

With General Elections 2024 underway, ECI is on track for the highest ever seizures of inducements recorded in the 75-year history of Lok Sabha elections in the country

New Delhi (KCN): With General Elections 2024 underway, ECI is on track for the highest ever seizures of inducements recorded in the 75-year history of Lok Sabha elections in the country. Enforcement Agencies have made a record seizure of over Rs. 4650 crores in ECI's resolute fight against money power even before the first phase of polling for the 18th Lok Sabha elections commences on Friday. This marks a sharp increase over Rs 3475 crores seized during the entire Lok Sabha election in 2019. Significantly, 45% of the

seizures are of drugs and narcotics, that are under the special focus of the Commission. The seizures have been possible by comprehensive planning, scaled up collaboration and unified deterrence action from agencies, proactive citizen participation and optimal engagement of technology. Use of black money, over and above political financing and accurate disclosure thereof, may disturb the level playing field in favour of more resourceful party or candidate in specific geographies. The seizures are a critical part of ECI's resolve to conduct the Lok



Sabha elections free of inducements and electoral malpractices and to ensure a level playing field. CEC Shri Rajiv Kumar, while announcing the polls last month, underlined Money Power as one of the '4M' challenges. On 12th April, Commission led by CEC Shri Rajiv Kumar along with ECs Shri Gyanesh Kumar and Shri Sukhbir Singh Sandhu reviewed all Central Observers deployed in Phase -1 of

elections going to poll on 19th April. Tightening, monitoring and checking were amongst the focus of deliberations to ensure inducement-free electoral process. The enhanced seizures reflect ECI's

unwavering commitment to monitor inducements and curb electoral malpractices for a 'level playing field', particularly in favour of smaller and less resourceful parties. In an incident in Nilgiris, Tamil Nadu, the Commission suspended the flying squad team leader for laxity in duty and selective checking of a cavalcade of a prominent leader. Similarly, officials checked vehicles in the convoy of CM of a state and also vehicle of a Dy CM in another state. Commission has also taken strict action

against approximately 106 government servants who have been found assisting politicians in campaigning, thereby violating the Code of Conduct and instructions. In the press briefing during announcement of Parliamentary elections, CEC Shri Rajiv Kumar stressed in his presentation on strict compliance of BCAS instructions on surveillance and inspection of non-scheduled aircrafts and helicopters by Income tax, airport authorities and SPs of concerned districts, border agencies to keep close watch on international checkposts and GST authorities to closely monitor godowns, especially makeshift godowns meant for storing freebies. The Commission during reviews had always emphasized that there will be multi-pronged surveillance on all modes of transport - check posts and nakas for road transport, Coast guard for coastal routes and DMs and SPs alongside agencies for air routes including checking of helicopters and non-scheduled flights.

Supreme Court issues notice to ED on Delhi CM Kejriwal's plea against arrest



New Delhi (KCN): The Supreme Court Monday issued notice on a plea filed by Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal challenging his arrest and subsequent remand by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) in the excise policy case. Agreeing to examine the matter, a bench presided over by Justice Sanjiv Khanna asked the federal anti-money laundering agency to file its reply by April 24.

The Bench, also comprising Justice Dipankar Datta, allowed the petitioner side to file a rejoinder affidavit, if any, by April 27 to the reply filed by ED. The matter will be taken up next April 29 for further hearing.

Last week, a Bench presided over by Chief Justice of India (CJI) DY Chandrachud agreed to urgently list CM Kejriwal's petition. "Please send an email. I'll look into it," CJI

Chandrachud told senior advocate Abhishek Manu Singhvi, who appeared on behalf of CM Kejriwal and mentioned the matter for urgent hearing. CM Kejriwal has approached the Supreme Court challenging the dismissal of his plea by the Delhi High Court. Earlier, a bench of Justice Swarana Kanta Sharma of the High Court took note

of the ED's submission that the federal anti-money laundering agency had enough material, including statements from approvers and allegations of involvement in the formulation of the excise policy, which had led them to arrest him. It said, "The files and material placed before us reveal that the mandate of law was followed by the ED. The trial court order is not a two-line order. The statements with ED are of hawala dealers as well as AAP candidates in Goa elections."

Immediately after he was taken into custody by the ED March 21, CM Kejriwal moved the apex court seeking an urgent late-night hearing on his petition. But the very next day, before a special Bench of the Supreme Court could commence hearing the matter, he withdrew his plea and decided to contest remand proceedings before the trial court.

temperature would cross 40 degrees Celsius at many places during the next four days. The temperature would be around 38 to 40 degrees Celsius in coastal Odisha while it would be between 39 to 42 degrees Celsius in the interior pockets, it added. Moreover, night temperatures are anticipated to rise by 2 to 4 degrees Celsius in several areas over the next three days.

In light of the heatwave conditions, the IMD has issued a Yellow Warning for Keonjhar, Dhenkanal, Nayagarh, Cuttack, Jajpur, Bhadrak, Khurda, Balasore, Mayurbhanj, Angul, Koraput, Malkangiri, and Kandhamal districts for April 16. Hot and humid weather conditions would prevail at some places over the districts of Puri, Kendrapara, and Jagatsinghpur during the day, it said. Meanwhile, Special Relief Commissioner Satyabrata Sahu has directed collectors to enforce a ban on outdoor activities for labourers and workers during peak hours from 11 am to 3 pm to mitigate heat-related risks. Any non-compliance with these directives will result in strict action in accordance with the Disaster Management Act, 2005, he said.

Odisha: Congress expels MLA Suresh Kumar Routray



held responsible for my adult son joining BJD? I have not done anything wrong. I have told the party that I may not be campaigning in Bhubaneswar as my son is contesting from here as a BJD candidate," he said.

"I will remain in the Congress till my death despite my expulsion from the party. My son has received a BJD ticket for the 2024 Lok Sabha polls. But, that does not mean that I am involved in anti-party activities. Many Congress leaders in Odisha have flouted the party discipline and were involved in anti-party activities. However, no action was taken against them," said the Jatni MLA.

Lok Sabha Constituency. The veteran leader has denied any wrongdoing and said he had resigned from all poll-related committees of Congress after his son became a BJD candidate. Claiming that he had a relationship with Congress for over five decades, Routray said he would remain in the Congress till his last breath. "I will take the matter to the party high command and tell them how can I be

Classical Music Concert "SWAR SUDHA", organized by Kalinga Kala Kshetra at Triveni Kala Sangam, Mandi House, New Delhi on 14th April 2024



New Delhi (KCN): In memory of India's one of the finest and renowned



Hindustani violinist Dr Swarna Khuntia (Ex-Faculty Violin, Banaras Hindu University), Kalinga Kala Kshetra - Odisha's one of the oldest and reputed cultural institutions has organized classical music concert SWAR SUDHA at Delhi's famous Triveni Kala Sangam, Mandi House on 14 April 2024, 6 pm. India's one of the Tabla maestro legendary Guru Pt. Harmohan

Khuntia's solo Tabla recital is a rare music event in Delhi after several decades. Youth sensation and one of the best young violinists in present time Shri Yadnesh Raikar's violin recital is hard to miss, particularly among the youth. Promising and young flutist and student at Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi Shri Shubhakant Sahoo's flute recital is another attraction of the event. Many reputed persons, senior musicians, special invitees, music lovers and other are participating in the concert despite of a long holidays. Prof. Basanta Sahu, the convenor of the concert has informed to the press that annual music concert SWAR SUDHA is event regularly organized by Kalinga Kala Kshetra at Delhi and Bhubaneswar to promote Classical music and encourage youth participation in music with a meaningful outcome for the society. A copy of the program schedule, invitation and brief of artists are attached for your reference.

Rourkela gears up for Ram Navami

Rourkela (KCN): Preparations are on in full swing to celebrate Ram Navami in this city and adjoining areas grandly Wednesday, various people associated with the programmes informed Sunday. They added security measures have also been tightened keeping in mind that this is the election year. Administrative officials said 58 associations have filed applications to take out immersion processions. The 'Akhadas' usually play a dominant role during Ram Navami celebrations. Most of them are busy giving the finishing touches to the

various themes or concepts on which the processions will be based. However, most of them are not ready to share the concepts as each of the 'Akhadas' wants to stand out with their show. Subash Verma, of 'Bajrangbali Akhada', one of the oldest in this city said, "At this moment, we can't disclose our theme. However, we will surprise the audience. All I can tell you is that we are now giving the finishing touches to our preparations." The district administration has issued strict orders to all organisations participating in the

celebrations to maintain peace and harmony. Decorations of roads and setting up of colourful lights have already been completed. The stretch between Bisra Chowk till Udit Nagar, just a shade more than two kilometres, has been decorated in such a manner that it looks like an extension of the inauguration of the Ram

Temple in Ayodhya earlier this year. "Ram Navami is a very important occasion for us. Hence we have to celebrate it in the right manner and spirit," said Gursharan Singh, a resident of this city. Officials meanwhile informed that roads through which processions will pass Wednesday will be

washed with cow dung and water. The demand for various varieties of sweets has also escalated. "I have stopped taking any more orders because of a shortage of hands," said the owner of a shop in this city. Many clubs have also set up 'welcome stalls' for people participating in the processions. "We will distribute sweets and cold drinks to people joining the processions," said Ramesh, a youth who resides near the old taxi stand here. Most of the shops and other business houses have decorated their establishments. "We

offer puja both at home and at the shop to seek the blessings of Lord Ram," said Binod Agarwal, owner of a very old electronic shop here. Meantime, administrative officials held a meeting Saturday with the organisations that will take part in the immersion processions. They have been asked to carry out the immersions between 2.00 pm to 7.00 pm. Organisers have also been informed that all processions will terminate at Udit Nagar locality here.



