

Bhubaneswar Centre, had earlier predicted rains after April 6. The IMD also forecast that some locations in the state may experience light to moderate rains in the next two days. A resident of Mohana in

## Amid Heatwave Warning, Weather Office's Advice On 'One Nation, One Poll'

public exchequer and political parties on their campaigns.

This year, around a billion people are expected to exercise their franchise during the seven-phase general elections between April 9 and June 1, heightening concerns about vulnerability to heat waves.

Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Bihar, Jharkhand, Odisha, and Andhra Pradesh are likely to record a significantly higher number of heatwave days, according to the national weather body.

There's an elevated risk of heatwave-related health issues among the electorate and staff, Mr Mohapatra said.

## Two UTPs escape from Bhawanipatna jail

Modi's family, the move coming after Rashtriya Janata Dal supremo Lalu Yadav had said the PM spoke about dynastic politics but had no family of his own. Tribals groups performed several dances enroute, including 'Badhai Nritya', a dance

form of the state's Bundelkhand region that is on display to mark marriages, childbirth and other happy occasions. A BJP leader said special arrangements were in place to shower PM Modi with flowers when the roadshow passes through Gorakhpur market. Jabalpur is part of the state's Mahakoshal region, which also comprises Chhindwara, the only Lok Sabha seat the BJP had failed to win in the 2019 polls. The ruling party had swept the remaining 28 seats in MP. Jabalpur and Chhindwara will go to polls in the first phase on April 19 along with Sidhi, Shahdol (ST), Mandla (ST) and Balaghat.

**BHAWANIPATNA,(KCN)** :In yet another instance of serious lapses in security measures, two under-trial prisoners (UTPs) in Odisha have escaped from prison. This time, the incident has been reported from Bhawanipatna jail in Kalahandi district. Sources said that both the UTPs escaped from the jail last night. The matter came to light in the early hours of Sunday. The UTPs have been identified as Majandar Jal and Nilamani Majhi. Both of them were arrested in connection with POCSO case and were lodged in Bhawanipatna jail. It is suspected that both UTPs escaped from the



jail after scaling the boundary wall of the jail. The incident has raised eyebrows as there were watchtowers to keep a strict vigil at the prison. In March, two under-trial prisoners (UTPs), who were arrested on charges of murder, had reportedly escaped from

Titilagarh sub-jail. The jail warden was subsequently suspended on the charges of dereliction of duty in connection with the incident.

Later, one of the UTP was arrested by police after a massive search operation.

## NIA says no mala fide intent in action in Bhupatinagar blast case, attack on its team ‘unprovoked’

district, had accused the NIA team of attacking villagers. "The attack was not perpetrated by the women of Bhupatinagar. but rather by the NIA team," she alleged. On Sunday, the NIA made it clear that its actions were bona fide, lawful and legally mandated, as part of its ongoing investigation into the heinous crime related to fabrication of crude bombs, leading to an explosion that killed three persons. The NIA reiterated that its team had come under violent attack by an unruly mob when they had gone to conduct searches in Naruabila village Saturday in connection with it's probe into the case. "The attack was completely unprovoked and uncalled for and an attempt to obstruct the NIA from carrying out its lawful duties," the



agency said. It pointed out that the searches were conducted at five locations in the presence of independent witnesses and under the security cover provided by the CRPF, which included women constables. The arrests were made after following all lawful procedures, the NIA spokesperson said. "The NIA has re-stated that an aggressive crowd had assaulted the NIA personnel who were

taking arrested accused Manobrata Jana to the local police station for completing legal formalities. “One NIA official sustained injuries and an official vehicle of the NIA was also damaged in the attack,” the spokesperson said. The NIA has already filed a complaint at the area police station seeking legal action against the assailants. The NIA had Saturday arrested Manobrata Jana

and Bailicharan Maity for their involvement in the case. The NIA also said that that the duo had failed to appear before the agency despite repeated summons to join the investigation. The agency had, accordingly, filed an application before a special NIA court in Kolkata, which, after perusing the case records, had issued an order April 3, 2024, stating that it found the

allegations to be of very serious nature. The special court had also observed that the agency was “at liberty to proceed with the investigation as expeditiously as possible, and to take all necessary action with regard to arrest, search and seizure of the houses of the suspects and accused persons, in accordance with the relevant provisions of Criminal Code of Procedure, NIA Act and UA(P)A so far applicable for a proper and thorough investigation. Following the special court’s order, the NIA had conducted the searches, which culminated in the arrest of the two accused, who were found to be involved in the case. The blast had taken place in December 2022 and the NIA had taken over the investigation in

the case June 6, 2023 on the directions of the Calcutta High Court. The attack on the NIA team evoked memories of January 5 when a team of the Enforcement Directorate (ED) was attacked by a mob in North 24 Parganas district's Sandeshkhali during a search at the house of TMC leader Shajahan Sheikh in connection with alleged irregularities in the public distribution system. Senior Trinamool Congress leader Kunal Ghosh also Sunday alleged that a senior state BJP leader from Paschim Bardhaman district, who was earlier with TMC, had met an NIA SP at his apartment in New Town area of Kolkata March 26 and handed over a list of TMC leaders to be arrested by the agency from different parts of the state ahead of the Lok Sabha elections.



# Lekhasree, Behera Join BJD

**Bhubaneswar(KCN):** Governing Biju Janata Dal (BJD), the largest political force in Odisha, today again welcomed two other party leaders just a few days ahead of elections for Lok Sabha and State Assembly. Former Minister and senior Congress leader Ganeswar Behera and BJP State Vice-President Lekhasree Samantsinghar joined the BJD, after resigning from their respective parties. Lekhasree joined the BJD just a few hours after resigning from the BJP while Behera had resigned from Congress on April 2. Shri Behera, a tall leader from Kendrapara district,

along with hundreds of his supporters formally inducted in the BJD in presence of BJD's Rajya Sabha MPs Manas Mangaraj and Sasmit Patra and former minister Pratap Jena here at party office Sankha Bhawan. "Inspired by the developmental works and welfare measures taken by Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik, I have joined the BJD," he said. Shri Behera said he joined the ruling party to participate in the developmental process and expedite the developmental works in Kendrapara district. On April 2, he resigned from the primary membership



of the party. Following his joining, the BJD is likely to field Behera from the Kendrapara assembly segment which is reserved for the scheduled caste candidates. In the 2019 polls, Shashi Bhusan Behera of BJD had won the seat by defeating Ganeswar Behera by a margin of 6,320 votes. Similarly, Lekhasree is the second BJP Odisha vice-president after Bhruhu Baxipatra to resign from the BJP weeks before the polls and join the BJD. In her resignation letter to Odisha BJP President Manmohan Samal,

Lekhasree said that she decided to quit the saffron party having "failed" to earn the trust of the leadership. "I have given my sweat and blood to the Bharatiya Janata Party for the last ten years. However, despite all the sincerity and hard work, I could not earn the trust of the leadership. Hence, I feel there is nothing left for me to do here and my desire to serve the people of Odisha is being hampered," Lekhasree said in the letter. "It is difficult to change after sweating for a party that did not recognise my hard work. I thank BJD for accepting me. I am

inspired by the developmental activities of chief minister Naveen Patnaik. I will do my best for the BJD," she told reporters after joining the regional party at 'Sankha Bhawan', the BJD state headquarters. Since BJD has yet to announce the name of its candidate from the Balasore Lok Sabha seat, she may try for a ticket to the Balasore Lok Sabha seat. The BJD in 2019 had fielded seven women candidates for the 21 Lok Sabha seats in the state. However, this time, the party has nominated only six women candidates so far.

