

'ଜନବାଦୀ'ର ବାର୍ଷିକ ଗ୍ରାହକ ହେବା ପାଇଁ ଲଢ଼ୁକ ପାଠକ-ପାଠିକା ୨୫୦ ଟଙ୍କା ନିମ୍ନୋକ୍ତ ଆମ ବ୍ୟାଙ୍କ ଏକାଉଣ୍ଟ କିମ୍ବା ସିଧାସଳଖ ଜନବାଦୀ ଅଫିସରେ ଜମାଦେବାକୁ ଅନୁରୋଧ ।  
ପରିଚାଳକ, 'ଜନବାଦୀ'  
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# ଜନବାଦୀ

JANABADI

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## 12-15 percent of children are infected with Covid !

### 'Janabadi' Bureau Review

With the possible third wave of the Covid-19 pandemic looming, DMET CBK Mohanty has informed about the current Covid situation in the state. "Currently, the incidence of covid infection is on the rise in Kerala," he said. But in other states, the incidence of infection is low." In the first wave of the state, 12 percent and in the second wave also 12 percent of the children were infected with Covid," he said.

Currently, 12 to 15 percent of children are infected. Older people have already been vaccinated, and their bodies have developed antibodies. So there is more risk for children. He has also said if only one child is infected it poses a higher risk for the mother too. It is the responsibility...

▶ Page-3

## 25000 sculptors, artisans in grief !

### 'Janabadi' Bureau Review

In the case of the Corona pandemic, the government is not as sensitive as it should be to the plight of agricultural workers or stone sculptors. As a result, workers and artisans in the state are living in misery. One example of this is related to the plight of stone sculptors.

The condition of the stone craftsmen is deteriorating day by day. While the raw materials for the artists cannot be guaranteed, their financial situation has been shaken by the corona. Even the carpenters have now left the state to move elsewhere. The plight of 25,000 stone artisans in the state is the essence. While the Chief Minister is announcing support for the artisans, the State Federation of Artists has complained that it is being suppressed under the files of officials. Dissatisfaction among artisans over this is said to be

preparing for the movement in the coming days.

Stones are required for sculptors, whose supply is in charge of the Department of Handlooms, Weaving, and Handicrafts. It would be illegal for artists to collect stones from the open market on their own. So the artisans are looking at the stone supply of the department. At a high-level meeting in December, it was decided to resolve the issue of stone supplies as soon as possible. But so far no one was able to send in the perfect solution. There are about 25,000 stone artisans in the state, while about 10,000 Odia artisans are working in other states. Udaynath Mohanty, president of the Federation of Oriya Artists, said, "Everyone was given financial assistance amidst a pandemic, but the artisans did not get anything." An artisan sells statues at

the fairgrounds. But due to Corona, it's been a year and a half. An artisan said, "We have preserved our culture and traditions. But we are neglected in all respects." Before the last election, the state government had announced support for artisans. But the file is now simply lying in one department or the other. The Handloom and Handicrafts Development Council was formed in 2018. Through this, the Chief Minister paid Rs 20 crores for the development of handicrafts and handlooms. But years later, the council's board of directors was disbanded. Mr. Mohanty complained that the department was not taking any steps in this direction. In Odisha, the artisans are in dire straits. "Unfortunately, the department's attention has not been paid to them," he said. Thousands...

▶ Page-3

## Abandonment of Indigenous Peoples in Mines: Warn for Movement !

### 'Janabadi' Bureau Review

Workers at the OMC Gandhamardhan mine are now living in distress. Indigenous permanent residents have not been able to find work in the mines. The machines are doing all the work. Hundreds of families are losing their jobs as a result. The movement was recently called for by the Narmadesoraya Cooperation Committee, demanding immediate employment. As a result of the agitation, it was decided in consultation with representatives of the District Police, District Administration, Cooperative Societies, Gandhamardhan Loading Agency and Transport, Co-operative Society Limited that all the members



of the Narmadesoraya Cooperative Society, Mining and Co-operative Co-operatives Membership will be available. A membership fee of Rs 10 is charged. But even six months later, indigenous workers are still not provided with membership. The co-

operative society has not heard complaints from tribals and indigenous peoples. Instead of employing workers who have lost their jobs, society is distributing work to non-workers, non-indigenous people. There is corruption in society.

Indigenous people who have been neglected by the mines have been threatened and deprived of their rights. Anurag Jhank, manager of the Suakati OMC mine, said the OMC mine's loading agency and the transporting co-operative...

