

Odisha CM announces free medical aid for ailing child from Boudh

PBD BUREAU/PTI
BHUBANESWAR, DEC 30

ODISHA Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi on Monday directed health department officials to ensure free medical care for an ailing minor boy from Boudh district, who had come to his grievance cell.

The boy, identified as Pratyush Giri from Boudh district, is suffering from a rare disease, resulting in loss of eyesight. He has been suffering from the ailment for the last seven years, and it was difficult

to bear the expenditure to treat him in a good healthcare facility, said Pratyush's father Hembram Giri.

"Many hospitals refused to treat him on our health insurance card. So, we came here to the Chief Minister's Grievance Cell. The CM assured us of providing all required medical care," his mother said.

Majhi also arranged for an ambulance and sent the minor to Capital Hospital, from where he was shifted to SCB Medical College and Hospital, Cuttack.



"The minor boy was in a critical condition. He is suffering from a rare disease. I have never seen any person suffering from such a disease in my life," the CM told reporters.

Majhi said he has instructed Health Minister Mukesh Mahaling and the health secretary to make arrangements for the boy's

treatment.

The state government will bear all his healthcare expenses and if required, money will be released from the Chief Minister's Relief Fund (CMRF), he said.

Majhi also claimed that his predecessor had not visited the grievance cell in the last 16 years.

"The new government has taken public grievance hearing seriously, and it will ensure that not a single grievance is put in the dustbin," he asserted.

The public grievance cell will be extended to different parts of the state, the chief minister said, adding, a camp office has already been opened in Keonjhar district.

Odisha Police arrests couple impersonating as daughter, son-in-law of Principal Secretary to PM

PBD BUREAU/PTI
BHUBANESWAR, DEC 30

ODISHA Police on Monday said it arrested a couple on charges of defrauding people by impersonating themselves as the daughter and son-in-law of PK Mishra, the principal secretary to Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

The couple, identified as Hansita Abhilipsa (38) and her accomplice Anil Kumar Mohanty, believed to be her husband, were accused of cheating people by claiming that they have influential connections, police added.

"They were arrested on



The duo allegedly swindled rich businessmen, builders, mining operators, and other influential people in Bhubaneswar.

Officials said the couple digitally manipulated the photographs with influential officials and used these doctored images to approach victims, falsely promising to help them get their tenders passed.

Hansita is a resident of Kandhamal district, while Mohanty is a small-time businessman who owns an infrastructure firm.

The arrests were made following a complaint by a mine owner.

Stampede-like chaos at Shree Jagannath Temple leaves 10 devotees unconscious

PBD BUREAU
PURI, DEC 30

A stampede-like situation unfolded near the Lions' Gate of the Shree Jagannath Temple in Puri on Monday, as thousands of devotees gathered for darshan of the Trinity. The overwhelming crowd led to chaos, causing at least 10 devotees, including four students, to faint, while several others complained of breathlessness and suffocation.

According to sources, the situation turned frantic near the 'Nata Mandap' area of the 12th-century temple as a large number of devotees jostled to enter. Among the fainted were students from a school in Kadabarang village, Bhadrak who had travelled to Puri for the sacred visit. As the crowd surged, many were caught in a push-and-shove frenzy, leaving several feeling unwell.

The affected devotees were quickly rushed to the Puri District Headquarter Hospital for treatment. Authorities confirmed



that all were stable and responding well to care.

Eyewitnesses described the scene as a "mad rush" from early morning, both near the temple entrance and inside its premises. Despite heightened security and crowd management efforts by the Shree Jagannath Temple Administration (SJTA) and local police, the pressure of the massive turnout resulted in congestion and discomfort for many.

Authorities had prepared for the high footfall typical of year-end pilgrimages, with increased security measures to ensure safety and prevent any untoward incidents. However, with the expected arrival of even more visitors on December 31 and January 1, concerns remain about the potential for similar chaotic scenes.

