

Heatwave conditions persist in Odisha due to climate over Pakistan, Afghanistan: CEC

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Heat wave conditions in Odisha may persist for a week to ten days as weather conditions were influenced by the prevailing climate over Pakistan and Afghanistan, Centre for Environment and Climate (CEC) of Siksha 'O' Anusandhan (SOA) said Thursday.

Model products indicated that the maximum day temperature in north Odisha varied between 43 to 45 degrees Celsius while the temperature hovered between 41 and 43 degrees Celsius in the southern districts, CEC Director Sarat Chandra Sahu said.

The meteorological systems were forming one after another over Pakistan and Afghanistan leading to heavy rainfall there which influenced weather conditions in



India, he said.

The systems, the CEC Director said either remained stationary or moved slightly towards the northwestern states of India.

Because of this, no major rain bearing system formed over central India and eastern states leading to flow of dry northwesterly hot wind from the central plains into eastern India, Odisha in particular.

This explained the prolonged spell of heatwaves in Odisha, Sahu added.

The system persisting over Pakistan and its adjoining region at present could move slowly towards eastern India and cause rain and thunderstorms in coastal and nearby districts May 1 which would lead to drop in temperature by 3 to 4 degrees, he said adding the heat might

increase from May 4. Bad weather causing heavy rainfall has been continuing in Pakistan for the last 15 to 20 days in areas known for extreme heat during the summer. Jacobabad in Pakistan has a record of registering day temperature of 52.8 degrees Celsius. The prevailing weather in the neighbouring country has been impacting the flow of sea breeze from the Bay of Bengal which was not

getting stronger though anti-cyclone was persisting, the CEC Director said.

As many as 35 cities in Odisha, the day temperatures recorded over 40 degree Celsius, of which five cities the mercury hovered over 43 degree Celsius. Jharsuguda, an industrial belt in Western Odisha became the hottest place in the state with day temperature rising to 43.8 degree Celsius followed by Baripada (43.6), Nuapada (43.5), Talcher (43.4) and Boudh (43.2).

The state capital of Bhubaneswar which has been experiencing an unprecedented rise in the day temperature and become the hottest place in the state on three occasions in the past few days, recorded 42.2 degree Celsius today.

EC seeks BJP, Congress's responses on charge of PM Modi, Rahul Gandhi violating model code

New Delhi(KCN):

Taking cognisance for the first time of a model code violation allegation against a prime minister, the Election Commission

Thursday asked the BJP to respond to complaints filed by opposition parties wherein they have accused Prime Minister Narendra Modi of delivering a

divisive and defamatory speech in Rajasthan's Banswara.

At the same time, the poll panel also asked the Congress to respond to complaints filed by the BJP against the main opposition party's president Mallikarjun Kharge and its senior leader Rahul Gandhi regarding their respective remarks.

In its letter addressed to BJP President J P Nadda, the Election Commission asked

him to respond by Monday to complaints filed by the Congress, CPI and CPI (ML) regarding the remarks made by Modi April 21 in Banswara.

People Act to hold party presidents as the first step to rein in star campaigners.

It wrote a similarly-worded letter separately to the Congress president with

regard to allegations levelled by the BJP against him and Gandhi.

The letters from the EC to the two-party presidents did not directly name either Modi, Gandhi or Kharge, but the representations

received by it were attached to the respective letters and they contained details of allegations against the three leaders.

In its complaint to the EC, the Congress said that Modi in his speech had alleged that Congress

wanted to redistribute the wealth of the people to Muslims and that the opposition party won't even spare the 'mangalsutra' of women.



It also asked Nadda to bring to the notice of all-star campaigners of the party to "set high standards of political discourse and observe provisions of model code of conduct in letter and spirit".

Officials said it is the first time that the panel has taken cognisance of a complaint against any prime minister. The Election Commission has invoked provisions of the Representation of the

Drone crashes on residential premises of Odisha MP



Jharsuguda,(KCN): A drone crashed on the premises of the rented residence of Bargh MP Suresh Pujari at Ambajhara near Gandhi Chhak in Belpahar Town of Jharsuguda district on Thursday.

Amid the ongoing campaigning for the 2024 elections, MP Suresh Pujari expressed apprehensions about the

drone and the purpose of its use in the area. Pujari is currently contesting elections from the Brajrajnagar Assembly seat. He has taken a rented house for his office and residence near NH-49 in Belpahar Town. Pujari said, "The caretaker of the house told me that a drone was flying at noon and crashed on the premises after

hitting an LT tower. We went to the spot where the drone was lying and its engine was functioning. Its camera was on."

"Police have started an investigation. We are concerned about who was operating the drone and for what purpose. Why it trespassed into the compound of the house," he added. Jharsuguda SP, Parmar Smit Parshotamdas said, "Belpahar police seized the drone and preliminary investigation revealed that the drone was being used by the Forest Department for the survey of its plantation. A proper investigation into the matter is going on."

Ex-hockey captain Prabodh Tirkey joins BJP days after quitting Congress

Sonepur(KCN): Former Indian hockey captain Prabodh Tirkey Thursday joined the BJP, days after resigning from the Congress which withdrew his election nomination.

Tirkey was fielded by the Congress in the Talsara assembly seat in Sundergarh district, but the party later withdrew his nomination and named Devendra Bhitaria in his place. He was welcomed to the BJP by its state president Manmohan Samal. Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan, senior BJP leader Jayanarayan Mishra and Bolangir MP Sangeeta Kumari Singh Deo were also present on the occasion.

New Delhi,(KCN): Union Minister and senior BJP leader Amit Shah kick-started the party's campaign by launching an attack on the ruling BJD in Odisha while addressing a massive public gathering in Western Odisha's Sonepur district on Thursday. This was Amit Shah's first visit to Odisha after alliance speculations were put to rest by the top leadership of the saffron party ahead of the 2024 elections.

Shah first arrived at Jharsuguda airport and reached Sonepur in a helicopter to address the public meeting at Rameswar stadium as part of the party's 'Vijay Sankalp Samavesh'. Shah's visit came a day

after the Odisha unit of the party brought out a 60-page chargesheet against the ruling BJD. Amit Shah's visit assumed significance for the BJP as it is eyeing to come to power in Odisha amidst the buzz of a direct fight with the BJD this election.

Trying to strike a chord, Shah began his address by urging the party workers to work hard to ensure Narendra Modi becomes the Prime

Minister again and the party wins 20 Lok Sabha seats in Odisha and also forms the government for the first time in the state.

"There is Lok Sabha election in the country and I visited several parts and reached Odisha. Wherever I went, there were chants of Modi Modi and Modi. The country is going to vote to ensure Narendra Modi becomes PM for the third time. Odisha is

also going to vote in Lok Sabha and ensure the party wins 20 seats from the State. The people of Odisha will also vote for the state's pride, language, and culture in Lord Jagannath's land. For the first time, the people of the state will also vote for the BJP so that it forms the government here with a majority," said Shah.

Launching a direct attack on the ruling BJD, Shah said, "The government which could not uphold the pride of its own language, literature and culture, cannot ensure state's development. The government here has not only deprived Odisha of development but indulged in massive corruption through officers in the last 20 years."

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SAD and Congress cornering the AAP govt on farmers' issues

Chandigarh (JAG MOHAN THAKER), April 25 – Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) and congress parties are cornering the Punjab Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) government on farmers' issues.

Shiromani Akali Dal president Sukhbir Singh Badal on Thursday alleged that after denying compensation to farmers, chief minister Bhagwant Mann was sprinkling salt on their wounds by not lifting their hard-earned wheat produce resulting in complete clogging of all grain markets in the State.