▶ Page-3

Editorial

## Development : A faithless blueprint !

Whether it is Prime Minister Narendra Modi or the state led by Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik, the government is showing a false blueprint in the name of development. One case after another is the looting of corporate houses on the livelihoods of citizens of the country and the state. From the village to the city, there is no access to safe drinking water, no medical facilities, no employment, or no guarantees to live with dignity. As the Prime Minister of the country, Narendra Modi is portraying the people of the country in a way that only a handful of people are focused on. On the other hand, the livelihoods of more than 70 percent of the country's citizens are being ruined. The Prime Minister has promised to lease the property of our nation one after another and bring development to the people's hands. During the last four years and before coming to power, Mr. Modi said, "Everyone's development will be ensured." But it has already been proven false.

He promised that if he came to power, black money would be brought in from abroad and Rs 15 lakh would be made available to everyone's bank accounts. That, too, seems to be another lie. All the steps taken from demonetization to GST have harmed rather than benefitting the people. Within two years of the arrival of the corona plague, plates and claps were banged, lamps were lit but millions of people could not be saved from the plague. Millions of people have lost their jobs to the present day since the Corona pandemic. Unemployment is on the rise. The government's gift is to increase gas, diesel and petrol prices. "I am proud to say that the food security of the people of my country has been ensured," he said. But the reality is different. Eighty percent of people are no longer able to afford to buy oil or other household items. This is the blueprint for the false development of the Narendra Modi-led government at the center. How long will the government continue to deceive people by telling such lies? The success that the government seeks to bring to the country by privatizing the country's factories, ports, railways, communications corporations is not only a huge mistake for the country but also a hindrance to the country's development. Prime Minister Modi must be a good dreamer. It would not be wrong to say that he can speak fluently like no other leader in the country. Through this speech, he has succeeded in coming to power by making false promises to the countrymen. And now he seems to have decided to lie in power for a few more years. India is one of the largest democracies of the year. Here, in a democratic framework, the government is constitutional. The majority is the one that forms the government. Everyone knows that. But if you look at the history of the year in India, the government of any party will certainly collapse in the aftermath of the loss of public confidence.

It may take a few days for a country to build a statue, or for a false advertisement for development, but it will not take long for the citizens of the country to put an end to this trend. Prime Minister Modi must have known this. The people of the country are now aware of his lies and plans for development. Religion and sectarianism have left no one in power in the country. People want a government that will not fail to meet our daily needs, a government that will not fail to provide for the rights granted to us by the constitution. This is something that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has planned to do. Thus, the government led by Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has failed to lift more than 40 percent of the people of Odisha above the poverty line. Promises every year - poverty is reduced, unemployment is eliminated. The farmland is flooded, everyone has access to education, treatment, facilities. But it is also a false government figure. Why are the Narendra Modi-led government at the center and the Naveen Patnaik-led government in the state deceiving the people by showing a false blueprint for development? The development of the country and the state cannot be guaranteed due to the lack of foresight of the government and the lack of a scientific perspective, the pro-corporate approach. This requires hard, meaningful, fair, positive planning and positive efforts. Only in this way can the overall development of the country and the state be ensured. Citizens will not tolerate the policy of depriving people of their livelihoods by mapping out false development. In the wake of this false development, there is a mass movement against the government from Delhi's Yantar Mantar to Odisha's Mahatma Gandhi Marg, which will not be long before Modi and Naveen lose power. So be it time for Modi and Naveen to be realistic, adopt and implement pro-people policies, not corporate interests for the development of the country.

## Public health vs livelihood

Livelihoods are a fundamental economic foundation on which society is based. Public health is a question built by society. Public health and livelihoods are intertwined and complementary. So the unanswered question that is popping up today is public health comes first or livelihood? This has led to controversy over corona disease, a stagnation in livelihoods, and a government crackdown on infection control.

The present time is marked by the sealing of the time of crisis, the time of fear, the time of terror, or the time of abnormality. But why add so many negative adjectives? Time is a constant stream. Man sometimes calls his experience the Golden Age or the stone age. Nowadays, whether the living or the livelihood - the way the government itself has tried to cover up its incompetence by dragging this sensitive question into the mainstream debate - is also visible.

The coronavirus originated from a biodegradable laboratory, which is the result of a nation's poor food habits, it is difficult and impossible to calculate the means of infection, its antidrugs has not yet come out. Amid all this fear, the common man has been raising deadly questions about the veracity of the campaign. The government's clean-up - as it puts a lot of emphasis on safety or public health - has a detrimental effect on livelihoods. Grants like Lockout, Shutdown are only for the protection of life. So let everyone face such an unexpected challenge of time.

So what is the real situation? Both public health and livelihoods are in dire straits. What is the reality of our public health? According to the World Health Organization's guidelines, in a minimum population of 1,000, there should be a doctor available. But today, our state estimates that there is no doctor in the state's population of 15,000. By comparison, the state of Kerala has one doctor for every five hundred people, and there is a doctor for every 160 people in socialist Cuba. Without taking any national policy to avoid the shortage of doctors, if the government says that we care about public health, we don't have the time and resources to focus on human livelihoods - then what could be other than the perversion of the truth?