Devotees throng Tarini temple on occasion of 'Pana Sankranti'



Keonjhar (KCN): The Odia New Year is observed as 'Maha Bishuba Pana Sankranti'. On the occasion of New Year, thousands of devotees from all over the state thronged to the Tarini temple at Ghatagaon in this district to watch the Suna Besha (golden attire) ritual of the deity, Sunday. Devotees stood in line in front of the temple to offer puja and get a glimpse of the deity decked up in gold ornaments. They also observed the 'Chaiti

Parva' ritual. The servitors distributed 'pana' a soft drink prepared by mixing various fruits, black pepper, grated paneer and curd, to all the devotees who visited the temple on the auspicious occasion. Officials of the temple management committee informed that rituals and puja started from 5.00 am Sunday. Later the gates were opened for the devotees after completion of the rituals. The temple and local administration had

made elaborate arrangements so that the devotees could appropriately celebrate the occasion. Special queues for elderly and physically challenged persons and women were also arranged. Coolers were installed at strategic locations to help devotees get respite from the blistering heat. Police also made proper arrangements for seamless movement of traffic. Various cultural programmes were organised within the temple premises for the devotees. Officials informed that the programmes will continue for five more days. Cultural events like 'Chhau dance', Puppet shows and 'Ghoda dance' will be held. Devotional programmes like 'Bhajan Samaraoh' by eminent singers will also be held during this period. Earlier the festival at the temple was celebrated only on the first day of the Odia New Year. However, since 1937, it has been held over six days, officials informed.

BIRTH ANNIVERSARY OF DR. B.R. AMBEDKAR OBSERVED AT EAST COAST RAILWAY



Bhubaneswar (KCN): East Coast Railway observed the Birth anniversary of Bharat Ratna Dr. B. R. Ambedkar at its headquarters at Rail Sadan, Bhubaneswar.

General Manager (I/C), Shri Mohes Kumar Behera, led the officials of East Coast Railway in paying homage through floral tributes to the architect of the

Constitution of India. Shri Siddharth Kati, Principal Chief Personnel Officer, coordinated the programme. Ambedkar Jayanti was also observed in all the Divisional Headquarters of East Coast Railway at Khurda Road, Waltair & Sambalpur by respective Divisional Railway Managers.

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Encountering Time

If you want to see the culture of reading and books, you should go to India's North East. Among the North Eastern States, I always felt at home in Tripura as I know the language. My first visit to Tripura was in the year 2001. And, before relinquishing the post of Director, Information, PR and Culture of North Eastern Region, I tried my best to make it and finally made it to visit Tripura as I was not sure if I will visit Tripura soon after going back to NBT.

Time has changed, so is Tripura. While coming to airport I visited residence of Ashish Sinha, my long time colleague from NBT, he invited my friend Sanjay and me for lunch. It was amazing to see an apartment in the place where Tripura Darpan Office used to be at one point of time.

First time when I visited Agartala, my poet friend Chandrakant

Murasingh took me to Tripura Darpan Office for a meeting with its editor Samiran Da'. After a few minutes discussion Sameeran Da indicated that I can go to the first floor. 'But our discussion has already taken place, why to the first floor?' I was amazed and didn't go. 'OK,' Sameeran Da' said and we left the place. On the way Chandrakant a Murasingh told me, 'How silly, he was inviting you to the Adda and you refused?'

Then he divulged the truth. The first floor of Tripura Darpan was literally an Adda of artists, authors, journalists and intellectuals. Later, every time I visited Agartala I have been to that First Floor of Tripura Darpan as desired by Samiran Da' and Ratu Da', my elder brother cult in Agartala.

That building of Tripura Darpan is now not there. Sameeran

Da's father must have built it with a lot of love and efforts. But his sons have preferred to give it to a builder! They may have in return got a new one with several benefits, but what about the love and feelings that the old house had? Three years ago I was surprised to see a new Agartala, full of apartments. There is not much traffic as population has not much increased in the last 20 years, but all roads have traffic lights. Globalisation has killed the innocence that our forefathers carefully preserved for us for several years!

It so happened that my senior friend Dr Sanjay Panda became the Chief Secretary of the state. I was coming to Agartala to discuss with Subhabrata Deb (Ratu Da') of Akshar Publications for holding an event to promote sale of NBT books. I requested Dr Panda for a room in the State Guest

House. Then what happened was amazing. I was welcomed at the airport by a senior officer of the Education Department with a bouquet of flowers. Then, an Ambassador Car with a Protocol Officer took me to State Guest House. To my surprise, I was declared a State Guest!

I also addressed the top officers of Education Department at SCERT. My scheduled programme circulated to all by State Government also included a meeting with the Chief Secretary at Secretariat and with local publishers at Akshar Publications. My friends in NBT did not believe when I told this incidence to them. Rather, they felt, 'I am telling lie.' They confirmed it from Subhabrata Deb Ratu Da'. I just laughed by seeing their silliness. How envious people can be, it continues today

too with me as I got a lot of reputation as once Director, North Eastern Council. A very interesting thing once happened. Vice Chancellor of Tripura University invited me for a meeting and we met two decades back in a Media Conference at Hyderabad. Alas, this time Media Conclave organisers in Odisha did not bother to send me an invitation whereas I used to get invitations from throughout the country and abroad before Covid took the centre stage. In Odia we call it 'Gaan Kania Singhaniaki.'

Ashees Gupta, Professor in English once invited me to his department to teach the skill of editing to research scholars. One of the scholars there remembered my popularity in DU as a guest teacher of Editing. This gave me a lot of happiness and satisfaction. Ashes and I have long

association. I invited him to Goa Arts and Literature Festival and several other Festivals throughout the country. He has translated a lot of poems from Kokborok and Bengali to English. That is the best service by a Professor of English to make writings of his language or languages he knows available to readers of other languages through translation. But in Odisha, most of our English Professors prefer to write in Odia as they don't have much confidence on their ability of writing in English. Pravat Nalini and Bidhubhusan Das were exceptions, they translated a number of monumental works into English.

But once Ashes understood that I am of no use, he threw me off the list of Resource Persons which happens with me also in Odisha these days though I promoted many in the

state for three decades. I am interested in my post retirement life to work for promotion of reading in Odisha, but nobody wants to use my expertise. Political leadership in the state is corrupt and inefficient. This is at least not there in the Central Universities. Once I was Chief Guest in the valedictory programme of PLANNER 2018 at Tripura University. PLANNER is the largest programme on books, reading habits and library. I recollect how I used to walk 6 kms everyday to read books in Ramakrishna Mission Library at Puri 45 years back. Incidentally, theme of PLANNER at Tripura was 'Rejuvenating Academic Library as a Social Hub'.

'But the society we talk about consists of hardly one percent of the Indian population.', I

said. We do a lot of academic activities in the country and have no idea about the ground realities. Then I recited my favourite Lok Geet that we used to sing in Lok Jumbish Teachers' Workshops on Readers' Club two decades ago... 'Asli Hindustan toh footpathpar Aabad hai.'

Is our government at the centre interested to have an autonomous organisation for promotion of libraries for reading habits among children and young adults in the country?

Visiting Professor of Development Communication
Former Director, I & PR and Culture, North Eastern Council Ministry of DoNER, Govt. of India

Former Director, Book Publishing Courses & Editor, NCCL National Book Trust, Ministry of HRD, Govt. of India

OBSESSIVE - COMPULSIVE DISORDER - FAQs

Dr. Samrat Kar



Obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD) is an anxiety disorder manifested by either obsessions and / or compulsions that cause significant distress or dysfunction in social or personal areas. Obsessions are thoughts and are defined as 'recurrent, persistent ideas, images or impulses that are a significant source of distress or interfere with social or role functioning.' Compulsions are behaviors or mental acts that are repetitive, purposeful, and intentional and performed in response to an obsession or according to certain rules or in a stereotypical fashion.' The thoughts or behaviors cause distress, are resisted at least initially, do not form part of a psychosis, and are recognized as senseless.

