

"In 2017, Shah Rukh Khan was charged with culpable homicide after a stampede occurred during promotion for Raees and because he threw t-shirts at the crowd. The Gujarat High Court and Supreme Court granted SRK relief," the lawyer said.

The court was hearing a plea filed by Arjun to quash the FIR against him in the stampede case. However, the public prosecutor said an order quashing the FIR cannot be passed now as the accused has already been arrested. The government lawyer also said that the police had informed the theatre owners to ask the actors not to come for the

The court also took note of the fact that Sandhya Theatre had sought security from police on December 4, citing the presence of Allu

the deities. Worth mentioning, Ratna Bhandar repair work will begin from December 16 which will continue to an indefinite period. As per the resolution laid down in the Management Committee meeting, the repair work will be conducted during 12.30-6PM regularly till the completion of the project.

Chittaranjan Das on Friday said that Ratna Bhandar repair work will be handled by a technical team involving scientific methods with a sustainable approach. The team will operate in line with the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) of the temple administration and the daily rituals of

It has also been successful in tackling the Maoist menace, the top police officer said. The DGP also advised police personnel to be abreast with new laws. "There should be efforts to improve the technical skills of police personnel. Through the police duty meet this time, we will try to find out how much technical skills they have acquired," Khurania said.

driving growth, even amid potential trade tensions between the US and China and a global slowdown in trade. The agency also pointed to the ongoing policy focus on key growth drivers, such as infrastructure development, digitalization, and improvements in the ease of doing business, alongside the government's commitment to fiscal consolidation.

for a successful organization of the Mahakumbh. “India is a land of sacred sites and pilgrimages”, exclaimed Modi. He added it was a land of rivers like Ganga, Yamuna, Saraswati, Kaveri, Narmada and many other innumerable rivers. Describing Prayag as the confluence, collection, congregation, combination, influence and a power of the sacred flow of these rivers, the importance of many pilgrimage sites and their greatness, the Prime Minister said that Prayag was not just

Kumar submitted his nomination papers for the vacant Rajya Sabha seat from Odisha on December 9. As no other candidates filed nominations, he was declared elected. Initially elected to the Rajya Sabha in 2020 as a Biju Janata Dal (BJD) nominee, Kumar resigned from his seat and left the BJD in September this year. He later joined the BJP, which nominated him for the current Rajya Sabha seat.

The election for the seat was originally scheduled for December 20. It is worth mentioning that another former BJD Rajya Sabha member, Mamata Mohanta, also resigned from the party and joined the BJP. She was subsequently re-elected to the Rajya Sabha as a BJP nominee.

world.
YATS, organised by Tata Steel in collaboration with Pathani Samanta Planetarium, witnessed the participation of over 71,000 students from across the state.

virtuous areas at every step", exclaimed Modi. Throwing light on the cultural and spiritual significance of Prayagraj, the Prime Minister recited a Sanskrit shloka and explained, "The effect of the Triveni, the glory of Venimadhav, the blessings of Someshwar, the land of penance of Rishi Bhardwaj, the special place of Lord Nagaraj Vasu ji, the immortality of Akshayvat and the grace of God. This is what makes our Teertharaj Prayag." He further explained that Prayagraj is a place where all four elements of 'Dharma', 'Arth', 'Kama' and 'Moksha' are available. "Prayagraj is not just a geographical piece of land, it is a place to experience spirituality", the Prime Minister said, expressing gratitude towards the citizens for getting to visit Prayagraj.

The Untold Story of Displaced People! Lower Suktel Project

Sambalpur(KCN):Briffing media at Sambadik Bhawan NAPM office bearers said that, The Lower Suktel Irrigation Project on Suktel River, a major tributary of the river Mahanadi, has been started to irrigate parts of Odisha's Balangir and Sonpur districts and provide drinking water to Balangir city. The estimated cost of the project has increased from 217.13 crores in 1998 to about 4500 corers in 2018. Due to this project, more than twelve thousand five hundred families of about 56 villages have been displaced so far and 583 hectares of forest has been submerged in the dam. Before the last general election the state

government hastily filled the dam with water which has been compelled the residents to leave the village to save their life and in that shameful situation the district administration has launched the project. Though the government has offered compensation and rehabilitation, the resettlement packages have been inadequate and unfair. Protesters are continuing their struggle. local people were fighting against the displacement. Though the state government was constructing the project, the people who lost their land and houses have been given different types of compensation. Lower Suktel project is a strong example of forest and environmental



destruction, so noted environmental activist and Green Nobel winner of Odisha Mr. Prafulla Samantara has been associated with the anti-project movement since the beginning. By the initiation of National Alliances of People's Movements(NAPM) headed by Prafulla Samantarai, Lingaraj Pradhan and Saroj Mohanty, a team has been formed taking five members from different categories with the

objective to know the ground reality and status of displaced people after the inauguration of project, comprising with Saroj Mohanty, a prominent writer and Secretary of Pashim Odisha KSSS, Biswajit from GPF, Mahendra Parida GS- AICCTU, Narendra Mohanty, Convener,INSAF, Hara Bania and Mr. Satya Banchhor. The Committee Recommend for the Right to Fair Compensation and

temporary camps in such areas which must be conducive to human settlements with communication facilities, and with schools, colleges and employment opportunities. Landless displaced families should be given compensation as land and housing. Administration should stop forcing people to become beneficiaries of Vasundhara scheme. Arrangements should be made for the admission/ education of all dropout students by the cost of government in various educational institutions. It is unconstitutional to

deprive families and villagers from the basic amenities who have not yet left the village. The facilities like Anganwadi, schools, Janani Surakshya, providing job through MGNREGA, drinking water should be made available unconditionally. The state and national human rights commission should pay attention to this type of human rights violation and take proper remedies. Brick and concrete houses should be given instead of tin houses and deduction of Rs.1 lakh for providing of tin made house from their compensation money

should be returned. All eligible people of all families should get Labour Card, Ration Card and Health Card as soon as possible. The administration must provide and create opportunity for employment for their livelihood. Re-survey should be done for unsurveyed village like Kuniapali as to respect the order of Orissa High Court and Proper and fair compensation to all displaced families and especially for landless families must be reviewed further and concrete action should be taken as soon.

Citizens Human Rights Clinic Balasore Branch Observes World Human Rights Day with 'Road Safety - Life Protection' Awareness Campaign

Balasore, 13/12 (Krushna Kumar Mahanti): On the occasion of World Human Rights Day, the Balasore branch of the Citizens Human Rights Clinic (C.H.R.C.), Odisha, organized a 'Road Safety - Life Protection' awareness program today at Police Line Square. The event was led by the branch Head, Advocate Pratap Keshari Das. The program was inaugurated by the Chief Guest, Balasore District Superintendent of Police, Shri Raj Prasad, who emphasized the importance of adhering to road safety and traffic regulations for the general public. He conveyed a message encouraging responsible driving practices. The event was graced by several dignitaries, including the organization's State President Shri



Gopabandhu Mallik (former Odisha DGP), Professor and writer Rashmi Raul, Professor Jayakrushna Mohanty, industrialist Nrusingha Charan Nanda, Shankar Charan Jena, Sulagna Sucharita, and others. They addressed the drivers and public with messages of awareness and urged everyone to remain vigilant toward maintaining a balanced environment. A grand rally of over a hundred students and organization members started from Police Line Square, passed through State Station Square, Fakir Mohan Golai, and

concluded at Fandi Square. The participants raised slogans promoting road safety and life protection. Drivers caught without helmets were given roses and made aware of the dangers and risks of road accidents. Additionally, advice on following traffic rules was provided to them. The program saw active participation and supervision by Youth Wing Secretary Shri Biswakeshan Behera, State Minority Secretary Sheikh Muktaruddin, Advisor Shri Sadhu Charan Mallik, Professor Prafulla Kumar Sethi,

industrialist Mausam Kumar Singh, and several others including Pramod Kumar Pattayat, Bijay Kumar Sethi, Biranchi Narayan Raut, Jogendra Nath Ghadai, Jagabandhu Mallik, Khagen Bharati, Bhaskar Mallik, Bhavatosh Behera, Shyam Sundar Jena, and Parshuram Raut. The event was conducted peacefully under the direct coordination of all these officials. The Balasore branch of the Citizens Human Rights Clinic (C.H.R.C.), Odisha, has consistently organized numerous public awareness programs in the region, earning high praise. The branch was awarded a certificate of achievement and a trophy on the 10th of this month during the World Human Rights Day celebration organized by C.H.R.C., Odisha, in Bhubaneswar, as shared by State President Shri Gopabandhu Mallik.

