



The last sunset of the year 2017 at Babughat, Kolkata-Pix by Arijit Ganguly

Maolistorch machinesof agencyengaged ingaspipeline work

GAYA, DEC 31 /- Maoists have torched two pike lane machines and a vehicle of the agency engaged in the construction of Jagdishpur-Haldia gas pipeline project in Bihar's Gaya district, police said today. The incident occurred at Kaaj village under Gauru police station area of the district late Saturday night when Maoists torched two pike lane machines and a vehicle of an agency for not paying levy, city superintendent of police J Jalla Reddy said. The Maoists also beat the staff of the agency and threatened that they will not allow the work to be completed unless and until they pay levy, the city SP said. An FIR has been filed against unknown Maoists the SP said and adding that police are conducting raids to nab them. (PTI)

Oldwoman,two grandchildren charred to death

HAIJIPUR, DEC 31 /- An old woman and her two little grandchildren were burnt alive when their hut caught fire in Vaishali district, police said on Saturday. The incident took place in Sarai police station area late last night where a 65-year-old Sumama Devi, her grandson Manish (8) and granddaughter Chandni (10) were charred to death while they were asleep inside their hut at Anvarpur village, SHO of the police station Raman Kumar said. He said the fire appeared to have caused by sparks from an electricity cable that passed close to the hut. The flames were doused by the fire brigade and the bodies were handed over to family members for last rites after a postmortem, the SHO said. (PTI)

Nitish lays foundations of more than hundred projects

PATNA, DEC 31 /- Bihar chief minister Nitish Kumar on Saturday laid foundation stones for more than 100 projects worth Rs 700 crore in Nalanda district as part of his state-wide 'Vikas Samiksha Yatra'. At Chamera village in Elekgarsarai block, the Kumar dedicated to the public 132 projects worth Rs 97.83 crore in addition to the 114, worth Rs 698.65 crore, for which foundation stones were laid, an official release said. Addressing a public meeting on the occasion, the chief minister spoke about various development

a major boost as part of his government's three road map for the period 2017-22 which was recently launched by President Ram Nath Kovind. He also exhorted the people to wholeheartedly participate in a human chain, to be formed on January 21 next year, as a message against dowry and child marriage, exactly a year after a similar exercise was undertaken to galvanize public support in favour of prohibition. The chief minister covered six districts in the second phase of his state-wide tour which began on Thursday (PTI)

Four held in Balasore killing case

BALASORE, DEC 31 /- Four persons were arrested on Saturday including the wife of a man who was hacked to death in Odisha's Balasore district two weeks ago, police said. The woman, allegedly with help of her paramour and two other hired killers, eliminated Madhav Behera on December 17.

The arrested woman was identified as Basanti Behera (37), her paramour Bhagirathi Patra (40), Akash Das of Basta (23) and Banchanandi Chanda (29) of Baisinga under Mayurbhanj district. The accused persons were forwarded to court after being booked under section of murder, suppression of evidence and common intention, said an inspector-in-charge of Sahadevkhuri police station Paresh Rout. According to police, Basanti, the wife of the slain Madhav Behera, was mastermind behind the crime. The police said Madhav Behera (42) was allegedly physically assaulted by her paramour and wife Basanti. Basanti along with her brother-in-law cum paramour conspired to eliminate her husband. The duo took help of the accused duo Ashok and Banchanandi to commission the crime. Accordingly, Rs 50,000 was given as reward to the duo to kill Madhav, police said. While Basanti had given Rs 30,000, her paramour Bhagirathi chipped in with another Rs 20,000 for the purpose.

