

Vinesh Phogat disqualified for being overweight before final

Paris(KCN): In a shocking reversal of fortunes, Vinesh Phogat was disqualified Wednesday from the Olympics after being found overweight ahead of her women's 50kg final here, leaving her medal-less within hours of coming close to an unparalleled gold.

Vinesh had scripted history by becoming the first Indian woman wrestler to reach the gold medal bout in her category Tuesday night. Before this morning, she was assured of at least a silver medal but will now be coming back empty-handed due to the disqualification.

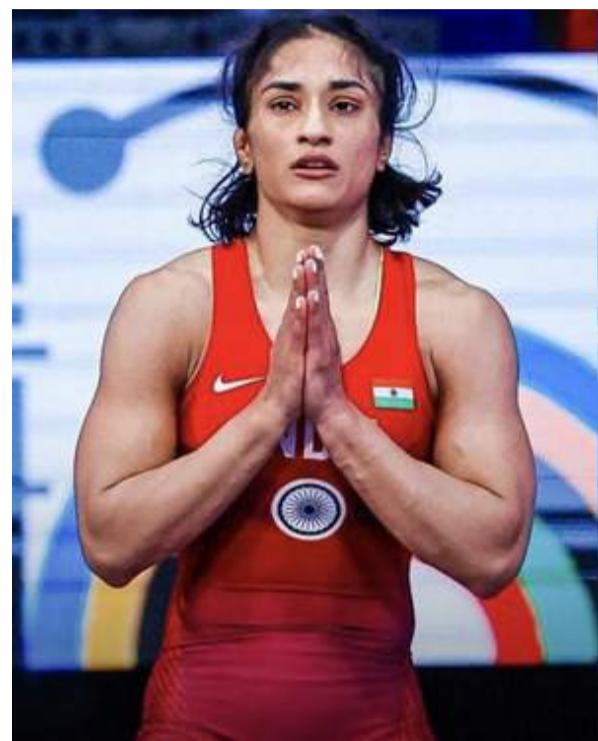
The shattered 29-year-old had to be taken to the polyclinic inside the Games village due to severe dehydration earlier in the day.

"I met Vinesh at the Olympic Village Polyclinic a short while ago and assured her of complete support of the Indian Olympic

Association, Government of India and the whole country. We are providing Vinesh all medical and emotional support," Indian Olympic Association President P T Usha said in a statement after the stunning turn of events.

"The Wrestling Federation of India has filed an appeal to UWW to reconsider the decision to disqualify Vinesh and IOA is following that up in the strongest possible manner," she added. The protests and appeals can continue but the cold fact was that Cuban wrestler Yusneylis Guzman Lopez, who lost to Vinesh in the semifinals, replaced her in the final.

Contingent's Chief Medical Officer Dr Dinsshaw Pardiwala explained the process of weight cut and said that every possible trick was used to ensure that Vinesh could be within the prescribed limit.



"The process of weight cut involves a calculated restriction of food and water along with sweating from exercises and sauna till the morning weigh-in. This weight cut causes weakness and energy depletion, which is counterproductive to participation," he said. Pardiwala revealed that

Vinesh had been merely given small amounts of water to prevent dehydration after three draining bouts Tuesday. "Her post participation weight was found to be increased. The coach initiated the normal process of weight cut that he has always employed with Vinesh and felt confident that it would be achieved. "All possible drastic measures, including cutting off her hair, were used. However, she was not below her allowed weight of 50kg," he said. International rules stipulate that any grappler found overweight at the time of weigh-in ends up at the bottom of the final standings.

It is particularly devastating given that she had taken down defending champion Yui Susaki of Japan en route to the finals Tuesday in a remarkable performance and was to face American Sarah Ann

Hildebrandt in the summit bout this evening.

"Vinesh failed second day weigh-in. According to the article 11 of the International Wrestling Rules, Vinesh will be replaced by the wrestler who lost against her in the Semifinal. Therefore Yusneylis Guzman Lopez will compete in the Final," the Paris Games organising committee said in a statement.

"Repechage Yui Susaki vs Oksana Livach (Ukraine) will become Bronze Medal Match," it added.

This means, that the 50kg category will offer only one bronze medal in the Games as against the usual two, which are decided after bouts between the losing semifinalists and the two repechage round winners.

Vinesh was not the only weight-related disqualification in the 50kg category.

PM offers support

In Delhi, Prime Minister Narendra Modi offered words of support to Vinesh, who was at the forefront of a lengthy protest alleging government inaction against former Wrestling Federation of India head Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh, who was accused of sexual harassment by women wrestlers.

"Vinesh, you are a champion among champions! You are India's pride and an inspiration for each and every Indian. Today's setback hurts. I wish words could express the sense of despair that I am experiencing," he posted on X.

"At the same time, I know that you epitomise resilience. It has always been your nature to take challenges head on. Come back stronger! We are all rooting for you," he added.

It is learnt that the PM spoke to IOA President P T Usha and asked her to explore every available avenue that might help Vinesh's case.

"PM spoke to IOA President PT Usha and sought first hand information from PT Usha on the issue and the options India has in the wake of Vinesh's setback," a source said.

"He asked her to explore the full range of options to help Vinesh's case. He also urged PT Usha to file a strong protest regarding her disqualification if that helps Vinesh," he added.

Heavy rainfall of over 100 mm recorded in 25 places in Odisha



Bhubaneswar(KCN): Heavy rain lashed several areas of Odisha since August 6 with over 100 mm of rainfall recorded in at least 25 places, the IMD said Wednesday.

According to a report of India Meteorological Department's (IMD) Bhubaneswar centre, Banki in Cuttack district and Bhopur in Nayagarh district witnessed heavy rainfall of 317 mm and

210 mm, respectively, during the last 24 hours till 8.30am Wednesday. Similarly, 17 places in Odisha received downpour of 95.4 to 115 mm. Due to heavy rainfall, water logging was reported from low-lying areas in different districts. At least 30 villages in Boudh district remained cut off as water was flowing above the Samalaswari Nallah bridge in Dhenkanal, Binika and Birmaharajpur in Subarnapur, Dabugaon and Tentulikhunti in Nabarangpur and Dharamgarh, Kisingha and Barla in Kalahandi district have recorded rainfall ranging from 121

to 196 mm during the period, the weather office said. Besides, another 10 places in Odisha received downpour of 95.4 to 115 mm. Due to heavy rainfall, water logging was reported from low-lying areas in different districts. At least 30 villages in Boudh district remained cut off as water was flowing above the Samalaswari Nallah bridge in Dhenkanal, Binika and Birmaharajpur in Subarnapur, Dabugaon and Tentulikhunti in Nabarangpur and Dharamgarh, Kisingha and Barla in Kalahandi district have recorded rainfall ranging from 121

Odisha procuring potatoes from Uttar Pradesh: Official

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Odisha government is procuring potatoes from Uttar Pradesh, an official said Wednesday. The potato crisis in Odisha became acute due to "erratic supply of potatoes from West Bengal" an official added. Odisha's Food Supplies and Consumer Welfare Minister KC Patra said normally will be restored in two-three days after sufficient quantity of potatoes arrive from Uttar Pradesh. Keeping in view the market situation, the Odisha government is also contemplating to procure potatoes from Punjab to improve supplies and reduce prices of the tuber, the minister said.

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, who in her Budget for 2024-25 proposed to lower the long-term capital gains tax on real estate to 12.5 per cent from 20 per cent but without the indexation benefit, moved an amendment to the bill to give the option. Indexation benefit allows taxpayers to arrive at the cost price

of the property after adjusting for inflation. The amendment came after the new provision was criticised for raising tax incidence and disincentivizing investments in the real estate. The major amendment in the Bill relates to restoration of indexation benefit on sale of

properties bought prior to July 23, 2024. Now, individuals or HUFs who purchased houses before July 23, 2024, can opt to pay LTCG tax under the new scheme at the rate of 12.5 per cent without indexation or claim the indexation benefit and pay 20 per cent tax. The Lower House later approved the bill with 45

official amendments by voice vote. The Finance Bill 2024 will now go to the Rajya Sabha for discussion but the Upper House does not have powers, as per the Constitution, to reject a money bill. It only can return such bills and if they don't do so within the stipulated 14 days, the legislation is considered as approved.

Sitharaman also said that the FY25 Budget proposals were aimed at promoting investment and benefiting the middle class. She said that the hike in tax exemption limit on long-term capital gains in listed equities and bonds to Rs 1.25 lakh from Rs 1 lakh will benefit the middle class investing in stock markets.

Mohammad Yunus appeals for calm as authorities scramble to bring law and order under control



Dhaka(KCN): Nobel laureate Prof Mohammad Yunus, the designated head of Bangladesh's interim government, Wednesday fervently appealed everybody "to stay calm" and "refrain from all kinds of violence" as the country witnessed a major reshuffle in the security establishment following the ouster of the Sheikh Hasina government.