Fakir Mohan University and Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) Sign MoU



Balasore, 13/12 (Krushna Kumar Mahanti): In a significant step to enhance academic-industrial collaboration, Fakir Mohan University and the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). The MoU was signed under the guidance and consultation of the university's Vice-Chancellor, Professor Santosh Kumar Tripathy, in the presence of Professor Bhaskar Behera, Chairman of the Postgraduate Council, and Registrar Kukumina Das. Representing CII, Shri Pankaj Kumar

Agrawal, from Young Indians (YI) Balasore Chapter, along with other officials, attended the event. The program was organized by Professor Pankaj Kumar Parhi, coordinator of the university's TBI (Technology Business Incubator), and Sunendu Nayak, Chief Executive Officer of TBI. The MoU aims to focus on skill development, leadership growth, and providing group services to bridge the gap between academia and industry. Through this collaboration, students and faculty of Fakir Mohan University will be able to actively

participate in various initiatives organized by CII, particularly through its "YI Yuva" platform. The agreement emphasizes leadership and skill development by enrolling and engaging students in various development-oriented activities under YI Yuva. Furthermore, it seeks to promote structured participation of the university in national and chapter-level YI events, offering extensive exposure, networking opportunities, and self-development while focusing on social service and nation-building. This partnership will also serve as a medium to foster professional and

industrial collaboration, promoting innovation and overall progress through shared commitments. According to sources, CII is a non-profit, industry-led organization that focuses on sustainable development and global competitiveness. Its YI Yuva platform aims to empower youth by fostering leadership skills and encouraging group participation. This collaboration is expected to provide practical exposure, prepare students for entrepreneurship, and contribute to their holistic development, aligning their growth with broader industrial and societal needs.

Sambalpur(KCN):The Nehru Youth Centre of the Government of India organized the Sambalpur District Level Youth Festival at Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Government College. On the theme of 'Panch Pratignya' of development, competitions like poetry writing, elocution competition, drawing, mobile photography, science fair-individual and group, group dance etc. were organized. In the group dance competition, 1st place was won by Nakatideul College, 2nd place by Kuchinda College and 3rd place by Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Higher Secondary School. In poetry writing, 1st place was won by Jagran Pujari, 2nd place by Nirupa Dansena, 3rd place by



Puja Rani Behera, 1st place in elocution competition by Pragya Rupa Bhatdar, 2nd place by Zivhal Sharma, 3rd place by Rohan Banachhor, 1st place in drawing by Khushi Saha, 2nd place by Ashrita Deep, 3rd place by Tiki Patel, 1st place in mobile photography by Shubham Meher, 2nd place by Chandan Barik, 3rd place by Aman Chaudhary, 1st place in individual science fair by Rudra

Narayan Sahabi, 2nd place by Archisman Mishra, 3rd place by Gautam Majhi, and 1st place in team science fair by Ritesh Ranjan Thakur and team, 2nd place by Soumya Ranjan Nag and team, and 3rd place by Kini Kumari and team. The inaugural function was presided over by the college chairman Dr. Pradeep Kumar Harpal and the chief guest was Dr. Hem Kumar Nayak, the keynote speaker

was Professor Durlava Kumar Sa, and the guest of honor was Sanyukta Kullu, District Public Relations Officer. The closing ceremony was attended by Shri Subhash Chandra Tripathi, Director, Rural Self-Employment Training Center, State Bank of India. The purpose of the program was described by Marianus Billung, District Youth Officer, Nehru Youth Center.

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

Three groups in fray for key to Ferozshah Kotla Stadium

Dr. Ravi Chaturvedi



It was early wintery morning of November 10, 1948, a 10 year-old cricket-crazy kid purchased a 5 season ticket to watch 1948-49 India West Indies series first Test at Ferozshah Kotla. The decennary enthusiast reached the ground early to occupy a vintage seat at the Fort end and watched closely the swinging balls of Dattu Phadkar, C o m m a n d u r Rangachari, Prior Jones and Gerry Gomez while guiles of Vinoo Mankad, Jimmy Cameron and Robert Christiani mesmerized the young cricket enthusiast. The brilliant strokes of Clyde Walcott, Everton Weekes, KC Ibrahim, Lala Amarnath were breath-taking while match-saving knocks of Hemu Adhikari (unbeaten 114 & 29) and Chandu Sarwate

(37 & 35 n.o.) left a lasting impression. The most exciting moment came while the teenager had just started feeling at home at Kotla when pacer C o m m a n d u r Rangachari bowled neck and crop George Headley for paltry 2 runs with the visitor's on mat at 27 for 3. Sadly, it was the end of the road for the illustrious career of batsman baptised as "Black Bradman". Since then much water has flown down the holy (now dangerously polluted) River Yamuna. It will be pertinent to point out that Firoz Shah Tughlaq was the 19th Sultan of Delhi from 1351 to 1388. He was a sports-lover who built a Polo ground adjacent to present Willingdon Pavilion where he used play Chaugan (mini Polo). The serene Yamuna River flowing nearby added another meaning to the relaxation as polo did to the ruler of his kingdom. Willingdon Pavion owes its origin to the rivalry between Maharaja Bhupinder Singh of Patiala and

Benaras cricket-loving ruler Maharajkumar of Vizianagram popularly known as (Vizzy). Patiala outplayed his rival in pleasing the Viceroy Lord Willingdon by donating a gold cup Ranji Trophy national championship to honour cricket wizard KS Ranjitsinhji of Nawanagar state of Gujarat who played for England. Vizzy restored the parity with the British ruler by building Willingdon Pavilion at Kotla. Actually, during the British Raj, the Englishmen built this ground in 1883 to play cricket. Since the Delhi & District Cricket Association (DDCA) elections are round the corner, Kotla has become a hub for the members who are converging in large numbers to assess the ground realities. This year election has become a close contest with the entry of Kirti Azad MP, ex Test Cricketer and member of the 1983 World Cup wining Indian team in fray as Presidential candidate against the outgoing Rohan Jaitley, a legal luminary and a



Rohan Jaitley, Kirti Azad and Vinod Tihara standing together



Majestic Arun Jaitley Stadium on a ground used by Delhi Sultan Feroz Tughlaq to play Chaugan (mini Polo)

competent son of former union minister Arun Jaitley. It is a triangular contest for all the posts, barring president where saddled Rohan Jaitley is facing Kirti Azad. The three-cornered contest is between Rohan Jaitley, Dr. CK Khanna, Gopi Manchanda; Kirti A z a d - S a n j a y Bhardwaj; Rakesh Paweriya, Vinod

Tihara, SP Bansal panels. The punters are putting their money on the Rohan Jaitley panel but predicting a close fight for the secretary's post between Vinod Tihara, Ashok Sharma and Sanjay Bhardwaj. The final outcome will be known after election on December 13, 14 and 15. The result of

the election will showcase the confidence of the members in the Rohan Jaitley stewardship and facilities created for the benefit of the cricket-loving community of the capital city. On the other hand, Kirti Azad has bag full of promises to upset the apple cart. Only time will tell the members tilt.

Rohan Jaitley, a visionary leader has already charted out a plan to improve cricket at all levels and augment the infrastructure within the Ferozshah Kotla. One of his top priorities is to have a cricket academy of the DDCA. Among the upgrading of the facilities on the card is a swimming pool; indoor nets, card and carom rooms, indoor games facility, and a banquet hall. The Jaitley team is going to pay lot of attention to cater to the comforts of the senior members of the club a separate block and provision of lift in general stand. The present stadium premises are in urgent need of expansion and extension. To meet this end, the land acquisition process is already underway. The present premises will be refurbished to give more appealing looks. The new team is going to make club more member friendly with get together of families to celebrate the festivals together. On the other hand, Kirti

Azad Sanjay Bhardwaj Panel is promising better facilities for the DDCA members, particularly the elderly members. The three groups and their supporters are burning midnight oil to win the voters' c o n f i d e n c e . Nevertheless, the final outcome will be known after election on December 13, 14 and 15. All the same, the result of the election is being waited with bated breath. The capital city of Delhi has witnessed the rise and fall of different dynasties over the Centuries while the scribe has watched from close quarters the entry and exit of the numerous cricket administrators in the portals of the Willingdon Pavilion. The arrival of the next one is being awaited anxiously!

