How Much Longer Will India Be Kept Out Of UN’s Decision-Making Body: PM Modi

Last week the government said it was according “highest priority” to getting a permanent seat on a UN Security Council that “reflects contemporary global realities”

- “India has always thought about the welfare of the world,” PM said
- PM was addressing General Assembly virtually via pre-recorded speech
- “Reform is needed at UN, India is waiting for that reform,” he stressed

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday evening made a strong pitch for a more prominent role in the UN Security Council - the global body’s highest decision-making forum, for India, asking “Till when do we have to wait? Till when will India be kept away from the UN’s decision-making process?”

“When we were weak, we didn’t trouble the world. When we became strong, we didn’t become a bojh (burden) on the world. Till when do we have to wait? India has sent soldiers to UN peace-keeping missions and has lost the most number of soldiers,” the Prime Minister said in powerful opening remarks.

“The ideals of the United Nations and India’s main principles are similar. Vasudev Kutumbakam (the world is one family) has echoed in UN halls many times. India has always thought about the welfare of the world,” he said.

PM Modi, who was addressing the General Assembly virtually via a pre-recorded speech, reminded the UN that 130 crore Indians still believe in its ideals, but said the global body needed to adapt and change to stay relevant in current times.

“Reform is needed at the United Nations and India is waiting for that reform to happen,” the Prime Minister said.

The Security Council (UNSC) is the UN’s highest-decision making forum and the only one that can make legally-binding decisions like imposing sanctions. There are five permanent members - the US, the UK, China, Russia and France, each of whom has veto powers.

India, which has previously served seven terms as a non-permanent and elected member was re-elected for a two-year term in June (the term starts January 1, 2021) along with Ireland, Mexico and Norway.

On India’s re-election Prime Minister Modi tweeted that the country was “deeply grateful for Contd. on ... Page 10
Over 5000 Students Appear For JEE Advanced 2020 In Odisha

Bhubaneswar: More than 5000 students from Odisha on Sunday appeared for the JEE Advanced 2020 which began in 1150 centres in 222 cities across the country with strict adherence to COVID-19 guidelines. Out of a total of 1,60,864 students, more than 5000 students from Odisha appeared in the five centres in Bhubaneswar, Cuttack, Berhampur, Sambalpur and Rourkela.

For the first time, the students appeared the JEE Advanced in the computer-based test (CBT) mode, has two shifts from 9 am to 12 pm and 2 pm to 5 pm.

The JEE Advanced test, conducted by the IIT-Delhi in the CBT (computer-based test) mode, has two shifts from 9 am to 12 pm and 2 pm to 5 pm.

While the results will be declared on October 5, the allotment of seats in 23 IITs will begin from October 6 and completed by November 9.

Special Train To Stop At Stations In Odisha's Ganjam From Oct 1; Some Extended Till Puri

Bhubaneswar: All trains will have stoppages in Odisha’s Ganjam district and bordering stations from October 1, informed East Coast Railway (ECOr) authorities on Saturday.

Stoppages at Balugaon, Berhampur, Chatrapur stations, among others, had been cancelled since July 9 in view of COVID-19.

The ECOr, in a press release, announced additional stoppages of the special trains and extension of some special trains to Puri from next month.

ADDITIONAL STOPPAGES OF SPECIAL TRAINS

1. MUMBAI-BHUBANESWAR – MUMBAI SPECIAL KONARK EXPRESS 08518/08517 Visakhapatnam-Puri from October 1 and from September 30 and from October 4 & Okha from October 1.

2. SECUNDERABAD-BGHRAH-SECUNDERABAD FAULKNUMA SPECIAL 02704/02703 Secunderabad-Bhowra-Howrah-Bhubaneswar-Visakhapatnam special will have additional stoppages at Balugaon, Chatrapur and Berhampur from both the directions.

3. GUWAHATI-BANGALORE-FAULKNUMA SPECIAL 02510/02509 Guwahati-Bangalore-Visakhapatnam tri-weekly special will have additional stoppages at Balugaon, Berhampur and from both the directions.

4. HOWRAH-TIRUCHIRAPALLI-HOWRAH BI-WEEKLY SPECIAL 02663/02664 Howrah-Tiruchirapalli-Howrah bi-weekly special will have an additional stoppage at Berhampur from both the directions.

5. KHRUDA ROAD-AMADABAD-KHRUDA ROAD SPECIAL 02843/02844 Khurda Road-Ahmedabad-Khurda Road special will have additional stoppages at Kalupadaghan, Balugaon, Khalikote, Chatrapur and Berhampur from both the directions.

6. KHRUDA ROAD-OKHA-KHRUDA ROAD SPECIAL 02843/02844 Khurda Road-Okha-Khurda Road special will have additional stoppages at Balugaon and Chatrapur and Muniguda from both the directions.

7. GANDHIDHAM-KHRUDA ROAD-GANDHIDHAM SPECIAL 02973/02974 Gandhidham-Khurda Road-Gandhidham special will have additional stoppages at Balugaon, Chatrapur and Muniguda from both the directions.

8. BHBANESWAR-AMRANJANADALLA SPECIAL VIA SAMBALPUR 02843/02844 Bhubaneswar-Ahmedabad-Bhavaneswar special will have additional stoppages at Boinda, Rairakhol and Hirakud from both the directions.

9. BHBANESWAR-DURG-BHBANESWAR SPECIAL VIA SAMBALPUR 08425/08426 Bhubaneswar-Durg-Bhavaneswar special will have additional stoppages at Bapari, Badmal, Harishankar and Nawapara Road from both the directions.

10. VISAKHAPATNAM-KORBA-VISAKHAPATNAM SPECIAL 08518/08517 Visakhapatnam-Korba-Visakhapatnam Special will have additional stoppages at Muniguda and Harishankar Road from both the directions.

