

Max Temp Soars Above 40°C At 32 Odisha Towns, Baripada Boils At 44.8°C



prevailing mainly Northwesterly/Westerly dry air and high solar insolation maximum temperature (Day Temperature) likely to be above normal by 3 to 6°C over some districts of Odisha during the next 4 to 5 days. The weather agency has advised people to take precautionary measures while going outside during peak hours of the day time between 11 AM – 3 PM.

Amid blazing heat, forest fires in Odisha's Similipal make life miserable for locals

with the blaze reported from three points in the Podadihi area. Columns of smoke billowing out from the fire points have enveloped many parts of the sanctuary. Though the Forest Department has been carrying out fire-fighting exercises, it has not been able to contain the blaze. However, coupled with the relentless rise in the mercury, the heat



generated by the raging forest fires has made life miserable for the people living in the villages surrounding Simlipal. Another resident said, "Fires appear at night. All

RBI Directs Banks To Review Practices For Excess Interest Charge On Loans



necessary, to address the issues concerning charging of interest," the circular said.

During its on-site inspections of REs, the RBI noted that interest was being levied from the date of loan sanction or execution of loan agreement, rather than from the actual date of fund disbursement to the customer. The RBI also

discovered instances where interest was applied from the date of the cheque issuance, even though the cheque was given to the customer several days later. In situations where loans were disbursed or repaid within a month, some REs were found to be charging interest for the full month instead of just the duration the loan was outstanding.

New Delhi(KCN): The Supreme Court Monday stayed a Calcutta High Court order directing the CBI to probe into the role of West Bengal government officials in a teacher recruitment scam. The top court was hearing a plea by the West Bengal government against a high court order invalidating the appointment of 25,753 teachers and non-teaching staff made by the School Service Commission (SSC) in state-run and state-aided schools. A bench of Chief Justice DY Chandrachud, Justice JB Pardiwala and Justice Manoj Misra said it will hear the matter May 6. “We will stay the direction which says the CBI



(Central Bureau of Investigation) will undertake further investigation against officials in the state government," the bench said. Calcutta High Court had said the CBI would undertake further investigations with regard to the persons involved in the state government approving the creation of supernumerary post to accommodate illegal appointments.

If necessary, the CBI will undertake custodial interrogation of such persons involved, it had said. Challenging the order, the state government, in its appeal filed before the top court, said the high court cancelled the appointments “arbitrarily.” “The high court failed to appreciate the ramification of cancelling the entire selection process, leading to straightaway termination of teaching and non-teaching staff from service with immediate effect, without giving sufficient time to the petitioner state to deal with such an exigency, rendering the education system at a standstill,” the plea said.

Delhi Police asks Telangana CM Reddy to join probe in Amit Shah's doctored video case: Sources

New Delhi(KCN): Delhi Police has asked Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy to join its probe May 1 in connection with Union Home Minister Amit Shah's doctored video being circulated on social media, official sources said Monday. According to the sources, the police have issued notices to five members of the Telangana Congress, including its chief Reddy, who posted the video on X. Reddy has been asked to appear with his mobile phone allegedly used for posting the fake video on X, the sources said. The Special Cell of the Delhi Police had Sunday registered an FIR after the Indian Cybercrime Coordination Centre (I4C), which is under the Ministry of Home Affairs, filed a complaint about the doctored video of Shah where his statements indicating a commitment to abolish quota for



Muslims on religious ground in Telangana were changed to make it seem that he was advocating scrapping of all reservations. The sources in the Special Cell said that now arrests are likely to follow across the country. Earlier, Amit Malviya, the head of the BJP's IT department, had alleged that the Telangana Congress unit was circulating a doctored video of Shah that was entirely

fabricated and capable of inciting widespread violence. A police complaint was also filed by the BJP. The Delhi Police filed the FIR under sections 153 (causing provocation with intention to cause riot), 153A (promoting enmity between different groups on grounds of religion, race, place of birth, residence, language, etc), 465 (forgery), 469 (forgery to harm the reputation of any party), and 171G (publishing false

statement with intent to affect the result of an election) of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) and under the Information Technology Act, the police said. Meanwhile, the Intelligence Fusion and Strategic Operations (IFSO) unit of the Special Cell has now approached social media platforms to identify the source of the video and those who have spread it. “We have formed many teams to investigate the

matter properly and arrest the main culprits. We have written to X, formerly known as Twitter, and other social media platforms regarding the video. We are investigating both the source of the video and those responsible for its widespread circulation,” said another source.

According to the complaint filed by Sinku Sharan Singh of I4C, some doctored videos are being circulated on social media with “the intent of creating disharmony among communities which is likely to affect public tranquillity and public order”. “The video seems to be doctored, spreading misleading information with the intention of creating disharmony among communities which is likely to affect public tranquillity and public order issues. It is requested to kindly take necessary legal action as per the provisions of law.”

Odisha demands 1.56 crore mosquito nets from Centre



Bhubaneswar(KCN): The Odisha government has requested the central government to provide 1.56 crore Long Lasting Insecticidal Nets (LLIN) to curb malaria cases in the state. State Health and Family Welfare minister Niranjan Pujari Monday wrote a letter to Union Health Minister Mansukh L Mandaviya, in this regard. Pujari highlighted that the Centre had provided 1.56 crore LLINs to Odisha in

2020-21, effectively preventing malaria infections among highly vulnerable populations. The replacement of these nets, scheduled for 2023, has been delayed by nearly a year, leaving the state susceptible to a surge in malaria cases, he said. Pujari urged the central government to promptly supply the LLINs to prevent further escalation of malaria cases.

According to the National Centre for Vector Borne Diseases Control (NCVBDC), Odisha recorded the highest number of malaria cases in 2023 among all states with 41,971 cases. Odisha was followed by Chhattisgarh (31,713), Jharkhand (31,140), West Bengal (26,493), Tripura (22,412), Mizoram (17,991), Maharashtra (16,164) and Uttar Pradesh (13,585).

Educational infrastructure development and expansion in West Bengal marching ahead at fast pace



Kolkata(PARTHA ROY):Introduction of New Education Policy 2020 in Bharat is reforming and evolutionising entire education sector across all states across Bharat. In West Bengal , educational scape is growing at fast pace promoting inclusive education on the inspiration of Chief Minister of West Bengal Smt. Mamata Banerjee . Indian Chamber of Commerce (ICC) organised its 6th Globalised Education Forum on 27th April 2024, on the theme "Inclusive Education: Promoting inclusivity in education, in the perspective of professional courses " to explore and deliberate on promoting Inclusivity in professional education . 6th Global Education Fourm was attended by wide spectrum of thought leaders , educationists including Smt. Chandani Tudu, IAS, Senior Special Secretary, Higher Education Department, Government of West Bengal; Dr. Andrew Alexander Flemming, Deputy High Commissioner, British Deputy High Commission, Kolkata; Mr. Hemant Sahal, Founder & CEO, Digii ; Mr. Satyam Roychowdhury, Chairman, ICC National Expert Committee on Higher Education & Training and Chancellor, Sister Nivedita University; Prof. Dhrubajyoti Chattopadhyay, Vice Chancellor, Sister Nivedita University; Sardar Simarpreet Singh, Chairman, ICC National Expert Committee on Higher Education &

Training and Director, JIS Group , Dr.Saikat Maitra, Former Vice Chancellor, MAKAUT; Ms. Kasturi Kejriwal, COO, Aditya Group. Smt. Chandani Tudu, IAS, Senior Special Secretary, Higher Education Department, Government of West Bengal highlighted on various policy initiatives of Government of West Bengal for healthy inclusive development of education sector across West Bengal as well as presented broad overview of the growth of education sector in the state despite multiple challenges. Smt. Tudu emphasized that true inclusiveness and genuine empowerment can be attained only when the opportunities are within reach for all, irrespective of their socio-economic status, geographical location, or physical abilities. West Bengal is the pioneering state to notify its State Education Policy, 2023 on 05,September 2023. West Bengal Government has prioritized the establishment of new universities and colleges across the State, aiming to ensure inclusivity and accessibility to higher education for students from all regions over the past decade. A significant policy initiative involves the establishment of a university in every district to get the access to higher studies for the students who are living in the remotest regional areas. For Promotion of different languages, like Santhali, Urdu, Arabic, Persian, Tibetan, Nepali,