***Scribe has been commenting at Ferozshah Kotla since early 1960s, residing at A-31/F, Munirka Flats, New Delhi-110067. For contact email-ravi31f@hotmail.com**

Empowering youth: Why India's new internship scheme is a game changer

Vijay GarG



India's job market is undergoing a significant transformation driven by rapid economic growth and technological advancement. The PM Internship Scheme (PMIS), designed to skill 1 crore youth over five years, aims to bridge the widening skills gap by providing practical experience to those aged 21-24 who are neither employed nor in full-time education. With over 56 percent of employers anticipating workforce expansion in the next half-year, this initiative comes at the right time. It offers a unique opportunity to create a more prepared, job-ready workforce, fuelling both innovation and long-

term employment growth. REAL - WORLD EXPERIENCE: SHAPING JOB-READY CANDIDATES The growing disconnect between academic qualifications and job readiness has been a key challenge in India's labour market for years. Many graduates possess theoretical knowledge but lack practical skills crucial for today's fast-paced industries. The new internship scheme aims to bridge this gap by offering students hands-on experience in real-world work environments. This approach will equip them with the skills to meet industry demands, creating a more competent and adaptable workforce. Beyond just technical skills, internships teach students how to manage deadlines, collaborate with teams, and navigate corporate culture. For example, a full-stack developer in e-

commerce needs not only coding expertise but also teamwork, time management, and customer understanding. Internships are the initial steps to gaining



that practical experience. According to a recent TeamLease EdTech survey, 72 percent of employers plan to hire freshers in 2024, with demand highest in sectors like e - c o m m e r c e , engineering, and retail. Internships in these areas will significantly boost students' employability, ensuring they are job-ready from day one.

INNOVATOR GROOMING: CULTIVATING A NEW GENERATION OF PROBLEM-SOLVERS One of the internship scheme's most

powerful aspects is its ability to stimulate innovation among young professionals. In a rapidly changing job market, the ability to think critically and creatively is more important than ever. This program places interns in dynamic work environments where they are encouraged to take initiative, solve problems, and think

outside the box-key qualities that employers are seeking in today's competitive market. Interns often take on responsibilities that require them to make

decisions, lead small projects, and collaborate with experienced professionals. This experience builds their confidence and encourages them to approach challenges with fresh perspectives. With mentorship from senior professionals, interns also gain insight into leadership qualities. As a result,

the program not only prepares interns for current jobs but also nurtures a generation of problem-solvers capable of driving India's growth in the global economy.

SEAMLESS TRANSITION TO EMPLOYMENT Employers nowadays prioritise candidates who possess not only academic qualifications but also practical experience. Internships bridge this gap by offering students first-hand exposure to industry standards and expectations. This experience gives

interns a competitive edge in the job market, often leading to full-time employment. Moreover, employers often view internships as a pipeline for future hires, as interns who perform well are frequently offered permanent positions. It reduces recruitment time and costs for businesses. This makes internships a win-win situation, providing companies with pre-trained talent and students with real-world experience. For students, internships are not just about gaining industry knowledge; they are essential for developing soft skills such as communication, teamwork, and problem-solving. These skills, often overlooked in formal education, are critical in today's fast-paced job market. As India's employment landscape continues to evolve, the need for candidates with a combination of theoretical knowledge and practical skills will only grow.

ROADAHEAD The new internship scheme is not just an educational initiative; it is a comprehensive strategy aimed at transforming India's job market. By emphasising real-world experience, fostering innovation, and creating a seamless bridge to full-time employment, the program addresses many of the challenges that have traditionally hindered the employability of India's youth. As more students gain practical experience and develop the skills required by today's employers, India's workforce will become more competitive, adaptable, and innovative. This will benefit not only individual students but also employers, contributing to India's vision of becoming the third-largest economy in the next three years.

Retired principal Educational Columnist Street kour Chand MHR Malout Punjab

Raj Kapoor: ‘Ab Dilli Door Nahin’

Vivek Shukla



For Dr. J.P. Sharma ‘Trikhya’, well-known author and Vaastu expert, passing from Regal theatre at Connaught Place in capital bring back memories of yesteryears when used to watch films made by Raj Kapoor like Ram Teri Ganga Meli, Sri 420, Boot Polish Awaara and many more with his parents. Raj Kapoor always preferred his films to open at Regal or Moti picture halls. Regal held a special place in his heart. Many of his most beloved classics, including Sangam, Mera Naam Joker, Satyam Shivam Sundaram, Boot Polish, and Jis Desh Mein Ganga Behti Hai, premiered at Regal and Moti, enjoying significant box-office success. Sadly, Regal shuttered its doors in 2017, followed by Moti a little later. As film historian Dr. Manish Chaudhary of

Daulat Ram college points out, “He (Raj Kapoor) considered Delhi his second home. This affection stemmed not only from the fact that his eldest daughter, Ritu Kapoor Nanda, was married here, but also from his frequent visits for the premieres of his RK Banner films.” Tragically, Delhi also became the city where Raj Kapoor breathed his last in 1988. Just days before his demise, he received the prestigious Dadasaheb Phalke Award from then President R. Venkataraman at the Siri Fort Auditorium. His health took a sudden downturn soon after. Grappling with severe breathing difficulties, he was rushed to the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS). Despite the best efforts of doctors, led by Dr. J.N. Pandey, he succumbed to complications from his asthma. Raj Kapoor’s death in Delhi added a bittersweet layer to his relationship with the city. Raj Kapoor’s connection with Delhi arguably began when he produced ‘Ab Dilli Door Nahin’ in 1957. Penned

by renowned author Rajendra Singh Bedi, this film featured actor Motilal, a relative of singer Mukesh, both of whom hailed from Nai Sarak. Interestingly, a young Amjad Khan,

transport company before relocating to Delhi post-independence. Raj Kapoor became a frequent visitor to Ritu’s Jor Bagh home. Dr.

Kapoor had a significant presence in Delhi. He resided in Princes Park during his term as a nominated Rajya Sabha member (1952-1960). Prime Minister

sessions, returning to Mumbai to complete his film commitments. Prior to his political role, he also staged numerous plays with his theatre group at Regal. Following the end of his



later famous as Gabbar Singh, also appeared in the movie. ‘Ab Dilli Door Nahin’ captured glimpses of Delhi, showcasing iconic locations like the old iron bridge over the Yamuna, Daryaganj, and Connaught Place. The ties between Raj Kapoor and Delhi deepened further when his daughter, Ritu, married Rajan Nanda of the Escorts Group in 1970. The Nanda family, originally from Lahore, had established a

Trikhya, who knows the Raj Kapoor family, says Rajan Nanda’s family would later be linked to the Bachchans when his son, Nikhil Nanda, married Shweta Bachchan. Today, Nikhil heads the Escorts Group. Moreover, Rajan Nanda’s father, H.S. Nanda, also founded the Escorts Hospital, further intertwining the two families and their legacies with the city. Even before Raj Kapoor, Prithviraj

Jawaharlal Nehru, seeking his advice on art and culture, had reportedly requested him to take the position. Their discussions on the role of art in the newly independent nation were crucial, and Prithviraj Kapoor is credited with suggesting the establishment of the prestigious National School of Drama (NSD) in 1959. Avid film buff Dr. J.P. Sharma ‘Trikhya’ says that Prithviraj Kapoor often resided in Delhi during Parliament

term, Prithviraj Kapoor visited the Golcha cinema in Daryaganj to personally witness the audience reception of his magnum opus, Mughal-e-Azam, which he was delighted with.