Anxiety is central feature of OCD, and the repetitive behaviors or mental acts are often a means to neutralize the distress associated with obsessions. Features of Obsessive - Compulsive Disorder : Recurrent and

effective treatments for OCD? Definitely. There are two primary modes of treatment for OCD behavioral and pharmacologic. Behavioral therapy generally is effective for checking and washing rituals. It is symptom focused and goal directed and may be accomplished in as few as a dozen sessions, depending on symptom severity. Motivation and compliance are important factors in success. Primary treatment for compulsive rituals consists of exposure and response prevention. Such techniques involve a graded progressive exposure to the anxiety inducing stimulus with prevention of the associated ritualistic response.

A number of medications have demonstrated efficacy in treating OCDs. All are potent selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs) and effective antidepressants. Clomipramine, fluoxetine, sertraline, paroxetine, and fluvoxamine. Medications are prescribed according to age, weight and severity of illness. As there are chance of side effects, one should not take medications without psychiatrist consultation.

Psychiatrist, The Brain Foundation, Purighat Road, Cuttack, Mob. : 9132433333

Are there any

Ambedkar:- The father of Constitution and soul of the Wounded Society

Uma Shankar Prasad



Baba Saheb Ambedkar was not the leader only of the lower castes as many people seem to think. He was the soul of the wounded society whose thinking covered entire country, entire populace and the entire history. The mission of Ambedkar's life was the establishment of human dignity, development of self-respect among the downtrodden classes and attainment of self-salvation. In a word, it was man-making!

Ambedkar was a great teacher who taught the common man to have belief in his potential power, to rouse it up, to develop it, and to stand on his own feet. Man should not think that he was a mere nobody, that he was good for nothing and that he was a helpless log. His advice to the down trodden classes. And especially to young men, was exemplary. He asked them to be confident on their self, on their own efforts, to trust and

exercise their own intelligence and to seek refuge in reason. To him nothing is more sacred than learning.

He created our Constitution to take care of the aspirations of every Indian irrespective of caste, creed, religion, region, culture or language. He had an all encompassing outlook. His championing the cause of the untouchables was a natural act. Born in that community he bore the brunt of the prejudices and excesses of the upper castes who lost no opportunity to wound his soul.

Without untouchables getting their due rights the entire exercise of winning political freedom would have been useless.

In fact, the Independence could have aggravated their misery as the political power would have been transferred to the very classes which were responsible for dalit oppression and all their woes. The salvation of Hindu Society and the redemption of the country lay only through the upliftment and welfare of the long suffering dalit classes. By fighting for dalit and down trodden rights Dr. Ambedkar was

serving the larger interests of the Hindu Society. It is said that the 'Charity begins at home'. Many people deliberately belittle the achievements of Dr. Ambedkar and keep referring to him as dalit leader to deny him his rightful place in the history as a great national leader.

Such people betray their own small mindedness and myopic outlook. They simply can't digest the fact of a Dalit leader cornering glory and achieving great heights. But the 'The truth prevails'. His life shows the sadism and depravity of our society. What he suffered due to his birth in an Untouchable family makes every sane head hang in shame for being part of same society.

It is my humble request to every young reader must read the life story of Dr. Ambedkar to understand the weaknesses of our society, the very reasons of our downfall and failures. Sometimes the incidents of his life read like horror stories. It is very inspiring and profitable to learn how he fought against heavy odds, braved all hardships, endured all humiliations and survived all the mental tortures to become a great learned

man respected the world over. He wrote thesis after thesis on hungry stomach to gain Doctorate. Without money in his pocket he wrote theories on Economics. By jealous people he was called as a traitor, enemy agent, anti-national and the destroyer of the country.

But he showed a heart large enough to forget and forgive those unkind words when he was asked to prepare the 'Constitution' of India. It was an impressive story. When the British Government accepted the demands of Dr. Ambedkar. It created a storm in India. Gandhiji had been put in jail on his return, he wrote to the Viceroy; 'The separate constituency and reservation to backward castes will be injustice to the country. It will lead to disintegration of my country. To save it, I am going on 'fast unto death'.

The untouchables, whom I call Harijans can not be taken away from the Hindu Society.' National leaders appealed to Dr. Ambedkar to withdraw his 'Memorandum of demands' in the interest of the country and to save the life of Mahatma Gandhi. But Ambedkar did not agree. He

remarked, 'All kinds of demands by upper caste Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs and Christians don't worry him. He only gets worried to death when we, untouchable ask for our just rights'.

After getting this message Gandhiji wrote to him from Poona jail; 'Dear Dr. Ambedkar, don't divide the country. Save Hindus. I have full sympathies for your cause. My life is in your hands. Do as you deem fit'. National leaders trooped to Dr. Ambedkar had to bow to their wishes though it appeared a blatant blackmail. He met Gandhiji and agreed to a 10 point formula on 24th September, 1932. It was evident that the promise of Poona Pact would prove a mirage. Though it saved the precious life of Gandhiji yet it is only a matter of guess as to what and how much Harijans lost.

I salute to this great Godly embodiment soul in his 132 birth day, the story of this untouchable great son of India touches every Indian heart that has conscience.

Columnist, Khurda, (63706 75562)

Modi-Shah efforts: BJP set to sweep NE states



various peace accords. Due to robust internal security measures, there have been no major violent incidents reported across the region, with the exception of Manipur, where the Home Ministry is actively working towards a concrete solution. India's Northeast comprises the eight border states of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, and Tripura. The region accounts for 25 seats in the 543 seat-Lok Sabha, the lower house of the Indian Parliament. States in the region will vote on April 19 and 26 and May 7.

Assam holds the highest number with 14 seats. In the 2019 Lok Sabha elections, the NDA secured 21 out of the 25 seats. The BJP aims to surpass this figure in the upcoming elections. Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma of the BJP, who is convener of the North East Democratic Alliance, a BJP-led bloc in the Northeast, claims that the NDA would win 22

seats across the region in the upcoming general elections. Discussions with political functionaries from different parties revealed that the BJP and its allies have an edge in 20 constituencies. The contest in the remaining five is expected to be tough.

remaining three. In 2019, the BJP won 9 seats from Assam. The UPPL and AGP failed to secure victories from their allocated constituencies. So far, the INDIA alliance has not shown any significant interest or investment in the northeastern states. Mamata Banerjee's

party and political existence. Similarly, Mamata Banerjee is facing challenges at home due to allegations of corruption and communal disturbances. The trust placed in the BJP by the people of the Northeast stems from the active focus on development and peace

efforts in this regard. In his recent meeting in Shillong, Amit Shah said that the last 10 years under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi have been the most significant for the development of the Northeast in the 75 years since independence. These 10 years under the leadership of Modi Ji, not only the distance from Northeast to Delhi and the rest of India has reduced due to the creation of infrastructure, but the difference of hearts has also reduced. The Northeast, which was struggling with various ethnic, linguistic, border and extremist groups related problems, has also got the beginning of a fresh and durable era of peace in these 10 years.

It goes without saying that if these 10 years for the Northeast are compared with the 75 years after the country's independence, then this decade will definitely be considered as the Golden period of the Northeast. In a recent historic development, the Government of India and

the Government of Manipur signed a peace agreement with the United National Liberation Front (UNLF), one of the oldest armed groups in Manipur. This agreement paves the way for a new era of peace in the Northeast in general, and Manipur in particular. It marks the first time that a valley-based Manipuri armed group has agreed to renounce violence, return to the mainstream, and respect the Constitution of India and the country's laws. The agreement will not only end hostilities between the UNLF and security forces, which have claimed thousands of lives over the past half-century but will also provide an opportunity to address the community's long-standing concerns. The UNLF has been active since 1964, operating both within and outside Indian territory.

Meanwhile, The Central Government is making all possible efforts to support development of sports in the North-Eastern states through funding. All essential steps are being taken to support the NE States, and the Government is positively and continuously sanctioning the proposals received from the NE, including Nagaland. Under Khelo India Scheme, the second Khelo India Games were held in Guwahati. Given this backdrop, it looks that NE states would give positive results to BJP in the forthcoming Lok Sabha election.

The Author is a Delhi based columnist and former Editor



In Assam, which has the highest number of seats (14) among all the northeastern states, the ruling BJP has fielded candidates in 11 constituencies and its allies – the Asom Gana Parishad (AGP) and the United People's Party Liberal (UPPL) – will contest from the

TMC and Sharad Pawar's NCP had made independent attempts to gain a foothold in the region during the previous elections, but this time, their efforts seem to be absent. This is primarily because Sharad Pawar is currently engaged in a battle with his nephew to maintain control over his

initiatives undertaken by PM Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah over the past decade. Although Manipur has only 2 Lok Sabha seats, resolving the ongoing tribal conflict there is crucial for the government. Home Minister Amit Shah has been making continuous

Role of education in shaping India



The significance of ethical education and interdisciplinary approaches in promoting societal change and nation-building cannot be overstated.