Three held for assaulting tribal women in Odisha, BJD accuses BJP of 'shielding' prime accused

BALASORE/BHUBANESWAR, DEC 30

EVEN as Odisha Police arrested three persons on charges of assaulting two women over allegations that they were attempting religious conversion of some tribal families in Balasore district, Opposition BJD on Monday alleged that the prime accused was allowed to go scot-free due to his links with ruling BJP leaders.

According to police, the arrests were made on Sunday and two cases have been filed at Remuna police station. Police action followed a viral video showing two women being tied to a tree and assaulted in public view for allegedly attempting forced conversions of tribal families in Gobardhanpur village on Thursday.

"So far, three people have been arrested. We are taking stringent action to ensure there is no law and order situation in the area," Balasore SP Raj Prasad told reporters. He added that a case and a counter case had been filed at the police station.

The accused were booked under relevant sections of the SC & ST

(Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989, and BNS. Additionally, another case was registered against the two women under Section 4 of the Odisha Freedom of Religion Act, 1967, and sections 299 (deliberate and malicious insult of a religion), 3(5) (joint criminal liability), and 351(2) (criminal intimidation) of BNS, police said.

The SP said the police have issued notices to seven people in separate cases and a senior officer is investigating the matter.

DIG, Eastern Range, Balasore in a post on X said, "Remuna PS Case No 223/24 has been registered in connection with the atrocity committed against two women. Three accused individuals have been arrested and forwarded to court. Further investigation is underway, and stringent measures will be taken against the culprits."

Meanwhile, addressing a press conference, Opposition BJD leader Lekhashree Samantsinghar alleged that members of the ruling BJP were



behind the assault.

"The prime accused, Badal Panda, who is seen in the video, was not arrested because of his close proximity to Balasore MP Pratap Sarangi and Nilagiri MLA Santosh Khatua," Samantsinghar claimed.

She also presented photographs showing Badal Panda with BJP MP Sarangi and MLA Khatua. "The BJD will fight for justice for the victimised women. We will approach the ST/SC Commission, National Human Rights Commission, and Women's Commission," Samantsinghar added.

BJP MP Sarangi dismissed the allegations, calling them false and politically motivated. "I have condemned the assault on the women, including tying them to a tree. Assaulting women is not part of Hinduism. I have instructed the Balasore SP to arrest all those involved in the incident. You can ask the Balasore SP about my instructions," Sarangi told PTI.

Regarding his photograph with the prime accused, Sarangi said, "He (Panda) is not a BJP member. I do not know him personally, nor do I have any links with the accused. As a politician, I meet many people, and the picture might have been taken in a public gathering."

Earlier, senior Congress leader and former OPCC president Niranjan Patnaik also condemned the incident and demanded stringent action against the accused.

Earlier during the day, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi posted on X, "On one hand, a Dalit youth was killed in police custody in Dewas, Madhya Pradesh. On the other hand, tribal women were tied to trees and beaten in Balasore, Odisha."

"Both these incidents are sad, shameful and highly condemnable. Due to the Manuvadi thinking of the BJP, such incidents are happening one after another in the states ruled by them - this is not possible without the support of the government," Gandhi said. —PTI

SBI Bhubaneswar Circle donates school bus and pick-up vehicle under CSR initiative

PBD BUREAU
BHUBANESWAR, DEC 30

IN a significant gesture under its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiative, the State Bank of India (SBI) Bhubaneswar Circle has donated a school bus and a pick-up vehicle to two charitable organisations. The donations were made to the Open Learning Systems, Bhubaneswar, and Govind Godham Goshala, Puri, respectively.

The event, held at a city hotel here, saw Rana Ashutosh Kumar Singh, Managing Director (R.C & SARG) of the Corporate Centre in Mumbai, hand over the vehicles to the representatives of these NGOs.



The handover ceremony was attended by key officials, including Dinesh Pruthi, Chief General Manager of the Bhubaneswar Circle; Kaushal Kishor Singh, General Manager (NW-II); Prashant Kumar, DGM

(B&O) AO Bhubaneswar; Manoj Kumar Singh, DGM & CDO; along with other senior SBI officials.