## Bhubaneswar Runway Week



**Bhubaneswar(KCN):** Everyone wants to wear new designs and look attractive. The 10th edition of Bhubaneswar Runway Week has been held at a local one-star hotel under the direction of show director John Ajay on behalf of Addiction Fashion Management, keeping in view all generations. On this occasion, selected designers of the country presented their interesting designs. This year the main attraction of the show was Femina Miss India 2023 Nandini Gupta who was a show stopper of Atulya karigari India. In this fashion show

showcased Ikta designs by Pradeep Sahari Sambalpuri of Sakshi Handlooms, while designs by Debangini Behera of Design Dapardelli Designs showcased showcasing amazing collection carrying laces, coquettes, pearls, gemstones and many more dainty bits through beautiful and mesmerizing little kids. The label Lopamudra was based on the design fabric shown by Lopamudra. Sareena showcased the Duas Creation which is based on cocktail collection, Lopamudra Bhanj's label Bahhar Bahaar unfurls

a vibrant springtime of exquisite collections knitted with the threads of utmost love that a woman desires & indelible memories a woman relishes. Debasmita's Soul By Indian focus on classic designs, age old heritage embroideries and try to preserve the ancient embroideries of Indian Fashion, Sam and Sahely's designs showcased a glimpse of handcrafted fresh culture and fusion wear styles. Similarly, INIFD Bhubaneswar have put together a mixed bag collection of women's and men's Pret . The

design showcased by designer Amrita Sabat utkal Amrita showcased Odisha Handloom's, Odisha Pattachitra in contemporary style and Atulya Karigari India, one of the CSR initiative of Annapurna Finance Pvt. Ltd. is a brand of handloom and handicraft showcased stunning designs. LCJ Jewellers show cased fashionable jewellery design which attracts audiences. The entire collection completely sustainable. Many distinguished guests participated in the event, and many more designs of the designers touched the hearts of the audience.

## Utkal diwas celebrated at karnataka



**BHUBANESWAR(KCN):** Utkala Divas abroad.... The 8th Annual Holy Utkala Divas of the organization has been organized by HOSA Trust (Hosapete Odia Socio-Cultural Association) at Hosapete in the historical city of Vijayanagara district in far-flung Karnataka. Mr.

Debasish Mishra, Executive Vice Chairman, Jindal Steel Plant, Dr. Debabrata Dash, Vice Chairman, MSPL Group and Mr. Manas Ranjan Dash, President, Hosa Trust were the guests of honour at the event. HOSA Trust Prominent members Sri Manoj

Pradhan, Shri Subrajit Kanungo, Biraja Behera, Sujit Singh, Rajashree Das, Santosh Nanda, Ramesh Mohapatra, Ramakant Panda were present. More than 200 expatriate Odia families participated in the programme conducted by Monalisa Pradhan and presented odia dance &

bhajans . At the end, prizes were distributed to the winners of Odia Pittha, Jhota competition. Outside Odisha, the Trust will continue its efforts to inculcate Odia culture, tradition, Jagannath consciousness and above all, mother tongue love among every Odia.



# MAHARISHI PLAY SCHOOL

Nurturing awareness Moulding Future

2024-2025

## ADMISSION OPEN FOR

PLAY GROUP (2+) to Onwards

A great Place to grow @ MPS

Call now for Application:

25% reservation as per RTE Act (2009)

### MAHARISHI PUBLIC SCHOOL

N-3 B/14-15, IRC Village,  
Nayapalli, Bhubaneswar

PH. 2558884 / 2550786 / 8984600700 (M)

E-mail : maharishipublic13@yahoo.com



Find us on  
facebook.com/maharishiplayschool



FOLLOW US  
ON TWITTER  
twitter.com/maharishiplayschool



Please Contact- 8338870595

Humble Motion Pictures. A mother-child relationship is often spoken about. Here, we aimed to go all out in creating a fun, rib-tickling comedy that showcases the enjoyable and emotional bond of the father-son relationship. We are quite thrilled as our labour of love will soon be experienced by audiences across the globe."

The film is slated to release on May 10.



# Income Tax Appeals before CIT(A)/ JCIT (A) PART 2



**Adv. Narayan Jain & CA DilipLoyalka**

(Contd. From 1st April, 2024)

9. Where assessee is unable to file e-appeal as system was not accepting e verification of legal heir:Petitioner contended that he was not able to file e-appeal as system was not accepting appeal in absence of legal heir certificate. Petitioner claimed that he was not legal heir of late assessee and thus, could not obtain heir-ship certificate. Considering facts, liberty was granted to petitioner to file appeal in hard copy to Commissioner (Appeals), who in turn was directed to decide the same on merits - Jagdish Madhavdas Ahuja v. UOI [2020] 114 taxmann.com 722 (Bom).

10. Whether payment of admitted tax before filing of appeal is mandatory or directory: It has been held that requirement of payment of admitted tax before filing of appeal is directory and not mandatory and in case assessee pays the taxes even after filing the

appeal, the appeal will be valid - Annapoorneshwari Investment v. DCIT (2019) 107 taxmann.com 417 (Bang ITAT), Smt. Sushila Devi Malu v. ITO [2019] 101 taxmann.com 62 (Ahmedabad - Trib.) (SB).However, it is not mandatory to pay interest - CIT v. Manoj Kumar Beriwal [2009] 316 ITR 218 (Bom.). However for stay of demand CBDT has issued Memorandum dated 31st July 2017 for payment of 20 per cent of disputed tax.

11. CIT(A) can reject an appeal on the ground that the assessee had not paid the taxes due on the basis of revised return which was filed beyond the time permitted: Revised return filed not in compliance with requirements of section 139(5) was non-est and the same could not constitute a return contemplated in section 249(4)(a) as such appeal cannot be rejected for non-payment of demand based on such revised

return - Mohmamed Farooq Sarang v. DCIT [2017] 81 taxmann.com 374 (Mum Trib).

12. Orders against which appeal can be filed before JCIT(A): As per section 246, appeal can be filed before JCIT (Appeal) as per amendment made w.e.f. 1st April, 2023. Any assessee aggrieved by any of the following orders of an Assessing Officer (below the rank of Joint Commissioner) may appeal to the Joint Commissioner (Appeals) against (a) an order being an intimation under sub-section (1) of section 143, where the assessee objects to the making of adjustments, or any order of assessment under sub-section (3) of section 143 or section 144, where the assessee objects to the amount of income assessed, or to the amount of tax determined, or to the amount of loss computed, or to the status under which he is assessed;

(b) an order of assessment, reassessment or recomputation under section 147; (c) an order being an intimation under sub-section (1) of section 200A; in respect of Processing of statements of tax deducted at source. (d) an order under section 201; with regard to Consequences of failure to deduct or pay. (e) an order being an

intimation under sub-section (6A) of section 206C; in respect of Failure to collect or deposit TCS

(f) an order under sub-section (1) of section 206CB in respect of Processing of statements of tax collected at source.

(g) an order imposing a penalty under Chapter XXI; and

(h) an order under section 154 or section 155 amending any of the orders mentioned in clauses (a) to (g) with regard to Rectification of mistake under sec. 154 and Amendment to assessments consequent to assessment or reassessment of connected entities under section 155 It has been provided that no appeal shall be filed before the Joint Commissioner (Appeals) if an order referred to in this sub-section is passed by or with the prior approval of, an income-tax authority above the rank of Deputy Commissioner.

Where any appeal filed against an order referred to in sec. 246(1) is pending before the CIT (Appeals), the CBDT or an Income Tax Authority so authorised by the Board in this regard, may transfer such appeal and any matter arising out of or connected with such appeal.

13. Orders against which appeal can be filed before CIT(A):.

As per provisions of section 246A(1), any assessee aggrieved by

any of the following orders (whether made before or after the appointed day) may appeal to the Commissioner (Appeals) against the following orders -

(a) An order u/s 115VP(3)(ii) passed by JCIT where the assessee denies his liability to be assessed under this Act or an intimation under sub-section (1) or sub-section (1B) of section 143, or w.e.f. 1.7.2012 section 200A(1) and w.e.f. 1.06.2015 section 206CB where assessee or the deductor and/or collector objects to the making of adjustments or any order of assessment u/s 143(3) except an order passed in pursuance of the directions of the Dispute Resolution Panel [or w.e.f. 1.4.2016 an order referred to in sec. 144BA(12)] or sec. 144 to the income assessed or to the amount of tax determined or to the amount of loss computed or to the status under which he is assessed.

(aa) An order of assessment u/s 115WE(3) or section 115WF where the assessee, being an employer objects to the value of fringe benefits assessed. FBT has since been omitted.

(ab) an order of assessment or reassessment u/s 115WG (w.e.f. asst. year 2006-07)

(b) an order of assessment, reassessment or

recomputation u/s 147 except an order passed in pursuance of directions of Dispute Resolution Panel [or w.e.f. 1.4.2016 an order referred to in section 144BA(12)] or section 150

(ba) An order of assessment or reassessment u/s 153A except an order passed in pursuance of direction of the dispute resolution panel [or w.e.f. 1.4.2016 an order referred to in section 144BA(12)].

(bb) An order of assessment or reassessment u/s 92CD(3).