The Kapoor family’s connection with Delhi continued through subsequent generations. Karishma Kapoor, Raj K a p o o r ’ s granddaughter, also married into a prominent Delhi family. Her husband, Sanjay Kapur, was part of the

Pindi Jewellers family in Connaught Place. Although that marriage was short-lived, it further solidified the Kapoor family’s connections to the city. Similarly, another g r a n d d a u g h t e r , Riddhima Kapoor, wed Bharat Sahni, a businessman from South Delhi. Shashi Kapoor’s daughter, Sanjana Kapoor, married author and wildlife expert Valmiki Thapar, with the couple now residing in Delhi on Malcha Marg. His aunt is the famous historian, Dr Romila Thapar. While Raj Kapoor was strongly associated with Regal, his brother Shammi Kapoor had his own cinematic connection with Delhi – Plaza cinema. He was a partner in Plaza in the mid-1960s alongside film producer F.C. Mehra. Shammi Kapoor was perhaps the only member of the Kapoor clan to have owned a stake in a cinema hall. Shashi Kapoor also found himself intertwined with Delhi through his work. One of his early films, "Householder," was filmed primarily in a large house near Times

House in Daryaganj owned by Jaidev Trivedi, a prominent theatre artist and Hindi newsreader. Trivedi recounted that Prithviraj Kapoor visited the house with Shashi Kapoor. Directed by James Ivory and produced by Ismail M e r c h a n t , “Householder,” which was written by Ruth Praver Jhabvala, also featured iconic Delhi landmarks like Jantar Mantar and Jama Masjid. In a later film, New Delhi Times (1986), Shashi Kapoor can be seen driving through the streets of the capital. The Kapoor family’s relationship with Delhi is deep-rooted and continues to be a place where their memories are cherished and celebrated. Their impact on the cultural landscape of the city, from theatre to cinema, resonates profoundly, even today. The upcoming centenary celebration of Raj Kapoor is a perfect opportunity to remember their rich legacy.

The Author is a Delhi based columnist and former Editor

Is alcoholism classified as a brain disease or a brain disorder?



Alcoholism is a complex condition that affects both mental and physical health. Individuals with alcoholism are those who have lost the capacity to manage their alcohol consumption. An individual struggling with alcoholism is unlikely to regain control over their drinking habits. Over an extended duration, the situation deteriorates rather than improves. Consequently, the sole r e c o m m e n d a t i o n proposed is complete abstinence. A medical detox typically serves as the initial step in this process. Medical professionals knowledgeable about alcoholism concur that it is not possible to transform an alcoholic into a normal drinker. While science holds the potential to achieve this in the future, it has not yet reached that point. In 1956, the American Medical Association classified alcoholism as a disease, primarily to enable physicians to bill both patients and insurers for the treatment of this condition. I was involved in the alcohol and drug

treatment industry from 1985 to 1992, with short stints as a consultant in 2009 and 2014. Alcoholism does not align with the disease model, although there are indeed biochemical and biogenetic factors that may predispose individuals to develop a drinking problem. Currently, medical researchers are unable to identify a single gene on a specific chromosome as the definitive cause of alcoholism; however, there are four or five genetic markers that suggest a predisposition to the condition. Alcoholism leads to cellular damage in the brain as well as in other major organ systems of the body. Although alcohol can cause damage to brain cells, the human brain possesses millions of unused cells that can compensate for this loss. This cellular damage represents the physiological basis of addiction. The destruction of sufficient cells in the human body results in a craving for additional alcohol, simply to achieve a sense of feeling "normal" or acceptable. For example, physical dependency. Excessive dead cells ultimately lead to brain damage in individuals with chronic alcoholism. The liver, responsible for metabolizing alcohol, starts to encounter difficulties in performing its function due to cellular damage. The pancreas

e x p e r i e n c e s inflammation. Stomach ulcers can occur. The kidneys' function decreases. The ability to filter toxins from the body diminishes. For the chronic alcoholic, the body can suffer damage in various degrees as a direct consequence of alcohol consumption. The three main parts of the patient's brain, the prefrontal cortex (the part of understanding), the hippocampus (the part of thinking), and the amygdala (the part of anxiety), which alcohol numbs, are the main and real cause of the disease of alcoholism. As a result, the patient loses his intelligence and does not understand even when family members explain it to him. His mind constantly replays a series of thoughts about alcohol consumption. This series of thoughts prevents him from quitting alcohol, and he consistently experiences anxiety. Alcohol causes a physical disease, disorder, or problem known as liver damage. Take a look at alcohol from this perspective: do you know how rubbing alcohol is painful to your skin when you have a cut? In order to eliminate microorganisms, it is used as a disinfectant. Although they have distinct molecular structures, beverage alcohol and isopropyl alcohol are essentially the same chemical and share characteristics. One is taken by mouth, while the

other is applied topically to wounds and cuts in order to alleviate pain and promote healing. When they come into touch with cells, both types of alcohols have the same effect: they destroy those cells. Hard liquor is a poison, which means that it causes your throat to burn and dry up. One reason why people use alcohol is because it has the ability to change their mood by attaching itself to certain receptors in the brain. You could experience feelings of euphoria, relaxation, and so forth. The fermentation of hops, which gives beer its distinctive flavour, is the process by which beer is formed. Beer includes the same kind of alcohol as wine. Grapes are fermented to produce wine. Therefore, the effects of hard liquor, wine, and beer on cells are same; the only differences are in the technique of manufacturing and the amount of alcohol ingested. In other words, the only difference between a shot glass of bourbon and a can of beer that is 12 ounces is that the bigger volume of beer causes an increase in the amount of urine that is produced while drinking it. Why do individuals develop alcoholism? To begin, both addiction and mental diseases have a hereditary component, which means that environment is not the

only factor in these conditions. Regardless of how well life has been going up to that point, a person who comes from a family that has been in and out of rehabilitation and chooses to drink one day to celebrate or hang out with friends is a lot more likely to have problems with alcohol in the future. It is also impossible to know for certain that "everything in their lives is going well." I have met a great number of people who seemed to have everything and were well-liked by a great number of people. As long as they did not discuss what was going on, I would have been completely unaware of the following: Substance misuse in the household a relationship that is abusive Having a gang of pals sexually assault you Having one's family turn their backs on one following a death in the family They were being told by their own perfectionism that they were not talented enough. Having to deal with a significant medical problem Every night, parents argue with each other at home. An abortion or miscarriage Having a fiancé in a conflict zone Growing up with the experience of surviving a school shooting It is impossible for

anyone's life to be flawless, even if it seems to be so from the outside. Some individuals are very secretive and keep their negative traits hidden from everyone save a select few. As a means of covering up their suffering, some people become achievers. Certain individuals just do not want to discuss it. Why is the treatment of the brain more important than the liver? When the patient suffers from any physical disease/disorder/problem due to alcohol, the family members' direct attention goes towards the treatment of the patient's liver. The family members are not to blame for this. In fact, they do not understand the disease of alcoholism. Innocent family members keep wasting their valuable time and money by treating the patient's liver. When the patient's liver partially recovers, the family members experience a false sense of comfort, unaware that the liver treatment has not cured the patient's alcoholism, but rather exacerbates it. When the patient comes home from the hospital, he starts drinking alcohol again. The patient's family members can learn valuable lessons from this situation. The family members should learn that treating the patient's alcoholism, which includes brain damage or numbness, instead of treating the liver from the outset

prevents the patient's disease from worsening and avoids wasting their time and money. Sometimes, delaying treatment can incur significant costs. Also, it's a request to many doctors and clinics treating alcoholic liver patients to advise the family members as a matter of humanity that the patient cannot give up alcohol by treating the liver alone. Alcoholism, the primary cause of liver damage, requires more intensive treatment. Scientific treatment of the brain They detoxify the patient's body and brain. Later, through special medicines and special therapies such as R. T. M. S. therapy (repetitive transcranial magnetic stimulation), they treat the parts of the brain that have become numb due to the disease, the hippocampus (part of thinking), the prefrontal cortex (part of understanding), and the amygdala (part of anxiety) and the cells formed in the brain due to alcohol addiction. Once the disease heals these parts of the brain and destroys the cells, the patient begins to comprehend everything; his personality transforms, and he begins to understand and fulfill his responsibilities towards himself and his family. The thoughts and restlessness about alcohol disappear from his mind, and he gives them up forever.

The bottom line is, there is no cure for alcoholism since it is a chronic illness; nevertheless, it can be handled in the same way that chronic diabetes may be maintained successfully. If not treated or controlled properly, both disorders have the potential to cause early mortality. First and foremost, cease all alcohol consumption. It is noted that the brain is the final major organ to achieve “full” functioning after an individual has consumed alcohol excessively. Consume highly nutritious foods not only for your brain but for your entire body as well. Aim to minimize your consumption of junk food. I knew someone whose struggle with alcoholism was so severe that when she finally achieved sobriety, it took her a considerable amount of time to even read the Big Book. However, she persevered and ultimately found her way back to her “normal.” Every day, you might observe variations in your thought processes and information processing, yet it can take up to three years (and sometimes longer) for the brain to revert to its previous state.

