

SC defers listing of petitions filed by two warring factions of Shiv Sena

New Delhi, July 11 (UNI) The Supreme Court on Monday deferred indefinitely both the disqualification proceedings - one initiated by the Deputy Speaker against rebel Shiv Sena MLAs and counter proceedings by Speaker against Uddhav Thackeray faction of the party MLAs, saying the matter would take some time to be listed. "Tell the Speaker's office not to go ahead with the proceedings," a Chief Justice-led



bench said. The Supreme Court asked the Speaker of Maharashtra Assembly not to proceed with the

disqualification proceedings of the Shiv Sena MLAs. Uddhav Thackeray led Shiv Sena

mentioned it's plea in the Supreme Court challenging election of the new Speaker of Maharashtra

assembly.

Appearing for the Uddhav led camp, senior advocate Kapil Sibal contended that the matter should be listed today itself, but the apex court said it would take some time. The matter was mentioned before the bench of Chief Justice NV Ramana as the bunch of petitions was not listed today despite a direction from the vacation bench to do so. Sibal mentioned the matter and sought direction

that disqualification proceedings not be taken forward by the Speaker until the matters are listed and heard. The bench also comprising justices Krishna Murari and Hima Kohli asked Solicitor General Tushar Mehta to inform the Speaker not to proceed with the disqualification. The apex court also said that the matter may not be listed tomorrow since the bench for hearing the matter is yet to be constituted.

Rahul Gandhi slams PM for silence On China border situation



New Delhi, July 11 (UNI) Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Monday once again launched an attack at the Prime Minister Narendra Modi accusing him of being silent on the India-China border situation. In a tweet in Hindi, Rahul Gandhi said, "Some truths of the Prime Minister: Afraid of China, hiding truth from people, only saving his own image, demoralising army, playing with security of the country." "The increasing intrusion of China and the silence of the Prime Minister is very dangerous for the country," he said.

The Congress on Monday launched a scathing attack on the Narendra Modi-led government at the Centre over reported Chinese transgressions along the Line of Actual Control (LAC), including in Ladakh. Attacking Modi, Congress MP Gaurav Gogoi said, "A person who once promised to show 'lal aankh' (red eyes) to China is today afraid to even take the name of China. "The PM must stop appeasing China to protect his image. More than two years after the border crisis with China began in Eastern Ladakh, Modi's strategy can be summed up with 'DDLJ' (Deny, Distract, Lie and Justify)."

Sri Lanka: PM's office confirms president will resign 'as announced'



Colombo, July 11 (UNI) The Prime Minister's office of Sri Lanka on Monday confirmed that President Gotabaya Rajapaksa informed Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe that he will resign 'as previously announced,' after tens of thousands of protestors stormed the official residences of both the leaders, Al Jazeera reported. After Saturday's sweeping protests in the wake of a debilitating economic crisis, the speaker of parliament said Rajapaksa would resign on Wednesday. However, there has been no direct word from Rajapaksa about his plans to demit office. Prime Minister Wickremesinghe had also said that he too would be stepping down to pave the way for an all-party interim government to take over. Party leaders have been holding intense discussion to form an alternative government, an urgent requirement of the bankrupt nation to continue discussions with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for a bailout programme.

Wickremesinghe held a discussion with the Cabinet Ministers on Monday morning, the Prime Minister's office said in a statement. Legislator Udaya Gammanpila said the main opposition United People's Front and politicians who defected from Rajapaksa's ruling coalition have also had discussions and agreed to work together. The names of main opposition leader Sajith Premadasa and Dullas Alahapperuma's have been proposed for the President and Prime Minister, respectively. Premadasa and Alahapperuma have been requested to decide on how to share the positions before a meeting with the Parliament Speaker later on Monday, local media said. Constitutional experts said once the President and the Prime Minister formally resigns, the next step would be for the Speaker to be appointed as acting president and for Parliament to vote for a new President within 30 days to complete Rajapaksa's term that was to end in 2024.

PM unveiling national emblem on Parliament building violation of Constitution: CPI-M

New Delhi, July 11 (UNI) The Communist Party of India-Marxist on Monday said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi unveiling the national emblem cast on the roof of the new Parliament building was a violation of the Constitution. "The Prime Minister unveiling the national emblem on top of the new

Parliament building is a clear violation of the Indian Constitution. The Constitution unambiguously separates the three wings of our democracy - the Executive (government), the Legislature (Parliament and state assemblies) and the Judiciary," the

party said in a statement here. It said, "President summons the Parliament. The Prime Minister is the head of the Executive. The Legislature has its independent role to perform, amongst others, to legislate laws, keep the Executive accountable and answerable. This Constitutional

separation of powers between the three wings is being subverted by the head of the Executive. "Furthermore, the Prime Minister performed a puja on the occasion. The Constitution of India gives the right and protection to all Indians to practice and profess their faith.

Oppn MPs demand withdrawal of Agnipath, cite Abe's assassination

New Delhi, July 11 (UNI) The assassination of former Japan PM Shinzo Abe by a man who had served in their force for a brief period was flashed as a warning by Opposition MPs on Monday as they opposed the new recruitment scheme at a meeting of the Consultative Committee on Defence chaired by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh. At least six Opposition MPs also signed a memorandum demanding withdrawal of the scheme. On Monday, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, Army Chief Manoj Pande, Navy chief Admiral R Hari Kumar and other

senior defence officials briefed MPs about the Agnipath scheme, which was recently announced by the government, and was met with widespread protests and opposition. According to sources, the Minister was cornered by Opposition MPs who raised several questions about the scheme. MPs questioned if the scheme would have an impact on national security, as thousands of recruits will leave the force after four years with sensitive information. The recent assassination of Abe was also mentioned, and MPs said the man who committed the



gruesome act had served and worked for three years in Japan's Maritime Self-Defence Forces, also known as the Japanese Navy. Abe was shot in the neck and chest while campaigning in western Japan on Friday. The shooter, identified as 41-year-old

Tetsuya Yamagami. Six Opposition MPs - Congress' Shaktisinh Gohil, and Rajni Patil, Trinamool Congress' Saugata Roy and Sudip Bannoyopadhyay, NCP's Supriya Sule, and AD Singh of RJD signed a memorandum demanding

government to withdraw the scheme. Congress MP Manish Tewari also opposed the scheme, but did not sign the memorandum. Gohil, in a written statement submitted to the committee, said hurried decisions should not be made in democracy, and said government should bring the scheme forward for parliamentary scrutiny, and first implement it on pilot basis. Gohil also quoted former Chief of Defence Staff, Late General Bipin Rawat and said he had suggested that the retirement age of soldiers should be increased. He also said the Ukraine war

showed that the performance of properly trained soldiers is better than those who came for short term service. Consultative committees are platforms informal dialogues, discussions and conversations between the members of the parliament regarding the implementation of the policies by the government to enable lawmakers to interact with ministries on key schemes and give their suggestions. The suggestions are, however, not binding on the government. Twelve MPs were present in the meeting today, including four BJP MPs. The committee has 20 members.

Police officer held by Odisha vigilance accepting bribe of Rs 20,000

Bhubaneswar, July 11 (UNI) Additional IIC of Umerkote police station Limaraj Pradhan has been arrested and forwarded to the Court for accepting Rs 20,000 as a bribe from a complainant to resolve a family dispute matter. According to Vigilance sources, Pradhan was apprehended by Odisha Vigilance for demanding and accepting undue advantage from a complainant to resolve a family dispute matter. A trap was laid on July 10 at around 11 in which Pradhan, was caught by the team of Odisha Vigilance. The Additional IIC had asked the complainant to come after 10 PM to Umerkote Police station with the bribe money. To avoid the CCTV cameras he came outside to a lonely place to collect the bribe money. On seeing the Vigilance Team approaching from a distance, Pradhan fled to a neighbouring bushy area but was chased by the vigilance officials and apprehended.

Odisha reports 500 plus Covid cases for third consecutive day

Bhubaneswar, July 11 (UNI) The daily Covid cases in Odisha continued to report over 500 mark for the third consecutive day with a very marginal reduction reported during the last 24 hours. Health department sources said 572 new Covid cases were reported in the past 24 hours which is only six less than the number of infections recorded in the previous day. With this the cumulative Covid cases positive cases in the state rose to 12,94,076 while the number of active cases stood at 3360. Out of the total 572 cases as many as 336 were recorded from quarantine centres, and 236 as local contact cases. At least 69 Covid cases positive cases were detected in the age group of 0 to 18 years. Khordha district reported 219 cases, the highest in the state followed by Cuttack (68), Sundergarh



(63) and Sambalpur (41). Official reports said fresh positive cases were reported from 25 districts from 13,462 sample tests and registering the Test Positive Report of the state at 4.24 per cent. Odisha Health Secretary N K Dhal said covid infections are rising in Bhubaneswar, Cuttack, Rourkela and Puri. However, the situation is under control, he said adding all the positive cases are mild Only one per cent of the patients had been admitted to the hospital and the rest 99 per cent are in home isolation, he said. Dhal said a month back 10,000 tests were done daily which has been increased to 15,000 per day. The state government, he

said is trying to raise the tests to 25,000 daily. The Health Secretary said the government is providing free vaccines to frontline warriors and people above the age of 59. If necessary, the state government, he said, will request the central government to provide the third dose free of cost to the people. Meanwhile, the Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC) in an advisory asked the street vendors, shopping malls, salons, spas, cinema halls and theatres in the capital city to strictly follow covid guidelines in view of the rise in covid infection cases in the state capital in the past few days. The BMC asked the shop owners like tea, gupchup, lassi stalls to ensure no overcrowding of customers in their shops and to adhere Covid cases appropriate behaviour by their staff and the customers in their premises.

Ban on media into school premises in Odisha shocking, abhorring- Congress

Bhubaneswar, July 11 (UNI) Odisha Pradesh Congress Committee President Sarat Patnaik on Monday strongly condemned what he termed as an abhorring act of mindless ban by the state government on the entry of journalists into school premises in the state. "This is shocking and abhorring, Patnaik said in an

arbitrary move against journalists and media persons, the Odisha gov't has banned their entry to school campuses. He said the directive issued by DEO, Dhenkanal on July 10 last banning the entry of journalists into the school premises is arbitrary in nature. The PCC President termed the move of the



government as "uncalled for" and a grave disrespect to democracy. This also

shows the arrogance of the BJD government," he added. "We condemn this act of throttling of democratic norms and demand immediate withdrawal of such archaic directives. Patnaik said that it is not the first time that such restriction has been imposed on journalists. Earlier, journalists were prohibited by the

Odisha Government to enter SCB Medical College and Hospital, State Secretariat and Odisha Assembly. He said "It is the duty of our media to expose any violation or irregularities happening in any arm of the government, but banning them in specific places certainly shows the desperation of the Government, he remarked.

Aboriginal flag to permanently fly on Sydney Harbour Bridge

Canberra, July 11 (UNI) After a five year campaign, the Aboriginal flag will now fly permanently on one of Australia's most iconic landmarks.



According to The Sydney Morning Herald, the New South Wales (NSW) state government on Sunday abandoned plans to install a third flagpole on the Sydney Harbour Bridge, with the Aboriginal flag to instead permanently replace the NSW colours atop the iconic landmark.

The bridge usually shows both the Australian and NSW flags though the former was usually flown in place of the state flag on some days throughout the year.

Earlier, the government had announced that it would add the Aboriginal flag and a new pole to the bridge.

This would have taken up two years and cost A\$ 25 million.

NSW Premier Dominic

Perrottet said that the initial plan would be spent on the initiatives to reduce disadvantage among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Komilaroi woman Cheree Toka, who had campaigned for the change for 5 years, had started a

petition amassing over 170,000 signatures.

Last week, Victorian Premier Daniel Andrews had announced that the Aboriginal flag would be placed permanently atop Melbourne's West Gate Bridge replacing the state flag.

Former Trump ally to testify before Capitol panel

Washington, July 11 (UNI) Former strategist of Donald Trump, Steve Bannon, has informed the House select committee investigating the January 6 Capitol Riots that he would testify.

Last year, Bannon had refused to comply with the panel's subpoena and was also indicted after defying the demand.

In a letter, Robert Costello, an attorney for Bannon, told committee chairman Rep. Bennie Thompson on Saturday that the ex-White House chief strategist "is willing to, indeed prefers, to testify at your public hearing."

It further said, "While Mr Bannon has been steadfast in his convictions, cir-

cumstances have now changed."

The lawyer said that while former President Donald Trump invoked executive privilege over his testimony and documents, the former president "has decided that it would be in the best interests of the American people to waive executive privilege for" Bannon, allowing him to comply with the select committee's subpoena, CBS News reported.

Trump had sent a letter to Costello and Bannon on Saturday saying he would waive executive privilege if Bannon and the panel reached an agreement "on a time and place for your testimony."

While the former US President had claimed to

have invoked executive privilege, District Judge Carl Nichols rejected Bannon's argument that as a former White House official he did not have obligation to follow the select committee's subpoena when executive privilege has been asserted.

He further urged the court to dismiss the criminal contempt case against him. The request was denied last month.

The select committee has conducted a nearly year-long investigation into how Trump supporters invaded Congress on 6 January 2021 to disrupt lawmakers as they certified Democrat Joe Biden's election victory, BBC reported.