If there was a focus on livelihoods, the employment plan would not have been cut. The recovery of diseased industries would have paved the way for employment. The irrigation sector would have been revitalized by developing irrigation. Migrant workers could have been curbed by the rising tide. Has any of this been implemented with emphasis on one plan? Odisha's sugar mills, spinning mills, textile mills, cement factories have all been demolished. Was it able to recover? So is it not clear from this example how urgently our central and state governments have expressed concern over the protection of livelihoods?

So just as public health or life is as important in the first place, so is the protection of livelihoods. The human body cannot survive unless it is healthy. Similarly, if the livelihood is stopped, there won't be any strength available for life. Both things are complementary. In the wake of the conflict over livelihoods, the government has been aggressively attacking the rights of farmers and workers, including unemployment, rising consumer prices, and the privatization of corporate capital.

## ROAD CONDITIONS ARE DIRE: THE ADMINISTRATION IS NOT LISTENING, THE VILLAGERS ARE SUFFERING

Debgarh (Bureau): Vrindavanpur village of Dantaribahal panchayat in Barkot block of the district. The village is home to more than 120 families, including Janubasa, Nuannali, Bhatachua, and Brahmanimal. Unfortunately, these slums have no roads. People are walking every day on knee-deep muddy roads. The village road is in a state of disrepair, especially during the rainy season. With two feet of rainwater on the road during the monsoon rains, people are having trouble getting around. In times of emergency, neither an ambulance nor an bicycle can reach the area. For a long time now, villagers have been sharing videos from the local sarpanch to the village. But to no avail. While the government is implementing several schemes for daily roads to each village, the exception has been



made in Brindavanpur village due to administrative negligence.

THE REST OF PAGE-1

### 12-15 percent...

of both parents and the government to protect children. Similarly, the responsibility of students going to school rests with the teacher. The child needs to be provided with a safe environment. In the last 24 hours, 108 children have been diagnosed with corona disease in the state. In the last 24 hours, 754 new cases have been identified. Of these, 438 were identified from quarantines, while 317 were locally infected. A maximum of 261 cases was reported from Khordha. In the last 24 hours, 16 people from Anugul, 43 from Balasore, 1 from Bargarh, 7 from Bhadrak, 3 from Boudh, 110 from Cuttack, 9 from Debgarh, 9 from Dhenkanal, 4 from Ganjam, 25 from Jagatsinghpur, 28 from Jajpur, 1 from Jharsuguda 2 from Kalahandi, 1 from Kandhamal, 19 from Kendrapara, 16 from Keunjhar, 9 from Malkangiri, 23 from Mayurbhanj, 2 from Nabarangpur, 13 from Nayagarh, 28 from Puri, 9 from Rayagada, 13 from Sambalpur, 26 from Sundergarh have been detected with corona positive identified.

In the last 24 hours, on the other hand, 66688 covid tests have been conducted. The positive rate is 1.13 percent. The total number of infected people in the state has increased to 10.09 lakh, while 9.93 lakh people have been cured. Currently, there are 7241 active cases.

### 25000 sculptors...

of families are dependent on the stone sculptor or handicraft industry, said Priyaranjan Kar, secretary of the union. But the department is failing to provide raw materials. In Odisha, statues are mainly made of Muguni and Khadi stones. However, for years the department has not been able to take steps to supply raw materials. As a result, many talented artisans have left the state and moved to Rajasthan. While the Muguni stone works are underway in Balasore and Mayurbhanj, the Muguni stone hills have not been leased. As a result, they are forced to import marble from Rajasthan. Importantly, there are three types of rocks in Odisha. Banks do not lend money to artisans. Many senior artisans struggling with life. The department does not have pensions or assistance. For artisans, the department needs to announce a special package. "If the department does not take immediate action, we will be forced to take to the streets in the coming days," he said. Padma Vibhushan Sudarshan Sahu said the department had turned a blind eye to their problems as stone artisans were already in dire straits. The Lifetime Achievement Award has also been discontinued. Our artisans, who preserve our culture and tradition, are not given financial support. The Chief Minister is assisting artists and artisans, but it is not reaching the beneficiaries. Mr. Sahu questioned why those

who received national awards were being ignored. Artisans need to have raw materials for at least two years. So the department needs to take it seriously. "Otherwise, it will not be long before the dark cloud of uncertainty over art and sculpture in the state comes," he said.