EXTENSION OF SPECIAL TRAINS TO PURI

1. Bhubaneswar-New Delhi-Bhubaneswar Special 02974/02976 Bhubaneswar-New Delhi-Bhubaneswar Special 02843/02845 Bhubaneswar-New Delhi-Bhubaneswar Special

2. Bhubaneswar-Sealdah-Bhubaneswar Duronto Special 02202/02201 Bhubaneswar-Sealdah-Bhubaneswar Duronto Special from Sealdah from September 30 and from Bhubaneswar from October 1 has been extended to Puri.

3. Bhubaneswar-Durg-Bhubaneswar Special 08425/08426 Bhubaneswar-Durg-Bhavaneswar Special both from Durg and Bhubaneswar from October 1 has been extended to Puri.

4. Khurda Road-Ahmedabad-Khurda Road Special 02843/02844 Khurda Road-Ahmedabad-Khurda Road Special both from Khurda Road and Ahmedabad from October 1 has been extended to Puri.

5. Khurda Road-Samahit Bal as Executive Member of The Indian Newspaper Society (INS) for the year 2020-21.

Adimoolam succeeds Shailesh Gupta of Mid-Day, D D Purkayastha (Ananda Bazar Patrika) is the Deputy President, Mohit Jain (Economic Times) is the Vice President and Rakesh Sharma (Aaj Samaj) is the Honorary Treasurer of the Society for the year 2020-21.

Fifty one members were elected as the Executive Committee of the INS. The meeting was attended by publishers of newspapers, magazines and fortnightlies of the country.
Bhubaneswar: Four Odias have found a place in Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) national President Jagat Prakash Nadda’s new team of national office bearers announced in New Delhi today.

Four Odias have been vested with important responsibilities in Nadda’s new team. While BJP’s national Vice-president Baijayant Panda has been able to retain his post, Dr Sambit Patra and Member of Parliament from Bhubaneswar Lok Sabha seat Aparajita Sarangi have been appointed as the national spokespersons.

Besides, Member of Parliament from Mayurbhanj Lok Sabha seat Bisweswar Tudu has been appointed as one of the national Secretaries. Four Odias in J P Nadda’s Team

Bhubaneswar: The Capital Region Urban Transport (CRUT) commenced Mo Bus service from Bhubaneswar to Puri and Konark today on the occasion of World Tourism Day. The first Puri-bound Mo Bus left from Master Canteen here at 7.30 AM with 10 passengers on board. Similarly, the first bus to Konark departed from Bhubaneswar at 7.40 AM with 9 people on board.

While Route no. 50 will connect Bhubaneswar Railway Station (Master Canteen) to the abode of Lord Jagannath, Route no. 70 will connect Bhubaneswar Railway Station to the Sun Temple town.

“This is one of the major culture and tourist corridors in the state and Mo Bus would link local citizens and tourists alike to the popular tourist destinations. In the present scenario, to begin with two Non-AC buses will ply on both routes four times in a day. We will add more number of buses and increase frequency over a period of time. On the inauguration day only one bus will ply on both routes. Regular service will start Monday onwards,” said Mr. Arun Bothra, Managing Director, CRUT.

Bothra informed that maximum fare for Route no. 50 will be Rs 70 and for Route no. 70, maximum fare will be Rs. 60. “Passengers are requested to tender exact change to purchase ticket in order to minimise cash transaction. QR code payment option will be available on these routes.”

He further reiterated that wearing of mask is compulsory for all the passengers. It may be noted that cleaning and disinfection of buses are being done on daily basis as per standard procedure in the interest of passengers and staff deployed in the buses.

Route no. 50 stops include Bhubaneswar Railway Station (Master Canteen), State Museum, Ravi Talkies Square, Dhauli Square, Uttara Square, Pipili Bypass, Maltipatpur and Puri Bus Stand. Route no. 70 will also connect major bus stops enroute.

Odisha Man Arrested For Manufacturing Fake Covid-19 Vaccine

Bhubaneswar: A man was arrested in Odisha’s Bargarh district on charges of manufacturing a dubious vaccine for Covid-19, said an official on Saturday.

The authorities conducted a raid and busted a fake Covid-19 vaccine manufacturing unit at Rushada village under the Bhabed Police Station in Bargarh on Friday. They seized several vials labelled as Covid-19 vaccine, some powder and chemical materials from his possession.

Surprisingly, the 32-year-old accused Prahallad Bisi has only studied up to Class VII.

“After getting information, we raided the unit and found Bisi preparing a large quantity of fake Covid-19 vaccines. All the fake vaccines with sticker of Covid-19 have been seized,” said Bargarh drug inspector Sasmita Dehury.

The counterfeit drug was to be supplied to the open market as Covid-19 vaccine, she said.

Sambalpur VSSUT Shut For 4 Days To Control COVID-19 Transmission

Sambalpur VSSUT Shut For 4 Days To Control COVID-19 Transmission

Bhubaneswar: To enable the students from Class I to VIII to pursue their studies amid COVID-19 pandemic, the Odisha government has decided to launch Radio Pathshala programme from September 28. According to the School and Mass Education department, the students will be imparted education through the radio five days a week from Monday to Friday.

The 15-minute programme to be aired from all radio stations in the state from 10 am to 10.15 am.

Sambalpur: The Veer Surendra Sai University of Technology (VSSUT) at Burla, Sambalpur has been shut down for four days; starting from today onwards.

The officials informed that the decision was taken after two professors tested positive for novel coronavirus and shutting down the university will help control further transmission. The employees have been asked to strictly abide by the COVID-19 guidelines and lecturers asked to take online classes.

The four days will be used to sanitise the VSSUT campus.

Radio Pathshala Programme In Odisha From Sept 28

Rayagada: Police in Rayagada district on Saturday nabbed three persons, including the driver and helper, after the seizure of 140 bags of bhang and khaini (powdered tobacco) from a mini truck on Friday night.