Author is a veteran journalist and freelance writer based in Brampton, Canada 647-829-9397

One Nation-One Election vision is a Step Towards a Developed India by 2047: CM Haryana

Chandigarh (JAG MOHAN THAKEN), December 13 – Haryana Chief Minister, Nayab Singh Saini, lauding the Union Cabinet's decision to approve the ‘One Nation-One Election’ vision, said this move will save both time and money, benefiting the common people significantly. It will also expedite development works, ensuring that India becomes a developed nation by 2047. The Chief Minister was interacting with the media persons after inaugurating a craft exhibition at Kisan Bhawan in Sector-35, Chandigarh. Responding to the Punjab Chief Minister's statement on the ‘One Nation-One Election’ saying that it could harm regional parties, Saini said that the Punjab government has failed to meet the expectations of its people. In Delhi,

leaders of the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) are embroiled in corruption cases and are behind bars. They came to power promising transparent governance but failed to deliver, said the Chief Minister. Advising AAP leaders, the Chief Minister said they should focus on improving people's lives, providing clean drinking water to Delhi residents, and cleaning the Yamuna River. He asserted that people have understood their reality and are eagerly waiting for the Delhi elections, where AAP will face a big defeat. The Haryana Chief Minister said that the Punjab government should procure its farmers' crops at MSP. If Punjab's farmers face any issues, the Punjab government must step forward and announce that they will purchase all crops at MSP, he said. CM Saini claimed that

the Haryana government is procuring all crops from farmers at Minimum Support Price (MSP) and is continuously working towards empowering them. He said that the Congress government should also decide on strengthening farmers in the state governed by them. The Chief Minister said that the Prime Minister, Narendra Modi has undertaken numerous historic initiatives for the welfare of farmers over the past ten years, which has caused discomfort to other political parties. Congress and other parties in the I.N.D.I. alliance frequently question and politicize every pro-farmer decision made by the Prime Minister. Targeting Congress, the Chief Minister said that the people have now rejected Congress because its leaders lie and have used deceit to



gain power in states like Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, and Telangana. However, those governments have not worked in the interest of the people. This is evident from Congress's debacle in Haryana and Maharashtra. The Chief Minister expressed confidence that the people of Haryana and Maharashtra have

confirmed their support for BJP, ensuring that under Prime Minister Modi's leadership, BJP will form the government for the fourth time in 2029. He said that the country is progressing steadily, with efforts being made for the welfare of all sections of society, including farmers, poor, youth, and women. While inaugurating a Craft Exhibition

organized at Kisan Bhawan, Sector-35, Chandigarh, the Chief Minister said that handicrafts men will play an important role in Prime Minister Modi's vision of making India a developed nation by the year 2047. For this, the Central Government has launched the PM Vishwakarma Yojana, under which traditional artisans and craftsmen

are being provided assistance by the government to enhance their products and services. Skill training is also being given to artisans. He said the Haryana Government is taking forward the vision of the Prime Minister and is providing all kinds of facilities to craftsmen in the state. C M Saini said the exhibition organized by Craft Roots Sansthan has provided an excellent platform to artisans to showcase their art. The institution has imparted skill training to about 75,000 youth and women and made them skilled in various fields. He said India is a country of diversity where every province, every region and every community has its own unique art and craft tradition. Craft Roots Sansthan has made a commendable effort to bring all these traditions under one roof. He said this is not just a

platform for exhibition but also a symbol of respect for those artisans and craftsmen who dedicate their lives to their craft. He said handicrafts and handlooms have an important contribution in the development of human civilization and culture. History shows that artisans and handloom artisans have contributed a lot in developing India. Today, in the 21st century, India is again going to become a big economic power in the world and skilled hands will have a lot of contribution in achieving this. Saini said the Saras and Craft Exhibition being held from November 28, 2024 at the International Gita Mahotsav in Kurukshetra has provided a big platform to handicrafts men and handloom artisans. Handicrafts Men from India and abroad have come to this fair, which will inspire more people.

Historic Shift in Kupwara’s Education Sector as Private School Students Join Government Institutions

Kupwara, (Aasif Malik): A remarkable milestone in Kupwara's education sector was achieved today as several students from private schools officially enrolled in the Government Boys Higher Secondary School Hatmulla. This significant development highlights the growing trust of parents and students in the district's government-run education system. In a special ceremony organized at the school, Chief Education Officer (CEO) Kupwara, Abdul Majeed Sahib, and Principal Mohammad Iqbal Shah extended a warm welcome to the new students. The event also witnessed the presence of Zonal Education Officer (ZEO) Dragmulla and Heads of Institutions (HOIs) of various middle schools, underscoring the collective commitment of the education fraternity to fostering excellence in the public education system. The students were greeted with garlands of flowers as a gesture of encouragement, while parents were assured of



the school's dedication to providing a nurturing and academically enriching environment. During his address, CEO Abdul Majeed Sahib lauded the unwavering efforts of government school teachers, whose dedication and professionalism have been pivotal in transforming public education in Kupwara. He emphasized that their hard work has played a significant role in attracting students from private institutions to government schools. “The enrollment of private school students in our

government institutions is a testament to the high-quality education and dedication of our teachers. This marks a new chapter in Kupwara's education sector, and we are committed to sustaining this momentum,” stated CEO Abdul Majeed Sahib. The ZEO Dragmulla and the HOIs of middle schools echoed these sentiments, pledging their unwavering support to ensure quality education at every level. Teachers at the event also reaffirmed their

commitment to maintaining high academic standards, ensuring that each child receives the best possible educational experience. The Principal, Mohammad Iqbal Shah, echoed these sentiments, reaffirming the school's mission to provide top-tier education and holistic development for all students. Teachers at the event pledged to uphold rigorous academic standards, ensuring that each child receives the best possible educational experience. In recognition of academic excellence, the toppers of the 8th and 9th grades were felicitated during the ceremony. Additionally, more than 200 new students received school bags and copies as part of the welcoming gesture. This development underscores the collaborative efforts of educators, administrators, and parents in fostering a robust and reliable public education system. It sets a positive precedent for the future, with the focus firmly on quality education and student success.

India being at the first place in road accidents is sad: Gadkari

New Delhi, 13 December (KCN): Union Minister for Road Transport and National Highways Nitin Gadkari said that India being at the first place in road accidents is a matter of concern and not pride. He was addressing the closing ceremony of the Global Conclave of IISSM in Dwarka here today. He said that every year lakhs of people die in road accidents. We lose many talented doctors, engineers, scientists and intellectuals. Gadkari expressed surprise that it is very difficult to change human behavior. There is a need to train people on a large scale. People do not stop talking on mobile while driving. They do not want to wear helmets and invite accidents. The Union Minister said that safety is related to many areas, but we should pay more attention to road



safety. We have to make the country self-reliant, prepare skilled engineers. He said that management, training and research should never stop. Shri Gadkari said that the biggest problem of India is the increasing population. We have to make people aware through education. From the security point of view, both internal and external are important. Also, we have to follow the rules for safety. The Union Minister praised former MP, IISSM Executive Chairman Dr. RK Sinha for his contribution in

various fields. He said that the way Sinha adopted to work is exemplary for others. On this occasion, Dr. RK Sinha assured him that in his Indian Public School, students will be made aware by training them on road rules from school level and this will be started from the next session itself. Many people were honored for their remarkable work in the conclave. These included GM Shrivastava, DC Pathak and SK Sharma with Life Time Award. General Prem Sagar, GB Singh, Manjeet, GS Chauhan, Prof Chris Pillai, Renu Mattoo,

former IPS Manjari Jaruhar, AK Pathak, Colonel MP Sen were included with Fellowship. Expressing concern, IISSM's Executive Chairman Dr. R.K. Sinha said that the indiscriminate use of chemical fertilizers is harming our health. He said that if climate change becomes severe, we will not be able to return to traditional methods of food. Dr. Sinha also raised the issue of water consumption in preparing some crops. In today's conclave, intellectuals seriously discussed issues related to the public such as disaster management, climate change, women's safety, etc. Apart from experts from different parts of the country, a large number of foreign experts were also present in the program.

