

Odisha to spend Rs 360 cr to promote popular schemes and temple project

SUJIT BISOIYI BHUBANESWAR, DEC 31 MONTHS BEFORE the Lok Sabha and Assembly elections in 2024, the Odisha government has announced that it will spend around Rs 360 crore to popularise its schemes at the grassroots level and take up promotional activities ahead of the opening of the Shree Mandir Parikrama project around Puri Jagannath Temple

scheduled on January 17. According to Odisha panchayati raj minister Pradip Amat, a series of promotional activities will be taken up at every Panchayat ahead of the opening of the Parikrama project, planned days before the consecration ceremony of Ayodhya Ram Mandir. The Parikrama project — a 75-metre free passage built around Meghanada Pacheri or the outer walls of the shrine — is aimed at ensuring security inside the temple and providing basic civic amenities to devotees.

KARNATAKA BJP MP's brother held for 'felling, smuggling' trees

KIRAN PARASHAR BENGALURU, DECEMBER 31 KARNATAKA FOREST department officials Saturday arrested the brother of Mysuru-Kodagu BJP MP Pratap Simha for allegedly cutting down and smuggling hundreds of scheduled trees. A joint team headed by Assistant Conservator of Forests (Hassan), Dr Prabhugouda Biradar, the IO with the assistance of ACP (Crime cell), Bengaluru arrested Vikram Simha. Karnataka Environment and Forest Minister Eshwar Khandre said in Bidar there was clear violation of cutting down more than

126 trees which were as old as 50-60 years. "...A person named Vikram Simha had made an agreement to grow ginger in the same land. In order to interrogate him, the forest department officials have arrested him," he said. In a press statement, the forest department said Vikram avoided appearing before the investigating officer. The press statement said, "Since his presence was essential, the IO found it necessary to secure his presence. Available documentary evidence hinted at his involvement in the above-mentioned crime... The accused is being taken to Hassan-Belur for further action."

6 workers killed in gloves factory fire in Aurangabad

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE MUMBAI, DECEMBER 31

AT LEAST six persons died after a massive fire broke out at a gloves-manufacturing factory in Maharashtra's Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar district, formerly Aurangabad, early Sunday. According to fire brigade officials, the fire broke out at around 2:20 am at the Sunshine Enterprises factory located in Waluj MIDC area. "Around 15 workers were sleeping inside when the fire broke out. So far, we have recovered the bodies of six workers. Other workers managed to escape but the six were trapped. We are conducting an investigation to find out the exact cause of the fire," a fire brigade official told The Indian Express.



Firefighters dousing fire that broke out at a gloves manufacturing factory in Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar dist, Sunday morning. PTI

Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde-led Shiv Sena leader and district Guardian Minister Sandipan Bhumre visited the site. "Six persons have died. Seven other workers, who were inside the factory, have sustained minor injuries.

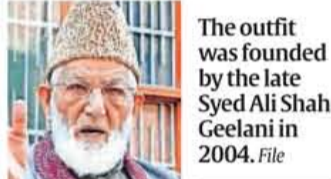
They escaped by jumping out of the factory. An investigation will be conducted into the matter," district Guardian Minister said. "It was around 1:30 am. We all were asleep. Suddenly we sensed

smoke and fire and we all woke up. Some of us managed to jump out of the premises and save ourselves. But a few others could not come out," one of the workers who survived told mediapersons.

Centre bans separatist outfit Tehreek-e-Hurriyat for 5 yrs

MAHENDER SINGH MANRAL NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 31

THE GOVERNMENT on Sunday banned the Tehreek-e-Hurriyat, Jammu and Kashmir (TeH), a separatist outfit founded by the late Syed Ali Shah Geelani in 2004, for five years under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA). Announcing the decision, Union Home Minister Amit Shah said in a post on X: "The Tehreek-e-Hurriyat, J&K (TeH) has been declared an 'Unlawful Association' under UAPA. The outfit is involved in forbidden activities to separate J&K from India and establish Islamic rule. The group is found spreading anti-India propaganda and continuing terrorist activities to fuel secessionism in J&K." He said that under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's zero-tolerance policy against terrorism, "any individual or organisation found involved in anti-India activities will be thwarted forthwith".



The outfit was founded by the late Syed Ali Shah Geelani in 2004. File

and Kashmir... The objective of TeH is to separate Jammu and Kashmir from India and establish Islamic rule in Jammu and Kashmir."

The notification said that "the leaders and members of the TeH have been involved in raising funds through various sources, including Pakistan and its proxy organisations, for perpetrating unlawful activities, including supporting terrorist activities, and sustained stone-pelting on security forces in Jammu and Kashmir".

ratist patriarch Geelani after he parted ways with his parent organisation, Jamat-e-Islami in 2004.

