

**NOTES**

**Odisha govt to restructure cadre of primary school teachers**

**BHUBANESWAR, OCT 4 /-** Odisha government today decided to restructure the cadre of primary school teachers and headmasters following which the agitating teachers called off their protest. According to a statement released by the chief minister's office, the primary school teachers will get least three promotions during their service period. The move will benefit around 72,563 primary teachers across the state, it said. State school and mass education secretary Pradipta Mohapatra said, "The proposal for cadre restructuring of primary teachers was pending since long. Today, chief minister Naveen Patnaik accepted the demand." "The government has fulfilled our longstanding demands, including restructuring of cadres, grade pay hike to Rs 2,800 and promotion. Now, we have decided to withdraw our ongoing strike," said Odisha Primary Teachers Association president Rajesh Mohanty. He said the chief minister has accepted the demands of the teachers. After cadre restructuring, teachers will be promoted in three categories like, Level-2, Level-4 and Level-5, Mohapatra said. Mohanty said the state government also indirectly approved a hike in Grade pay to Rs 2800 from Rs 2200.

**One coach of Falaknuma Express derailed in Cuttack**

**BHUBANESWAR, OCT 4 /-** One coach of the Secunderabad to Falaknuma Express train today derailed near Kapilas Road railway station in Odisha's Cuttack district but there was no report any casualty, railway officials said. The guard-cum-luggage bogie, the rear most coach of the train jumped from the rail, an East Coast Railway (ECOR) official said. The official said that the derailed coach is being detached from the train and Falaknuma Express will start moving on its way soon. There has been no much damage to the railway track and no report of any casualty, he said adding that the train movement in the line has not yet been affected.

**Street vendor shot dead in Jharkhand**

**MEDININAGAR, OCT 4 /-** A 26-year-old street vendor was shot dead by unidentified gunmen, near the residence of the deputy commissioner of Palamu district here, on Wednesday evening, police said. The police has recovered the body and sent it to Sadar Hospital here for post-mortem examination, the deputy superintendent of police of Palamu district, Prem Nath, said. The victim has been identified as Ayush Kumar, he said. The incident happened when the street vendor was selling garments near the Palamu Deputy Commissioner Shantanu Kumar Agrahari's residence, he said. Two gunmen approached the street vendor on a motorcycle, opened fire at him and the vendor died on the spot, Prem Nath said. The police launched a massive hunt to track down and apprehend the culprits, who managed to escape after committing the crime, the police officer said.

**Normalcy returns in Puri, devotees can now visit Jagannath Temple: Police**

**PURI, OCT 4 /-** Normalcy returned to Puri today, a day after the pilgrim town in Odisha was rocked by a clash between members of a socio-religious outfit and security forces during a shutdown over introduction of queue system at Jagannath Temple. More than 30 people, including police personnel, were injured when a mob, comprising members of Sri Jagannath Sena, clashed with security forces during the 12-hour shutdown, DGP R P Sharma. The preventive detention of the outfit's convener, Priyadarshan Patnaik, had triggered the clash. The DGP who visited the 12th-century shrine for a review, said extensive damage was caused to the properties of the government and the

temple by the unruly mob. Sharma urged people to maintain peace and prevent "anti-social elements" from creating lawlessness. The mob uprooted barricades erected on 'Baisi Pahacha', the 22 steps leading from the main gate to the shrine and near the 'Singhadwara' (the 'Lion Gate'), and ransacked the office of the Shree Jagannath Temple Administration (SJTA). Talking to media, P K Sharma, the chief administrator of SJTA, said the violence would bring a bad name to the seaside town. "What happened Wednesday was unfortunate. It would bring a bad name to Puri as well as Odisha," he stated. Supreme Court-appointed amicus curiae Gopal Subramaniam, who visited Puri last month for discussion on implementation of various reform measures, has voiced deep concern over the incident. Mohapatra said, "The CCTV footage of the incident will be used to take stringent action initiated against those who indulged in vandalism. A detailed

report along with video footage would be sent to the amicus curiae," he said, adding that Subramaniam would visit Puri soon. Inspector General of Police (Central Range) Soumendhra Priyadarshi, who accompanied the police chief, said more than 10 police personnel were injured in the violence. Adequate police force has been stationed in the pilgrim town as a precautionary measure. He said, "Puri district collector Jyoti Prakash Das said today the temple administration has decided to allow entry of local devotees through all four gates - Hatidwara, Vyahradwara and Ashwadwara and Singhadwara. A peace committee meeting of representatives of SJTA, district administration and other stakeholders decided Wednesday evening to open all four gates to local people, the district collector said. "Outsiders will be given entry only through Singhadwara, but local devotees can enter through all four gates if they produce necessary ID proof," he added.