(c) an order made u/s 154 or section 155 having the effect of enhancing the assessment or reducing a refund or an order refusing to allow the claim made by the assessee under either of the said sections except [or w.e.f. 1.4.2016 an order referred to in section 144BA(12)];

(d) an order made u/s 163 treating the assessee as the agent of a non-resident;

(e) an order made under sub-section (2) or sub-section (3) of section 170;

(f) an order made u/s 171;

(g) an order made under clause (b) of sub-section (1) or under sub-section (2) or sub-section (3) or sub-section (5) of section 185 in respect of an assessment for the assessment year commencing on or before the 1st day of April, 1992;

(h) an order cancelling the registration of a firm under sub-section (1) or under sub-section (2) of section 186 in respect of any assessment for the assessment year commencing on or before the 1st day of April, 1992 or any earlier assessment year.

(ha) an order made u/s 201;

(hb) an order made u/s 206C(6A) w.e.f. 1.6.2007. However, for all practical purposes the effective date is 1.4.2007 in view of section 246(1B);

(i) an order made u/s 237;

(ia) w.e.f. 1.4.2022 an order made u/s 239A

(j) an order imposing a penalty under -

(A) section 221; or (B) section 271, section 271A, section 271AAA, section 271AAB, section 271F, section 271FB, section 272AA or section 272BB;

(k) section 272, section 272B or section 273, as they stood immediately before the 1st day of April, 1989, in respect of an assessment for the assessment year commencing on the 1st day of April, 1988, or any earlier assessment years;

n order of assessment made by an A.O. under clause (c) of section 158BC, in respect of search-initiated u/s 132 or books of account, other documents or any assets

requisitioned u/s 132A on or after the 1st day of January, 1997;

(l) an order imposing a penalty under sub-section (2) of section 158BFA;

(m) an order imposing a penalty u/s 271B or section 271BB;

(n) an order made by a Deputy Commissioner imposing a penalty u/s 271C, section 271D or section 271E;

(o) an order made by a Deputy Commissioner or a Deputy Director imposing a penalty u/s 272A;

(p) an order made by a Deputy Commissioner imposing a penalty u/s 272AA;

(q) an order imposing a penalty under Chapter XXI;

(r) an order made by an A.O. other than a Deputy Commissioner under the provisions of this Act in the case of such person or class of persons, as the Board may, having regard to the nature of the cases, the complexities involved and other relevant considerations, direct.

An order u/s 172(4) has been held to be appealable - ITO v. MSC Agency (India) P. Ltd. 9 ITR (Trib.) 425 (Chen.).

**Adv. Jain and CA Loyalka are authors of book "How to Handle Income Tax Problems". Email : npjainadv@gmail.com**

# Maharaja Krishnachandra Gajapati Narayan Dev and Odisha

**Dr. Laxman Sahoo**



Maharaja Krishnachandra Gajapati Narayan Dev was born in Parlakhemundi in Gajapati district from King Gaurachandra Dev and Queen Bishnupriya Devi. He was a good administrator and one of the leaders in the formation of a separate Odisha state. Under the direct supervision of his father and stepfather Padmanav Dev, he completed his childhood education under the supervision of Mr. Shamsundar Rajguru and M. Edmond Candler's home tutor and went to the then Mandraj for higher education. While studying in Mandraj, his father Gaurachandra Narayan Dev passed away. After graduating from Newington Prince's College, Krishnachandra returned to his homeland in 1913, married Nalini Devi, Rajjema of Kharsuan State, and took charge of the government. He was the first graduate of South Odisha. He despised royal luxury and engaged himself in public service.

Especially since his student life, he was always thinking about Parlakhemundi and the improvement of the Oriya community. Even then, on the instigation of the Court of Birds, he objected to the

plan to raise the college established by Padmanav Gajapati at Parlakhemundi to cut costs. As a result, the college did not open. On the occasion of his marriage, Utkalmani donated five hundred rupees for the construction of the dormitory of Satyavast Forest School established by Gopbandhu Das. After receiving that money, Gopbandhu wrote a letter to Das Krishnachandra to bless him. He also donated one hundred rupees to the Uttarakhand Literary Society for the development of Orthodox literature. In his view, if the stupid darkness is removed from the state and Odisha, the economic, mental and collective improvement of the people will easily happen. Therefore, for the development of education, he set up many schools and colleges and arranged financial assistance for meritorious students and education for poor students. He established a girls' school in Parlakhemundi, emphasizing the education of women by Dhurusudan Das. Child marriage was prevalent at that time. Many underage girls were married and spent their days in misery due to premature marriage.

As soon as he heard the news that the daughter of musician Bandavan Manigarahi was giving lessons at her house, he started a girls' school there. Girls who studied well were rewarded with gold and silver ornaments. As a result, the number of girls

increased and eventually became the first girls' high school in Parlakhemundi. He started the scholarship in the name of his father Padmanav Gajapati. Even from the scholarship fund, hostels were built for the students studying in the college and free food and accommodation was arranged for them. Krishnachandra was devoted to the spread of education in his state.

Even those students who have completed their college studies. He was sent to study in agriculture, engineering, medical, veterinary or other professional schools in different provinces of the country through monthly scholarship. Inspired by the lecturer Mr. Cameron Morrison while studying at New Wington College, Mandraj, he later built a block named 'Morrison Extension' at the Parlakhemundi College premises at a cost of Rs. He even invited a Sanskrit scholar named Arthatran Mishra and opened a Sanskrit school for the students to stay and study Sanskrit and arranged to provide five rupees and seven maunds of rice to each student per month. Later, Parlakhemundi Sanskrit College got recognition from Mandraj University.

His main aim was to develop higher education in Odisha and establish a university. Therefore, a special committee was formed and after submitting the report, the committee comprising the working secretary of education department SC Tripathi,

chairman of Revenza College, Cuttack Training College Chairman Mahesh Chandra Pradhan, Khallikot College Chairman P Mohanty, Parlakhemundi College Chairman P Jagannath Swami and Dr. Pranakrishna Parija. The final decision was taken to build. His dream came true. It was through his efforts that Pandit Gopinath Nanda's compilation of 'Odia Vocabulary Bodh Abhidhan' was published. For research, the king established a huge library in Uas.

At that time, the Oriya speaking region was under various administrative divisions. So he felt that all the Ordo-speaking people remained in one area, and he felt that progress was possible and proceeded to work on its integration. As a result, in 1912, he acted as a chief priest in the Uttarakhand Conference held in Parlakhemundi. Again on December 27 and 28, 1914, he convened the 10th Utah Conference at Parlakhemundi and demonstrated his efficiency. In fact, for the first time, it was his efforts that laid the foundations for the creation of a separate Odisha. At the beginning of the conference, Krishnachandra Gajapati strongly proposed and said, "It is quite reasonable to demand the formation of a separate Odisha province by uniting the entire separated Odia region, not only to make the Odia-speaking people independent." Krishnachandra's AI-like strong and irrefutable arguments shocked the leaders of the conference and even the veteran leader Madhubabu. With the

support of Krishna Chandra Gajapati, Ninad Gopbandhu Das, Fakir Mohan Senapati, Shashibhushan Rath and Madhusudan Das, etc., a proposal for the formation of a separate Odisha province was accepted in the Uttar Pradesh Conference.

In 1917, the Montagu-Chamsford Committee expressed its opinion in favor of the formation of linguistic provinces. In this regard, Krishnachandra met Montagu in Delhi as a member of Uttar Pradesh. In 1922, the Bihar-Odisha Constituent Assembly passed a special proposal for the merger of the Ordhya-speaking regions. Philip Duff Committee met with Gajapati during their visit to Visakhapatna and Ganjam. In 1927, the British government appointed the Simon Commission for governance reforms in India. The whole country was in awe of the Simon Commission at that time. But for the sake of Odisha, Gajapati Antavidy went ahead to talk to the Simon Commission. As a result, a sub-committee was formed under the chairmanship of Atli to consider the issue of Odisha and that committee gave a favorable opinion for Odisha. At that time the first round table meeting (1930-31) was held in London. Therefore, Krishnachandra Gajapati got the opportunity to participate in the round table meeting as a selected member on behalf of Bihar and Odisha government. Krishna Chandra attended the Gajapati meeting and was the first to raise the claim of Odisha. He gave a historic speech and drew the

attention of the British government. His initial main demand was "We want provinces on the basis of language and caste. You cannot reform India without allowing a separate province for a crore of Odiyans." The representatives of the British government present at the round table meeting were stunned and impressed after hearing the logical speech of this manishi.

