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ରେଲ୍‌ଓ୍ଵେ ଓଡ଼ିଶାରୁ ନେଉଛି ୨୦ ହଜାର କୋଟି, ଦେଉଛି ୧ ହଜାର କୋଟି ।

ଆଉ ଓଡ଼ିଶାରେ ହିଁ ରେଲ୍‌ଓ୍ଵେ ନେତୃତ୍ୱ ସବୁଠାରୁ କମ୍ ।

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୨୧ ରୁ ୨୧ ରେ 'ଶଙ୍ଖ'କୁ ଜିତାଇବା
ଓଡ଼ିଶାର ହକ୍ ପାଇଁ ଲଢ଼ିବା ।



ବିଜୁ ଜନତା ଦଳ

BJP pits Jaya Prada against Azam

Maneka, Varun swap seats in BJP's 9th list; Manoj Sinha picked for Ghazipur; Murli Manohar Joshi dropped

DEEPAK K UPRETI ■ NEW DELHI

Noted film actor of yesterday and former MP Jaya Prada joined the BJP on Tuesday and will take on Samajwadi Party's Muslim face Azam Khan in Rampur, while Maneka Gandhi and her son, Varun Gandhi, swapped their seats of Pilibhit and Sultanpur as per the ninth list of the BJP released on Tuesday.

Union Minister Manoj Sinha has been fielded from Ghazipur, Rita Bahuguna from Allahabad, State BJP president Mahendra Nath Pandey from Chandauli, and Jagdambika Pal from Doonariyaganj.

BJP's ninth list which has 29 candidates from Uttar Pradesh (and 10 from West Bengal) repeats many of the current MPs, including BJP's Kisan Morcha head Virendra Singh Mast (Ballia), Harish Dwivedi (Basti), Kirtwardhan Singh (Gonda), Pankaj Choudhary (Maharganj), Vijay Dube (Kushinagar), Kamleshwar Paswan (Bansgaon SC), Ravindra Kushwaha (Sahebpur), Sadhvi Niranjani Jyoti (Fatehpur), Lallu Singh (Faizabad), Daddan Mishra (Shawasti), and Brijbhushan Sharan Singh (Kaiserganj).

The Rampur contest has the potential to be bitter and intense since both Jaya Prada and Azam Khan are arch rivals. Jaya Prada had at one time accused Khan of circulating a scurrilous video purportedly featuring her in Rampur.



Rampur has the highest concentration of Muslims in entire UP. Muslims are over 50 per cent of the total voters in the constituency. Riding the Modi wave, BJP's Nepal Singh had won from there in 2014.

A two-term Lok Sabha member from the SP, Jaya Prada is a close associate of

Rajya Sabha member Amar Singh, who was expelled from the SP and has since come close to the BJP.

Lauding Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Jaya Prada described him as a "brave" leader in whose hands the country is "safe".

Noting that she started her

political journey with the TDP and was its Rajya Sabha member before joining the SP and being elected to Lok Sabha from Rampur, Jaya Prada told reporters that joining the BJP is a "significant" moment in her life and she would now work dedicatedly for the saffron party.

- BJP chooses Rita Bahuguna for Allahabad, State BJP president Mahendra Nath Pandey for Chandauli, Jagdambika Pal for Doonariyaganj Lok Sabha seats
- The ninth list, which has 29 candidates from Uttar Pradesh (and 10 from West Bengal) repeats many of the sitting MPs
- Maneka has been shifted to Sultanpur from her current constituency of Pilibhit, while her son, Varun Gandhi will fight from Pilibhit

BJP asked me not to contest LS polls: Joshi

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Veteran BJP leader Murli Manohar Joshi on Tuesday said he has been asked by the party not to contest the polls. Within hours, BJP nominated Khadi and Gramodyog Minister in Yogi Government Satyadeo Pachauri from Joshi's Kanpur seat.

In a statement, Joshi said the party general secretary (organisation) Ram Lal has asked him not to contest the LS poll.

The statement was released for the voters of Kanpur, from where Joshi had won in 2014 by getting 57 per cent of the vote.

Joshi heads Parliament's Estimates Committee and some of its observations,



including on jobs, the GDP and non-performing assets, recently embarrassed the Union Government. Earlier, another senior party leader from UP Kalraj Mishra had announced not to contest the elections from his Deoria seat.

Nishad Party, 2 OBC outfits join SP-BSP alliance



Samajwadi Party president Akhilesh Yadav, Nishad Party president Sanjay Nishad and Janwadi Party (Socialist) president Sanjay Singh Chauhan during a joint Press conference at the SP office in Lucknow on Tuesday

VIRENDRA NATH BHATT ■ LUCKNOW

With an attempt to counter the influence of the BJP, the Samajwadi Party on Tuesday inducted three more OBC-dominated political outfits in the SP-BSP-RLD alliance. The three OBC political parties are Janwadi Party (Socialist), Rashtriya Samanta Dal and the Nishad Party. These small parties have pockets of influence among their respective communities in eastern UP. "I congratulate the three parties on joining the alliance," said Akhilesh Yadav at a Press conference here on Tuesday to

announce the expansion of the alliance that had started with a tie-up between Samajwadi Party and Bahujan Samaj Party and later included Ajit Singh's Rashtriya Lok Dal. Akhilesh's effort appears to be aimed at stitching a caste arithmetic under the SP-BSP combination — Nishad, Dalit, Muslim, Yadav and non-Yadav backward communities. Headed by Sanjay Singh Chauhan, the Janwadi Party Socialist Party has a strong hold among the Chauhan community, an extremely backward caste of the OBC category, which has a considerable presence across eastern UP.

Chowkidar pure hai, dobara PM banna sure hai: Rajnath

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Chowkidar chor nahi, chowkidar pure hai. Chowkidar ka dobara PM banna sure hai. Dosh ki samasyaon ka wo hi cure hai. (Watchman is not a thief, but he is pure. Watchman is all set to become PM again. He is cure to country's problems), said Union Home Minister Raj Nath Singh while addressing an election rally titled "Vijay Sankalp Sabha" in Delhi's Yamuna Vihar on Tuesday.