State Notes

Bengal BJP intellectual cell convenor joins TMC

KOLKATA, DEC 31 /- In a joint to West Bengal unit of the BJP, convenor of the party's state intellectual cell Diptangshu Chowdhury joined the Trinamool Congress (TMC) on Saturday. Chowdhury, a former army officer, had joined the BJP ahead of the Assembly elections last year but had unsuccessfully contested the polls. Chowdhury, who was later appointed as convenor of the state unit's intellectual cell, joined the ruling TMC in presence of TMC secretary general Partha Chatterjee. He said he wants to be part of the developmental process started by West Bengal chief minister Mamata Banerjee. State BJP president Dilip Ghosh said Chowdhury's leaving the party would not have any impact in the state as he did not have the skill to form party organization. (PTI)

Three militants held in Manipur

IMPHAL, DEC 31 /- Three militants were arrested by security personnel from Imphal East district. The three militants of the newly formed Nagaland People's Council were arrested by a combined team of police and Assam Rifles from the border village of Leikai in Imphal East district, an Assam Rifles release said on Saturday night. One 9mm pistol along with five live rounds, three mobile phones and a two wheeler were seized from the possession of the arrested militants. (PTI)

SSB jawan attempts suicide

KISHANGANJ, DEC 31 /- A jawan of the Sashasbra Seema Bai (SSB) tried to commit suicide by shooting himself in Bihar's Kishanganj district. He is now under treatment in a critical condition. SSB deputy commandant Vinay Kumar Ojha said on Saturday Raj Kumar Yadav of SSB 19th battalion shot himself in the head with an INSAS rifle of a colleague late last night while he was on duty at Kurilok border outpost. After hearing the gun shot, BPO in-charge Bablu Kshetri and others accompanied the camp reached the spot and saw that Raj Kumar was bleeding profusely. He was admitted to a nursing home at Siliguri in West Bengal where he has been put on ventilator, Ojha said. While doctors tried to kill himself is being probed, the police said. (PTI)

Success for BSF on last day of year Fake currency amounting to 6.5 lakh seized, two nabbed

SOUMIYA DE SARKAR

MALDA, DEC 31 /- Border security force (BSF) personnel of 24th battalion succeeded in seizing a large amount of fake Indian currency notes (FICN) and detaining two persons including a woman from Happy More area under Kaliachak police station on the last day of the year. With this BSF South Bengal frontier has seized FICN amounting Rs 62.38 lakh altogether in 2017.

According to RPS Jaisal deputy inspector general (DIG) and senior public relation officer of BSF South Bengal frontier, FICN amounting Rs 6.5 lakh were seized from Renu Mandal, 40 who was accompanying Ainal Hoque, 38 on a two-wheeler from Happy More under Golaganj police outpost to Balladanga early this morning. "Acting on a tip

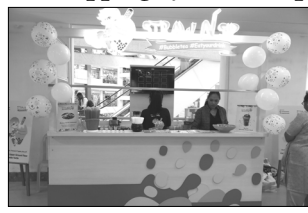


off BSF laid special ambushes on two suspected places near Happy More towards Kaliachak and Baliyadanga More. At about 5.45 am the BSF party near Happy More observed two

party's signal to stop the two-wheeler, Hoque, who was driving the vehicle tried to escape. However BSF personnel managed to apprehend them. Both Hoque and Mandal were brought to BSF Camp in Baisnabnagar. They were asked whether any unauthorized item was in their possession but they denied. The ambush party asked them for their search on which they agreed. The female was searched by lady BSF constables in front of civil lady witness and 02 units of Currency notes of Rs. 2000 notes (total 325 nos) denomination of face value of 6.50 lakh suspected to be FICN was recovered from the lady which were kept in her petticoat by making pocket (unauthorized item was) "he said. The duo along with seized FICN was handed over to Kaliachak police by the BSF officials.

Refusing the ambush suspected persons coming on a motorcycle through link road Sonar Para to Happy More towards Kaliachak (Baliyadanga)," Jaisal informed.

Free topping by Straw N Sip



SILIGURI, DEC 31 /- Straw N Sip, the brand which has gained popularity in Siliguri, offers free topping to customers to celebrate the opening of its second outlet at Cosmos Mall. People of all ages enjoyed the refreshing beverage. The menu chart included traditional chocolate bubble tea, ice blended milk drink with popping balls and signature Tapioca Pearls. MBA - doctor duo Amit Agarwal and his better half Dr Nannika Pradhan, the two brains behind the brand are passionate about serving blended drinks, adding subtle flavours as well as texture to it.