As a result, the Bilat government set up the O'Donnell Committee in 1931 and this committee mainly focused on three issues. One of them was the demarcation of boundaries to form a separate Odisha province. In 1932, the O'Donnell Committee Report was published. The matter was published in the White Paper in 1933 with the approval of the Philip Duff Committee. That white paper was disappointing. Because Parlakhemundi and Jaipur landlords were excluded from it. On Madhubabu's plea, Krishnachandra went to Bilat to present the matter before the Giant Select Committee and in 1934 applied to the Giant Parliamentary Committee for the merger of Parlakhemundi with Odisha. The chairman of this committee was able to influence Lord Linlithgow. Later, he was able to influence Lord Willingdon of India to agree to join Odisha with Parlakhemundi and Jaipur. In a memorandum written by him, giving priority to the clear demand for the merger of Odisha with Parlakhemundi and a separate Odisha province,

the Irish government placed it under Odisha and in April 1936, as a result of this demand and the demand of the Uttarakhand Conference, Odisha was recognized as a separate province by taking 6 districts.

Krishnachandra Gajapati traveled to London three times to establish a separate province. It is said that Maharaja Krishnachandra Gajapati built a special Utaaka and frequently went to London, he was under financial pressure and sold the valuable jewels of the palace for the benefit of the people. He even invested Rs 25 lakhs of his father's reserved treasury in philanthropy without spending it for his own happiness. Not only the formation of separate provinces but also the role of the language movement is unique. As the first Prime Minister of Odisha, he managed the administration from April 1st, 1937 to July 18th, while Purnabar again joined the third cabinet from November 1941 to June 1944 and completed the work efficiently.

He was donating his monthly salary and traveling expenses to the University of Utah. Along with various development activities, the expenses of printing "Odia Dictionary of Odiya" by Pandit Gopinath Nanda, publication of Gopalakrishna Pedyanaya, publication of Jagabandhu Singh's "Prachin Utaaka", spread and propagation of Oriya language in Singhdhoo area, printing of "Purnchandra

Bhashakkasam 5th volume" and publication of many poems. He introduced himself as a literary man by providing full financial support. He even established a model agricultural farm at Parlakhemundi and a central grain research center at Cuttack for the betterment of farmers in Odisha. The initial work of establishing Odisha High Court also started during his time. He established a small steel plant in Parlakhemundi and contracted it with the Tata Company. His contribution to the spread and promotion of art and culture in Odisha is unique. Especially in fine arts, literature, music, Raga Ragini, Gotipu Nach or Gandharva Vidya, the birth place of the king was eternally famous. It would not be an exaggeration to say that the location of the city is a miniature version of Sahitya Music.

In this regard, Dhananjaya Bhanj, the king of Ghumusar, said to his grandson Upendra Bhanja in mockery - "Khadpada in mathematics is Nayagara in Sanskrit Ghumusar in Khastriya Dharkot politics, Parlakhmundi in the field of mythology

I will remember you grandson." In fact, Maharaja Krishnachandra Gajapati Narayan Dev's contribution to the language movement of Utkala Pradesh is unique and indescribable....!!!

# Senior columnist , Tara Nilaya , Plot No - 854/A Chachera Sabarsahi , Mukunda Prasad, Khurda -55 , Contact: 9040151475





The Vice President, Shri Jagdeep Dhankhar at the 6th Convocation of IIM Bodh Gaya in Gaya, Bihar

## Day After Sonia Gandhi, M Kharage's Rally In Rajasthan, Several Congress Leaders Join BJP



**Jaipur(KCN):** A day after the public meeting of Congress leaders Sonia Gandhi, Priyanka Gandhi and Mallikarjun Kharge here, several party leaders including former MLA Gangajal Meel and PCC vice president Sushil Sharma left the party and joined the BJP on Sunday. Hanuman Meel, who contested assembly elections on Congress tickets from Suratgarh, former PCC vice

president Ashok Awasthi and several others joined the BJP in the presence of BJP leaders including Onkar Singh Lakhawat, Narayan Panchariya and Arun Chaturvedi. Sushil Sharma alleged there is disappointment among the dedicated workers of the Congress due to factionalism. He claimed he worked for the Congress for years but now there was no one to listen to the party workers.

He said workers like him, who believe in the Sanatan Dharma, were disappointed due to the stand taken by the Congress on the issue of the Ram temple in Ayodhya. "Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the central government has proved its mettle not only in the country, but also abroad. Influenced by this, with nationalist thinking, I have decided to leave the

Congress and join the BJP," he said. Former Congress MLA Meel accused PCC chief Govind Singh Dotasra and former chief mister Ashok Gehlot of acting arbitrarily in ticket distribution for the assembly elections. "When we complained about this to state in-charge Sukhjinder Singh Randhawa, he also did not listen to us. There is complete leg pulling going on in the

Congress," he said. Apart from Congress leaders, several other people from different fields, including retired officers, joined the BJP at the party's state headquarters in Jaipur. The Lok Sabha elections in Rajasthan will be held in two phases on April 19 and 26. In the first phase on April 19, 12 seats of Ganganagar, Bikaner, Churu, Jhunjhunu, Sikar, Jaipur Rural, Jaipur, Alwar, Bharatpur, Karauli-Dholpur, Dausa and Nagaur will go to polls. The remaining 13 seats of Tonk-Sawai Madhopur, Ajmer, Pali, Jodhpur, Barmer, Jalore, Udaipur, Banswara, Chittorgarh, Rajsamand, Bhilwara, Kota and Jhalawar-Baran will go to polls in the second phase on April 26.

## Abhishek Banerjee Alleges "BJP-NIA Alliance" After Arrests In Blast Case



**Kolkata(KCN):** The arrest of two Trinamool Congress leaders by the National Investigation Agency (NIA) in a 2022 blast case has sparked a heated exchange between the Mamata Banerjee-led party and the BJP. While the Trinamool has alleged an "alliance" between the BJP and the NIA, the main opposition in Bengal has dared the ruling party to prove its allegations. The NIA on Saturday arrested two people in Purba Medinipur district's Bhupatinagar in connection with a blast in 2022 that killed three people. The central agency team faced stiff resistance from a crowd when they arrested Balai Charan Maity and Manobrata Jana after searches at five locations, the NIA said. An NIA team member suffered minor injuries in the face-off and a vehicle was damaged, the agency added. "Manobrata Jana, and the other arrested accused, identified as Balai Charan Marty, were found to have conspired to manufacture and explode crude bombs to spread terror," the NIA statement said. The matter was earlier investigated by Bengal Police before the NIA took over the probe last year following an order by the Calcutta High Court. Trinamool general

secretary Abhishek Banerjee took to X today to hit out at the BJP over the arrests. "Experience the unfolding alliance between the @NIA\_India and @BJP4Bengal, orchestrating conspiracies against Trinamool leaders and the Model Code of Conduct. While this collusion persists, the ECI stands by, conspicuously silent, neglecting its duty to ensure fair play," Mr Banerjee said. Earlier, Trinamool leader Kunal Ghosh alleged that Bengal BJP leader Jitendra Tiwary, who was earlier with Trinamool, met an NIA officer on March 26 and handed over a list of Trinamool leaders "to be arrested ahead of the Lok Sabha elections". "I dare this leader to either refute my allegations with substantial proof of his movement on that day or we will come up with his call records and CCTV footage evidence after 48 hours," Mr Ghosh said. Bengal minister and Trinamool leader Chandra Maity said the NIA has dug up the 2022 case just before the polls and found involvement of Trinamool leaders. "It shows the deep-rooted conspiracy against TMC by BJP using central agencies," she

added. Trinamool has demanded an FIR against NIA officer Dhanram Singh and his removal from Bengal. Mr Tiwari, a former Mayor of Asansol, has Trinamool is "spreading lies" as it finds the "ground slipping under its feet" due to allegations of corruption and atrocities against villagers. "If TMC leader Kunal Ghosh fails to come up with evidence that me or any of our leaders had been involved in influencing NIA probe or meeting any of their officials, I will file a defamation case against him," he added. BJP spokesperson Samik Bhattacharya has said Trinamool's allegations point to its "desperation". "TMC is trying to divert attention from the total breakdown of constitutional principles in its rule," he said. Earlier, Chief Minister Banerjee accused the NIA team of assaulting villagers. On the injuries suffered by an NIA team member, she said it was "self-defence" by villagers. The central agency team, she said, barged into several homes over an incident of "bursting crackers". Bengal police have, meanwhile, filed a molestation case against the NIA team on the basis of a complaint by the family members of those arrested.