### Abandonment of Indigenous ...

were not cooperating, citing corruption in the society and the loss of tribal and indigenous peoples. But any work done inside the mine is not done without the permission of the mining leaseholder. The work area of the Gandhamardhan Loading Agency and the Transportation Co-operative Society Limited covers the area affected by the Gandhamardhan mine.

If the Society and Suakati OMC mines have nothing to do with it, then the Gandhamardhan Loading Agency and the Transportation Co-operative Society Limited are working in the mining area to find out how the work is going on. Workers have warned that if the indigenous and non-indigenous peoples are given equal rights within 15 days, the movement will be the last resort.

It should be noted that the Gandhamardhan mine is one of the most affected and inaccessible villages where the worst picture of starvation is seen every day. Of the malnourished children, some of the women are struggling with death. The question arises as to why the OMC Gandhamardhan mine administrator has laid the trap of exploitation by ignoring the demands of the tribal natives.



## Govt pursuing a target of doubling farmers' income by 2022 : Tomar



Ravish kumar

an 'Empowered Body' to review and monitor the progress.

Responding to a query whether the target fixed for the year 2022 can be achieved at the present annual growth, the minister said, "The government has been pursuing the target of doubling farmers' income."

He said the implementation of various recommendations of the committee and comprehensive interventions of the government are "having a positive impact on the growth of agriculture and income of

etary allocations, non-budgetary financial resources by way of creating corpus funds, and supplementary income transfers under PM-KISAN.

The latest major intervention includes the 'Atma Nirbhar Bharat- Agriculture package' which includes comprehensive market reforms and the creation of 'Agricultural Infrastructure Fund' worth Rs 1 lakh crore.

The minister was also asked about state-wise details of the income/wages earned per year by farmers from the base year till date

The government has been pursuing the target of doubling farmers' income by 2022 and several interventions taken are showing a "positive impact", Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar told Parliament on Tuesday.

In 2016, Prime Minister Narendra Modi-led's government had set a highly ambitious target of doubling farmers' incomes by 2022. An inter-ministerial committee on "Doubling of Farmers' Income" was set up in April 2016 to recommend strategies to achieve this goal.

In a written reply to a question in the Lok Sabha, Tomar said the committee submitted its report in September 2018. After acceptance of the panel's recommendations, the government has set up



farmers".

The government has adopted several developmental programs, schemes, reforms, and policies that focus on higher incomes for the farmers, the minister said responding to a separate query on the same topic. All these policies and programs are being supported by higher budg-

and the annual growth percentage required to achieve the targets fixed for the year 2022. He replied that the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) during its 70th round had conducted 'Situation Assessment Survey (SAS) of Agricultural Households' in rural areas in the crop year 2012-13 (July-June).

"There has been no further assessment of the farmers' income thereafter," he said. As per the NSO survey results, the average monthly income per agricultural household from all sources was estimated to be Rs 6,426, he added.

The minister also mentioned that the committee on doubling farmers' income recommended seven sources of income growth. These include improvement in crop productivity; improvement in livestock productivity; resource use efficiency or savings in the cost of production; and increase in the cropping intensity. Diversification towards high-value crops, improvement in real prices received by farmers, and shift from farm to non-farm occupations are also included, he added.



# Property dispute : Old woman tied up, house demolished !



Jajpur (Bureau): A case has been registered with the National Human Rights Commission in connection with the tying down of an elderly man against a pole and demolishing his house, in Salban village under Korei police station.

National Human Rights Defender Bhajman Biswal has accepted the judgment of Salvi No. 12079 / IN / 2021, filed by the Petition filed on July 19. The case has been registered by the Commission under Case No. 1893/18/24/2021 on the 18th. It alleges that Korei police IIC Ranjit Kumar Mohanty and his staff were accused of failing

to maintain law and order along with their extreme responsibility and failure to provide immediate protection to the affected women. According to reports, the inhumane and barbaric incident that took place on July 16 caused a stir across the district.

In the aftermath of a long-running land dispute, members of one family have rallied against another. Savitri Maharana, a 70-year-old woman was tied down against a pole and demolished her house. Gandharva Maharana of the village was the adopted son of Kalandi Maharana of the nearby Khasagadia village a

few years ago, while Kalandi's sons were at enmity with the Gandharva family over a plot of land where he lived. According to previous plans, Kalandi's son Alekh, along with his family and some friends, were walking towards Gandharva's house with a stick in his hand. Gandharva, who was inside the house, and his sons and daughters were threatened, and they fled the house in fear. He then demolished his house in the presence of hundreds of people. Just a short distance from the police station, the accused had been harassing a family for a long time, but the police did not consider it

necessary to comment on such fabrications. People repeatedly called the IIC to come to the scene immediately but the police did not pay heed to it. As a result, the defendants were able to carry out the plan without fear. At the time, there was a strong reaction across Korei to the extreme responsibility of the Korei police, while local social activist and social activist Bhuvanmohan Mohanty informed the state human rights commission and Bhajman Bishwal, the national human rights defender in charge of Odisha. As a result, a case was registered against the IIC and his staff.