Various projects inaugurated at Bhubaneswar rly station

BHUBANESWAR, DEC 31 /- A host of projects including a second entry and station building with new ticket booking complex were inaugurated at Bhubaneswar station here on Saturday with the Centre promising to transform the Odisha capital into a modern city of global standards. Union petroleum minister Dharmendra Pradhan and minister of state for railways Rajeev Gohain also dedicated to the public a new booking office with reserved and unreserved ticketing system at Sakhipal station through video conferencing from Bhubaneswar, on this occasion.

Puri pandas to visit shrines for tips on hygiene, good conduct

PURI, DEC 31 /- The New Year promises to be a good one for those hoping to visit Puri's revered Jagannath Temple, for plans are afoot to train its pandas or priests by taking them on a tour of shrines across India. A group of pandas, who perform a spate of rituals, will travel to other noted places of worship to pick up tips on cleanliness, a temple official said. The temple authorities are working out a itinerary for the tour which is expected to start in next winters.

Eminent personalities from India and Nepal felicitated in Siliguri



SILIGURI, DEC 31 /- Eleven eminent personalities from India and Nepal working for the betterment of the society without any interest were on Sunday felicitated on occasion of 71st birth anniversary of writer, poet and dramatist Ramlal Adhikari at Devkota Sangh, Siliguri.

Personalities including social workers, journalists, Artists, Human Right activists and others namely Laxman Sharma, Milan Ruchal, Poulamai Chatterjee, Kewal Chandra Naha, Bindu Dahal, Shyam Kumar Pradhan, Meena Upreti, Meera Gajmer Arora, Sanjiv Chetri, Himal Kharel, Khush Naya Pradhan and Depoal Choudhury. Senior editor of a regional monthly magazine and social activists Mimalal Sapkota who was chief guest of the programme served as the chief. He was one of the noted poet, dramatist and literate Nepali writer of India who also gained popularity in Nepal and other neighboring nations. Adhikari who served as an assistant professor at Darjeeling Government College were awarded with several prestigious awards in India and Nepal. His contribution for the society will never be let down and always be remembered in the history." Gyandendra Dahal, president of Devkota Sangh praised the initiative of Bagdogra Paradrsti Society to honour such personalities from various fields across India and Nepal on the auspicious day to mark the birth of the noted Nepali writer.



Puri pandas in front of the chariot of Lord Jagannath
Puri pandas tasked with performing specific duties. The 2015 census states that there are about 8,000 sevaks, or about 1,200 families. "Most of them have never moved out of Puri. They are confined to the temple premises. Their behaviour and attitude towards devotees and hygiene had been very poor," said former chief administrator of the temple and ex-collector of Puri, Suresh Chandra Mohapatra. Mohapatra during an earlier stint as the temple's chief administrator, had started the exercise. From 2006 to 2008, pandas were taken to other shrines, with the temple administration bearing all expenses. "We arranged this aubhav yatra because we wanted to expose them to some other big temples and gurudwaras. It was a structured programme and they were given notebooks to write their experiences down," said the IAS officer, who accompanied them to Vishnu Devi in Jammu and the Padmanabhaswamy temple in Kerala. In four groups of 60-65 people, the pandas visited the shrines and Mohapatra recalled that they were overwhelmed when the chief jathedar and Golden Temple priests received them in Amritsar. "Theyatra had a very good impact on their mindset and saw lot of change in their attitude after that," he said. The teams also visited the kitchen in Tirupati and saw how priests there maintained hygiene and cleanliness," said Mohapatra, who joined the temple again in 2015 on the same post for a short period. The official said that the temple administration plans to have regular sessions with priests on how to behave with devotees. Some eminent people from their community will also address the pandas. Sants will deliver lectures on religious matters. They will also be given lectures on how to behave with pilgrims." He said. (PTI)

CHANGE OF NAME
Mohammad Talar Bari SO
Mohammed Abdul Bari Khan R/O 7/2B Mijan Ostagar Lane, P.O-Circus Avenue, P.S-Karaga, Kolkata-700017 have changed my name Mohammad Talar Bari Khan to Mohammad Talar Bari as per an affidavit sworn before the Notary Public Kolkata on 27.11.2017.

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