Sources said that the mini truck was on way to Rayagada from Rupra Road area in Balangir district with a sticker ‘PDS Rice’ on the front glass window when it was detained by police at Bisamkatak.

The cops later took the truck to the police station and seized the narcotics worth over Rs 8 lakh.

Truck Carrying Narcotics Seized In Odisha’s Rayagada

Rayagada: Bisamkatak police in Rayagada district on Saturday nabbed three persons, including the driver and helper, after the seizure of 140 bags of bhang and khaini (powdered tobacco) from a mini truck on Friday night.

Sources said that the mini truck was on way to Rayagada from Rupra Road area in Balangir district with a sticker ‘PDS Rice’ on the front glass window when it was detained by police at Bisamkatak.

The cops later took the truck to the police station and seized the narcotics worth over Rs 8 lakh.
New Delhi: Diesel prices fell again on Saturday continuing its southward movement in tandem with fall in global product prices and steady crude prices. Oil marketing companies, however, kept petrol prices unchanged for the fourth consecutive day.

In the national capital, diesel prices fell by 16 paisa per litre to Rs 70.94 a litre down from Rs 71.10 per litre on Friday. Petrol prices remained static at Rs 81.06 a litre.

In the other metros of Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata as well diesel prices fell between 15-18 paisa per litre. The price fall is on the back of expectation of slowing demand for oil globally as a second wave of coronavirus spike threatens further derail economic activity.

Crude prices also remained soft on Saturday falling to $41 a barrel from over $42 a barrel just a day before.

For domestic auto fuel consumers, the price fall has been a bonanza amidst the current tough economic conditions. With the price cut on Saturday, diesel has now become cheaper by Rs 2.62 per litre in Delhi this month.

‘Economic Disruption To Deter RBI From Quantifying FY21 Growth Forecast’

New Delhi: The dynamic economic upheaval unleashed by Covid-19 pandemic might hinder the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) from giving a pin-pointed growth as well as inflation forecast in the upcoming monetary policy report, experts opined. The existing legislations mandate the RBI to come out with growth and inflation forecast twice in an interval of six-months in the monetary policy report. Expectedly, the report is slated to be issued with the upcoming policy review on October 1. The report was last issued in February. “Given the continuing uncertainty on the economic revival, it is difficult to say whether RBI will come out with clear forecasts on the GDP print for FY21,” said Suman Chowdhury Chief Analytical Officer at Acuite Ratings and Research. “It has, however already highlighted the risks of a moderation in the CPI inflation over the next few months due to lesser supply constraints, higher crop output in kharif season and also the favourable base effect kicking in.” According to Brickwork Ratings said: “With uncertainty regarding the pandemic looming large, the RBI may not provide a GDP forecast for FY21 in the upcoming MPC meeting. As in the previous statements, the RBI may continue to talk about economic contraction without quantifying the magnitude.”

“Given the continued surge in Covid-19 cases in the country’s major hubs, which is hindering the recovery process, we expect the Q2FY21 GDP to shrink by 13.5 per cent.” In April, the RBI’s Monetary Policy Report said that the global economy may slump into recession in 2020. The report noted that the coronavirus pandemic, lockdown and the expected contraction in global output will weigh heavily on the growth outlook. The actual outturn would depend upon the speed with which the outbreak is contained and economic activity returns to normalcy said the Monetary Policy Report for April 2020. The RBI’s MPC (Monetary Policy Committee) is expected to release its resolution on the monetary policy after their meet on September 29 to October 1, 2020.

Petrol prices remained static at Rs 81.06 a litre.
Rahul Dubs Agri Bills ‘Big Blunders’, Demands Withdrawal

New Delhi: Amid protests by farmers across the country over the three agriculture-related Bills passed by Parliament, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Saturday slammed the proposed legislations as “big blunders” and demanded their immediate withdrawal.

In a video message under the party’s campaign titled ‘Speak up for Farmers’ against the Bills, Rahul Gandhi said: “Attacks on you have started — first it was demonetisation, then GST and then during the Covid-19 pandemic not a single rupee was shared with you all. The government is trying to make you slaves, slaves of corporates. And now these three controversial Bills are an attempt to finish you.”

“We are standing with you and we will stop these Bills altogether,” he said.

The Congress leader added: “I want to tell the government that it is one of the biggest blunders. If the farmers came out on the streets, then a huge loss is going to happen. Withdraw these Bills immediately without taking much time and give guarantee of the MSPs to farmers,” he added.

The Congress is protesting against the farm Bills along with other opposition parties. These are The Farmer’s Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Bill, 2020, The Farmers (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement of Price Assurance and Farm Services Bill, 2020, and The Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill, 2020.

Investigating Agencies Are Being Pressurised In Sushant Case: Rhea’s Lawyer

Mumbai: Prime accused Rhea Chakraborty’s lawyer Satish Maneshinde has alleged that the investigating agencies are being pressurised to submit a pre-determined result in the Sushant Singh Rajput death case, ahead of the Bihar elections.

According to a report in Hindustan Times, advocate Maneshinde has also asked the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) to set up a new medical board for impartial investigation in the case.

“The disclosure of a 200% conclusion by an All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) doctor on the forensic team headed by Dr Sudhir Gupta in Sushant Singh Rajput’s death case, on the basis of photographs, is a dangerous trend. To keep the investigations impartial and free from inference, the CBI must constitute a new medical board. The agencies are being pressurised to reach a pre-determined result for obvious reasons in view of upcoming Bihar elections. We have seen the VRS of DG (Gupteshwar) Pandey unfolding a few days back. There should not be a repetition of such steps,” Maneshinde was quoted as saying.

Maneshinde’s demand for a new medical board came after Sushant’s family lawyer Vikas Singh expressed his frustration over delays in the investigation report.