Tamil, and Hindi, are offered at both undergraduate (UG) and postgraduate (PG) levels in Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) across West Bengal so that the individuals can get access in education in their own language. West Bengal Government has set up Institute of Language Studies and Research (ISLR), to advance the teaching and learning of English, regional languages, and translational studies, to promote inclusivity of different languages in higher education. West Bengal Government launched different Scholarship schemes like Swami Vivekananda Merit-cum-Means Scholarship, A i k y a s h r e e , Medhashree, Shikhshree etc. K a n y a s h r e e - 3 Scholarship, is launched to support girl students for pursuing postgraduate studies. Additionally, the State Government has implemented West Bengal Freeship Scheme, granting e c o n o m i c a l l y disadvantaged students studying in self-financed private engineering/technical colleges in West Bengal a waiver of tuition fees. Since June, 2021, Higher Education Department has launched student Credit card Scheme . Under the scheme a student can get up to Rs.10.00 lakhs loans from banks at the nominal interest for pursuing their studies in the State, in India and abroad. West Bengal government is

strategically clustering universities, colleges, Polytechnics, and schools within districts to enhance collaboration, resource sharing, and academic exchange, ultimately enriching the educational experience for the students. Total number of Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) in West Bengal has increased from 1056 in 2011 to 2049 in 2023. Institutional Density (No of Colleges per 1000 sq Km) has increased from 11.9 in 2011 to 25.4 in 2023. Gross Enrolment in HEIs has increased from 13. 24 Lakhs in 2011 to 27.22 Lakhs in 2023. Gross Female enrolment has increased from 5.62 Lakhs in 2011 to 13.46 Lakhs in 2023 Female Gender ratio has increased from 42% in 2011 to 49.50% in 2023. The Annual Plan budget in Higher Education has increased from Rs. 1724 cr. In 2011-12 to 6404 Cr. in 2024-25. Dr. Andrew A Flemming said ".... All individuals have the potential to succeed and shine bright, therefore it's necessary and important for us to collaborate and work towards building a more inclusive education system." While delivering welcome address, Mr. Satyam Roychowdhury, said, "....I believe India has effectively implemented various strategies, such as The Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, demonstrating our commitment to inclusive education. However, challenges persist, including the need for adequate resources and e d u c a t i o n a l infrastructure. Collaborative efforts are essential to foster a more inclusive and diverse culture. We must strive to create an environment where every individual has equal opportunities to contribute to society, thereby promoting inclusivity in education and empowering countless individuals. Together, we can make a meaningful difference in this realm." Prof. Dhrubajyoti Chattopadhyay, Vice Chancellor, Sister Nivedita University, emphasized and said "... inclusive education requires collaborative efforts to create an environment where inclusivity prevails, empowering individuals." Sardar Simarpreet Singh, Director, JIS Group, stated, "..... The key takeaway is the imperative for collaborative efforts between the private and government sectors to enhance inclusivity and foster development, especially in professional courses, within our dynamic and multifaceted educational landscape." Ms. Kasturi Kejriwal, COO, Aditya Group, said "Change is necessary and constant. There's a need to understand holistic development. ..."

Bengal Pro T20 League Inaugural edition start from 11th June,2024

Kolkata(PARTHA ROY):Inaugural edition of Bengal Pro T20 League will start from 11th June, immediately after IPL 2024. Bengal Pro T20 League organised by Cricket Association of Bengal (CAB) and exclusively managed by Arivaa Sports, will take place after the conclusion of this season of the Indian Premier League (IPL). Each Franchise will be fielding both men's and women's team. While all men's matches shall take place at the historic Eden Gardens, women's matches will be played at the Jadavpur University, Salt Lake Campus Ground.



The tournament will take place over a 21-day window in June, with ten teams in both the men's and women's events. Every day is a double-header day: women's matches will be held in the morning and the afternoon; men's matches will be held in the afternoon and the evening. The tournament will be held in a league-and-

knockout format with a total of 31 games for each men's and women's team. All tournament rules will be modelled after the IPL, including those related to anti-corruption measures to ensure fair play. Eight franchises named after the cities and districts of West Bengal will lock horns in the maiden season. Men's

teams will have 17 players, and women's teams will have 16 players, and all the players as well as the coaches have to be from Bengal. Bengal Pro T20 League (Women's version) will be first ever women's version in any state run premier leagues across India.The men's matches will be telecast live on one of the top sports channels. Meanwhile, the women's games will be live-streamed on an OTT platform.Bengal Pro T20 League will develop cricket economy and develop Cricketing talents of Bengal.

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"Student Success Starts Locally"



As the frenzy of exams subsides, students and parents embark on the next chapter of their educational journey—the pursuit of admissions and coaching. However, amidst this flurry of activity, it's crucial to reflect on the choices made and their profound impact on our youth's future. Let's delve deeper into the pivotal role of parents, the influence of peer pressure, the significance of local education, and the necessity of ethical teaching practices in shaping a vibrant educational landscape.

The Parental Influence: One of the most concerning trends during this period is the undue influence exerted by parents on their children's choice of subjects. While parental guidance is invaluable, it's imperative to prioritize the interests and aptitudes of the students themselves. Pushing children into fields they have little interest in can lead to

disengagement and frustration. Instead, parents should encourage their wards to explore their passions and talents, empowering them to make informed decisions about their academic paths.

Peer Pressure Dynamics: Peer pressure also plays a significant role in shaping students' choices. Many young learners opt for subjects based on their friends' preferences rather than their own interests or career aspirations. While camaraderie is essential, it should not overshadow individual agency and self-discovery. Students must recognize that their academic journey is uniquely their own, and they should choose subjects that resonate with their personal goals.

The Case for Local Education: Amidst the chaos of admissions, the selection of coaching centers requires careful consideration. While corporate coaching centers may offer flashy facilities, there's a compelling case for supporting local tuition centers. These grassroots institutions provide a personalized learning experience with teachers who understand

the local context. By patronizing local establishments, parents not only contribute to the local economy but also create job opportunities within their communities.

Advantages of Local Tuition Centers: Local tuition centers play a vital role in imparting moral education and fostering a sense of community. Through parent-teacher meetings and interactive sessions, these centers promote holistic development and provide a support network for students and their families. Moreover, by emphasizing the importance of attendance and punctuality, they instill essential life skills that extend far beyond the classroom.

The Ethical Imperative in Teaching: Recent incidents circulating on social media by some of the reputed corporate coaching centre / branches in kashmir highlights the need for ethical teaching practices and shed light on unethical behavior within educational settings. As educators, it's imperative to uphold ethical standards and prioritize moral integrity in the pursuit of knowledge. Let's address these

concerns and reaffirm our commitment to nurturing honest, sincere professionals who will contribute positively to society. Teachers hold a sacred responsibility to nurture young minds with integrity and respect. Education should remain a sanctuary of enlightenment, free from unethical behavior that undermines the trust between educators and students. In the present age, moral education is as crucial as secular education because knowledge without moral principles is like a fruitless tree, a futile endeavor. The Quran underscores moral education as a central theme, with numerous verses emphasizing the formation of good character and embodiment of morality. The teacher can impart others the same knowledge that they themselves have access to. However, the teaching profession is far from easy; it demands constant hard work, up-to-date knowledge, dedication, passion, ethics, humanity, consciousness, spirituality, and a calm demeanor. Knowledge is intrinsically tied to

morality. Knowledge pursued solely for personal gain is like poison, lacking in productivity. Parents should equip their children with the light of moral education as well as conventional education so that they can move forward with moral awareness and join the ranks of righteous children. In collective responsibility, we need a society where it is imperative to lay the foundation for an environment free from immorality, shamelessness, oppression, murder, unjust bloodshed, bribery and wrongdoing, because the influence of the environment on morality is also felt. Educators bear a sacred responsibility to impart knowledge with integrity and uphold moral principles in the classroom. Teaching extends beyond the transmission of information; it is about nurturing well-rounded individuals who possess not only academic prowess but also moral consciousness. Unethical Conduct in Education: The emergence of videos depicting irresponsible behavior by educators is a cause for concern. Using unrelated, unethical content during classes not only undermines the integrity of education but also sets a poor example for students. Such actions have no place in the noble pursuit of knowledge and must be addressed with urgency and diligence. In light of recent events, it is essential for educational institutions to reaffirm their commitment to ethical conduct. This includes implementing clear guidelines for appropriate teaching practices and fostering a culture of accountability among educators. By upholding ethical standards, we ensure that education remains a beacon of enlightenment and progress.