Mr Badal, who visited the Mahuana and Malout grain markets, witnessed firsthand how farmers are being harassed. He also interacted with

farmers and assured them that in case lifting of wheat was not started from 'mandis' the SAD would agitate to ensure justice was done to them. In a frontal attack on chief minister Bhagwant Mann, the SAD president said it was shocking that while farmers were suffering in the grain markets, the chief minister was visiting Assam and Gujarat. "Earlier also when Punjab was hit by floods last year, the chief minister chose to abrogate his responsibilities and run away to facilitate Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) Convener Arvind Kejriwal's visits to other States". Asserting that farmers had been dealt a double blow, Mr Badal said the AAP government had ruined the agricultural economy

reeling from non-payment of compensation for damage to wheat during hail storms earlier. Now when they have brought their harvest to the market, they are facing difficulties in getting in procured". Mr Badal said the AAP government had ruined the agricultural economy

of the State during the last two years. "Farmers are yet to receive compensation for crops damaged due to flooding or hail storms. The chief minister reneged on his promise to ensure advance relief of Rs 25,000 per acre to farmers for crop relief. The AAP government also failed to procure pulses and maize

borders of Punjab with their votes to ensure Delhi based parties are not able to capture their mandate and betray them again". Congress has also slammed the Punjab government for failure to resolve the farmers issues. The Leader of the Opposition (LoP), Partap Singh Bajwa on Thursday lambasted the Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann for shamelessly renegeing from its pre-assembly-poll promises of providing MSP on 23 crops.

"In an interview with a private media platform, CM Mann said that he cannot provide MSP because it is the Union Government that is supposed to provide MSP. Mann said he can only

provide the farmers with compensation", Bajwa added.

Senior Congress Leader Bajwa said that before the assembly elections in the state, CM Mann and Tourism Minister Anmol Gagan Mann had vowed to procure 23 crops at MSP once the AAP formed the government. They used to condemn the Congress government for not providing MSP.

"After winning the assembly elections, Mann committed to procuring Moong Dal crop at MSP, however, he failed terribly to keep his promise. Consequently, the farmers were forced to sell their crops to private players at lower prices",

Bajwa added. The opposition leader said that the AAP government couldn't even provide the farmers with compensation, whose paddy, sugarcane, cotton and other crops were damaged due to the worst-ever floods last year. Wheat crops were also damaged by hailstorms this year yet no compensation was given. "The Kerala government provides MSP on fruits, vegetables and some other crops as well. If Kerala can do this why can't the Punjab government? Asks Bajwa. Bajwa said that CM Bhagwant Mann has no moral ground to go to the farmers and seek their votes as he has failed to fulfil his promises to the farmers.



IIM Sambalpur Announces Admissions For “MBA In Fintech Management” Degree For Working Professionals

Sambalpur(KCN): IIM Sambalpur, one of the premier management institutions, announces admissions for an MBA in Fintech Management in association with the NSE Academy in blended mode. This is the first Fintech-focused MBA degree to be launched by an IIM. The institution is also opening admissions to the dual degree programme, under which applicants can gain an MBA in International Finance from Sorbonne Business School, Paris. Digital public

infrastructure such as UPI has made India a global Fintech powerhouse, showcasing remarkable progress in segments like Payments, Digital Lending, InsurTech, and WealthTech. The potential growth of Fintech indicates a massive need for skilled and proficient individuals to navigate evolving technologies, regulatory scrutiny, and market dynamics. On the strong foundations of strategic collaboration, the programme is well-equipped to provide the

participants with specialized training in the technical areas of Blockchain, AI, and cryptography, fostering strategic capabilities and expertise in cutting-edge technologies. Prof. Mahadeo Jaiswal, Director, IIM Sambalpur, informed, “With over 9,000 fintech startups, India stands as the third-largest fintech hub worldwide and will generate almost \$400 billion worth of business by 2030, quadrupling its current size. With a growing number of job openings and a thriving

startup ecosystem, the fintech sector presents abundant employment and entrepreneurial prospects. We are launching an MBA in Fintech Management to impart specialised skills, knowledge and experience so that you

can start your journey as an entrepreneur or intrapreneur in the blooming Fintech ecosystem. Our 18-month programme, comprising 17 meticulously crafted courses across three terms, ensures a comprehensive learning

journey.” The programmes are designed for working professionals and include a comprehensive curriculum with 17 specialized courses. Considering the blended nature of the programmes, working professionals from Asian and European countries are also invited to apply. The programmes also offer immersion at IIM Sambalpur and with the NSE Academy in Mumbai, as well as International Immersion at Sorbonne Business School (Paris) for

students who opted for dual degrees. The deadline for submitting the online application is May 24, 2024. Prof. Diwahar Nadar, Programme Chairperson, IIM Sambalpur, informed, “The MBA in Fintech Management programme features a blended learning approach with online lectures on Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays, complemented by in-person sessions at IIM Sambalpur each semester. A key highlight of the programme is the



AIIMS Bhubaneswar Launches Special Unit to Manage Heat Stroke Patients

Bhubaneswar, (KCN): In response to the prevailing scorching heat wave in the state, AIIMS Bhubaneswar has taken proactive measures to address the potential rise in heat stroke cases by establishing a dedicated Heat Stroke Unit.

Executive Director Dr. Ashutosh Biswas emphasized the necessity of this unit in light of the intense heat wave conditions. The unit, equipped with necessary medical facilities and staffed by doctors from various departments, aims to provide prompt and effective treatment to individuals suffering from sunstroke.

Dr. Biswas advised the public to avoid exposure to direct sunlight whenever possible and to take precautionary measures such as



carrying an umbrella, a wet towel, and a water bottle when outdoors. The Heat Stroke Unit, located within the Ayush department, comprises

treated over fifteen patients. An emergency meeting involving heads of the General Medicine, Trauma & Emergency, and Ayush departments was conducted to strategize and ensure efficient management of heat stroke cases.

Assistant Professor of General Medicine, Dr. Srikanta Behera, has been appointed as the nodal officer of the Heat Stroke Unit. Adequate stock of medicines and Oral Rehydration Solution (ORS) has been maintained, and medical staff remain vigilant to respond to any emergency situations.

AIIMS Bhubaneswar reaffirms its commitment to safeguarding public health and urges individuals to prioritize their well-being during this period of heightened heat exposure.

AI Camera Surveillance To Safeguard Similipal Forest Against Fire And Poachers



Mayurbhanj(KCN): The Similipal Tiger Reserve (STR) is now under AI (Artificial intelligence) supervision. As per the forest department, 5 tower-based 6 AI cameras are being used experimentally in Similipal forest to monitor forest fire, wild animal movements and to track down the activity of poachers. For the last two days, Similipal forest has

been burning. However, the authorities said that all animals are safe in the forest. A total of five AI camera towers have been urgently set up across the entire Similipal sanctuary. Additionally, it has been announced that these AI cameras will be positioned in the burning forest areas, including Satkoshiya. The tower-based AI technology is used for getting immediate

information on forest fires and to douse them quickly. Equipped with high-resolution cameras capable of moving 360 degrees, these towers detect activity up to 15 kilometres away. As a result, forest fires and illegal hunting of wild animals will become easier to detect. The cost of each AI tower installation is Rs. 2.5 crore. This system also

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Shah Rukh Khan Takes On Don Role
In Upcoming 'King'

Shah Rukh Khan and Suhana Khan team up in the highly anticipated action extravaganza 'King'. As per the reports, the film is being made on a massive budget of 200 crore. Directed by Sujoy Gosh and co-produced by Red Chillies with director Siddharth Anand. Earlier it was speculated that he would have an extended cameo in the film, but later it was learned that the lead role will be played by SRK alongside Suhana.

King stands as a testament to his dedication, being a passion project where he's deeply immersed in every facet of its creation, collaborating closely with directors

Siddharth Anand and Sujoy Gosh throughout the development process.

Siddharth Anand is presently working on action blocks with the

international stunt team. Meanwhile, Sujoy is fully engaged in the pre-production of 'King' while also putting the finishing touches on the script of this action

thriller. SRK is to play the role of a Don whereas Suhana is to play Khan's disciple in his upcoming 'King', as per Pinkvilla. 'He will sport a long hair

look with a faint beard in King, and the makers will be surprised the audience with this avatar once the film goes on floors later this year in September'.

Shah Rukh Khan is actively to his audience's desire to see him explore shades of grey on screen. The Father-daughter duo has already begun the prep for it. As per the report training sessions are taking place at Mannat and Suhana is being accompanied by her Father. It is being said that Trainers of International repute are

coming together to train SRK and Suhana on some new-age action sequences. The team plans to shoot the action scenes as a hybrid of real action and notably the VFX enhancement and stunts will be designed with the stunt experts from the west. Fans can anticipate heartfelt moments between the father and daughter duo in the film. King is slated to hit theaters in 2025, although the official release date is yet to be announced.