Belarusian lawmakers mull temporary bans on travel abroad

Minsk, July 11 (UNI/Sputnik) Belarusian lawmakers will debate a bill that will propose temporary bans on travel abroad for certain Belarusian citizens, according to a motion submitted to the parliament. The draft legislation was published on the official Belarusian website of legal information. It seeks to grant the national committee of state security the power to bar citizens from travel for up to six months "if the departure is counter to the national security interests." People accused of administrative offenses or liable to a fine, as well as military personnel, police and state officials may also end up prohibited from leaving the country by their superiors. The lower house of the Belarusian parliament will discuss the motion as soon as legislators return from the summer break. It needs the approval of both chambers and President Alexander Lukashenko to become a law.

Sri Lankan Opposition agrees to form all-party interim govt after Rajapaksa's resignation

Colombo, July 11 (UNI) Sri Lanka's Opposition parties on Sunday announced that they had decided to form an all-party interim government after President Gotabaya Rajapaksa and Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe agreed to resign in the wake of unprecedented street protests, Khaleej Times reported.

During the upheaval the homes of both the leaders' were stormed by irate protesters and damaged over the government's mishandling of the nation's worst economic crisis. Opposition parties on Sunday held emergency talks to find a way to steer the country forward amidst the unprecedented economic and political crisis after President Rajapaksa

on Saturday informed Speaker Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena from an undisclosed location that he will be stepping down coming Wednesday.

"We agreed in principle to form a government of unity with all parties' participation for an interim period," Wimal Weerawansa of the ruling Sri Lanka Podujana Peramuna (SLPP) party's breakaway group said, adding that "This will be a government where all parties are represented". Vasudeva Nanayakkara, another leader of the SLPP's breakaway group, said they need not wait for Rajapaksa's resignation on July 13.

President Rajapaksa, has gone underground in the face of massive public anger over the unprecedented economic crisis

since the country's independence in 1948.

Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe has also offered to resign.

The main Opposition Samagi Jana Balawegaya party said they held extensive internal discussions.

The leaders of political parties represented in Parliament are to meet on Monday afternoon to discuss the convening of the House for the transition of power for a new government after Rajapaksa said he will resign.

Speaker Abeywardena conveyed to Rajapaksa on Saturday that Opposition party leaders want him to resign after anti-government protesters stormed his offices and the official residence.

Under the Constitution, the incumbent prime min-

ister would automatically become the acting president for a short time until Parliament votes and appoint a successor to the president.

However, protesters have also demanded the resignation of prime minister Wickremesinghe. The resignation of both the president and prime minister would mean that Speaker Abeywardena would become the acting president.

Wickremesinghe has expressed willingness to resign when a new government is formed.

He stressed on Saturday that to deal with the International Monetary Fund on an assistance programme and to deal with shortages of essentials including food and fuel, it was important not to leave a vacuum.

Rehman Chisti, Liz Truss joins UK PM ace

London, July 11 (UNI) UK MP Rehman Chisti and Foreign Secretary Liz Truss have announced their bid to join the race to become the next Prime Minister along with nine others, including former Chancellor Rishi Sunak.

In a tweet, Chisti said, "I'm standing to be the next leader of the Conservative Party and your Prime Minister. For me it's about aspirational conservatism, fresh ideas, fresh team for a fresh start taking our great country forward."

Earlier, Truss said in an article in The Telegraph that she was also joining the race to become the next PM.

She said, "I am putting



myself forward because I can lead, deliver and make the tough decisions. I have a clear vision of where we need to be, and the experience and resolve to get us there.

"I will fight the election as a Conservative and govern as a Conservative."

The Foreign Secretary

emphasised that she would start reducing taxes from day one if elected as the PM.

The candidates in the fray as of Monday morning were: Chisti, Truss, Sajid Javid, Rishi Sunak, Suella Braverman, Grant Shapps, Tom Tugendhat, Nadhim Zahawi, Penny Mordaunt, Jeremy Hunt and Kemi Badenoch.

Twitter hires legal team to sue Musk: Report

Washington, July 11 (UNI) Twitter has hired merger law heavyweight Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz LLP as it races to sue Elon Musk for moving to dump his \$44 billion takeover of the company, Bloomberg reported citing people familiar with the matter.

The social media company aims to file suit early this week, people familiar with the matter said.

According to the report, Musk has brought in Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan LLP. The firm led his successful defense against a defamation claim in 2019 and is representing him as part of an ongoing shareholder lawsuit over his failed attempt to take Tesla Inc. private in 2018.

Musk on Friday moved to back out of his \$44 billion deal to buy Twitter, citing continued disagreements over the number of spam accounts on the platform. In response, Twitter board chair Bret Taylor tweeted Friday the company intends to pursue legal action to close the transaction.

Nord Stream gas pipeline suspends delivery

Moscow, July 11 (UNI) Russian gas delivery through the Nord Stream pipeline, the country's main export route to Europe, has been temporarily suspended starting Monday for scheduled annual maintenance, local media said. According to a TASS report, the maintenance will last from July 11 to 21. Nord Stream also went through maintenance in mid-July 2021. It delivered 59.2 billion cubic meters of natural gas last year.

Japan: Ruling party heads to victory in the wake of Abe's death

Tokyo, July 11 (UNI) Japan's ruling party and its coalition partner scored a major victory in a parliamentary election on Sunday, possibly propelled by the sympathy votes in the wake of the assassination of former Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, Khaleej Times reported.

Early results in the race

for the parliament's upper house showed Abe's governing party and its junior coalition partner Komeito securing a majority in the chamber and adding more seats.

Preliminary vote counts showed that the governing Liberal Democratic Party all set to secure a coalition total of at least 143 seats in the 248-

member upper house, the less powerful of the two chambers, giving a likely major boost, to Prime Minister Fumio Kishida who can now be expected to rule without interruption until a scheduled election in 2025.

That would also allow Kishida to work on long-term policy goals such as national security, his sig-

nature but still vague "new capitalism" economic policy, and his party's long-cherished goal to amend the US-drafted postwar pacifist constitution.

Kishida and senior party lawmakers observed a moment of silence for Abe at the party election headquarters before placing on the

whiteboard victory ribbons next to the names of candidates who secured their seats.

In the wake of Friday's brazen killing, Sunday's vote took on a new meaning, with all political leaders emphasizing the importance of free speech and their pledge not to back down on violence against democracy.

Kishida welcomed early results and said responses to Covid-19, Russia-Ukraine crisis and rising prices will be his priorities. He said he will also steadily push for reinforcing Japan's national security as well a constitutional amendment.

Early results suggested a charter change proposal

is now a possibility. The LDP and its junior partner as well as two supportive opposition parties together are certain to secure enough seats needed for an amendment proposal, which requires a two-thirds majority in both houses. The governing bloc already has secured support in the other chamber.

China and Pakistan kick off joint naval drills

Beijing, July 11 (UNI) China and Pakistan on Sunday launched a four-day joint maritime exercise off the coast of Shanghai. The Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) Navy and the Pakistan Navy will hold joint naval drill Sea Guardians-2 in maritime and aerial spaces off Shanghai in mid-July, Liu Wensheng, a spokesperson for the PLA Navy, said in a state-

ment on Sunday. Themed "jointly dealing with maritime security threats," the exercise will feature training courses including joint strike against maritime targets, joint tactical maneuvering, joint anti-submarine warfare and joint support for damaged vessels, Global Times quoted Liu as saying. The drill's goal is to enhance defense cooperation, conduct profes-

sional and technical exchanges, deepen traditional friendship between the two countries and the two navies, and promote the development of the all-weather strategic cooperative partnership between China and Pakistan, Liu added. The exercise is a "normal arrangement according to an annual schedule, and it is not aimed at a third party," Liu said.

US: Biden mulling health emergency to make abortion accessible

Washington, July 11 (UNI) US President Joe Biden has announced that he is considering declaring a public health emergency to free up federal resources to enable access to abortion even though the White House has said it doesn't seem like "a great option", Khaleej Times reported on Sunday. The president also had a message for the people who were angered by the Supreme Court's ruling last month that ended a constitutional right to abortion and who have been demonstrating across the country: "Keep protesting. Keep making your point. It's critically important." Biden said he lacks the power to force the dozen-plus states with strict restrictions or outright bans on abortion to allow the procedure. "I don't have the authority to say that we're going to reinstate Roe v. Wade as the law of the land," he said, referring to the Supreme Court's decision from 1973 that had established a national right to abortion. Biden said Congress would have to codify that right and for that to have a better chance in the future, voters would have to elect more lawmakers who support abortion access. Biden said his administration is trying to do a "lot of things to accommodate the rights of women" after the ruling, including considering declaring a public health emergency to free up federal resources. Such a move has been pushed by advocates, but White House officials have questioned both its legality and effectiveness, and noted it would almost certainly face legal challenges. The president said he has asked officials "to look at whether I have the authority to do that and what impact that would have."

Ethanol production to contribute around Rs 2,221 cr in UP's GSDP: Min

Lucknow, July 11 (UNI) Minister of State for Excise (Independent Charge) Nitin Agarwal on Monday said Uttar Pradesh has emerged as a major place for ethanol production and under Ethanol Blending Program currently the state is supplying ethanol to oil depots in the state as well as to other states of the country. Addressing a press conference at Lok Bhawan, Agarwal said, "Last year 115 crore bulk liter ethanol was produced. The annual target of ethanol production this year is 140 crore bulk litre. In 100 days, 45 crore bulk liters of ethanol was to be produced against which 45.17 crore bulk liter ethanol was produced. Thus the target of 100.4 per cent has been met by ethanol production. He said more production of ethanol will make green fuel available for public use and the success of the ethanol blending program will ensure foreign exchange savings. "Due to this a contribution of around Rs 2,221.45 crore

will be made in the Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP)," he said. The minister said under the direction and effective guidance of Chief Minister Yogi Aditya Nath, the excise department is determined to achieve the targets set for the implementation of the 100-day action plan. "Along with revenue generation, industrial development has an important role in the activities of the department. Continuous efforts are being made in order to make the departmental activities easy and efficient by adopting the philosophy of 'Ease of Doing Business' in setting up of new industries and simplifying the already complicated systems and rules in the excise department," he said. He said a 100-day action plan was prepared by the excise department, under which the target of setting up three new distilleries was set. "In compliance with these three units, Radico Khaitan Limited Sitapur, Karimganj Biofuel Moradabad and Crystal Balaji Muzaffarnagar were

given permission to set up distilleries," he said. Agarwal said that the setting up of these distilleries will lead to an investment of Rs 793.37 crore and create about 3,600 new employment opportunities. "In this, after the commencement of production, revenue of about Rs 6,070 crore will be received by the state government and Rs 25 crore will be received annually by the central government, of which 50 per cent will be made available to the state government," he said. He said that similarly the target was set to start production after completing the construction of three distilleries. "The construction work of the distillery has been completed by Shri Gang Distillery Hardoi, Aarti Distillery Kanpur Dehat and Dwarikesh Sugar Industries Bareilly. Investment of about Rs 605 crore is being made in these distilleries and direct employment opportunities are being provided to about 1,000 persons. Along with this, the state

government will get about Rs 3,859 crore and the central government will get revenue of Rs 11 crore annually. Accordingly PD-2 licenses have been issued to the above three distilleries," he said. The minister said under the concept of fine dining in the state, an action plan has been prepared to open three new microbrewery resto-bars in 100 days, in which 100 per cent fulfillment of the target has been ensured. "The establishment of these microbreweries will provide an investment of Rs 3 crore and employment opportunities to 30 persons and about Rs 1.5 crore of revenue to the state government," he said. Similarly, he said a target of issuing 10 restobar licenses was set during this period, against which 130 percent target has been achieved so far by granting licenses to 13 restobars. "Under the 100-day action plan, the settlement of all country liquor, foreign liquor, beer, bhang and model shops has been completed in the

year 2022-23," he said. Agarwal said that to encourage wine production from fruits for the development of fruit growers in the state necessary amendments have been made in Vintinery Establishment Rules and it was approved by the cabinet. "For the first time in the state, the rules for the processing and bottling of alcohol of analytical category and high performance liquid chromatography category have also been promulgated," he said. He said prohibition has already been declared in the area of Ramkot and Raiganj Ward Municipality area of Ayodhya district, Vrindavan area of Mathura district, one km from Ganga river in Varanasi district, Sangam area in Prayagraj district, Chitrakoot Dham, Deva Sharif in Barabanki and Deoband Municipality of Saharanpur. "According to the intention of the government, prohibition has also been declared in 22 wards of Mathura by notification dated May 31," he said.

National emblem unveiled on new Parliament



New Delhi, July 11 (UNI) Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday unveiled the National Emblem cast on the roof of the new Parliament building.

The emblem is made of bronze with a total weight of 9,500 Kg and is 6.5 m in height. It has been cast at the top of the central foyer. A supporting structure of

steel weighing around 6,500 Kg has been constructed to support the emblem.

The new Parliament building is being constructed by the Central Public Works Department.

Started in January 2021 with an estimated cost of Rs 971 crore, the project is supposed to be com-

pleted in time for the winter session of Parliament.

The new building is expected to accommodate up to 888 members in the Lok Sabha, 384 in Rajya Sabha and up to 1,272 seats for a joint session.

This has been done to keep in mind a possible expansion of Parliament after the next delimitation.