Army chief Gen Waker-Uz-Zaman announced that the interim government will take oath Thursday around 8pm. He said the advisory council may have 15 members. General Zaman added that armed forces will provide all possible

support to Yunus. Yunus, whose name was first proposed for the top job by the coordinators of the Students Against Discrimination movement, congratulated the "brave students" who took the lead in making, what he said, "our Second Victory Day possible." "Let us make the best use of our new victory. Let us not let this slip away because of our mistakes," said the 84-year-old economist, who will return home from Paris Thursday to take charge. "I fervently appeal to everybody to stay calm. Please refrain from all kinds of violence." He appealed to all students, political parties and non-political people to stay calm. "This is our beautiful country with lots of exciting possibilities. We must protect and make it a wonderful country for us and for our future generations," he said in a statement.

"Let us not miss the chance by going into any senseless violence. Violence is our enemy. Please don't create more enemies. Be calm and get ready to build the country," he said. "If we take the path of violence everything will be destroyed. Please stay calm. Help those around you to stay calm." His appeal comes as the Army chief acknowledged that there were incidents of looting and anarchy after Hasina's ouster. He said that the police forces became "totally dysfunctional" and it was not possible on the part of the military along with the navy and air force troops to "fill up the void." "But we will do

everything possible to bring the culprits to justice," he added. With police absent from their duty to keep law and order or manage traffic, students carried out traffic management as volunteers for the second consecutive day Wednesday, the Dhaka Tribune newspaper said. "I request our police members once again to ignore rumours and return to their duties in a phased manner, ensuring that security arrangements are properly in place," said Additional Inspector General of Police A K M Shahidur Rahman, who was appointed as the focal person of the Bangladesh Police on Tuesday to handle the current crisis.

Elections to 12 Rajya Sabha seats from nine states including Odisha September 3: EC

New Delhi(KCN): Elections to 12 vacant Rajya Sabha seats in nine states will be held September 3, the Election Commission said Wednesday.

Ten Rajya Sabha seats fell vacant as the sitting members, including Union ministers Piyush Goyal, Sarbananda Sonowal and Jyotiraditya Scindia, were elected to the Lok Sabha.

Bypolls are also being held for two seats in Telangana and Odisha. K Keshava Rao from Telangana resigned recently from the House after quitting the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) to join the Congress while Biju Janata Dal (BJD) MP Mamata Bhosle resigned from

her Rajya Sabha seat and primary membership of the party.

Besides Goyal, Sonowal and Scindia, the other Rajya Sabha members who won the parliamentary polls and moved to the Lok Sabha are Kamakhy Prasad Tasa (BJP), Misha Bharti (RJD), Vivek Thakur (BJP), Deepender Singh Hooda (Congress), Udayanraje Bhosle (BJP), KC Venugopal (Congress) and Biplob Kumar Deb (BJP).

The notification for the Rajya Sabha elections will be issued August 14 and the last date for filing of poll papers is August 21, the commission said.

The separate elections for each Rajya Sabha seat will be held September 3 and the results will be announced the same day.



Trees Try

by Anupama Bhuyan
"To meet as far this morning
From the world as agreeing
With it, you and I
Are suddenly what the trees try



Be Different to Trees

by Jasaswini Pattanaik

The talking oak
To the ancients spoke.
But any tree
will talk to me.
What truths I know
I garnered so.
But those who want to talk and tell,
And those who will not listeners be,
Will never hear a syllable
From out the lips of any tree.

Chairperson, Nalanda Public School, Cuttack,
E-mail : nalandapublicschoolsoda.nps@gmail.com



To Speak

by Aparna Nayak

In the heart of a lush forest, there stood a majestic tree unlike any other. Its trunk was wide and gnarled, its branches reaching out like welcoming arms to the creatures of the woods. But what truly set this tree apart was its ability to speak.

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Quotation of the Day

"Every accomplishment starts with the decision to try."

Travel and Tourism Sector in India

India is geographically diverse and offers a variety of cultures that come with its own experiences, making it one of the leading countries in terms of international tourism expenditure. As per IBEF's report on Growth of Tourism and Hospitality Industry, Travel and tourism are two of the largest industries in India, with a total contribution of about US\$ 178 billion to the country's GDP. The country's big coastline is dotted with several attractive beaches. With this, the travel market in India is projected to reach US \$125 Billion by Financial Year 2027. International Tourist arrival is expected to reach 30.5 million by 2028. As in several other sectors, Indian companies have been leveraging technology as a critical enabler of growth for the sector for over a decade now. From search engines and global distribution system (GDS) services to online travel agencies, the travel industry has witnessed significant innovation, and there is scope for more. A primary driver of tech-oriented growth for travel and hospitality companies is their adoption of cloud solutions and the development of Software as a Service (SaaS) technologies. India is a large market for travel and tourism. It offers a diverse portfolio of niche tourism products - cruises, adventure, medical, wellness,

sports, MICE, eco-tourism, film, rural and religious tourism. India has been recognized as a destination for spiritual tourism for domestic and international tourists. India ranked 34 in the Travel & Tourism Competitiveness Report 2019 published by the World Economic Forum.

As per the Startup India data, the travel and tourism industry has close to 1500 startups that comprise of companies providing platforms that enable planning and booking of travel services or assist travel service providers with technology solutions.

This includes companies offering services that enable users to discover and book travel-related services such as transportation, accommodation, facility management, tours, ticketing and activities through online portals.

There are numerous opportunities for in the Travel and Tourism space for the budding entrepreneurs. Few of them have been listed below:

Virtual Technology - In India, the use of virtual technologies in the tourism and hospitality industry, though increasing, is limited. The Ministry of Tourism through its "Dekho Apna Desh" webinars has started to offer virtual tourism, as well as virtual safaris, tours of museums and art galleries, and exhibitions so far.

The next step for virtual tourism could thus be partnering with international universities, particularly departments of history and architecture. India may also tap the live virtual religious tourism avenue for international pilgrims who are unable to travel due to these travel bans. As an example, the Bodh Gaya in Bihar - an important Buddhist pilgrimage site - attracts a vast number of tourists every year.

Live streaming the daily rituals of such significant pilgrimage destinations may be considered. Further, this will also lay the foundation for the medium-term when international tourism opens, something like Switzerland's 'Dream Now Travel Later'.

Aggressive Marketing - Advertising and disseminating information is critical. Aggressive online and other marketing strategies can be pursued to promote India as a must-visit location.

Whether it is broadcasting campaigns like 'Incredible India' abroad, holding tourism seminars or offering Indian locations with facilities to promote foreign film productions in the country. Aggressive marketing is critical to be seen and heard well. India may consider having a Swachh Bharat Ranking for its tourists in terms of hygiene standards considering the concerns that arise from the pandemic, taking its annual

'Swachh Survekshan' survey a step further. Creating experiences - Most tourist destinations around the world are made up

spa sessions, rare animal sanctuaries, religious pilgrimage tours to extreme Himalaya tours. India on shoestring, India in

lack of proper infrastructure such as access roads, electricity, water supply, sewerage and telecommunication, creation of World Class Infrastructure. There are ~1497 DPIIT recognised startups in the Travel and Tourism Sector as on 17th April 2023. These recognised startups are spread across 262 districts of the country. They employ ~13,919 people. The highest number of recognised startups in this sector are in Delhi ~222. About 58% of the startups in this sector are from Tier 2 & Tier 3 cities.