Singh had also claimed that an AIIMS doctor told him it was 200% death by strangulation.

“Getting frustrated by the delay in CBI taking a decision to convert abetment to suicide to murder of SSR. The doctor who is part of AIIMS team had told me long back that the photos sent by me indicated 200% that it’s death by strangulation and not suicide,” Vikas Singh had tweeted.

Odisha-born scientist wins Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize 2020, India’s highest science award

Bhubaneswar, Sep 26: Prof. Jyotirmayee Dash has got the highest Science and Technology award of India “Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Award 2020” in Chemical Sciences.

Dash born in Jagatsinghpur district first is the first Odia woman to receive such award. She is among the 12 scientists to get the award which was announced during the foundation day of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) on Saturday.

The award is given to Indian scientists below the age of 45 for outstanding research in seven fields—Biology, Chemistry, Environment Science, Engineering, Mathematics, Medicine and Physics.

Dash who had done her MSC in Chemistry from Ravenshaw University received her Ph.D from IIT Kanpur.

IISc Start-Up Equine Biotech Develops Affordable RT-PCR Kit

Bengaluru: A start-up incubated at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Equine Biotech, has developed an indigenous RT-PCR diagnostic kit for accurate and affordable diagnosis of Covid-19.

“The biggest advantage of Equine Biotech’s ‘Global TM diagnostic kit’ is that it takes just around one-and-half hours to confirm the presence of SARS-CoV-2 in samples,” an IISc release said.

Equine Biotech founder and Department of Biochemistry Professor Opal Taut said that the test kit based on Reverse Transcriptase Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-PCR) is considered the gold standard for Covid-19 diagnosis.

He said the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) had approved that for use in authorised diagnostic labs. According to him, ramping up testing in the country was crucial for tracking and controlling the spread of this infectious disease.

“India has the second highest reported cases in the world, with more than five million cases. Therefore, India needs home-grown diagnostics kits that can easily be mass produced and made accessible to a larger population. But so far, only a few Indian companies have developed reliable and accurate RT-PCR kits; most kits used widely are imported and therefore expensive,” he said.

He said that the kit was an easy-to-use, multiplex RT-PCR kit with 100% specificity. “Its run time is relatively short compared with kits available elsewhere.”

The professor claimed that the company was currently seeking to license its test kit and work with med-tech companies and other industries for its mass production, marketing and distribution.

Equine Biotech has 30 years of experience in working on infectious diseases, including zoonotic diseases. It has previously developed diagnostic tests for screening livestock, especially cattle and horses, for blood parasitic diseases such as trypanosomiasis, trichomoniasis, theileriosis and babesiosis.
Bhubaneswar: Ollywood actor Sabyasachi Mishra, who has earned the moniker ‘Odisha’s Sonu Sood’ for making things happen for migrants during the lockdown, has turned a true messiah for the helpless, poor and downtrodden.

The recent endeavour of the engineer-turned-actor to arrange for treatment of a poor girl Kuni Panda, who has been living in excruciating pain because of unusual swelling of her right wrist has been lauded on social media.

Sabyasachi claims that he was very much pained and shocked after watching a video of Kuni’s appeal on social media for help to save her hand from being amputated.

“I was very much pained after watching the video appeal of Kuni on social media as several people had tagged me. I felt sad that her hand which was alright seven months back, had swollen to this extent because of some disease and she was suffering from unbearable pain,” said Sabyasachi.

“She had lost all hope of happiness and getting well. I didn’t have her phone number so I contacted Sandip who had uploaded her video,” he added.

He said that he then asked Sandip to visit Kuni’s place and then he had spoken to her over the phone. “After going through her medical reports, I asked her to again visit AIIMS Bhubaneswar and I also consulted with some professors there whom I know,” Sabyasachi said.

The Ollywood actor has informed that Kuni would be again visiting AIIMS on Monday for her next set of diagnosis.

Kuni is a native of Balipada village under Sadar block of Puri district. She is from a very impoverished family consisting of a widowed mother and younger brother.

She had injured her hand after it had got hit against a wall and later had also received an electric shock on the same hand. Since then there was swelling on her hand accompanied by unbearable pain.

Kuni had visited SCB and AIIMS Bhubaneswar where she was advised for surgery which would cost around Rs 1.5 lakh. Being poor she had no option but to return home.

Meanwhile, on Friday last Puri Collector has informed that diagnosis of Kuni’s disease at AIIMS-Bhubaneswar has started and money won’t be a constraint for her treatment and he has taken that responsibility on himself.

He said that we have to wait after completion of diagnosis of her disease and then thereafter treatment will begin.

“We should all pray for her that her hand returns to its earlier shape,” said the engineer-turned-actor.

Sabyasachi has informed that Kuni would be again visiting AIIMS on Monday for her next set of diagnosis.

Drug Case: NCB Arrests Dharma Productions’ Ex-Executive

Mumbai: The Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) on Saturday arrested Kshitij Ravi Prasad, a former executive of Bollywood producer Karan Johar’s Dharma Productions, in a drugs case with regard to the death of Sushant Singh Rajput, a top official said here.

His arrest came hours after he was grilled by the NCB after his name cropped up during the interrogation of another co-accused.

“We will have arrested Kshitij. He will be presented before a Special NDPS court on Sunday. Details will be put before the court,” MA Jain, NCB South-Western Region Deputy Director General, told the media.

Jain said that no fresh summons have been sent to any other film personality in the case.

The NCB also completed questioning of film actresses Deepika Padukone, Shraddha Kapoor and Sara Ali Khan, besides a former aide of Padukone, Karishma Prakash, said Jain. “We have taken their statements. They will not be summoned again,” the officer indicated, while declining to share the outcome of their grilling.

He said that over the next couple of days, the NCB officials will review investigations done till date in the case before planning the future course of action. He did not elaborate.