Singh's response was aimed at blunting the often repeated allegations of Congress president Rahul Gandhi "Chowkidar chor hai" to hit out at the Prime Minister over alleged corruption in the Rafale deal. Attacking the Congress for levelling false allegations of corruption on Modi regarding the Rafale deal, Singh asked, "For whom will our Prime Minister take money?"

Sheila plans Aay Pe Charcha to take Nyay to Delhiites' doors

CHANDAN PRAKASH ■ NEW DELHI

In its bid to have a direct interaction with the voters in national Capital for Lok Sabha polls, Delhi Congress headed by Sheila Dikshit has planned to launch "Aay Pe Charcha" (discussion on income) from April 1 to generate awareness among people about benefits of the "historic" minimum income guarantee scheme announced by party president Rahul Gandhi on Monday.

Terming the Nyuntam Aay Yojana



(Nyay) announcement as an "extraordinary step", Sheila said this is the biggest scheme announced ever for the poor after the highly successful MGNREGA (Mahatma Gandhi National Rural

Employment Guarantee Act). "This stupendous scheme will benefit the people below the poverty line in the country. It is the first time that such a step has been taken in the world," said Sheila, adding that it will empower the poorest in the country. Hitting out at the Bharatiya Janta Party (BJP), Sheila said it is strange that the BJP Government which has coined "hollow" slogans such as "Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas" and "Aachhe Din" seems to be rattled by the announcement. Sheila said the Congress will implement the scheme for five crore

poor families in the country after it forms the next Government in the country. "The formalities (of the scheme) will be worked out after Congress forms the Government and implements it," she said. Brushing aside accusations of the BJP that the scheme will put a heavy burden on the economy of the country and it would not be practical to implement the scheme, Sheila said, "The party has taken all possibilities into consideration for the successful implementation of the scheme, it would be implemented without delay."

Cong accuses Sambit of poll code violation

For displaying Jagannath idol during campaign

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

The Congress on Tuesday knocked at the doors of the State Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) against the BJP's Puri Lok Sabha seat candidate Sambit Patra alleging violation of the election model code of conduct by him.

A six-member Congress team petitioned the CEO that the BJP national spokesperson used Lord Jagannath's idol during a campaign rally from Bhubaneswar to Puri in violation of the code.

"When it has been mentioned by the Election Commission of India (ECI) that no election can be fought on basis of any religion, caste, creed or culture, the election rally of Sambit Patra and the photographs thereof clearly



show the violation of model code of conduct", the Congress said. Notably, Patra was seen holding a Jagannath idol during his rally from Bhubaneswar via Uttara, Pipili and Sakshigopal en route to Puri on Monday. "An admirer gifted me the idol. As an Odia and a devotee of Lord Jagannath, I can never refuse it. I will embrace it and worship it. What's wrong in that?" Patra questioned.

The Congress, however,

criticised the BJP for exploiting religious sentiment. "They play with the religious sentiments of people during elections. We won't tolerate it and allow this to happen," said PCC vice-president Aryakumar Jnanendra. The BJD too spoke on similar lines. "When elections approach, they (the BJP) bring up Ram Mandir issue. They do politics over religion. We won't allow them to exploit people's sentiments," BJD leader Subhas Singh said.

Ahead of elections ₹1.54 cr cash, contraband seized in State

Hard cash and other items worth ₹540 crore have so far been seized during raids from different places in country so far

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

Ahead of the elections, various enforcement Agencies deployed by the Election Commission of India have seized hard cash and contraband items worth ₹1.54 crore from different places in Odisha so far.

Hard cash of ₹15.40 lakh, 53 lakh litres of liquor worth ₹1.37 crore and other banned goods worth ₹1.20 lakh have been seized during raids by March 25, informed a Press Information Bureau (PIB) release here on Tuesday.

The release also informed hard cash and other items worth ₹540 crore have so far been seized during raids from different places of the country so far.

COAL BLOCK ALLOCATION CASE Petition urges SC to expedite probe against Naveen Patnaik

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

The BJD on Tuesday rubbished the petition filed by one Viabhav Verma in the Supreme Court on Monday seeking expediting the CBI probe in a coal block allocation case, in which an inquiry was pending against Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik, and said Patnaik has no role to play in the case.

As per the petition, MS Central Collieries Co Limited and Ors (Nagpur) was awarded the Takli-Jena-Bellora coalfield in Maharashtra in 1998 even before its registration. Patnaik was the then Union Minister of Coal, thus making his role questionable. There's no reason to delay the case, the petitioner stated, adding that Patnaik has already been interrogated by the CBI on November 25,

Allegations in the case are those of forgery, criminal breach of trust and selling of coal in the open market against concept of captive allocation of coal mines for a specified end-use product, stated the petitioner

2017. As evident, again there is a delay of almost two years since his interrogation and the CBI is yet to complete its investigation and has failed to take any concrete steps despite the fact that the apex court is monitoring the coal block cases, the petitioner stated.

The case was registered on March 26, 2014; and the CBI investigation into the allocation of captive coalfields was part of Supreme Court-monitored probe between 1993 and 2010. The allegations in the case are those of forgery, criminal breach of trust and selling of coal in the open market

against the concept of captive allocation of coal mines for a specified end-use product, stated the petitioner.

However, SC lawyer and BJD MP Pinaki Misra in reaction to the petition said, "It's a contemptible move. The issue is 21 years old. It relates to a time when Naveen Patnaik was holding an additional charge of the Coal Ministry for about a couple of months only during the Vajpayee regime."