The lives of students are amidst a major transformation, largely due to rapidly changing value systems across the globe. However, this transformation, driven solely by acquisition, is unlikely to yield positive results. Instead, it risks turning education, a highly revered institution, into a mere business venture where success is measured solely by material possessions. Moral and ethical education stands as the key to success, enabling the new generation to embrace values and approaches that can nurture the creative urges of the student community within an environment marked by rapid change. Nevertheless, we must acknowledge the challenges posed by this transitional phase.

Keywords such as knowledge, wisdom, creativity, motivation and encouragement are prerequisites for a

successful education system. A competent education system must possess an inner strength capable of deploying myriad strategies to tackle unforeseen challenges. Fostering the latest skills and transmitting new moral codes and cognitive thinking subtly are crucial areas that can lay a robust foundation for the development of India campaign.

While our education system is known for embracing values and approaches that shape the creative urges of students and academicians, it faces increasing challenges during this transitional phase. Efforts must be made to bridge the gap in existing knowledge regarding the contemporary importance of interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary studies. Higher education institutions in India need to enrich each discipline with diverse content and ideas. Even science students should be exposed to international, national, socio-political and economic issues through multidisciplinary practices, as initiated by NEP 2020. Such policies serve as catalysts for innovation and foster academic collaboration across multiple disciplines and institutions of higher learning.

In recent years, there has been substantial

change in the content and nature of various disciplines, with a focused approach to integrating real-life experiments of democracy, the environment, globalisation and governance into the new education system framework. It's crucial to demonstrate how

skills have propelled us forward, overcoming tertiary constraints and fostering innovation. Remarkable initiatives have focused on connectivity and developing new connections, rather than relying solely on the market or cut-throat competition. As Lucy Larcom once said, "If

workshops can help develop skills through critical thinking and diverse forms of expression. Ethics transcends clichés, prompting a shift from what is to what ought to be. It's essential to instil a strong sense of responsibility alongside artistic and academic freedom. Despite years



new higher education approaches can drive change and instil confidence among the masses. The latest research and developments in education globally should be disseminated to upgrade research and teaching accordingly. The strength of the higher education system lies in its internal dynamism, ensuring inclusive growth and contributing significantly to the developed India Campaign. India's entrepreneurial

the world seems cold to you, kindle fire to warm it." This sentiment rings true for our forgotten appreciation of traditional values and ethics. The vision of India can be achieved by nurturing creativity and responsibility among students, equipping them with moral knowledge and employable skills. This not only broadens ethical horizons and enhances decision-making capabilities but also clarifies what is ethically and morally correct. Practical approaches and

of efforts to eliminate major threats, terrorism, caste violence and class conflict persist. Blaming others for these issues is naive; we must acknowledge our role in them. Preservation of identity is important, but efforts to preserve cultural, linguistic, regional or religious identities sometimes damage the socio-political system's fabric. The world also faces the spread of narrow-minded faith, but history shows that such faith seldom survives. A robust education system

is needed to cultivate responsibility among the youth, playing a pivotal role in achieving our nation's development goals.

Sensitising students and society through low-cost, intense webinars can be highly effective in this regard, particularly in an era of rapid globalisation. Mass media can play a role in political and social mobilisation, with student participation facilitating mass sensitisation. Improving course content through academic discourse and introducing innovative mechanisms in social sciences can enhance the relevance of education. Academic programmes and services should provide supplemental support to teaching and learning, fostering community development both inside and outside the classroom. Research centres should be established to ensure academic excellence in social sciences.

Intellectual skills should prepare students to engage with socio-economic and political issues on a global scale, fostering collaboration with stakeholders from other institutions. Community education programmes should encourage lifelong learning. To enhance student standards, self-academic orientation and excellence should be developed, incorporating problem-

solving and inquiry-based learning activities in a collaborative environment. A new syllabus should provide insight into the problem of terrorism and its causes, paving the way for a comprehensive strategy to combat it. Understanding the nexus between organised crime and terrorism is crucial. Cultural exchanges among students can promote harmony and creativity, transcending social divisions. It's imperative to focus on empirical and normative understandings to address societal concerns effectively. The Government's inspiring vision for the future is promising, positioning India at the forefront globally.

In conclusion, the transformative journey of education towards Viksit Bharat@2047 necessitates a holistic approach, emphasising moral and ethical education alongside academic excellence. The challenges posed by rapid global changes require proactive measures to bridge knowledge gaps and foster interdisciplinary collaboration. It is imperative to instil a sense of responsibility and cultivate creativity among students to address contemporary issues effectively. Efforts should focus on integrating real-life experiences into the

**Retired Principal
Educational
columnist
malout, Punjab**

KIMS Hospital Opens State-of-the-Art Stroke Center for Advanced Care

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Kalinga Institute of Medical Sciences (KIMS) today announced the grand opening of its new comprehensive Stroke Center, providing the region with cutting-edge resources to combat the devastating effects of stroke. The center offers a dedicated team of stroke specialists, the latest in diagnostic and treatment technologies, and a commitment to rapid, patient-centered care. "Stroke is a time-critical medical emergency, these patients need to reach the hospital within 4 and half hours of stroke, to prevent maximum damage to the brain said



Dr. Santosh Ku Dash, Associate professor and head of Neurology, KIMS. This new Stroke Center ensures our patients have access to the most advanced care available, delivered by experts who understand

the urgency of stroke treatment. With every minute saved, we increase the chances of a positive outcome." The KIMS Hospital Stroke Center offers a full spectrum of advanced stroke care. This includes 24/7 access to stroke specialists, rapid diagnostic imaging (such as CT scans and MRIs), timely administration of clot-busting medications, and minimally invasive clot removal procedures when necessary. Patients

also benefit from a specialized stroke unit with expert care and comprehensive rehabilitation programs focused on regaining function and independence. "The opening of this Stroke Center is a major step forward for healthcare in Odisha. We're proud to offer this vital service, giving stroke patients the best possible chance of recovery. We extend our sincerest gratitude to Dr. Achyuta Samanta, founder of KIIT, for his unwavering support in making this a reality. KIMS Hospital is a leading healthcare provider in Odisha, committed to delivering exceptional medical care across a wide range of specialties.

Plastic Free Pana Yatra- An Effort towards Chilika's Ecosystem Conservation Campaign



Bhubaneswar(KCN): Humara Bachpan Trust has taken up an initiative to solve the litter problem during the festival 'Pana Sankranti' titled as Plastic Free Pana Yatra-An Effort towards Chilika's Ecosystem Conservation Campaign" 2024 in the area of Deulapada

village of Krushnaprasad block Puri District. More than 60,000 people from different parts of Odisha come every day to be the part of this beautiful cultural event, marked with traditional dancing and nightlong celebrations throughout 5 days. The

festival ends up with tons and tons of litters thrown everywhere which gets deposited gradually at the border line of Chilika lake, as the fair ground is just 200 meters away from island of Chilika lake. One form of waste that is posing the biggest challenge to this festival

is the single use plastic items such as water bottles, plastic spoons, cups, food wrappers, polythene etc. Unfortunately, there has been no waste collection or recycling plan is adapted to such large amounts of waste generated from the fair and the attendees. Plastic litters are entering into coastal ecosystems is not only affecting the lives of marine inhabitants, but also causing coastal erosion becoming a serious concern for coastal communities residing in the low lying areas. Last year the campaign was inaugurated by Divisional Forest Officer (DFO), Chilika Wildlife Division and launched to manage nearly 2.75 tons of plastic wastes being accumulated at Chilika coastline. This year, a cadre of 100 women of

Gomundia Gram Panchayat Level Federation (GPLF) came forward to do the mass cleanliness drive and collected 125 kgs of plastic waste on day 1 of the Pana festival. The women Eco Change makers are also engaged guiding the festival attendees on the waste disposal process at key waste generation areas, including the Food Park and picking up every single waste to ensure that the festival ground remains clean always. The program has been carried out to enhance climate resilient livelihoods among the people of 185 coastal villages of Chilika landscape with special emphasis on the most vulnerable populations, particularly women in coordination with Forest, Environment & Climate Change Department, Govt. of Odisha.

"Youth Were Compelled To Take Up Guns": Amit Shah Attacks Communists



Government of India ensured a dignified life for the displaced Bru migrants who were forced to live in hell-like situations.

"The BJP-led centre has set up new villages for them across the state. And, they are now living a dignified life," said Mr Shah.

Highlighting the hike in fund allocations for Tripura, the Home Minister said, "When Congress government was in power for two terms, Tripura received ₹ 40,183 crore in total from the central government. Under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's ten years, Tripura has received ₹ 98,000 crore. Additionally, ₹ 20,000 crore was sanctioned for

secured and instances of cross-border infiltration reduced by 90 per cent. If PM Modi gets a third term, infiltration through international borders will stop completely," Mr Shah added.

The Home Minister slammed the Communist Party for its attempts to erase the accomplishments and pro-people activities of Maharaja Bir Bikram Kishore Manikya from history.

