

SHORT TAKES

Attack on Cong polling agent

Padmapur: Supporters of a political party allegedly attacked a polling agent of the Congress late Monday night at Malikadeipur under Basudev Assembly seat in Bhadrak district. A tractor parked in front of his house was also set ablaze. A complaint lodged with the police by Congress agent Nirakar Ghadei said that he was asleep when a group of youths stormed into his house and dragged him out. They attacked him, his brother and his sister-in-law. His brother and sister-in-law are under treatment at the Basudev hospital. Later, the accused set a tractor afire. Firefighters rushed to the spot and doused the fire.

Pangolin rescued

Champa: Forest officials rescued a pangolin in a bamboo beat under Balibandh section of Champa forest range Tuesday. The endangered animal weighed about 20 kg. Some locals saw the pangolin coming out of the forest at Lunagunthani and informed the forest department. Ranger Ghasinath Patra said the animal will be now kept in the range office and will be released into forest later. Pangolin is an endangered animal and their number is fast declining for various reasons across the globe.

Kin assault woman over witchcraft

Khallikote, April 30: A woman was brutally assaulted by her kin who also led her to a tree accusing her of practicing witchcraft at Bharatkund Sali in Bikrampur village under this block in Ganjam district Monday night. Khallikote police rescued the woman from captivity and arrested two persons. The accused were identified as Nari Dakua and his wife, Khallikote IIC Sunil Kumar Behera said. Police said the daughter of Nari was repeatedly falling sick for which she suspected his sister-in-law of practicing witchcraft. The girl again fell sick Monday which further raised Nari's suspicion. In a rage, he dragged his sister-in-law out of the home and brutally assaulted her before tying her up to a tree. The IIC and sub-inspector Sili Dhal conducted a probe and arrested the couple for the offence. A case was registered and the accused were produced in a court.

Woman seriously injured in attack by husband

Koksara, April 30: A woman suffered critical brain injury after she was attacked by her husband with an axe over a domestic dispute at Birumuhana village under Aampanipolia limits in Kalahandi district. The victim was identified Sanyasanta, 45, wife of Mangta Santa of the same village. The attack has left deep incisions on her head. Family members and relatives rescued the woman in a critical condition and admitted her to the Koksara hospital. Police registered a case and started an investigation. The accused husband Mangta Santa is absconding after the incident, the police said. According to sources, the incident occurred after the couple had a fight over a domestic issue Monday evening. In a rage, Mangta attacked his wife with an axe. Profusely bleeding, she collapsed on the spot.

LIVELIHOOD MATTERS



A couple selling earthen pots at Sector-22 in Rourkela Tuesday

Sal trees disappearing in Koraput

POST NEWS NETWORK

Jeypure, April 30: Although sal trees were once widely found in Koraput district, they are now almost extinct. Many kinds of medicinal herbs, sal and other valuable trees which were found in the core areas of forests are now disappearing. The destruction of these trees is attributed to the timber mafia. With no steps from the administration to control the timber mafia, these valuable trees are being felled in forests that were once a source of livelihood for tribals. Resin is one of the most useful products made from sal trees. Tribals collect the substance from sal logs. Resin is used to keep off mosquitoes and has many other medicinal properties too. It can be used to massage wounds after mixing it with oil. This reduces pain and gives relief. Tribals apply this on organs that swell up after accidents and injuries. It is also used to treat measles, chicken pox and other infectious diseases and to make incense sticks. The Jeypure forest division used to have a large number of sal trees, but now they have almost disappeared. Most sal gardens are in ruins now due to encroachments and industrialisation. The administration is also responsible for the destruction of sal forests. Sal trees were destroyed and replaced with other trees in the name of social forestry.

FOREST DEPT SEES OTHER WAY



With no steps from the administration to control the timber mafia, these valuable trees are being felled in forests that were once a source of livelihood for tribals. Resin is one of the most useful products made from sal trees and the rapid deforestation has badly affected the livelihood of tribals. The smuggling of sal logs is going on uninterrupted with the forest department looking the other way.

Moreover, middlemen buy resin at throwaway prices from the tribals and sell them at high prices in markets. With the forest department looking the other way, the smuggling of sal logs is going on uninterrupted.

This has angered the locals and they have urged immediate protection for sal trees. Jeypure divisional forest officer Ashwin Kar said steps were being taken to protect sal forests and to plant more trees.

Malaria eradication drive yields results in Keonjhar

CONCERTED EFFORTS



POST NEWS NETWORK

Keonjhar, April 30: Keonjhar district had once drawn nationwide attention due to malaria deaths. The vector-borne disease had claimed 119 lives in 1999 in the district and had drawn media attention. Later, the district administration drew up strategies to control malaria, and succeeded in reducing casualties through the malaria eradication programme. Durgama Anchalea Malaria Nirakaran (DAMAN). The efforts of the district administration have succeeded in curbing the disease to a great extent now. In 2017, the district reported only three malaria deaths. The malaria department said that no deaths due to the disease were reported in 2018.