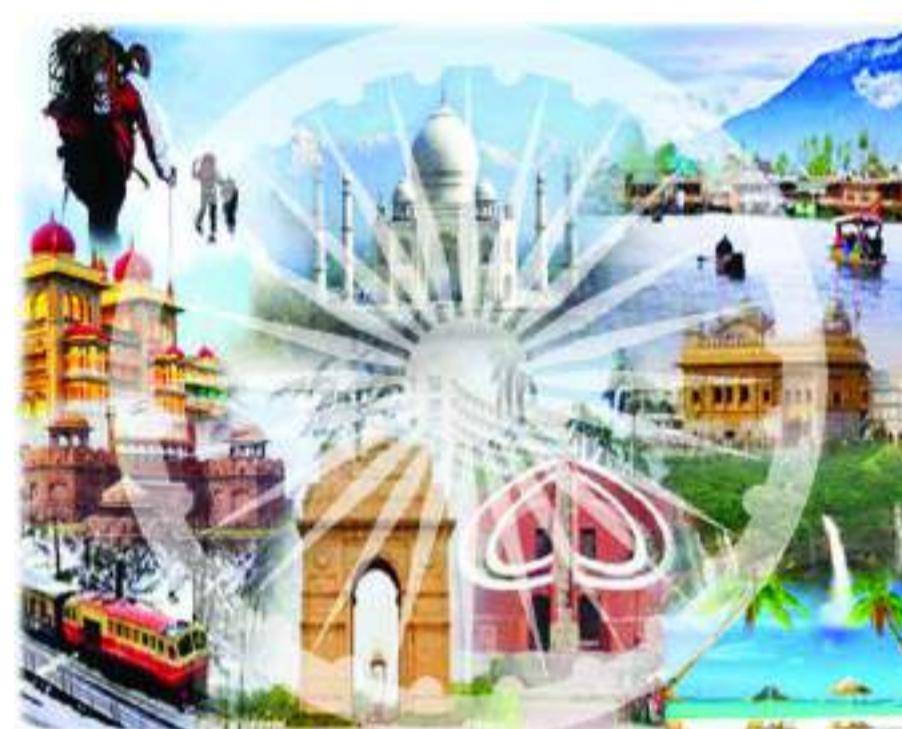
Startups in the spotlight: Param People Infotech Solutions Private Limited: National Startup Awards 2021 winner, Param People Infotech has developed a complete road travel support platform for travelers in collaboration with Make My Trip, Zoomcar, Honda, Bosch, Karnataka Tourism Department and Bharat Petroleum. 'Highwayelite' is a digitally connected highway wayside amenities platform to support startups in the sector. Additionally, there are schemes such as PRASHAD, Swadesh Darshan, SAATHI, Dekho Apna Desh and NIDHI, that are supported by the Government of India. In conclusion, the Travel and Tourism industry is an important contributor to India's economy, providing employment opportunities to millions of people. With the right support ecosystem, the food processing industry in India has the potential to become a major player in the global market.

of curated experiences. Be it botanical gardens, architectural monuments, backwaters, or the Himalayas, the potential of a place to attract tourists can be improvised than banking on the natural beauty of a place. The public and private players of the industry need to manipulate destinations as experiences and not sightseeing point alone. For instance, steps can be taken to make the tour replete with tour guides, activities for the children, culinary tours, interactivity for the tourist with the culture of the place etc.

Niche Tourism Areas - With too many points of differentiation available, Indian tourism should focus on how it has something to offer for everyone in every category with all budgets, from selling customized experiences, luxury

luxury, the royal India, urban India, the common man's India, historical India, and much more can be explored. Sustainable Solutions - The tourism industry can be transformed by the availability of sites and a policy on building eco-friendly hotels in coastal regions and wildlife parks. An awareness of 'conscious luxury' which is personified by a growing breed of small, intimate hotels - palaces, plantation retreats and jungle lodges - where the ethos is defined by transformational travel that educates, enriches, and encourages a digital detox when asked for, but allows connectivity when one needs it. To drive tourism forward sustainably is key and it has now become imperative for all stakeholders to take positive action in this direction.

However, the industry faces some challenges, such as



To address these challenges and after realising the country's potential in the tourism industry, the Indian Government has taken several steps to make India a global tourism hub. In his Independence speech from Red Fort, Prime Minister Mr. Narendra Modi urged people to visit 15 domestic tourist destinations in India by 2022 to promote tourism. The Draft National Tourism Policy 2022 also focuses on positioning Tourism as a National Priority, enhancing competitiveness as tourist destination and

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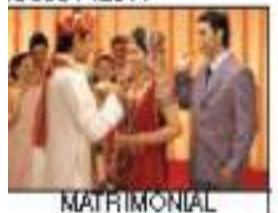
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Auron Mein Kahan Dum Tha vs Ulajh box office: Both fall short of Rs 10 crore mark

Auron Mein Kahan Dum Tha vs Ulajh box office collection Day 5: Ajay Devgn's romantic drama and Janhvi Kapoor's thriller have failed to pull people to cinema halls.

Ajay Devgn and Tabu's Auron Mein Kahan Dum Tha and Janhvi Kapoor's Ulajh were released in cinemas simultaneously on August 2 and are performing equally poorly at the box office. Both films have failed to attract audiences to the theatres. Within five days of their release, their collections have fallen below Rs 1

crore. According to industry tracker Sacnilk's early estimates, Auron Mein Kahan Dum Tha earned Rs 90 lakh on Tuesday, while the political thriller Ulajh could only add Rs 65 lakh to its total collection. Their Hindi occupancy was as low as 8.93 per cent and 11.35 per cent, respectively.

Currently, Neeraj Pandey's Auron Mein Kahan Dum Tha has a total collection of Rs 8.65 crore, while Ulajh has earned Rs 6.20 crore at the box office. It seems unlikely that either film will cross the

Rs 10 crore mark by the end of their first week. Ulajh is Janhvi Kapoor's second-worst box-office performer, following her 2022



survival-thriller Mili, which began its run with just Rs 40 lakh and failed to cross the Rs 3 crore mark by the end of its first week. Her

previous release, Mr and Mrs Mahi, managed to earn Rs 24.89 crore by the end of its first week. Both Ulajh and Auron Mein Kahan Dum Tha

were affected by poor word of mouth from both audiences and critics. While Ulajh was criticised for seeming to test viewers' intelligence, Auron Mein Kahan Dum Tha was said to test their patience.

Now, the Hindi film industry is pinning its hopes on the upcoming Independence Day releases, including Akshay Kumar's Khel Khel Mein, Rajkummar Rao's Stree 2, and John Abraham's Vedaa. These films are expected to benefit from the holiday period, which extends up to August 19 (Rakshabandhan holiday).

'Tumhare Hi Rahenge Hum': Rajkummar-Shraddha's new love ballad from 'Stree 2' out

Rajkummar Rao and Shraddha Kapoor's chemistry shines again in 'Tumhare Hi Rahenge Hum', the latest love ballad from 'Stree 2'. The film is set to release on August 15, 2024. A new romantic song from 'Stree 2', featuring Shraddha Kapoor and Rajkummar Rao, has been unveiled on August 6. Titled 'Tumhare Hi Rahenge Hum', the track has been sung by Varun Jain, Shilpa Rao, and Sachin-Jigar. It releases on August 15. Taking on from where

they left, Rajkummar Rao and Shraddha Kapoor ignite the screen with their beautiful chemistry in 'Tumhare Hi Rahenge Hum'. This is the third track from the film that was released after 'Aaj Ki Raat' and 'Aayi Nai'. The lyrics of 'Tumhare Hi Rahenge Hum' is written by Amitabh Bhattacharya. The song has been mixed and mastered by Eric Pillai of FSOB Studio.

Releasing the song, music composer duo Sachin-Jigar said, "Crafting this love track was a beautiful

experience for us. We wanted to create a song that captures the essence of true love and the timeless chemistry between Shraddha and Rajkummar. We hope listeners experience the same magic that inspired us during the creation process."

Directed by Amar Kaushik and produced by Jio Studios and Dinesh Vijan, 'Stree 2' will release on the big screen on August 15, 2024. The film clashes with 'Vedaa' and 'Khel Khel Mein' at the box office.



Alia Bhatt, Vijay Varma celebrate 2 years of 'Darlings' with a fun video



Alia Bhatt and Vijay Varma celebrated two years of their film 'Darlings' with a heartwarming video. The movie released in 2022 on Netflix.

Actors Alia Bhatt and Vijay Varma recently shared a social media post to mark two years of their dark comedy film 'Darlings', which was released on August 5, 2022, on Netflix. The film's main cast included Alia Bhatt, Vijay Varma, Shefali Shah, and Roshan Mathew. To celebrate the occasion, Alia Bhatt's production house, Eternal Sunshine Productions, shared a

heartwarming video on Instagram. The video showcased memorable moments from the film's journey, including behind-the-scenes footage, the wrap party, and promotional events. The text on the video read "Celebrating 2 years of Darlings" and the caption stated, "Double the funs, double the loves. Happy two Darlings (sic)". Alia Bhatt is set to release her second film as a producer, 'Jigra', directed by Vasan Bala and produced by Eternal Sunshine Productions and Dharma Productions. The film will be released on October 11, starring Alia Bhatt and Vedang Raina in the lead roles.

Shah Rukh Khan's 'Jawan' set to hit Japanese theatres in November

Shah Rukh Khan's 'Jawan' is set to debut in Japan on November 29, 2024, with advanced bookings starting July 5. The film, already a global hit, is now aiming to capture the Japanese market.

After achieving remarkable success and breaking multiple box office records worldwide last year, Shah Rukh Khan's blockbuster film 'Jawan' is now ready to take over the Japanese market. The movie is scheduled for release in Japan on November 29, 2024.

Twin, a renowned distributor of Indian cinema in Japan, will handle the release of 'Jawan' in the country, marking the film's debut

in the Japanese market. Advanced bookings will commence on July 5, 2024, a full four months ahead of its release. As a special treat, people who secure their tickets in advance will receive exclusive posters featuring Shah Rukh Khan from the hit song 'Chaleya.'