No discount to woman while booking tickets online :HRTC

Shimla, July 11 (UNI) Himachal Pradesh Transport Corporation has decided to not extend the benefits of 50 per cent discount to fare sex while booking online for HRTC buses, however, it would continue to provide subsidies in the journey in the intrastate route. HRTC Deputy DM Traffic Devasen Negi told mediaperson here Monday that women would not be given discount on online ticket booking as there is a possibility of many kinds of fraud, however, women would get 50 percent discount on taking tickets only

at the counter and in buses. Even if the woman's name is on the ticket, any person can travel on it. In view of upcoming Assembly Election state government offered a sop of fifty percent concessional fare to woman with effect from July 1 in all ordinary buses. In HRTC buses, women would be given 50 percent discount but now Corporation has made new rules emphasising 50 percent discount only on taking offline tickets. Mr Negi said if women book ticket online they have to remit full money. The corporation management

also made it clear that women would get 50 percent discount in fares only in buses running in Himachal Pradesh. Facility of 50 per cent discount is not available to women for booking tickets online in HRTC buses and money once deducted would not be refunded provide beneficiary cancel their booking. He said anyone could book tickets online on behalf of woman, HRTC argued that the discount in the corporation's buses would be available only if the ticket is taken by the conductor or at the counter.

Yogi govt to develop Naimish Dham as Vedic city

Lucknow, July 11 (UNI) The Uttar Pradesh Government will develop Naimish Dham as a Vedic city and the global centre for spiritual and religious tourism.



An official spokesman said on Monday an action plan has already been prepared in this regard on the instructions of Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath to develop Naimisharanya pilgrimage site in four phases on the lines of Kashi, Ayodhya and Mathura.

together on the project.

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He said CM Yogi has also directed concerned authorities to start electric bus and helicopter services between Lucknow and Sitapur soon in order to facilitate travel to Naimish Dham for pilgrims from both within the country and abroad. Tourism, Urban Development, PWD and Irrigation departments will work to-

According to the action plan the development of prominent projects such as Chakra pilgrimage site, Maa Lalita Devi Temple, Dadhichi Kund and Sita Kund will take place in the first phase while Dadhichi Kund, Rudravart Mahadev, Devdevshwar Temple and Kashi Kund would be developed in the second phase. Similarly, separate action plans have been chalked out for ur-

CM Yogi has also issued directives to authorities for ensuring availability of clean water in all the ponds of Naimisharanya, renovation of Chakra pilgrimage site and beautification of Dadhichi Kund and Maa Lalita Devi temple. The government has also decided to expand the area of Misrikh Municipality and develop Kosi Parikrama Path 5, 14

The CM has also instructed the authorities to acquire land as per requirement to carry out tourism development and beautification works in Naimish Dham and make adequate arrangements for tourists' accommodation, lighting, parking and security, reiterating the government's commitment to develop the Dham, which happens to be the shrine of 88,000

sages. Meanwhile, the Tourism, Urban Development, PWD and Irrigation departments have been directed to prepare a concrete action plan for tourism development in Naimish Dham. The Tourism Department will also prepare a convenient tourism package for Naimish Dham.

It may be noted that Naimisharanya pilgrimage site is a centre of faith for crores of Sanatan Dharma followers. There are many places of mythological and spiritual significance at Naimish Dham such as Maa Lalita Devi Temple, Chakra, Vyas Gaddi, Soot Gaddi and Hanuman Garhi among others. Lakhs of devotees visit the pilgrimage site every full moon and new moon as well as on occasions such as Navratri and fourteen Kosi parikrama of Falgun.

SC gives 4 months jail to Mallya



New Delhi, July 11 (UNI) The Supreme Court on Monday sentenced fugitive businessman liquor baron Vijay Mallya to four months of imprisonment and fined him Rs 2,000 for contempt of court. The court asked Mallya to deposit back \$40 million with rate of interest within four weeks and warned that failure to do so would lead to attachment of properties. "We sentence the contemnor to four months of im-

prisonment and a fine of Rs 2,000," a Bench headed by Justice Uday Umesh Lalit said. The court pronounced its order on the quantum of sentence against the Mallya in a contempt case over non-disclosure of assets in a plea filed by a SBI-led consortium of banks for recovery of over Rs 9,000 crore. The three-judge Bench also comprising Justices S Ravindra Bhat and P S Narasimha had on March 10

wrapped up the hearing in the matter and reserved its order. The court had given a chance to Mallya's lawyer to file written submissions even as he said he had nothing to say on merit. Senior advocate Jaideep Gupta, acting as Amicus Curiae (Friend of the Court), had submitted that the court has given several chances for Mallya to appear and so now the court must pronounce a verdict.

Amarnath Yatra resumes from Pahalgam

Srinagar, July 11 (UNI) Amarnath Yatra resumed from the traditional Pahalgam route while it remained suspended from the Baltal side for the third consecutive day on Monday, official said. Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha visited Chandanwari Monday to take stock of facilities and arrangements for Shri Amarnathji pilgrims. Interacted with doctors, sanitation workers and people running community kitchen. Officials said the Yatries

were allowed to proceed from Nunwan base camp at Pahalgam and at halting points at Chadanwari and Panjtarni this morning towards the holy cave shrine of Amarnath in South Kashmir. However, the yatra remained suspended for the third consecutive day today from the shortest route of Baltal in central Kashmir's Ganderbal district while as, the air service was operating from the Baltal to holy cave shrine of Amarnath, they said. Meanwhile Director Meteorological centre

Srinagar has advised all Yatries and stake holders to keep updated about weather while on Pilgrimage as the route is arduous and area prone to landslide, shooting stone, flash flood. It has also asked pilgrims to remain alert always and Seek help of Nearest Yatra Managers in case of any difficulties. Amarnath yatra was suspended following a huge cloudburst which occurred near the holy cave shrine of Amarnath on July 8 that washed away many tents and langars,

leaving at last 16 pilgrims dead and 35 others injured besides several others are still missing. Srinagar based defence spokesman said Indian Army rescue operations continue relentlessly as specialised mountain and avalanche rescue teams have been working to find any possible signs of life in the snow bridge near cave complex. He said the decision was taken to resume the Amarnath Yatra from July 11, there was an immediate need to create a different route to the holy

cave for the yatries away from the water channel. Troops from Indian Army immediately set to task and worked overnight to clear the area and prepare an alternative route, carrying out ground leveling and preparing stairs using sandbags. A massive rescue operation was launched by the Police, security forces, Indian Army, Air force, NDRF and other concerned agencies to remove the debris and locate the missing since the natural calamity occurred near the cave shrine.

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The following borrower/s have defaulted in the repayment of principal and interest of the loans facility obtained by them from the Bank and the loans have been classified as Non-Performing Assets (NPA). A notice was issued to them under Section 13 (2) of Securitisation and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act-2002 on their last known addresses, however it was not served and hence they are hereby notified by way of this public notice.

| Sr. No. | Name of the Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor/ (Loan Account Number) & Address | Property Address of Secured Asset/ Asset to be Enforced | Date of Notice Sent/ Outstanding as on Date of Notice | NPA Date |
|---------|--|---|---|-------------|
| 1. | Jyotirmay Mohapatra/ Sashmita Mohanty/ At Tirtol (Mohapatra Sahi) Po/ Via- Tirtol, Dist- Jagatsinghpur Orissa Jagatsinghpur- 754041/ LBPRD0000779857 | Sub Plot No.610, Hal Plot No.383, Khata No.298, Mouza Tirtol, Thana No.163, at/ P.O. Tirtol, District- Jagatsinghpur, Orissa- 754137 (Admeasuring an area of Built Up area 1353 Sq. Feet) | May 30, 2022 Rs. 7,22,899/- | 03.03. 2022 |

The steps are being taken for substituted service of notice. The above borrower/s and/or their guarantors (as applicable) are advised to make the payments of outstanding within period of 60 days from the date of publication of this notice else further steps will be taken as per the provisions of Securitisation and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002.

Date : July 12, 2022 Place : Orissa

Authorized Officer Secured Creditor

The growth of the fanatic

When the two young Muslim men beheaded or almost severed the head of the Udaipur tailor, Kanhaiya Lal, I pondered over the religious fanatics I came across during the course of my own sojourn on earth. Since I was born and brought up a Catholic, the people I met in my youth were mostly from that denomination. Looking back, I will say that most Christians I knew were those who went to Sunday Mass and did their obligations of confessing their sins and receiving Communion thereafter. I cannot think of anyone who was prepared to kill or maim, or even strike another because of what is now termed commonly as blasphemy! In short, the Christians in India may have in their midst an extremist or two, but they are so few that I have never come across any such person. This is not the case in the Muslim community. It has more than its share of enthusiasts hung up on religion and what has been taught to them in madrasas and by mullahs. The strict adherence of the student to what is called by the clergy as the 'word of God' is for them a commandment they not only need to obey, but also need to enforce. Having accepted the mantle of enforcer, they go about looking for blasphemers in every nook and corner.

This is the position in Pakistan, for instance, where the Governor of Pakistan Punjab was shot by his own security detail because he disapproved of blasphemy laws. The law there has been so widely abused that quarrelling neighbours often accuse their opponents of blasphemy and have her or him thrown in jail, as the word of a believer as against that of a non-believer is accepted as the truth. If the opponent is a Hindu or Christian, her or his goose is cooked! Many such cases have been reported in the Pakistan press, and even internationally. Fortunately, we have not come to this sad pass in Hindustan, but we are dangerously close! Indira Gandhi was shot by two of her own guards, who were Sikhs. The insult to Akal Takht during the Army assault ordered by the PM had upset the community immensely. Even some Sikh battalions of the Army had revolted — so great was the hurt. We read of religious fanatics among Hindus also. This is a more recent phenomenon born as a reaction to Islamic fanaticism. I came across my first instance of nascent fanaticism on an organised scale among Hindus when Hemant Karkare, the IPS officer who lost his life on 26/11, met me in my office a day earlier to disclose the evidence he had gathered against Sadhvi Pragya and Col Srikanth Purohit (ret'd) of Abinav Bharat in the Malegaon blasts case.

Hemant and I were agreed on the origin of the deep anger the Sadhvi, the Colonel and their friends had developed against the Muslim fanatics, who, they felt, needed to be countered and checked by a parallel fanaticism, in an otherwise gentle religious formation. They obviously felt that jihadi fanaticism, if not opposed, the majority Hindu community would be quickly swamped by an aggressive minority that stopped at nothing to prove that their God was the only true one.

There was logic in their insanity. But the State cannot accept such logic that ends in deaths of innocents. The lawmakers know no distinction between creeds and communities when dealing with infractions of the law. The police is bound by law to investigate impartially to arrive at the truth. Religious fanaticism was evident in Syria and Iraq where the ISIS had captured some territory and set up an Islamic caliphate. It did not last more than a couple of decades, as expected. But as long as it ruled the territory it had captured, the regime was the most cruel. Beheadings were meticulously staged and filmed to strike terror in ordinary mortals.

Kanhaiya Lal's only fault was to tweet favourably for Nupur Sharma, the BJP spokesperson-turned-'fringe'. The Supreme Court commented on her role in spreading hate in the country, but is she the one who started it? This spread of hate had begun much earlier, in 2015, when the first shots were fired by foot soldiers who killed Mohd Akhlaq at Dadri village in UP for allegedly killing a calf. The madness had begun. Since BJP's top leaders did not comment on the tragic incident it was believed by the rank and file that lynchings were an accepted form of counter-offence against the Congress appeasement of the Islamic clergy.

The BJP's plan to neutralise such 'appeasement' for electoral gains has succeeded. It has divided society, but at what cost? It will destroy the nation. Some signs that the PM is taking note of the downside of his policy have been seen in recent times.

Downsizing Oppn in M'ashtra & beyond

The BJP has kept targeting rival parties, suggesting that the sole problem in the country is the Opposition. However, this time, the target was not the Congress but regional parties which are mostly family-ruled. The attack on dynastic parties in Hyderabad was a pointed attempt to censure regional outfits which are the principal opposition to its expansion in the south and the east. Dislodging Opposition-led state governments is among the many forms by which democratic erosion is taking place.

No healthy democracy can exist without a vigorous Opposition. Modern democracies are unthinkable without Opposition parties and healthy competition between them. In Britain, Labour Party leader Kier Starmer and some Tory MPs had accused PM Boris Johnson of breaking Covid rules with parties held in Downing Street during the lockdown and thus holding the British public in contempt, but they were not accused of being anti-national or acting against national interest. In fact, in most established democracies, it is Opposition parties that try to prevent the government from running roughshod by constraining and restricting it. But in India, the Opposition cannot play this crucial role as the ruling party routinely denies the legitimacy of political opponents, glaringly evident from the explicit objective of 'Congress-free India', now upscaled to 'Opposition-free India'. One of the hallmarks of the ruling party strategy over the years has been the constant denigration of the Congress party. Even after eight years in power, the BJP seems to excel in targeting the Congress to project itself as the only alternative. The BJP's national executive meeting at Hyderabad last week was again dominated by Opposition bashing, highlighted in the overarching theme of dynasty which symbolises various other ills too, from casteism to regionalism to appeasement. Over two days, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leaders kept targeting the Opposition parties, suggesting that the sole problem in the country is the Opposition. However, this time the target wasn't the Congress, but regional parties, which are mostly family-ruled. The repeated attack on dynastic parties in Hyderabad was a pointed attempt to censure regional parties which are the principal opposition to its expansion in the south and the east.

Downsizing the Opposition has been a central goal of the BJP ever since it won an absolute majority in 2014. By 2017, 60 per cent of the political space was already occupied by the BJP but Amit Shah declared at the national executive meeting in April that year that 'we cannot sit idle, resting on our laurels... We have to pledge that the BJP should be there from the panchayats to Parliament. Every state should see this, in every state, we have to take the BJP to power. Once we achieve that, we can say that the BJP's golden era has come.' The disdain for the Opposition was reflected in the first term itself in the Speaker's refusal to recognise the chief of the Congress legislative party as the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha and in refusing to engage in debates with the Opposition in Parliament. During the second term, it relied on various other tactics to capture power in states even when election results didn't favour the ruling party. This resulted in several attempts to dislodge Congress



governments from power at the state level without imposing President's rule. The extravagant use of money power and the weaponisation of Central agencies has played a critical role in cornering opposition legislators and in bringing them into their fold. Electoral bonds have played a lead role in this drama. The bulk of the electoral bonds have gone to the ruling party further boosting the financial heft of the richest party in India. The enormous money in its coffers helps to finance its massive election campaigns and also comes in handy in toppling elected governments by luring away MLAs. It is worth noting that most non-BJP governments have fallen after the introduction of electoral bonds in 2017. Evidently, electoral bonds can facilitate these transactions.