Stay Tuned for more updates!

Salman Khan teaches democracy
to Indians (and Pakistanis) in
Tiger 3. Let that sink in

The flat in question is located in the Tulsiani Golf View project in the Sushant Golf City area of Lucknow.

The buyer alleges that Gauri Khan's promotion of the project influenced his decision to buy the flat. She's considered among one of the best interior designers in Bollywood and has decorated the houses of many celebrities like Sidharth Malhotra, Farah Khan, Ranbir Kapoor and Jacqueline Fernandez, among others.

This FIR against Gauri comes at a time when her husband Shah Rukh has been basking in the success of his recent blockbuster 'Pathaan'. Helmed by Siddharth Anand, the action-packed movie breached the Rs 500 crore net in Hindi within a month of its release and has crossed the Rs 1000 crore worldwide.

SRK's wife Gauri Khan in legal trouble as
FIR registered against her over property issue

Gauri Khan, a well-known interior designer and Bollywood superstar Shah Rukh Khan's wife, has found herself in legal trouble as an FIR has been registered against her, here.

The FIR, which has been registered under the Indian Penal Code (IPC) section 409 (criminal breach of trust), was registered at the Sushant Golf City police station in Lucknow.

The managing director of Tulsiani Construction and Development Limited, Anil Kumar Tulsiani, the director, Mahesh Tulsiani, and the brand ambassador, Gauri Khan, have all been named in the FIR.

They have been accused of not delivering a flat to a buyer even after receiving payment of approximately Rs 86 lakhs.

Kirat Jaswant Shah, a resident of Mumbai, has filed the complaint, claiming that he had paid the entire amount for the flat, but had not been handed over possession.

Sara Ali Khan In Delhi To Shoot For 'Murder
Mubarak', To Share Screen With Karisma Kapoor

Actress Sara Ali Khan is currently in Delhi for the shoot of her film 'Murder Mubarak'. Taking to Instagram, Sara dropped a video from the sets. In the video, she is seen giving a close-up of the sunset. We can also see a woman holding the film's clapperboard.

"All my favourite things... Delhi-Heart of India," she simply captioned the post. Homi Adajania is directing the film. Sara will be seen sharing screen space with Karisma Kapoor in the film. A few days ago, Karisma shared the clapperboard from the movie set on her Instagram feed. The film is directed by 'Cocktail' fame Homi Adajania. She has not divulged much details

about the movie. Besides 'Murder Mubarak', fans will see Karisma in the upcoming drama series Brown, directed by Abhinay Deo.

Backed by Zee Studios, the noir show is based on the book 'The City of Death' by Abheek Barua. Brown revolves around Rita Brown, an alcoholic cop, who forms an unlikely alliance with a widower with survivor's guilt to solve the murder of a young girl.

Brown also features Helen, Soni Razdan, Surya Sharma, and K K Raina, among others. Speaking of Sara's other projects, she will be seen in director Laxman Utekar's next untitled romantic drama film alongside actor Vicky Kaushal. She also has 'Gaslight' with Vikrant Massey and Chitrangada Singh, and Karan Johar's next 'Ae Watan Mere Watan' in which she will play a brave freedom fighter in a fictional tale set against the backdrop of the Quit India Movement in 1942.

What if someone told you that the latest Salman Khan actioner can give you a ready reckoner on why democracy is better than dictatorship? Maneesh Sharma's Tiger 3 is not just the popcorn-and-patriotism entertainer you always expected it to be, the latest Bhai film also expounds the idea that democracy needs to be protected against people who declare themselves to be the sole custodians of the country, making you hopeful for the future of Indian movies. For many decades now, star-driven action films in India have been all about seeking revenge. It could be for the death of the hero's beloved, or any other woman; it could be some childhood trauma that has scarred him for life and he is now looking for comeuppance; or, it could be all about seeking retribution for one's country. The last one has been frequently revisited in our films and has appealed to the masses. The idea of patriotism, however, has changed a fair bit in our movies and in 2023, this was particularly evident. The year started with Shah Rukh Khan's Pathaan where a Pakistani agent, played by Deepika Padukone, had the crowd cheering for her when she joined forces with SRK's Indian agent to save humanity. A few months later, in Jawan, Shah Rukh gave a rousing monologue where he spoke directly to his fans about the importance of voting for the right candidate. The film did not shy away from taking shots at the corrupt troika of bureaucracy, politics and business. And the year ended with Salman Khan in Tiger 3 where his main mission was to save Pakistan from the evils of dictatorship.

Tiger 3 is an Indian film with an Indian hero at the center of its story but strangely enough, India has no stake in the story of this film. The many times when Tiger is asked as to why he cares about what's happening in Pakistan, he comes up with a rather flimsy excuse, a reason he repeats many times in the film. It makes you wonder why Maneesh and Salman zeroed in on this subject for the third Tiger installment. In the film, the protagonist asks his crew, who are stand-ins for the audience, a question that immediately tells you about the central idea of this film.

'Democracy or dictatorship?' asks Tiger and his crew responds in unison, 'democracy.'

It is a rather strong statement when one of the most successful movie producing studios in the country decides to make a film where a choice as simple as this, at least for Indians who have been living in a democracy for over 75 years, needs to be reminded to the audience. The makers actually had to spell out why the need to have fair elections is essential and why democracy is better than having a dictator, the villain of this story, who might pretend to have good intentions. They underline that complete control in the hands of one person can't be good for the health of a nation.

Saviour of Voiceless & Healer of Helpless.

Dr. GyanaRanjan Mishra, M.V.Sc.



the veterinarians work often remains invisible to the society, in this world veterinary day let's try to understand what are the real contributions of veterinarians to the society in large. Veterinarians are first responders to human disease outbreaks, did you know the majority of emerging infectious diseases in people originate from animals (zoonotic diseases) and the very recent COVID-19 pandemic is no exception? At this very moment, veterinarians are working all over the globe to diagnose diseases in animals, conduct surveillance and recognize foreign animal diseases. Veterinarians conduct millions of tests and handles hundreds of samples daily to ensure our existing mechanism responsible for health and wellbeing can rapidly respond in emergencies. Many veterinarians are deployed and several veterinary laboratories were leveraged assist health departments to provide human COVID testing during the pandemic. Veterinary professionals also share responsibilities for biosecurity, this is a joint effort that must be shared by all who have obligations for animals and/or animal products, both farm and companion animals. The conventional barriers that nature provides can no longer be relied upon to exclude dissemination from country to country. In this view, the veterinarian is a sentinel for the early detection of, and early response to, accidental or deliberate introduction of exotic diseases. The veterinarian is, in fact, a key line of defense that society counts on against agro-terrorism and bioterrorism. According to WHO, around 60% of all infectious diseases in humans are zoonotic, meaning they originate from animals. In the face of emerging infectious diseases combined with climate change, the One Health approach has become increasingly important. Therefore, monitoring and controlling zoonotic diseases is crucial to preventing devastating impacts on both human and animal health. One Health approach has highlighted the vital role played by veterinarians in safeguarding public health and promoting animal health and welfare. This is because vets are uniquely positioned as the only doctors who can recognize and address zoonotic diseases that

can impact both animals and humans. Especially in India, where agriculture and animal husbandry are major contributors to the economy, Veterinarians are playing their vital role safeguarding public health by promoting animal health and welfare. Veterinarians are leaders in food safety, epidemiology and public health, Veterinarians are