He further said that the issue never came up when Patnaik was holding additional charge of the Coal Ministry. So, he had no role to play in the matter. "Repeated attempts have been made to try and drag him into it by the Centre. As this is election time, efforts are being made by some vested elements to tarnish the clean image of Patnaik," Mishra alleged.

4 Maoists held for anti-poll posters

Rebels threaten to kill police informers in Kalahandi

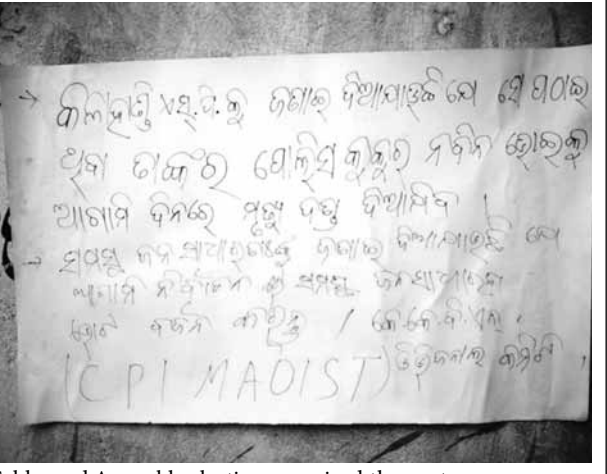
PNS ■ NABARANGPUR/BHAWANIPATNA

Four Maoists cadres were apprehended by police while they were putting up posters during the wee hours of Tuesday near Kusumpur Square under the Raigarh police station in Nabarangpur district. The Red rebels in the posters urged people to boycott the ensuing polls in the State. They were spotted by a police patrolling party at around 4.30 am near Kusumpur Square. The arrestees were identified as Pila Ram Netam, Eswarilal Netam, Tikech Netam and Sanjay Netam. They all belong to Joratari vil-



lage under Dhamtari district in Chhattisgarh and are alleged to be members of the Sita Nadi Area Committee of CPI (Maoists).

Posters, banners and two motorcycles were seized from their possession. The four rebels were arrested under Sections 120 (B), 121, 121-A, 506, 34 of IPC and Sections 16 (B), 18, 20 of UAP Act.



In another instance, Maoist posters were found in Barabandha panchayat under the Rampur police station in Kalahandi district on the day. The posters allegedly put up by the Kandhamal-Kalahandi-Boudh-Nayagarh (KKBN) Division of CPI(Maoists) appealed to people to boycott the ensuing Lok Sabha and Assembly elections. Through the posters, the outlawed outfit also threatened the Kalahandi SP that the Maoists would kill "police informers" in coming days. On receiving the information, police reached the spot and seized the posters.

Allow Vedanta alumina tenders: HC to Nalco

Vedanta had taken legal recourse after all attempts failed

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

Passing judgement in the matter of alumina tenders, the Orissa High Court on Tuesday asked Nalco to allow the Vedanta Limited to participate in the alumina tenders floated by the PSU. This is latest development in the tussle between the two aluminium giants over the crucial raw material, which also saw Jharsuguda citizens lending their voice and support to the 'Odisha's resources for Odisha first' movement. Where Vedanta is struggling from the want of alumina, Nalco exports more than a million metric tonnes of alumina every year. Vedanta has repeatedly sought supply of alumina from Nalco, but denied participation in tenders

floats by the latter citing grounds. Prior to seeking legal recourse into the matter, Vedanta had tried participating in the open alumina tenders but to no avail. The company is undergoing immense raw material scarcity despite being in Odisha, home to India's richest bauxite reserves. Forced to turn to imports, the company loses millions in forex annually. Alumina supply from Nalco could provide some respite to Vedanta, as the company looks to adding more value in the State through its proposed Aluminium Park at Jharsuguda which can create an ecosystem of ancillary industries near the mother smelter. Vedanta is the economic backbone of Jharsuguda, which has gained reputation as an industrial town and is one of the biggest contributors to State GDP. In January, a delegation led by eminent citizens of Jharsuguda reached out to Nalco on behalf of a people's movement where nearly 12,000 people of Jharsuguda signed a petition requesting Nalco to supply alumina to Vedanta. The delegation also met Chief Secretary AP Padhi, requesting intervention in the matter. This was followed by another appeal from the delegation when Nalco opened tender for 30,000 metric tonnes of alumina in February, in which Vedanta requested participation. Upon rejection to participate, Vedanta sought legal intervention by filing a writ petition with Orissa High Court. On March 26, the High Court found Vedanta eligible for the tenders under all prevailing conditions and directed Nalco to allow Vedanta to participate in the same.

Petrol pump looted again in Balanga

PNS ■ BALANGA

In yet another incident of the deteriorating law and order situation in the area, three unidentified miscreants looted cash of ₹70,000 from a petrol pump in Balanga at gunpoint on Monday night. As per sources, three miscreants came to the petrol pump by a black Pulsar bike armed with lethal weapons and gun and forcibly entered the office and attacked manager Salal Uddin with swords. Later, they looted the cash and fled from the spot.

Three miscreants came to the petrol pump by a black Pulsar bike armed with lethal weapons and gun and forcibly entered the office and attacked manager

The injured manager was rushed to the Capital Hospital, Bhubaneswar. Pipili SDPO Debadutta Baral and the Balanga police rushed to the spot. It might be mentioned that some days before, three miscreants had looted cash of ₹1.5 lakh from the same petrol pump.

Kharabela, Manoj file papers for K'mal LS

PNS ■ PHULBANI

BJP's Kharabela Swain and Congress' Manoj Acharya filed their nomination papers for the Kandhamal Lok Sabha seat on Tuesday, the last day of the second-phase polls. Besides, Mrutyunjaya of the TMC, Ameer Nayak of the BSP, Tuna Mallick of the CPI, Padmanav Singh of the Jai Prakash Janta Dal and Independent candidate Bahmachari Madhab Chaitanya also filed their nomination papers. Notably, BJD's Achyuta Samanta had filed his papers on Monday. Besides, on Tuesday, BJP's



Deb Narayan Pradhan, BJD's Angada Kanhar, Congress's Kishor Chandra Kanhar and independent candidates Nabin Kanhar, Jayasree Kanhar, Birendra Kanhar, Jagdish



Pradhan, Premasila Jhankar, Krushna Kanhar, Chakrasekhar Kanhar and Jemant Kanhar filed their nominations papers for the Phulbani Assembly seat.