Cultural Relevance and Language: Embracing local languages and cultural nuances enhances students' understanding of concepts. Making learning accessible and relatable fosters a deeper connection to education. Let's celebrate cultural diversity and ensure that every student has equal access to quality education in a language they understand. The Role of Morality in Nation-Building: Rumi's Timeless Wisdom

Maulana Rumi saying in Persian is very popular "Suhbat e sauleh tura saulah kunad Suhbat E tauleh tura tauleh kunad" Meaning "In the companionship of good people man learns good? and man learns evil in the company of bad people" Maulana Rumi's timeless wisdom reminds us that the death of morality is, in essence, the death of a nation. In our quest for progress and development, we must prioritize the cultivation of moral character in our future professionals. It's not merely doctors and engineers that we require, but honest doctors and sincere engineers who uphold ethical values in their practice. Let's heed Rumi's wisdom and create environments where goodness flourishes and ethical principles guide every interaction.

Educational Responsibility: Bottom line: As we navigate the post-exam rush, let's reaffirm our commitment to student-centered education and the promotion of ethical teaching practices. By empowering students to pursue their passions, supporting local

education initiatives, and upholding ethical standards in teaching, we can create a more inclusive and empowering educational landscape for generations to come. Together, let's build a brighter future where every student has the opportunity to thrive and succeed. Finally the death of morality is actually the death of nation. We don't need doctors and engineers- we need honest dictors and sincere engineers. By instilling values of honesty, sincerity, and responsibility in our educational systems, we lay the foundation for a brighter, more ethical future. Together, let's strive to uphold the highest standards of integrity in education and nurture a generation of professionals who will contribute positively to society's advancement.

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How to Revise JEE Advanced 2024 in Short time



It is possible to pass IIT JEE with appropriate preparation and determination. IIT JEE is a difficult exam, yet it is not as difficult as everyone thinks. The only difficulty that many students have is that they must prepare for both Board examinations and IIT JEE at the same time. While the students' path from class 12 to an IIT is one of the most difficult, there are various preparatory approaches they can use to conquer the challenge listed above and many other barriers. The students preparing for the JEE Advanced exams can check out the tips on how to crack JEE Advanced in months. The techniques mentioned in the article are the best shortcut tricks to plan and prepare at the last minute. Planning, scheduling, and executing these tips will ensure good grades in the exam to reach the student desired engineering institution.

1. Carefully Plan the Portions

Create a study plan. It assists the student in organizing all of the issues that must be covered. Use a digital calendar to assign a topic based on the amount of time they have available. Study for at least 8 hours per day. Assign one complicated and one simple topic. Bring mathematics topics into everyday studies. Every day, solve Physics puzzles. Creating a study strategy for IIT JEE is vital, but it is much more important to stick to it.

2. Books - The Ultimate Saviour

The students keep asking - "Can we crack JEE advanced in 2 months?" the answer to that is reference books which play a more crucial role in preparation. With so many textbooks on the market, selecting the best JEE Main OR Advanced textbook can be difficult. NCERT books are the Bible of JEE preparing texts. Refer to recommended standard textbooks in addition to NCERT textbooks.

3. Give Mock Exams

Solving past years' papers and taking mock examinations once every two weeks can be a major support in how to clear the JEE Advanced in 2 months. By administering simulated tests,

The student will become familiar with the IIT JEE exam pattern, which will help them manage the student's time and enhance the student's speed and accuracy. Aids in understanding the amount of learning.

4. Create a schedule that is organized

Keep in mind that squandering time costs the student a lot. As a result, creating a good timetable allows the student to commit 11–12 hours per week to their studies is a dvantageous. According to this timetable, the student can spend two hours on an inorganic or organic chemistry topic in the morning at 6:30. Make sure not to overburden the student, and take breaks to unwind and clear the student's mind.

5. Use Online Study Tools

Different people have various abilities. Similarly, not all students are active or attentive. Some students are early risers who prefer to study first thing in the morning, while others are night owls who prefer to study late at night. Knowing when the student is most active during the day and studying during that time allows the student to concentrate more and retain more information. Download BYJU's learning app to

study at the student's own pace whenever and wherever the student chooses.

6. Techniques for Studying

Hard effort and smart work are required when preparing for the IIT JEE. Use study approaches that allow the student to simplify and recall difficult concepts better. Students can increase their learning by experimenting with the approaches listed below.

Mathematics Infographics: Use infographics to help the student understand difficult subjects. It is a process that entails starting with one topic and expanding out to other related ones. Make an infographic with different colors to help the student recall better. Physics block diagrams: This technique uses blocks and lines to represent primary functions. It is mostly used to illustrate interdependence.

7. Rank the chapters

It's optional that the students are proficient in every subject listed on the syllabus. Students frequently avoid or score poorly on topics, yet, this needs to be corrected. All topics, especially those frequently questioned,

must be understood to achieve a high rating. It is ideal if the student classifies topics according to how they perform. These subjects should be divided into three groups and named good, moderate, and bad. The student can find topics in the good category to learn more about it. Make a strategy monitor chart to track how many subjects the student has covered under each category and subject.

8. Maintain the student's health and motivation.

Students entirely focus on their books and ignore their health during exam season. Remember that the student's career and health are equally vital; as a result, eat nutritious foods. Instead of letting negative ideas affect the student, keep the student's mental health in check by engaging in activities like yoga, meditation, and exercise.

Last Minute Tips on How To Prepare For JEE Advanced in 2 Months

For some students, the two months allotted to prepare for the JEE Main and JEE Advanced 2024 exams may not seem like a lot of time. This raises the question, "Has anyone

cracked JEE advanced in 2 months?" the answer is yes. With proper preparation and guidance, it is possible. Depending on how much preparation each student has already done, the student can divide the two months of preparation for JEE Main and JEE Advanced 2024 into different phases.

1. Techniques For Completely Unprepared Students

Students should be confident and not lose hope even if they have not started JEE Main and JEE Advanced preparation for 2024 since they are too busy studying for board exams. They should, however, be mentally inspired to commit to putting all of their work into finishing their preparation for the upcoming two months of national-level admission exams. Students should concentrate on studying and comprehending all subjects and themes in the upcoming two months. There is a need for students to tackle a few issues from any good book routinely. Chapter-based JEE papers should also be attempted; the student can get them for reference from any internet source. Following their study of the theories outlined in

the curriculum, students are urged to continue working on these papers. This will enable the pupils to finish the curriculum in two months comfortably. Additionally, students should continue taking comprehensive exams from reputable sources to track their development. These exams will enable the students to assess where they stand on the entire syllabus. The students should act professionally while reviewing their papers and mock exams.

2. Techniques For Partly Prepared Students

There can be some students who are just partially prepared for JEE Main 2024 and are still trying to figure out how to prepare and what to do next. This kind of student should have a strong will to continue their preparation and let go of the notion that there is no room for growth during the following two months. The students should understand is that they have plenty of time to study for the test. Confident students are more likely to do well in class. Confident students will be able to plan and adhere to their study timetable for successful study habits. Chapter-wise sample papers should be

attempted regularly by students. Full-syllabus tests should be administered periodically after every 5 or 7 days.

3. Techniques For students whose preparation has slowed

Students diligently studied before the lockdown but suddenly stopped should regain their desire. For this group of candidates, chapter tests at the JEE Advanced level are the greatest preparation option if they have already finished the JEE Main syllabus. This will enable students to be ready for questions with a higher level of complexity and guarantee that they will have good outcomes. Therefore, with only two months, the student should be able to complete at least 12 previous years' papers. Try the student's best to solve model question papers, practice questions, mock test questions, etc. To acquire a good view of the student performance and areas for improvement, spend two hours analyzing their paper performance. Accuracy will improve, and good outcomes will increase speed.