With this strategic release, 'Jawan' is poised to make a significant impact in Japan, further expanding its global footprint and reinforcing Shah Rukh Khan's international appeal. Previously, Japanese video game designer Hideo Kojima had praised Shah Rukh Khan's film 'Pathaan', showcasing his love for

the Bollywood superstar's work. Kojima tweeted last year, "Too busy these days, mentally and physically exhausted. Need to refill my high-octane tank. So, I saw the Indian movie 'PATHAAN' in IMAX! Well, it was awesome! I was numb! It opened my blood vessels! It was a MAD MAX level of energy! After seeing this, I think I'll be able to hold it for a while! Mission Impossible, 007, RRR, John Woo, the whole shebang! A few Metal Gear elements too! There was applause after the screening. Highly recommended! (sic)." Too busy these days, mentally and physically exhausted. Need to



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Taking care of environment is our moral duty



Strong cases abound for seeing environmental care and awareness as a moral obligation and virtue. Taking care of the surroundings may be seen as a development of the moral guideline of reducing damage and advancing welfare for everybody. A moral need to solve these problems arises from the terrible effects of environmental damage, pollution, and climate change on human health, the economy, and the natural world. Furthermore, the linked character of the global ecosystem implies that our individual and group activities may have far-reaching effects on the life of present and next generations. From this point of view, a measure of moral character and civic duty is acquiring environmental awareness and acting to save the earth. Simultaneously, different opinions exist on the degree

and nature of our ethical responsibilities towards the surroundings. Some contend that other critical goals like human wellbeing and economic growth should be weighed against environmental protection. In the end, it is a difficult philosophical issue with no clear solution whether environmental preservation ought to be seen as a moral obligation or virtue. Though reasonable individuals may differ, the mounting scientific data of humanity's environmental influence makes a solid argument for giving environmental awareness and action top ethical priority. Many times, morality may be reduced to care of a stable complicated system. For instance, not murdering. Usually, we understand this to be referring only to other individuals. Still, it is a constrained view. Often at danger of disturbance and termination, ecosystems as complex, rather-stable wholes and the various occupants of them are likewise stable and complex

systems. Whether or whether it directly benefits us, I believe we should broaden our definition of moral behavior to include preservation of the intricate Earthly ecosystems. Morality should center on life preservation. As sophisticated lifeforms, we often choose other sophisticated lifeforms for protection over more basic forms. We so consume plants as well as many of us eat animals. However, even more complicated and beautiful than our human civilizations as a whole, the ecosystems as whole are the most sophisticated lifeforms still existing. People have evolved the ability to destroy, or defend, hence they owe a moral obligation of protection. This responsibility has nothing to do with whether the ecosystems directly benefit people. It is about appreciating and safeguarding life in all its multifarious complexity. Indeed, environmental preservation is moral; but, as it is, to some extent, more selfless, maintenance of the stability and resilience of the biosphere as a

Surjit Singh Flora

whole-including those areas that are no appropriate habitat for humans is even more moral. A long list of things, including but not limited to roads, buses, automobiles, bicycles, computers, tires, footwear and clothing, furniture and clothing, cosmetics, and medications. Nothing that we do, manufacture, touch, or grow is immune to the role that it plays in either contributing to or detracting from the environment. The mining sector, oil industry, transportation industry, and industry that turns raw materials into useful resources are all enormous. Everything that we consume must originate from someplace. We refer to our environment as our living and breathing space. We can divide it into four parts: atmosphere, hydrosphere, lithosphere, and biosphere. — Mandal (Biosphere). The atmosphere surrounds our earth with an envelope of air. This envelope of air around the earth is about sixteen hundred kilometers, but ninety percent of

the air is within a radius of twenty-two kilometers. Similar to the tectonic plates, water and land make up the earth's surface, with seventy-one percent being water and ninety-nine percent being land. Similarly, we refer to the water-covered portion of the earth as the hydrosphere. Since water covers most of Earth's surface, we also refer to it as a water body. However, the biosphere is a sphere that reflects the influence of natural elements. It is the planet Earth's most important sphere. The biosphere is formed only by combining the three spheres mentioned above. The biosphere encompasses a diverse range of animals and plants, collectively referred to as biota. In the natural environment, human thinking and technological development have brought about necessary changes. Changing environment means change in environment. These changes occur both quickly and slowly. Subsidence or uplift of the earth manifests fast-moving changes, whereas rivers, glaciers, wind, and oceans, among others,

reveal slow-moving changes. Even while developing mineral and industrial sectors, mankind has brought more changes to the earth. Because of this, there is a close relationship between natural and human elements in environmental change. As a result, man has progressed through many stages of development. Human enterprise has had a profound impact on every human occupation, making the entire world a 'global village'. Despite this, the main causes of environmental damage have also emerged, such as increasing population, industrialization, urbanization, deforestation, overexploitation of natural resources, ozone layer depletion, global warming, and others. The environment is a delicate balance of different elements that sustain life on planet Earth. It includes the four above-mentioned atmospheres, hydrosphere's, terranes, and biospheres. These elements work together to create a suitable habitat for a

diverse range of organisms. Scholars assert that the term "environment" lacks a full form because it is not a word. The French word 'inverter', meaning 'to surround', is the source of the word 'environment'. It reveals the natural world around us, including water, land, and living things. Therefore, we can define the environment as the culmination of all animate and inanimate elements and their impacts on human life. Biologic (living) objects include animals, birds, plants, forests, and humans, while non-living (abiotic, non-living) objects encompass water, soil, sunlight, rocks, and air. Therefore, the environment, which consists of three types of elements, is the primary source of life. Inorganic, organic, and energetic. Inorganic elements come in three realms: air, water and soil. Organic organisms include humans, plants, animals, insects, and so on. Energy elements include energy produced by sunlight and minerals found in the earth. Indeed, the

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Monsoon Foot Care

Shahnaz Husain



during monsoon and rainy seasons can help prevent shoe bites & serious foot conditions

Caring for your feet during monsoons can prove to be quite tricky as they're exposed to dirt and germs due to prolonged and constant exposure to muck and rainwater during a downpour.

Walking through dirty water is unavoidable, exposing feet to germs and infections. Our feet bear the brunt of it and are exposed to all sorts of dirt and pollutants floating in the water.

The humid, wet and sticky climate translates into wet shoes, sweaty feet, cracked toes, fungal infections, itching, athlete's foot and many other allergies. Wearing tight, closed-toe shoes, keeping your feet wet for a long time, and getting minor skin or nail injuries on your foot are common causes of fungal infections of feet.

A little extra care tendered to your feet

ventilation and help the perspiration evaporate. But, open footwear also attracts dirt and therefore, foot hygiene becomes all the more important. Don't forget to wear gum boots if you live in a region prone to heavy rainfall and floods. If you wear closed shoes, talcum powder can be sprinkled inside the shoes.

After a hot day, soak your feet in cold water, to which some salt has been added. A foot problem called "Athlete's Foot" develops

more easily during hot and humid weather, because it thrives on soggy skin. If neglected, it can become a stubborn problem, with an itchy condition. The athlete's foot starts as a fungus infection. So, if there is dry scaling on the feet, especially between the toes, with some itching, consult a dermatologist without delay. Anti-fungal preparations are effective in dealing with the problem in the initial stages. However,

odour. Soak the feet for 10 to 15 minutes.

Foot Lotion: Mix together 3 tablespoons of rose water, 2 tablespoons of lemon juice and one teaspoon pure glycerin. Apply on feet and leave on for half an hour.

Foot Care for Dryness: In one-fourth bucket cold water, put 2 tablespoons honey, one tablespoon herbal shampoo, one tablespoon almond oil. Soak feet in it for 20 minutes.

Cooling foot bath: Add rose water, lemon juice and a splash of eau de cologne in cold water and soak feet in it. Cools, cleans and removes odour.

Toenails Overgrown nails are an invitation to dirt and grime that accumulate under them and a breeding ground for fungal infections.

Keeping your toenails groomed by cutting them to an optimal short length is a way of making sure that an unnecessary

amount of dirt doesn't accumulate in your toenails. Additionally, moisture causes toenails to become brittle so a regular trim keeps it under check.

Cooling Massage Oil: Take 100 ml olive oil and add 2 DROPS eucalyptus oil, 2 DROPS rosemary oil and 3 DROPS khus, or rose oil. Mix together and keep in an airtight glass jar. Use a little of this for foot massage. It cools and protects the skin and keeps it healthy.

Make a mix of three tablespoons of rose water with two tablespoons of lemon juice and one teaspoon of pure glycerine. Apply this daily after washing and drying the feet.

Turneric Paste of turmeric which is well known for its antibacterial, antifungal and antiviral properties can be applied around the toes to get rid of fungal infections too.