Recognition that healthy and productive livestock make important contributions to food production, income generation, job creation, economic growth, and poverty alleviation is often overlooked or taken for granted. Yet, on average, livestock contribute some 40 percent of agricultural GDP. In this regard, farm-oriented veterinary professionals are doing

community leader and change agent in disseminating the latest technology to the farmers and act as a missing link between the scientist in the lab and the farmers in the land/ farm. Veterinarians are critical in training the next generation of veterinarian, as faculty members, veterinarians fulfil the mission of teaching, diagnostic or

to a report by Research and Markets, the veterinary market in India is expected to grow at a CAGR of 7.5% between 2020 and 2025. One of the key drivers of growth in the veterinary sector is the increasing trend in demand for animal products. With a growing population and rising income levels, the demand for animal products is increasing every year. Another factor driving growth in the veterinary sector is the rising awareness about animal health. With a growing emphasis on food safety and quality, there is an increasing focus on ensuring the health and well-being of livestock. Additionally, the growing pet population in the country has led to a greater demand for veterinary services, including preventive care, diagnostics, and treatment. To meet this ever increasing demand

the Indian Veterinarian battles enormous odds every day to provide medical care to our livestock and companion animal. According to a report by the National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO), there is a shortage of around 55,000 veterinarians in the country. This ratio is amongst the lowest in the world (1 vet per 5350 animals) and is indicative of the severe stress that vets face in caring for them. Experts say it is common for good vets to work long hours and burn out. The report also highlights the inadequate infrastructure, with only 31% of the veterinary hospitals and dispensaries having the required facilities for treating animals. Additionally, the report states that around 40% of the veterinary professionals in the country are not trained to handle emergencies, which is a significant concern in a sector where timely treatment can mean the difference between life and death. Given that India has traditionally been an agriculture driven economy, the ability of our vets to care for cattle and farm animals (cows, buffaloes, goat, sheep etc) has been considered of prime importance by the Government. This is why the Veterinary curriculum is predominantly focussed on large animal care while small animal care (dogs, cats, birds and other companion animals and more) has not been given attention. With the changing scenario of modern life style and urbanisation veterinarians are

presented with more numbers of case related to exotic pets and different wild species, critical skills to handle all these species is not being taught in most undergraduate veterinary colleges which pose a major challenge for vets working in field conditions. Veterinarians in India need a lot of support in delivering the right quality of care to our livestock and companion animals. Think of how a human doctor is assisted by trained nurses, physios, radiologists, and so many other medical professionals. Similarly, veterinary doctors also require help from vet nurses, physios, radiologists, anaesthesiologists, etc. Professionals who are qualified in specialized aspects of veterinary health care which is not there. This leads to added pressure on our doctors and general practitioners, reducing the quality of care and increasing the risk of burnout. This fact is perhaps well known to every pet parent who has faced health issues or travelled abroad with their pets. Veterinary technology in India is shambolic and inadequate, and is not comparable to the more advanced countries in the world. And by technology, I do not mean sophisticated procedures like MRI, Ultrasound or Laparoscopy. DNA testing is still not available except in few research labs for disease screening. Local clinics in India do not even have reliable blood test devices or x-ray machines, posing severe challenges to our vets. It is so bad in fact that multiple countries across the world (European Union, Australia, Malaysia etc)

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Letter to Editor

Sir

The various exam boards including the CBSE are all set to declare their results - both secondary and higher secondary - in the first and second weeks of May. Nowadays majority of the students getting above ninety percentage in the various subjects have become normal. Though getting high marks can come as a relief to students of class 12 the real worries begin during the admission process to colleges. High marks result in heavy competition during the admission process in the top colleges and institutions of higher studies across India. It can result in parents forced to pay heavy donations to

The various colleges, universities and higher education institutions to avoid such competitions and to see that meritorious candidates do get what they want and to make admissions transparent can conduct entrance tests, focussing on assessment of the students knowledge on the subject he or she prefers to take in colleges. This will help students to come out with their best and give them an opportunity to show their knowledge besides it will show their real flair for the subject they would like to pursue for their higher studies.

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**WORLD
VETERINARY
DAY 2024**

Veterinarians
are essential health workers

27th April 2024

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trained for and direct how we handle our food safety and supply, manage disease outbreaks, herd health, and disease prevention. Healthy and productive livestock produce a wide variety of food products for direct and indirect human consumption and processing. These products include, eggs, meat and meat products, milk and dairy and other value-added products for commercial purposes. The food and income from healthy animals empower farmers of all scales to embrace the advantages, education, openings, opportunities, leverages, and strengths they need to produce more food and income to feed an ever-increasing world population. Also, animal food products from healthy and productive livestock improve farmers' access to both domestic and international markets.

Veterinarians are critical to the development of new treatments, vaccines and understanding disease, before medical advances can be available for human use, we must first ensure that we fully understand the safety, benefits and risk. Animal models for disease are essential to understanding all of this. In order to design these studies, accurately interpret the results, and ensure the health and welfare of every animal involved, veterinarians must be leaders in this research. Veterinarians also serve in discovery research in developing next generation treatments for cancer, autoimmune, infectious and genetic diseases that

excellent job by rendering advisory services to farmers and owners of livestock or managers of animal production systems on the most appropriate herd health management practices according to local and regional agro-ecological contexts. This extends beyond the treatment of animal illnesses or the implementation of preventive measures, such as, de-worming, vaccination, but also addresses housing, nutrition, cleaning, and environmental sanitation. Veterinarians are involved in responding to natural disasters such as floods, earthquakes, and cyclones, and providing emergency care to animals affected by these disasters. They work with local authorities and animal welfare organizations to provide veterinary care, shelter, and food to animals in need, and to reunite lost animals with their owners.

Veterinarians are also an integral part of the Armed Forces, Veterinarians serve in the Indian Armed forces, (Remount and Veterinary Corps). Here, veterinarians provide animal care for military working dogs, horses, mule, camel and other animals as and when required. They also conduct research in some of the advanced research centres of defence forces (Defence Research and Development Organisations).

Veterinarians are

community service, and research to develop new veterinary graduates needed to maintain our livestock development, preserve our food supply chains, and ensure animal health. In addition to this veterinarians perform multifarious role and have got their presence across many fields. They are employed in animal welfare, zoologic medicine, aquatic animal medicine, aerospace medicine (shuttle astronauts), animal shelter medicine, sports medicine, animal-assisted activity and therapy programs, and wildlife medicine. There are veterinarians involved in local, state and federal governments, working with legislators to shape laws that protect prevention of cruelty to animals, animal welfare and well-being of animals.

The Veterinary sector in India plays a crucial role in maintaining the health and well-being of the country's livestock population, which is estimated to be around 536 million. India is one of the leading producers of milk (1st), Chicken meat (7th), and eggs (3rd) in the world (FAOSTAT, 2023) and the livestock sector contributes significantly to the country's economy. According to the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Government of India, the livestock sector contributes 4.11% to the GDP and 26% to the agricultural GDP of the country. The veterinary sector in India has shown significant potential of growth in last decade. According



Polling officers are carrying the Electronic Voting Machine (EVMs)/ Ballot unit and other election related material for the 2nd Phase General Elections 2024 at BBMP PU College, Chamrajpet, in Bangalore

Man Has No Control Over Wife's Property, Says Supreme Court

New Delhi(KCN): A husband has no control over his wife's 'streedhan' (woman's property) and while he may use it during the time of his distress, he has a moral obligation to return it to his wife, the Supreme Court has reiterated while directing a man to pay ₹ 25 lakh to a woman in return for her lost gold.

The woman in this case claimed that 89 sovereigns of gold were gifted to her by her family at the time of marriage. Additionally, after the wedding, her father gave a cheque for ₹ 2 lakh to her husband.

According to the woman, on the first night of their marriage, the husband took custody of all her jewellery and entrusted the same to his mother under the garb of safekeeping. She alleged that all the jewellery was misappropriated by the husband and his mother to discharge their pre-existing financial liabilities. The Family Court, in 2011, held that the husband and his mother had indeed misappropriated the appellant's gold jewellery and that she was entitled to recoup the loss caused to her by the said



misappropriation. The Kerala High Court, while partly setting aside the relief granted by the family court, held that the woman had not been able to establish misappropriation of gold jewellery by the husband and his mother.

The woman then moved the Supreme Court against the high court order.

A bench of justices Sanjiv Khanna and Dipankar Datta said 'streedhan' property does not become a joint property of the wife and the husband, and the husband has no title or independent dominion over the property as its owner.

"Properties gifted to a woman before marriage, at the time of marriage or at the time of bidding farewell or thereafter are her streedhan

properties. It is her absolute property with all rights to dispose at her own pleasure.