Retired Principal Educational columnist malout,Punjab

Advocate RK Tripathy: An Unsung Hero in the Pursuit of Justice



The bedrock of human rights lies in the universal recognition of inherent rights to life, liberty, and dignity. Enshrined in Article 21 of the Constitution, the right to life is inviolable, even for prisoners. Amendments to the Protection of Human Rights Act should ensure enforceable compensation for unlawful detention, fortifying accountability. Ratification of the UN Convention against Torture by India would signify a commitment to eradicating custodial violence globally. Regular training for law enforcement fosters a culture of human rights respect, especially for police and paramilitary. The Indian Constitution pledges justice, liberty, equality, and fraternity in its Preamble and articles. Article 32 empowers the Supreme Court, ensuring the fundamental rights enforcement, a

cornerstone of democracy. This ensures that fundamental rights remain integral to the Constitution's basic structure, safeguarding citizens' freedoms and ensuring a just and humane society. Sri Radhakant Tripathy, an advocate in the Supreme Court of India is a pivotal figure in the fight for justice and equality in India. His life and work exemplify the interconnectedness of human rights principles with individuals' struggles against systemic oppression. Tripathy was born into a modest family in Baleshwar, Odisha, India, in the early 20th century. Growing up amidst poverty and social inequality, he developed a keen awareness of the injustices prevalent in Indian society. His journey towards becoming a human rights advocate is shaped by his firsthand experiences with witnessing discrimination and marginalization. One of the central themes of Tripathy's activism has been his firm commitment to the rights of marginalized communities, particularly Dalits and indigenous peoples. He recognized that caste-based discrimination and oppression have been deeply entrenched in Indian society, perpetuating systemic inequalities and denying millions of people their fundamental rights. Tripathy's advocacy work focused on challenging the caste hierarchy and empowering Dalits to assert their rights and dignity. He organized grassroots movements, conducted awareness campaigns, and mobilized communities to resist caste-based discrimination and violence. Through his efforts, he sought to dismantle the oppressive structures that deprived Dalits of their fundamental human rights, including access to education, employment, and justice. In addition to his advocacy for Dalit rights, Tripathy has also been a vocal critic of the exploitation and marginalization of indigenous peoples in India. He recognized the historical injustices inflicted upon indigenous communities through land dispossession,

particularly Dalits and indigenous peoples. He recognized that caste-based discrimination and oppression have been deeply entrenched in Indian society, perpetuating systemic inequalities and denying millions of people their fundamental rights. Tripathy's advocacy work focused on challenging the caste hierarchy and empowering Dalits to assert their rights and dignity. He organized grassroots movements, conducted awareness campaigns, and mobilized communities to resist caste-based discrimination and violence. Through his efforts, he sought to dismantle the oppressive structures that deprived Dalits of their fundamental human rights, including access to education, employment, and justice. In addition to his advocacy for Dalit rights, Tripathy has also been a vocal critic of the exploitation and marginalization of indigenous peoples in India. He recognized the historical injustices inflicted upon indigenous communities through land dispossession,

forced displacement, and cultural assimilation. Tripathy worked tirelessly to amplify the voices of indigenous peoples and demand recognition of their land rights, cultural heritage, and self-determination. Tripathy's activism has been not limited to domestic issues; he also championed international human rights causes, particularly those related to social and economic justice. He believed that exploitation are global phenomena requiring collective action and solidarity. Advocate Tripathy collaborated with international human rights organizations, participated in global forums, and advocated for policies prioritizing marginalized communities' rights and well-being. Despite encountering numerous challenges and obstacles, including threats to his life and harassment by authorities, Advocate Tripathy remained steadfast in his commitment to the principles of human rights. His courage, resilience, and dedication inspired countless individuals to join the

struggle for justice and equality. Tripathy's legacy resonates today as a beacon of hope for those fighting against oppression and injustice. His work embodied the core principles of human rights, including equality, non-discrimination, and social justice. Advocate Tripathy remains undeterred in his pursuit of justice. His work in exposing cases of sexual assault and advocating for adequate facilities for women reflects his unwavering commitment to creating meaningful change. By challenging oppressive systems and advocating for the rights of marginalized communities, Tripathy contributed to the broader struggle for human rights in India and beyond. Moreover, Tripathy's life story underlines the interconnectedness of human rights struggles across different contexts and communities. His advocacy works transcended boundaries of caste, class, and nationality, emphasizing the universal nature of human rights and the importance of solidarity in achieving social change.

Advocate Radhakant Tripathy stands as a beacon of hope and resilience in the fight for human rights, particularly for marginalized communities like the tribals in Odisha, India. Tripathy's advocacy work highlighted the overlooked problems faced by displaced individuals, urging authorities to establish a separate commission to resolve their grievances. With a substantial tribal population in Odisha, Tripathy emphasized the need for specific measures to relocate and rehabilitate those affected by displacement. Tripathy's dedication to the cause bore fruit in the BhadrakDagamunda colony, where landless leprosy tribal patients struggled for years. Through his relentless legal battle, he secured land, houses, and essential amenities for these individuals, demonstrating his commitment to addressing systemic issues tribal communities face. In districts like Kalahandi and Bolangir,

plagued by social evils and the absence of basic amenities, Tripathy's pro-bono legal interventions played a pivotal role. His advocacy exposed the challenges and compelled the government to initiate action based on recommendations, marking a significant step toward accountability. Advocate Tripathy's impact extends beyond tribal issues to encompass a broad spectrum of human rights concerns, including women's rights. As a COVID warrior, he served the underprivileged and fought against practices like the chastity test. His ongoing battle for victims in red-light areas of Sonagachi, West Bengal, has made tangible impacts on the lives of trafficking victims. While Tripathy's contributions may have yet to gain widespread recognition, his impact on social justice is immeasurable. As an unsung hero, advocate Tripathy's legacy inspires hope and empowerment, serving as a reminder of the

power of individual advocacy in pioneering positive change for the marginalized and voiceless. Thus, Radhakant Tripathy's life and activism are a powerful reminder of the indivisibility and universality of human rights. Through his relentless pursuit of justice and equality, Tripathy left an indelible mark on the human rights landscape in India, inspiring generations of activists to continue the struggle for a more just and equitable world. As we contemplate his enduring legacy, let's reassert our dedication to safeguarding human rights for everyone and honour Advocate Radhakant Tripathy's tireless efforts. He selflessly filed over 18,000 cases with the NHRC at no charge, championing a noble cause and bringing immense relief worth billions to impoverished families who were victims of injustice.

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Indian apiculture industry under serious stress



Agricultural biodiversity is an important global natural resource that is slowly undergoing depletion and degradation due to various natural and predominantly anthropogenic causes. Unless we take appropriate steps for food conservation today, we may be hit hard by global agricultural biodiversity depletion to an alarming and irreversible level negative for the entire planet and human society. Unorganized and unskilled cheap labour force is the cornerstone of the agro-industry around the globe with special emphasis to developing and under developed nations across the globe. Apiculture both commercial, non-commercial as well as legal and illegal hunter gatherer type operations as seen in the mangrove forests of the Sunderbans in India (West Bengal) and Bangladesh is a perfect example of this ecological as well as economic erosion in particular. The mangrove wild honey bees are of species Apies dorsata Hill type. They collect nectar and pollens from

the flowers of different mangrove species and their comb sizes are very big. Although some of the commercial beekeepers keep their bee boxes near the mangrove forest to facilitate collection of nectaries by commercial honey bees from the local mangrove plants. However, this effort has not been very commercially viable and successful compared to placing bee boxes in the conventional crop fields with standing crop in full bloom. However, direct harvest of honey from the mangrove forest still remains the preferred choice of many in the Suburban region. Most of this hill type variety is exploited by extremely poor and marginal communities for their basic livelihood as mangrove honey has a high market price and demand in local, regional and international markets. But the damage to the bee populations due to crude unscientific method of honey collection as well as the vulnerability and high risk of human life deep inside the mangrove forest is a double edged sword. The honey collected is also contaminated with various impurities, dead insects, excretory materials, eggs, larvae due to crude collection process and lack of proper honey processing facilities

available to such marginal communities. Overall both the ecological cost and the human cost surpasses the small economic benefits made. Proper commercial apiculture practices are yet not quite common for people living in this region. Their attitude is still like that of short time hunting abs gathering g, both legally and illegally. The accidents that happen here due to tiger and crocodile attacks, snake bites, piracy, harassment by forest guards, money lenders and rural politicians have been negatively impacting their life and livelihood and rapidly destroying their local ecosystems. There is very little or zero support from the local government and related agencies. Commercial apiculture is practiced successfully in many places across mainland China, South and South East Asia. The practice of culturing honey bees in bee boxes, collecting honey without damaging honey combs by simple hand operated machine by centrifugal force, filtering by musline cloths is known to many growers and you may find it in many villages. This has been an important livelihood for many marginal rural and aboriginal communities, forest fringe residents. The Indian Khadi Gramodyog provided training and sell bee