'Bring urban poor to mainstream'

IIEC holds meet Urban Poverty Act

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

The Indian Institute of Education and Care (IIEC) in association with the Indo Global Social Service Society and the Secours Catholique Caritas France organised a State-level workshop on "74th Amendment Act and Urban Poverty" here on Tuesday. IIEC Director Dr Shisir Kumar Das inaugurating the workshop suggested that the urban poor be included in the mainstream of the develop-



SAMAVESHI SHEHAR-II State Level Workshop on 74th Amendment Act & Urban Poverty. Organized by IIEC in collaboration with Indo-Global Social Service Society (IGSSS) and Secours Catholique Caritas France. Venue: Image Conference Hall, Bhubaneswar. Date: March 27, 2019.

ment soon. He was of the view that urban poor can create own identities if they are given supports. Former Panchayati Raj Director Dr Karunakar Patnaik briefed about the 74th Amendment Act. Discussions were held on three important aspects; functioning of autonomous bodies, financial sides and eradication of urban poverty. Bidyadhar Maharana, Saral Das, Dr Srinivas Das, Prof Sushant Das, Kishore Kumar Das, Paresh Chandra Mohanty and Sachikant Pradhan also spoke. IIEC's Banishidhar Sahani, Majuprabha Mahapatra, Santilata Sahu and Rajalaxmi Dash coordinated the programme.

ASMN national meet in Ganjam from March 30

PNS ■ RAHMAPUR

The Association of Small and Medium Newspapers of India (ASMN)'s 20th national convention would be held at Gopalpur in Ganjam district on March 30 and 31, informed ASMN Odisha branch president Rabi Rath. Rath said more than 250 editors of different newspapers from different States would attend the convention and hold discussions on various problems of the small and medium newspapers and advertisement

Rath informed that association national president Keshav Dutt Chandola would preside over the meeting. Policies of various State Governments and the Centre. Rath informed that association national president Keshav Dutt Chandola would preside over the meeting. Convention reception committee chairman Bhagirath Maharana and Rath have urged editors and publishers of small and medium newspapers to attend the meeting.

XAHR meet 'Xuberance' sees 100% placement

DE Shaw highest paymaster with ₹27.5L/yr

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

The Xavier School of Human Resource Management (XAHR) under the Xavier University Bhubaneswar (XUB) has successfully concluded its placement programme 'Xuberance' by securing placements for all 123 students of the 2017-19 batch. The season witnessed students receiving offers from 67 companies across various industries, out of which 37 were new recruiters. As many as 19 students of the batch were awarded PPO/PPIs. The DE Shaw emerged as the highest paymaster with an offer of ₹27.5 lakh per annum, which accounts for a 30 per cent increase in the highest salary offered as compared to the previous year. The average salary stands at ₹12.75 lakh per annum, up

The DE Shaw emerged as the highest paymaster with an offer of ₹27.5 lakh per annum, which accounts for a 30 per cent increase in the highest salary offered as compared to the previous year. The average salary stands at ₹12.75 lakh per annum, up from ₹11.88 lakh per annum last year. The median salary figure is ₹12.20 lakh per annum, and the average salary for the top 50 students is ₹15.50 lakh per annum.

Jagannath Mahotsav begins in Nalco Township



Nalco CMD Dr Tapan Kumar Chand also attended the festival organised by the Nalconagar Temple Committee, Angul in association with the Shree Jagannath Sanskruti Parishad. Besides, Sers from across the State and a large gathering of followers of Lord Jagannath attended. Gajapati Maharaja Dibyasingha Deb emphasised on spiritual growth, along with material achievement for lasting peace and happiness while Dr Chand elaborated on the importance of Lord Jagannath culture and its focus on upliftment of downtrodden and social welfare at large. Acharya Chinmaya Mission, Ranchi's Swami Madhabananda Saraswati Maharaj conducted the programme. Among other, Parishad president Gopinath Mohanty, VP Pitabas Routray, Radhaballava Matha and Puri's Mahanta Ramakrishna Das Maharaj were present.

Kishore, 22 others file papers for B'rajnagar

According to information, a total of 18 candidates filed nominations on Tuesday, the last day of filing of nominations for the second-phase polls

As many as 23 candidates, including BJD's Kishore Kumar Mohanty, have filed nominations for the Brajrajnagar Assembly constituency, which will go to polls in the second phase on April 18. According to information, a total of 18 candidates filed nominations on Tuesday, the last day of filing of nominations for the second-phase polls. Besides, BJP's Dinesh Jain and Congress' Mahendra Naik filed papers for the Jharsuguda Constituency. MLA Naba Kisore Das and BJD leaders like Tapas Rai Choudhary, Sandeep Awasthi and Manoranjan Mohapatra accompanied Mohanty to file nominations at the Sub-Collector's office here. Mohanty said he would continue his fight to resolve longstanding problems of Brajrajnagar like displacement and unemployment and make all efforts for conferment of sub division status to Lakhampur block. Congress candidate Mahendra Naik and BJP's Dinesh Jain made various commitments in their own ways.