In state after state, non-BJP governments were toppled when legislators of the parties in power were induced to defect or resign their seats, so that the BJP could form the government instead. The Congress government fell in Karnataka as 15 legislators left the ruling alliance which had necessitated a no-confidence motion. Subsequently, the BJP went on to form the government, barely a year after the JD (S)-Congress alliance had come to power. The state governments in Arunachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Puducherry, Goa and Manipur, also fell more or less in the same way, giving way to ones by the BJP. This tally has gone up to eight states, including Maharashtra which is the latest to fall. The dramatic fall of the Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA), the tripartite alliance of the Shiv Sena, the Congress and the Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) was engineered through large-scale defections and breaking of the Shiv Sena, giving an upper hand to the BJP in state politics. This was the prime objective from the day the MVA government was formed as the BJP was not reconciled to the loss of an important state, along with Mumbai, the country's financial capital. Several attempts were made in the past two years to dislodge the MVA

government. This time, it succeeded. Eknath Shinde's rebellion provided the opening to unseat the Uddhav Thackeray government. The last episode of this unsavoury saga was a long-drawn-out one. It involved five-star hotel stays in three BJP-ruled states and using governments in Gujarat and Assam to abet the revolt and the tactical deployment of the Central agencies to wheedle its collapse. The events also revealed the role of the Supreme Court in the disqualification issue and the Governor's part in fixing the date for the election of the Speaker within two days of a new regime taking over even as he had been refusing to do the same after the resignation of Nana Patole, citing pendency of litigation in the court. These crafty manoeuvres have eroded the Shiv Sena's primacy in state politics and paved the way for the emergence of the BJP as the real flag-bearer of Hindutva.

The collapse of the MVA is undoubtedly a big setback to the Opposition because Maharashtra is an extremely important state as mentioned above, which apart from its economic clout, sends 48 MPs to the Lok Sabha. Moreover, the alliance between ideologically disparate parties was a test case for a nationwide arrangement to stall the BJP. The alliance was doing well and could not be accused of misgovernance. In fact, if it had lasted its full term, it could well have shut the doors on the BJP and its majoritarian belligerence in a keystone state, but the rebellion in Shiv Sena ranks scuppered it.

The fall of the MVA government has underlined the seemingly insurmountable challenges facing the Opposition in tackling the BJP. But it has also raised concerns about the political implications of dislodging governments in ways that stop at nothing. This approach can undermine democracy and accountability towards other actors outside the ruling party. It can also erode the institutional checks on executive power necessary for a durable democracy. Dislodging governments through various means is a facet of authoritarianism which is inherent in the majoritarian project. This entails political expansionism at all costs which can endanger democracy as it denies the possibility of a pluralist society, and transforms politics into a no-holds-barred electoral contest. Acquisition of power through methods which are anti-democratic by their very nature are in fact threats to democracy, especially when it entails a rejection of the notion of pluralism and embrace of cultural exclusion.

Dislodging Opposition-led state governments is among the many forms by which democratic erosion is taking place on the streets, in the courts, and in institutions. Democracy requires a strong Opposition but the current dispensation is not very keen on having an Opposition, leave alone a strong one. It is working overtime to achieve an Opposition-free India.

End of 2-finger test is near

Medicos to be taught that virginity test is unscientific

IN a significant development of medico-legal import as well as one designed to secure the dignity of women, the MBBS syllabus will now have a lesson explaining to the medical students that the invasive two-finger test on women's genitalia to examine them for their virginity is unscientific. Doctors have been routinely conducting this test on women embroiled in matrimonial disputes or sexual abuse cases. The inclusion of this chapter in their books would enable them to not undertake this course of action and confidently explain to the judges how this test fails to establish anything. The Supreme Court had in 2013 declared the test illegal as it violated the privacy, physical and mental integrity and dignity of women. In 2018, the WHO said virginity testing is unscientific and that no known examination can prove whether a woman has had vaginal sex. Yet, the inhuman test has shockingly remained rampant, betraying a callous society in which the woman finds herself fighting an arduous and lonely battle for justice.



The National Medical Commission's decision to amend the syllabus should put an end to the old-school myth as also

the two-finger invasive procedure that subjects the already suffering woman to further humiliation as her hymen is probed for its opening size or tears and vaginal elasticity. Such reports have long-term ramifications for the girls' mental well-being as the innuendo-laden tag tends to stick, leading to her character assassination.

Dispelling the societal myth, scientists have long held that the hymen can get torn from not just having intercourse but also exercising, using tampons, playing sports or riding horses. Also, that some girls may be born without a hymen and be perfectly normal. But certain practices, triggered by culturally discriminatory norms woven around the general misunderstanding, are still prevalent in many societies. It is time that girls break free of the need to have their hymen 'intact' or get it reconstructed surgically to project themselves as 'virgin'. Just as men feel no such compulsion.

Insurgents need livelihood after surrender

With thousands of insurgents having surrendered in the Northeast over the past decade, there is a need to accelerate the peace talks with some outfits that are overground and also those that are yet to give up their armed struggle. The state and the Centre will have to play an active role in involving ex-insurgents in the tourism sector.

In January this year, 246 insurgents surrendered in Guwahati before Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma, laying down a large number of weapons, ammunition and explosives. Of them, 77 were from the little-known Tiwa Liberation Army, while the rest were from the United Gorkha People's Organisation. At this surrender ceremony, the CM presented cheques for Rs 1.5 lakh each to 462 former militants who had surrendered earlier on various occasions. Among them were 303 insurgents of the National Liberation Front of Bengalis, 61 of Adivasi Dragon Fighters, 41 of National Santhal Liberation Front, 29 of the United People's Revolutionary Front and 28 of the Rabha National Liberation Front. On February 25 last year, 1,040 insurgents from Karbi Anglong district of Assam surrendered before the then CM Sarbananda Sonowal along with 338 weapons, which included eight light machine guns with over 11,200 rounds, 11 M-16 rifles and 58 AK-47 rifles — which could have caused havoc, had they been used. These insurgents were from five groups of Karbi Anglong — the Karbi People's Liberation Tigers, the United People's Liberation Army, People's Democratic Council of Karbi Longri, Karbi Longri NC Hills Liberation Front and the Kuki Liberation Front. Twenty insurgents, 16 of them from Thadou People's Liberation Army, two from the United People's Liberation Army and one each from the People's Liberation Army and People's Revolutionary Party of Kangleipak, surrendered before Manipur CM N Biren Singh on March 3, 2021. The latter two were dreaded outfits that carried out a series of attacks on security forces in the 1980s and 1990s. Until about a



decade ago, almost 50 insurgent groups were active in Manipur with almost every tribe having an insurgent outfit and the Kuki National Organisation playing the role of an umbrella organisation for 17 splinter groups of the Kuki tribe and seven others under the United People's Front, also of Kuki tribals. Thirty Kuki insurgent groups are under the Suspension of Operations (known as SoO in military parlance) pact that was signed between the Centre, the state and the insurgent groups on August 22, 2008. Residing in their designated camps, they are known to indulge in extortion and other anti-social activities as they are not paid their promised stipend regularly, which at times stretches to over two years. There has not been any significant progress in the talks between the Centre and the insurgent groups though AB

Mathur was appointed interlocutor over four years ago. The Kuki groups nurture a grouse that the peace talks with the Naga insurgent group, the National Socialist Council of Nagaland (Isaac-Muivah) is being given greater importance.

Replying to an unstarred question in Parliament on November 26, 2014, the then Minister of State for Home Kiren Rijiju said that 8,119 insurgents of various groups had surrendered before the authorities between 2005 and 2014, the largest — 3,819 — among them being from Assam, while 1,365 surrendered in Tripura and 1,341 in Manipur. Intensive operations launched by the security forces, comprising the Central Reserve Police Force, Assam Rifles, the state police and the Army led to the killing of 21 insurgents, apart from the arrest of 646 with the seizure of 305 weapons in 2020, says the annual report of the Ministry of Home Affairs. As many as 2,644 insurgents surrendered during that year.

This has ameliorated the situation to a great extent. There has been a reduction of 80 per cent in insurgency-related violence as compared to 2014. Casualties of security forces personnel too have dwindled by 75 per cent. With thousands of insurgents having surrendered in the Northeast over the past decade, there is a need to accelerate the peace talks with some outfits that are overground and also those that are yet to give up their armed struggle. Under the surrender and rehabilitation scheme of the Central Government that was revised in March 2018, all surrendered insurgents are entitled to get a fixed deposit amount of Rs 4 lakh which they may use as collateral security against bank loan for self-employment, another Rs 6,000 per month as stipend for

three years apart from free boarding and lodging at designated rehabilitation camps run by non-government organisations. They would also be provided free vocational training for gainful employment. For the weapons surrendered, they would get additional incentive amount which would vary according to the type of arms and explosives surrendered. The Northeast offers a rich fare for tourists but unfortunately, it has not seen the kind of footfall that it should attract. Most of these surrendered insurgents can be gainfully employed in tourism and hospitality industry with less expenditure. While most of them can be put through courses on state-specific tourist spots as guides, many could be trained to be drivers to ferry tourists to various tourist spots in the states.

There are several unexplored tourist spots in the Northeast, much of which would be known to the people outside the region. In districts like Tamenglong and Ukhrul in Manipur, there are spots that are not much known to the world. Similarly, places like Sibsagar and Tinsukia in Assam have much to offer. Many books written by British officers who served in these areas are available in libraries. A peek into the history of the Northeast through tourism would go a long way to arouse interest in these states. Since most insurgents are familiar with the terrain, having spent years in the jungles, their services could be utilised in adventure tourism like hiking and rafting. The Union and state tourism ministries will have to play an active role in involving former insurgents in the tourism sector in a big way. Speedy rehabilitation of insurgents will go a long way to motivate others to come overground and lead a life of comfort and happiness with their families. Delay in rehabilitation could prove counter-productive and discourage other fence-sitters who may want to surrender.

JSW BPSL WALK-A-THON participated by Thousands to celebrated Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav

Sambalpur, July 11 (TNB): As directed by the Ministry of Steel, Govt India, JSWBPSL WALK-A-THON was organized on 10th July at Sambalpur to commemorate Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav. Thousands of participants started pouring into Commissioner Colony Cricket Ground, Sambalpur since early morning although the flag-off was scheduled at 6:00 AM. A hugely successful event, this walkathon was attended by approximately 2000 participants that was flagged off by MLA, Rengali Nauri Nayak, Collector & DM, Sambalpur, IAS Ananya Das, ADM (Gen), Ajambar Mohanty,



President, JSW BPSL Anil Kumar Singh and Advisor - Administration K B Singh. International Women's Hockey player Lilima Minz was amongst the many noted personalities and players who attended the event. JSW BPSL WALK-A-THON which started from

Commissioner Colony Cricket Ground went through Nelson Mandela Chowk, Balibandha Chowk, Kunjelpara Chowk, Modipara Chowk, Lakshmi Talkies Chowk, Zila School Chowk, Jail Chowk to finish at Commissioner Colony Cricket Ground

covering a distance of almost 6 KMs. People broke age barriers as many senior citizens not only participated in the event but also completed with success. Winner of the Men's category was Sumanth Mirdha, 1st Runner up was Roshan Behera and 2nd Runner up was Ajay Oram. In Women's Category, Shaheens Parween was the winner while Bishakha Oram was the 1st runner up and Srinita Oram the 2nd runner up. Speaking on the occasion Anil Kumar Singh, President JSW BPSL said that the event achieved its goal of Jan Bhagidari in the celebration of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav as 1000s

participated and spread the message of raising steel consumption through Make-in-India where Steel has a major role to play. Ananya Das, Collector and District Magistrate, Sambalpur encouraged the participants by her presence, flagging off the walkathon and encouraging the participants. While the winners were felicitated with Medals, Momentos and Certificates apart from Silver Coins, all were served snacks, water, lemonade and tea on the completion of walkathon. Good medical and safety arrangements were made for successful completion of the event.

Ritu Sakunia became new president Of Inner Wheel Club of RKL

Rajesh Dahima Rajgangpur/Rourkela, July 11 : Inner Wheel Club of Rourkela Mid Town, Chief Guest Rotary DGE Hiralal Yadav has talked about proper development of the society only due to the use of women's power. She is walking shoulder to shoulder. There is respect for women in every field. The swearing-in ceremony of the new committee for the year 2022-23 of the Inner Wheel Club concluded. President Manju Meher handed over the charge to the new president Ritu Sakunia. At the same time, Lipsa Mahanti transferred the charge to Neetu Agarwal. The chief guest described the woman as the form of Durga, Lakshmi, Saraswati. According to the statement issued to the press. The new team,



headed by Ritu Sakunia, President of Inner Wheel Club of Rourkela Mid Town, took over in the Brahmini Club. The swearing-in ceremony was organized in the chief hospitality of the chief guest DGE Hiralal Yadav and PDC Manju Mukherjee. This year all clubs are encouraged to work on the theme of Work Wonder by the International Inner Wheel President. President Ritu Sakunia, Secretary Neetu Agarwal, Vice President Dilraj

Panesar, Treasurer Madhavi Purohit, Editor Sushma Prasad Advisor Runa Mahanti, ISO Banita Shukla along with Club's Lipsa Mahanti, Kiran Bala Das, Pratima Parmar, Kiran Agarwal, Rekha Singh, Aruna Verma, Manjit Saluja, Sweety Das, Malinder Arora, Supriya Kaur, Manjit Chhabra Barkha Gupta took a pledge to expand social service. Other members of other Rotary clubs were present on the occasion.

