

downtown



XMAS AHEAD

People purchase house decoratives from a stall alongside the Mission Road in Cuttack, Tuesday, ahead of the Christmas

GRACE & GAIETY

Artistes Anita Raut and Rasmita Pradhan perform Odissi at Sankalpa Nrutya Mahotsav at Bhanjakala Mandap in Bhubaneswar, Tuesday



45 new courts to fast-track justice

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Dec 10: In a bid to expedite trial on cases regarding crimes against women and minors, the state government has decided to open 45 new fast-track courts (FTCs) on a war-footing, Law Minister Pratap Jena said here, Tuesday.



Of the 45 FTCs, 21 will deal with cases pertaining to sexual offences against women while remaining 24 FTCs will try POCSO cases

Out of the 45 FTCs, 21 will exclusively deal with cases pertaining to sexual offences against women while remaining 24 FTCs will try crimes coming under the purview of Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act-2012, he said. Admitting shortage of judges in the state, the minister said 14 judges' posts are

lying vacant in the High Court. The posts will be filled for faster delivery of justice to the litigants.

Similarly, 34 senior civil judges and 89 civil judges' posts are lying vacant in the state, said Jena.

Notably, a staggering 15.65 lakh cases are pending in different courts in the state. The minister had earlier said that

while 14,14,745 cases are pending in the lower courts till October 31 this year, 1,50,538 cases are pending in the Orissa High Court.

Jena said the Orissa HC is taking necessary steps for disposal of the pending cases. As many as 21,659 cases are pending for 10 to 20 years and 3,796 cases are under trial for over 20 years in the HC.

6-year-old raped by grandfather

Cuttack: A six-year-old girl was raped by her grandfather several times in Madhupatna area here. The victim has suffered infections at her genitals, sources said. The incident came to light during a sensitisation programme on sexual harassment at a local school. Sources said the girl revealed her plight to district child protection officer (DCPO) Pragati Mohanty during the sensitisation programme. Soon Prati Mohanty, associate professor at SCB Medical College and Hospital mental health institute, examined the girl and confirmed the sexual assault. The victim reportedly claimed that she had revealed the incident before her mother but no one came to her rescue. Taking serious note of the issue, officials of the district Childline lodged a complaint with Madhupatna police. District Childline coordinator Narayan Shukla said the victim has been going through mental depression. DCPO Mohanty said steps are being taken to rehabilitate the victim.

Man gets 10-year RI for raping minor

Bhubaneswar: A local POCSO court, Tuesday, sentenced a person to 10 years' rigorous imprisonment after finding him guilty of sexually abusing a 12-year-old girl at a slum in Niladri Vihar area under Chandrasekharpur police limits here in 2015. The convict was identified as Sanjaya Kumar Nayak of the slum.

chocolates for her. Nayak took the victim on his bicycle and forced on her at the place. He also threatened her of dire consequences in case she reveals the matter before anyone in his family. Later, Nayak also tried to kill the victim. Two slum dwellers who were passing by rushed to the spot after hearing the screams of the girl. They rescued the girl and informed her family members about the whole incident.

Subsequently, victim's mother lodged a complaint with Mahlia police who ar-

rested Nayak after registering a case (253/15) under section 376 (2) (i) and 307 of IPC and section 6 of POCSO Act.

The Additional District Judge convicted Nayak after going through statements of 12 witnesses, 22 exhibits and seven material evidences. Special Public Prosecutor Subrat Priyadarshi conducted the case on behalf of the government.

Nayak was also asked to pay ₹20,000 falling which he would have to undergo six months additional jail term.

Common PG entrance from next session

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Dec 10: A common PG entrance test in all subjects will be conducted in the universities from the next academic year on a specified date.

This was stated by Higher Education Minister Arun Kumar Sahoo at a meeting of the vice-chancellors (VCs) of the state universities here, Tuesday. Sahoo said that PG admissions to colleges and universities across the state will be through unified entrance exam from 2020 academic session. The decision was taken after complaints by students about the inconvenience in appearing for entrance tests on different dates for admission to postgraduate



Higher Education minister Arun Kumar Sahoo, departmental secretary Saswat Mishra and other dignitaries at the meet

streams in different universities of Odisha.

He also asked the VCs to publish the Plus III exam results by June 15 every year so that the process of admission to PG courses is completed in time. Informing about the com-

mon entrance examination, the minister said students won't have to write multiple examinations for different universities. Instead, there will be only one examination which will be conducted on the same day across the state.

The decision will facilitate students to take admission to the postgraduate streams in a university of their choice

Sahoo said that the decision will facilitate students to take admission to the postgraduate streams in a university of their choice. "If a student clears the single entrance test, he/she will be eligible to take administration in any university of the state," Sahoo added. VCs of 11 universities in the state participated in the meeting.