Saikat Kumar Basu

boxes to interested farmers. But the difficulty of Sunderban region is a well established fact especially due to various natural and anthropogenic factors. This is a highly sensitive subject that is in need of immediate attention for scientific culture by generating awareness and by providing proper training and support. But the ground realities are however extremely

stealing the money and not paying back making the banking industry sick. Then there is no problem for the government, administration as well as judiciary; the problems are negate failure of payments of few thousand rupees if marginal farmers. Honey producers live at the mercy of these eminent socialites abs are exploited at every stage. The honey

adulterate them with cheap sugar, synthetic colour and flavour and bottle them abs they land on your breakfast table at a reasonably high price. The best quality honey is imported to international markets to get our beneficiaries a massive profit and tax benefits. Often pesticide contain Ami step or other wise low grade honey imported is rejected overseas and

apiculturists are subjected to physical, mental and economic abuse by farmers in whose plots the boxes are placed, by policemen and civic volunteers, panchayat members as well as local goons. They have to bribe at every stage just to simply do their work. There is absolutely no support for these helpless communities from both state and central governments due to internal political and business understanding as well as secret transactions beneath the table. This the poor bee farmers continue to suffer while those around them are getting flatulent due to overflow of cash from both domestic and foreign economy. Few beekeeper's cooperatives and other related bogus organizations are functional but only at a very limited scale. The ignorance and negligence towards the development and establishment of a modern apiculture industry both in India and West Bengal has failed miserably. However, in spite of the odds the apiculture farmers and producers are fighting to survive. Our ecology and economy is unfortunately not holding hand in hand. There is very little awareness among farmers regarding

benefits of the pollinators. Beekeepers are physically abused at many places by crop producers due to this. Private companies are now major producers of commercial honey, Khadi is an organization of the by gone era. Whatever pure quality honey is still sold comes from organizations like Khadi and local forest departments. Apiculture is the worst neglected agricultural sector of India. India and China are two big giant producers, consumers and distributors of adulterated honey. Fairly recently the Center of Science at New Delhi demonstrated that all major honey samples from sealed bottles of reputed commercial manufacturers across India are openly selling adulterated honey using cheap sugar syrup indiscriminately. There is very little or no monitoring done knowingly or unknowingly by our regulatory agencies. China has taken honey adulteration to almost an artistic level of international excellence and repute.

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pathetic. The government banks do not provide loans to these poorest of the poor as they have a history of failing to pay back their loans due to several factors. Unfortunately they are exclusively dependent on local money lenders for the investment. The same banks however has no problem in panning out several millions of rupees cash to our honourable industrialists, who are exceptionally good in

collected both legally or illegally are sold at a fixed price set by some influential middlemen supported by both government and bureaucrats in close nexus with corrupt businessmen keeping their profit sky high and reducing the profit margin of farmer/producers at a minimal level so that they can just survive to continue the vicious cycle next year. The honey is then sold to big brand companies who professionally

are dumped into our local market for selling at a cheaper price for local consumers. The poorest of the poor farmers continue to suffer and impacted by abject poverty. Apiculture industry is a migratory industry and the apiculturists need to move their bee boxes in trucks to various agro-climate regions depending on the floral seasons and available standing crops in the field. Such migratory

Jai Jagannath, Jai Jagannath Jai Jagannath : mantra of Lord of the universe that empowers millions of lives on planet Earth

Kolkata (PARTHA ROY): Jai Jagannath!!! Bharat Chamber of Commerce (BCC) and Bharat Chamber of Commerce Ladies Forum (BCCLF) organised a session on Bhagwan Shree Jagannath titled "A Talk on Shree Jagannath - The Lord of the universe" by Dr. Vedula Ramalakshmi, a specialist in Jagannath Sanskriti, Reader (SS) in Hindi, Kamala Nehru Women's College Bhubaneswar Odisha, a passionate orator and iconic trainer of JCI India on 26th April 2024 in Kolkata. Dr. Vedula Ramalakshmi delivered the talk in Hindi demonstrating unique cultural unity of Bharat. Dr. Vedula Ramalakshmi spoke on various aspects of Jagannath Sanskriti and its influence on evolution of human civilization in eastern India over centuries that had shaped socio-cultural-economic-political scape



of Kalinga region of Bharat or modern day Odisha.

Today, Jagannath Sanskriti has spread nearly in all continents of the planet Earth. Various festivals connected to Bhagwan Jagannath are celebrated across all continents where Hindus especially Odia community is present. Today, Bhagwan Jagannath is worshipped by nearly all Hindu communities in Bharat and abroad. Dr. Vedula Ramalakshmi

emphasized Bhagwan Jagannath is lord of love, affection & care, soul connection, empowerment for his devotees. She mentioned JCI (Junior Chamber International)'s philosophy which promotes & support development of each & every individual deeply connected to Jagannath Sanskriti as both facilitate all round human development and empowerment. Dr. Vedula Ramalakshmi elaborated on various

rituals involved in every day worshipping as well as various annual celebrations and observances involving more than decades of Bhagwan Jagannath, Bhagwan Balabhadra and Subhadra Devi. She highlighted Ratha Yatra of Bhagwan Jagannath, Bhagwan Balabhadra, Subhadra Devi, Sudarshan Chakra of Bhagwan Vishnu which is unique inclusive celebration where rich, poor, people from various other religions

and communities participate in the spirit of bonhomie and cooperation. Ratha Yatra also symbolically involves participation from other members of biosphere those support life on the planet Earth. Smt. Nilima Joshi of BCCLF welcomed the august gathering and highlighted the fact Bhagwan Jagannath is worshipped along with his brother Lord Balabhadra and sister Subhadra Devi in Puri temple and which is most important place of pilgrimage of Bhagwan Jagannath. Smt. Renuka Shah Chairperson of BCCLF introduced Guest in Chief Dr. Vedula Ramalakshmi and spoke on omnipresence of Bhagwan Jagannath. Smt. Shampa Ghose delivered vote of thanks and spoke on influence of Bhagwan Jagannath in religio-cultural scape of Hindus and in their cultural heritage.

Sajad Lone welcomes scores of prominent socio-political activists from Lolab

Srinagar, Aasif Malik : J&K Peoples Conference witnessed two significant joinings from Lolab Constituency today, as scores of prominent socio-political activists from Machil and Maidanpora areas, representing diverse ideological backgrounds, embraced the party. The joining ceremonies were graced by the presence of Party President Sajad Lone. Besides, DDC Vice Chairman of Kupwara and Incharge of the Lolab Constituency Haji Farooq Mir, Constituency Convener Lolab Tanveer Khan among others were also present. Extending a warm welcome to the new entrants, PC President expressed contentment for the widespread acceptance, support and affection shown by the people towards the party. He emphasized that this overwhelming response serves as an inspirational driving force for the party's leadership to redouble their dedication



to public welfare. "Peoples Conference has today shown with utmost clarity that it is a party of the people, where everyone who desires to positively contribute to the well-being and betterment of the local populace is welcome," he stated. "We are the Kashmir

Team, dedicated to serving the people and with this motto, we shall raise the voice of the common people in the Parliament and seek their rights and dignity." Lone urged the new members to redouble their efforts in public outreach, ensuring that the people are apprised of

the party's ideals, paving the way for the envisaged positive change in the upcoming Parliamentary elections. "The success of our party has remained enshrined in keeping our roots intact and delivering respect to our people who have suffered relentlessly. We

should hear them out, help them out and ensure their grievances are resolved," he said. Later, PC President also convened a pivotal meeting, engaging with party members representing Block Committees from Krusan, Lalpora and Diver in Lolab constituency. He was joined by Vice Chairman DDC Kupwara and Constituency Incharge Haji Farooq. The gathering centered on crucial deliberations regarding the upcoming parliamentary elections, delving into key issues and strategic approaches. Emphasizing the paramount importance of amplifying public voices across various platforms, PC President reiterated the party's commitment to represent the concerns and aspirations of the populace. "We are dedicated to championing their rights and aspirations, carrying their voices to the highest echelons of governance-the Parliament," he affirmed.