## Between 1995- 2018, 4 lakh farmers in the country committed suicide !

Bhubaneswar (Bureau): "India is an agricultural country" is the motto of many assembly committees and senior leaders in their speeches. Although India is an agricultural country, farmers are the most frustrated. The financial situation of farmers who cultivate and harvest crops is very poor. When a drought strikes, crops are destroyed, and natural disasters strike. Farmers who borrow money and commit suicide by failing to repay their debts. Between 1995 and 2018, 400,000 farmers committed suicide.

The reason for suicide ? : If we collect data from the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) annual report on accidental deaths and suicides in India, the question arises as to why a farmer commits suicide. What happened to them? Is a farmer committing suicide

because of hunger, debt, sudden and natural disasters, lack of fair prices for crops, poverty, structural inequality?

A liberal economy in the mid-1990s disturbed many farmers, leading to suicides in the early 2000s. The population began to grow rapidly. This has created economic inequality in society, which has created a perception among farmers that they are starting to lose something. Rapidly changing economic conditions were also changing long-term social equations. Among the respected classes of the rural economy, farmland was unable to meet their growing needs. At the same time, the economy was booming. People left the village and moved to the city for better pay. In Vidarbha, for example, there was a perception among rural

farmers that they were doing more harm than good. Suicides, especially farmer suicides, are commonly attributed to a single issue such as an agrarian crisis or rising indebtedness. Research suggests that explanations are more complicated. In the analysis of farmer suicides between 1997 and 2012, the researchers argue that farmer suicides are a result of three broad factors, including existing vulnerability in a region, agrarian crisis, and lack of alternative opportunities. There could also be social factors.

In general, health, education, and other services increased, and income was fixed rather than increased. Government subsidies were revoked. Declining incomes and rising basic necessities made them even weaker. The state and central

governments favored the rich in the villages, making it difficult to stay in the villages. Hence they protested to attract the attention of the authorities. For example, the central government has introduced three controversial agricultural laws, saying the Narendra Modi government would bring about reforms in agriculture. Dissatisfied farmers in Punjab, Haryana, and western Uttar Pradesh have been protesting against the law. They doubt that the new law will deprive them of the minimum support price or MSP and that some companies will benefit. They fear that their land will be enacted as a private company - without controversy and despite opposition from many political parties, which has also been criticized and questioned.

The breadwinner lost his life because he could not bear the debt. The complaint came from Kud Gunderpur village under Sambalpur Burla police station. Kaibalya Rohidas, 55, of the deceased village. He consumed poison on Wednesday night. He died at Burla Medical Center on Friday. According to family members, Kaibalya had borrowed lakhs of rupees to cultivate paddy on 7 acres of land and harvest about 150 quintals of paddy. Of this, only 45 quintals of paddy were sold to the government, while some others were forced to sell it at lower prices due to problems such as tons. However, about 45 quintals of paddy could not be sold and it was sprouting due to rain. Due to the loss of lakhs of rupees, Kaibalya could not make ends meet even in the current Kharif and committed suicide.



# The rise of oil prices amidst oil bonds !

Valchandra Sarangi

Petrol, diesel, and cooking gas prices in the country have reached record levels. In most parts of the country, the price of petrol has gone up by hundreds per liter, while diesel is also in the nineties. While the financial situation of the general public has deteriorated due to the Corona pandemic and the devastating lockdown, such skyrocketing prices of petroleum products have taken a toll on the pockets of people. "Especially as the country's freight and agricultural transportation are largely dependent on diesel, its constant rise in prices has made transportation costs more expensive," he said. The increase in diesel prices, on the other hand, has increased the cost of agricultural production, increasing the burden on farmers.

The price of petrol and diesel in the country has risen at a time when crude oil prices in the world market have fallen sharply. Before the Modi government came to power in 2014, the price of crude oil in the world market was 110-120 dollars per barrel. At one point, it even went up to 150 dollars per barrel. However, although petrol and diesel were completely under government control, the price per liter at that time was Rs.76 and Rs.67. Today, however, the price of crude oil is only 62 dollars, while we have to buy petrol at Rs 105-Rs 110 and diesel at Rs 75-Rs 100. In the past, when the government-controlled the price of petrol and diesel, they were available cheaply. As prices in the world market rose, the government made them cheaper through subsidies. However, by ending the subsidy system, the government introduced a system of dynamic pricing to reduce petrol in 2010 and

diesel in 2014. It has been announced to increase or decrease the retail price of petrol and diesel in the country in line with global market prices. Regrettably, the government has not yet implemented its declaration. Despite the steady decline in crude oil prices in the world market over the past seven years, the government has not seen a reduction in petrol and diesel prices in the country. However, with the rise in global prices, the retail price of petrol and diesel in the country has risen sharply, and the price has not been reduced.