DIRECTORATE OF HORTICULTURE, GOVT. OF ODISHA
KRUSHI BHAWAN, GOPABANDHU MARG, BHUBANESWAR - 751001
No.-NHM (H2) 14/18 02/2019 Dt.25.03.2019
CORRIGENDUM
TO REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) for Selection of Project Management Unit (PMU) for Reforming Odisha's Horticulture'
With reference to the RFP No. 1/ 2019, published on dt.02.03.2019 and subsequent queries received, this corrigendum is being issued to the Request For Proposal for Selection of 'Project Management Unit (PMU) for Reforming Odisha's Horticulture'. The details of corrigendum can be downloaded from the website <https://tendersodisha.gov.in> and www.odihort.nic.in. Further the last date for submission of proposal has been extended to 02.05.2019 till 17.00 Hours. For further details, please visit the website as mentioned above.
Directorate of Horticulture, Govt. of Odisha reserves the right to accept or reject any application and to annul the process at any time, without any liability and assigning any reason thereof.
Sd/-
Director of Horticulture
Odisha
01038/11/0012/1819

Congress campaign in Haryana begins with parivartan yatra

The Congress kicked off its six-day long 'Parivartan Yatra' in Haryana on Tuesday, to reach out to the voters and send across a message that "all is well" in the faction-ridden state party unit. Ghulam Nabi Azad, who is the Congress general secretary in charge of Haryana flagged off the yatra which will see all senior party leaders travelling in a bus together for electioneering in view of Lok Sabha polls. On the first day of the yatra, former Chief Minister Bhupinder Singh Hooda and state Congress chief Ashok Tanwar set aside their differences and were seen sitting together in the bus during 'Parivartan Yatra' which began from Gurugram. Congress legislature party leader Kiran Choudhry, Rohtak MP Deepender Singh Hooda, Rajya Sabha MP Selja Kumari, former minister Ajay Yadav, former assembly Speaker Kuldeep Sharma were among the leaders who were on the bus. Kuldeep Bishnoi again gave a miss to the party's event amid speculations that he is likely to join the BJP. Adampur MLA Bishnoi had last week stayed away from the meeting of coordination committee of the Congress and party's workers meeting in New Delhi. While the party leaders have kept mum on his absence from the events, Bishnoi had earlier denied the reports of joining the BJP. On the other hand, Kuldeep's elder brother and former Haryana deputy Chief Minister Chander Mohan had last week attended party's workers meeting in New Delhi and has been actively participating in various party events since past few months. Bishnoi, the son of former Chief Minister Bhajan Lal had merged his party HJC in the Congress in 2016. He had in the past served as Hisar MP and is seen as a frontrunner for a Congress' ticket from the parliamentary seat. His brother Chander Mohan has reportedly also staked his claim on party's ticket from Hisar seat.

LEADERBOARD

RUNS	103	Rishabh Pant (SRH)
WICKETS	4	Imran Tahir (CSK)
6S	50	Ashwin's action speak for him and represent him when I looked up to the eyes of his teammates
4S	134	— PADDY UPTON

IPL 2019



BRAVO CAPS CHENNAI'S COMEBACK

DJ picks 3-33 as Delhi fail to capitalise good start into big total against Super Kings



Shikhar Dhawan (Delhi Capitals) plays a shot while Mahendra Singh Dhoni (Chennai Super Kings) stand behind the wickets, (right) Dwayne Bravo celebrates after taking a wicket

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Shikhar Dhawan scored a painstaking half-century in Delhi Capitals' sub-par 147 for 6 against Chennai Super Kings on a lifeless Kotla track in an IPL encounter here on Tuesday.

The senior opener once again played the role of sheet anchor in his 51 off 47 balls that had seven boundaries but unfortunately failed to accelerate during the final overs. This left the home team at least 30 runs short of a fighting score.

From a comfortable 120 for 2

with the dangerous Rishabh Pant at the crease, CSK seized the momentum, effecting a middle-order collapse. Capitals lost four wickets for seven runs in just 1.5 overs. From 118 for 2 after 15 overs, the last five overs yielded only 29 runs.

With the ball stopping and coming, Capitals batsmen found Dwayne Bravo's (3/33 in 4 overs) variations difficult to handle. Ravindra Jadeja (1/23 in 4 overs) also made life difficult for the Capitals in the middle overs and Harbhajan Singh (0/30 in 4 overs) also bowled as many as 10 dot

FROM A COMFORTABLE 120 FOR 2 WITH THE DANGEROUS RISHABH PANT AT THE CREASE, CSK SEIZED THE MOMENTUM, EFFECTING A MIDDLE-ORDER COLLAPSE CAPITALS LOST FOUR WICKETS FOR SEVEN RUNS IN JUST 1.5 OVERS

balls. Dhawan, however, continued to hold one end up and hit the occasional boundary in between, even as stroke making became increasingly difficult.

Pant (25 off 12 balls), during his 41-run stand with Dhawan, tried to negate the pitch factor but did not last till the death overs.

He did reach out to a short ball from Harbhajan, dispatching it over long off for a six. In the next over, his short arm pull off Dwayne Bravo was taken by Shardul Thakur at deep square

leg boundary.

With Colin Ingram (2) and Keemo Paul (0) also being dismissed cheaply, followed by Dhawan, the expectations of a 175-plus total withered away.

During the start of the second innings Chennai were at 51 for the loss of one wicket.

Ambati Rayadu was bowled out for just five runs.

Shane Watson was batting at 28 runs in 19 balls which included four 4s and one 6s. While Suresh Raina was batting at 14 runs in six balls which included three 4s.

Up Next KXIP face KKR in backdrop of Ashwin's Mankad moment



Live on Star Sports 1 & 2

HEAD TO HEAD

M 23

KKR 15

KKXIP 8

KOLKATA

WEDNESDAY | 8:00 PM

PTI ■ KOLKATA

Skipper R Ashwin is in the eye of a storm after 'Mankading' a rival player but a winning start will keep Kings XI Punjab upbeat when they face home favourites Kolkata Knight Riders in an IPL fixture here on Wednesday.

It was Ashwin's mankading of Jos Buttler that had triggered a dramatic collapse with Kings XI Punjab restricting Rajasthan Royals to 170 for nine to notch up a 14-run win.