"Prime Minister Narendra Modi-led central government in an act of showing respect to the glorious king renamed Agartala International Airport in his name. His statue was set up at the airport entrance as well. A statue of the king who worked extensively for the interest of his people will be set up in the tribal museum as well," Mr Shah added.

Stating that the development of tribal areas is a priority of the central government, the Union Home Minister said, "Recently we have

signed an accord with Tipra Motha Party. The opposition parties, especially communists are trying hard to spew venom against this agreement. I would like to assure every citizen of this state, that all the problems faced by the Janajati people will be solved. This is my commitment. The Prime Minister has announced that three crore more houses will be built under the centrally sponsored housing scheme.

I want to assure all my tribal brothers and sisters that not a single person from the indigenous communities will be left out of the scheme. We will ensure that each of the tribal citizens can have his own house."

Mr Shah also lauded

Chief Minister Dr Manik Saha and his predecessor

Biplab Kumar Deb for

their contribution to the

development of Tripura.

He said, "Under the

leadership of both the

leaders Tripura has now

started walking on the

path of development

rejecting all and refusing

all sorts of negativity.

PFA the brief note and photo for your kind information and consideration



Bhubaneswar(KCN): Miracle at Birth: 1.1 kg Newborn Saved from Rare Condition by Paediatric Surgeons

Subheading: Department of Paediatric Surgery achieves remarkable feat in rescuing fragile newborn from life-threatening duodenal atresia

In a remarkable display

of medical prowess, the Department of Paediatric Surgery at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Bhubaneswar has achieved a monumental success by saving the life of a 1.1 kg very low birth weight newborn afflicted with duodenal atresia, an exceptionally rare condition.

The infant, whose name is being withheld for privacy reasons, was born prematurely with duodenal atresia in our hospital, a congenital anomaly characterized by a blockage in the first part of the small intestine known as the duodenum. This condition, occurring in approximately 1 in 10,000 live births, poses a significant threat to the newborn's life if not promptly addressed.

The surgical intervention involved delicate procedures aimed at correcting the obstruction in the duodenum and restoring the normal flow of nutrients through the digestive tract. Despite the inherent risks associated with operating on such a fragile newborn, the surgical team demonstrated exceptional skill and precision throughout the procedure. Following the successful surgery, the newborn was closely monitored in the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) a team of Neonatology doctors, led by Dr. Tapas Som, Dr. Pankaj Mohanty, Dr. Jagadish Sahoo, Dr. Tanushree Sahoo; provided round-the-clock care to ensure the baby's stable recovery. Despite initial concerns regarding

post-operative complications, the infant exhibited remarkable resilience, surpassing all expectations with each passing day.

"We are thrilled to report that the newborn has responded exceptionally well to treatment and is making steady progress towards recovery," remarked Dr. Manoj Mohanty. "This case serves as a testament to the collaborative efforts of our team and the unwavering determination to overcome even the most challenging medical obstacles."

The successful outcome of this complex case has not only brought immense relief to the newborn's family but also garnered widespread recognition for the Department of Paediatric Surgery at AIIMS Bhubaneswar. It underscores the pivotal role of specialized paediatric care in saving the lives of the most vulnerable members of society. A similar case, 1.1kg premature baby with jejunal atresia was successfully managed by the same team a few weeks ago.

As the infant prepares to embark on the journey of growth and development, the remarkable success story serves as a beacon of hope for countless families grappling with similar medical challenges. It reaffirms the commitment of healthcare professionals to push the boundaries of medical science in pursuit of better outcomes for all. In the wake of this extraordinary achievement, the Department of Paediatric Surgery at AIIMS Bhubaneswar remains steadfast in its mission to deliver excellence in paediatric healthcare, setting new benchmarks in the field of neonatal surgery and inspiring hope for a brighter, healthier future.

Rahul Gandhi Calls Wayanad "Most Beautiful Place On Earth", Wants Mother To Visit

Wayanad (Kerala)(KCN): Congress leader Rahul Gandhi said on Monday Wayanad is the most beautiful place on earth and expressed his intention to invite his mother and senior party leader, Sonia Gandhi, to visit and stay there for a few days.

While addressing party workers during a roadshow in Sultan Bathery in the hill district earlier in the day, the Wayanad MP stated that whenever he visits the area, he feels like he is coming home.

Mr Gandhi said he will urge his mother to visit Wayanad.

"I was telling (K) Venugopal today that whenever I come here, I feel like coming home. Now I am going to pressure my mother to stay with you for one week or ten days. I

would tell her to come for one month, but she has a slight problem with humidity. But I told her that you are missing the most beautiful place on earth," Mr Gandhi

The picturesque hill



district of Wayanad, nestled within the Western Ghats, has garnered widespread acclaim as a haven for outdoor enthusiasts and nature lovers alike. Its rich biodiversity, encompassing diverse flora and fauna, continues to captivate tourists, establishing it as a perennial favorite destination over the years.

Admin takes hand fan route to sensitise voters

Rayagada(KCN): The district administration here has found an innovative way to educate and create awareness among the voters for the upcoming Lok Sabha and Assembly elections. The move has drawn appreciation from various quarters. Officials informed that the administration is using bamboo-made hand fans to conduct voter awareness programmes and to attract them to polling stations to cast their votes. Almost all the bamboo-made fans being sold in this district have messages



concerning the upcoming polls. The messages ask voters to turn out in large numbers and to cooperate for a free, fair, impartial and peaceful election. A slogan in the local dialect, 'Muin Misha Vote Debi' (I will vote in the election) is written in most of the bamboo fans. It is bound to attract attention. As per the schedule, three Assembly constituencies in this district will go to polls May 13. They are Rayagada, Bissam Cuttack and Gunupur. The

district administration is trying to ensure 100 per cent turnout in all the booths of these constituencies. Officials said if it

happens, it will certainly be a victory for democracy. This year, around 32,189 new voters will cast their votes for the first time in this district. The administration is also conducting awareness programmes in tribal areas to educate them about their rights and encourage them to cast votes. The district registered 75 per cent

polling in the 2019 elections. "Hopefully this time around, we can achieve the 100 per cent mark," said an official of the district administration. The use of bamboo fans for creating awareness has been beneficial for the people who make them. With the district administration buying large quantities of fans, the earnings of the artisans have also increased. Details of most of the polling booths have been inscribed on the fans through traditional Saura paintings known as 'Idital'. Rayagada sub-collector Kalyani

Sanghamitra Devi said that the district administration decided to use bamboo fans to create voter awareness on the direction of Collector Manoj Satyawan Mahajan. The fans are being used in the awareness programmes as it is cost-efficient and environment friendly, Devi said.

Some of these fans also have details of the various Apps that can be used during the elections like the 'Sakhya App' for disabled persons and 'cVigil APP'. This move by the district administration has been appreciated by the local residents, informed Devi

Drop in turtle numbers sparks concern

Kendrapara(KCN): The decline in the number of Olive Ridley turtles for mass nesting at Gahirmatha Marine Sanctuary near Bhitaranika National Park in this district for the last two years has sparked concern among the environmentalists, sources said Sunday. According to an official report, 5.11 lakh Olive Ridley turtles had laid eggs at Gahirmatha in 2022. The number decreased slightly, to around five lakh in 2023. However, this year the drop in the number of turtles visiting the sanctuary is alarming. According to official estimates, only three lakh turtles have arrived at Gahirmatha. This massive decline in numbers has sparked fears of drastic climate changes or some massive natural disaster in the offing. Hemant Kumar Rout, secretary of 'Gahirmatha Marine Turtles and Mangrove Protection Committee', environmentalists Khitish Kumar Singh and Srikant Nayak said there are several reasons behind the decrease in numbers. They pointed out that erosion and loss of land mass is one of the main reasons behind the



decrease in several turtles visiting the sanctuary. As the land is being gobbled up by the sea, the nesting places of the turtles are also being reduced. Hence many turtles are staying away from the sanctuary, pointed out Nayak. Rout on the other hand, added that the only way to stop the erosion is through a plantation of mangroves. "However, awareness programmes about the importance of mangroves and the plantation drive have not been properly implemented," he pointed out. The three informed that the mushrooming prawn gheries in Bhitaranika National Park have a role to play in soil erosion. They said that the chemical laced water released from these gheries acts as a 'killer'