Assam Congress Worker Arrested Over Amit Shah's "Fake Video": Himanta Sarma



Guwahati (KCN): One person was arrested on Monday for allegedly sharing a "fake video" of Union Home Minister Amit Shah, Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said on Monday. The arrested

person, 31-year-old Reetom Singh, is associated with the Assam Congress and functions as the party's 'War Room Coordinator', according to his X profile. "Assam police have

arrested an individual named Sri Reetam Singh in connection with the fake video involving Honorable Home Minister Sri @AmitShah," Himanta Sarma said in a post on X. The Guwahati resident's arrest was made on a day when Amit Shah is in the state capital to campaign for of BJP candidate for Guwahati Lok Sabha seat - Bijuli Kalita Medhi. A Congress spokesperson said the party is not aware

of any fake video and "it must have been shared in his personal capacity". Later, Assam Police Chief Public Relations Officer Pranabjyoti Goswami said in a statement that a case was registered at Panbazar police station based on a complaint regarding the circulation of a "distorted and motivated" post on X about Amit Shah. The case has been registered under IPC Sections 153A (promoting enmity

between different groups), 171G (false statement in connection with an election) and 505(1)(b) (causing fear or alarm to the public whereby a person induced to commit an offence against the state or public tranquillity). Section 66F of the IT Act (cyber terrorism) has also been slapped on the accused, Goswami said. He said police have seized two mobile phones and one laptop from Reetam Singh's possession.

ECI Notifies for Phase 6 of General Election to House of People

Kolkata, (KCN): The Election Commission of India (ECI) today notified for the sixth phase of the General Election. In this phase seven States including West Bengal will go for poll on May 25, 2024. A total of 57 Parliamentary Constituencies will be undergoing polls on that date, including eight of West Bengal. The States which will be going for

poll in the sixth phase other than West Bengal, included Bihar, Haryana, Jharkhand, Odisha, Uttar Pradesh and NCT of Delhi. In West Bengal, Tamluk, Kanthi, Ghat, Jhargram (ST), Medinipur, Purulia, Bankura & Bishnupur (SC) Parliamentary Constituencies will be undergoing poll on May 25, 2024 in the sixth phase of General

Election. The poll timing in these Constituencies in West Bengal is from 7 am to 6 pm. In Tamluk, there are 1928 polling stations. In Kanthi, the total number of polling stations is 1876. In Ghat, Jhargram (ST), Medinipur, Purulia, Bankura & Bishnupur (SC), the total number of polling stations are 2095, 2018, 1945, 1903, 1945 & 1890 polling stations respectively.

"Government At A Standstill" After Arvind Kejriwal Arrest: High Court



New Delhi (KCN): The Delhi government has "come to a standstill" after the arrest of Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, the High Court said today while hearing a petition on the state of education in schools run by the city civic body. A Chief Minister's post in a buzzing capital like Delhi is not ceremonial and it is post where the office holder has to be available 24x7. His absence cannot deprive children of their free text books, writing material and uniforms, the court said. "National interest and public interest demands that no person who holds this post is incommunicado or absent

for a long stretch or for an uncertain period time," said the bench of Acting Chief Justice Manmohan and Justice Manmeet Pritam Singh Arora. The court held that the admission of Delhi's Urban Development Minister Saurabh Bhargava -- that any increase in financial power of MCD commissioner shall require approval of Mr Kejriwal - amounts to an admission that "Delhi government has come to a standstill" after the Chief Minister's arrest. The petition had maintained that nearly two lakh students lacked basic amenities at the

beginning of the academic year due to administrative hurdles. During the hearing on April 26, the High Court came down heavily on Mr Kejriwal, the Delhi government and the civic body for their failure to provide textbooks. Mr Kejriwal's insistence on holding the post even after his arrest in the Delhi liquor policy case puts political interest over national interest, the judges had said. Following the rebuke, the office of the Lieutenant Governor had accused the AAP-led Delhi government and Saurabh Bhargava of delaying the approval of a proposal to temporarily enhance the financial powers of the MCD Commissioner from ₹ 5 crore to ₹ 50 crore. Officials argued that the delay has hampered some crucial projects linked to education, health, and sanitation, as the Standing Committee of the Corporation has not been constituted for over a year.

M Kharage To Decide Amethi, Raebareli Candidates, Says Congress

New Delhi (KCN): Amid speculation over whether Gandhi family members would contest the Lok Sabha polls from Uttar Pradesh and Raebareli, the Congress on Monday said its Central Election Committee (CEC) has authorised party chief Mallikarjun Kharge to decide the candidates for the two constituencies. The Uttar Pradesh Congress has urged the top party leadership to field Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra from the two seats. Asked when the candidates for the two seats would be announced and whether Gandhi family members would be fielded from there, Congress spokesperson Supriya Shrinete said, "The president has been authorised to decide the candidates. Elections are not run in a hidden manner, they are run with all paraphernalia before everyone. You will get to know when the candidates are announced." "In our party, such decisions are not taken by two people in (behind) closed doors, the CEC has put forward its views and



with its and the president's nod, the candidates will be decided," she said. Rahul Gandhi contested the Lok Sabha elections from Kerala's Wayanad, where polling took place on Friday in the second phase of the polls. He had said earlier that he will follow "whatever order" he gets from his party. Speculation has been rife that Rahul Gandhi might contest the Lok Sabha polls from Amethi, a seat he represented for three straight terms earlier, and Priyanka Gandhi from Raebareli, a seat that was previously held by her mother Sonia Gandhi. Both seats are

considered bastions of the Gandhi family and the local units of the Congress have demanded that the two scions of the family contest from there. Mr Gandhi won the Amethi seat in three consecutive Lok Sabha elections from 2004. BJP leader Smriti Irani wrested the seat in 2019. Mr Gandhi, who contested from both Amethi and Wayanad in 2019, had won the elections from Wayanad. Polling in Amethi and Raebareli will be held on May 20, in the fifth phase of the Lok Sabha polls. The Congress has forged an alliance with the Samajwadi Party in Uttar Pradesh and is contesting 17 Lok Sabha seats in the state.

Tapped Water For 73% Rural

Bhubaneswar(KCN): As severe heat wave prevails in the entire State, Department of Panchyatiraj and Drinking Water has been actively trying hard to provide drinking water across the State. Sushil Kumar Lohani, Principal Secretary Panchayatiraj and Drinking Water is continuously monitoring the Drinking Water Supply Program. According to data reflected in the Jal Jeevan Mission dashboard, 73.12 per cent of total rural households in the State provided with tapped drinking water

supply connection so far. Out of total 88.68 lakh households in the State, 64.85 lakh households have functional tap connection which is 73.12 percent. Till now, 23.84 lakh (26.88%) rural households are yet to be provided with tap water supply connection. Similarly, more than 38,213 villages out of 46,422 villages have been connected with piped water supply connections till now, with an achievement of 82.32 per cent. Odisha has performed better than a few major States like

Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Jharkhand, West Bengal and Kerala.

As many as 18,668 villages in the State have been provided with 100 percent tap water supply coverage, which means all households in these villages have functional tap water supply.

As per the data, mineral-rich Keonjhar district tops in the list in the State where over 99.59 percent of households have a tap water supply, followed by Nuapada (98.83 percent), Bhadrak (95.20 percent), Deogarh



(89.73), Boudh (88.50), and Jharsuguda (85.75). Similarly, 82.96

percent of total households in Dhenkanal district have been provided with tap water connection while it was 80.90 percent in Kendrapara, 79.86

percent in Balasore, 78.29 percent in Sundergarh and 77.36 percent in Rayagada. Malkangiri district was at the bottom of the list where only 52.56 percent of total rural houses have tap water connection. It was preceded by Bolangir (53.94 percent) Gajapati (57.85%), Jagatsinghpur (58.15%), Sambalpur (58.53%), and Nayagarh (60.76%). A total of Rs 4,869.07 crore has been utilized with 50:50 sharing by both State and Centre in Odisha during the last

financial year while an expenditure of Rs 4316.43 crore was made during 2022-23.

The Government of India had launched the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM), being implemented in partnership with States, in August 2019. Drinking Water is a state subject, and hence, the responsibility of planning, approval, implementation, operation, and maintenance of drinking water supply schemes, including those under the Mission, lies with State Governments.