"We have no involvement at the price of petrol and diesel and it is entirely in the control of the market," the government said. On the other hand, there has been little change in the price of petrol and diesel in the country since the February 26 elections in five states, including West Bengal, until the May 2 results were announced. At the time, the price of crude oil in the world market had risen from 67 dollars to 75 dollars per barrel, but the price had not risen since the election. However, immediately after the announcement of the results, from May 4 to July 17, for a total of 43 days, the government increased petrol and diesel prices by 41 times and 37 times respectively to Rs 11.44 and Rs 9.45 per liter. Surprisingly, the price of the world market has dropped to 62 dollars a liter since May, but the price of petrol in the country has not dropped at all, while the price of diesel has

been reduced. This can be described as direct looting by the oil companies of the country with the help of the government.

Oil prices have not been reduced in the world, and the government has continued to increase the price of petrol and diesel by reducing the cost of living. Total excise duty on petrol and diesel has been



increased 13 times in the last seven years, but only three times have been reduced. In 2014, the excise duty on diesel was Rs. 3.56, an increase of 794% to Rs 31.80. Similarly, the excise duty on petrol has increased by 247% to Rs 32.90 from Rs 9.48 per liter today. In 2014-15, the government was collecting Rs 29.27 crores and Rs 42.88 crore on excise duty on petrol and diesel, respectively.

The government has never wanted to tell the public that the main reason behind the hike in petrol-diesel prices is the huge government tax and the looting of oil companies. Recently, Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman made it clear that the government's excise duty on petrol and diesel would not be reduced and blamed oil prices during the previous Congress-led deputy government for the hike. Such arguments by the Modi

government to acquit themselves are not new at all. Over the past seven years, Khod has been making several bizarre arguments, ranging from the Prime Minister to the Petroleum Minister and other BJP leaders about the hike in petrol and diesel prices in the country. He has cited rising prices in the global market is because of the corona vaccination program, farmer welfare program, and as a cost to development projects. The question here is, if oil prices are rising, then why is the government so silent? Whatever the government says, it is safe

to say that the rise in oil prices in the country is not the main reason. It is not uncommon for the government to issue bonds instead of cash for any cost. The central government has the legal authority to issue bonds to oil companies, fertilizer companies, and food corporations in exchange for cash. It was Vajpayee's government for the first time since the by-elections to introduce bonds. The government has spent about Rs 40,000 crore over the past three years on interest. There is no doubt that the above bonds issued by the Modi government will have to be repaid by the next government.

The central government was already subsidizing people to get rid of rising oil prices. The central government was providing subsidies from the exchequer to keep oil prices cheaper in the country if oil prices rise in the global market. Given the financial situation,

the government is issuing bonds to oil companies in exchange for cash. The bonds are usually long-term and interest is paid annually. As a result, the government does not have to spend its budget immediately. During the period from 2005- 2010, the then deputy Government-issued oil bonds of Rs 1,34,423.17 crores. The bonds, which were issued between 2005 and 2010, are expected to mature between 2022-26. In the last seven years, the government has added an annual interest rate of Rs 10,000 crores, including Rs 3500 crores in capital gains, to a total of Rs.73400 crores spent. This amount is negligible compared to the revenue from government oil. In the last seven years, from a total collection of Rs 23 lakh crore, only 3.2% is cess. During the corona period, the financial situation of the general public in the country deteriorated, while corporates reduced their profits. In developed countries of the world, governments have been seen to increase tax rates on corporations to increase the exchequer. But in our country, the Modi government, on the other hand, has shifted the burden of taxes to the general public instead of corporate to fill the exchequer. In each case, the people have, for the first time, been offered a chance to vote. In 2008, the tax rate was 12.1%, but now the government has reduced it to 10.2%. As a result, the country's exchequer has suffered a loss of Rs 140,000 crore annually. In such a scenario, it is unacceptable that the oil companies do not pay the public the benefits of the reduction in the global market by raising taxes and cess on petrol and diesel and looting the general public.