Till date, Jain said, 18-19 persons have been arrested in connection with the drugs angle probe into the death of Bollywood actor Sushant Singh Rajput, who was found dead at his Bandra home on June 14.

PV Sindhu To Present Web Series Titled ‘The A-Game’

New Delhi: After the success of their first two digital media properties, ‘Double Trouble’ and ‘The Finish Line’, Baseline Ventures is back with its third series titled ‘The A-Game’. The show will be presented by Olympic silver medalist PV Sindhu and would feature five athletes across episodes.

“I would like to congratulate Baseline on conceptualizing shows that allow athletes to go back in time and relive those monumental moments that shaped their careers,” said Sindhu as per a media release.

“I am honoured to present their latest show called ‘The A-Game’ which will take a deep dive into how elite athletes think and react in high pressure situations,” she added.

The series will document five Indian athletes who brought out their a-game at very important moments in the history of Indian sport.

Each episode will capture the narrative of a particular athlete’s a-game moment through pictures, video footage and stories from the athlete, and help the audience relate to how they brought out their a-game at crucial moments.
NCB Quizzes Deepika, Sara, Shraddha In Drug Case Related To SSR Death

Mumbai: The Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) on Saturday questioned Bollywood divas Deepika Padukone, Sara Ali Khan, Shraddha Kapoor for several hours in a drugs case in connection with the death of actor Sushant Singh Rajput.

Besides the three actors, the NCB also questioned Deepika’s former manager Karishma Prakash. According to NCB sources, Deepika and Karishma were “evasive” on alleged procurement of drugs as was indicated in an alleged chat of October 2017.

Deepika, who arrived at the NCB office before 10 am at the agency’s guesthouse in Colaba area, left around 3.30 pm. Even Karishma, who deposed for the second time on Saturday at 10.45 am, left around 3.30 pm.

The NCB has got the details of the chats of Deepika and Karishma from October 2017 wherein the two were discussing drugs and planned to meet at Club Koko.

Deepika and Karishma were summoned by the NCB after their names came to the fore in the drug-related case. Meanwhile, Shraddha, who appeared at the NCB office around 11.45 am, left the NCB office in the Ballard Pier area at 6 p.m.

Sara, who arrived at the NCB office around 1 p.m., was questioned for over four and half hours. Shraddha’s name came to the fore after her alleged chat with Sushant’s former manager Jaya Saha asking for CBD oil came to the fore and also that she visited Pawna resort along with Sushant.

Meanwhile, troubles for Sara mounted after Sushant’s girlfriend Rhea Chakraborty, during one of the television interviews, claimed that the late actor caught the habit of smoking marijuana while shooting for Kedarnath. Sara starred with Sushant in the film.

Deepika was summoned on Wednesday when she was in Goa for the shooting of a film. She arrived in Mumbai on Thursday and was set to appear on Friday. But on the request of Deepika’s legal team, the NCB postponed it to Saturday.

The NCB had recorded the statement of actor Rakul Preet Singh and Karishma on Friday.

Commenting on the questioning of three actors by the NCB, Jaikush Hoon, a noted criminal lawyer said the main focal point of NCB questioning with the actors revolves around six aspects i.e. “procurement, payment, involvement, partner in crime, consumption and lastly the place of consumption”.

Hoon said, in case, if they don’t cooperate with the agency with the ongoing investigation, the NCB could book them for an offence punishable under section-8(c), 20(b)(b), 22(A), 27(b) of NDPS Act, 1985. “In case if they don’t cooperate with the probe then section-8(c), 20(b)(b), 22(c), 27(a) and 28,29,30 of the same act would apply,” he added.

The NCB registered a case after the Enforcement Directorate (ED) registered a case of money laundering into the death of Sushant and then found the alleged chats on drugs on the phones of Rhea, her brother Showik and Sushant’s house manager Samuel Miranda.

The ED then wrote to the NCB to probe the drugs case. After registering the case, the NCB questioned several people and arrested Rhea, Showik, Miranda, Sushant’s personal staff Dipesh Sawant and 16 others.

The NCB has also questioned Sushant’s former manager Shrutti Modi, Dharma Productions former executive producer Kshitij Prasad Ravi, Kwan Talent Management Agency CEO Dhruv Chitgpakar, noted producer Madhu Mantena Varma and several others in the case so far.

The CBI and the ED are probing separate cases in connection with the death of Sushant, who was found dead on June 14 at his Bandra apartment.

NCB Seizes Phones Of Deepika, Rakul, Simone, Karishma In Drugs Case

Mumbai: The Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB), which quizzed Bollywood actors Rakul Preet Singh, Deepika Padukone, her former manager Karishma Prakash, and fashion designer Simone Khambatta on Friday and Saturday in connection with the drugs case related to the death of Bollywood actor Sushant Singh Rajput, has seized their mobile phones.

An NCB source said, “The phones of Deepika, Karishma, Rakul and Khambatta have been seized by the NCB under the Indian Evidence Act.”

The development came after the questioning of Deepika and Karishma on Saturday, and Rakul and Khambatta on Friday for several hours.

The NCB questioned Deepika for over five hours on Saturday and Rakul for over four hours on Friday.

Meanwhile, Karishma was questioned for two consecutive days on Friday and Saturday, while Khambatta was grilled on Friday.

The agency collected their phones as the alleged ‘drug’ chats were made using the same phones, the source said.
Mother’s beware! Your baby’s nappy is laden with toxic chemicals!

If you are a doting as well as a discerning parent with a baby or toddler this is for you! A new study titled, ‘What’s in the Diaper: Presence of Phthalates in Baby Diapers’ released by Delhi-based advocacy organisation Toxics Link raises concern over toxicphthalates being found in disposable baby nappies that are available in the Indian market. Phthalates are endocrine disrupting chemicals (EDCs) and exposure to them is known to cause serious health impairments.