Buttler was looking in imperious touch with 69 from 43 balls and Rajasthan well on course to overhaul the target of 185 but following the dismissal they went on to lose eight wickets for 62 runs to hand Kings XI Punjab their maiden win in Jaipur.

Though the dismissal was within the rules of the game, it sparked a huge furore with spin legend and Rajasthan Royals brand ambassador Shane Warne labelling it as "disgraceful" and against the spirit of the game.

With a debate raging over the runoff, it remains to be seen how Ashwin and Co. Start afresh in what will be their first away match of the season.

Kings XI's biggest star Chris Gayle scored a 47-ball 79 and his Jamaican rivalry with fellow mate Andre Russell, who also looked in blistering touch for KKR, will be one of the sub plots of the clash here.

The Universe Boss, who will retire from ODIs after the 2019 World Cup, has been in sensational form, smashing 39 sixes in the five-match ODI series against England and set the record for most sixes by a batsman in international cricket.

A typical slow starter, Gayle was 14 off 18 balls but the opener hit top gear in the 12th over hammering Jaydev Unadkat for four successive boundaries.

A former KKR player, Gayle knows Eden Gardens like the back of his hand as he would look to continue his assault on the spin-oriented KKR attack.

Russell will be KKR's answer to Gayle as the KKR star also fashioned a sensational win, smashing an unbeaten 49 from 19 balls in their opening fixture against Sunrisers Hyderabad here two days ago.

The win saw their star spinner and explosive opener, Sunil Narine, hurt his finger and KKR would hope he is fit in time.

KKR will embark on a crucial four-match away sojourn after this and they would look to keep their momentum intact before they return home to face Delhi Capitals on April 12.

LAST YEAR'S MATCHES

- Kolkata Knight Riders defeated Kings XI Punjab by 31 runs at Indore
- Kings XI Punjab beat Kolkata Knight Riders by 9 wickets (D/L) at Kolkata

FOR THE RECORD

- Sunil Narine will become the 38th player to complete a century of matches in IPL. He played all matches for Kolkata Knight Riders since 2012. Gautam Gambhir (108) and Yusuf Pathan also played over 100 matches for Kolkata Knight Riders between 2011 and 2017.
- Chris Gayle who hit 296 sixes in 112 innings of 113 matches, needs just four sixes to become the first batsman to smash 300 sixes in IPL. **Faisal Features**



Jos Buttler plays a shot during a match

Buttler becomes first victim of Mankading in IPL

PTI ■ JAIPUR

Rajasthan Royals opener Jos Buttler on Monday became the first victim of 'Mankading' in the history of the Indian Premier League when a desperate Kings XI Punjab skipper Ravichandran Ashwin dismissed the batsman in the controversial manner during their IPL match.

With Buttler going strong at 69 off 43 balls while chasing 185 runs, Ashwin mankaded the Rajasthan Royals opener without giving him any warning.

As per the laws of the game, the third umpire declared Buttler out but such a dismissal had always raised eyebrows as it is considered against the spirit of the game.

As expected Buttler seemed furious and had a heated exchange with Ashwin before leaving the field.

The dismissal is sure to create a big controversy going into the 12th edition of the IPL.

Rajasthan were 108 for one in 12.4 overs at that stage.

Among Indians, it was Kapil Dev who had mankaded Peter Kirsten of South Africa during the 1992-93 series and in Indian domestic cricket Railways' spinner Murali Karthik had mankaded Sandipan Das of Bengal during a Ranji Trophy match.

It was instinctive and within the rules: Ashwin

PTI ■ JAIPUR

Unapologetic about 'Mankading' Jos Buttler in an IPL match here, senior Indian off-spinner Ravichandran Ashwin said his decision was "instinctive" and cricket laws should be reconsidered if what he did was against the 'spirit of the game'.

Kings XI Punjab captain Ashwin, in a match against Rajasthan Royals on Monday, 'Mankaded' rival batsman Jos Buttler, triggering a debate on 'spirit of the game'.

In a first in 12 editions of the IPL, Ashwin ran out a rampaging Buttler, who was at the non-strikers' end, on his delivery stride

in the 13th over, an action popularly known as 'Mankading'. TV replays showed that Ashwin had waited for Buttler to move out of the crease before removing the bails.

"Look it was very instinctive. It wasn't planned or anything like that. It's there within the rules of the game. I don't know from where the understanding of the Spirit of the Game comes," Ashwin said at the post-match press conference.

The mode of dismissal is permissible as per ICC Rule 41.16 of playing conditions, according to which there is no need to warn the batsman as was the case in earlier times.



R Ashwin speaks during a press conference

"Naturally if it's there in the rules, it's there. Probably, we need to go back to the rules," India's premier Test spinner said.

When probed further on whether it affects the 'spirit of the game', the irritation was palpable on his face.

"I don't understand the point because it's rules. What applies for one man doesn't apply for everyone else?" he asked.

There has been a debate whether Ashwin deliberately delayed while loading up on his delivery stride having apprehended that Buttler backs up too far.

"I didn't even load and he left the crease. It's always been my take on the crease, because it's my

half of the crease," he said.

The Kings XI skipper lauded his bowlers for bringing the team back into the contest.

"We all know that after six overs it is going to slow down. Credit to bowlers on how they bowled. I have been working on a lot of variations, pretty happy that it came out," he said.

"Sam (Curran) had a bad day with the ball, but he came back well. Everybody ticked their boxes. We do have a few options amongst us, but if we can have good five overs, there is nothing like it."

Man-of-the-match Chris Gayle, who hit 79 off 47 balls, was happy with his form.

Glad that I don't have to bowl to Russell: Ferguson

PTI ■ KOLKATA

Watching teammate Andre Russell bulldozing Sunrisers Hyderabad bowlers was a breathtaking experience for KKR pace spearhead Lockie Ferguson, who is happy that he does not have to bowl to the West Indian this IPL.