Odisha's Pride & Language Under Threat: PM Narendra Modi

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Before coming to Odisha for electioneering, Prime Minister Narendra Modi reiterated the issues raised by the BJP on Odisha's pride (Asmita) and Odia language to fight the general elections in the state. "Odisha's Asmita & Odia language are in danger. I don't think Odisha's people will tolerate it for a long time," the Prime Minister said during an interview with a national TV channel on Sunday. PM Modi said, "The Biju Janata Dal (BJD) used to support us based on issues. Many other parties also give us issue-based support. Our relation with the BJD in the state is different." "In such a situation, we



think we should get the chance to serve Odisha. If we get the chance, we will take Odisha to the peak of development," he added. Commenting that Odisha state could have become the richest state

in the country with abundant resources, PM Modi said, "There are so many resources that today Odisha could have become the richest state in the country." A few days ago Union

Home Minister Amit Shah, while giving an interview to a national TV channel, said that the BJP is fighting this election based on Odisha's Asmita, Odia language and culture.

Center Allows Onion Export





New Delhi(KCN): Director General Foreign Trade (DGFT) Santosh Sarangi has allowed export of 99,150 MT of onion to six neighbouring countries of Bangladesh, UAE, Bhutan, Bahrain, Mauritius and Sri Lanka. Onion export prohibition has been imposed to ensure adequate domestic availability against the backdrop of estimated lower Kharif and Rabi crops in 2023-24 as compared to previous year and increase demand in international market. DGFT is the agency of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry of the Government of India responsible for administering laws regarding foreign trade. The National Cooperative Exports Limited (NCEL), the

agency for export of onion to these countries, sourced the domestic onions to be exported through e-platform at L1 prices and supplied to the agency or agencies nominated by the government of the destination country at the negotiated rate on 100% advance payment basis. The offer rate of NCEL to the buyers takes into account the prevailing prices in the destination market and also international and domestic markets. The quota allocated for export to the six countries are being supplied as per requisition made by the destination country. As the largest producer of onion in the country, Maharashtra is the major supplier of onions sourced by NCEL for export. The Government had also

allowed export of 2000 MT of white onion cultivated specially for export markets in Middle-East and some European countries. Being purely export oriented, production cost of the white onion is higher than other onions due to higher seed cost, adoption of good agricultural practice (GAP) and compliance to strict maximum residue limits (MRL) requirements. The procurement target for onion buffer out of Rabi-2024 under the Price Stabilisation Fund (PSF) of Department of Consumer Affairs has been fixed at 5 Lakh tons this year. The Central Agencies, viz., NCCF and NAFED are tying up local agencies such as FPOs/FPCs/PACs to support the procurement, storage and farmers

registration to begin the procurement of any store-worthy onion. A high level team of DoCA, NCCF and NAFED had visited Nashik and Ahmednagar Districts of Maharashtra during 11-13 April, 2024 to create awareness among the farmers, FPOs/FPCs and PACs about the procurement of 5 LMT of onion for PSF buffer. In order to reduce the storage loss of onions, the Department of Consumer Affairs decided to enhance the quantum of stocks to be irradiated and cold stored from 1200 MT last year to over 5000 MT this year, with technical support from BARC, Mumbai. The pilot of onion irradiation and cold storage taken up last year has been found to have resulted in the reduction of storage loss to less than 10 percent.

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Balasore School triumphs as State Champions in Intach's National Heritage Quiz.

Bhubaneswar (KCN): The Indian National Trust for Art and Culture Heritage (INTACH), Odisha Chapter, held the Finals of the State level inter-school quiz competition on 15th Oct 2023 at the Blossoms School, Bhubaneswar. The INTACH National Heritage Quiz is the biggest event of its type held on a pan-India level. It is an effort to raise awareness and cultivate affection for cultural and architectural heritage. The Quiz was based on the heritage and culture of India, and aimed to increase awareness about our glorious nation among

school children. Students from classes 7th to 10th were eligible to participate in teams of two. In an exciting showcase of knowledge and heritage, the State Final Round saw the emergence of St. Thomas Convent, Balasore as the victor, securing their place in the next round which is the National Level Quiz. The questions asked during the quiz comprised from various topics like India's heritage, history, crafts, art forms, architecture, and wildlife sanctuaries, National parks, cultural heritage, art-forms, dances etc. with a special focus

on Odisha's legacy and famous personalities. Altogether it was a passionate approach which was put forward as a learning experience for the students. Quizmaster Bivash Rath Attreya conducted the quiz. Four teams from different districts participated in the final round. The teams were from the St. Thomas Convent, Balasore; Odisha Adarsh Vidyayala, Baripada; Odisha Adarsh Vidyayala, Balangir and Blossoms School, Bhubaneswar. The team of Aryashree Das Adhikari and



Dibyajoti Das from St. Thomas Convent Balasore were the first and the team from Odisha Adarsh Vidyayala were runners up. They will go to New Delhi for the National Finals to be held in November. Anil Dhir, Convener of I N T A C H ' s Bhubaneswar Chapter, said that the Heritage Quiz was a part of INTACH's initiative for heritage awareness among School children. Amiya Bhushan Tripathy IPS (Retd), State Convener of Intach gave away the prizes and certificates to the participants.

CM Naveen Launches 32 Industrial Projects Worth Rs 6,993 Cr, To Generate 24,508 Jobs

Bhubaneswar(KCN): In a significant milestone in the journey of Odisha's economic advancement, Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik today inaugurated nine industrial projects and performed a groundbreaking ceremony of 23 industrial units. These Inaugurations & Groundbreaking are statements of the Chief Minister's vision for faster conversion of investment intents to grounding. These projects with a total investment of Rs 6,992.94 Crore and employment potential of 24,508 are spread over

14 districts i.e., Bolangir, Boudh, Cuttack, Ganjam, Jajpur, Jagatsinghpur, Jharsuguda, Keonjhar, Khurda, Puri, Rayagada, Sambalpur, Subarnapur & Sundergarh. Speaking on this occasion, the Chief Minister said, "Our industrial portfolio is expanding with the inclusion of new age and employment-intensive sectors such as green energy equipment manufacturing, textiles, tourism, etc. The continuous improvement in the Ease of Doing Business ranking of the state, coupled with a

business-friendly environment, world-class industrial infrastructure, and highly sought-after skill development initiatives, has been instrumental in attracting investments to Odisha. Highlighting the fact that the 32 projects are spread across 14 districts, the Chief Minister expressed his pleasure in the broad-basing of industrialization in the state. The ceremony was held through Video conferencing in the presence of the Minister Industries, MSME & Energy, senior government officials and representatives of these Industries.

Eastern Command of Indian Army & Red FM Celebrate Vijay Diwas With The Guts & Glory - Salute 71

Bhubaneswar : 93.5 RED FM, India's leading private radio and entertainment network is thrilled to announce its partnership with the Eastern Command of the Indian Army to commemorate Vijay Diwas with a grand celebration titled "Guts and Glory - Salute 71." This event aims to pay tribute to the historic victory of the 1971 war and honor the brave soldiers who made it possible. As part of this unique initiative, Red FM will captivate its audience on-air with narrations of intriguing

war stories that depict the valiant efforts of the Indian armed forces during the 1971 war. Listeners will have the opportunity to learn about the heroic deeds of our soldiers, their unwavering spirit, and the sacrifices they made to ensure our nation's victory. Red FM will also collate all stories as episodes under a podcast, which will be available on various audio streaming platforms. Reflecting on the announcement, Lieutenant General Rana Pratap Kalita,

said "I am delighted to know that Red FM has taken the initiative to narrate stories of valour and courage of our soldiers who fought in the 1971 war. In our vision to salute the bravery of the heroes, we are delighted to present to you Guts & Glory - Salute 71, as part of this year Vijay Diwas Celebration. We are hopeful to present a deeper insight into the triumphant moment of Indian history." Speaking on the announcement, Nisha Narayanan, Director & COO, RED FM, and

Magic FM, said, "On the occasion of Vijay Diwas, we are elated to be joining hands with the Eastern Command of the Indian Army to honor the lives of the 1971 war veterans. Our army men live through times that are unimaginable to us. The sacrifice of our veterans is truly unfathomable but as a brand, we are looking forward to commending the valor of the keepers of our nation. The Guts & Glory - Salute 71 initiative will also recognize the unsung

heroes who walk amongst us as common citizens. We are hopeful that these stories will enrich us with empathy and esteem for the gallant troops who made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom." The initiative will be rolled out in 12 East-Indian stations namely, Kolkata, Bhubaneswar, Asansol, Siliguri, Agartala, Patna, Muzzafarpur, Jamshedpur, Guwahati, Shillong, Aizwal, and Gangtok. Tune in to 93.5 RED FM to listen to these stories.