"When the family is small, whatever little they have they are able to share. There is peace."

Akshya Rout JAJPUR, July 11 : The World Population Day was started with the United Nation's General Assembly in 1989. It was on July 11, 1987 that the world population stats crossed 5 billion. It was then decided to observe the World Population Day on a global scale so that more awareness can be created around the growing population. The day is also observed to create awareness about child marriage, gender equality, human rights and the importance of family planning among other issues Said Writer Engineer Taraprasad Mishra. According to statistics, the world population currently

stands at 7.96 billion and it is expected to grow nearly 8.5 billion in 2030. The theme for World Population Day 2022 is 'A world of 8 billion: Towards a resilient future for all - Harnessing opportunities and ensuring rights and choices for all' According to the theme, there are about 8 billion people living on Earth today but not all of them have equal rights and opportunities. Many people still face harassment, discrimination and violence on the basis of their sexual orientation, gender, ethnicity, class, religion, disability and country of origin. As we continue to multiply, the issue of overpopulation has be-

come more serious than ever. Emerging nations are now witnessing increase in problems related to gender inequality and human rights violations. The main reason for celebrating the World Population Day is to generate awareness around the issues that may rise along with the rising population. The objective is to spread awareness about how overpopulation can harm the ecosystem. Topics of discussion on this annual day include, family planning, poverty, sexual equality, civil rights, maternal health, among many others. World Population Day seeks to raise awareness

about issues related to demographics globally. The day is significant because it highlights the problems of overpopulation, raises awareness about the effects of overpopulation on the environment and development. It also talks about the health problems faced by childbearing women and the importance of family planning, gender equality, poverty, maternal health and human rights. In 1000 AD, the world population was only 400 million. It first reached 1 billion in 1804 and 3 billion by 1960. It only took 40 years - by 2000 - for the population to double to 6 billion. Every second of every day, 4.2 people

are born and 1.8 people die. It's expected that by 2050, nearly 70% of the world's population will live in cities. People to have a longer life: Life expectancy to rise across the world. Globally, life expectancy for both sexes combined is projected to rise from 71 years in 2010-2015 to 77 years in 2045-2050 and eventually to 83 years in 2095-2100. The world's population is growing by 1.10 percent per year, or about an additional 83 million people annually. The global population is expected to reach 8.6 billion in 2030, 9.8 billion in 2050 and 11.2 billion in 2100.

Tata Steel Meramandali celebrates Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav Over 450 students and employees participate plantation drive and walkathon

Susil Ku. Aich Angul/Narendrapur, July 11 : Tata Steel Meramandali (TSM) celebrated the ongoing Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav at its Narendrapur plant in Dhenkanal district from July 4 to July 10, 2022. To commemorate the 75th Anniversary of India's Independence, TSM organised an awareness session and tree plantation drive, engaging with the broader community and students from schools located around



the plant. The participating schools included UP School, Khaliberena, SSS High School, UP School, Kurunti and Nodal High School, Kusupanga. More than 350 students participated in this

programme and planted saplings at their school premises. The programme was organised by the Corporate Social Responsibility wing and Environment Department of TSM. A walkathon organised by TSM's Sports Committee for the company's housing colony residents witnessed over 100 employees and their family members participating.

Plantation programme was observed by SAMPARK A social organisation



Bhubaneswar, July 11 (TNB): Sampark a social organisation observed a plantation program in smart funeral ground. Additional Dist Magistrate, Manoj Ku padhi, sub collector Bhubaneswar Debbtrata Sahoo, former register prof Dr Narayan Rao, Culture cum DIPRO chaudhury Arabinda Das, Vice-chairman khorda municipality sourya Ranjan Mohanty, Director Sampark, Uma Shankar prasad, Secretary Lalita Mohan Swain, Advisor Radheshyam Bhagat, social worker pradumna mohanty, journalist pravat Misha, pradeep behera, jayanta ray, subhransu samantray, educationist Satyabadi Baliar Singh, social worker Ram Shankar, Kasi nath Ray, Itisri saho, subham ram, and many others participated in this plantation program and plant a tree each with a message "plant a tree and save the nature".

RFA louded for compensation of damaged crops & drought relief



Asutosh Ratha Bargarh: A meeting on crop insurance disruption was held September 10, 2022, at the Gorubazar premises of the Rajbodasambar Farmers' Association under the presidentship of President Banchhanidhi Sahu. Despite repeated calls for compensation for crop damage and drought relief, the company, the administration and both governments have been silent on the issue. It has been decided to shut down the entire subdivision until the insurance is paid. Therefore, all the farmers' organizations, trade unions, lawyers' associations, citizen committee and all other organizations in the Padmapur sub-division have been urged to join in this meeting. Farmers leader Ramesh Mahapatra, co ordinator Ashok Sahu, advocate Ajit Satpathy and Chinmaya Panda, Kshyamanidhi Sahu, Bhajan Sagar, Abadhut Jagat from Jharbandh block, Arbind Panda, Saroj Sahu, Biren Padhan, Gajapati Sahu from Gaisilat, Bishwanath Rana, Rahasa Sahu, Dahit Sahu, Balakrishna Padhan, Rohit Padhan, Rahas Bihari Sahu; from Bijapur, Jadumani putel, Sambodh Barik, Subash Padhan, from Paikmal (Lakhmar) Sahita Sahu, Malay Bhoi, Kulmani Barik, Lunga Padhan, Manbodh Biswal and hundreds of activists from around the area attended the event.

Awareness on Agniveer Army Recruitment Drive at Paradip

Laxminarayan saho Paradip, July 11 : Continuing it's endeavour to create awareness amongst youth about the Agniveer scheme, a lecture and awareness drive on the Agniveer Army Recruitment Drive was conducted by Colonel Haminder Singh, Director Recruiting, Army Recruiting Office, Cuttack at Paradip College in association with the Paradip Port Authority (PPA) on Monday. The aim was to clear any misconceptions, motivate the youth and tell them the procedure and advantages of joining the Indian Army under Agniveer Scheme. In the programme a good number of students from general stream, NCC, NSS, YRC eagerly participated. The programme gave an insight to attendees about Agniveer and career opportunities in Indian Army. On this occasion, Principal Dr. Sasmita Satapathy, NCC Officer Lt. Cdr Akshaya ch. Mishra, NSS & YRC Officer extended their wholehearted support to such type of programme. At last Sri Ganeswar Patra HOD, English extend vote of thanks. Notably, the Union cabinet approved Agniveer Scheme for youth to serve in armed forces and to enable a youthful profile of the Armed Forces. Those who will enrolled through the scheme will be called Agniveer.

Lost

I Batakushna Sahoo, S/O Late Bansidhar Sahoo At-Bhimpur Sahi, Gopalpur, P.S-Cuttack Sadar Dist-Cuttack. I have lost my Previous ROR Khata No-299/75 Plot No-256 & 435 Dt. 26.03.2014 of my plot done under Sub-Registrar, Jajpur of my Mouza-Kaimatia in between Balikuda Chhak and Gopalpur on dt 04.07.2022 at about 6.00PM. F.I.R has been filed in Cuttack Sadar Police Station. It is requested that if any kind hearted person finds it, kindly inform on Mobile No-9658892162

"Writers have rights to write, Establishment wishes otherwise": Perumal Murugan

Bhubaneswar, July 11 (TNB): A true writer goes with the taboos, superstitions and contemporary beliefs as he wants to make people want to live with tradition. Traditions must see the light of days, but we have to go against the establishment to expose these things for better understanding of people, said Perumal Murugan, controversial Indian writer about his works. Sri Murugan was speaking as guest in a programme "Anama Poet Kumar Mohanty Memorial Lec-



ture" who described the relation of literature with cast, creed, religion and beliefs. He said that a writer must have to see and know the contemporary atmosphere repleted

life style and it should be described through social, political and anthropological windows. Identifying himself as only educated person in his community, Sri Perumal said that while blind belief, superstition and taboos play an important role in the lives of rural people, the responsibility of a writer rests on the fulfillment of a better understanding on societal relationship. He said that all his works have reminded people in modern life to go into roots and folklore. Folk elements play a greater part to en-

rich the cultural exports of a man with different language to comprehend more on the present scenario. He answered questions put by Satya Mishra, Paresh Patnaik, Mousumi Das, Akhya Pala, Suman Das in context of his ideas and exposures. Celebrated poet Dr. Rajendra Kishore Panda, attending the programme said on the works and personality of Kumar Mohanty that he was a harbinger of traditional values and his ideas will be remem-

bered for ever with all appreciation by the young generation for its simplicity, ideas and meaningfulness. The writer attended the programme "Anama Poet Kumar Mohanty Memorial Lecture" while Sri Manu Dash of Dhauri Books welcomed the guests. Sri Perumal signed his books in translation by Sri Surya Mishra, the poet and translator after the programme. Writers, poets, thinkers and activists attended the programme to felicitate Sri Murugan.

AFFIDAVIT

By Virtue of an affidavit before Notary Public, Bhubaneswar on dated 11.07.2022, I PRAGNYA PARAMITA PANDA 45 Years, wife of Gouri Shankar Dash, Resident of At-Plot No.4774/4973, Chakeisihani, Po-Rasulgarh, Ps-Mancheswar, Bhubaneswar, Dist-Khordha, Odisha-751010, hereby declare state that, in my Aadhar Card No-9571 7182 1810, PAN card No.-AXZP09413C and in my name is PRAGNYA DASH instead of my actual name PRAGNYA PARAMITA PANDA. That PRAGNYA PARAMITA PANDA and PRAGNYA DASH both are the same and one person. That, the fact stated above are true to the best of my knowledge and believe.

EAST COAST RAILWAY

Tender Notice No. C-SBP-GCT-BXQ Dtd.: 07.07.2022

Name of work: DEVELOPMENT OF GATI SHAKTI MULTI-MODAL CARGO TERMINAL (GCT) AT BRUNDAMAL (BXQ) STATION ENTIRELY ON RAILWAY LAND.

Tender work value/Estimated project cost of GCT excluding the cost of land: ₹ 39,32,87,000/-, EMD: ₹ 3,93,28,700/-

Period of contract: 05 (Five) years (on and from completion of development work of GCT). Time period for completion of Construction/development work: 18 months.

Tender closing date & time : at 1100 hrs. of 29.07.2022.

Manual offers are not allowed against this tender and any such manual offer received shall be ignored.

Complete details & tender documents will be available at website www.ireps.gov.in

Divisional Commercial Manager/ PR-281/N/22-23 Sambalpur

EAST COAST RAILWAY

e-Tender Notice No. ETCECONIBBS 2022065 Dtd.: 07.07.2022

Name of work: CARRYING OUT FINAL LOCATION SURVEY FOR NEW BG RAILWAY LINE PROJECTS (II) FINAL LOCATION SURVEY FOR BAGHUAAPAL-SUKINDA ROAD 3RD AND 4TH LINE (8.50 KM) (I) FINAL LOCATION SURVEY FOR PARADEEP-BADABANDHA 3RD AND 4TH LINE (12.00 KM) (III) FINAL LOCATION SURVEY FOR GORAKHNATH-RAHAMSA 3RD AND 4TH LINE (15.00 KM) & (IV) FINAL LOCATION SURVEY FOR CONSTRUCTION OF FLYOVER BETWEEN SIIJU AND PARADEEP COACHING YARD TO AVOID SURFACE CROSSING IN TRAINS (7.00 KM) OF EAST COAST RAILWAY.

Approx cost of the work: ₹ 72.17 Lakhs. EMD: ₹ 1,44,400/-, Completion period of the work: 03 Months.

Tender closing date & time : at 1200 hrs. of 29.07.2022.

No manual offers sent by Post/Courier/Fax or in person shall be accepted against such e-tenders.

Complete information including e-tender documents of the above e-tender is available in website <http://www.ireps.gov.in>. The prospective tenderers are advised to revisit the website 15 (Fifteen) days before the date of closing of tender to note any changes/corrigenda issued for this tender. The tenderers/bidders must have Class-III Digital Signature Certificate and must be registered on IREPS portal. Only registered tenderer/bidder can participate on e-tendering.

The tenderers should read all instructions to the tenderers carefully and ensure compliance of all instructions including check lists, para 3.1 (additional check-list) of tender form (Second sheet) Annexure-I of chapter 2 of Tender documents, submission of Annexure-B duly verified and signed by Chartered Accountant.

Chief Administrative Officer (Con)/ PR-50/CF/22-23 Bhubaneswar

NEWS BOX

Eight out of top 10 firms add Rs 1.81 trillion in m-cap; HUL tops chart

New Delhi: Eight of the 10 most valued domestic firms together added Rs 1,81,209.89 crore in market valuation last week, with Hindustan Unilever emerging as the biggest gainer. Last week, the BSE benchmark Sensex advanced 1,573.91 points or 2.97 per cent.

From the top-10 pack, Reliance Industries and Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) were the only laggards.

Among the winners, Hindustan Unilever Ltd (HUL) added Rs 50,058.05 crore, taking its valuation to Rs 5,86,422.74 crore. ICICI Bank's valuation jumped Rs 35,956.8 crore to reach Rs 5,25,656.96 crore.