Low literacy, poor healthcare prop up witchcraft: Experts

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Dec 10: With Odisha featuring in one of the top states in terms of witchcraft killings, human right activists, anthropologists and rationalists have suggested to form a robust three-module plan of education, health and awareness to battle the social menace.

As per the NCRB data, Odisha has recorded about 553 witchcraft killings in past 10 years. Experts have suggested that these numbers suggest a higher rate of deaths than natural calamities, farmers' suicide or naxal attacks. While a number of reasons are cited for such killings, social milieu and bigger agendas like land grabbing

are the primary factors.

In a workshop held here at Centre for Youth and Social Development (CYS), Debendra Sutar, a rationalist, said, "If reports from all over the state are observed, Mayurbhanj, Keonjhar, Sundargarh, Rayagada and Ganjam record the highest sorcery-related cases."

While low literacy rate, government apathy and Maoist insurgency have been said as major contributing factor, conspiracy by the family members in land grabbing has also been observed. In many cases, relatives of the victims have been found to be branding the women of a family as 'witches' and eventually getting her killed by the frenzied and instigated mob.

Undertrial prisoner commits suicide in Choudwar jail

POST NEWS NETWORK

Cuttack, Dec 10: An undertrial prisoner (UTP) allegedly committed suicide at Choudwar Circle Jail here Monday. The deceased has been identified as Debaprakash Behera, 21, a resident of Bolagarh area in Khurda district. Police have registered an unnatural death case in this connection.



According to police officials, Behera, after talking to his family members through telephone provided by the jail authorities, didn't return to his cell. After over an hour, the jail warders searched for him and found him hanging from a tree inside the jail.

Jail authorities rescued Behera and rushed him to the SCB Medical College and Hospital, where doctor declared him brought dead.

Behera was lodged in the jail since June 2019 over his alleged involvement in raping a minor girl.

Onion price heat reaches Ranendra's house

PNN/AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, Dec 10: Activists of NSUI the students' wing of the Congress, Tuesday staged a protest outside the residence of Food Supplies and Consumer Welfare (FS&CW) Minister Ranendra Pratap Swain here over price rise of onions.

The National Students Union of India (NSUI) activists held the state government responsible for failing to regulate the price of the vegetable in the state.

The NSUI activists took out a rally from Congress Bhawan to the FS&CW minister and threw onions at his residence. They shouted slogans like "Piaja kg 150, apana mane khushi taa..." (Onion price touched ₹150, are you happy?).

"The state government has failed to regulate the onion price and is instead attempting to project it as a national issue," NSUI General Secretary Rajiv Pattnaik said. A kilogram of onion is being sold at ₹130 in Balasore, ₹120 in Bhubaneswar, Cuttack and Jagatsinghpur and ₹110 in Rayagada areas of the state.

NSUI said some of their agitating activists were detained by the police.

Meanwhile, Swain told reporters here that there has been an acute shortage of onions across the country due to unseasonal rain this year. He, however, assured that



Police detain a NSUI activist during the agitation

the situation will improve over the next three weeks. "The farmers in Nasik district of Maharashtra produced an average of three tonne onion per acre which has come down to 15 quintals this year due to unseasonal rain. The price of onion has gone up due to this in all states including Odisha," Swain said. He said while Odisha imported at least 50 truckloads of onion every day from Nashik, not a single truck from that area has arrived in the state this season.

Swain, however, assured that the situation will improve once the new crop enters the market, admitting that Odisha has not been able to achieve self-sufficiency in onion production.

'No proposal from Odisha for med colleges'

POST NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi, Dec 10: Union Health and Family Welfare Minister Harsh Vardhan Tuesday denied receiving any proposal from the Odisha government for setting up of two new medical colleges in the state.

The Union minister said in the Rajya Sabha that the Cabinet has approved establishment of 75 new medical colleges under Centrally-sponsored scheme. The state governments have been requested to send their proposals under this

- The Cabinet has approved establishment of 75 new medical colleges under Centrally-sponsored scheme
- 59 medical colleges have been approved, but no proposal has been received from Odisha government

scheme along with detailed project report as per scheme guidelines for consideration by the ministry. He said 59 medical colleges have been approved and no proposal has been received from Odisha government.

"As on today, we haven't received any request for setting up of new medical colleges in the state. If they send it, it will be received and considered by the committee concerned," said Vardhan in

Nanda questions green nod to Polavaram

New Delhi: BJD MP Prashanta Nanda, Tuesday sought clarification from the Union government for giving environment clearance to Polavaram multi-purpose project in Andhra Pradesh.

Speaking in the Rajya Sabha on the need for completion of National Irrigation Projects to tackle emerging water crisis, Nanda asked Union Water Resource Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat about the parameters to declare a project as a national project if it is an inter-state affair. He asked whether

other states, which are going to be affected, were consulted or not while declaring Polavaram as a national project.