The Jamaican single-handedly won the match for Kolkata Knight Riders with his unbeaten 49 off 19 balls in their opening match.

"It's one of those I've never seen anything like that personally. That was unbelievable. I'm pretty excited he's not on my side, I don't have to bowl to him," the New Zealand quick told reporters on the eve of their match against Kings XI Punjab.

The Punjab outfit has explosive Chris Gayle in its ranks but Ferguson said they are prepared to tackle the Jamaican.

"Chris (Gayle) is in some pretty fine touch at the moment. He really batted well last night. It's nice to watch him. Perhaps there are some areas we can look at attacking him," he said of Gayle who starred with a 47-ball 79 to fashion Kings XI Punjab's 14-run win against Rajasthan

Royals.

"It's important to stick to your plan and back yourself because in T20, if you keep working on your strengths then definitely it will come off better."

KKR have the reputation of being a spin-oriented attack as Ferguson said it's exciting time to be part of the bowling unit.

"To have the spin attack we have, and with PK (Prasidh Krishna) swinging the ball and being very good at the death, so by no means I think I'm leading. We all do our part. Andre Russell also got the wickets."

Having added some more pace to his bowling, Ferguson is hoping to make the most of the IPL experience, ahead of the World Cup.

"It's high pressure in IPL. It's one of the biggest competitions in the world, playing in front of big crowds, against the best players in the world. Of course all these experiences you're gaining, playing in the IPL is going to help you going forward."

"Obviously there's a big World Cup in a few months but at this stage, I'm focusing on KKR and trying to assist them, get some more wins."



Rasikh Salam is going to be special in next 2-3 years: Yuvraj

PTI ■ BENGALURU

Impressed with his composure and control over his swing, former India batsman Yuvraj Singh said J&K young fast bowler Rasikh Salam is going to emerge as a special player in the next two to three years.

"Rasikh swung the ball in the nets, that is why the boys wanted to play him. He got hit for a six and four in the last two balls. Other than that, he bowled well," Yuvraj, who scored a half-century on his debut match for the Mumbai Indians against Delhi Capitals, said.

"I think he did fantastic for his first match in terms of handling the pressure. Pretty much like an international game. I feel he is going to be special in the next 2-3 years," he said in an interview with MITV.

Salam started off with a no-ball against Delhi Capitals but responded with a brave bouncer on the free-hit that was pulled towards deep midwicket straight into the palms of a fielder.



Yuvraj Singh speaks during a press conference

On another day, he would have had a wicket on his debut.

Mumbai Indians bowling coach Shane Bond also praised Salam, saying he was one of better bowlers for the team during its IPL opener against Delhi.

"It was a challenging start but as I said in the pre-camp, things are going to go wrong at times. You are going to bowl a no-ball but the easy thing for Rasikh to do would have been to go to pieces but he certainly didn't. I thought he showed great composure and was one of our better bowlers," said the coach.

Bond also said Salam has the hunger to learn.

Zaheer Khan, who is Mumbai's Director of Cricket Operations, said Salam is an exciting young prospect who has great temperament.

"Even Rohit Sharma is impressed with Rasikh. He was thinking of giving him an opportunity as early in the season as possible, so exciting times ahead," said Zaheer.



Ronaldo injured as Portugal held by Serbia

AFP ■ LISBON

Captain Cristiano Ronaldo left the field with a thigh injury as Portugal drew 1-1 against Serbia in an Euro 2020 qualifier on Monday.

Ronaldo was replaced after 30 minutes in Lisbon as Fernando Santos' reigning European champions drew for a second time in their opening two games of the campaign after they were held by Ukraine on Friday.

There was no word whether the five-time Ballon d'Or winner would be fit for to play for his club Juventus in the first leg of their Champions League quarter-final at Ajax on April 10.

William Carvalho wasted the best of the early chances at Benfica's two-thirds empty Estadio da Luz.

Serbia failed to clear the ball in the box before it fell to the unmarked Real Betis midfielder who's side-footed shot glanced past the post after five minutes.

Ronaldo was denied an equaliser two minutes later as his effort was very well

saved Marko Dmitrovic.

The 156-time international left the field on the half hour mark after he pulled up chasing a ball on the left wing.

He received quick treatment from members of the medical team before returning to action but was replaced by Pizzi minutes later as Pepe took over the skipper's armband.

The visitors were level with three minutes of the first half to play. Porto's Danilo Pereira hammered his shot from outside the box into the top corner past a helpless Dmitrovic.

Carvalho should have put his side into the lead 25 minutes into the second half. Guerreiro chipped a cross to the back post, Bernardo Silva then played it into the middle of the box but Carvalho couldn't make a solid enough contact with the ball to challenge Dmitrovic.

Fernando Santos' outfit were denied a second penalty on 73 minutes after the linesman over-ruled referee Szymon Marciniak's original decision for off-side.

Raheem Sterling reacts after winning the match 5-1

AP

RACIST ABUSE OVERSHADOWS 5-STAR ENGLAND

Danny Rose suffers racial abuse as Three Lions romp Montenegro 5-1 to continue excellent run

AFP ■ PODGORICA

Raheem Sterling believes UEFA should punish alleged racist chanting aimed at England players in Monday's 5-1 win over Montenegro in Podgorica with a stadium closure.

Manchester City's Sterling celebrated the visitors' fifth goal by cupping his ears towards the home fans on a night when another impressive performance to start Euro 2020 qualifying by the Three Lions was overshadowed.

"I just want to show them you need more than that to upset us and stop us," Sterling told *Sky Sports*.

"It's 2019 now, I keep saying it. It's a shame to see this going on and we can only bring awareness to the situation."

"It's now time for the people in charge to put a real stamp on it because you can fine someone, but what is that going to do?"

"You've got to make it a bit harder, punish fans that can't come to games. Do something that's going to make them think twice. If their team can't play with fans, it's going to be difficult."