“The study found high levels of phthalates ranging from 2.36 ppm to 302.25 ppm. The DEHP is the most toxic phthalate and is restricted or banned in several children products but was found between 2.36 ppm to 264.94 ppm in the tested samples,” said Alka Dubey, Programme Coordinator at Toxics Link. For the study 20 diaper samples were randomly collected from local markets in Delhi; few samples were purchased from commonly used chemist shops in Delhi. The total phthalate content of diaper samples was between 8.2 ppm to 302.25 ppm. BP was detected in 20% of the samples except one where it was found to be 3.24 ppm. DBP was detected in three samples between 1.92 ppm to 12.36 ppm.

Key findings of the study

- 40% of the samples were purchased from the local weekly market while 60% were well-known branded ones
- DEHP, DBP, DIBP, BBP and other phthalates were analyzed in the current study
- DEHP, DBP, BBP were detected in all analyzed samples
- The highest phthalate content reported was 302.25 ppm
- DEHP, the most toxic phthalate was observed in the range of 2.36 ppm to 264.94 ppm in the analyzed samples
- DBP was found in the range of 2.35 ppm to 37.31 ppm while the total phthalate content of diaper samples was between 8.2 ppm to 302.25 ppm
- BBP was below detection limit or not detected in most samples except one where it was found to be 3.24 ppm
- DIBP was detected in three samples between 1.92 ppm to 12.36 ppm

Phthalates are recognized as endocrine disrupting chemicals which directly impact the endocrine systems and can be the cause for multiple ailments such as diabetes, hypertension, obesity and reproductive disorders. Between 8.2 ppm to 302.25 ppm. There are scientific studies confirming the dermal absorption of phthalates from the diapers,” stated Satish Sinha, Associate Director at Toxics Link. “Further these chemicals can leach out in the municipal waste stream and can pose serious challenges into the environment as well,” he reiterated.

“If this the first of its kind study in India, globally efforts have been made to phase out phthalates from various products and most importantly from children’s products. India has also set the standards for five common phthalates (DEHP, DBP, BBP, DINP, DINP) in various children’s products. However, there is no such regulation in place for baby diapers in our country” said Piyush Mohapatra, Senior Programme Coordinator at Toxics Link.

Some countries though have put restrictions on the use of phthalates in baby diapers. With this study labelling has also come out as a big concern, as none of the manufacturers of the tested samples have listed the ingredients and chemicals used for making diapers. Manufacturers need to look into the issue and refrain from adding phthalates in diapers considering their health implications as well as environmental concerns. Further the government needs to take strict action to phase out phthalates from diapers with suitable regulations and to come up with some stringent measures for packaging and labelling of the products.

Bhitarkanika National Park will open from 1st October

Kendrapara (Dillip Mohanty, TCT): The world famous Bhitarkanika National Sanctuary is expected to reopen on October 1. DFO Vikas Ranjan Das said that only tourists who want to spend the night in Dangmal will be able to visit Bhitarkanika. No day visitors will be allowed. Bhitarkanika National Park has been closed since March 13 for domestic and foreign tourists. However, opening after seven months, tourists are keen to come to the national park as it is scheduled to open on the 1st of next month. The booking system will remain closed at Gupti and Habalikhati. Only booking will be available at 16 cottages in Dangmal. These 16 cottages can accommodate a maximum of 36 tourists. As per the rules, all the arrangements have been made for the tourists who want to stay at night. So tourists can stay here with a charge of minimum Rs.3500 to 6 thousand rupees per night, according to the information received.
Ghare Ghare Arunima emerges as new forerunner for childhood development

Bhubaneswar: The unique initiative by the Department of Women and Child Development and Mission Shakti to implement “Ghare Ghare Arunima” is an extremely encouraging, stimulating and successful initiative during the pandemic the situation of Covid-19.

Through this innovative initiative participation of male members in the family, such as the father, grandfather, uncle, elder brother etc. has been ensured. This has been implemented since April 2020 during the lockdown in the state. Through “Ghare Ghare Arunima Calendar” Pre-school children are provided with teaching-learning materials in a more appealing and exciting way based on the monthly themes of “Nua Arunima”. The theme for September month is “Birds and Animals” which has been shared with all the District Social Welfare Officers (DSWOs) well ahead of the month with departmental instruction to ensure receipt by all the eligible beneficiaries.

Parents/Caregivers who are having Android Phone and Internet the facility, the calendar is being sent to them through WhatsApp and YouTube link is also shared with them. Parents/Caregivers without Android Phone and Internet facility are provided with the coloured photo-copy in A-3 size paper of the Ghare Ghare Arunima Calendar.

Pre-School Children are gaining knowledge on the monthly themes through songs, story, play, toys, dance, drawing, open discussion, recitation etc. in an enjoyable and funfilled environments with the support of the Parent/Caregivers even without coming to the Anganwadi Centre.

One positive aspect of this Ghare Ghare Arunima is the active participation of the male members of the family. The department has received spectacular photographs and reactions from many of the districts about the collective and cooperative approaches of male members. One of the fathers expressed his emotions after his involvement in the monthly activities – “I was overwhelmed while sharing the story on “Hunter and Bird” to explain her about the importance of working together “DalaraBala”. The pleasure of spending time creatively with my child will be memorable.

In Ghare Ghare Arunima Calendar, doing various activities on a daily basis with the active involvement of male members in the family has been encouraged along with practicing positive behaviours likehand washing, using mask, maintaining social distance and other positive actions during the pandemic of Covid-19. Child’s social, physical, mental and overall development is greatly influenced by the family and societal environment and it shape the child’s personality which can be augmented and strengthened with improved male participation.

New Delhi: World Tourism Day is celebrated on September 27 across the world. However, Covid-19 has changed our lifestyle, and travelling preferences, too.