"We always think about Polavaram project that our land will be submerged. We want that a national project should be there and more water should be conserved. But, it should not be at the cost of the people staying there. The Indira Sagar (Polavaram) Multi Purpose Project is being constructed by AP on Godavari. Another project is Inchampalli Project, which was conceived initially on river Godavari in AP 200 km upstream. The project is being constructed in contravention of two major decisions taken during conceptualization of the project, i.e., agreement between Chief Ministers of Odisha and AP, and award of the Godavari Water Disputes Tribunal, 1980," said Nanda.

minister as to how many medical colleges are required in the country to improve doctor-population ratio and also asked about the steps taken by the government in this regard.

The Union minister said that to increase the doctor-population ratio, the Union government has increased the MBBS seats by 28,000 and for post-graduation courses by 17,000. He also said the government is also providing financial support to the medical colleges to increase the seats in different courses.

Significantly, BJD Parliamentary Party leader in the Upper House Prasanna Acharya wanted to know from the Health



ODISHA IN PARLIAMENT

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Tel Phone (EPABX) - 0663-2542461 to 469 Website : www.mahanadicoal.in

e-TENDER NOTICE

The following e-Tenders of Mahanadi Coalfields Limited have been published on the Coal India Ltd. e-Tender portal (<https://coalindiatictenders.nic.in>) and also mirrored on Central Public Procurement portal (<https://eprocure.gov.in>). Kindly visit these website for further details.