## Court On "Disturbing" Victim Impact Report In Case Linked To 2020 Delhi Riots

**New Delhi(KCN):** During proceedings related to the victim impact report (VIR) being prepared by the Delhi Legal Services Authority in connection to a case linked to the 2020 northeast Delhi riots, a court observed that it received a letter with "very disturbing" facts from the authority's secretary. The judge forwarded a copy of the letter to the deputy commissioner of police (DCP) to take "immediate necessary action" on it. The court in a previous hearing on the matter had termed the delay in preparation of the VIR as "unfortunate". When the matter came for hearing around 10.30 am on Saturday, the court said there was no response from the DCP and the DLSA. Issuing a reminder letter to both the DCP and the DLSA to ensure that a VIR was filed in the case, the court posted



the matter for further proceedings on April 20. At 11 am, the court said it received a sealed envelope containing a letter by the DLSA secretary. "I have gone through the letter of the secretary. The facts mentioned therein are very disturbing and hence a copy of this letter is

being forwarded to the DCP to take immediate necessary action, in view of facts mentioned therein under intimation to this court," Additional Sessions Judge Pulastya Pramachala said. The Delhi High Court has laid down the procedures for preparing VIRs after conviction of the

accused for assessing the quantum of loss suffered by the victims of crime, including their physical, emotional and financial hardships. The VIR has to be filed by the DLSA before the trial court in every criminal trial after conviction. On Saturday, Additional Sessions Judge

Pramachala was hearing arguments against one Jony Kumar, who was sentenced for rioting and arson, when he directed the DCP to take action based on the DLSA's letter. Earlier on April 1, the court had noted that the secretary of the Delhi Legal Services Authority (DLSA) had requested the court to submit the VIR on a future date as the investigating officer (IO) did not bring one of the victims before it for interaction. The judge said it was "unfortunate" that there was a delay in the preparation of VIR related to the case. "The Deputy Commissioner of Police (northeast) district is requested to sensitise all the station house officers (SHOs) and IOs to ensure the presentation of victims before DLSA at the earliest point of time so that VIR is prepared by DLSA at the earliest possible time," the court had said.



# AI Boosts Economy, Productivity

**Bhubaneswar(KCN):** Ashok Kumar Tripathy, President, Odisha State Productivity Council said that Artificial Intelligence(AI) is set to be a defining future disruptive technology. Shri Tripathy was speaking in an AI Workshop organized by Odisha State Productivity Council jointly with National Productivity Council, Bhubaneswar at IIT Bhubaneswar on 6 April. An IAS @ Shri Tripathy said AI is a machine based system that infers from the inputs it receives how to generate outputs such as predictions ,

content recommendations or decisions that can influence physical or virtual environments. Shri Tripathy, President, Odisha State Productivity Council at present an Independent Director of Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) informed the students about European Union's landmark legislation on Artificial Intelligence passed on 13 March, 2024 and India's Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023. He advised the students to take up certificate courses on AI available online as more and more



Indian Enterprises are increasing their AI adoption following the Covid 19 pandemic. He also apprised the students about the Digital Initiatives taken up in Steel Authority of India Limited. Abhijit Nayak, Regional

Director, National Productivity Council, Bhubaneswar gave an illuminating presentation to the students about Productivity, Green Productivity, ESG (Environment, Social and Governance issues and the role of Artificial

Intelligence in productivity organizations. Dr Mahendra Singh, Senior Member of Odisha State Productivity Council and an Industry veteran for

53 years, apprised the students about his experience on digital initiatives in Industries. Then with the help of Prof. Debi Prasad Dogra, Professor Nawaz Hussain and Professor Manoranjan

Sarpathy, students present were asked to give their written views on Artificial Intelligence as a Productivity Engine for Economic Growth. Earlier Odisha State Productivity Council jointly with National Productivity Council, Bhubaneswar had approached Professor Dr Manoranjan Satpathy of Computer Science Department of IIT, Bhubaneswar a few days back to meet their students of School of Electrical Sciences and apprise them about Productivity, Green Productivity, ESG and the responsible use of AI

as a Productivity engine for economic growth, he readily agreed. Professor of AI Dr Debi Prasad Dogra, Professor Dr Nawaz Hussain, and Professor Dr Manoranjan Satpathy gathered some of their interested students at IIT campus. Similar program was held earlier with the students of SOA University, Bhubaneswar and ASBM University, Bhubaneswar by Odisha State Productivity Council jointly with National Productivity Council.

## Raghu Mohanty Left BJP

**Bhubaneswar(KCN):** Amid Governing BJD searching for a suitable candidate for Balasore MP seat, senior BJP leader and former Minister Raghu Mohanty today resigned from the party. Shri Mohanty along with his family members has resigned from the primary membership of the BJP.



"I do hereby inform you that I and my family members tendered resignation from the primary membership of Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) with immediate effect," he said in his resignation letter sent to Odisha BJP President Manmohan Samal. The former Minister told reporters that he decided to quit BJP as its leaders in Balasore have weakened to such an extent that it is impossible to work with them.

"There is a vast difference of ideologies between BJP and me. So, it became impossible for me to remain in the party anymore," he said. Following his resignation, speculations are high that Shri Mohanty and his family members would return to BJD and his daughter in-law Barshasoni Choudhury is likely to be named as BJD nominee for Balasore Lok Sabha seat. While BJP has re-nominated former Union Minister Pratap Sarangi

from the seat, speculations are rife that Congress heavyweight, former Union Minister Srikant Jena, who was elected from Balasore Lok Sabha constituency in 2009, would be the Congress nominee from the seat. A five-time MLA from Basta in Balasore district, Shri Mohanty had contested the 2019 elections from Basta Assembly constituency as a BJP candidate but lost to BJD's Nityananda Sahoo.

Shri Mohanty was first elected to the State Assembly from Basta under Balasore Lok Sabha Constituency in the 1990 Elections. He retained the seat in 1995, 2000, 2004 and 2009 elections. He was expelled from the ruling party following his arrest in a dowry torture case slapped by his daughter-in-law Barsa Sony Choudhury. Later, he was taken back into the party in 2017. However he left the party to join BJP.

## Sunflower farming finds few takers in Kendrapara

**Kendrapara(KCN):** Sunflower cultivation has failed to find many takers in Kendrapara district due to lack of training and sponsorship by the state government. The highly profitable sunflower farming is being ignored in Kendrapara district despite the district's immense potential for cultivation of the crop and heavy market demand for its oil.




The members of Maa Mangala Women Self-Help Group (SHG) at Koilipur's Charipokharia village under Rajkanika block have cultivated sunflowers on seven acres of land for the second year in a row. The experience which they gained in the first year of cultivation has matured them and prepared them better to take up the farming in a more organised manner. The sunflower oil produced by them has received wide acceptance from customers in the local market. The women have become an example for others to emulate. However, their success has failed to stir up any interest among other farmers towards the cash crop due to lack of training and sponsorship by the

state government. Local intelligentsia claimed that the cultivation done during the Rabi season can lead to establishment of small-scale industries and contribute to the economy of the district if it is encouraged. Local intelligentsia Ashish Kumar Senapati said that the price of edible oil is witnessing a constant increase in the country. The price rise of edible oil along with petrol, diesel and LPG cylinders has become a cause of concern for the common man. India is laying stress on import of palm oil from Malaysia and Indonesia after a stoppage in import of sunflower oil from Russia and Ukraine. Indonesia has imposed restrictions on export of palm oil while Malaysian

government has increased its prices. To combat such a situation, the then Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri had called for the green revolution in 1968. As a result, India has now become a leading exporter of wheat, Senapati said. Similarly, sunflower cultivation should be encouraged in order to tide over the edible oil crisis plaguing the country, he said. The air, water and soil of Kendrapara district are conducive for sunflower cultivation but the need of the hour is proper training and sponsorship for the farmers to take up the cash crop, he added. Pabitra Kumar Pati, a resident of Patisahi village under Garadpur panchayat, said sunflower

cultivation was first done on an experimental basis over 30 hectares of land in four panchayats of Garadpur block under Rashtriya Krushi Vikash Yojana. However, the absence of proper marketing facilities or mandis is weaning the farmers from sunflower cultivation, he added. A farmer leader Rashmiranjan Choudhury said that agricultural investment makes up the lion's share of the district's annual plan. However, this is not done in reality. The district can be an example in sunflower farming if water management is strengthened in the district. Farming can be taken up on over 40,000 hectares of land in the district. Around 55 per cent of oil can be collected from sunflower seeds which will lead to establishment of small and minor industries. The Agriculture and Horticulture departments, Krushi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), local political representatives, administrators, voluntary outfits, pani panchayat and farmers club should join hands to take up sunflower farming to a greater height.