The school bus was received by Prakash Kumar Rath, Chief Executive Officer, and Kasturi Mohapatra, Vice President of Open Learning Systems. The bus will be used to transport Divyang (differently-abled) students, providing them with better access to education.

Similarly, Bishnu Charan Panda, Secretary and Founder Trustee of Govind Godham Goshala in Puri, received the pick-up vehicle. The vehicle will be used for the transportation of stray and abandoned animals, including cows and bulls, ensuring their safe relocation and care.

OUTR hosts AMC-2024 conference establishment of Institute of Chemistry

PBD BUREAU
BHUBANESWAR, DEC 30

THE Odisha University of Technology and Research (OUTR) successfully concluded its annual conference of the OCS and national seminar on "Advancements in Materials Chemistry" (AMC 2024) on Monday, marking a significant milestone in the academic calendar. The three-day event, held at OUTR, featured an array of technical sessions and keynote addresses delivered by esteemed delegates from renowned institutions such as IITs, NITs,

IIISER, and BARC.

The conference, which brought together experts, scholars, and practitioners from across the country, highlighted cutting-edge research in materials chemistry and provided a platform for emerging researchers to showcase their innovative contributions to the field.

The event's conclusion was marked by a grand valedictory ceremony, which also saw the announcement of the establishment of the "Institute of Chemistry" in Bhubaneswar. This new institute aims to propel the growth of chemistry educa-

tion and research, benefiting students, scholars, and researchers alike.

The successful conference underscored Bhubaneswar's growing prominence as a hub for academic excellence and innovation. It also reaffirmed OUTR's commitment to advancing research and development in chemistry, while inspiring and encouraging the next generation of scholars to pursue excellence in the field.

Eminent author, columnist SN Mishra's versatility worth emulating for young writers: Vivek Pattanayak

PBD BUREAU
BHUBANESWAR, DEC 30

WAXING eloquent on the works of Prof. Satya Narayan Mishra, former top bureaucrat Vivek Pattanayak said that young writers must follow this great author, who is equally brilliant in the varied subjects he tackles in his writings, ranging from the Constitution, politics, contemporary developments, cinema, culture, cricket, and much more.

Pattanayak made these remarks during his address at the launch of Prof. Mishra's latest book, 'Against the Binary', here on Sunday.

"I came to know about Prof. Mishra and his immaculate literary prowess much later, even though he happens to be a very close relative of my colleague and former Chief Secretary of Odisha, Tarun



Kanti Mishra. I am indeed deeply impressed by the profundity of his ability to critically analyse the wide-ranging topics he addresses," said Pattanayak.

Informing the small yet highly knowledgeable audience that all the articles included in this book were published in the English daily 'The Political and Business Daily' (PBD), Pattanayak said that 'Against the Binary' should be a collector's delight due to the richness of its contents.

Pattanayak also hailed

the courage and determination of PBD Editor Bijoy Ketan Mishra for ensuring that this excellent newspaper continues to be published uninterrupted for more than a decade, despite numerous adversities. Complimenting the PBD editor for allowing local talents to publish their articles in the newspaper, Pattanayak said, "PBD is an excellent newspaper, and everyone should read it."

Eminent journalist, author, critic, and columnist Bhaskar Parichha, in his address, highly appreciated 'Against the Binary' by Prof. Mishra and noted that bureaucrats turning into authors is a positive trend emerging in Odisha's literary landscape.

Speaking on the occasion, Editor of PBD, Bijoy Ketan Mishra, said, "My newspaper is indebted to Mr. Mishra for his valuable contributions. Apart from the wide variety of themes he explores in his writings, what stands out is his thought process, which is indeed fiercely independent while calling a spade a spade."

"In spite of resistance from my desk, I allow some of his articles, which are extremely critical of judgments and judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts, to be published in our newspaper," Mishra said, urging Prof. Mishra to continue using the platform PBD has offered him to express his views.