The author is an international fame beauty expert and is called the Herbal Queen of India

Harsimrat K Badal terms Finance Bill as a Tax Trap Bill, states it kind to the corporate

Chandigarh (JAG MOHAN THAKEN), August 7: Senior Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) leader and Bathinda MP Harsimrat Kaur Badal Wednesday while terming the Finance Bill 2024 as a Tax Trap bill said it was very kind to the corporate at the cost of the medium and small industry as well as the common man.

She also called for repatriating all income generated from the union territory of Chandigarh to Punjab since 1970 for failing to transfer the UT to Punjab as committed by the central government. She also demanded both the Wagah and Hussainiwala borders with Pakistan be opened for trade.

Participating in the discussion on the Finance Bill in the Lok Sabha, Mrs Harsimrat Badal said "no one has been spared by this Bill. Whether you earn money, spend money or

invest it, you have to pay tax". She said however the Bill was very kind to the corporate sector with tax for foreign investors being reduced from 45 per cent to 35 per cent even as Angel Tax for startups had been withdrawn. She said similarly while corporate tax had been fixed at 25 per cent, small investors going in for partnership and proprietor firms would be taxed at the rate of 30 per cent.

Urging the government not to create a chasm between the haves and the have-nots, Mrs Badal said the demand of MSMEs to remove clause 43 B in income tax act which disallowed businesses from claiming deductions for expenses incurred towards goods or services purchased from MSMEs if the payment was delayed beyond a specific timeframe was

disallowed. She said this was done despite a specific assurance given by the union finance minister during her visit to Ludhiana. She also spoke on how the credit link capital scheme which allowed an Rs 15 lakh subsidy to MSMEs had been taken back. She also demanded that the 85 to 90 per cent subsidy provided to MSMEs to attend government listed fairs should not be withdrawn.

Mrs Badal while speaking about taxing health and life insurance premiums said this was nothing short of terrorism and violated an individual's fundamental right. She also called for freight equalization, saying States which were landlocked could not produce goods at competitive prices otherwise. She also highlighted how the bicycle industry had been allowed to go to seed due to lack incentives for

tech upgrades.

Speaking about the need to remove or rationalize taxes on agricultural implements, Mrs Badal said the central government had failed to double the income of farmers or provide MSP to them and that taxes on agricultural implements was hurting them further. She also spoke on the debt trap which had engulfed

Canada to facilitate the huge number of students studying there as well as families who were travelling to and fro between the two destinations.

The Bathinda MP also called for introducing a daily Delhi-Bathinda Alliance air flight utilizing Boeing aircraft and flights under regional connectivity scheme UDAN. She also urged for the introduction of flights linking the two holy Takhts of Sri Hazur Sahib, Nanded and Sri Patna Sahib.

Bathinda's importance even extended beyond geographical boundaries as it encompassed Asia's largest Army cantonment, an Air Force Station, a Central University, a major oil refinery, three thermal plants and the revered Takht of the Sikhs - Sri Damdama Sahib. She said since there was no airport within a 300-kilometre radius, the city's airport presented a fit case for upgradation to an international airport. She said since there were a large number of students from the eight districts including those in the adjacent States who were studying in Canada, flights to Canada could be started from Bathinda. She said this would also facilitate NRIs as well as families who were travelling to and fro between the two destinations and had to presently land in Delhi and then travel by road to

Weavers' Service Centre Celebrates 10th National Handloom Day Befittingly



Kolkata, (KCN): The Weavers' Service Centre, under Office of the Development Commissioner (Handlooms), Union Ministry of Textiles today organised an Awareness programme regarding the importance of the handloom products among the various sections of people comprising students of the fashion and designing, textiles at Garment Park (Paridhan), Beliaghata, Kolkata in presence of Managing Director, Tantuja, Shri Rabindranath Roy, Director, Directorate of Textiles (Handloom), Government of West Bengal, eminent weaver of West Bengal and the Padma Shri recipient Shri Biren Basak, Deputy Director, Weavers' Service Centre, Shri Lakshman Chandra Basak, Shri Partha Das, Manager (Commercial) & Regional In Charge,

National Handloom Development Corporation Ltd and the like.

Various activities like dissemination of various schemes of handlooms of the Ministry of Textiles, quiz/drawing competition, live demonstration of handloom, small film on handloom products, presentation on IHB, Handloom Mark & E-commerce etc were carried out during the programme.

To commemorate the historical occasion of the launch of Swadeshi Movement at Town Hall of Kolkata on August 7, 1905 and to celebrate our handloom tradition, the artisans and weavers of the handloom sector were honoured today in this august function, emphasising their outstanding craftsmanship.

#MyProductMyPride.

SWARING-IN CEREMONY AT DAV, KALINGANAGAR



Bhubaneswar, (KCN): DAV Public School, Kalinga Nagar witnessed the swearing-in ceremony of its new student cabinet for the session 2024-25 in its premises today amidst fervor and enthusiasm. In the formal meeting organized to mark the occasion, chairman Sri Madan Mohan Panda rendered the welcome address to the gathering. Attending as the chief guest, Sri Dusmanta Ray, Inspector of Police, Odisha State Legislative Assembly said, 'A true leader knows how to adapt himself with the

changing situations and face the challenges bravely to harvest success even in the midst of hostile situations'. The dignitaries witnessed the

democratic transfer of power and responsibilities among the incoming and outgoing cabinet members of four houses like, Akas, Agni, Prithvi and Tejas and the School

Leader and Asst. School Leader including the Secretaries and invested them with badge and I-Card. Principal Sri Balaram Mohapatra administered the oath to

the newly sworn-in cabinet members and advised them to carry out their duties and responsibilities with sincerity and devotion. The distinguished personalities who attended the function includes former Principal of the school and presently Principal of DAV, Pokhariput Sri Bipin Kumar Sahoo and invited teachers from different sister concern schools of Cuttack and Bhubaneswar. The programme was smoothly conducted by the active participation and whole-hearted cooperation of all the staff members.

ICMR begins work on project to develop advanced emergency care systems

Bhubaneswar (KCN): The ICMR started work for the National Health Research Priority Project, aiming to develop advanced emergency care systems, including immediate treatment of heart attack or brain stroke patients, officials said Wednesday.

As a pilot, the project will be taken up in five places—Puri (Odisha), Ludhiana (Punjab), Vidisha (Madhya Pradesh), Vadodara (Gujarat), and Pondicherry, they said. A three-day national consultation conference, involving the stakeholders, was held at AIIMS-Bhubaneswar to fix the

modalities of the project, they said. The project work was formally launched in Puri from the conference that concluded Tuesday. While ICMR will fund the project, AIIMS-Bhubaneswar will provide technical support and the state government will take care of the logistics and manpower.

The project is aimed at enhancing emergency care by improving logistics, boosting healthcare provider competencies, integrating IT and AI tools, and mapping facilities, AIIMS-Bhubaneswar Executive Director doctor Ashutosh Biswas said. The key

special bench hearing review petitions on the Supreme Court's 2022 verdict upholding several provisions of the PMLA, including the power of arrest and attachment as well as Section 45 of the Act, which provides 'twin conditions' for bail.

The bench, which also comprises Justice CT Ravikumar, was scheduled to hear the petitions on Wednesday but adjourned the matter to August 28 at the request of Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, who said the matter was listed after 9 pm on Tuesday and sought some time to prepare and argue. On Tuesday, Minister of State for Home Nityanand Rai had submitted a written reply to a question in the Lok Sabha and said that more than 5,200 money laundering cases had been registered by the ED since 2014 and convictions were obtained in 40 while there had been acquittals in three.

Odisha's BJD forms committee to intensify protest against Polavaram project in Andhra

Bhubaneswar(KCN): The opposition BJD in Odisha formed a committee Tuesday to intensify its protest against the Polavaram multipurpose project in neighbouring Andhra Pradesh that was being promoted by the BJP-led government at the Centre.

The committee, headed by former minister Atanu Sabyasachi Nayak, has Debi Prasad Mishra, Pradeep Majhi and Bhrugu Baxipatra as its members.

"The members will

visit Motu and Padia, and other likely-to-be affected areas in Malkangiri district.

The BJP has dealt a blow to Odisha after coming to power at the Centre and the state by granting funds for the completion of the Polavaram project, besides according it the national project status," former MP Pradeep Majhi said. He said the Polavaram project is likely to inundate about 1,400-1,500 hectare of land in Padia and Motu tehsils in Malkangiri district.

The BJD is worried over the safety of

tribals living in the region, he said.

Reacting sharply, the BJP in a statement said the BJD was politicising the matter.

"The state's BJP government will take appropriate steps at the right time keeping in view the interest of the people," it said, maintaining that the BJD did not do anything for the people during its 24-year rule.

Senior BJP MLA Jaynarayan Mishra claimed that as BJD leaders were quitting, its chief

state.