Sterling also tweeted a photo of his celebration with the message: "Best way to silence the haters (and yeah I mean racists)."

England manager Gareth Southgate said he heard racist chants aimed at Danny Rose and promised to report the issue to UEFA.

"There is no doubt in my mind it happened. We will make sure that is reported to UEFA because it's not accept-

able," said Southgate. "We've got to make sure we support our players."

ENG AMONG FAVOURITES

On the field, the World Cup semi-finalists showed why they are among the favourites to be European champions next year.

Southgate's trust in youth was again rewarded as 18-year-old Callum Hudson-Odoi, who is yet to start a Premier League game for Chelsea, shone on his full international debut, while Declan Rice, 20, was also handed his first England

start. "Fabulous performance," said Southgate on Hudson-Odoi. "With young players it is always up to them. You can see the talent, his application has been excellent. He's got to continue that."

England are not used to falling behind these days, but showed a resilience to bounce back after Marko Vesovic turned inside Michael Keane and curled

past Jordan Pickford on 17 minutes. Keane made amends for his earlier error with a commanding header from Ross Barkley's free-kick on the half

hour mark to settle England's nerves.

Nine minutes later, Barkley applied the finishing touch after Hudson-Odoi's positive run into the box and shot which his club teammate turned in from close range.

Further goals from Barkley, Harry Kane and Sterling rounded off an excellent start to qualifying for England after a 5-0 thrashing of Czech Republic on Friday.

Sterling scored a hat-trick against the Czechs at Wembley, but also played

provider here as his cut-back broke perfectly for Barkley to coolly side-foot home.

The Manchester City winger then led a rapid counter-attack with only Kane for company and squared for the England captain to tap home his 22nd international goal.

And after scoring just twice in his first 45 caps, Sterling now has six goals in his last four England games as he raced onto Jordan Henderson's through ball before slotting low past the goalkeeper.



past Jordan Pickford on 17 minutes. Keane made amends for his earlier error with a commanding header from Ross Barkley's free-kick on the half

Federer wary of Medvedev after Miami victory

AFP ■ MIAMI

Roger Federer admits he faces a real battle to land the 101st title of his career with the in-form Daniel Medvedev next up after Serbian Filip Krajinovic was dispatched 7-5, 6-3 on Monday at the ATP and WTA Miami Open.

The Swiss superstar produced an excellent all-round performance despite being tested by the world number 103 who belied his lowly ranking by producing some excellent tennis during an exciting first set.

Federer, however, stylishly weathered the storm to seal the win — the 52nd of his career in Miami — and set up an intriguing last eight match with the highly-rated Medvedev.

The Russian, who is at a career high ranking of 15, saw off American Reilly Opelka 7-6 (7/5), 6-7 (5/7), 7-6 (7/0), and has won four ATP hard-court titles, including three since last August.

Federer beat him twice last year but is already a fan. "He's clever how he plays the court because he can play it up and down, and he's unusual when he plays from back," said the Swiss, who hit 14 aces and won an impressive 74% of points on his first serve.

"It's a bit of a different approach. Thankfully I played him last year twice in Basel and Shanghai.

I'm very impressed about his progress.

I must say the last year has been unbelievable for him."

Krajinovic struggled with injury last year as problems with his ankle, left foot and hand restricted him to just seven tournaments in the first seven months of 2018.



France cruise past Iceland

AFP ■ PARIS

Kylian Mbappe scored one and set up two more as France routed Iceland 4-0 at the Stade de France on Monday night to move to the top of Group H in Euro 2020 qualifying.

The result gives France six points from their first two matches and puts them ahead Turkey, who also won 4-0 on Monday, on goal difference.

"It was our objective to take six points but the manner was good as well," said France manager Didier Deschamps told the post-match press conference.

Deschamps praised his team's "offensive efficiency" against a "dense" Icelandic defence.

"When the opponent plays very defensively it can be very difficult to find a way through so that was a good sign," said Deschamps, although he acknowledged that Icelandic fatigue near the end played a role.

He added that he was pleased that all three strikers — Mbappe, Antoine Griezmann and Olivier Giroud — scored.

"They are the champions of the world and you saw that today," acknowledged Iceland

manager Erik Hamren. "Five shots on goal and they scored four. That's top class"

From the start Mbappe's movement mesmerised the Icelanders, though his contribution to the opening goal after 11 minutes was straightforward.

The visitors cleared a corner only as far as Benjamin Pavard. The right back switched the ball to Mbappe, alone on the left. The young star had time to aim his cross which Samuel Umititi met at the near post with a header that glanced off the inside of the far post and into the goal.

Four minutes later, Giroud almost headed another, from a cross by Pavard, but Hannes Halldorsson leapt and stretched to palm the ball over.

For the next 45 minutes, France, who have never lost to Iceland, gave the impression that they had slipped down a couple of gears and were content to take the long-range shooting opportunities the packed Iceland defence was allowing.

Iceland meanwhile worked courageously and managed to force the occasional small threat.

After 68 minutes, Iceland were again punished for failing

to put distance on a clearance.

France moved the ball to Pavard who swerved a cross in from the right that lured Halldorsson into a desperate dive for a ball he could not reach.

Giroud kneeled the ball into the empty net for his 35th France goal. That moved him into third on the all-time list of France scorers, breaking a tie with David Trezeguet. The Chelsea striker trails only Michel Platini, on 41, and Thierry Henry, the all-time leader on 51.

Mbappe added a third after 78 minutes. Griezmann slipped a pass between two defenders to the advancing Mbappe who shrugged off a timid challenge and slid the ball past Halldorsson.

Six minutes later, Mbappe returned the assist with a neat backheel that sent Griezmann scampering through the frozen Icelandic backline to poke the ball into the corner of the goal. "We've started well with two nice team performances" Paul Pogba told French broadcaster *M6*.

"We knew what we were up against. They are a team that doesn't let in a lot of goals but today we did our job."



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