'Against the Binary' is

the sixth book to be published with articles originally featured in PBD during its 13 years of existence in Odisha. The other five are: 'Odisha Files', 'An Editor's Time Capsule', 'Perspectives', 'Turning Tides - An Insightful Miscellany', and 'Our Life and Times'.

While 'Our Life and Times' contains all the articles published in PBD by former Union Secretary Ramesh Chandra Misra, 'Against the Binary' includes the articles of Prof. Mishra that were published in PBD as well.

Prof. Satya Narayan Mishra served as a civil servant for 36 years. He held the positions of Director (Finance) in DRDO and Joint Secretary (Aerospace) in the Ministry of Defence. After retiring, he transitioned into academia, becoming a professor and teaching Economics and Constitutional Law.

EAST COAST RAILWAY

E-Tender Notice No. ST-SBP-TENDER-2024-27, Dtd. 20.12.2024

Name of the work: SIGNAL ZONAL WORK FOR SIKIR (SFK)-RAHENBATA (RNBT)-TITLARGH (TIG)-THERUBALI (THV), BHAWANIPATNA (BWIP)-JUNAGARH (JNRD) SECTION UNDER SENIOR SECTION ENGINEER (SSE)/SIG/TITLARGH (TIG) IN SAMBALPUR DIVISION FOR ONE YEAR.

Tender Value: ₹ 53,33,224.54. Bid Security: ₹ 1,06,700.00.

Tender closing Date & Time: At 1100 hrs. on 15.01.2025.

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

Complete information including e-tender documents of the above e-tender is available in website: www.reps.gov.in

Note: The prospective tenderers are advised to visit the website 15 (Fifteen) days before the date of closing of tender to note any changes/corrigendum issued for this tender.

Divisional Sig. & Telecom Engineer (Sig), PR-841/P/24-25 Sambalpur

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL MANAGER, WATCO DIVISION, CUTTACK

C-1361 Telephone/e-mail/FAX: 0671-2547115/gmWatcoct@gmail.com

NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING e-Procurement

Bid Identification No. GMWATCO (W)-12/2024-25 Dtd.24.12.2024

Name of the work :- Construction of UGR along with laying of M.S. pipe and Installation of Centrifugal Pump & Motor for Improvement of W/S System to AHPGIC Campus, Cuttack

- Estimated cost :- Rs.20.10 Lakhs (Approx.).
- Period of completion :- 6 (Six) months.
- Date & time of availability of bid document in the portal :- From 11 A.M of dt.30.12.2024 to 5.00 P.M. of dt.09.01.2025.
- Last date/time of receipt of bids in the portal :- 09.01.2025 up to 05.00 P.M.
- Date & time of opening of bids :- 10.01.2025 at 12.30 P.M.
- Name and address of the Officer Inviting Bid :- The General Manager, WATCO Division, Cuttack-753003, Odisha, Ph. (0671) 2547115, email:gmwatcoct@gmail.com
- The bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only.

Further details can be seen from the website www.tendersodisha.gov.in

General Manager, WATCO Division, Cuttack

OIPR-13170/11/0018/2425

E-Mail: eerwdivisiondhenkanal@yahoo.co.in

Government of Odisha

Office of the Superintending Engineer, Rural Works Division, Dhenkanal.

e-procurement Notice No. 04 / Road Works / 2024-25.

0-950

Name of the work : Road & Building Works

Total No. of Works : 07(Seven) Nos

Estimated Cost : Rs. 5.08 to 16.95 lakh (approx.)

Class Contractor : "D" & "C" Class

Period of Completion : 01 (One) calendar month

EMD Required : As mentioned in the Annexure at Column-04

online for bidding : 31.12.2024 at 11:00 A.M to 07.01.2025 up to 5.00 P.M

Last Date & Time of seeking tender clarification : 06.01.2025 upto 4.00 PM

Date & Time of opening of tender (Technical/Financial Bid) : 08.01.2025 at 11.00 PM

Other Details can be seen from the website <http://tendersorissa.gov.in>.

OIPR-25101/11/0008/2425

Executive Engineer R.W.Division, Dhenkanal.