Naveen Patnaik was trying to unite his party with the Polavaram protest as the pretext. He said the BJD will not succeed in its bid to mislead the people.

The Congress said the BJD kept the issue pending while being in power in the

double engine government can also take steps in this direction by holding discussions with the TDP-led Andhra government if it wants," Congress

MLA Sofia Firdous Sudarshan Das. Meanwhile, members of the Ama Jana Adhikar Forum, a Bhubaneswar-based rights group, met Malkangiri's District Collector Sachin Pawar and discussed the possible impact of the Polavaram project. The delegation, which is set to visit Padia and Motu Wednesday, included former MP Brajakishore Tripathy and Mahanadi Bachho Andolan leader



Odisha teen dies after consuming poison, family alleges harassment by school

Jajpur(KCN): The death of a 17-year-old boy, while undergoing treatment for consuming poison, has triggered an uproar with his family alleging mental harassment by his school in Odisha's Jajpur district. Ashish Kumar Panda, a Class 12 student of a residential school, allegedly consumed poison in his home Monday evening. He was accused of stealing a mobile phone of a hostel inmate.

He was first taken to a

government hospital at Madhuban and later to the SCB Medical College and Hospital in Cuttack where he died late last night. His father filed a complaint with the Dharmasala police in connection with the incident Tuesday.

According to the teenager's family, they received a call from the Renaissance Higher Secondary School on

August 4 morning and the authorities said that Ashish stolen a mobile phone from a roommate of the hostel. "We reached the school at about 10 am and our son appeared very stressed and pleaded he was innocent. The school authority directed us to take him home. When we asked them to show us the CCTV footage of our son's misdeed, they could not show it. We took him home on Sunday," said Banka Behari Panda, father of the deceased. Panda alleged that his son was mentally tortured by the school authorities. "My son could not bear

the humiliation and died by suicide," he said.

Contacted, proprietor of the Renaissance Higher Secondary School B.B Rout said the parents of the student were informed about the incident and asked to come to the school. When the parents reached the school they were asked to take the boy to their home, he said. Based on the complaint, police have registered a case and further investigation is underway.

High-Quality Patient-Centric Integrated Model for Emergency Care System to be developed in Puri

Bhubaneswar, (KCN): The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has launched a National Health Research Priority Project aimed at developing advanced emergency care systems. This project, which includes the district of Puri in Odisha, seeks to establish a High-Quality Patient-Centric Integrated Model for Emergency Care Systems across five districts: Puri (Odisha), Ludhiana (Punjab), Vidisha (Madhya Pradesh), Vadodara (Gujarat), and Pondicherry, said AIIMS Bhubaneswar Executive Director Dr. Ashutosh Biswas.

The initiative will enhance emergency care by improving logistics, boosting healthcare provider competencies, integrating information technology and artificial intelligence tools, and mapping facilities. Key components of the project include improving ambulance services, increasing community demand, and training first-level responders. The project will address seven critical emergencies: heart attack, brain stroke, trauma, snake bite, poisoning, respiratory emergencies, and neonatal and maternal emergencies, added Dr. Biswas.

AIIMS Bhubaneswar, in collaboration with ICMR and the state government,



is spearheading the project in Odisha. Dr. Ashutosh Biswas, Executive Director of AIIMS Bhubaneswar, emphasized the collaborative nature of the initiative during a National Level Consultation cum Review Meeting held at AIIMS Bhubaneswar. The meeting, themed "Collaborative Action: Strategies to Strengthen Emergency Care in India," gathered key stakeholders to discuss strategies for enhancing emergency care.

A research team led by Dr. Arvind Kumar Singh, Additional Professor at AIIMS Bhubaneswar, has been formed to develop and implement this model in collaboration with the state government.

Prominent attendees included Dr. Meenakshi Sharma (ICMR, New Delhi), Dr. Vishwajeet Kumar (CEL, Lucknow), Dr. Jeyaraj D Pandian (CMC Ludhiana), Dr. Sitanshu Sekhar Kar (JIPMER, Puducherry), Dr. Prasanta R. Mohapatra, Dr. Sonu Hangma Subba, Dr. Bhagirathi Dwivedi, Dr. Binod Kumar Patro, Dr. Arvind Kumar Singh from AIIMS Bhubaneswar, Dr.

Manu Ayyan (JIPMER, Puducherry), Dr. Hemant Kumar Patadia (Parul University), and Principal and Co-Principal Investigators from the five project sites. The Government of Odisha dignitaries included Dr. Bijay Kumar Mohapatra, Director Of Health Services, Dr. Nilakantha Mishra, Director of Public Health, Dr. Santosh Kumar Mishra, DMET, and Dr. Kaushik Mishra, Superintendent, SJMCH. State officials from other states joined online. Project team members from INDIA EMS and Regional Institute, AIIMS Bhubaneswar, also attended. Dr. Ashutosh Biswas unveiled the Vision Document of INDIA EMS and Training Manuals, advocating for the integration of geotagging systems, IT, HR, and HMIS. He emphasized improvements in transport, ALS facility ambulances, immediate response, and community education on basic life support. Dr. Bijay Kumar Mohapatra stressed the importance of enhancing



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State level workshop on “Gender sensitive food systems and promoting Women Entrepreneurship

Koraput,(KCN): Pragati, Koraput, a Non-Government Organization working for the food and nutrition security of the small and marginal farmers organised a state level workshop on “Gender sensitive food systems and promoting Women Entrepreneurship” on 7 August 2024, in the auditorium of Krushi Bhawan, Bhubaneswar with support of IRRI-CGIAR Seed Equal Initiative. The initiative was focused on 1. Understanding the gender dynamics of seed systems and role of women in the formal and informal seed system through field study 2. Demonstrate the

performance of Indigenous varieties through participatory seed production and 3. Understanding the market dynamics of agri-products of small and marginal farmers. Objective of the Workshop: The objective of the workshop was to present the findings of the studies to multiple stakeholders across seed systems for their suggestions and recommendations for further benefit of the small and marginal farmers especially women farmers. Participants: The workshop brought together diverse set of stakeholders including

Government officials, researchers, development practitioners, women and youth farmers. Inaugural Session: The workshop was inaugurated by Dr. Pravat Kumar Roul, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Odisha University of Agriculture and Technology, Dr. A.K. Nayak, Director, National Rice Research Institute, Cuttack, Dr. Ranjitha Puskur- Gender & Livelihoods Module Leader- Evidence, International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) with welcome note by Mr. Prabhakar Adhikari, Secretary, Pragati along with watering of plants. Dr. Ranjitha Puskur- Gender & Livelihoods Module Leader delivered

the keynote address which focussed on the role of women, their contributions and the challenges they face in the seed system and also emphasised on building the capacities of women to empower them in the seed system as well as developing women entrepreneurship.

Dr. A.K. Nayak, Director, National Rice Research Institute discussed on the role of NRRI in seed production, certification and release of new varieties. He also emphasised on enhancing the knowledge of women farmers including youth on seed production and certification. The women farmers can be organised into collectives like Farmer Producer Companies and through them women entrepreneurship can be promoted especially in seed sector.

Dr. Pravat Kumar Roul,

Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Odisha University of Agriculture and Technology encouraged the women farmers to conserve their indigenous seeds which have immense potential. He also focused on the aspect of providing knowledge to the farmers and especially women farmers on seed production, seed certification and establishing seed enterprises through women collectives.

Two study reports namely “Pathways for gender responsive seed systems-An investigative case of Koraput District” and “Value chain analysis- Identifying challenges and exploring opportunities for small and marginal farmers” done by Pragati, Koraput was released by the Hon'ble Guests.

Dr. Luna Panda,

Executive Director, Pragati presented the findings of the study on Pathways for gender responsive seed systems- An investigative case of Koraput District”.

Ten women farmers i.e. Seed Mothers were felicitated by the Hon'ble Guests.

Interactive Session with Farmers:

The inaugural session was followed by an interactive session with the farmers. Padmashree Sabarmatee, SAMBAHAV presided over the session and the speakers included Prof. Bijaya Kumar Sahoo, Retd, Dean, Shiksha O Anusandhan University, Sri Chakradhar Panda, State Coordinator ICRISAT, Dr. Mukund Varier, State Coordinator, Odisha Project-IRRI and Dr. G.K. Kumar, Principal Scientist, NRRI, discussed on the aspects of quality seed production, conservation of indigenous seeds, seed certification process, aromatic rice production and potential of seed entrepreneurship especially through women collectives. Dr. B.C. Mohapatra, Principal Scientist, ICAR-CIFA, discussed on production of fish fingerlings and taking up fishery in an entrepreneurship mode. Dr. P. Srinivas, Principal Scientist, ICAR-CHESS, The session started with the presentation of the findings and recommendations of “Value chain analysis- Identifying challenges and exploring opportunities for small and marginal farmers” done by Pragati, Koraput with support of IRRI-CGIAR Seed Equal Initiative. The presentation was done by Dr. Debasis Mohapatra, Associate Professor, KIIT School of Rural Management who conducted the study on behalf of Pragati.