## POOR RAINFALL : FARMERS IN DISTRESS !

Sambalpur (Bureau): The grief of farmers does not seem to end. Sometimes drought and some other times scanty rainfall. Due to the lack of rain, there are cracks in the soil. The farmer hoped that the adequate rainfall would fetch him some good money this year. However, due to low rainfall, all farmers' dreams have been shattered. Due to the low rainfall, most of the land in Kuchinda, Bamra, Yujumura, and Nakti Deul's non-irrigated blocks could not be cleared. In such a situation, there is a risk of landslides due to the lack of irrigation on 360



hectares of land in the district. Farmers have demanded that these areas be declared drought-prone. As per Information available from the Agriculture Department a total of 1,50,660 hectares of land was to be used

for cultivating paddy this Kharif season. By August 31, paddy cultivation has been done in 130696 hectares.

The district has received scanty rainfall. In June, the average rainfall expected was

221 mm, while the average rainfall was 198.84 mm. It was expected to rain 429 mm in July. But rainfall received was 310.11 mm. While 400 mm of rainfall was expected in August, but only 98 mm of

rainfall has been recorded so far. Farmers have demanded that the state government take immediate action in the Sambalpur district. Farmers have warned that the protests will intensify.

## Unemployment is a major problem: 15 lakh people have lost their jobs

Bhubaneswar (Bureau): The unemployment rate in India surged to 8.32% in August, reversing any progress made in July. While the national unemployment rate in August was at 8.32%, up from 6.95% in July, urban unemployment accelerated to nearly 10%, jumping 1.5 percentage points sequentially, according to monthly jobs data from the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE). About 10 lakh jobs were lost in August, according to the private research firm. The job losses were relatively low when compared with April when over 70 lakh jobs were lost amid the second wave of Covid-19

According to CMIE, the urban unemployment rate was 8.3% in July, 10.07% in June, 14.73% in May, and 9.78% in April. Before the second wave of the covid-19 hit the country, urban unemployment was at 7.27%. The rural unemployment rate also rose 1.3 percent to 7.64% from 6.34% in July, driven by low sowing activities agriculture sector in August. While the employment rate declined, labor force



participation rose marginally last month indicating that a larger pool of people are willing to get into the jobs market. Note that the country has been witnessing a tough jobs environment for the last few years, with matters getting worse due to the pandemic. While economic activities are slowly coming back to normalcy, the job market has been struggling. Across India, eight states including Haryana and Rajasthan, continue to report a double-digit

unemployment rate. The unemployment rate hike in August comes after July saw some 15 million people joining the labour force, driven primarily by absorption of people in low productive agriculture works and the constriction sector. Job additions in July largely comprised poor-quality informal jobs and unless the economy recovers, these people now absorbed in agriculture work will find it tough to find

alternatives, CMIE said last month. By July-end this year, some 76.49 million people were employed in salaried jobs, lower than the 79.7 million people in June. Of the total salaried jobs lost, about 2.6 million are from urban India where the number of salaried people fell from 48.71 million in June to 46.15 million in July. However, the overall job loss rate in the country dropped to a four-month low of 6.95% compared to 9.17% in June.

### The agitation to intensify : Arrest the Dalit attackers !

Kendrapara (Bureau): Attacks on Dalits are on the rise in various parts of the Kendrapara district as the police administration remains silent. Ashok Kumar Malik, vice-president of the state Dalit federation, said in a press release. Police in Pattamundai, Rajnagar, and Rajaknika districts of the district are facing cases of harassment and murder of women, but no action has been taken by the police. Despite repeated complaints, the federation has expressed concern that the administration has failed to address the issue. A joint statement said the district police superintendent's office and the district office would be cordoned off within the next 15 days if the administration did not stop the attacks. State Advisers Rabindra Sethi, Amiya Sethi, Kalpataru Malik, and Dilip Malik were present.

## Between 1995- 2018, 4 lakh farmers in the country committed suicide !

Bhubaneswar (Bureau): "India is an agricultural country" is the motto of many assembly committees and senior leaders in their speeches. Although India is an agricultural country, farmers are the most frustrated. The financial situation of farmers who cultivate and harvest crops is very poor. When a drought strikes, crops are destroyed, and natural disasters strike. Farmers who borrow money and commit suicide by failing to repay their debts. Between 1995 and 2018, 400,000 farmers committed suicide.

The reason for suicide ? : If we collect data from the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) annual report on accidental deaths and suicides in India, the question arises as to why a farmer commits suicide. What happened to them? Is a farmer committing suicide because of hunger, debt, sudden and natural disasters, lack of fair prices for crops, poverty, structural inequality?

A liberal economy in the mid-1990s disturbed many farmers, leading to suicides in the early 2000s. The population began to grow rapidly. This

has created economic inequality in society, which has created a perception among farmers that they are starting to lose something. Rapidly changing economic conditions were also changing long-term social equations.