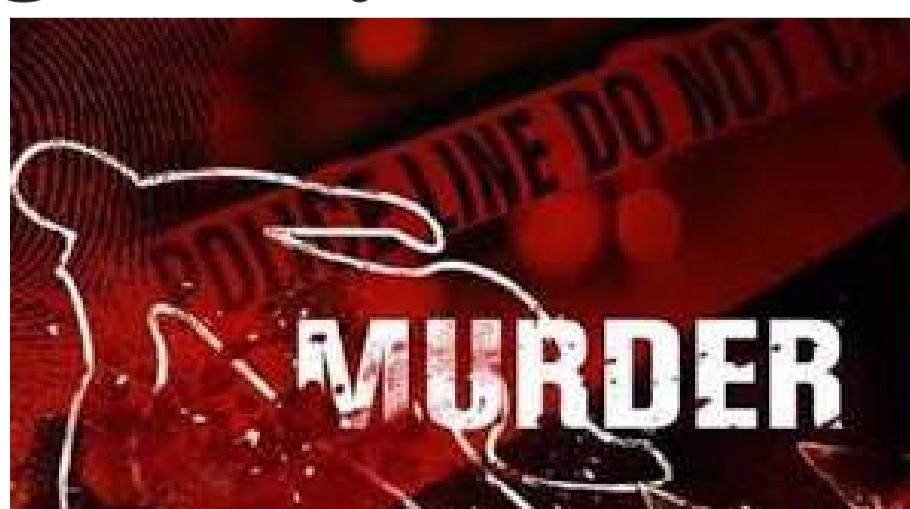
for whatever little mangrove plantation is there. The toxic water also affects the turtles and hence it may be another reason why a lesser number of turtles are visible in Gahirmatha this year. Fishermen and changes in climate are the other main reasons why there is a decrease in the number of turtles. Despite bans, fishermen enter prohibited areas inside the sea. In the process, many turtles die after getting entangled in the nets, the three opined. They also pointed out that earlier the turtles used to lay eggs in March, but this year they have done so in April. This time shift is proof enough that some climatic change is affecting the visiting turtles, the environmentalists pointed out. They

warned that the turtles will stop visiting Gahirmatha for mass nesting like Harachandi coastline in Puri district if the natural environment is not restored at the earliest. When contacted, Gahirmatha ranger Pradosh Moharana said the Forest department is taking a number of measures for the protection of the turtles. He pointed out that mangrove forest plantations are being carried out to solve the erosion issues. Security has also been beefed up to prevent the unauthorised entry of fishermen in prohibited zones. "We will shortly conduct a review to find out why the number of turtles visiting Gahirmatha this year has declined. Accordingly, we will take steps," said Moharana.

Woman 'kills' son for stealing money

Kalimela(KCN): In a shocking incident, an eight-year-old boy died after being allegedly kicked in the chest by his mother at Tumbaguda village under police limits in Malkangiri district Saturday night. The deceased has been identified as Rohit Padami, son of Muka Padami of the same village. It has been stated that Rohit used to steal money regularly. There used to be frequent quarrels between him and his mother Wagi on this issue.

Infuriated at the wrongdoing of her son, Wagi landed a hard kick on the chest of Rohit, Saturday night. The



minor boy collapsed on the spot immediately. Initially, Wagi thought that Rohit had fallen asleep. Only Sunday morning family members discovered that Rohit had died. On being informed, officials from the

Kalimela PS IIC, Chandrakant Tandi informed that Wagi has confessed that she kicked Rohit under the influence of alcohol. Police are now waiting for the post-mortem report to ascertain the real cause behind Rohit's death.



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CFA Institute in India Expands Student Accessibility with a New Exam Center in Bhubaneswar

Bhubaneswar : CFA Institute, the professional body for excellence and thought leadership in finance, has opened registrations for their upcoming February 2023 intake. Additionally, with the rising demand to increase candidate accessibility and convenience, the institute will have 4 new exam centers in Kochi, Chandigarh, Bhubaneswar and Guwahati for the CFA Program. These centers will take the total number of test center cities for the CFA exam to 16 across India and over 400 worldwide.

The recent CFA Institute Investor Trust survey showed that Indians place a high level of trust on the potential growth in job opportunities in the financial services sector. However, in the post-pandemic era, students as

well as professionals are prioritizing safety, accessibility and ease of travel while accomplishing their life and career goals. Ease of accessibility to exam centers is expected to improve a candidate journey through the program and reduce costs associated with travelling to take exams.

The CFA Charter continues to be the global gold standard for professionals aspiring to work in the investment management industry. We constantly work to make the CFA Program affordable, accessible, meritocratic and relevant. During the pandemic we moved our examinations to Computer Based Testing from Paper Based Exams and started offering examinations four times in a year. By expanding our test

Experience the best-in-class customer services at 11 new Alpha Service Centers across India

Bhubaneswar : Sony India is expanding its Alpha Service Network across 11 cities in India including Mumbai, Coimbatore, Jaipur, Pune, Hyderabad, Ahmedabad, Trivandrum, Chennai, Indore, Bhubaneswar and Guwahati. This is expansion for Alpha Camera body and lens repairs facilities is a testament to the brand's continued dedication to customer satisfaction. Sony now has the widest service network of after sales support for Digital Imaging products with 8 service centers for lens repairs, 18 service centers for Alpha Camera Body repair, 40+ service centers which can offer basic services like CCD Imager cleaning and

firmware updates and 220+ collection centers pan India.

The service centers are equipped with necessary jigs and tools to deliver best quality repair of Alpha camera body, Camera Lens, Professional Cameras and other digital imaging products like Digital Still Cameras and Camcorders. Customers can also avail instant services for basic supports like CCD Imager cleaning and getting the latest firmware update to enjoy best performance from their products. The friendly customer care staff at these service centers will help customers to register their in-warranty products on Sony Alpha Community portal to enable them avail

ATLAS OF AFFLUENCE - INDIA'S FIRST EVER WHITE PAPER ON LUXURY LAUNCHED AS A YEARLY FEATURE

Mumbai: Amidst leading luminaries of industries spanning across the business of luxury, the Atlas of Affluence (AOA) 2022 has been launched in Mumbai. Created by The Voice of Fashion (TVOF), a division of Reliance Brands Limited, the daily digital magazine that tracks and leads conversations on Indian fashion, design, crafts and retail, AOA 2022, is the

first such wide and deep white paper from India that dissects consumer behaviour studied through the prism of luxury. A collective reflection on what affluence means in India spiked during the two years of the pandemic. Charting the post-pandemic market and the clearly altered consumer mindset through a specially commissioned study

across six cities and markets of India, AOA 2022 has been published as a book with exclusive commissioned artworks. This study uses the time graph of "pre-pandemic" and "post-pandemic" months to specify a comparative matrix. It also helps debunk long-held ideas about what affluence and luxury have meant to Indians.

SBI celebrated birth anniversary of Dr. Ambedkar and CSR support to schools



Bhubaneswar (KCN): The 133rd birth anniversary of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, founder of the Indian

Constitution and Bharat Ratna, has been observed by the SBI Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe

Blenders Pride Fashion Nights arrives in Bhubaneswar

Bhubaneswar : Blenders Pride Fashion Nights, a unique travelling experiential property, arrived in the City of Temples – Bhubaneswar – celebrating the authentic spirit of the city through fashion and style. A spirit that echoes with Pride and inspires the creators of today to become icons of tomorrow. Bhubaneswar's 'Made of Artistic Flair' edition for Blenders Pride Fashion Nights, brought together an eclectic evening that blended fashion, culture and dance, celebrating a symbolic amalgamation of homegrown artistry and the unwavering spirit of local talent.

Exemplifying the region's signature weave through a curated evening at the majestic Vivanta, Bhubaneswar, DC Square was Odia designer Sabyasachi Satpathy, whose intricately crafted ensembles drew inspiration from the multicultural city and its colourful history. In a true celebration of Odisha's distinct and masterful craftsmanship, the show was elevated with a captivating performance by the Prince Dance Group – from the small Odisha town of Berhampur – widely lauded for their artistry. The show drew to a finale with none other than actor Diana Penty, who captivated the audience in a beautiful ensemble by the designer. The "Made of Artistic Flair" edition of Blenders Pride Fashion Nights was a beautiful embodiment of the rich craft and cultural heritage of the city in a modern and contemporary setting.

Taking us on a 'Jatra' – The Journey of a Young Woman – the show encapsulated the journey of a woman from post adolescence to her nuptials, navigating the various challenges, trials and significant moments that come her way. The enigmatic journey was captured through the array of colours and textiles that Odisha Bandha/Ikkat offers. Truly encapsulating the spirit of 'Made of Pride', the designer made use of Odisha weave, which is sustainable, hand-woven, organic and a homegrown initiative of design, painstakingly woven by the weavers of Odisha. The upbeat set was a composition designed to narrate the spirit of Bhubaneswar along with the flair of the designer. The evening was attended by the city's A-listers & influencers. The fashion walk truly left the guests mesmerized and engaged.

Through this unique showcase of Pride encompassing diverse talent across creative fields, Blenders Pride Fashion Nights 2022, encourages everyone, especially youth at large to celebrate & take pride in their authentic and individual journeys. The evening spotlighted individuals who take pride in their choices, are comfortable in their skin and, most importantly, embrace their authentic selves – truly living a life that is 'Made of Pride'.

celebrate and commemorate 75 years of India's Independence. Our program has been particularly aimed to create awareness about the financial markets to the young minds who will be the future of our country. In this Amrit Kaal, our digital education initiative focuses on building a path towards Financial Freedom for our youth, symbolizing the spirit of Atmanirbhar Bharat."