As per the data of the UN World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), about 100 to 120 million jobs in the tourism industry are at risk directly.

Ever since 1980, World Tourism Day is celebrated annually across the world on September 27. It was on this day in 1970 when the Statutes of the UNWTO were adopted which are considered a milestone in global tourism. UNWTO celebrated the first World Tourism Day as an international observance on September 27, 1980.

The purpose of this day is to raise awareness on the important of tourism in affecting the social, cultural, political and economic values of international community. In current times, it is important to raise awareness about the tourism sector given that 90% of World Heritages Sites closed as a result of the pandemic and young people in rural communities are three times more likely to be unemployed.

However, domestic tourism is expected to return before international tourism, as per UNWTO foresight. This could benefit rural communities if managed well.

The theme of World Tourism Day 2020 is ‘Tourism and Rural Development’, as tourism is a leading provider of employment and opportunities in the countless rural communities around the world. Due to Covid-19 pandemic, the industry had been hard hit. Also in many rural places, tourism is one of the few feasible economic sectors.

World Tourism Day Today

Renowned artist Sudarsan Pattnaik’s sand art on the occasion of World Tourism Day with the message: “Enjoy tourism, Follow guideline”. 

Sudarsan Pattnaik’s Sand Art On World Tourism Day
How Much ...

overwhelming support (from) the global community for India’s membership of the UN Security Council”.
However, India has long sought a fixed role and revamp of the current system.
Last week the government said it was according “highest priority” to getting a permanent seat on a UNSC that “reflects contemporary global realities”.
India has been supported in that bid by four of the five permanent members, including the United States. In February President Donald Trump said he was committed to working with India to strengthen and reform the UN.
There is however, “a section in the UN that supports expansion only in the non-permanent category”, V Muraleedharan, Minister of State for External Affairs, told parliament, in a veiled reference to China.
After India’s re-election as a non-permanent member, China said it would like to enhance cooperation with all parties but did not comment on the drive for a permanent seat.
On Wednesday, the grouping of India, Brazil and South Africa (IBSA) expressed “frustration” over the “slow” pace of progress on reform of the Security Council and said the time had come to move towards a result-oriented process to expand the key global body.
The three countries, in a joint statement, strongly called for expediting reform of the UNSC, saying any failure to do so may have serious implications for international peace and security.
Apart from pitching for the permanent seat on the Security Council, in today’s speech the Prime Minister also said India would help the world fight the coronavirus pandemic.
“As the largest vaccine-producing country I want to give one more assurance to the global community today,” he said, adding, “India’s vaccine production and delivery capacity will be used to help all humanity in fighting this crisis”.

Ex-Union ...

with politics. During Atal Ji’s Government, he handled crucial portfolios and left a strong mark in the worlds of finance, defence and external affairs. Saddened by his demise,” PM Modi’s tweet read.
Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said: “Deeply

pained by the passing away of veteran BJP leader and former Minister, Shri Jaswant Singh ji. He served the nation in several capacities including the charge of Raksha Mantri. He distinguished himself as an effective Minister and Parliamentarian.”

Baripada (Debabrata Dey, TCT) : Arpita Das is the only daughter of Asit Kumar Das of Ward No. 13 under Palbani in Baripada town in Mayurbhanj district, who has created a unique identity out of valley area.

Arpita daughter of Mayurbhanj selected to Opera Miss India contest

She is a first year student of plus 3 arts in Sri Ram Chandra Degree College .In Odissi, Chhau and Modern dance she is proficient. She has also been awarded by various institutions for participating in various cultural events. She was qualified in the audition for the third round of the Odisha Blind Modeling Competition was held on October 20, 2019 at Haripalaza, Balasore. Arpita was selected to the grand finals of the audition, with about 100 contestants competition.In this competition Director Shantanu Kumar Sia and Oriya album heroine Devyani attended the audition as a judge. She stood first in the grand final. She won the round and also received a prize. Wearing the crown of YMA queen at the Young Men’s Association Forum in Betnati. She has qualified to the internationally acclaimed opera Miss India, winning the semi-finals of Odisha in 2020 and is among the top 30 contestants in the grand final of National level. However, Opera, which is set to make its grand finale on 12/10/2020 through online. She is working hard to prepare for Miss India. Earlier before, Arpita had taken part in a number of events, showing her expertise and winning the hearts of many viewers. Therefore the family and the people of Baripada area are in a great hope that she will move forward with her success in the upcoming Opera Miss India contest.

REGIONAL

Odisha Man Arrested For Manufacturing Fake Covid-19 Vaccine

Bhubaneswar: A man was arrested in Odisha’s Barghar district on charges of manufacturing a dubious vaccine for Covid-19, said an official on Saturday.
The authorities conducted a raid and busted a fake Covid-19 vaccine manufacturing unit at Rushuda village under the Bheden Police Station in Barghar on Friday.
They seized several vials labelled as Covid-19 vaccine, some powder and chemical materials from his possession.
Surprisingly, the 32-year-old accused Prahalad Bisi has only studied up to Class VII.
“After getting information, we raided the unit and found Bisi preparing a large quantity of fake Covid-19 vaccines. All the fake vaccines with sticker of Covid-19 have been seized,” said Barghar drug inspector Sasmita Dehury.
The counterfeit drug was to be supplied to the open market as Covid-19 vaccine, she said.

Man kills wife in Khordha

Khordha : In a shocking incident, a man allegedly killed his wife at Mukundapur in the district today.
The deceased has been identified as Samsita Behera.
According to reports, Samsita was staying with her parents at College Road in Mukundapur. Her husband Harekrushna Behera reached at her paternal home in the wee hours of Saturday and killed her.
The deceased’s family members filed written complaint against Harekrushna at Khordha model police station.
On the other hand, the accused is absconding after the case was filed against him.