S NO	Tender Id	Name of work/service	Value Of Tender (In Rs)
1	2019_MCL_157261_1	Caretaking, upkeeping and day to day operation of canteen at MT Hostel of Lingaraj Township of Lingaraj OCP under Lingaraj Area for three years.	6020927.00
2	2019_MCL_157376_1	Providing and laying APP water proof roofing treatment and renovation of water storage tank platform at Sharma Chhak Colony of Lingaraj OCP, Lingaraj Area.	1238153.00
3	2019_MCL_157377_1	Repairing and maintenance works of non-residential buildings of Lingaraj OCP, Lingaraj Area.(For a period of two years)	2398470.00
4	2019_MCL_157379_1	Fencing with concertina wire between public road and OB dump near dumper parking of Lingaraj OCP, Lingaraj Area.	1041490.00
5	2019_MCL_157236_1	Procurement of 6-1/4 dia air blast Milled Steel Tooth Type TRR bit	8856540.00
6	2019_MCL_157546_1	PROCUREMENT OF SPARES FOR WIRTGEN SURFACE MINER	2945469.00
7	2019_MCL_157496_1	Regular brooming of Road and side drain cleaning, kutchra drain cleaning from Biswal Chowk to Shiv Mandir of Village Road at Ananta OCP for a period of 02(two) years.	2347165.00
8	2019_MCL_157502_1	Regular cleaning and sweeping of outside area of DAV Public School, Dera (English Medium) under Jagannath Area for a period of 02(two) years.	1999541.00
9	2019_MCL_157507_1	Fire Fighting at different points of Mines for a period of 01(one) year at Ananta OCP under Jagannath Area.	1000774.00
10	2019_MCL_157517_1	Repairing / Replacement of 100 mm dia pipe line from Intermediate pump House to Jagannath House under Jagannath Area.(Re-tender)	1468538.00
11	2019_MCL_157526_1	Hiring of HEMMs (Shov, Dumpers, Dozers etc.) for Re-handling of Over Burden include excav, load, tramp, dump, spread, doz of the same at spec areas for dump and level per the instruct of Proj Mngmt of Bharatpur OCP, Bharatpur Area, MCL	289651815.00
12	2019_MCL_157542_1	Black Topping Road from New Narahapur to Anadipur under CSR Scheme of Bhubaneswari OCP Jagannath Area.	5380689.00
13	2019_MCL_157539_1	Repairing of 69 nos. of Isolation/sectionalisation stoppings at Nandira Colliery, Talcher Area.	573066.00
14	2019_MCL_157442_1	Supplying and placing of sand bags at blasting holes for the purpose of muffle blasting inside mine at BOCM of Lakhapur Area.	3431331.00
15	2019_MCL_157346_1	Laying of 6 inch and 4 inch pipe line over metallic post and providing and fitting of sprinklers for dust suppression along coal transport road of Belpahar OCM, Lakhapur Area.	1886108.00
16	2019_MCL_157557_1	Supply of 06(Six) Nos. Manpower per day for fire fighting work at different places of Bharatpur Project for one year that is three hundred sixty five days (365 days).	1099577.00
17	2019_MCL_157493_1	Providing and fixing of impeller shaft on pump no 1 of BHR 54 VT pump and repairing of 03 (Three) no(s) of pump base of BHR 54 VT pump at Ph-II, Intake Well of IWSS, Lingaraj Area.	264827.00
18	2019_MCL_157494_1	Repairing of 01 no submersible pump motor set sl. no. PP38056, 415V, 120HP, 100 mtr head x 800GPM discharge having 200mm dia outlet of IWSS, Lingaraj Area.	246373.00
19	2019_MCL_157623_1	Supply of filters for TATA 1200 Hydraulic Excavator	72679.00
20	2019_MCL_157624_1	Supply of TYRE FOR Godrej make Tyre Handler	247200.00
21	2019_MCL_157596_1	Day to day cleaning of oil and grease trap (ETP) including its associated drains at CWS(X) Talcher (ReTender)	243508.00
22	2019_MCL_157605_1	Supply of Spares for H T Starter, Circuit Breaker and field switch.	187487.00
23	2019_MCL_157618_1	Supply of Consumable / Spares for BE 1600 Hyd. Excavator.	173967.00
24	2019_MCL_157625_1	Procurement of Drill Bit 27mm for Nandira Colliery MCL Talcher Area	365328.00
25	2019_MCL_157645_1	Through repair and maintenance of S/S C - type 17 units quarters at Dera colony and tile flooring works of D/S C-type 12 units quarters at GMT colony under Talcher Area	6948648.00
26	2019_MCL_157653_1	Engaging 03 Three Nos. of highly skilled and 03 Three Nos. of skilled manpower for operation of LnT Surface Miner No. 24 daily for a period of 90 days at Lingaraj OCP, Lingaraj Area.	686981.00
27	2019_MCL_157613_1	Regular cleaning including making temporary toilets during Dhanuyatra of Kansa Mandap and DAV field at BIT, Lakhapur Area.	99295.00
28	2019_MCL_157697_1	Day to day repair and maintenance of Electrical Works of GM Office, VIP Guest House, IB house, DAV school, Relax Inn, Rabindra Bhaban, Kalyan Mandap, VSS Stadium, Regional stores, GM complex Colony, new doctors colony, over head lines, sub-station, D	3805958.00
29	2019_MCL_157773_1	Procurement of Electrodes for Nandira Colliery MCL Talcher Area.	154191.00
30	2019_MCL_157879_1	Supply of spares for LnT CK-300 Hyd excavator at Lingaraj OCP (Exclusively for OEM/OPM/OES)	925421.00
31	2019_MCL_157868_1	Providing and Fixing of Mosquitoes Proof Wire Net Aluminium Shutters of 48 Nos C-Type Quarters at Ananta Vihar Colony of Ananta OCP under Jagannath Area.	4840491.00
32	2019_MCL_157880_1	Renovation of old stair case at GMs office of Jagannath Area.	1499393.00
33	2019_MCL_157718_1	Work related to Annual Mine Safety Fortnight 2019-20 proposed to be observed at BOCM of Lakhapur Area	959779.00
34	2019_MCL_157799_1	Supply of drinking water to village Lajkura near SOCP of IB Valley Area for one year.	34182.00
35	2019_MCL_157817_1	Gravelling and sand work in site 33KV substation yard of Lajkura OCP IB Valley Area.	1042851.00
36	2019_MCL_157833_1	Repairing and maintenance of WB platform RCC approach road cabin for six weigh bridges at Sameswari OCP IB Valley Area.	3316197.00
37	2019_MCL_157667_1	Supply of Spares for A.C fitted in HEMMS.	1838940.00
38	2019_MCL_157857_1	Supply of Spares for EKG Rope Shovel.	1923862.00
39	2019_MCL_157875_1	Procurement of Spares for Maxflow pump for Nandira Colliery MCL Talcher Area.	1088679.00
40	2019_MCL_157795_1	Repairing work for development of areas consisting of game equipments for children at Central park and playground at CWS colony CWS IBV	388921.00
41	2019_MCL_156697_1	PVC internal wiring of UBI bank at Basundhara Area	255470.00
42	2019_MCL_157684_1	Construction of Coal Corridor road (3.21 KM) with concrete surfacing passing through Lingaraj OCP (Phase-II) at Talcher coalfields of MCL	264413508.00
43	2019_MCL_157979_1	Construction of Coal Corridor road (concrete surfacing) passing through Jagannath OCP (Phase-II) at Talcher coalfields of MCL (Second Call).	93479222.00
44	2019_MCL_158038_1	Hiring of one no. AC running covered jeep (Bolero or equivalent) seating capacity 8 plus 1 on 12 hrs duty basis with deployment of one no. of driver having staggered rest max run 2500 km/month, for 02 years (682 days) for Finance Deptt Lakhapur Area	993674.00

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