**2024-2025**

## ADMISSION OPEN

### Maharishi Public School, Baripada

# STD-NURSERY TO VIII

ENROLL YOUR CHILD TODAY

(Special discount for new admission before 15.03.2023)

**Find the Difference**

- Small Classes
- Experienced, trained & loving teachers.
- Individual attention to each child.
- Regular meditation and yoga.
- Unique exam system, evaluation & Principles etc.

25% reservation as per RTE Act (2009)

MAHARISHI PUBLIC SCHOOL

Baghra Road, Baripada


For details

Contact :

Call-9438102188, 06792-255227

Time : 8.00 A.M. to 12.00 noon

E-mail- mps.bpd@gmail.com



Find us on

Facebook.com/Mps, Baripada



## Japanese Majors Toyota Tsusho & Secom to Set Up Second Multi-Super Specialty Hospital in India for Rs 1,000 cr



**Bengaluru (KCN):** In its continuous pursuit to provide quality healthcare to larger communities, Sakra World Hospital announced its visionary plan for a new state-of-the-art facility in Bengaluru on Saturday. The momentous occasion marked the 10th anniversary celebrations of the pioneering MNC hospital group. Sakra is India's first 100% FDI Multi-Super Specialty Hospital powered by Japanese innovation and technology through a collaboration between healthcare major Secom Medical System and trading conglomerate Toyota Tsusho. The event, held in the presence of Mr. Tatsuro Fuse, Executive Director, SECOM Co., Ltd. & Chairman, SECOM Medical System Co. Ltd. Japan, Mr. Hiroshi Yonenaga, Division CEO Senior Executive Officer, Toyota Tsusho corporation, Japan, Mr. Yuichi Nagano, Managing Director of Sakra World Hospital, Bengaluru, Mr. Naoya Matsumi, Deputy Managing Director, Sakra

World Hospital, Bengaluru, and Mr. Lovekesh Phasu, Group Chief Operating Officer, Sakra World Hospital, Bengaluru, witnessed the unveiling of Sakra's expansion plans and other groundbreaking initiatives. Strategically located in Banaswadi, Bengaluru North, to be constructed at an estimated cost of Rs 1,000 crore, Sakra's new facility will boast a remarkable 500-bed capacity and a sprawling built-up area spanning 600,000 sq. ft (55,740 sq. m). This expansion signifies Sakra's commitment to providing unparalleled healthcare services to the local community and beyond. Also, the latest healthcare project brings forth an unparalleled synergy of medical advancements and technological innovations to the Indian shores. At the forefront of integrated tertiary care, the new unit will offer a comprehensive range of specialties and super specialties, including

advanced oncology treatments and cutting-edge rehabilitation programs. "We are proud to combine the expertise of Secom Medical System and Toyota Tsusho to deliver world-class healthcare solutions in Bengaluru. The new facility is the extension of our firm commitment towards fulfilling the healthcare needs of the local and international communities," said Mr. Tatsuro Fuse, while announcing the new project. At the event, the global leadership of Sakra World Hospital provided insights into various aspects, including the hospital's ten-year journey in India, the integration of cutting-edge healthcare technology and innovation from Japan, and its forthcoming plans with a 1,000-bed Phase 2 expansion. The leaders also highlighted their investment strategies and the incorporation of state-of-the-art medical equipment sourced from Toyota Tsusho and Secom Medical System, which ensure the highest standards of care.

## Haier celebrates its 20 years of innovating "In India, For India", unveils its new vision of "More Creation, More Possibilities"

**New Delhi, (KCN):** Haier Appliances India, the No.1 global major appliances brand for 15 consecutive years celebrates the 20th anniversary of its establishment in India. This significant milestone demonstrates Haier's unwavering commitment to customer-inspired innovation and its dedication to 'Make in India' and 'Made for India'. Adding to the celebrations, Haier India expanded its product offerings by launching a range of OLED & QLED TVs, Super Heavy-Duty Air conditioner series, Kinouchi Black Air conditioner, Vogue and smart convertible refrigerators, washer and dryer front load washing machine, commercial refrigeration solutions and commercial air conditioners. Focused on empowering consumers through smart and intuitive products curated for Indian homes, Haier India also unveiled a range of smart innovations including Robo-vacuum cleaners, smart kitchen appliances, microwaves, water heaters and much more. Commenting on Haier India's 20th anniversary, Mr. NS Satish, President, Haier Appliances India, said, "Today is a historic moment for Haier India as we celebrate our 20th anniversary in India. We are extremely proud of this milestone as it reflects the support and deep connection we have with our customers, partners, and employees who have played a pivotal



role in every step of our success. Throughout this journey, we have been driven by our commitment to customer-inspired innovation, dedication to 'Make in India' and 'Made for India'. As a responsible brand committed to the consumer and country, we have worked towards offering solutions that enhance the customer's everyday life with convenience, comfort and are sustainable." He further added, "Moving our legacy forward it's a moment filled with profound pride to unveil our new vision, 'More Creation, More Possibilities'. This vision delves from our ongoing commitment to make our customer's daily lives more efficient, convenient, and comfortable. Keeping this in mind, we are committed to strengthening our position in the industry ensuring that we exceed expectations and pioneer new horizons in the market" As a brand at the helm of innovation driven by the evolving consumer

needs, Haier India unveiled its new vision through a new brand slogan, "More Creation, More Possibilities." Refining customer experiences through best in class technology, the brand has always ensured to understand their pulse and stay ahead of the curve while offering innovative solutions that makes everyday life easier and smarter. Moreover, this rebranding represents Haier India's focus towards nurturing growth, sparking innovation, and unlocking endless possibilities for its partners, dealers, customers, community, and employees. Additionally, the new vision is aligned with Haier's impressive 25% year-over-year CARG in India and its anticipated 35% growth in 2024. With a focus on strengthening its position in consumer durable sector, Haier India has been investing in expanding its manufacturing capacity across the Greater Noida and Pune plant. A testimony of this is the

inception of manufacturing of new range of commercial refrigerators, commercial Air conditioners and Kitchen appliances at its Pune plant. This strategic expansion reinforces the company's commitment to 'Make in India and Made for India.' Over the last 20 years, Haier India has transformed from a category leader to an ecosystem brand with products and services for every Indian household. Established in 2004, Haier entered the market offering expertise in 5 categories. Understanding the consumer pulse and their needs, Haier today has a wide range of product offerings under 11 categories including Refrigerators, Washing Machines, TVs, Air conditioners, water heaters, Robo-vacuum cleaners, deep freezer, microwaves, kitchen appliances, commercial refrigeration solutions and commercial air conditioners. With a special focus on customer-inspired innovation, Haier India has launched several

industry firsts including India's first 3 Door Side-by-Side (SBS) refrigerator, Bottom Mounted Refrigerator (BMR), Glass door refrigerator, Self-Clean Inverter and Anti-scaling technology in Washing Machines, shock-proof technology in water heaters, self-cleaning in Air Conditioners, and India's first-ever InstaJackets for Haier 2-door Side-by-Side and 3-door Side-by-Side, Bottom Mounted Refrigerator series. Taking its commitment of Customer-Inspired innovation a step further, Haier India launched a range of new products including: Haier's Smart QLED Series S800 QT: Designed to elevate the home entertainment experience, the S800 QT is available in 65" and 55" variants. With quantum dot technology at its core, the S800 QT series delivers an exceptional spectrum of colors, incredibly lifelike visuals, and unmatched clarity. This revolutionary series seamlessly integrates cutting-edge technology with a visually captivating look, aiming to immerse consumers in an unparalleled cinematic journey from the comfort of their homes. Super Heavy-Duty air conditioners: The latest lineup of Super Heavy-Duty air conditioners features Supersonic cooling and Hexa Inverter technology that enables 65% energy savings and 20X faster cooling for quick relief in 10 seconds.