**Centre slaps fresh ban on 2 insurgent groups of Tripura**

**NEW DELHI, OCT 4 /-** The Union government has imposed a fresh ban on two insurgent groups in Tripura for their violent and subversive activities, which aim at establishment of an independent nation. In a notification, the Union home ministry said the Centre is of the opinion that the National Liberation Front of Tripura (NLFT) and the All Tripura Tiger Force (ATTF) have been engaging in subversive and violent activities, undermining the authority of the government and spreading terror and violence among people for achieving their objectives. The ministry said the NLFT and the ATTF have, as their professed aim, establishment of an independent state of Tripura for the people of Tripura through armed struggle in alliance with other armed secessionist organisations of Tripura and to incite indigenous people of Tripura for such secession. "In exercise of powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 3 of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 (37 of 1967), the central

government hereby declares that the NLFT along with all its factions, wings and front organisations and the ATTF along with all its factions, wings and front organisations as unlawful associations," the notification said. The rebel outfits in Tripura, formed in 1990 with the objective of "expulsion of all foreigners who entered the state after 1956", were first banned in 1997. The fresh ban will continue for five more years, an official said. The home ministry also said both the groups have been maintaining close nexus with other unlawful associations of North East with the aim of mobilising their support, in pursuance of their aims and objectives in recent past, engaging in violent and unlawful activities which are prejudicial to the sovereignty and integrity of India. The government is also of the opinion that their violent and unlawful activities include, killing of civilians and personnel belonging to the police and security forces, extortion of funds from the public

including businessmen and traders in Tripura, establishing and maintaining camps in neighbouring countries for the purpose of safe sanctuary training, procurement of arms and ammunitions, etc. "The Central government is also of the opinion that the aforesaid activities of the NLFT and the ATTF are detrimental to the sovereignty and integrity of India and that they are unlawful associations," the notification said. The government is also of the opinion that if there is no immediate curb and control of the NLFT and the ATTF they will take the opportunity to mobilise cadres for escalating secessionist, subversive, and violent activities, subvert anti-national activities in collusion with forces inimical to India's sovereignty and national integrity, indulge in killings of civilians and targeting of police and security force personnel, procure and induct illegal arms and ammunition from across the international border, extort and collect huge funds from the public for their unlawful activities.

**Man gets death penalty for Rape, murder of minor girl**

**HAILAKANDI, OCT 4 /-** A local court here today awarded death penalty to a man for the rape and murder of a 10-year-old tribal girl. District and sessions judge Debassish Bhattacharjee announced the quantum of punishment days after he convicted Jashimuddin Borbhuyian in the case. Borbhuyian was held guilty on Monday under sections 376 and 302 of the IPC read with section 4 of

POCSO Act. The incident took place on March 14 this year. On the fatal day, the victim was alone at her residence in Hailakandi district's Betcherra Purabhera village along the Assam-Mizoram border.

A case was filed by the girl's parents at the Jamira police station, following which the accused was nabbed on March 16 and the murder weapon, a matchete, recovered, police said.

**Eastern Railway Apollo Gleneagles Hospitals launches 'Heart Challenge'**

**Durga Puja specials**

**KOLKATA, OCT 4 /-** Eastern Railway will run 10 pairs of special trains in the suburban section of Sealdah division during Durga Puja. These special trains will run in Sealdah Main line, Sealdah - Bongaon as well as in Sealdah South sections in the nights of October 14/15 (Panchami/Shasti), October 15/16 (Shasti/Saptami), October 16/17 (Saptami/Astami), October 17/18 (Astami/Navami) and October 18/19 (Navami/Dashami). Among these special trains, one pair of special trains will run between Sealdah and Ranaghat (leaving Sealdah at 12.40 am and leaving Ranaghat at 11.45 pm), one pair of special train will run between Sealdah and Bargaon (leaving Sealdah at 12.40 am and leaving Bargaon at 11.55 pm), one pair of special train will run between Sealdah and Dankuni (leaving Sealdah at 11.30 pm and

leaving Dankuni at 12.25 am), one pair of special train will run between Ranaghat and Bongaon (leaving Ranaghat at 10 pm and leaving Bongaon at 9.58 pm), three pairs of special trains will run between Sealdah (South) and Bargaon (leaving Sealdah at 3.20 pm, 12.30 pm and 2.20 pm and leaving Barurip at 4.38 pm, 1.25 am and 3.10 am), one pair of Special train between Sealdah (South) and Budge Budge (leaving Sealdah South at 11.30 pm and leaving Budge Budge at 12.30 am) and 2 pairs of special trains will run between Sealdah and Naihati, (leaving Sealdah at 2.30 am and 1.45 pm, and leaving Naihati at 12.25 am, and 2.55 am). Besides, one down passenger special train for Barurip will run from Sealdah South at 5.35 pm on October 16 (Saptami), October 17, October 18, October 19 and October 24 . (EOIC)