The district administration drew up strategies to control malaria, and succeeded in reducing casualties through the malaria eradication programme, DAMAN

The topography in most areas of the district makes it prone to malaria. The hilly and forested district has many mines, ditches, reservoirs and drainage systems which facilitate mosquito breeding. The malaria department is carrying out malaria eradication programmes in 135 remote areas of the tribal-dominated district. The blood samples of all people are examined thrice. In 2017, the malaria department adopted the 3T procedure to ensure strict screening of all blood samples, that is, Test, Track and Treat.

snakebites and eventually get afflicted with malaria, according to reports. In many cases people die of malaria, but their deaths go unreported and are not entered in official records, sources said. Sometimes, malaria deaths are attributed to other causes, the sources added. The malaria cases coming to private hospitals are not reported to the government, it was learnt. Retired doctor Udaynath Barik says, "Many people are still affected by malaria. There is a need to examine these cases and provide patients timely treatment." The malaria department is carrying out malaria eradication programmes in 135 remote areas of the tribal-dominated district. The blood samples of all people are examined thrice. In 2017, the malaria department adopted the 3T procedure to ensure strict screening of all blood samples, that is, Test, Track and Treat. The procedure has so far proved to be effective. The health department staffers engaged in the malaria eradication programmes prepare cards for the people testing positive for the vector-borne disease and provide them treatment. Mosquito nets are also being distributed among the people in the disease prone areas. In 2017, the department distributed 11 lakh mosquito nets. Under the DAMAN drive, measures have been undertaken to destroy mosquitoes, and provide free treatment to patients.

NGT designated team takes stock of waste disposal

POST NEWS NETWORK

Chhatrapur/Berhampur, April 30: The Berhampur Municipal Corporation (BeMC) and the Chhatrapur Notified Area Council (NAC) will prepare an action plan for waste disposal as a high court appointed committee visited the Silk City and Ganjam district headquarters Chhatrapur and took stock of waste disposal systems Tuesday.



The committee members during their visit to Chhatrapur. OP PHOTO

The committee led by its chairman Justice PK Mohanty (retired judge) visited Berhampur and Chhatrapur and enquired about the steps taken by the civic bodies for disposal of waste. The committee members first visited the MKCG Medical College and Hospital in Berhampur and went around the super-specialty building and other departments in the town where the vegetable waste will be dumped for preparing compost. They also visited the bio-medical treatment plant in the hospital and checked whether pollution control guidelines were being properly implemented or not. The hospital generates tonnes of bio-medical waste everyday which includes used syringes, gloves, tubes, saline bottles, soiled clothes and samples collected from patients for biopsy. The hospital authorities are required to dispose these items in the microwave machine. The team also visited the proposed site of the solid waste treatment plant at Mahuda in Kukulakhandi block, community toilet and underground waste storage bins in the city. They also checked the waste treatment plant near the

Mardaraj vending zone and attended a review meeting at the hospital. Later, the team visited Chhatrapur where a sewage treatment plant is coming up. Till then the solid waste generated in the area will be disposed at Mahuda. This apart, 100 compost pits will also be constructed in the town where the vegetable waste will be dumped for preparing compost. Meanwhile, the NAC authorities have constructed a compost pit in the vegetable market while work on nine pits is underway in Mahawir Nagar in the town. A community toilet will be constructed near the Chhatrapur hospital for which tender will be floated after expiry of the model code of conduct for the general elections. The committee members also visited the construction of a swimming pool in the Circuit House premises. Reports said the high level committee was formed by the high court on the basis of the direction of the National Green Tribunal (NGT).

Earlier, expressing concern over the increasing stockpile of waste in the urban areas and its impact on human habitations, the NGT had directed for formation of a high level committee to take stock of the situation. The issue acquires importance as the state government has launched pilot projects to treat Berhampur, Bhubaneswar and Rourkela into model cities and Chhatrapur, Dhenkanal and Jajpur into model towns. As part of this plan, a sewage treatment plant and 100 compost pits will be constructed in Chhatrapur. State Environment Secretary Suresh Mohapatra, Health Secretary Pramod Meherda, Devidutta Biswal, Director SPCEB and Urban Development Secretary Sangramjit Nayak were the members of the team while Ganjam Collector Vijay Amruta Kulange, DRDA PD Siddharth Shankar Swain, CDMO Bijay Panigrahi and others accompanied the team during the visit.

Bank of Maharashtra SALE NOTICE. Branch: Jharsuguda. Provision to Rule 8 (6). Sale notice for sale of immovable properties. E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

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