The market valuation of HDFC Bank advanced Rs 23,940.12 crore to Rs 7,75,832.15 crore and that of Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) climbed Rs 19,797.24 crore to Rs 4,47,841.46 crore.

The market capitalisation (m-cap) of State Bank of India (SBI) went higher by Rs 19,232.55 crore to Rs 4,35,922.66 crore and that of Infosys jumped Rs 15,126.4 crore to Rs 6,37,033.78 crore. Bharti Airtel's valuation moved up by Rs 12,000.08 crore to Rs 3,81,833.20 crore and that of HDFC climbed Rs 5,098.65 crore to Rs 4,06,213.61 crore. In contrast, the m-cap of TCS declined by Rs 18,770.93 crore to Rs 11,94,625.39 crore. The country's largest software exporter TCS on Friday reported a 5.2 per cent rise in June quarter net profit to Rs 9,478 crore. The results were declared post market hours. The valuation of Reliance Industries went lower by Rs 11,805.14 crore to Rs 16,17,879.36 crore. In the ranking of top-10 firms, Reliance Industries remained the most valued firm, followed by TCS, HDFC Bank, Infosys, HUL, ICICI Bank, LIC, SBI, HDFC and Bharti Airtel.

EPFO to soon disburse pension to over 73 lakh pensioners in one go via central system

NEW DELHI: Retirement fund body EPFO will consider and approve a proposal for setting up a central pension disbursement system in its meeting on July 29 and 30, paving the way for crediting the benefit into over 73 lakh pensioners' bank accounts in one go across India.

Presently, over 138 regional offices of the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) disburse pensions to beneficiaries in their region separately. Thus, the pensioners of different regional offices are getting pensions at different times or days.

"A proposal for setting up a central pension disbursement system will be placed in the EPFO's apex decision making body Central Board of Trustees (CBT) in a meeting scheduled on July 29 and 30," a source told PTI. The source further stated that the pension would be disbursed using a central database of over 138 regional offices in the country and this will facilitate crediting the benefit into bank accounts of over 73 lakh beneficiaries in one go.

The source explained that all regional offices cater to the pensioners in their regions separately and that is why pensioners across the country get pension on different times or days. In the 229th meeting of the CBT held on November 20, 2021, the trustees had approved the proposal for development of centralized IT-enabled systems by C-DAC. The labour ministry had stated in a statement after the meeting that post this, the field functionalities will move on a central database in a phased manner enabling smoother operations and enhanced service delivery. The centralized system will facilitate de-duplication & merger of all PF accounts of any member. It will remove the requirement of transfer of account on change of job, it had said. The source said that the CBT will also consider and approve a proposal to allow withdrawal of deposits from pension accounts by subscribers who have contributed for less than six months.

Inflation may ease in second half of 2022-23: RBI governor

NEW DELHI: Inflation may ease gradually in the second half of 2022-23, Reserve Bank of India governor Shaktikanta Das said on Saturday, asserting that the central bank will continue to calibrate its policies with the goal of preserving and fostering macro-economic stability.

"In this endeavour, we will remain flexible in our approach while being cogent and transparent in our communication. If history is any guide, I am optimistic that our actions will usher in a new era of prosperity in the years ahead," Das said in his address at the Kautilya Economic Conclave in the national capital.

Soaring price pressures have emerged as a major challenge for policy-makers, prompting RBI to raise interest rates sharply to tame inflation. Both retail and wholesale price inflation have remained stubbornly high. **NEW DELHI:** Inflation may ease gradually in the second half of 2022-23, Reserve Bank of India governor Shaktikanta Das said on Saturday, asserting that the central bank will continue to calibrate its policies with the goal of preserving and fostering macro-economic stability.

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Soaring price pressures have emerged as a major challenge for policy-makers, prompting RBI to raise interest rates sharply to tame inflation. Both retail and wholesale price inflation have remained stubbornly high. They add to the macroeconomic and financial stability challenges from volatile capital flows in a financially globalised world. In fact, recent developments call for greater recognition of global factors in domestic inflation dynamics and macroeconomic developments which underscore the need for enhanced policy coordination and dialogue among countries to achieve better outcomes," said Das.

Anand Mahindra tweets on Elon Musk pulling out of Twitter deal, cites example of 'Indian train'

► **Anand Mahindra suggested that he should acquire the social network instead of Musk.**

► **Musk claims Twitter violated their agreement by not giving him enough evidence.**

New Delhi: Elon Musk is withdrawing from his \$44 billion takeover deal with Twitter, which plans to litigate to keep the arrangement intact. The Tesla CEO's attempt to take over the social network took numerous unexpected turns. Elon Musk has accused Twitter of failing to provide him with an accurate number of spam bots on the platform. He also brought up the issue of Twitter's debt. The Musk-Twitter saga has sparked a frenzy

on social media. Anand Mahindra, an industrialist, made fun of the story by coining the term "Twitter tease." "If Elon were to embark on an Indian railway, the conductor would call him a 'TT' Ticketless Traveler," Mahindra Group Chairman remarked. "However, TT may now become a moniker for every headline-grabbing attempt that fails: A Twitter Tease. Anand Mahindra, a Twitter user, suggested that he should acquire the social network instead of Musk. They claimed that because Twitter CEO Parag Agrawal is 'our own' (Indian), he would offer Mahindra a fair price for the company. "Canceling this acquisition was predicted," another person commented. "My heart breaks for Twitter." Musk claims Twitter violated their agreement by not giving him enough evidence to prove that only 5% of the accounts on its site are false. The billionaire will now have to prove that Twitter broke the terms of the deal. If he



cannot, he may be sued for a \$1 billion breakup fee. Twitter CEO Brett Taylor has stated that the company is dedicated to closing the acquisition agreement at the price and parameters agreed upon by

Musk. On July 9, he tweeted, "(The company) intends to initiate legal action to enforce the merger agreement." "We are confident in our ability to triumph in the Delaware Court of Chancery."

FPIs take out Rs 4,000 crore from equities in July; pace of selling slows

Foreign investors continue to desert Indian equity markets and have pulled out over Rs 4,000 crore this month so far amid steady appreciation of the dollar and rising interest rates in the US.

However, the pace of selling by foreign portfolio investors (FPIs) has been declining over the last few weeks. "With oil prices breaching the USD 100 a barrel mark, and refining margins cracking across markets, hopes for lower inflation helped improve market sentiments. RBI's measure to help stem the sliding rupee added to the building bullish momentum," said Vijay Singhania, Chairman at TradeSmart.

Himanshu Srivastava, Associate Director - Manager Research, Morningstar India, however, believes that the decline in the pace of net withdrawal by FPIs does not signify a change in trend as there has not been any significant improvement in the underlying drivers. FPIs have been on a selling mode for the last nine months.

FPI inflows will resume once there are clear indications of inflation peaking out, likely to be manifested in global CPI readings around August-September, said Hitesh Jain, Lead Analyst - Institutional Equities, YES Securities. "If the high inflation narrative takes a back seat, there will



also be a possibility of central banks turning soft on the projected rate hikes, which again will bring the risk assets back in the reckoning," he added.

According to data with depositories, FPIs pulled out a net amount of Rs 4,096 crore from the Indian equity market during July 1 - 8. However, for the first time in several weeks, FPIs bought equities worth over Rs 2,100 crore on July 6. This comes following a net withdrawal of Rs 50,203 crore from equities in June. This was the highest net outflow since March 2020, when they had pulled out Rs 61,973 crore. FPIs' net outflow from equities has reached around Rs 2.21 lakh crore so far this year -- an all-time high. Before this, they withdrew a net Rs 52,987 crore in entire 2008, data

showed. The massive capital outflow has significantly contributed to the depreciation in the Indian rupee, which breached the 79 per dollar mark recently. "The major factors driving FPI selling during the last two to three months have been the steady appreciation of the dollar and rising interest rates in US.

"If the rupee consolidates at the current level, which in turn depends mainly on the price of crude, FPI selling will come down. But India's high trade deficit is an area of concern," said V K Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Strategist at Geojit Financial Services. On the other hand, FPIs put in a net sum of about Rs 530 crore in the debt market during the period under review. This net inflow can largely be attributed to FPIs parking investments from a short-term perspective in the wake of ongoing uncertainties, Morningstar India's Srivastava said.

Broadly, from the risk-reward perspective and with interest rates rising in the US, Indian debt does not appear to be an attractive investment option for foreign investors, he added. Apart from India, FPI flows were negative for Indonesia, Philippines, South Korea, Taiwan and Thailand during the period under review.

EPFO to soon disburse pension to over 7.3 mn pensioners in one go

New Delhi: Retirement fund body EPFO will consider and approve a proposal for setting up a central pension disbursement system in its meeting on July 29 and 30, paving the way for crediting the benefit into over 73 lakh pensioners' bank accounts in one go across India.

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The source further stated that the pension



would be disbursed using a central database of over 138 regional offices in the country and this will facilitate crediting the benefit into bank accounts of over 73 lakh beneficiaries in one go. The source explained that all regional offices cater to the pensioners in their regions separately and that is why pensioners across the country get pension on different times or days.

In the 229th meeting of the CBT held on November 20, 2021, the trustees had approved the proposal for

development of centralized IT-enabled systems by C-DAC. The labour ministry had stated in a statement after the meeting that post this, the field functionalities will move on a central database in a phased manner enabling smoother operations and enhanced service delivery. The centralized system will facilitate de-duplication & merger of all PF accounts of any member. It will remove the requirement of transfer of account on change of job, it had said. The source said that the CBT will also consider and approve a proposal to allow withdrawal of deposits from pension accounts by subscribers who have contributed for less than six months. Presently, only those subscribers are eligible for withdrawal from their pension accounts who have contributed for six months to 10 years.

India adds 5.1 million new mutual fund investor accounts in June quarter

New Delhi: Asset management companies added 51 lakh investor accounts in June quarter, taking the total tally to 13.46 crore, on increasing awareness about mutual funds and ease of transactions through digitisation, and experts hope the ongoing financial year to be promising too.

In comparison, 93 lakh accounts (or folios in mutual fund parlance) were opened in March quarter, while a staggering 3.2 crore investor accounts were added in the last 12 months, data with the Association of Mutual Funds in India (Amfi) showed. Although there were fewer folios in April-June this year than in the March quarter, there was still an increase, which is an indication that investors continued to invest despite the volatility in the market.

Geopolitical tensions like the Russia-Ukraine War, increasing inflation, rising bond yields, and the Federal Reserve's hawkish views on interest rates are a few factors that can be attributed to this, said Priya Agrawal, Money Coach at LXME.

Going forward, the ongoing financial year appears to be promising in terms of folios growth, she said. Market conditions, geopolitical situations, inflation rates, financialisation of investments and increasing awareness among the people are some of the elements that may have an impact on this industry, she added.

"Majority of mutual fund retail investors invest in equity funds. The market

conditions will have a role to play in increasing the number of folios and investors. The participation will increase when more stability returns in the stock market, which may happen in the coming few quarters. Hence, we believe the reach and penetration of mutual funds will increase this financial year," Harshad Chetanwala, Co-founder of MyWealthGrowth.com, said. According to the data, the number of folios with 43 fund houses rose to 13.46 crore in June 2022 from 12.95 crore in March 2022, registering a gain of 51 lakh during the three-month period.

The industry crossed a milestone of 10 crore folios in May 2021. The number of folios under equity, hybrid and solution oriented schemes, wherein the maximum investment is from retail segment, stood at about 10.72 crore as of June quarter 2022, rising nearly 4 per cent from the preceding January-March period. Folios are numbers designated to individual investor accounts. An investor can have multiple folios. "The retail participation should continue to increase in future as mutual fund penetration is still low when compared to its actual potential. As we will see more awareness about mutual funds we will see retail participation increasing," Chetanwala said. The mutual fund space has been witnessing a



consistent growth in folio numbers in the past few years.

It saw an addition of 3.17 crore investor accounts in 2021-22, 81 lakh in 2020-21, 73 lakh investor accounts in 2019-20, 1.13 crore in 2018-19, 1.6 crore in 2017-18, over 67 lakh in 2016-17 and 59 lakh in 2015-16. Some tailwinds that are supporting the industry include increasing mutual fund (MF) awareness, strong distribution platforms and ease of transactions through digitisation, which was further driven by the COVID-19 pandemic. According to LXME's Agrawal, multiple factors that have enabled the growth in the mutual fund

Q1 earnings, inflation figures, global cues to dictate markets next week

New Delhi: Trading activity in the domestic equity market this week will be influenced by a host of macroeconomic data announcements, including inflation number for June, first quarter earnings from companies, global trends and foreign funds movement, analysts said. Besides, other key factors like rupee-dollar trend and Brent crude oil price will also guide market sentiments, they added. "This week, participants will first react to TCS numbers. Besides, macroeconomic data viz. IIP and CPI on July 12 and WPI on July 14 will be in focus. Apart from domestic factors, global cues like performance of the US markets, crude movement etc will remain on the radar," said Ajit Mishra, VP - Research, Religare Broking Ltd.

India's largest IT services firm Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) on Friday reported a 5.2 per cent year-on-year rise in consolidated net profit to Rs 9,478 crore for the first quarter ended June 30.

It reported a 16.2 per cent growth in revenue at Rs 52,758 crore for the quarter, with all the big geographies and business segments reporting strong numbers, but it was operating profit margins, which slid down to 23.1 per cent -- much lower than the aspirational band of over 26 per cent -- that hurt the profit growth. Brokerage firm Prabhudas Lilladher said the company has missed on both revenue and margins in the June quarter results. On the earnings front, ACC, HCL Technologies, Jindal Steel and Power, MindTree, Federal Bank and HDFC Bank will announce their Q1 numbers during the week. "... IIP and CPI numbers will be announced on 12th July whereas WPI will be announced on 14th July. On the global front, US CPI number, IIP and job numbers will be key factors," said Santosh Meena, Head of Research, Swastika Investmart Ltd.