## Kansai Nerolac Paints Ltd. placed in Leadership position in CRISIL's Sustainability Yearbook

Mumbai: In recognition of its relentless commitment towards sustainability and the environment, Kansai Nerolac Paints Ltd (KNPL) has been placed in the 'Leadership' category in the CRISIL Sustainability Yearbook 2022. The company is one among the only 14 companies that have been placed in this category for their ESG initiatives. Further, Kansai Nerolac Paints Ltd has earned the highest ESG score amongst paint and manufacturing companies. This recognition further reinforces the company's commitment towards nurturing a beautiful and healthy world for future generations.

The CRISIL

Sustainability Yearbook is one of the most comprehensive annual publications based on CRISIL's proprietary ESG framework on Indian companies. Analyzing over 575 companies across 53 sectors in India based on data, from the fiscal data from 2021, the Yearbook covers the latest global and domestic developments in the ESG space, incorporation of climate risks by global financial institutions, decarbonization of hard-to-abate sectors in India, implications of transitioning from BRR to BRSR for Indian companies and showcases insights on ESG trends based on the scores and data of the Indian companies.

Commenting on the

achievement, Mr. Anuj Jain, Managing Director, Kansai Nerolac Paints Ltd. said, "We are elated to be placed in the 'Leadership' position in the CRISIL Sustainability Yearbook 2022. This report is a testament to our commitment towards sustainability. At Nerolac, sustainability is at the forefront of all our operations to deliver value to our stakeholders. ESG continues to remain a priority and that has helped us create a positive impact on our communities and the environment. We will continue increasing our ESG efforts as we focus on growing our business sustainably.

## Statement by State Bank of India

**Mumbai :** Shri Vijay Kumar, Branch Manager, Arreah branch of Ellaquai Dehati Bank (EBD), a Srinagar-headquartered Regional Rural Bank sponsored by SBI was shot dead today in the branch premises by a terrorist. Vijay Kumar, who belonged to

Rajasthan, was just 29 years old and had joined EDB in March 2019. Vijay Kumar was one of many such bankers hailing from different parts of the country, who are working in the Kashmir Valley and other difficult places to ensure delivery of

uninterrupted banking services to the public. SBI, as the sponsor of Ellaquai Dehati Bank, remains committed to ensure the safety and well-being of all its employees, including those posted in the Valley.

## Unacademy produces 178 Rankers for UPSC CSE

**Bhubaneswar:** Unacademy, India's largest learning platform\*, today announced that 178 out of 685 rank holders of UPSC CSE 2021 are Unacademy Learners. Among the top rankers from the Unacademy platform are Gamini Singla (AIR - 3), Aishwarya Verma (AIR - 4), Utkarsh Dwivedi (AIR - 5) and Yaksh Chaudhary (AIR - 6). 3 Learners have secured ranks between 1-5, 32 have secured ranks from 6-100 and 143 have secured AIRs from 101-685.

From the 178 Rankers, 45 Learners were Unacademy's Plus/ Iconic subscribers guided by India's Top Educators. The other rankers were guided by Unacademy's Last Mile Programme for UPSC CSE 2021 Interview. Last Mile Programme is an interview guidance program for the last stage of the UPSC CSE exam that helps Learners who have qualified the Mains exam to crack the Personal Interview stage. The questions are asked by retired bureaucrats, former UPSC members and Top Educators in a mock set-up. In last year's Unacademy's Interview Guidance Program 170+ Rankers qualified the Interview stage by securing AIR 2.

## Blue Dart signs the UNFCCC Climate Neutral Now Pledge

**Bhubaneswar:** Blue Dart, South Asia's premier express air and integrated transportation & distribution company and a part of the Deutsche Post DHL (DPDHL) Group has signed the 'Climate Neutral Now' (CNN) pledge by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The pledge highlights the organisation's commitment

to ambitious CO2 reduction targets. Deutsche Post DHL Group has adopted a package of measures worth up to ₹7 billion to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 in line with the Paris Climate Agreement, primarily to expand the use of sustainable technologies and fuels in its fleets and buildings. Its long term goal is to reduce GHG emissions to net zero by

2050. The Climate Neutral Now Initiative encourages and supports interested stakeholders to act now in order to achieve a climate neutral world by 2050 as enshrined in the Paris Agreement. The initiative is a tool to promote voluntary action on climate change. Blue Dart has already invested extensively in remaining a Sustainable Provider of Choice by being the first

in the industry to set quantified carbon-reduction targets. The organisation, as a part of the Deutsche Post DHL Group aimed to increase their CO2 efficiency by 10% by the year 2012 and 30% by the year 2020. Against the 30% target, Blue Dart achieved a 34% CO2 efficiency in 2021. Pablo Ciano, EVP Corporate Development, DPDHL Group says, "As a Group, we have

developed a Sustainability Roadmap that supports the UN's Sustainable Development Goals. We are constantly working towards introducing innovative green logistics solutions that improve our carbon footprint. I am delighted to share that representing the DHL eCommerce Solutions Division in India, Blue Dart has been delivering high on its sustainability initiatives.

## India to see largest increase in energy demand worldwide over the next 20 years, says Infomercials

**New Delhi,:** India faces the twin dilemma of co-existence of shortage and abundance in several parts of its energy system. While the provision of electricity has increased significantly over the years, weak institutions and utility governance hamper the power sector's financial performance with issues of accountability, operational efficiency, customer service, and transmission to state-level transmission institutions. The sector takes a huge and grossly unacceptable hit due to extensive losses, leakages and pilferages, and the cost recovery

from tariffs. These are some major findings of a report titled Power Sector in India: New Emerging Opportunities and Challenges released by Infomercials Valuation and Rating Pvt Ltd., the well-known SEBI-registered and RBI-accredited financial services credit rating company. The report explores the opportunities and challenges ahead for India as it seeks to ensure reliable, affordable and sustainable energy for a growing population. During FY20 and FY19, the growth of electricity generation was lower than in the previous financial years because

of the impact of COVID-19. The report quotes the International Energy Agency (IEA) stating that during FY21 recovery in electricity demand from the COVID-19 pandemic was faster and stronger in India than in EU countries. India is the third-largest producer and the third-largest consumer of electricity in the world. With the increasing population, electricity demand is rising at a fast clip and India has improved its power generation capacity over the years. India has added more than 500 billion units until FY22 from FY10.



**New Delhi:** After yet another underwhelming batting performance that saw Royal Challengers Bengaluru crash to their fourth defeat in five games, head coach Andy Flower admitted that his side were short of runs on a Jaipur surface that got better to bat with dew. On a night when Virat Kohli registered yet another IPL ton, none of the other RCB batters came to the party, leaving their former captain to do the bulk of the scoring. Having posted 183 on the board, RCB then saw RR chase it down with effortless ease, led by a century from Jos Buttler and a fifty from skipper Sanju Samson. Dwelling on the lack of intent in the batting department, Flower was brutally honest in his assessment of the issue. "We do discuss strike rates and aggression, it's part of the understanding of the T20 game," said

Flower at the post-match press conference.

"The level of aggression has to be above a certain threshold and you have to always be putting the opposition under pressure. Certainly taking the aggressive option, especially on pitches like today. It's just a fact that at the moment that our top five aren't in sparkling form except Virat. It's a tough place to be. It's not from lack of effort, they're working hard, they're giving everything they've got. Just not firing at the moment. If we've got to turn this around, we need them firing."

Kohli's hundred, also the joint-slowest IPL century of all time, was the lone ranger act although skipper Faf du Plessis did chip in with a decent knock of his own. The century opening stand had put RCB on track for a 190-plus score and perhaps the 200-run



mark as well. However, once the partnership was broken, RR put the squeeze through their spin duo of Ravichandran Ashwin and Yuzvendra Chahal, alongside the left-arm pace of Nandre Burger. The surface did have something in it for the slower bowlers in the first half and RR's attack made full use of it. The dew that came later on made RR's chase

considerably easier but RCB had begun the second half on a positive note with Yashasvi Jaiswal perishing to Reece Topley in the first over of the chase. The two-paced nature of the track that was evident at times in the first innings, did hang around at the start of the chase, but RR negotiated that phase well. With dew always a factor in Indian

conditions, RCB probably needed a cushion of 15-20 extra runs to stay in the hunt. Flower lamented the poor finish to the innings after the base set by the opening stand.