Dalmia Bharat Celebrates Empowerment of 18000 women on International Day of Rural Women

Bhubaneshwar,(KCN): Dalmia Bharat Group, India's leading conglomerate with businesses in cement and sugar, announces the successful empowerment of 18000 women on International Day of Rural Women. Through the establishment of Self-Help Groups (SHGs), these women are provided essential skill training and access to vital resources for sustainable livelihood development. In collaboration with various organisations like NRLM, NABARD, etc. Dalmia Bharat organizes various training initiatives like micro-enterprise development, handicraft production and others in both farming and non-farming sectors. All these activities are conducted in communities settled around their regions of operation across 12 states in India. These initiatives aim to upskill rural women to empower them, diversify their income sources and provide access to formal credit systems. Two notable initiatives in Odisha include Project Hastakala – upskilling women artisans and enterprise development via mushroom cultivation in communities surrounding its facilities in

Cuttack, Rajgangpur, and Lanjiberna Mines. Dalmia Bharat has enabled over 10,000 women in Odisha to become financially independent earning a monthly income ranging from Rs.4000 to Rs8000, significantly improving their individual well-being and the ability to support their families. Commenting on the company's initiatives on International Day of Rural Women Mr. Ashok K. Gupta, CEO, Dalmia Bharat Foundation said, "Rural women in developing countries play a vital role in food security and economic development but face severe marginalization, including limited land ownership, higher illiteracy rates and unequal earnings compared to men. Dalmia Bharat is dedicated to uplifting marginalized rural women through holistic programs that bolster their income while managing household responsibilities. Our commitment aligns with UN Sustainable Goals, promoting self-reliance and gender equality for an inclusive and sustainable India, where empowered women drive community and national development." Project Hastakala is an 'earning with joy' skill

development programme where women are trained in the unique tie & dye batik products. This project is conducted in tribal areas of Jhagarapur & Katang panchayat in Odisha. After witnessing immense success at national exhibitions, Dalmia Bharat introduced the SADRIe brand for promoting the handmade batik products like bedsheets, handkerchiefs, scarves etc. through multiple marketing platforms. Another successful initiative includes enterprise development through mushroom cultivation. Dalmia Bharat actively facilitates training programs and market linkage support for SHG women, equipping them to earn an additional monthly income of Rs. 5000 by establishing their own cultivation units. International Day of Rural Women, observed annually on 15th October, celebrates the vital role of rural women in agriculture, food security, and rural development. It highlights the need to empower them, address inequalities, and aligns with global goals for gender equality and sustainable development.

Airtel Xstream Fiber unlocks its NEW All-in-One plans

Bhubaneswar: To serve the needs of premium households who want the next generational connectivity and entertainment experience, Bharti Airtel ("Airtel"), India's premier communications solutions provider, has once again raised the bar in the home broadband segment with the launch of three new all-in-one plans built for the evolving entertainment needs of today's connected homes. Vir Inder Nath, CEO – Homes, Bharti Airtel had this to say: "Our new plans are built for India's emerging entertainment needs. Through these bundle offers we plan to offer our discerning customers great value, convenience and unlock a multi-faceted digital experience."

Increased broadband consumption in Indian homes has given rise to the phenomena of hybrid viewing, where families are looking to consume OTT content on the TV screen along with linear TV without the hassle of managing multiple subscriptions and devices. Airtel's plans are the first of their kind in terms of catering to the evolving entertainment needs of the whole family and come with: Subscription to 17 premium OTTs to go with unlimited data. This includes Netflix, Amazon Prime, Disney+ Hotstar and Airtel Xstream Premium (SonyLiv, Lionsgate, Hoichoi and 11 more OTTs). 350+ TV channels covering the best of linear TV. Airtel 4K Xstream TV Box* that allows you to enjoy OTT and linear TV content with a single device and single remote.

WHEC recognizes Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham as excellence worldwide in Gender Equality

Barcelona: Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham was invited to the UNESCO World Higher Education Conference (WHEC), which recently took place in Barcelona, Spain. UNESCO recognized Amrita as one of five universities of excellence worldwide for its performance in gender equality. The WHEC aims to reshape ideas and practices in higher

education to ensure sustainable development for the planet and humanity, as well as to define and prepare a roadmap for a new era of higher education. As the world comes out of COVID-19, the WHEC's goals and strategic scope remain, and the new timeframe represents an opportunity to deepen and expand common efforts of knowledge production,

policy dialogue, exchange, and networking. Swami Amritaswarupananda Puri, President of Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham, participated in a round table called "Universities' Contribution to Gender Equality: A global perspective". Adding to his views Swami Amritaswarupananda expressed how Amrita is

making a difference in terms of gender equality and which policies have been put into place at the university level. Gender equality is number five in the United Nations' list of 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). He explained how the culture of gender equality is not implemented only in terms of policies within Amrita, but also practiced in spirit.

The round table included Dr. Gloria Bonder, UNESCO Chair on Women, Science and Technology; Dr. Ricardo Vilanueva Lomeli, Rector General, University of Guadalajara; Ms. Elizabeth Shepherd, Leader of the Consultancy team, Times Higher Education; and Dr. Victoria Galan-Muros, Chief of Research and Analysis,

EXCEPTIONAL EXPERIENCES AWAIT SINGAPORE AIRLINES CUSTOMERS

Singapore: Airlines (SIA) today unveiled its all-new flagship SilverKris and KrisFlyer Gold lounges at Singapore Changi Airport Terminal 3, following a \$S50 million re-design, upgrade, and expansion project. This will further enhance the on-ground customer experience at the Airline's main hub, and comes as the demand for international air travel from and through Singapore takes off once again.

The Private Room, the First Class section of the SilverKris Lounge, the Business Class section of the SilverKris Lounge, and the KrisFlyer Gold Lounge can collectively accommodate around 1,150 customers within

their 6,100 square-metres, translating to 30% more seats and space. This also doubles the capacity that was available during the pandemic while the upgrading works were going on. The Airline has created a sanctuary that has been thoughtfully designed to enhance the comfort and convenience of diverse groups of travellers, and meet their evolving needs in the coming years. Customers will be able to enjoy world-class products and services, as well as enticing food and beverage options, around the clock at the lounges before their flight.

Mr Goh Choon Phong, Chief Executive Officer, Singapore Airlines, said: "Extensive customer

engagement and research have gone into the design of the new SilverKris and KrisFlyer Gold lounges. Customers will enjoy thoughtfully curated product offerings and experience the signature Singapore Airlines hospitality, all within a comfortable and restful environment, ensuring that they are refreshed and ready for their journey.

"Opening these lounges at this time signals our commitment to SIA's premium brand and growth strategy. It reinforces our position as Changi Airport's anchor airline, and reflects our confidence in Singapore's future as a pre-eminent global air hub."

No Shakib, Mustafizur for first-three T20Is against Zimbabwe

A Bangladesh batsman in green kit is captured in the middle of a batting stroke. The ball is visible in the air near the batsman's hands. The background shows a large stadium with blue seating and a red advertising board with the 'bbl' logo.

Squad: Najmul Hossain Shanto (Captain), Litton Kumer Das, Tanzid Hasan Tamim, Tawhid Hridoy, Mahmud Ullah, Jaker Ali Anik, Shak Mahedi Hasan, Rishad Hossain, Taskin Ahmed, Shoriful Islam, Tanzim Hasan Sakib, Parvez Hossain Emon, Tanvir Islam, Afif Hossain, Shaif Uddin

A cricket player in a yellow jersey and helmet, holding a bat, celebrating a century. The player is wearing a yellow helmet and a yellow jersey with "ASTRA" and "RAY 20" visible. He is holding a bat with "TONG" and "SP-27141" written on it. The background is a blurred stadium at night with bright lights.

is set to be a historic event as it will be co-hosted by the West Indies and the United States of America from June 1 to June 29, 2024. USA vs Canada will be playing the first match of the tournament. This marks the first time that an ICC World Cup tournament will feature matches played in the United States. 55 matches will be played across 9 venues in the tournament.

The 2024 edition of the T20 World Cup will see an expansion in the number of participating teams, with 20 national teams competing, up from 16 in the previous tournament. The teams will initially be divided into four groups of five, with the top two teams from each group advancing to the Super 8 stage.