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Kendrapara (Dillip Mohanty, TCT) : The land of the Kendrapara Autonomous College, which was established in the district in 1959, and 15% of its land is now in the hands of the illegal occupants. The investigation into the incident is expected to intensify soon, about 13 acres out of a total of 82 acres of Kendrapara Autonomous College land now in the hands of the land mafia occupants. Prior to the establishment of the college, it was the Kendrapara Engineering School, but the college bought all the materials of the Engineering School at a cost of only one rupee.

“Now that the principal has taken action against the occupiers after joining the college in April 2019, the college has not been able to get rid of the occupiers because of the lack of support from the Government,” he said. According to source to recognize as university the extra land will be provided by the Government. On the other hand, various political parties are protesting and demanding to provide university status to the Kendrapara Autonomous College, while the lack of a word against the land mafia and occupiers.

7-day shutdown in Baripada

Baripada (Debabrata Dey, TCT) : In Baripada, the outbreak of the corona epidemic is on the rise, with the result that the number of corona chain is increasing in every ward in Baripada municipality. Corona chain can be prevented with the use of mask and keeping social distance. While people are not awake to take Mask and not keeping social distance seriously in various shops in the city. Corona continues to expand every day in every ward in the city. In order to reduce the number of multiple affects in the future, the shops and markets of Baripada will be closed from 27/09/20 to 03/10/20. With the help of Bhanga sena, trade unions, youth organizations, jointly announced and appealed through Public Addressing system for a 7-day shutdown and to remain in home to all the people of Baripada. “Everyone should cooperate with peace” said Pintu Maiti, district president of Bhanjyena.

The state’s oldest college is now in the hands of the land mafia and some unscrupulous individuals

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Badalgiri Waterfall In Odisha’s Sundargarh Declared Prohibited Area After Death Of 2 Students

Sundargarh: Six days after the drowning incident involving two engineering students, the district administration on Saturday declared Badalgiri waterfall near Saplata village of Gurundia block in Bonai sub-division of Odisha’s Sundargarh district as a restricted zone.

Briefing the media, Bonai sub-collector Pradip Kumar Dang said that a prohibitory order restricting entry of public to the site has been issued.

The local police and the Forest officials have been asked to keep a strict vigil on the entry of people to the area, he added.

Tribute to former Kendrapara Block Chairman Anambandhu Dhal

Sashi Bhusan Behera and Zilla parasid president Manas Parida were present in the meeting through video conference. Among others former Congress minister Ganeshwar Behera, Rajnagar MLA Dhub Sahu,

Rajinikanth Mahanta became the state Biju Youth Joint Secretary

Baripada (Soumya Ranjan Pattanaik, TCT) : Er. Rajanikanth Mohanta an Engineer of Mayurbhanj soil, is a true leader of Bangiriposhi. He has extended his gratitude to Hon’ble Chief minister Naveen Pattnayak, Revenue and Disaster Minister, Sudam Marndi, Pranab Balabanta Ray, MLA of Dharmasala and Pranab Prakash Dash, Organisational secretary of Biju Janata Dal. They gave him a stand of state joint secretary of Biju Yuva Janata Dal for the betterment of youth.

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The local police and the Forest officials have been asked to keep a strict vigil on the entry of people to the area, he said.

“Unfortunately, two engineering students drowned while bathing in the waterfall last week. Following which, locals demanded that the place be declared as a restricted zone. After discussions with Bonai DFO, we have shut the place,” Dang said.

The range officer of Sola forest has been asked to immediately barricade the waterfall area, he added.

Kendrapara (Dillip Mohanty, TCT) : A tribute meeting is being held in his hometown Shobala on the 11th day (Ekadasa) occasion of former Kendrapara Block Chairman Anambandhu Dhal. Kendra pada MLA

Regional
Gill Stars As Clinical KKR Thrash SRH By 7 Wkts

Abu Dhabi: Opener Shubhman Gill's unbeaten 70-run knock along with Eoin Morgan's 42 not out guided Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) to their first win this IPL season as they outsmarted Sunrisers Hyderabad (SRH) by seven wickets with two overs to spare here on Saturday.

Chasing a modest 143-run, KKR, baring few hiccups, overhauled the target comfortably, thanks to the unbeaten knocks by Gill and Morgan. Pat Cummins, who was amongst runs in the previous clash, made a great comeback as he conceded just 19 runs from four overs and picked up one wicket.

The other KKR bowlers also remained economical and the entire KKR side clicked together as a unit.

Despite losing opener Sunil Narine, who fell without troubling the scorers, early, young opener Gill ensured his side cross the line with ease as he kept the fight on. For the second wicket, Nitish Rana (26) and Gill added 37 runs before the former became a victim of T. Natarajan in the fifth over with KKR being reduced to 43/2.

As KKR managed another 10 runs, Afghan spin sensation strick as he trapped KKR skipper Dinesh Karthik before the wicket with KKR scorecard reading 53/3. The tumbling of wickets hardly affected Pandey, who continued to rotatate the strike and forged a crucial 92-run unbeaten partnership with Eoin Morgan (42 not out) to drive his side home with two overs to spare. Morgan's innings contained three boundaries and two sixes.

For SRH, Khaleel Ahmed, Natarajan and Rasheed were left unscathed when Pandey was caught and bowled by Andre Russell in the 18th over before Karthik too, departed in the final over as he fell short of the crease. Mohammad Nabi and Abhishek Sharma remained unbeaten on 11 and two runs respectively as SRH reached a fighting total.

Brief scores:

KKR 145/3 in 18 overs

(Shubhman Gill 70 not out, Eoin Morgan 42 not out; Rashid Khan 1/25)

beat SRH 142/4 in 20 overs

(Manish Pandey 51, David Warner 36; Andre Russell 1/16, Pat Cummins 1/19) by 7 wickets