Apart from this, FIIs' behaviour and direction of the rupee and crude oil prices will be other important factors, he added. Last week, the BSE Sensex advanced 1,573.91 points or 2.97 per cent, while the NSE Nifty climbed 468.55 points or 2.97 per cent. Apurva Sheth, Head of Market Perspectives, Samco Securities, said, "This week is going to test the market in a number of ways as a multitude of important events are lined up. The USA's much-anticipated inflation numbers and the jobless claims data will keep the global markets on their toes." "The inflationary problem is not just restricted to the West, thus the Indian inflation numbers... will also keep the markets back home busy," he noted. Quarterly results will influence market sentiment. The management commentary on future earnings growth trajectory will be of interest to Dalal Street, Sheth added.

NEWS BOX

England vs India 3rd T20I, Nottingham Weather Forecast: Clear sky on offer for potential England clean sweep

New Delhi India would look to secure a clean sweep over England in the third and final T20I at Trent Bridge in Nottingham on Sunday (July 10). The match begins at 7 pm IST. The Men in Blue took an unassailable lead of 2-0 after defeating the hosts by 49 runs in the second T20I. Come Sunday, the venue will see clear sky throughout the match proceedings, with humidity expected to decrease from 43 percent to 35 percent. India got off to a flying start in the second game, with openers Rohit Sharma and Rishabh Pant taking the team to 49 for no loss. After the pair's departure, incoming Virat Kohli at number three was dismissed cheaply for one.

Kohli's slump in form left the Indian cricket team's fans furious as he came in place of in-form Deepak Hooda. Ravindra Jadeja's quickfire unbeaten knock of 46 off just 29 balls helped India post 170 for the loss of eight wickets. Veteran India fast bowler Bhuvneshwar Kumar left the England dugout shocked as Jason Roy and captain Jos Buttler departed for a duck and four respectively. The English middle-order, too, failed and could never rebuild the innings as Yuzvendra Chahal, Jasprit Bumrah and Hardik Pandya continued to make inroads. England were eventually bundled out for 121 in 17 overs. India - Rohit Sharma (c), Rishabh Pant, Virat Kohli, Suryakumar Yadav, Hardik Pandya, Dinesh Karthik, Ravindra Jadeja, Harshal Patel, Bhuvneshwar Kumar, Jasprit Bumrah, Yuzvendra Chahal, Deepak Hooda, Shreyas Iyer, Ishan Kishan, Axar Patel, Avesh Khan, Ravi Bishnoi, Umran Malik England - Jason Roy, Jos Buttler (c), Dawid Malan, Liam Livingstone, Harry Brook, Moeen Ali, Sam Curran, David Willey, Chris Jordan, Richard Gleeson, Matthew Parkinson, Reece Topley, Tymal Mills, Philip Salt.

England vs India | Great game for us, glad to have sealed series at Edgbaston: Yuzvendra Chahal



New Delhi Yuzvendra Chahal is elated for India to seal the three-match T20I series against England at Edgbaston. The Men in Blue defeated the hosts by 49 runs in the second game to take an unassailable lead of 2-0.

The legspinner took two wickets and conceded just 10 runs in his two overs at Edgbaston on Saturday (July 9). "Great game for us and glad to have sealed the series here at Edgbaston. Onto the final one now," Chahal said. India got off to a flying start, with openers Rohit Sharma and Rishabh Pant taking the team to 49 for no loss. After the pair's departure, incoming Virat Kohli at number three was dismissed cheaply for one. Kohli's slump in form left the Indian cricket team's fans furious as he came in place of in-form Deepak Hooda. Ravindra Jadeja's quickfire unbeaten knock of 46 off just 29 balls helped India post 170 for the loss of eight wickets. Veteran India fast bowler Bhuvneshwar Kumar left the England dugout shocked as Jason Roy and captain Jos Buttler departed for a duck and four respectively. The English middle-order, too, failed and could never rebuild the innings as Yuzvendra Chahal, Jasprit Bumrah and Hardik Pandya continued to make inroads. England were eventually bundled out for 121 in 17 overs. Bhuvneshwar took three wickets, Bumrah and Chahal picked two each, and Pandya and Harshal Patel got one apiece.

Former captain Eoin Morgan impressed with huge change of attitude in Indian batting line-up

Edgbaston. England's World Cup winning captain Eoin Morgan has been left impressed with India's batting intent in the T20I series against England. Rohit Sharma's team has taken an unassailable 2-0 lead in the series, defeating England twice by huge margins. Eoin Morgan, one of the best white-ball captains to ever grace the game, is of the opinion that India's attitude towards taking risks has been quite impressive. "I've noticed a huge change in their attitude towards taking risks. It's been unbelievably impressive," Morgan told SkySports during the second match between the two sides.

In both games, India started well at the top order. Captain Rohit Sharma got off to a quick start in the first game, and he was supported well by wicketkeeper Rishabh Pant in the second game. While Indian batsmen might not have been able to convert their quick starts into huge scores, but they have shown that they are not afraid to go for the big shots from the start. The positive intent led to two decent totals in the first two games, which they defended by margin to spare. This was also in stark contrast to what the Indian team usually before the last World Cup - put a prize on their wickets. Speaking during the last game, Morgan had pointed out that it was India's conservative approach at the top that led to their debacle in the T20 World Cup in the UAE. He added that they have clearly worked on that part of the game and have tried to shift their mentality. The most impressive thing about India for me (on Thursday) is what they lacked in the group stages of the T20 World Cup, they brought.

England vs India: Virat Kohli won't be there in my T20I side, says Ajay Jadeja

New Delhi Former India batter Ajay Jadeja said on Saturday that he would not go for Virat Kohli in his T20 line-up, saying India have to make a call on whether the former captain fits what seems to be their new template of playing aggressive T20I cricket. Jadeja said there are two clear-cut options for the skipper and the team management to make when it comes to their T20i style and when it comes to Virat Kohli's future, it becomes a tough call. Jadeja's comments came in the lead-up to the 2nd T20I against England, which India won by 49 runs. India brought back Virat Kohli to the line-up, leaving out in-form Deepak Hooda and also included the likes of Rishabh Pant, Jasprit Bumrah and Ravindra Jadeja for the clash in Birmingham. It was evident with the way the batters charged at the England attack from the word go that India are looking towards modelling their T20I batting on being fearless at the top and through the

middle overs. India opened with Pant and Rohit Sharma but Kohli failed at No. 3, managing just 1 from 3 deliveries after a 49-run opening stand that came in quick time. "You have been shown that there is another way of playing the same game. You are still scoring around 180 to 200. It's not that the game has changed, but you have a choice of how you want to play. I think Rohit Sharma will be making that call," Jadeja told Sony Sports. "I think anyone who is leading the side has only two choices. That's the way I see it. Either you stick to the way you have been playing, give opportunities to youngsters or you go back to your old team that played before you started trying to give opportunities," he added. India left out Deepak Hooda, who had been in sublime form, hitting a fifty and a hundred



leave him out just because he hasn't scored a hundred. You don't leave him out because of what he is done in the past." Virat Kohli is a choice that you have to make. Do you want to play that solidity at the top and then get runs right at the back? It's that old-style when Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma will bat at the top and you would have players like Dhoni where they get 60 in the last 4 overs.

"It depends on whom you want to play. I feel you have a choice, it's a tough one to make. If I had to pick a T20 side, Virat probably won't be there," he added.

Virat Kohli has been going through a slump in form across all formats of the game. The former captain managed just 31 runs across two innings in the Birmingham Test last week and failed to get going in the T20I on Saturday.

T20 World Cup: ICC welcomes Rishabh Pant to the 'Biggest tournament of the year', posts video

New Delhi India wicket-keeper batter Rishabh Pant's stocks have been rising astronomically in the last few years. While the player might be a little hit and miss, there is no doubting that there aren't many in modern cricket today who are as exciting to watch as Rishabh Pant. From stepping down against fast bowlers to reverse lapping James Anderson, Pant has cut a niche for himself in world cricket. Such has been his impact that he was made captain of the Indian side against South Africa in the five match home series after KL Rahul was ruled out. Pant, who tormented Australia in the red-ball tour of 2020/21 has been a popular figure in Australia after his historic innings at the Gabba in the final Test match of that series. With T20 World Cup approaching, the International Cricket Council headlined their new World Cup promo with Rishabh Pant and welcomed him to the tournament, which they termed his as the 'Big Time'. The promo had a helicopter roving over the Sydney Opera house, over the banks of Sydney Harbour from where Pant appears. He is seen in



his classic 'dragging the bat' walk as he enters the city in a 'Godzilla-like' manner. From a highly talked about prospect, Rishabh Pant is now an indispensable part of the Indian team. He has recently been tried at the top of the batting order, where he formed a ballistic partnership with Rohit

Sharma, racing the team to 49 runs inside the first five overs against a potent England bowling line-up. India are expected to buckle-up after their failure in the T20 World Cup in the UAE after they have rehailed their approach to the shortest format of the international arena.

ENG vs IND | Bhuvneshwar Kumar not bothered with his injury history: Never thought my India career was over

Edgbaston Indian pacer Bhuvneshwar Kumar has been in great form off late. After a successful outing in the Indian Premier League with SunRisers Hyderabad, Kumar made a strong statement for his place in the T20 World Cup squad, after putting up back to back performances for the national team. Kumar, who has had multiple issues with his fitness in the last couple of years, has left people pleasantly surprised with his consistency for the national team. Asked by the reporters in the press conference about his tryst with fitness and if he believed that his India career was over, the right arm pacer said that he never gave it a thought.

"I never thought that it, that was it for me, but yes, I was working with the physios, trainers and doing my thing. And of course, when you are out of the game you're never confident. You just, feel a bit frustrated or disappointed, but you want to come back. And luckily I know I came back and (I'm) playing for

India again." Kumar has been on the money at the top of the bowling line-up, swinging the white-ball under the lights. This has put the top-order batters in trouble, which essentially



- **Bhuvneshwar Kumar clean bowled Jos Buttler in the first match**
- **Kumar has made a comeback after a string of injuries in 2020/21**
- **The medium pacer had a stunning IPL with SunRisers Hyderabad**

ball swings I go for a wicket and it works. If ball swings, it motivates you to do things against a particular batsman," he said.

The Indian bowling line-up has been shaping quite nicely ahead of the T20 World Cup. With the return of Hardik Pandya, India have been able to find their middle order enforcer and have won back to back matches against England with huge margins.



and long life." The International Cricket Council wrote: "He was one opener you wanted to see back of. Because when he gets in, he books lunch and dinner and overnight accommodation. Happy birthday to one of India's greatest batters Sunil Gavaskar." "BCCI tweeted: "233 international games, 13,214 international runs, 1983 World Cup-winner, first batter to score 10,000 runs in Tests. Here's wishing Sunil Gavaskar - former #TeamIndia Captain & batting great - a very happy birthday." Joy Bhattacharjya, the former team director of Kolkata Knight Riders, said: "Virat & Rohit are the stars of a proud & prosperous nation, the most powerful in cricket. Sunil Gavaskar was the mainstay of a poor nation way down the cricketing hierarchy. So many survived that crowded office commute with just 1 thought - Gavaskar was still batting. HBD master."

ENG vs IND 3rd T20I Playing XI Predictions: India hope for resurgence in Kohli's form, changes on cards

India have the opportunity to play with their line-up having won the series already. Rishabh Pant is expected to get another go at the top.

- **India might opt for a couple of changes**
- **Rishabh Pant is expected to continue opening for India**
- **England might want a change or two in their batting order**



New Delhi. India demolished the England team under the captaincy of Jos Buttler in the first two matches of the T20I series. India have checked almost all of the boxes, starting positively in all departments of the game. Rohit Sharma's return to the Indian captaincy was a fruitful one, after he chose to bat first in the first T20I, which allowed the bowlers to extract a big amount of swing under the lights.

The second match had a similar story with India defending a tricky target of 171 runs, with their bowlers combining well to put the hosts under the pump. With the luxury of having sealed the series, the final match of the three-game T20I series gives India a chance to experiment in the final match. It is possible that after a brilliant outing of the bowling line-up,

India might bring in a couple of changes. It is possible that they give Umran Malik or Avesh Khan a game and rest Bhuvneshwar Kumar or Harshal Patel, both of whom, who have had very good outings. In the Indian batting line-up, Rishabh Pant is expected to get another go at the top after India's experiment turned out to be a successful one. Deepak

Hooda's drop in the second T20I felt quite harsh to the Indian fans and hopefully he will make it back to the playing XI at the cost of Dinesh Karthik or Suryakumar Yadav. England on the other hand have had poor outings with the bat in either games, and one was to put the majority of the blame on the top order for it.

Ahead of the series, captain Jos Buttler had said that he was not afraid to lose games early in his tenure, but one has to think, if England might need a change or two, just to freshen things up. England can hope to change their number three, Dawid Malan and give explosive opener Phil Salt a chance. Malan scored 19 off 25 balls in the last game, and it is possible that he might be rested for this game. 34-year-old Richard Gleeson replaced Tymal Mills in the playing XI and made an instant impact. In all likelihood, he will get to stay for another match, while Mills returns in place of David Willey or Chris Jordan. India Predicted Playing XI: Rohit Sharma (c), Rishabh Pant (wk), Virat Kohli, Suryakumar Yadav, Deepak Hooda, Hardik Pandya, Bhuvneshwar Kumar, Umran Malik/Avesh Khan, Yuzvendra Chahal, Jasprit Bumrah.