HDFC Bank’s‘Parivartan’ Completes Five Years in Bengal

Kolkata (ABHIJIT SETH): HDFC Bank, India's largest private sector bank, has successfully completed five years of its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiative, Parivartan, in West Bengal. Over this period, the initiative has positively impacted more than 17,000 households across the state, focusing on sustainable development and socio-economic growth. Launched in 2019, Parivartan began its journey in West Bengal by offering scholarships to underprivileged students. Since then, it has grown to encompass multiple focus areas, including rural development, education promotion, skill development, healthcare, and financial literacy. The program's efforts span 11 districts, such as Purulia,

Bankura, South 24 Parganas, and Murshidabad, among others. One of the key projects under Parivartan is the STREE (Social and Transformative Rural Economic Empowerment) initiative, which aims to empower farmers and rural communities. It has brought together over 10,000 women farmers as shareholders of Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) across four districts. The project focuses on good agricultural practices, market linkages, and crop value chains, benefiting an additional 24,000 people and supporting 66,000 farmers statewide. In the realm of skill development, HDFC Bank has established five state-of-the-art centres near Kolkata. These centres have trained more

than 3,000 young individuals, helping them secure placements with reputable companies. Furthermore, the bank has taken significant steps in natural resource management, constructing over 250 water harvesting structures in water-scarce areas, which have increased irrigation potential and created opportunities in aquaculture and livestock farming. On Sagar Island in the Sundarbans, HDFC Bank has implemented holistic rural development projects benefiting over 4,000 households. These initiatives include renewable energy solutions, smart school infrastructure, and access to clean drinking water, alongside efforts to restore coastal lands. According to Ms. Nusrat Pathan, Head of CSR at

HDFC Bank, “We aim to drive socio-economic growth by empowering communities and creating sustainable change. Through our projects in West Bengal, we are addressing critical areas like livelihood, education, and natural resource management.” Mr. Sandeep Kumar, Branch Banking Head, added, “Our CSR efforts, coupled with comprehensive banking services, ensure development opportunities reach the grassroots level.” Nationally, HDFC Bank is among the leading CSR spenders, having allocated ₹945.31 crore towards CSR activities in the financial year ending March 2024. Its initiatives have reached over 10.19 crore beneficiaries across India, reflecting its commitment to inclusive growth and sustainable development.

The Blood Donation Camp along with Its Harmonious Commemoration-2024

Kolkata, (KCN): Jhinkir Hat, Netaji Sangha, South Mohanpur, Mograhat, South 24 Parganas has organized an undeniable “Blood Donation Camp” on 8th December, 2024 (Sunday) in their “Club Premises”. It was a great and 11th initiative for them to enrich the entire society in a very befitting manner. They have got almost 275 blood donors at that very day. They have really been successful through their communal magnanimity in the end which would definitely be satisfying the common mass to refine their most needful cultural synthesis in the near future.



Most notably, plenty of “Distinguished Dignitaries” were present to grace the momentous occasion along with their august presence and their most significant participations indeed. They collectively have encouraged their entire community for their interminable initiative for the common mass, which is going to

be really consequential for the “Spirited Social Harmony” of South Mohanpur region. 1. Shri Asutosh Naskar, Former Head Master, Mohanpur K.K.G.C. Institution. 2. Shri Radheshyam Ghosh, Noted Social Activist. 3. Shri Rajib Ghosh, Club President. 4. Shri Srinath

Ghosh, Club Secretary. 5. Shri Netai Ghosh, Assistant Club Secretary. On the other hand “Special Guest” Shri Mithun Kar, Former Football Player, Indian Team+Tollygaunge and he has represented Arians Club. All the aforesaid “Dignitaries” have stimulated these highly spirited efforts physically in exclusive presence of “Noble Representatives of Blood Bank” in a very conforming manner. This “Programme” has already been into the different shape of “Lively Societal Elevation” along with their most “Indomitable Spirits and Communal Wisdom” respectively.

Eight Bengali-speaking workers stripped, paraded for 'misbehaving' with woman in Odisha's Sundargarh

Rourkela(KCN): Eight Bengali-speaking migrant workers were Thursday stripped and paraded on a road with their hands tied for allegedly attempting to outrage the modesty of a local woman in Odisha's Sundargarh town, police said. Police said local residents thrashed and paraded the workers in a semi-nude condition on

Mission Road between 8.30 am and 9 am. The victims hail from West Bengal's Murshidabad district and were working as masons in the town. Informed by local residents, Sundargarh Town police arrived at the spot and rescued the eight persons and took them to the police station. "We have registered two cases – one against 10 persons

for stripping, thrashing, and parading the eight workers, and another based on the woman's complaint against one of the workers," DIG Rourkela Brijesh Rai told PTI over the phone. Rai said police have launched a manhunt to arrest the people who took the law into their own hands and humiliated the



was returning home after taking a bath Wednesday. When news of the incident spread, local residents attacked the house where the workers were staying, stripped them, and tied their hands. They were then paraded in public in a semi-nude condition, police said. When police attempted to rescue the workers, they faced strong protests from the local people. Eyewitnesses said a journalist covering the incident was also allegedly threatened by the local residents.

Wrong injection for skin ailment claims boy's life

Patana(KCN): A 15-year-old boy died after being administered with a wrong injection for a skin ailment at a medicine store in Keonjhar district, Thursday. The deceased was identified as Sukadev Munda, son of Bijay Kumar Munda from Dharapada village under Pandapada police limits in Keonjhar district. A Class-X student at Saraswati Sishu Vidya Mandir in Saharpada, Sukadev was staying in

the school hostel. Sources said Sukadev was suffering from severe itching problem for which his family members took him to Sarbeswar Medicine Store at Saharpada for a check-up and medicines. The medicine store proprietor said it was an infectious disease and advised them that administering an injection will cure him fast. However, the boy was rendered critical two

minutes after the injection was administered. Family members rushed him to the Karanjia Sub-Divisional Hospital where doctors pronounced him dead. Shocked over his son's death, the boy's father Bijay Munda has lodged a complaint at Saharpada police outpost holding the medicine store owner responsible. The medicine store owner has fled the area after reports

surfaced. Outpost officer Bhawani Shankar Badi sent the body for post-mortem and launched an investigation. Residents alleged that illegal medicine stores and quacks have mushroomed in the area. They demanded that these stores be raided and sought verification of these businesses in Saharpada as well as other areas in the district.

workers. "Police are investigating both cases, and no arrests have been made so far," Rai said and

added that they have identified 10 people involved in assaulting the workers. In her police complaint,

the woman claimed that one of the workers attempted to outrage her modesty while she

Chilika: A fragile ecosystem at risk of collapse



Chilika,(KCN): famous for its rich natural heritage and beautiful ecosystem, is Asia's largest brackish water lagoon, a Ramsar site, and one of the biodiversity hotspots in the country. It's a unique habitat that supports 24 species of mammals, 221 species of birds, 61 species of reptiles, 30 species of decapoda, and 136 species of mollusca. Some critically endangered and endangered species such as Pallas' fish eagle, spoon-billed sandpiper, bar-tailed godwit, Barkudia insularis, finless porpoise, Irrawaddy, bottlenose, humpback dolphins, fishing cats and many more are found here. Chilika is also home to over 700 species of plants including seven rare and 11 endemic ones. Almost 80-90 per cent of Irrawaddy dolphin population resides here because they prefer water less than 20m deep,

abundant food supply, better water quality, isolation and to stay close to fresh water and sea mouth. It's a diverse habitat of fresh and salt water, shoreline, rocky islands, salt marshes and spits, sandbars and rivers like Daya, Bhargavi, Ratnachira, Luna, Kusumi, Bada, Rushikulya meet the sea here. The ecosystem provides livelihood to more than two lakh fishermen in various ways. Already climate change, habitat destruction, illegal prawn culture, pesticide contamination and poaching are going on for decades, causing serious damage to this fragile ecosystem. Any further pressure on it will affect the health of the lagoon and ultimately lead to its disappearance. The majority of residents of this region belong to vulnerable communities, primarily comprising poor fishermen who rely

entirely on Chilika for their livelihood. Their dependence spans various activities including fishing, boating for transportation and tourism like bird and dolphin watching. A large-scale project such as the proposed two-lane coastal highway (NH-516A) over Chilika, connecting Gopalpur and Satapada, in such a sensitive region will undoubtedly impact its ecological health. The construction of concrete structures, vehicular pollution (noise, artificial light, plastic waste) and 24*7 activities will introduce significant environmental stress. Additionally, activities such as drilling, risk of oil spill, smoke emissions could cause irreparable damage to Chilika's fragile ecosystem over time. Like other cetaceans, Irrawaddy dolphins are highly sensitive to noise and artificial light.