Students across India will benefit from this program as it does not restrict to just an area of the population. The program will be conducted for 1 hour and mainly educate the students on demystifying the jargons, 3I's – types of Income; Inflation and its impact, types of Investment; 3S – Start early; Power of Compounding, Spread wide, Stay long etc.

Bhubaneswar (KCN): The 133rd birth anniversary of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, founder of the Indian

Employees' Welfare Council at SBI Bhubaneswar Main branch. Shri Dinesh Pruthi, Chief General Manager, SBI Bhubaneswar circled the event as the chief guest and inaugurated the meeting by lighting the lamp. He highlighted the steps taken by State Bank for the welfare of Scheduled

realme launches the Stylish realmenarzo 60 Series 5G and the revolutionary realme Buds Wireless 3

Bhubaneswar (KCN): realme, the Most Reliable Smartphone Service Provider in India, unveiled its latest offerings today, the realmenarzo 60 Series 5G and realme Buds Wireless 3. These newest additions to realme's legacy of innovation are crafted to provide users with an unrivaled experience. The realmenarzo 60 Series 5G introduces two standout smartphones: the realmenarzo 60 Pro 5G and the realmenarzo 60 5G, accompanied by the cutting-edge realme Buds Wireless 3 for an immersive audio experience.

The realmenarzo 60 Series 5G is the first and only smartphone in the segment to come with 1TB storage. The realmenarzo 60 Series 5G is a groundbreaking lineup that revolutionizes the smartphone industry with its cutting-edge features. realmenarzo 60 Pro 5G is equipped with up to 12GB + 12GB of dynamic RAM and is the only smartphone in the segment with 1TB of ROM storage. It runs on the Dimensity 7050 5G chipset and boasts a massive 5000mAh battery with 67W SUPERVOOC charging support.

The realmenarzo 60 Pro 5G comes in two stunning colors: Mars Orange, Cosmic Black and two storage variants: The 8GB + 128GB is priced at INR 17999 and the 8GB + 256GB is priced at INR 19999. Buyers can avail bank offers of INR 1500 on the realmenarzo 60 Pro 5G with 6 months No Cost EMI and 18 month warranty on pre-booking starting from 6th July 1 PM on Amazon.in and realme.com. Users can also avail bank offers of INR 1500 on the realmenarzo 60 Pro 5G with 6 months No Cost EMI on first sale

on Amazon.in and realme.com. For realmenarzo 60 5G, buyers can avail a coupon of INR 1000* and No Cost EMI for up to 6 months and 18 month warranty on pre-booking starting from 6th July 1 PM on realme.com and Amazon.in. Users can also avail coupons worth INR 1000 and No Cost EMI for up to 6 months on first sale on Amazon.in and realme.com. Enjoy uninterrupted music with its 40-hour long battery life. Immerse yourself in crystal-clear sound with active noise cancellation. Indulge in a captivating audio journey with the 360-degree spatial audio effect. The realme Buds Wireless 3 comes in three stunning colors: Bass Yellow, Vitality White and Pure Black and is priced at INR 1799. Users can avail a special first sale day offer on realme Buds Wireless 3 on 12th July, 12 noon onwards. The realme Buds Wireless 3 will be available on realme.com, amazon.in, flipkart.in and offline stores near you.

Jindal Stainless signs MoU with SCTEVT, Odisha to train future-ready stainless steel professionals

Bhubaneswar: Odisha's State Council for Technical Education & Vocational Training (SCTEVT) today signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Jindal Stainless to promote technical education in the field of stainless steel and its various applications. Under this MoU, stainless steel courses will be introduced in all the Polytechnic colleges in Odisha from June 2022. The MoU was signed by Vice Chairman, SCTE&VT, Shri Reghu G (IAS) and Unit Head, Jindal Stainless Limited (JSL), Shri Deepak Agrawal. Dignitaries present at the ceremony included Chairman, SCTE&VT and Principal Secretary to Government, SDTE and Industries Development, Shri Hemant Sharma (IAS); Additional Secretary, SDTE, Govt of Odisha, Shri Tapan Satpathy (OAS); Resident Director, JSL, Mr SS Upadhyay, and General Manager, Sales & Distribution, Mr Ranit Rana. Commending the development, Chairman, SCTE&VT and Principal Secretary to Government, SDTE and Industries Development, Shri Hemant Sharma (IAS) said, "This collaboration with Jindal Stainless will enhance the learning experience for students and faculty both, as it will give them insights about and practical exposure to the stainless steel industry."

NSDL launches "Market ka Eklavya- Express" in 75 cities to mark 75 years of Independence

Mumbai: India's largest depository, National Securities Depository Limited (NSDL) launched 'Market ka Eklavya- Express', an online investment awareness program for students that will be conducted in 8 different languages including Hindi. The program would serve as a beginner's guide for investing for the youth.

To mark the significance of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, an

initiative of Government of India to celebrate 75 years of independence and the glorious history of our people, culture and achievements, NSDL has launched a new initiative towards investor awareness 'Market Ka Eklavya - Express' across 75 cities, especially aimed at the college students who would very soon be entering the phase where they would start earning and naturally,

look for avenues of investment.

Earlier this month, Market ka Eklavya (5-hours program) was launched by the hon'ble Finance Minister of India, Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman at the silver jubilee event of NSDL.

On the launch of the initiative Ms. Padmaja Chunduru, MD & CEO, NSDL said, "Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav is a special initiative launched by our Prime Minister to

celebrate and commemorate 75 years of India's Independence. Our program has been particularly aimed to create awareness about the financial markets to the young minds who will be the future of our country. In this Amrit Kaal, our digital education initiative focuses on building a path towards Financial Freedom for our youth, symbolizing the spirit of Atmanirbhar Bharat."

Students across India will benefit from this program as it does not restrict to just an area of the population. The program will be conducted for 1 hour and mainly educate the students on demystifying the jargons, 3I's – types of Income; Inflation and its impact, types of Investment; 3S – Start early; Power of Compounding, Spread wide, Stay long etc.



The pace-punishing powerhouse that Dube has become

Mumbai: The sight of him spells fear in the spinners apparently, like Lord Voldemort would dread the sight of Harry Potter for the prophecy that he would be defeated by the young wizard. Shivam Dube has cultivated a similar aura for himself in the IPL. The rival captains don't have spinners operating to him, simply because they fear he would dispatch them out of the park.

On Sunday (April 14), Mumbai Indians captain Hardik Pandya also did not deploy spinners for Dube. The match-up for him were the pacers because the perception is he has weakness against fast and short balls. Till Dube strode into the middle in the eighth over, the MI spinners had done fairly well, conceding just

28 runs in four overs, an economy of seven, not bad in a T20 game, particularly at a compact ground like the Wankhede. But his arrival though led to the banishment of Mohammad Nabi (none for 19 in three overs) and Shreyas Gopal (none for nine in one over). They never returned to bowl again.

He was treated with fast and medium pacers, occasionally peppered with short balls but Dube displayed a degree of maturity that exceeded expectations. His unbeaten 66 at a strike rate of over 170 with 10 fours and two sixes provided the impetus for Chennai Super Kings total (206 for four) with which they could mount a strong defence,

something even the inimitably explosive innings of 105 not out by Rohit Sharma could not stop. Dube treated the pacers with as much disdain as he is feared to treat the spinners, the lone exception being relentlessly impactful Jasprit Bumrah. Gerald Coetzee, Akash Madhwal and Hardik Pandya faced his fury. Romario Shepherd was put to sword for 33 runs in two overs in an innings in which the left-hander not only used characteristic power but also found regular gaps. His cover drives were impeccable. It was not all brute force; his boundaries flew by sheer dint of timing too. There was power, there was timing and there was placement. It was an



innings full of character, composure, confidence and authority. He had a few good partnerships -- first with Gaikwad (90 runs for the third wicket) and later with Daryl Mitchell (36 runs for the fourth wicket) - which

were crucial to the Chennai innings. "He is putting a tremendous amount of effort in, especially the fact that when he comes on, they take the spinners off, they put the pacemen on, so he's become more

and more effective at that. It's about how you control the match and someone like him can control it because they can't spin the ball anymore. They don't want to, they're scared to. So it is great to see the rewards he's getting, particularly against the pacemen, because the more effective he gets with that, the more the opposition has to strategize against us. But a tremendous reward for what he's doing," Eric Simons, the bowling coach of CSK, said of the reasons for Chennai players' success in general and Dube's in particular.

Role clarity under inspirational MS Dhoni at Chennai Super Kings propelled Dube into being a confident batsman and the license he has been given to smack the balls

has added an extra dimension to his batting. With no fear of failure, he has been flourishing in the CSK set-up, overcoming the perceived weakness against the short deliveries. In six innings so far, he has hammered 242 runs at 60.50 with a strike rate of 163.51, including two half centuries.