Prafulla Samantara's Book

"AMA BHABISYATA KETE SURAKHITA"

Narrate Environmental Issues & the Politics of the Politicians



Dr V.Rajendra Raju

Lohia Akademy Trust recently published a book named "AMA BHABISYATA KETE SURAKHITA" written by Prafulla Samantara who is a socialist thinker and usually popular as an international environmental activist and a revolutionary writer. In this book the author asked to the readers, how much our future secured? He is a follower of Dr Ram Manohar Lohia. So his revolutionary thoughts are found in his literature. Contains of this book has been prepared with the burning topics of the nation like, The future of the nation, Changes of the climate is world's crisis, Undeclared emergency declared, Don't finish: save for future, Legal

Prafulla Samantara popularly known as an environmental activist and a revolutionary leader of our country. As a successful grass root environmental activist he received 'Goldman Environmental Prize-2017' which is popularly known as 'Gold Nobel' in order to recognize his fighting on the front lines of the greatest environmental issues of our time. He belongs to a small village named 'Nimundia' of Kabisurya Nagar Block of Ganjam District.



Prafulla Samantara

validity of bank robbery, Farmers movement, Politics of election, Truth of Kashmir, Mahatma Gandhi and Dr Ambedkar, Cruel politics during pandemic, Dreams of the freedom fighters and many more topics on environmental issues. He has given his opinion in this book that the political system of the country is going to be controlled by corporate sectors which seems to be the downfall of our democracy and secularism in future. Such



possibilities can be removed through people's movement. To save the earth the scientists are giving many suggestions but many countries are not following it for which the entire world will face its consequences. In this book he took an attempt to awake the people about their future. The spark of Prafulla Samantara's talent is easily perceived in this book. He crafted his thoughts in a poem named 'Kaha A Rastra Kahar' in such a way that the read-

ers will feel the pain and sufferings of the exploited masses. In this poem he said, " ... Ame matiru, banaru, sagararu, nadi hradaru, tuma samastnku khadya delu peta purai, Athacha ama pilanku adhapatere rakhilu...". This book says more about the present politics related to the social issues and his revolutionary activities. Similarly we will find many things about the society in his collections of poetry 'Saburi Upare Manish Satya', 'Mati Manisar Kabita' and 'JababDia'. His essays are also remarkable in carrying the values of socialism, human rights and equally of classes which are found in his books 'Swabhimanr Antaswar', 'Binash Batre Bikashar Rajniti', 'Bichar O Pratikriyar Dastabij'. As an editor he is an inspiration to revolutionary youths who love human

beings and the society and fight against exploitation. His editorials are found in his fortnightly Odia Journal "Manisara Bartabaha Swabhiman" which is more relevant today than before as we face the most insidious attempt to hijack our future. His investigative reporting on the poverty of the tribals of Kasipur shacked the state administration and the entire world turned their face towards this issue. In spite of his busy schedule, he is able to write such a valuable book of four hundred pages, is not a small thing. We are sure; this book will be very helpful to the readers, scholars and researchers to do research on environment science and public policy of the political leaders. (The reviewer is a Media Academician who is available on mobile phone No 94383 62262)

JSPL Foundations Serves Devotees in Rath Yatra Festival at Puri

Bhubaneswar, July 11 (TNB): JSPL Foundation, the CSR Arm of Jindal Steel & Power serviced more than 330,000 devotees during the Rath Yatra festival at Puri. In coordination with the District Administration, the Foundation provided freshly cooked traditional Odia meals (Rice, Dalma, Khajur Khata), Chilled drinking water, and glucose packets during the grand festival.



The services by JSPL Foundation, under the guidance of its Chairperson Smt. Shalalu Jindal commenced on Netrostav Day on 30th June 2022 and continued till Sunabesha Day. With the support of local volunteers, the Foundation provided about three lakh thirty thousand hot-cooked pure vegetarian meals, which included rice, dalma (medley of lentils and vegetables), and khatta (chutney made from tomatoes, jaggery, and dates) in a special stall at Bus Stand, near Gundicha

Temple, Puri. "We are ever obliged for the Divine Grace of Lord Jagannath for giving us the opportunity to serve the devotees during the grand festival of Rath Yatra at Puri. We always believe that Service to Mankind is Service to God. May Mahaprabhu Jagannath, the Lord of the Universe, bless Mankind with good health and Peace across the World," said Shalalu Jindal, the Chairperson of JSPL Foundation. JSPL Foundation also distributed 10000 packets of

glucose among the devotees at Badadanda on Rath Yatra day and provided 1000 raincoats to the district administration for use by various Frontline government employees on duty during the festival. Besides, the foundation also provided chilled drinking water from a refrigerated mobile drinking water tanker of 1000 litre capacity to the devotees throughout the festival days. The drinking water service continued at the Badadanda throughout the Festival from Netrostav Day.

Odisha Food Pro 2022 to attract more investment, new skill technology -Minister

Bhubaneswar, July 11 (UNI) Investors, manufacturers, producers, food processors, startups, policy makers and organisers from the Indian Food Processing ecosystem are scheduled to participate in the Odisha Food Pro 2022 to be held here on July 21 next. The Odisha MSME department in collaboration with the Department of Agriculture and Farmers Empowerment is organising the event to support the food processing ecosystem in the state.

Bahuda Yatra Celebrated At ShrivaniKshetra



Bhubaneswar, July 11 (TNB): The Bahuda Yatra, the return journey of Lord Jagannath, Lord Balabhadra and Devi Subhadra, concluded peacefully at ShrivaniKshetra on 9th July. Rituals associated with this auspicious occasion like Mangala Arati, Mailama, Tadapalagi, Rosha Homa, Abakasha, Surya Pooja, Dwarapala Pooja, etc commenced early morning as per the ethics and rituals of Mahaprabhu Shri Jagannath Temple of Shrikshetra, Puri. Pahanadi Bijje of the three deities was performed in the afternoon, after the observance of holy ritual

of Chherapahanra by Achyuta Samanta, Founder, KIIT & KISS. Pulling of the three chariots from the 'Shri Gundicha Temple' to ShrivaniKshetra of KISS started at 4.00 PM. Women devotees pull Subhadra's Chariot. More than 30 thousand of local devotees, staff and students of KISS and KIIT gathered to observe the Bahuda Yatra at KISS. Several other programmes like Bhajana Samaroh by different musical groups from Odisha and outside, Prabachana and other cultural programmes were organised between the Ratha Yatra and Bahuda Yatra here.

21 year boy sentenced 20 years imprisonment for Gangrape incident

Naresh Ch. Pattanayak Keonjhar, July 11 : Additional session and special Judge Shubhashree Tripathy has sentenced a 21 year boy, for allegedly gangraping a minor girl with to twenty years of imprisonment and imposed fine of rupees 53 thousand on Monday. The boy committed the crime at the age of 17 years in the year 2017, sources said. In this incident two other persons involved in the gang rape incident were convicted to twenty years, few days back by the same court. According to the sources the incident took place on 19 April, 2017 in Ghatagaon police station area. On the date of the incident the minor girl went to witness Palla in the village. The three were took her forcefully to nearby gorund and allegedly raped one by one. Later they left her threatening to keep the matter secret. The girl went to her house and told the matter to her mother. Later family members lodged a complaint in Ghatagaon police station. Police arrested two and sent them to court and produced the minor before the juvenile justice board. Later he was sent to juvenile home at Rourkela. After examining 22 witness and detailed police inquiry reports, the court has sentenced him to twenty years of imprisonment and imposed the above fine in two sections, said Ganesh Prasad Mohapatra, special public prosecutor.

ICAR-CIFA observes National Fish Farmers Day 2022

Bhubaneswar, July 11 (TNB): ICAR-Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture observed 22nd National Fish Farmers' Day at its Kausalya ganga campus here on 11th July 2022. The day is observed in remembrance of scientists Dr K H Alikunhi and Dr. H.L. Chaudhury who had successfully induced bred one of the carp species on 10th July, 1957. To commemorate this epoch making discovery National Fish Farmers' Day is observed throughout the country. This had eventually revolutionized the Indian Aquaculture industry. Prof. Sasmita Rani Samanta Vice Chancellor, KIIT (Deemed University) was the Chief Guest on this occasion. Prof. Samantain her speech appreciated the institute for the service to the nation

and urged the scientists to bring innovations for the small scale aqua farmers of the country. She stressed the scientists to develop viable organic fish farming models and water efficient aquaculture methods to increase the productivity and conserving the environment at the same time. She motivated the farmers to adopt advanced scientific methods to produce more fish and achieve self-sufficiency. She also asked to farmers not to use any antibiotic substances in fish farming. Dr Dilip Kumar, Former Fisheries and Aquaculture Sector Planning and Policy Adviser, FAO and former Vice Chancellor, ICAR-CIFE was the Guest of honour on this occasion. He underlined that credit should go to all scientists, farmers and stakeholders for the development of the technologies



on this important day. He appreciated the efforts by ICAR-CIFA in designing the MatsyaSetu app for farmers. He also emphasized about the intensification, feed, diversification, diseases, climate change etc. He motivated the scientists to reorient the research strategies to come out with solutions for the farmers to tackle the changing scenario. He stressed on the message quality fish for all. Dr K Janardhana Rao, Former Principal Scientist, ICAR-CIFA, Bhubaneswar the

other guest of honour also spoke on this occasion. He stressed on formation of groups based on species. He also focused on skill development of fish farmer's through hands on training and called for strengthening extension services. Addressing the gathering, ICAR-CIFA Director Dr Saroj K Swain said the invention of induced breeding is hailed as a landmark achievement in the history of fishery in India and abroad. During the last three and a half

decades of devoted research, the institute has contributed significantly toward development for breeding and culture of economically important fish and shellfish, use of plastics in aquaculture like FRP portable hatchery, feeds for different life stages of fish, disease diagnostics kits, improved rohuJayanti, CIFA BROODTM, Hybridization detection kit and other useful technologies for the farmers. MatsyaSetu app has got a user base of 32000 and its growing. ICAR -CIFA is dedicated to its stakeholders across the country through Flagship Schemes under Government of India like SCSP, STC and NEH. In the second session as a part of the AzadiKa AmritMahotsav - National Campaign, an interaction was held on the theme "Emerging Aquac-

ulture Systems and Practices". Over 200 farmers especially farm women, progressive farmers, entrepreneurs, and Govt. officials from Odisha and other parts of the country were participated at the event and the aquaculture experts from the institute had a detailed discussion on various problems faced by the farmers. Fifteen fish farmers/entrepreneurs from different parts of India were felicitated for their contributions in adopting and promoting ICAR-CIFA technologies across the country. The awardees also shared their experience in fish farming with the audience. Six publications and a video film on carp feed were also released on this occasion. Dr. G.S.Saha, Principal Scientist, proposed the vote of thanks.

Dr D.S. Viridi donated "Swarga Rath" to Truck Owners Association in memory of his father

Rajesh Dahima Rajgangpur, July 11 : Dr. Devendra Singh Viridi, donated a heaven vehicle in the memory of his parents and handed it over to the Rajgangpur Truck Owners Association for its maintenance and operation. Paradise in Chief Hospitality of Rajgangpur Chairman Madhuri Lugun The vehicle was handed over to the Truck Owners Association. In a program organized at the Truck Owners Association office on Sunday, Dr. Devendra Singh Viridi and his family members donated the heaven vehicle in the memory of father Inderjit Singh Viridi and mother Gurdeep Singh Viridi. On

this occasion, he gave the keys of heaven vehicle to Rakesh Nanda, President of Truck Owners Association. Dr. Devendra Singh Viridi said that the responsibility of taking care of the heaven vehicle will be done by the Truck Owners Association. Appreciating the noble work of Dr. Devendra Singh Viridi, Municipal Councillor Madhuri Lugun, who was present on the occasion, said that there was a shortage of heavenly vehicles in the city and especially the poor people, in case of death in the hospital or in an accident, take the mortal remains to the house and to the ghat. The rela-



tives of the deceased had to face a lot of difficulties to go. With the initiative of Dr. Devendra, this shortcoming was also fulfilled.

Dr. Devendra Singh Viridi is a resident of Ward No. 12 and is working as a renowned Senior Gastroenterologist in Bilaspur Apollo Hospital. Suresh Sharma, BJD

Town President Rajendra Behera, Councillor Kaushal Singh, Pawan Agarwal, Suraj Sharma, Rajesh Chaudhary, Gurudev Singh and other well-known dignitaries of the city were present. Rakesh Nanda alias Babbu Bhai, President of Truck Owners Association and Chairman Madhuri Lugun honored Dr Devendra Singh Viridi by presenting him a bunch of flowers for this selfless service and noble work. Dr. Devendra Singh Viridi believes that the society which has given us name, respect, fame, human beings should also fulfill their duty towards that society. Only the memories of the one who left the world remain.

Awareness drive on dengue in Urban Slum Pockets

Bhubaneswar, July 11 (TNB): In a bid to sensitise the slum dwellers the Bhubaneswar Young Urban forum, Centre for Child and Women Development & Actionaid Association jointly Conducted dengue awareness in Panda park Slum under ward No -14 of Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation. The members marched in slum pockets shouting slogans and aware the community people don't waste water, clean the water source point, clean the house as well as surroundings and use mosquito net. The program Coordinated by Jamuna Nayak, Mandakini Nayak, Manisa Nayak & Subhashree Reddy and others.