"The husband has no control over her streedhan property. He may use it during the time of his distress but nonetheless he has a moral obligation to restore the same or its value to his wife," the bench said, while referring to an earlier judgment on the issue.

The top court said matters of matrimony can rarely be said to be simple or straightforward hence, human reaction according to a mechanical timeline before the sacred bond of marriage is severed is not what one would expect.

"Divorce, majorly, in Indian society is still considered a stigma, and any delay in

commencement of legal proceedings is quite understandable because of the attempts made to have the disputes and differences resolved; more so, in a case of the present nature, when the appellant was faced with the imminent prospect of termination of her second marriage.

"Even otherwise, the appellant did not present before the Family Court a time barred claim. Doubting the bona fide of the appellant, on facts and in the circumstances, was thus not called for," the bench said.

The apex court said the very concept of marriage rests on the inevitable mutual trust of the spouses, which conjugality necessarily involves and to assume that the woman from day one did not trust the husband is rather improbable.

"The High Court, thus, failed to draw the right inference from facts which appear to have been fairly established. That apart, we have neither been shown nor do we know of any binding precedent that for a claim of return of streedhan articles or money equivalent thereof

to succeed, the wife has to prove the mode and manner of such acquisition.

"It was not a criminal trial where the chain of circumstances had to be complete and conclusively proved, without any missing link. Undisputedly, the appellant had brought to the matrimonial home sufficient quantum of jewellery, which she wore during the marriage and as is evidenced from photographs," the bench said.

The apex court said the woman had successfully initiated action towards recovery of money in lieu of 89 sovereigns of gold, which in the year 2009 was valued at ₹ 8.90 lakh.

"Mere upholding of the decree of the Family Court at this distance of time, without anything more, would bring about injustice to her. Bearing in mind the passage of time, the escalation in cost of living, and in the interest of equity and justice, we deem it fit in exercise of power conferred by Article 142 of the Constitution of India to award to the appellant a sum of ₹ 25,00,000," the bench said.

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resignation of JMM MLA Sarfaraz Ahmad.

The bypoll to the Gandey assembly seat is scheduled for May 20 along with the parliamentary elections in the state.

The party also announced the candidature of Samir Mohanty, the sitting MLA from Baharagora, from Jamshedpur Lok Sabha seat.

Ms Soren had embarked on a political journey at the 51st foundation day celebration of JMM in Giridih district on March 4, claiming that a conspiracy had been orchestrated by opponents ever since the Hemant Soren coalition

minister After the ruling JMM-led alliance proved its majority on February 5 and her husband made a fiery speech in the assembly, Ms Soren had taken to X to announce that the "fight against injustice and oppression will continue".

Previously considered a frontrunner for the position of chief minister but facing opposition from Sita Soren, she declared, "I have fought, and I will continue to fight! We have won, and we will win!"

A homemaker with MTech and MBA qualifications, Ms Soren completed her education

19,000 Teachers "Likely To Be Eligible": Bengal School Service Body

Kolkata(KCN): The West Bengal School Service Commission on

Thursday claimed that it had provided the Calcutta High Court lists of around 5,300 appointees from the 2016 school recruitment panel whose appointments were suspect, and stated that the remaining 19,000-odd teachers were "likely to be eligible".

The commission also said it believed that the 19,000 teachers, whose appointments also stand cancelled due to a high court judgment, might have met the necessary

qualification criteria laid down by the appointing authorities.

Talking to reporters, state SSC Chairman Siddhartha Majumdar said, "We submitted before the court lists of candidates where anomalies in recruitment were found. These lists were based on two specific irregularities in recruitment, namely Optical Mark Recognition (OMR) sheet manipulation and rank jumps. The total number of such candidates for Groups C and D and teachers for classes 9-10

and 11-12 was around 5,300." The claim came in the aftermath of a judgment of a high court special bench on Monday, scrapping all 25,753 appointments made through the recruitment process of State Level Selection Test-2016 (SLST) in West Bengal government-sponsored and aided schools.

The court also directed that a section of those recruits will have to return salaries drawn by them along with 12 per cent per annum interest.

BJP Gets Notice In Delhi, PM's Inheritance Tax Jibe In Madhya Pradesh

New Delhi(KCN): Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in Madhya Pradesh's Morena Thursday afternoon to campaign for the BJP, ripped into the Congress on the inheritance tax row, and restated controversial remarks about Muslims and the opposition party's alleged plans to "redistribute wealth to infiltrators". The remarks came hours before a significant first by the Election Commission in Delhi; the poll panel issued notices to BJP boss JP Nadda and his Congress counterpart, Mallikarjun Kharge, on complaints by each other accusing Mr Modi and Rahul Gandhi of hate speech and Model

Code violations. The EC's show-cause notice did not mention either the PM or Mr Gandhi, or even Mr Kharge, in the context of the alleged hate speeches. It did, however, attach copies of the complaint in its notices and, for the first time, held party bosses responsible for their star campaigners' speeches. Essentially, the EC said it required Mr Nadda and Mr Kharge to ensure BJP and Congress star campaigners must follow its guidelines on "a higher quality of discourse".

Speaking in Morena, the PM alleged the Congress wanted to re-impose the inheritance tax abolished by Rajiv

Gandhi. Mr Modi said the former Prime Minister did so to save the majority of the wealth of his mother, ex-Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, from going to the government. "After benefitting from it... the Congress now wants to impose it on the people of the country", he claimed. "If the Congress comes to power... it will snatch over half of your earnings via inheritance tax," he continued, taking a swing at senior Congress leader Sam Pitroda. "An adviser to the opposition party's 'shehzada' (prince), a standard jibe at Mr Gandhi) has suggested imposition of inheritance tax..."

"The wealth you got by working hard and

enduring hardships will be looted from you if a Congress-led government is formed... (but) as long as BJP is there, it will not allow such designs. Modi is a wall between you and the Congress' plan to loot you," the Prime Minister thundered.

He claimed also that the Congress wants to "confiscate people's jewellery and small-

League imprint", drawing a fierce retort from the Congress, for whom Mr Kharge said, "They themselves were with the Muslim League. Their ideologue formed a government with the Muslim League in Bengal..."

Mr Modi's remarks provoked a furious response from the Congress, which accused the Prime Minister of lying to divert voters' attention from genuine issues. Rahul Gandhi posted on X that Mr Modi had been left worried by reports of a poor showing in the first phase.

The opposition party promptly approached the Election Commission "to highlight completely unprecedented and malicious allegations... clearly aimed at creating enmity between groups". The BJP had also filed a complaint against the Congress, alleging that Rahul Gandhi's speeches in Tamil Nadu's Coimbatore and Kerala's Kottayam, in which he spoke about the 'one nation, one election' idea and referred to the linguistic row between the southern states and the saffron party. In its complaint to the EC, the BJP slammed Mr Gandhi as a "habitual offender" and also accused Mr Kharge of "grossly misleading voters by declaring the BJP is going to change the Constitution..."

Hemant Soren's Wife Kalpana To Contest Bypoll From Gandey Assembly Seat

Ranchi(KCN): The Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM) on Thursday announced that Kalpana Soren, wife of jailed former chief minister Hemant Soren, will contest the bypoll from Gandey assembly seat. The seat in Giridih district fell vacant following the

government came to power in 2019. Hemant Soren was arrested by the Enforcement Directorate on January 31 in connection with a money laundering case linked to an alleged land fraud, subsequent to his resignation as chief minister in Odisha's Mayurbhanj district and obtained her engineering and MBA degrees in Bhubaneswar. Hemant Soren's arrest had sparked speculation that his wife would assume leadership. However, a family rift emerged, with his sister-in-law, Sita Soren, openly



opposing any move to make Kalpana Soren the chief minister. Sita Soren had questioned Kalpana Soren's political inexperience and objected to her potential candidacy, dismissing it as BJP propaganda. Hemant Soren had also dismissed speculation of his wife contesting from Gandey, labelling it BJP's fabrication. Speculations regarding Kalpana Soren's candidacy arose following the resignation of ruling JMM's Gandey MLA Sarfaraz Ahmad in December, with the BJP claiming it was to facilitate her contesting the polls.