"I think one of the most important things you can give your cricketers is something called safety. Psychological safety is the buzzword, but safety to fail, safety to try, safety to grow, be challenged all the time, but be trusted. That's one of the things that happens at CSK," Simons said of the reasons for Chennai players' success in general and Dube's in particular. Former India chief selector MSK Prasad

would often recall the thought process of his time when his selection committee selectors wanted to groom Dube as next Hardik Pandya, a plan that was adopted for Vijay Shankar and later for Venkatesh Iyer also. But the plan did not materialise as hoped as they did not have the pace of Pandya.

Dube, sure, could not reach the heights of Pandya in bowling but he has been showing what he has been capable of with the bat in the last couple of IPLs, this season in particular. Sunday night's effort may have clinched his berth in India's Twenty20 World Cup squad, something commentators like Ravi Shastri, Sunil Gavaskar and even Kevin Pietersen kept recommending.

Rohit ton in vain after Pathirana four-fer

Mumbai: Chennai Super Kings overcame Mumbai Indians in a hard fought contest that saw a number of remarkable individual contributions on either side. Ruturaj Gaikwad and Shivam Dube hit fifties for CSK while MS Dhoni marked his presence at the end. For Mumbai Rohit Sharma smashed a ton but it was Matheesh Pathirana's four-wicket haul that turned out to be a big difference-maker. Up against a power-packed batting line-up, CSK's chance of a comeback lay in picking up wickets. Their best bet was slinger Pathirana, who had replaced Maheesh Theekshana for this game. Pathirana made immediate impact coming in the eighth over first getting Ishan Kishan to clip to the midwicket fielder. A ball later, he had Suryakumar Yadav caught at third man where Mustafizur Rahman did exceptionally well to keep his balance and the ball in the play. The wickets, particularly the first one, came at a much-needed juncture after Rohit and

Kishan had put on 70 in the first-seven overs. But Pathirana wasn't done with just that. He came back at the death and bagged both of MI's big-hitters - Tim David and Romario Shepherd - which robbed them off crucial boundaries at the back-end.

Rohit had seen through the innings from the first ball, first setting the ball rolling inside the powerplay with some innovative batting that put pressure on the likes of Mustafizur and Ravindra Jadeja. Through the middle overs, he managed to stitch together a crucial 60-run stand with Tilak Varma after that wobble. But with Pathirana striking once again through the end overs, MI fell behind even as Rohit collected a hundred in the final over. With MI needing 77 off the last six overs, Shardul Thakur and Tushar Deshpande found the cutters into the pitch highly effective. The duo bowled two overs for just five runs even with Rohit Sharma batting in the 70s. Thakur also accounted for the wicket of Hardik Pandya in the



period, making the equation even tougher and putting pressure on the batters to follow with CSK managing the follow-up overs adeptly. CSK opted to throw up a surprise by changing up their batting order. Ajinkya Rahane came up to open instead of Ruturaj Gaikwad. Rahane, a designated pace-hitter, threw a spanner in the works for MI who then opted to open with the offspin of Mohammad Nabi. The change-up however did not bring about the desired impact for CSK. Rahane lasted just eight balls before he chipped a catch off Romario Shepherd. Gaikwad, meanwhile,

Ruturaj came in next and got going straightaway hitting Coetze for two fours and a six. The powerplay saw CSK get 48 but lose a wicket. Rachin Ravindra's promise did not last long as he was out caught behind on review against Shreyas Gopal. But this brought in Shivam Dube alongside Gaikwad who was finding his feet. With spin now being taken out of the attack given Dube's reputation as a spin hitter, the middle-order batter unleashed other skills. He started off by picking three boundaries off Pandya and then two more off Romario Shepherd. Gaikwad, meanwhile,

worked his way to his 16th IPL fifty and set up the innings for a big finish. Dube carted Shepherd for back-to-back sixes and a four as the duo picked up 22 in an over to up the ante before Akash Madhwal was meted out similar treatment as Dube raced to a 28-ball fifty.

The 90-run stand from the duo helped CSK maintain a good run-rate through the middle overs but it threatened to come undone at the death when they lost a couple of wickets. Gaikwad holed out against his counterpart Pandya after a 40-ball 69 while Daryl Mitchell struggled to match the tempo from the get-go, hitting only one boundary in a 14-ball 17. As he became Pandya's second wicket in the final over, CSK were in danger of finishing well before 200. However, MS Dhoni walked in and turned back the clock smashing a hat-trick of sixes as Pandya missed his lengths woefully. His four-ball 20* powered CSK past 200 and eventually proved to be the decisive margin of victory.

New Delhi: CSK captain Ruturaj Gaikwad scripted history during his blazing 69-run knock in the IPL 2024 match against MI at the Wankhede Stadium on Sunday. Ruturaj broke LSG captain KL Rahul's record to become the fastest Indian batter to score 2000 runs in the Indian Premier League. Gaikwad's remarkable achievement unfolded during a group clash against Mumbai in Match 29 of IPL 2024 at the iconic Wankhede Stadium. Remarkably, all of Gaikwad's IPL runs have been scored donning the yellow jersey of Chennai. His contribution to the

IPL, showcasing his prowess with the bat match after match. It took him just 57 innings out of 58 games to breach the 2,000-run barrier, outpacing the previous record holder, KL Rahul, who achieved the feat in 60 innings. This feat places Gaikwad in esteemed company, trailing only the likes of Chris Gayle and Shaun Marsh in the overall list of fastest players to reach the milestone. Remarkably, all of Gaikwad's IPL runs have been scored donning the yellow jersey of Chennai. His contribution to the team's success is evident not only in his individual records but also in his role as the sixth batter to cross the 2,000-run mark for the franchise. Alongside cricketing stalwarts like Suresh Raina, MS Dhoni, Faf du Plessis, Michael Hussey, and Murali Vijay, Gaikwad's name now stands as a testament to his consistency and impact in the IPL arena. With an impressive average and strike rate, coupled with 15 half-centuries and a century to his name, Gaikwad's journey in the IPL continues to inspire fans and teammates alike.

A slice of luck and a rude awakening

New Delhi: There is a sense of endlessness in Shamar Joseph's follow-through. At its peak, like in Perth earlier this year, it took a full turn and ended at long on. It's as unrestrained as the smile he flashes or the pace with which he leaves a cricket ball. In the middle of his opening over, Joseph had sprinted all the way to the point region with hands on his head and a hapless smile on his face. A chance to bag his first wicket in the Indian Premier League had just been put down despite an impressive diving effort by Yash Thakur at short

fine leg. By the 13th over of the run chase, he was sitting in the dugout wearing a dejected look. "It's the first time I've seen him quiet in four weeks," Justin Langer, LSG's head coach, noted in jest. That wasn't the case an hour earlier. There was a spring in his stride, a smile to boot and pace to rattle the batters. All of it vanished in a space on one legitimate delivery. Off what was supposed to be the last delivery of his first-ever over in the IPL, he had failed to keep any part of his boot behind the popping crease. The umpire

stretched his arm, the loudspeaker blared and Joseph was back to his bowling mark, still beaming after having missed out on his maiden wicket. A slower ball away from the batter's arc that followed was a declared wide, the next one - an off-cutter - went across the batter and the keeper for another wide with a four. And then came another no-ball. The fast and entertaining over that had the batters being pushed on the backfoot and unable to middle the ball eventually ended with Phil Salt smashing a free-hit down the ground for a six. The 22-run opening over was anti-climatic enough for the smile that Joseph held through bravely for nine legitimate and illegitimate deliveries to be wiped off and for KL Rahul to come and put an arm around the young pacer's shoulder.

Joseph had come in as a replacement for Naveen ul Haq, the Afghanistan pacer who had done reasonably well but couldn't create the kind of impact that could turn around matches like Mayank Yadav had done in two games with his pace. Maybe Joseph could've done that with his pace. But with limited



experience of four white-ball games to boot, and pre-game nervousness to

eventual figures of 0 for 47 read, to go with three no-balls and seven wides, there were deliveries that left the batters uncomfortable. Some zipped past them, some gave hopes of a dismissal, and some took the edge. At its best, Joseph's followthrough stretched as far as backward point in part celebrapace when Shreyas Iyer was adjudged caught behind (only for the decision to eventually reverse on review). But for the pacer from Baracara whose cricket career had reached Bengal, it was also a rude welcome to the miseries of high-profile T20 cricket, like many fast bowlers have experienced in the past. On the other hand, Salt, who survived the early chance against Joseph, ensured that he could cash in on it. If the playing 'V' needed a definition, he designed it within the first three balls of the third over off Krunal Pandya - a lift over the bowler's head, a swipe through midwicket and a drive through extra cover, all for boundaries. He played those shots with such authority that Krunal, who has been extremely effective in the middle overs this season, wasn't brought back into the attack again even as the game kept slipping away from LSG.