Among the respected classes of the rural economy, farmland was unable to meet their growing needs. At the

same time, the economy was booming. People left the village and moved to the city for better pay. In Vidarbha, for example, there was a perception among rural farmers that they were doing more harm than good. Suicides, especially farmer suicides, are commonly attributed to a single issue such as an agrarian crisis or rising indebtedness. Research suggests that explanations are more complicated. In the analysis of farmer suicides between 1997 and 2012, the researchers argue that farmer suicides are a result of three broad factors, including existing



vulnerability in a region, agrarian crisis, and lack of alternative opportunities. There could also be social factors.

In general, health, education, and other services increased, and income

was fixed rather than increased. Government subsidies were revoked. Declining incomes and rising basic necessities made them even

weaker. The state and central governments favored the rich in the villages, making it difficult to stay in the villages. Hence they protested to attract the attention of the authorities. For example, the central government has introduced three controversial agricultural laws, saying the Narendra Modi government would bring about reforms in agriculture. Dissatisfied farmers in Punjab, Haryana, and western Uttar Pradesh have been protesting against the law. They doubt that the new law will deprive them of the minimum support price or MSP

and that some companies will benefit. They fear that their land will be enacted as a private company - without controversy and despite opposition from many political parties, which has also been criticized and questioned.

The breadwinner lost his life because he could not bear the debt. The complaint came from Kud Gunderpur village under Sambalpur Burla police station. Kaibalya Rohidas, 55, of the deceased village. He consumed poison on Wednesday night. He died at Burla Medical Center on Friday. According to family members, Kaibalya had borrowed lakhs of rupees to cultivate paddy on 7 acres of land and harvest about 150 quintals of paddy. Of this, only 45 quintals of paddy were sold to the government, while some others were forced to sell it at lower prices due to problems such as tons. However, about 45 quintals of paddy could not be sold and it was sprouting due to rain. Due to the loss of lakhs of rupees, Kaibalya could not make ends meet even in the current Kharif and committed suicide.

## The AIIMS Department of Cardiology is in a state of disarray

Cardiothoracic and vascular surgery, or cardiac surgery, of the Bhubaneswar AIIMS, is in a state of disarray. The department is said to be in a kind of coma now due to weak infrastructure. One of the two OTs here is in a state of disrepair. Although there are only five beds in the ICU, the number of technicians and nurses required for OTs is not enough. So even if serious patients are coming, they have to wait for 3 to 4 months for surgery. As a result, patients who need immediate surgery are forced to go to private hospitals. But the poorest of patients are waiting for the time to come.

Jhili Palli of Nayagarh district came to the AIIMS in July with problems related to the heart. The departmental doctor told him he needed immediate surgery. However, his brother said he had to wait a few days because he did not have the necessary beds and would prescribe medication for a few months. Her sister, who needed immediate surgery, had to wait until September. Similarly, Hemkar Pradhan of Balangir district has returned from a shortage of beds at the AIIMS. The family appears to be trying to have surgery at a private hospital.



Officially, only the AIIMS and SCB in the state have cardiac surgery. It is not available in Bhimsaar of Sambalpur and MKCG of Berhampur. As a result, about 20 to 30 heart patients come to Bhubaneswar AIIMS daily from within and outside the state. That means about 150 to 200 patients a week. But the department's position is that only 4 to 5 people can have surgery a week. But even two OTs are not enough. But again, this would mean that you have to spend on these processes. Of the 30 beds in the other OTs, only 15 are available. The other 15 beds are

in the process of being used by Covid patients. Initially, the number of patients waiting for OPD and OT closures has increased. Patients in the waiting room are suffering because of the abnormalities in the operation. So many patients are forced to go to private hospitals or out of state and suffer from financial hardships. Experts say the heart department needs to provide bypass surgery machines, make the OT operational as soon as possible, increase the number of ICU beds and strengthen the infrastructure by recruiting more nurses. However, in such

a weak infrastructure, eco-treatment has been introduced here. Now the assistant professor in this department is Dr. Siddhartha Sathia, Dr. Satyapriya Mohanty, Associate Professor Dr. Rudrapratap Mohapatra, and 2 technicians. Patients or relatives have been queuing up late at night for OPT tickets at the AIIMS. But the doctor was on leave when the patient arrived with his ticket. In such cases, the condition of serious patients who have traveled long distances is critical. The health workers present at this time have to suffer the wrath of the patient's relatives. According to sources, Dr. Debashis Das, a cardiologist, has been on leave since the 13th due to health reasons. A man came from a long distance with his relatives to show him the OPD. But when he found the doctor is not present, he shouted. This happens almost every day in the cardiology department. There are a total of three doctors, including a doctor. About 150 patients come daily. One doctor is on OPD, the other is on duty in OT. In this case, the patient's misery is on the rise. AIIMS authorities are expected to look into the matter.