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Odisha: BJD gives tickets to Marndi couple, BJP to Singhdeo couple

Bhubaneswar(KCN): The ruling Biju Janata Dal (BJD) has given ticket to the Marndi couple to contest from the tribal-dominated Mayurbhanj district while the opposition BJP has fielded the Singhdeo couple from western Odisha's Bolangir district for the Lok Sabha and Assembly elections. Odisha's Revenue minister Sudam Marndi has been fielded by the BJD from the Mayurbhanj Lok Sabha seat while his wife Ranjita Marndi will be the regional outfit's nominee from



the Bangirposi Assembly segment. The 56-year-old tribal leader's Assembly seat Bangirposi has been given to his wife, who took voluntary retirement from



government service two months ago to contest from the seat on the BJD ticket. Sudam Marndi has been elected to the Odisha Assembly for

five times and once to the Lok Sabha. BJD president Naveen Patnaik Monday named Marndi's wife Ranjita Marndi as the party candidate from the Bangirposi

Assembly segment which is presently represented by her husband. The BJD president has mostly adopted the 'one family one ticket' policy while

distributing tickets among aspirants, but the Marndis are the lone exception. "They were given tickets under certain political compulsion," a party leader said.

Sources in the BJD said that there were as many as 10,000 aspirants for 168 party tickets (147 for Assembly and 21 for Lok Sabha) for the Lok Sabha and Assembly polls.

The opposition BJD has also given party ticket to the Singhdeo couple from the Bolangir district.

The saffron party has re-nominated its

Bolangir MP Sangeeta Kumari Singhdeo for the same Lok Sabha seat while her husband and senior party leader KV Singhdeo has been fielded from the Patnagarh Assembly segment. Sangeeta has been elected from the Bolangir Lok Sabha seat four times in the past. The Singhdeos hail from the Bolangir royal family. Though Congress has not given party tickets to any couple, the party has given ticket to a father and son and a father and daughter to contest the Lok Sabha and Assembly elections in Odisha. While Odisha Pradesh Congress Committee campaign committee chairman and senior leader Bhakta Charan Das has been nominated from the Narla assembly segment, his son Sagar is the Congress candidate from the Bawani assembly seat. The Congress has nominated Bhujabal Majhi as the party candidate from the Nabarangpur Lok Sabha constituency and his daughter Lipika Majhi from the Dabugam Assembly segment.

Problems plague Joda's newly-built stadium



Joda(KCN): Hardly two months have elapsed since its inauguration. However, the walls of the newly-built multi-purpose indoor stadium here in Keonjhar district have developed cracks. Plasters are falling off the walls as well as the beams and ceiling, sources informed Wednesday. The gymnasium has been the worst affected with cracks appearing on

many portions of the walls. A visit to the stadium also exposed various other irregularities. Sportspersons and kids training at the stadium informed us that the water supply to the venue has been disrupted for more than a week now.

As a result, they are facing a shortage of drinking water. They informed that they could

not train properly as there were no other means to quench their thirst. They pointed out that the grass lawn in front of the stadium has dried up due to the lack of watering in a proper manner. When contacted, the PWD engineer of Joda, Ramdas Marndi said that the motor pump has been sent for repair and water supply will resume after its installation. The walls

that have developed cracks will also be repaired soon. He, however, appeared evasive when questioned about the sub-standard work associated with the construction of the stadium. It should be stated here that the indoor stadium built at an expenditure of ₹8 crore was inaugurated virtually by Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik in March this year.

Valuables razed in Excise office fire



Keonjhar(KCN): Many confiscated vehicles and seized items were reduced to ashes in a massive fire that broke out late Tuesday night on the premises of the Baripada Excise office in this district. Officials said among the vehicles that were gutted were one Scorpio and two Bolero

SUVs, one auto-rickshaw, and 11 two-wheelers. Many valuable documents and other seized articles were razed to ashes in the blaze that occurred at the office located on Kiriburu road. On receiving information, fire brigade teams rushed to the spot and doused

the flames. Though the actual cause of the fire is not yet clear, suspicion remains that some miscreants might have done it and it will come to light only after police investigation, sources said. "Santosh Behera, an employee of the office, noticed the fire and informed me late in



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Stunning performance by teachers of HSYS Jollygrant, at inaccessible Urgam Valley

New Delhi (KCN): Yoga teachers of Himalayan School of Yoga Sciences (HSYS) Jollygrant organized a special yoga camp at an altitude of about 7000 feet above sea level. In this camp, the students of Atal Utkrisht Government Inter College located in Urgam Valley of the inaccessible area of ??Chamoli participated with enthusiasm.

Yoga teachers Rahul Baluni, Dr. Ankit Sharma and Vijendra Dwivedi of Himalayan School of Yoga Sciences (HSYS) College, Swami Rama Himalayan University (SRHU) Jollygrant, reached out to the youngsters of Urgam



Valley of Chamoli. On the demand of Atal Utkrisht Government Inter College Principal Dr. Deepak Raturi and students, a special yoga camp was organized by HSYS. In this, the yoga teachers gave information to the

students about yoga and related philosophy based on the teachings of the founder Dr. Swami Rama. Along with this, the students were made to practice various yoga asanas. Apart from this, they were informed about the immense

employment opportunities in the field of yoga. Satisfactory answers were also given to the queries of the students.

Himalayan School of Yoga Sciences (HSYS) Principal Dr. Ajay Dubey stated that the

college will continue to organize such yoga camps in the future as well.

When everyone backed out, HSYS came forward

The school's Principal Dr. Deepak Raturi honored the yoga teachers by giving them mementoes. He said that the request for a yoga camp for the students was made to many educational institutions. But, due to the location being extremely inaccessible, everyone refused. In such a situation, when Himalayan School of Yoga Sciences (HSYS) Jolly Grant was asked to organize a yoga camp for the students, HSYS agreed without any delay.

Tata Steel reports highest ever consolidated EBITDA at Rs 63,830 crores

Mumbai, : Tata Steel today announced its Financial Results for the quarter and financial year ended March 31, 2022. The Company's consolidated reported profit after tax (PAT) for the March 2022 quarter rose to Rs 9,835 cr as compared to Rs 7,162 cr of the corresponding quarter of the last fiscal. For the full year ended March 31, 2022, the Company's PAT rose to Rs 41,749 cr, significantly higher than Rs 8,190 cr reported in the last financial year.

The consolidated Turnover for FY22 stood at Rs 243,959 cr as compared to Rs 156,477 cr of the previous fiscal.

Consolidated turnover for the fourth quarter ended March 31, 2022 stood at Rs 69,324 cr as compared to Rs 50,028 cr in the corresponding quarter of the last financial year.

The Board of Directors recommends a dividend of Rs. 51 per fully paid equity share and Rs 12.75 per partly paid equity shares. A 10:1 stock split is also recommended.

T. V. Narendran, Chief Executive Officer & Managing Director, said: "Tata Steel has again demonstrated its ability to deliver stellar results despite heightened complexity in the face of COVID as

well as geopolitical tensions. Our Indian business showed broad based growth across our chosen segments due to our sustained focus on customer relationships, our distribution network and our portfolio of brands supported by our agile business model. Our European operations delivered robust performance as the transformation programme undertaken helped to leverage the strong business environment. We have pursued several initiatives to de-risk the business particularly across procurement and supply chain and continue to invest in

technology and digitisation to drive productivity and improve our resilience."

"Kalinganagar expansion is progressing well and will drive cost savings as well as product mix enrichment. The acquisition of Neelachal Ispat Nigam Limited will be closed in 1QFY23 and we will scale it up rapidly to drive expansion of our high value retail business. I am happy to share that Tata Steel has been recognised as Steel sustainability champion for the fifth year in a row by the WorldSteel," he added.

The 6 MnTPA Pellet plant at Kalinganagar will

be commissioned in 3QFY23 followed by the Cold Roll Mill complex and the 5 MnTPA expansion. Tata Steel India achieved highest ever annual crude steel production of 19.06 million tons, with a growth of 13% YoY. Highest ever deliveries of 18.27 mn tons despite COVID 2nd wave related disruption early in financial year. Broad based improvement in sales volume was witnessed across segments. Automotive was up 27% YoY, Branded Products and Retail was up 11% YoY while Industrial products & projects was up 11% YoY.