EoR to Install Solar Power Plants at Station Buildings, Service Buildings, Residential Buildings, and LC Gates



Bhubaneswar,(KCN): East Coast Railway (ECoR), in line with the policy of Indian Railways, is adopting various steps to generate more green energy by installing Rooftop Solar Power Plants in Station & Service Buildings and other installations over its jurisdiction.

ECoR plans to install 21826 KWp capacity Solar Plants resulting in savings of approximately 214 Crores from Energy Bill and 91.41 lakh from Carbon Credit. Under this project, East Coast Railway will install Solar Power Plants at 149 Station Buildings, 248 Service Buildings, 6924 Residential Buildings, and at 366 Level Crossing (LC) Gates over its jurisdiction. Out of the above, tenders have been floated for

₹83.79 Crores, which includes Solar Power Plants/Renewable Solar Energy Sources on grid plants of different capacities on rooftops and shed tops in various locations:

- Brahmapur-Palasa Railway Section at a cost of ₹9.13 cr
- Bhubaneswar-Cuttack-Paradeep-Bhadrak Railway section ₹8.86 cr
- Angul Section ₹9.48 cr
- Headquarters area in Bhubaneswar ₹9.10 cr
- Khurda Road-Puri Section ₹8.74 cr
- Paradeep-Kendujhargarh Railway Section ₹8.10 cr
- Visakhapatnam area ₹7.25 cr
- Visakhapatnam

Electric Loco Shed area ₹7.10 cr

- Duvvada-Palasa Main Line/Naupada-Gunupur/Vizianagaram-Rayagada area ₹8.78 cr
- Kottavalasa-Kirandul Rail Line Section ₹7.53 cr
- Major Station Buildings and Service Buildings like Headquarters Building, Rail Sadan at Chandrasekharpur, 6790 KWp have also been provided with Rooftop Solar Power Plants/Renewable Energy sources. Level Crossing Gates at most of the places in ECoR jurisdiction have also been installed with Solar/Renewable Energy Systems.

East Coast Railway is committed to maximizing the use of Solar Energy for meeting its energy requirements. This will help in meeting the day-to-day power needs of Stations and other Service Buildings. Apart from being environmentally friendly, this leads to savings in precious expenditure for the Railways.

Aditya Birla Group formally launches TMRW – a Digital First ‘House of Brands’ venture in the Fashion & Lifestyle space

Mumbai: Aditya Birla Group today announced the formal launch of its new ‘House of Brands’ entity- TMRW. This move is in line with the group’s strategy to launch and back new-age digital ventures. TMRW, an Aditya Birla Group venture, will create India’s largest portfolio of disruptor brands in the fashion & lifestyle space and enable the next phase of direct to consumer (D2C) growth in India, which is poised to be a \$100bn market by 2025. Over the next 3 years, TMRW will acquire as well as incubate 30+ innovative, customer-obsessed brands. The venture will also enable multiple founders to operate within a synergistic ‘house of brands’ platform that share a common vision and shared capabilities. Aditya Birla Group has appointed ex Facebook & Bain executive, Prashanth Aluru, as the CEO & Co-Founder to lead the build out of this new venture. Prashanth will set-up a nimble and

agile founding team with the right skill sets and capabilities. Prashanth comes with extensive experience in Digital & Technology across strategy, growth and investing. He also brings to the fore rich entrepreneurial experience in helping build and scale new age ventures in Digital & E-Commerce.

Ashish Dikshit, MD of ABFRL said, “The formal launch of our D2C business, TMRW, is a key milestone for the company. This venture has the potential to become a significant growth engine by tapping into the new wave of entrepreneurial energy in India. Our aspiration is to build a portfolio of 30+ brands in the next 3 years. With the launch of this venture, we intend to double down on our ongoing program of strategically attracting new pools of capital that are seeking investment in high-growth businesses. We are confident that this



foray will successfully meet the aspirations of digitally native consumers and also create long-term value for investors and other stakeholders.”

Prashanth Aluru, CEO and Co-Founder, TMRW said, “I am excited to embark on this journey to build TMRW - a long-term enduring platform that will be home to the leading disruptor brands that provide the new age digitally savvy consumer what she is looking for across Fashion & Lifestyle.

With the backing of the

Aditya Birla Group and the right profile of long-term investors we will bring in, we are confident of powering the growth of several brands that shape the next phase of digital commerce growth till 2030 and beyond. With a new age DNA, at TMRW, we will jointly create an ecosystem of the most-loved disruptor brands partnering closely with highly competent founders.”

The shortage in the supply of semiconductors has impacted the production and sales of

TVS Motor Company registers sales of 302,982 units

Hosur: TVS Motor Company sales was at 302,982 units in May 2022. The year-on-year growth is not comparable due to the low base of sales in May 2021 because of the localised lockdown imposed by the Government of India during that period.

Two-Wheeler

Total two-wheeler sales grew from 154,416 units in May 2021 to 287,058 units in May 2022. Domestic two-wheeler sales grew from 52,084 units in May 2021 to 191,482 units in May 2022.

Motorcycle

Motorcycle sales grew from 125,188 units in May 2021 to 148,560 units in May 2022. Scooter sales of the Company grew from 19,627 units in May 2021 to 100,665 units in May 2022.

Three-wheeler

Three-wheeler of the Company grew by 28% from 12,473 units in May 2021 to 15,924 units in May 2022.

The domestic two-wheeler sales include

TVS iQube Electric sales of 2,637 units in May 2022.

Spice Money to enable farmers to withdraw PM-KISAN subsidy through its 1 million Adhikari Network

New Delhi: The Government of India has disbursed PM KISAN subsidy, directly to the farmers' bank accounts benefiting over 10 crore farmers and families who have received a grant of Rs 2,000 each. Spice Money, India's leading rural fintech with 1 million strong Adhikari network covering 18,500 plus pincodes, is assisting the farmers and farmer families residing in the heartlands of the country, to withdraw this subsidy through AEPs at their doorstep Adhikari

Dr. G.K. Kumar, CHESS, focused on horticulture crops, developing nurseries and scale up vegetable cultivation through women collectives.

Padmashree Sabarmatee, encouraged the women and men farmers to save their seeds which is their right and also the critical need for sustainable and climate resilient agriculture.

Technical Session: Value Chain Analysis of Agri Produces for small and marginal farmers

Dr. Saroj Nayak, IIT, Bhubaneswar presided over the technical session on Value Chain Analysis of Agri Produces for small and marginal farmers.

The session started with the presentation of the findings

and recommendations of “Value chain analysis- Identifying challenges and exploring opportunities for small and marginal farmers” done by Pragati, Koraput with support of IRRI-CGIAR Seed Equal Initiative. The presentation was done by Dr. Debasis Mohapatra, Associate Professor, KIIT School of Rural Management who conducted the study on behalf of Pragati.

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Anderson out, Netravalkar rested as USA ring in major changes for Netherlands tour

New Delhi: Starting life after their historic World Cup campaign, USA Cricket have announced some sweeping changes in their ODI and T20I squads for the Netherlands tour. USA are set to take the field in Netherlands without their breakout star of the T20 World Cup Saurabh Netravalkar. The former captain has been granted parental leave following the birth of his first child. Wicketkeeper batsman Andries Gous, yet another American World Cup sensation has similarly been granted parental leave for the ODI leg of the tour.

Apart from Netravalkar, the selection committee made as many as four more changes to USA's T20 World Cup side. Corey Anderson found no favours within the selection panel after an indifferent showing with the bat which Anderson himself described as 'lacklustre'. The burly left-hander found form with a match-winning 59* against MI New York in the recently concluded MLC (Major League Cricket) but his decision to stick to lower down the order offered him fewer avenues to coerce his selection.