In Chilika lagoon, they are geographically isolated and are accustomed to this area. Habitat fragmentation and various forms of pollution are likely to have a significant impact on their behaviour, migration, communication, hunting and resting periods. Likewise, migratory and residential birds will experience stress, particularly at night during their feeding, resting and perching time. Same will happen with nocturnal mammals and other species. The potential consequences of such a project include a decline of diversity due to reduced bird activity, drop in fish population and possible endangerment of dolphins, which are vital to the lake's biodiversity. This proposed project could severely impact the livelihood of residents. Tourism could also partly impact as some visitors may opt to explore this Ramsar site on vehicle. Boating transport will be hugely affected, rendering thousands jobless. Just like the pollution in the areas surrounding the Mahanadi, Kathajodi, Daya and other bridges, the peripheral zones of this bridge too will become polluted with polythene, cigarette butts, alcohol and water bottles, wrappers and remnants from worship rituals.

108 Ambulance staffers shut down GPS in protest

Chhatrapur(KCN): Staffers of the government's 108 Ambulance service have launched a protest raising several demands at the Sub-divisional Hospital here Wednesday. They have demanded wage revision, reduction in

duty hours, and most importantly, reinstatement of the sacked 100 employees. The staffers have shut down GPS facility in the ambulances, resulting in complete disconnection of contact with the control centre. The agitating

108 Ambulance employees said that they are prepared to provide the services without GPS till their demands are conceded. However, it is not possible for general public to establish contact with ambulance without

active GPS facility. Due to the disruption in the free emergency health services, patients are forced to look for alternative arrangements to get their patients to the hospital, which could be life-threatening for critical patients.



2024-2025

ADMISSION OPEN

Maharishi Public School, Baripada

STD-NURSERY TO VIII

ENROLL YOUR CHILD TODAY

15.03.2024

(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

Kolkata Emerges as the Education Hub of Bengal with Credmont International School's Upcoming Launch

Kolkata, (ABHIJIT SETH): Kolkata is set to welcome a prestigious institution with the opening of Credmont International School in April 2025. Spanning 3.3 acres, the school will offer education from Pre-primary to Grade VII, following the CBSE curriculum. The campus features modern facilities designed to support a comprehensive learning experience. The institution incorporates advanced technologies, including artificial intelligence (AI), to enhance both teaching and learning. Classrooms will be equipped with AI-powered tools and labs to provide students with personalized learning opportunities. This approach aims to prepare students for a technology-driven future. The announcement event

was graced by actor Prosenjit Chatterjee and the school’s founder, Mr. Prem Sai Ponguru. The campus includes a G+4 academic block covering 1,20,000 square feet and 1.15 lakh square feet of sports facilities. It also represents a significant investment in the region, creating over 180 jobs. Credmont’s infrastructure supports both academic and extracurricular development. The school includes technology-enabled classrooms, advanced labs, and landscaped outdoor spaces. Teaching methods will focus on project-based learning, STREAM education (Science, Technology, Reading, Engineering, Arts, Mathematics), and experiential learning to develop critical thinking

and problem-solving skills. The school’s sports and co-curricular facilities provide opportunities for physical and creative growth. Students will have access to various sports like football, basketball, and rock climbing, along with clubs for robotics, music, and drama. Additional amenities include a skating rink and arts facilities. Student safety is a priority, with a teacher-student ratio of 1:15 and support from healthcare professionals. Advanced security measures and regular safety drills are in place to ensure a secure environment. Admissions for the school open on December 15, 2024 and the focus on innovative education and holistic development is expected to make it a significant addition to Kolkata’s educational landscape.

Empowering Abilities: Tata Steel Foundation and Jaipur Foot Organisation come together to enable accessibility for Persons with Disabilities (PwDs)

Sukinda, : Tata Steel Foundation, in partnership with the Jaipur Foot Organisation, successfully concluded a three-day Artificial Limbs Distribution Camp today at the Sabal Centre, Sukinda within the ambit of its initiative Sabal-aimed at enabling inclusivity and accessibility for Persons with Disabilities (PwDs). The event, aligned with the International Day of Persons with Disabilities, provided customized artificial limbs to 38 individuals from Sukinda, Bannipal, Kalinganagar, and Meramandali regions of Odisha.

The distribution ceremony, held today, was attended by Pankaj Kumar Satija, Executive-In-Charge, Ferro Alloys and Minerals Division

(FAMD), Tata Steel, as the chief guest. Speaking at the event, he said, “This initiative is a small step from our end towards shaping a more inclusive society where individuals with disabilities are empowered to lead independent and fulfilling lives. It’s not just about providing mobility but also about restoring confidence and dignity, enabling them to participate in all activities happening within their communities.” The camp commenced with the Jaipur Foot team conducting precise measurements and fittings to ensure each prosthetic met the specific needs of its recipient. The Jaipur Foot, developed in India in 1968, is a low-cost, rubber-based prosthetic leg renowned for its

flexibility and affordability, enabling users to perform various daily activities with ease.

Today’s distribution ceremony at the Sabal Centre marked a significant milestone in enhancing mobility and independence for the PwDs from rural and tribal communities. The initiative further highlights Tata Steel Foundation’s dedication to creating an inclusive society where every individual has the equitable opportunity to thrive and shape their own livelihood. The collaboration between Tata Steel Foundation and the Jaipur Foot Organisation exemplifies a commitment to uplifting underserved communities and propagating meaningful societal change.

17 Odisha Reliance Foundation High Performance Centre athletes set to make a splash at Junior National Athletics Championships

Bhubaneswar, : The 39th Junior National Athletics Championships, being hosted in Bhubaneswar from 7th to 11th December, will see participation from 17 Odisha Reliance Foundation High Performance Centre who will be eager to shine on their home territory.

Among the athletes in action will be Bapi Hansda (400m), Mahendra Santa (100m & 4x100m), DM Jayaram (100m, 200m and 4x100m relay), Sabita Toppo (100m hurdles) and Laxmipriya Kisan (800m and 1500m), who have all been among the medals and in fine form of late. Ommkar Prasad Nanda (discus throw and shot put), Astik Pradhan (200m, 400m and 4x400m) Rajendra Sidhu (110m hurdles and 4x100m) and Swagat Behera (triple jump) will

also be in action at the competition. All four of Jayaram, Santa, Toppo and Kisan medaled at the SAAF Junior Athletics Championships, with Kisan also going to medal at the Indian Open U-23 Athletics Competition.

Speaking about the preparations of the contingent, Martin Owens, Head Coach at the Odisha Reliance Foundation Athletics High Performance Centre (HPC), said, “We had performance graded races for our athletes as preparation. Mahendra clocked a timing of 10.66s in the 100m there, which is the 2nd fastest by an Indian junior athlete. We are really excited to see what he can do. Astik has also been shaping up really well and is one to keep an eye on. The 4x100m relay team really impressed and we’re

hoping that they carry the baton around safely. Sabita won the 100m hurdles event at the Police Games last month and is in great shape. Laxmi showed great format at the SAAF Games and we hope she can continue that.”

The Junior National Athletics Championships will be held at the Kalinga Stadium, which also houses the Odisha Athletics High Performance Centre.

The Odisha Reliance Foundation Athletics HPC is a landmark collaboration between the Odisha Government and Reliance Foundation. The partnership is committed to elevating the quality of athletics across Odisha and fostering local talent capable of succeeding both nationally and internationally.

Anant National University Hosts the 6th Convocation with Mrs Sudha Murty as Chief Guest

Ahmedabad, Anant National University hosted the 6th Convocation, conferring degrees on 293 students from the Bachelor of Design, Bachelor of Architecture, Master of Design and Anant Fellowship in Sustainability and Built Environment. Padma Bhushan and Padma Shri awardee, Member of Parliament – Rajya Sabha,

Founder of Infosys Foundation, Chairperson of Murty Trust, author and philanthropist, Mrs Sudha Murty, was the Chief Guest. Mr Ajay Piramal, President, Anant National University, Dr Anunaya Chaubey, Provost, Anant National University, Dr Pramath Raj Sinha, Founding Provost, Anant National University and the

members of the board were present during the convocation. Dr Swati Piramal, Vice Chairperson, Piramal Group, also attended the ceremony.