This caused a split in Jamat as many of its leaders sided with Geelani and joined his new separatist outfit. After heading the TeH for 15 years, Geelani stepped down as its chief in 2018 and his deputy Mohammad Ashraf Sehrai was appointed as its new head. A few months after Geelani's death in 2020, Sehrai too died in jail in May 2021. With most of its leadership in jail, the TeH was in virtual disarray and has been running without a clear leader.

In 2019, the National Investigation Agency (NIA) had claimed that separatist leader Masarat Alam, who was arrested in a case of terror funding, had confessed that Hurriyat leaders received funds from Pakistan to foment trouble in the Valley. According to the agency, Geelani was among those named by Masarat Alam.

In a gazetted notification issued Sunday, Additional Secretary Praveen Vashista said, "Whereas, the Tehreek-e-Hurriyat, Jammu and Kashmir, is known for its involvement in fomenting terrorism and anti-India propaganda for fueling the secessionist activities in the Jammu

"The TeH members are paying tributes to terrorists who were killed in encounters with security forces and its members have been involved in supporting terrorist activities with an intent to create a reign of terror in the country, thereby endangering the security and public order of the State... The TeH and its leaders and members, have been indulging in unlawful activities, which are prejudicial to the integrity, sovereignty, security and communal harmony of the country," the notification said.

"The Central government is firmly of the opinion that having regard to the activities of the TeH, it is necessary to declare it, as an 'unlawful association' with immediate effect under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 for a period of five years from the date of its publication in the Official Gazette," it said. Incidentally, the government banned TeH days after similar action on the Masarat Alam faction of Jammu and Kashmir Muslim League.

-WITH INPUTS FROM ENS, SRINAGAR

Encore Asset Reconstruction Company Private Limited (Encore ARC) acting in its capacity as the Trustee of EARC-Bank-029-Trust. Public notice for e-Auction of immovable assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002. Includes details of the property and terms of the auction.

OMKARA ASSETS RECONSTRUCTION PRIVATE LIMITED. Sale notice for sale of immovable properties. Includes details of the property, reserve price, and EMD. Also includes a table with property details and dates.

OMKARA ASSETS RECONSTRUCTION PRIVATE LIMITED. Sale notice for sale of immovable properties. Includes details of the property, reserve price, and EMD. Also includes a table with property details and dates.

Notice Inviting Offer. Sale of Naphtha from Rajahmundry Asset, Andhra Pradesh. Includes details of the offer and contact information.

OMKARA ASSETS RECONSTRUCTION PRIVATE LIMITED. Sale notice for sale of immovable properties. Includes details of the property, reserve price, and EMD. Also includes a table with property details and dates.

No 2024 pact, will take on BJD with full might in Odisha: BJP

SUJIT BISOIYI BHUBANESWAR, DECEMBER 31

THE BJP on Saturday ruled out an electoral alliance with the ruling Biju Janata Dal (BJD) in Odisha for the forthcoming Assembly and general elections. After a day-long brainstorming session of its office-bearers, the party said it will field candidates in all 147 Assembly constituencies and 21 Lok Sabha seats in the state for which it has "prepared a two-month-long action plan".

"The BJP's state observer Sunil Bansal clearly said that there is no possibility of any alliance or understanding with the BJD in Odisha. An impression is being created intentionally about an alliance. The BJP will fight aggressively on its own strength... the central leaders have told us to be ready for the big battle," BJP national spokesperson and Bhubaneswar MP Aparajita Sarangi told reporters. Apart from Bansal, party's co-observer Vijay Pal Singh Tomar was also present in the meeting. On Friday, BJP's national general secretary B L Santosh also held marathon meetings with senior state BJP leaders to discuss the roadmap for the coming polls. BJP leaders, who were part of the meeting, said the party will launch an all-out electoral blitzkrieg against the BJD, led by its central leaders, including PM Modi, Home Minister Amit Shah and other ministers.

Even though the BJP is the principal Opposition party in Odisha, but at the Centre, the leaderships of the two parties enjoy cordial relations. The BJD extended its support to the Modi government on several issues, including during the passage of crucial Bills in Parliament. Amit Shah had hailed CM Naveen Patnaik as the "popular" CM during his visit to the state in August. Patnaik had also praised PM's works by rating him 8 out of 10 during an event in Bhubaneswar in September.

Classifieds FROM ANYTHING TO EVERYTHING. Includes sections for BUSINESS, LOANS, PERSONAL, CHANGE OF NAME, SERVICES, ASTROLOGY, POULTRY, and SITUATIONS VACANT. Also includes an advertisement for VIVA School of Architecture.