Left-arm spinning all-rounder Nisarg Patel has been shown the door after being the only member of USA's World



Cup to be benched right through the World Cup. Nisarg's ouster paves way for the selectors to break the one-dimensional nature of the USA spin attack further aided by the induction of wrist spinner Yasir Mohammad, who has previously featured for USA in 2 T20Is. Middle-order batsman Milind Kumar finds himself axed from the T20I side after a poor run of scores in his short-lived T20I career but has been included in the ODI side, ostensibly on the back of a LIST A average of 43 back in India. Likewise, 36-year-old fast bowling all-rounder Shadley Van Schalkwyk has been given the boot from the T20I squad but enters USA's ODI scheme of things for the first time. Selectors continued to

show faith in young opening batsman Sai Teja Mukkamalla, who made the cut to the T20I side after being firmly entrenched in USA's ODI roster. Mukkamalla grabbed the spotlight after an unbeaten hundred in a chasing cause against UAE as a 19-year-old in 2022. But the left-field selection of 17-year-old USA U19 batsman Utkarsh Srivastava in both the white ball formats over the likes of Sanjay Krishnamurthy and Ali Sheikh is quite inexplicable given the duo's exploits in senior cricket over the past couple of years. Krishnamurthy recently made heads turn with a sensational 79* off 42 deliveries for the Unicorns in the MLC. Gous' late ask for parental

leave for the ODI leg proved to be a blessing in disguise for former India U19 wk batsman Smit Patel. The 31-year-old, who had been battling injuries for the best part of the last two years after a near-fatal car accident was overlooked by MLC franchises for the second season but remained in USA plans after a prolific run in Houston Cricket League this year. Unmukt Chand's perplexing absence from the national side after being the only domestic batsman to notch a couple of half-centuries leaves a cloud of doubt over MLC's denomination as the premier pathway tournament in the country. Those aspersions may be further reinforced with

the presence of Abhishek Paradkar in both the white ball squads over bowlers like Corne Dry and Stephen Wiig. Dry and Wiig have proved to be a force at the Minor League level over the years while Paradkar has struggled to find a place for his minor league team at times.

The fate of the likes of Cameron Gannon and Brody Couch, US citizens living abroad, hangs in the air as USA Cricket chairman Venu Pisike had told Cricbuzz of how they need to have a clear policy and have started discussing this to have a policy and criteria in place for selection.

ODI Squad: Monank Patel (Captain), Aaron Jones (Vice Captain), Smit Patel, Abhishek Paradkar, Harmeet Singh, Juanoy Drysdale, Jasdeep Singh, Milind Kumar, Nosthusha Kenjige, Saiteja Mukkamalla, Steven Taylor, Shayan Jahangir, Shadley Van Schalkwyk, Utkarsh Srivastava, Yasir Mohammad.

T20I Squad: Monank Patel (Captain), Aaron Jones (Vice Captain), Andries Gous, Abhishek Paradkar, Harmeet Singh, Juanoy Drysdale, Jasdeep Singh, Muhammad-Ali Khan, Nitish Kumar, Nosthusha Kenjige, Saiteja Mukkamalla, Steven Taylor, Shayan Jahangir, Utkarsh Srivastava, Yasir Mohammad.

New Delhi: The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has amended the rules for participation for Under-19 players for the coming season and it appears, prima facie, that a few clauses have been relaxed. According to a recent communiqué to the state association, signed off by general manager Abey Kuruvilla, the BCCI has said that those who fail the TW3 test, or Tanner Whitehouse 3 method, it is a skeletal maturity test or bone test that is conducted to determine the approximate age of a player. It is done at the under-16 level. As for "TW3 test, or Tanner Whitehouse 3 method, it is a skeletal maturity test or bone test that is conducted to determine the approximate age of a player. It is done at the under-16 level.

According to the communiqué, the existing rule is: "The Players who have failed TW3 test at U-19 level but the birth is registered within two years of birth, will be allowed two years of participation in Under-19 tournaments." The amended rule says, "Such players will now be allowed a maximum of three years Under-19 participation." The changed rule is:

"Such players will now be allowed a maximum of three years of Under-19 participation."

One more existing rule, pertaining to direct entry into the Under-19 category, has been amended. "The players having their birth certificate registered within two years of birth are allowed to play three years in the category." Earlier, such players were allowed to play for only two years.

But significantly enough, if the birth certificate of a player is registered after more than two years of birth, he will be allowed only one year of direct participation in the Under-19 category.

One important rule also has remained unchanged. That is, "Once a player participates in any Under-19 match in the playing XI during any given season, the counting of 4 seasons will begin irrespective of if the player participates in the following season or not."

BCCI relaxes participation rules at the Under-19 level



Sreejesh, Harmanpreet emotional after semis loss in Paris: Very hard moment for us

New Delhi: Indian Hockey Team's veteran goalkeeper and skipper Harmanpreet Singh were left emotionally stricken after the side lost 3-2 to Germany in their Paris Olympics semi-final clash on August 6. Both Harmanpreet and Sreejesh rued their defensive errors and missed chances for the loss.

India's veteran hockey goalkeeper PR Sreejesh and captain Harmanpreet Singh were left visibly struck with emotions after their side suffered a disappointing but well-fought loss to Germany in the Paris Olympics semi-final on August 6. India's brilliant run at the Paris Games suffered a big stomp after their 44-year-old long hunt for an Olympics gold was left spoilt by a late goal from Germany's Marco Miltkau on Tuesday.

With PR Sreejesh playing his last tournament for India, all eyes of the Indian fans were hoping for their side to clinch their spot in the final. Specifically, after beating the likes of New Zealand and even their long-rivals Australia for the maiden time, fans and former players alike were hoping for the Indian team to



turn their Tokyo Olympics bronze medal into Gold in Paris. However, some costly defensive errors and a clinical lack of finishing snatched away those dreams. Speaking to JioCinema, PR Sreejesh reflected upon the heavy nature of losing a semi-final, but how it is important for his side to move on from the loss and focus on winning the bronze medal for their country. "See when you lose in a semi-final game, it's not that easy, because once you are in the finals, you are fighting for the gold, and that's a dream of any athlete. That's what we were here for. The last three years, every day, when we were on the field, we worked really hard to change the colour of that medal which we

got last time. We just missed that opportunity. So it's heartbreaking because those days were very hard. It was not easy. But see, now it's done. We got the opportunity. We missed it. Now it's the time to get something," Sreejesh said. While handling the emotions of missing out on a chance to fight for gold in his final international tournament, PR Sreejesh also explained how his team's priority lies first than his own individual mark. "See, rather than my situation, the team's situation is more important. I think that rather than working ourselves up too much about today. The emotions which we are going through today, we need to just forget about

that and move on, bounce back, prepare for the next one and do well in the other match," Sreejesh added.

India skipper Harmanpreet Singh found it difficult to process the weight after the loss. However, Harmanpreet did not fail to acknowledge the importance of returning to India with at least a medal. "It's unbelievable. It's a very hard moment. Last time we were here, and we went home with the bronze medal. We did all that we could but maybe it just wasn't our day. But now we need to focus so that we don't go home empty-handed," Harmanpreet told JioCinema.

Despite India taking the early lead, Germany pounced on every defensive error made by the Harmanpreet-led side and completed an ecstatic turnaround. Harmanpreet gave India an early lead in the first quarter, only for Gonzalo Peillat to equalise for Germany in the second. A clumsy body block by Jermanpreet Singh during a Germany penalty-corner, resulted in Christopher Ruehr giving his side a lead from a penalty stroke.

New Delhi: Nick Hockley announced that he would step down as the CEO of Cricket Australia after serving them for five years. He is expected to leave his role around the end of March.

Cricket Australia (CA) CEO Nick Hockley has officially announced his decision to step down by the end of the next cricket season, after an illustrious career spanning nearly 13 years in Australian cricket.

Hockley first took up the position of interim CEO in June 2020, before being confirmed as the permanent CEO eleven months later. His tenure has been marked by his adept management through the turbulent period of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Under his leadership, CA has laid strong foundations for growth, including rolling out a comprehensive five-year strategy and securing significant media deals with Seven West Media, Foxtel Group, and

Disney Star in India. Notably, a new player Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Australian Cricketers' Association was established, featuring a substantial 66% pay increase for female professional cricketers. Additionally, the Big Bash league has been rejuvenated under his guidance.

"This was a difficult decision, however following what promises to be a blockbuster summer and with our five-year strategic plan well progressed, this is the right time to pursue another challenge, while giving the Board plenty of time to find its next CEO to build on the strong foundations now in place," Hockley said in a press conference. "This is not the time for

goodbyes, as I remain completely focussed on the season ahead and supporting the Board on succession and a smooth transition."

Cricket Australia CEO Nick Hockley has announced that he will step down after the upcoming season. On the international stage, Hockley has overseen an extraordinary era of success for Australia's national cricket teams. Highlights include Australia's first tour to Pakistan in over two decades, winning and retaining both the women's and men's Ashes, and clinching six ICC trophies, such as the men's and women's Cricket World Cups (2022 and 2023), the men's and women's T20

World Cups (2021 and 2023), the World Test Championship in 2023, and the Men's Under-19 Cricket World Cup in 2024. Moreover, Australia secured gold at the Commonwealth Games in 2022. Hockley joined Australian Cricket in October 2012 as the General Manager of Commercial & Marketing for the ICC Cricket World Cup 2015, which saw over a million attendees and generated a significant economic impact.

Following a short period as Head of Commercial Projects, Hockley was named CEO of the Local Organising Committee for the ICC T20 World Cup 2020, achieving record-breaking success at the Women's T20 World Cup with a historic final at the MCG.