**KOLKATA, OCT 4 /-** Apollo Gleneagles Hospitals, announced the Apollo Heart Challenge to promote a healthy life. By downloading the AskApollo app from Google Play store or the Apple app store, anyone can participate in the challenge of completing 10,000 steps per day. The Apollo Heart Challenge is part of the Apollo Healthy Heart Program, a unique personalised Cardiac Health Management Program that helps to prevent the onset of heart disease and empowers individuals to better manage their heart condition. Rana Dasgupta, CEO, Apollo Gleneagles Hospitals, said: "There is an unprecedented burden of heart disease in Bengal, which needs to be addressed and as a responsible healthcare provider, we are trying to stand beside those in need. Hence, our initiative to offer free surgeries for congenital heart problems to those who cannot afford the surgery. For every 10 participants completing



the challenge, we will provide one free surgery." Dr Sushan Mukhopadhyay, Apollo

Gleneagles Hospitals, Kolkata expressed: "Through the Apollo Heart Challenge, Apollo

Gleneagles Hospitals wants to promote a behavioral change in Kolkatans and get them

to incorporate moderate physical activity in their daily routine." (EOIC/ Photo: Arjiti Ganguly)

**Illegal mining: Info received**



**KOLKATA, OCT 4 /-** Information regarding illegal mining, received via Khan Praharis was conveyed to CISF team of Sripruk Camp. A joint team comprising CISF QRT team of SPTP HQs and CISF Sripruk Camp headed by Sri Vikash alongwith Jamuria Police and ECL Security force, on the area immediately rushed and

reached the spot. The spot falls in Private Land (ECL has no surface rights) in Balanpur of satgram area. However, the information received was found to be correct. On seeing the security teams, coal miscreants fled away but, during the raid operation, one Truck loaded with

approx 20 mt illegally acquired coal was seized. On further inspection, five illegal mining pits were also noticed. The seized truck alongwith coal is being handed over to local police for further legal action. GM/ Satgram has been requested to arrange for dozing of the illegal mining pits. (EOIC)

**Nitish urges 15th Finance Commission to grant extra Central assistance to Bihar**

**PATNA, OCT 4 /-** Bihar chief minister Nitish Kumar has urged the 15th Finance Commission to grant extra Central assistance to the state citing its progress with the help of its own limited resources. Making a presentation before the commission headed by its chairman NK Singh Wednesday, Kumar also expressed disapproval of the doing away with the distinction between general and special category states. "The removal of such a distinction is a paradox which the 15th Finance Commission should look into," Nitish was quoted as saying in an official release. Kumar also demanded greater Central assistance to the state for disaster management, underscoring that Bihar was ravaged by floods annually on account of overflowing rivers originating in neighbouring Nepal. "Seventy per cent of the state's area gets affected by floods. In 2017, the state had to spend Rs 2,400 crore in providing relief to the affected families. The central help was only Rs 500 crore. It needs to be increased," he said. The chief minister also expressed displeasure over states having to make contributions towards centrally sponsored schemes and requested for funds to meet development needs like schools and infrastructure for Panchayati Raj

institutions. Observing that forest cover is being taken into account during allocation of funds by the Centre, the chief minister said, "We had set up a Haryali Mission to increase the forest cover which has risen to 15 per cent from mere seven per cent in 2000 when Jharkhand was carved out." Nitish was interacting with the commission in the presence of deputy chief minister Sushil Kumar Modi, who holds the finance portfolio, and top officials like chief secretary Deepak Kumar and principal secretary, finance, Sujata Chaturvedi.

The commission also held interactions with representatives of various political parties. Assembly Speaker Vijay Kumar Chowdhury and RJD leader and former state finance minister Abdul Bari Siddiqui. It was also presented with a joint memorandum of political parties and academic/professional organisations drafted by city-based think tank Asian Development Research Organisation (ADRI). The memorandum, among other things, suggested a new formula for devolution of funds which could "help Bihar and other backward states to overcome the development backlog and contribute to the overall prosperity of the country".

**Overhead maintenance work**

**KOLKATA, OCT 4 /-** In connection with the overhead maintenance work in Howrah area, there will be a traffic and power block from 12.30 am to 4 am in the night of October 6/7 (Saturday/Sunday). Consequently, some rearrangement in train running will be made during the period of traffic and power block. 63501 Up Howrah - Bardhaman passenger which was already diverted via Up Howrah - Bardhaman chord line for traffic block between Talandu & Rasulpur for construction of 2nd line will leave Howrah at 4 am on October 7 instead of its scheduled departure at 1.50 am and will run via Dankuni. 63550 Up Bardhaman - Asansol MEMU passenger will leave Bardhaman at 5.40 am on October 7 instead of its scheduled departure at 4 am. 63510 Dn Asansol - Bardhaman MEMU passenger will leave Asansol at 7.50 am on October 7 instead of its scheduled departure at 6.20 am. (EOIC)