WardWizard plans to set up Li-ion advance cells manufacturing unit at its electric vehicle ancillary cluster in Vadodara

Singapore-based plant at WardWizard's electric vehicle ancillary cluster in Vadodara. The association is aimed at facilitating a feasibility study and identification of potential partner for the manufacturing of Li-ion advance cells in India. Under the MoU, Sunkonnect will set up a committee of experienced scientists, engineers and analysts to evaluate and identify the professional partner, as well as to develop the roadmap to set up the 1GWh cell production

unit of Li-ion advance cells at our EV ancillary cluster between 15-18 months. As the safety and security of our customers are paramount for us, we are integrating cutting-edge technologies to enhance the quality and promote the adoption of green mobility in the entire country."

Further elaborating, Dr. Avishek Kumar, Founder, SunKonnect, said, "We are grateful to WardWizard for giving us the opportunity to become the part of this

EV transition and support the brand in development of battery infrastructure in India. Electric Vehicles are the future, and their success depends on the high grade material and advanced battery management system. Under the MoU, we will work with WardWizard to identify the partner equipped with the latest technology and high standards to manufacture Li-ion advanced cells. Our team will be developing a feasible plan and

drafting standard norms for the manufacture of quality batteries for Joy e-bike's products." Sunkonnect will also identify leading testing and certification agencies to set up a center of excellence for battery testing at WardWizard premises which will draft a standard quality specification for batteries. It will further draft standard norms for batteries to ensure quality and reliability for Joy e-bike's range of models.

Narayana Nethralaya and Acer India Team up to build India's first PC & tablet-based software therapy for children

Bengaluru Narayana Nethralaya in collaboration with Acer India today launched the PC + tablet based software, "VisioNova" designed for children suffering from Cortical Visual Impairment (CVI). This initiative by Narayana Nethralaya and Acer India aims at breaking down barriers and providing the patients with better access to treatment.

Acer VisioNova, a path-breaking innovation was conceptualized as a mobile alternative to on-site therapy for CVI children that will offer them the standard of care. Narayana Nethralaya as a part of its 'Buds to Blossoms'

initiative provides dedicated therapy programs to help children develop and improve motor, cognitive and visual abilities that significantly improve their quality of life.

Cortical Visual Impairment is a condition of bilateral visual loss caused due to injury of visual areas in the brain without significant eye or anterior visual pathway impairment. CVI is currently an emerging cause amongst children across India. With 161 children in every 100,000 born with CVI, India has declared it to be a high priority issue and classified it as one of 30 conditions that all babies must receive

mandatory screenings. These children with CVI have great difficulty in performing visually guided activities and these therapies rely on machines that are bulky, expensive and require the child to be in the hospital for the entire duration of six-to-nine-month therapeutic process.

In order to address this, Acer provided PC and 100+ tablets under CSR to kick-off this noble cause. Acer has also further intent to supply around 2000 tablets for patients where patients can pay the hospital a small, refundable deposit and receive the tablet for use from the comforts of their home and still

continue treatments even with COVID disruptions.

The tablet will offer CVI patients exercises that can benefit and help them develop and improve their deficient skills and visual abilities that significantly improve the quality of life. Also, since a number of specialised therapies that are deployed require expensive equipments that need the child to be present at the center for the entire duration of the treatment, this tablet will allow remote therapy under the mentorship of Narayana Nethralaya CVI experts, making this treatment accessible to the outreach.

On the occasion of this

launch, Mr. Harish Kohli, President & Managing Director, Acer India said, "It is a matter of pride for us to join this innovative collaboration with Narayana Nethralaya where technology helps break barriers to improve lives. Acer VisioNova engineered the overall solution, comprising both the software and the hardware. At Acer, we always believe in closing the gap between people and technology and to meaningfully improve clinical outcomes and reduce the systemic cost of healthcare. VisioNova will help patients with timely access to care when they need it."

Cuttack branch co-ordinator poet felicitated on behalf of Rastriya poet congregation

Cuttack (KCN): Fourth literary session of Rastriya poet congregation was organised under the presidency of the literary club at Marawadi block, Cuttack for two days. Invited poets of different states and districts recited various poems in different languages and were felicitated under the leadership of poet and columnist Meera Beura. She was specially felicitated by state president of the club Nathmol Chanani.

Asisha Bidyarthee, Anita Bhabasingha and satire poet Laxmi Chhada Rim Jhim Khan. Poet Mahima Dalabhera, Poet and Dr. Amiya Ranjan Prabhami Sakhi Gopal Mahapatra, Pradip Panda, Rohit Agrawal



Swain, Dr. Basant Kumar, Nanda and Bijay Natha as well as many poets were honoured. At last vote of thanks was offered by State Mahamantri poet Puspa Singhin. Beuria, lecturer Prasana

MADAME TUSSAUDS IS BACK IN A NEW LOCATION

Noida: Madame Tussauds – the greatest wax attraction in the world – is back to serve its fans in an all-new avatar at an exciting new venue at DLF Mall of India, Noida. The attraction at its new location will be known as Madame Tussauds India and is set to provide the opportunity for fans to get up close to their favourite celebrities and experience their most iconic moments of fame through 360 sets and cutting-edge technology.

"Kalinganagar expansion is progressing well and will drive cost savings as well as product mix enrichment. The acquisition of Neelachal Ispat Nigam Limited will be closed in 1QFY23 and we will scale it up rapidly to drive expansion of our high value retail business. I am happy to share that Tata Steel has been recognised as Steel sustainability champion for the fifth year in a row by the WorldSteel," he added.

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To create a single life-like figure it takes an artist minimum of 12 weeks, and during that time they document 500 precise body measurements, insert real hair strand by strand, apply countless layers of paint to build up the skin tones, and more. This entire process helps to achieve the incredible likeness that has made Madame Tussauds world renowned for over two centuries.

The world-famous wax attraction first opened in Delhi at Connaught Place in 2017. The earlier edition of Madame Tussauds in Delhi successfully celebrated several years of curating a spectacular fame experience through its star-studded gallery.

At its new location at DLF Mall of India, Noida, Madame Tussauds India will offer a safe, star-studded experience for guests, with extensive covid protocols in place.

Rob Smith, Divisional Director, Midway Asia Pacific, Merlin

EKA partners with NuPort Robotics to introduce smart Electric Buses

Mumbai: EKA, an electric vehicles & technology company, and a subsidiary of Pinnacle Industries Limited, is once again leading the way as they enter a partnership with NuPort Robotics to introduce smart Electric Buses.

Following a "Made in India" approach thereby contributing to the advancement of economic development and innovation ecosystem within the country. NuPort's technology provides level 2 autonomy features specifically targeted for Indian roads, considering the complex nature of Indian traffic, and understanding the Indian driving mindset. NuPort's partnership with EKA is strategic, as it allows both NuPort and EKA to offer Indian customers cutting-edge innovative vehicles that can be continuously updated to retain that innovative advantage. NuPort is using proprietary AI technology which will progressively enable autonomous features thereby increasing safety, operational efficiency, and reduced carbon footprint.



Indian domestic players may earn upto INR 1 Crore

New Delhi: The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) is considering increasing the remuneration for domestic players, and Ajit Agarkar's selection committee has been tasked with making suggestions on how to implement this idea. While an immediate announcement of increased match fees is unlikely, the national selection committee has discussed the proposal. The aim is to ensure that domestic players not participating in the IPL do not feel deprived.

It is understood that different plans are under consideration but there is unanimity among all concerned in the BCCI that the fees for the domestic cricketers has to be doubled at least. There is also a line of thinking that the domestic players should be in position to earn between INR 75 lakh to INR 1 crore annually if he has played 10 Ranji Trophy games.