Mrs Murty, as the Founder Chair at the Infosys Foundation, embodies a design-driven, problem-solving ethos, a principle Anant National University champions. Her tireless dedication to

Tata Steel Foundation ensures dignified last rites with hearse van for MKCG Medical College

Berhampur, : Tata Steel Foundation (TSF), in collaboration with the District Administration, Ganjam has provided a fully equipped hearse van to MKCG Medical College and Hospital, addressing a long-standing challenge for families of the deceased. For years, the absence of a dedicated hearse van at the hospital forced families to rely on costly private transport to carry out last rites, adding emotional and financial strain during the difficult time.

Responding to a request from the District Collector, Ganjam, Tata Steel Foundation donated a hearse van that will be maintained by MKCG Medical College & Hospital and made available to all, ensuring that the bodies can be transported with dignity and respect, free from undue hardship to grieving families.

Manikant Naik, Managing Director, Tata Steel Special Economic Zone (TSSEZ) and Ambika Nanda, Head, CSR (Odisha), TSF handed over the van to Sangram Panda, Registrar, MKCG Medical College and Hospital in presence of senior officials of TSSEZ and TSF. This initiative highlights the Foundation’s commitment to supporting community needs and upholding human dignity, while addressing critical gaps in healthcare infrastructure.

Eastman powers up India with launch of largest inverter battery range

Bhubaneswar, : Eastman Auto & Power, a leading provider of power solutions, today announced a major expansion of its inverter battery portfolio, introducing over 100 new models under the Eastman brand and over 70 under its ADDO brand with a total of 170+ SKU’s. This positions Eastman as the leader in the inverter battery market, offering the largest portfolio, the highest capacity, and the longest warranty in the industry, offering a one-stop solution for every power need. The expanded portfolio covers a wide spectrum of capacities, from 100Ah to a groundbreaking 400Ah, the first of its kind in India. This ensures energy solutions for every application, whether residential, commercial, or industrial.

Eastman has set a new benchmark for reliability in the Indian inverter battery market with its industry-leading warranty across the entire range. Customers can enjoy peace of mind with warranties ranging from 36 months up to an unprecedented 240 months (20 years), demonstrating Eastman’s unwavering confidence in its product quality. Leading the charge in high-capacity solutions is Eastman’s Premium Series, featuring the innovative 400Ah battery and models ranging from 250Ah to 400Ah.

Bajaj Finserv AMC Launches ‘Bajaj Finserv Healthcare Fund’

Bhubaneswar , : Bajaj Finserv AMC today announces the launch of the Bajaj Finserv Healthcare Fund, an open-ended equity scheme that seeks to create long-term growth by investing in health and wellness-linked sectors. The fund opens for subscription on December 6th, and the New Fund Offer period ends on December 20th, 2024.

The Bajaj Finserv Healthcare Fund is suitable for investors seeking wealth creation potential over the long term by investing predominantly in equity and equity-related instruments of companies engaged in pharmaceuticals, hospitals, diagnostics and

wellness. It is suitable for an investment horizon of five years or more. The scheme is benchmarked against the BSE Healthcare Total Return Index (TRI).

The fund aims to capitalize on the dynamic growth of the Indian healthcare sector. The industry is undergoing a significant transformation driven by shifting demographics, rising private healthcare expenditures, technological advancements, and other factors. This fund provides investors with an opportunity to benefit from the health and wellness boom and tap into emerging megatrends in this space. Its portfolio will span a range of

Taneira Launches ‘For Beautiful Beginnings’ campaign

New Delhi : Weddings are a medley of emotions, a fusion of the past and start of a new chapter where love transcends boundaries and new stories unfold. Taneira, a Tata product captures the spirit of this universal journey with its latest campaign, ‘For Beautiful Beginnings’. Featuring Mrunal Thakur among others, the campaign tells the tale of a bride crossing the threshold of her childhood home taking along the echoes of a myriad memories and embracing the promise of her new life filled with endless possibilities- an experience shared across the diverse cultural landscapes of India.

Through the campaign, Taneira pays homage to the profound wave of emotions that unites brides regardless of region or tradition while highlighting the unique nuances that define their journeys. In this moment, the bride is not just draped in a saree- she is enveloped in the dreams, memories and hopes of everyone she holds dear. Across the seven regions captured in Taneira’s ‘For Beautiful Beginnings’ campaign, the bride’s saree, though diverse in fabric, drape, and design, becomes a universal companion on her journey of transformation.

‘For Beautiful Beginnings’ celebrates the cultural lineage woven into the fabric of this sacred moment with a collection that represents our timeless traditions blending the deep-rooted richness of our country’s craft culture with contemporary design interpretations and modern colourways. True to the brand philosophy, the collection celebrates pure, authentically



sourced fabrics with a differentiated design language. Taneira also offers zari certifications, ensuring the bride embodies the true essence of heritage on her big day. Extending the celebrations to the entire wedding entourage, the sarees in the wedding range offer an array of options that suit different roles and personalities. Whether it is the bride’s best friend, the grooms’ mother, or a cousin playing a key part in the celebration, there is a saree for every woman who shares this joyous occasion along with the couple.

Speaking at the launch, Ms. Shalini Gupta, General Manager, Taneira Said, “At Taneira, we believe that every bride’s journey is a celebration of tradition and transformation. Our campaign is an expression of the sentiments, memories and dreams that shape her path, emotions that, despite cultural nuances, unites brides across the country. Our wedding range reflects this ethos, offering a curated selection of sarees that preserve and promote our textile traditions while embracing each bride’s uniqueness. Each piece is crafted to become a part of the bride’s legacy, woven with love, pride and promise of Beautiful Beginnings.”

Each saree in Taneira’s wedding collection comes with a history and story of its own. From the regal white and red Kanjeevaram draped by the Kannadiga Bride to the vibrant red Kanjeevaram intricately woven with silver and gold motifs worn by the Tamil bride, each piece is a reflection of regional pride and grace.

Manipal Hospital Bhubaneswar Recognized as Best Multi-Speciality Private Hospital at THE WEEK-Hansa Research Survey 2024: Best Hospitals in India

Bhubaneswar, : Manipal Hospital Bhubaneswar has been ranked as the Best Multi-Speciality Private Hospital in the Bhubaneswar City category at the prestigious THE WEEK-Hansa Research Survey 2024: Best Hospitals in India, held in Hyderabad on December 6. This accolade, presented by the Hon’ble Health Minister of

Telangana, Shri. Cilarapu Damodar Raja Narasimha, marks the hospital’s second consecutive year of receiving this distinction, reaffirming its commitment to providing exceptional healthcare services and maintaining its leadership in the industry.

The 20th edition of The Week Best Hospitals Survey, conducted in

collaboration with Hansa Research, evaluated hospitals across 17 cities, including the National Capital Region, and ranked them based on key parameters such as overall reputation, competency of doctors, infrastructure, research and innovation, and patient care. The survey involved the participation of 853 general physicians and 1,470

specialists, ensuring diverse representation from various specialties and cities.

The event was attended by several prominent figures Dr. H Sudarshan Ballal, Chairman of Manipal Health Enterprises Pvt. Ltd., including Dr. Saktimaya Mohapatra, Hospital Director, Dr. Amit Jaiswal, Director and Senior Consultant Neuro

Surgery, and Dr. Jajati Keshari Padhi, Director and Senior Consultant Interventional Cardiology from Manipal Hospital, Bhubaneswar. They collectively emphasized the hospital’s focus on delivering world-class healthcare supported by state-of-the-art infrastructure and ongoing medical innovation.

people today struggle to build meaningful connections, but that is not the case at Anant. This unique quality sets you apart.”

Mrs Murty also emphasised the importance of creativity as it remains the basic sign of progress and reminded the Anant students to continue being catalysts in changing the country

through empathy and creativity.

She also shared that a few of Anant National University’s innovations impressed her, particularly ADEPT, Anant Design Entrance and Proficiency Test - the only multilingual design test in our country which breaks the language barrier and reaches out to creative youth, making design

education more accessible.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr Ajay Piramal, President, Anant National University, said, “Anant is leading a design revolution by offering a world-class and affordable education that blends modern technology with traditional practices.

