁଁ ଆହ୍ୱାନ ଜଣାଉଛି ।

*(Signature)*  
(ଗଣେଶୀ ଲାଲ)  
ମାନ୍ୟବର ରାଜ୍ୟପାଳ, ଓଡ଼ିଶା

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## ଓଡ଼ିଶା ଦିବସ ଅବସରରେ ମାନ୍ୟବର ମୁଖ୍ୟମନ୍ତ୍ରୀଙ୍କ ଶୁଭେଚ୍ଛା

ପବିତ୍ର ଓଡ଼ିଶା ଦିବସ ଅବସରରେ ଆପଣମାନଙ୍କୁ ସମସ୍ତଙ୍କୁ ମୋର ଶୁଭେଚ୍ଛା ଜଣାଉଛି । ସ୍ୱତନ୍ତ୍ର ଓଡ଼ିଶା ପ୍ରଦେଶ ଗଠନର ସ୍ୱପ୍ନକୁ ସାକାର କରିଥିବା ମହାପୁରୁଷମାନଙ୍କ ପ୍ରତି ଏହି ଅବସରରେ ମୋର ଶ୍ରଦ୍ଧାଞ୍ଜଳି ଅର୍ପଣ କରୁଛି ।

ଓଡ଼ିଆ ଭାଷା, ସାହିତ୍ୟ ଓ ସଂସ୍କୃତିର ଗୌରବ ବୃଦ୍ଧି କରିଥିବା ଆମର ବରପୁତ୍ରମାନଙ୍କ ପ୍ରତି ମଧ୍ୟ ମୋର ସମ୍ମାନ ଜଣାଉଛି । ଆଜି ବିଭିନ୍ନ କ୍ଷେତ୍ରରେ ଓଡ଼ିଶା ସାରା ଦେଶ ପାଇଁ ପଥ ପ୍ରଦର୍ଶକ ହୋଇପାରିଛି । ଓଡ଼ିଶାର ଗୌରବକୁ ନୂତନ ଶିଖରରେ ପହଞ୍ଚାଇବା ପାଇଁ ଆସନ୍ତୁ, ଆଜିର ଏହି ପବିତ୍ର ଦିବସରେ ଶପଥ ନେଇ କାମ କରିବା ।

ବନ୍ଦେ ଉତ୍କଳ ଜନନୀ ।

ନବୀନ ଷଟ୍ଟନାୟକ

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