"We were a bit light (on runs) I thought, given the base we had, we were about 107/0 in the 12th over, so we should have got upwards of 200 being in that position on a good

pitch. But we started well with the ball, Topley and Yash, then Siraj were brilliant upfront but the last over of the powerplay cost us some serious momentum." With just two points from five games, RCB's road ahead to the playoffs looks murky at the moment. Given the high tempo at which batters of other teams are operating, it's imminent for Bangalore also to join in the mix. The impact player rule has furthered the adventurous levels of batters, enabling them to play fearless cricket from the get-go. A big example of this is the fact that the highest-ever IPL total set by RCB in 2013, was breached twice in the space of a week, first by Sunrisers Hyderabad and then by Kolkata Knight Riders. Flower knows that his team needs to pull up their socks at the earliest to get out of the muddle.

"We're one from five and that's not a position any side wants to be. Yes, we do have some issues with our batting. We got Virat in superb form but other guys are struggling for form and confidence. We're trying everything we can to make them feel strong and confident. As you've seen in this competition, scores and aggression of teams are only going one way. So the guys need all the form and confidence to put the opposition under pressure. We haven't found that form yet." Skipper Faf du Plessis echoed similar sentiments at the presentation ceremony when asked to evaluate the defeat. The South African registered a 33-ball 44 but wasn't at his fluent best in the innings. Once he perished, the other batters weren't able to sync up to the nature of the surface.

leaving Kohli to do it all. The RCB captain also felt that there was a stark contrast in the batting conditions across two innings. "Batting out there with Virat tonight, we found the wicket was tricky and low in the first innings. In our heads, when we were batting, we felt 190 would be a good score. I did feel that maybe the last over or two, maybe there were 10-15 runs more that we could have maximized towards the end," Faf said. "But if you look at how their spinners bowled through the middle, it was tough to hit; the ball was staying quite low. And a good decision by them to chase, you could see in the evening, with the dew, it played much nicer. But yeah, you feel in hindsight that you could have pushed a little bit harder and get through that 190-195 mark."

## Wouldn't point fingers at Kohli: Clarke shields star after joint-slowest IPL hundred

**New Delhi:** Michael Clarke said that Virat Kohli should not be blamed for Bengaluru's defeat to Rajasthan in the Indian Premier League (IPL) 2024. On Saturday, April 6, RCB lost to RR by 6 wickets at the Sawai Mansingh Stadium in Jaipur after they slumped to their fourth defeat in 5 matches this season. Kohli hit the joint-slowest IPL hundred off 67 balls and went on to rack up 113 runs off 72 balls with the help of 12 fours and 4 sixes.



the other RCB batters were struggling to show any kind of consistency. "I wouldn't point my fingers at Virat Kohli. He was brilliant and I think he played the exact role he needed to play because the batters around him are not scoring enough runs, not playing with enough

confidence or enough freedom," Clarke told Star Sports.

After being asked to bat first, RCB scored 183 for the loss of 3 wickets. However, the RR team chased down the target with 5 balls to spare on the back of Jos Buttler's unbeaten 58-ball knock of 100. Du

Plessis admitted that the visitors were short of where they would have liked to finish. Clarke also echoed the same, also expressing surprise at Cameron Green's promotion over Dinesh Karthik, who is known for finishing games off for RCB. "I think RCB left 15 runs on the ground. A few of their decisions were hard to understand. You have got Karthik as a finisher; I don't know why he did not come in probably after Maxwell. He certainly should have come in before Green. That was an interesting decision," Clarke added. With the loss, RCB are languishing at 8th in the table with 2 points and a net run rate of -0.843 thanks to wins in only 1 out of 5 matches.

**New Delhi:** The crowd at the Rajiv Gandhi International Stadium in Hyderabad during the CSK vs SRH IPL 2024 match as MS Dhoni walked out to bat for a couple of balls during the first innings. MS Dhoni's family including wife Sakshi and daughter Ziva Dhoni were also present at the venue.

Sunrisers Hyderabad (SRH) captain Pat Cummins won the toss and opted to bowl against Chennai Super Kings (CSK) in their Indian Premier League (IPL) 2024 match at the Rajiv Gandhi International Stadium on Friday. SRH will be looking to make the most of home comfort in their second game while Chennai Super Kings will be keen to sharpen their all-round



game. Chennai will miss out on their pivotal pacers - Mustafizur Rahman and Matheesha Pathirana, who will be replaced by Moeen Ali and Maheesh Theekshana. On the SRH side, Mayank Agarwal will miss the game due to illness and will be replaced by Nitish Reddy. Speaking at toss,

Pat Cummins said, "We'll bowl first. Looks like a good wicket and should stay the same for the whole match. We've got a great squad. Mayank Agarwal is unwell, he's replaced by Nitish Reddy. Last time, there were 500 runs scored, this looks like a good wicket as well." CSK captain Ruturaj Gaikwad said,

"It's going pretty well, the group is responding well. Nothing much changed for me, obviously, this is a new challenge, but I'm feeling good. Pathirana is slightly ill - three changes for us, Moeen Ali, Theekshana and Mukesh Chowdhary come in. The bowlers are ready to go and so are the youngsters.

# Buttler's sixth ton trumps Kohli's eighth as Royals go four-from-four

**New Delhi:** Virat Kohli's eighth IPL century went in vain as Rajasthan Royals secured a comfortable six-wicket win to go four-from-four at the start of IPL 2024. It was the third time that Kohli's IPL century came in a losing cause as Jos Buttler's unbeaten sixth IPL ton - achieved off the last ball of the chase - and Sanju Samson breezy half-century helped Royals over the line with five balls to spare at the Sawai Mansingh Stadium in Jaipur on Saturday. There have been better and more fluent centuries Kohli has scored in the IPL. His innings was littered with shots that he couldn't time as well as he would've liked partly down to the slightly tacky

nature of the pitch in the first half of the match. There was ample intent to attack, but not every shot proved as effective as he would've liked. It took him 67 balls to reach the three-figure mark, the joint-slowest by anyone in IPL history. He got going smoothly early on though, dictating terms in the powerplay. The acceleration began in the second over when he hit Nandre Burger over the mid on region for a boundary and then flicked another four through square leg. The region between deep square leg and deep mid wicket proved to be his most productive area from where he picked up nearly three-fourth of his runs. He even pulled Burger for a six in the

pacers' next over and provided RCB a strong start.

However, while he got off to a strong start and maintained their scoring rate, Kohli mentioned after his innings that it was decided that the pitch wasn't as flat as it seemed from the outside and that they were forced to recalibrate the attempted total from 190 to 180 with one of the set openers batting till the end. Royals were also clever with their tactics. The pacers took the pace off consistently and bowled the short of good length, while the spinners also varied their pace and forced the batters to hit towards the longer boundary.

Every now and then, Kohli did manage to hit a



few boundaries. He was particularly good against Avesh Khan in the death overs, slicing his yorker square of the wicket, flicking him through mid wicket, hitting straight

down the ground and even through the cover region - all for boundaries. However, he didn't get similar success against Burger in the end overs and the refusal to

pick the extra runs while nearing his century ensured that RCB were restricted to 183 for 3 even though Kohli registered his joint-highest T20 score. Faf du Plessis had got the innings going with a thumping drive over covers for four in the first over, and powered RCB to a fruitful opening partnership. Not only was it the first time this season that RCB had played out the powerplay without losing a wicket but they also blunted Royals' attack, which had picked nine scalps in this period in their first three games. In the company of Kohli, du Plessis added 125 runs for the opening wicket - the 47th century stand for the franchise.

and the second highest against Royals. While the RCB skipper was largely away from strike form in most parts of the innings, he ensured the duo added more runs on the day and continued to score at rate of almost nine per over to set up a strong base for the rest of the batters to go on the offensive at the latter stage of the innings. Interestingly, several of Royals' better fielders made some mistakes. While Dhruv Jurel and Riyan Parag misfielded balls at the boundary, Trent Boult put down a sitter. However, the dropped catch didn't prove too costly as du Plessis fell off the next ball, hitting flat to Jos Buttler at long on, despite it being a more than 70-meter shot. They even

missed a few run out chances. However, following the dismissal of du Plessis after scoring a 33-ball 44, Royals were quick to pounce on that opening, and ensured that the new batters didn't have it any easier. After serving a couple of slower balls to Glenn Maxwell, Burger cleaned him up with a faster one. Saurav Chauhan's debut wasn't too noteworthy either as he was dismissed for a six-ball nine, offering a catch to Yashasvi Jaiswal at mid wicket, where he took it off a second attempt. Cameron Green's attempt to muscle some big shots didn't yield the desired result, as he could add only five runs in six deliveries.