The BCCI currently pays INR 60,000 a day to a player who has played more than 40 Ranji games, INR 50,000 to



those who have played between 21 and 40

games and INR 40,000 for those who've featured in 20 games, with the reserves earning INR

30,000, INR 25,000 and INR 20,000 in the respective categories. On this scale of payment, a senior cricketer would be earning up to INR 25 lakh if his side reaches the final with others in the side making between INR 17 lakh and INR 22 lakh. Proportionately, the players will also earn from other BCCI events - like white-ball tournaments such as Vijay Hazare and Mushtaq Ali -- and there is every chance the remuneration for the players will be increased from the next season. The BCCI is

planning on how to maximise the earnings of domestic players. The plan is aimed at encouraging the domestic players to take part in the Ranji Trophy. A section of the players avoided playing red ball cricket last season to protect themselves from injury risk so that they can stay fit for the IPL. The idea is also in line with the BCCI target of encouraging red ball cricket. It may be recalled that the BCCI secretary Jay Shah announced higher match fees for those playing Test matches. Welcoming the Jay Shah announcement, Sunil Gavaskar had suggested that fees for domestic cricketers be doubled or tripled. "If the Ranji Trophy fees can be doubled or tripled, certainly there'll be a lot more people playing the Ranji Trophy, and a lot less pullouts from the Ranji Trophy, because if the fees of playing a Ranji Trophy match are a good fee, there will be fewer people pulling out for various reasons," the cricket legend had stated last month.

Marumani, Akram recalled for Bangladesh T20Is



New Delhi: Zimbabwe have recalled Tadiwanashe Marumani and Faraz Akram for the upcoming five-match T20I series in Bangladesh. Sikandar Raza will continue to lead the 15-member group that also has an uncapped player Johnathan Campbell, who is the son of former captain Alistair Campbell. The rest of the squad is the same as the one that toured Sri Lanka in January this year where they won a game to level the series before losing the decider. Campbell

played a role in the Zimbabwe Emerging Players squad winning the gold medal in the African games last month and has been rewarded. Clive Madande and Brian Bennett were also present in that Emerging Players squad and have retained their spots in the senior side as well. Former player Stuart Matsikenyeri will be in charge of Zimbabwe for this series in the absence of a head coach. The series will kickstart on May 3 with the first three games scheduled to be held in Chattogram.

The final two games will be played in Dhaka. The series will serve as the ideal preparation for Bangladesh ahead of the T20 World Cup in June. However, Zimbabwe failed to qualify for the global event.

Squad: Sikandar Raza (C), Faraz Akram, Brian Bennett, Ryan Burl, Johnathan Campbell, Craig Ervine, Joylend Gumbie, Luke Jongwe, Clive Madande, Tadiwanashe Marumani, Wellington Masakadza, Blessing Muzarabani, Ainsley Ndlovu, Richard Ngarava, Sean Williams

match by 4 runs in the end. The spinner got the big wicket of Rahul Tewatia at a crunch time as it proved to be a turning point in the game. With selection day for the T20 World Cup approaching, Manjrekar feels that Kuldeep has sealed his spot in the side. Speaking to Star Sports, the former cricketer said that Kuldeep is at his peak as bowler at the moment, much like Jasprit Bumrah and Yuzvendra

Chahal. Manjrekar also feels that Kuldeep is comfortable with taking up responsibility and provides crucial breakthroughs for his side. The renowned commentator said that Kuldeep should be the second spinner behind Ravindra Jadeja. "Yes. And this is perhaps Kuldeep Yadav at his peak with regards to his skills, his confidence. You can see now he's out there like a Bumrah

or Chahal at his peak. He is commanding that kind of respect. He looks comfortable with the responsibility and champions, you know, those breaks and those moments that you are seeking at the right time. "Last over today, DC wanted a wicket. They got the wicket of Tewatia there and just seized the game. So this is where Kuldeep has now become a champion bowler and he is somebody I mean that

Rafael Nadal not ruling out French Open withdrawal: Won't be the end of the world

New Delhi: Tennis great Rafael Nadal said it won't be the end of the world if he doesn't manage to play French Open in May, opening up about his physical health after having been troubled by a muscle injury. Nadal is scheduled to play in Madrid Open, a Masters 1000 tournament in clay on April 25.

22-time Grand Slam Rafael Nadal sparked fears about retiring without playing the French Open for one

last time in his career. Speaking ahead of his return to the Madrid Open, Nadal said he is still not 100 percent, recovering from a muscle injury that has troubled him since his return to action from a long layoff earlier in the year. The Spanish great, a winner of 14 Roland Garros titles, said he is not thinking that it would be the end of the world if he doesn't play his favourite tournament in May.

"If I arrive in Paris the way I feel today, I won't play. I'll play Roland Garros if I feel competitive." It won't be the end of the world or the end of my career. I still have goals after Roland Garros, like the Olympics," Nadal, who confirmed his appearance in the Laver Cup in September said on Wednesday in Madrid. Nadal, who has played only 5 competitive matches on the tour in the US and missed the Monte Carlo Masters in clay and returned to

professional tennis player, was preparing to be fit for the Roland Garros and the Paris Olympics. However, a muscle injury seems to be nagging him since the start of the season. Nadal did not play the Australian Open earlier in the year after he returned to action with a third-round exit in an ATP 250 tournament in Brisbane. Nadal missed the hard-court swing in the US and missed the Monte Carlo Masters in clay and returned to

Pant, Axar star in DC's nervy final-over win over GT

New Delhi: Delhi Capitals rode on their captain's incredible knock of 88 from 43 balls to eke out a narrow four-run victory over Gujarat Titans, despite the best efforts of Sai Sudharsan, David Miller and Rashid Khan to stop the hosts from doing the double over them. Pant's knock, alongwith Axar Patel's essay (66 off 43) and Tristan Stubbs's late cameo (26 off 7) turbo-charged DC's innings well past the 200-run mark, and yet proved to be just about enough to pick the two points in the end.

GT started the game better and matched DC through the middle overs, but the backend carnage that saw DC smash 11 sixes in the last five overs made the difference. 22 off the 19th over and 31 off the last pushed DC to a total they weren't even

close to getting just a few overs before. GT fell short despite smashing at 14.6 in the last five overs, reiterating the importance of the finish DC got with the bat on the night.

Jake Fraser-McGurk flirted with danger like he always does, and succeeded until the fourth over when his big flick went straight to Noor Ahmad at deep square leg. Three balls later, Prithvi Shaw went for a pull and was sent back by Noor's incredible forward-diving catch at the same position. Sandeep Warrier bowled a third over to close out the PowerPlay and had his third wicket as Shai Hope mistimed a big hit and Rashid Khan ran in from deep point to complete another sharp catch. Warrier ended the phase with 3 for 15 in 3 overs, and DC limped to

44/3. The move to promote Axar to No.3 worked well for DC as he joined forces with his captain to take down spin in the middle overs. Between them, Rashid and Noor conceded 57 off 6 overs. They constantly resorted to wrong 'uns but both Axar and Pant read them well. Mohit Sharma's slower ones didn't work either as runs came off the quicks too. Both the batters targeted the leg side boundary against the slower bowlers, with Axar reaching 50 off 37 balls in this phase. Pant kickstarted the death-overs proceedings with a helicopter-like whip for a six off Mohit. He tonked one over extra cover in the same over, which fetched 16 runs. Noor was trusted to bowl in the death and Axar welcomed it with two big sixes, but also fell in the

14-run over, for an excellent 66 off 43 balls. Stubbs walked out with a similar wavelength, adding to the six barrage. He smashed two fours and two sixes off R Sai Kishore, who intriguingly bowled his first over of the match in the 19th and gave away 22 runs. Pant then demolished Mohit in the last, taking 31 off it. The GT pacer finished with the most expensive bowling figures in IPL history - 0 for 73 - with

Pant smashing 62 of those in 18 balls. The DC captain finished with a whirlwind knock of 88* from just 43 balls, including 5 fours and 8 sixes. Wriddhiman Saha made the most of a fast outfield to hit five fours to get 33 off 15 in this phase. DC made the big early incision with the wicket of Shubman Gill, but Sai Sudharsan - their impact substitute, started with a six and kept up the

tempo. He hit another six and added four fours by the end of the phase. He also had the rub of the green on his side as Axar dropped a simple catch at mid-on to let the left-hander off. This was GT's second best PowerPlay score in their brief existence. Two splendid catches put the brakes on GT's progress in the middle-overs. First, Axar atoned for his earlier drop with a six and kept up the

