

## President Droupadi Murmu to begin five-day visit to Odisha from Today

**New Delhi/Puri(KCN):** President Droupadi Murmu will be on a five-day visit to Odisha from Tuesday, during which she will offer prayers at the Jagannath temple in Puri besides attending other programmes, an official statement issued Monday stated.

During her visit, the president will unveil a statue of Santali writer and educator Pandit Raghunath Murmu and visit the Adim Owar Jarpa Jager in Bhubaneswar Tuesday, it

said. She will have 'darshan' and perform puja at the Jagannath temple December 4, the statement issued Monday by the Rashtrapati Bhavan said.

President Murmu will also attend the 75th anniversary celebrations of Gopabandhu Ayurveda Mahavidyalaya in Puri December 4, it said. On the same day, she will attend the Navy Day celebrations and operation a 1 demonstrations at the



Blue Flag Beach in Puri. On December 5, the president will attend the 40th convocation ceremony of the Odisha University of Agriculture and Technology in Bhubaneswar. Later on the same day, she will

inaugurate a judicial complex in the state capital, the statement said. On December 6, Murmu will interact with students and residents at Upabeda village — her birthplace. On the same day, she will

interact with students and teachers at the Mahila Mahavidyalaya in Rairangpur.

On December 7, the president will lay the foundation for/inaugurate various projects, including the Bangiriposi-Gorumahisani, Burarama-Chakulia, and Badaampahar-Kendujhargarh rail lines; a tribal research and development centre in Rairangpur; Dandbose Airport, Rairangpur; and sub-divisional hospital, Rairangpur, the statement said.

In the coming 24 hours, light rain is expected at isolated locations in South Coastal Odisha, including the districts of Kandhamal, Kalahandi, Nabarangpur, Rayagada, Koraput, and

Malkangiri, Sundargarh, and Jharsuguda.

On Tuesday, similar weather conditions are expected in Kandhamal, Kalahandi, Nabarangpur, Rayagada, Koraput, and

Malkangiri. The weather is predicted to remain generally dry from Friday through Sunday. The IMD has also confirmed that no weather warnings have been issued for the next five days.

## Odisha govt to launch immunisation programme against cervical cancer soon: Minister

**Bhubaneswar(KCN):** The Odisha government will soon launch a programme for immunisation of girls against cervical cancer, a minister said.

Health and Family Welfare Minister Mukesh Mahaling said the proposed programme will focus on girls studying in schools and colleges to ward off the threat of the disease. The minister said the state government was working on a new scheme, combining the 'Ayushman Bharat' programme and 'Gopabandhu Jan



Arogya Yojana', which would be rolled out in the next financial year. The Ayushman Bharat scheme is a health insurance programme of the Centre while the main objective of the 'Gopabandhu Jan Arogya Yojana' is to

provide free health services to the economically weaker citizens of the state. The proposed scheme would help the people get free treatment in 27,000 hospitals in the country, he said.

The minister was addressing the first National Conference on International Radiology organised here recently at the SUM Ultimate Medicare. Besides, the state government would recruit 250 radiographers to be stationed in government hospitals across Odisha, he said.

**Bhubaneswar, December 2(KCN):** Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi informed the Odisha Legislative Assembly on Monday that 123 Maoists have been killed in encounters over the past 10 years. Answering a question by BJP legislator Prasanta Kumar Jagadev, CM Majhi has stated about it today.

In a written reply, the Chief Minister clarified that while 123 Maoists

lost their lives in encounters, 11 security personnel also died in clashes with the insurgents. Additionally, 336 Maoists have surrendered in Odisha between January 1, 2014, and November 15, 2024. CM Majhi also outlined the state's goal of eradicating Maoist influence by 2026. To meet this target, anti-Maoist operations in Naxal-affected regions have been intensified. These operations are being carried out in close

coordination with Central Security Forces (CSF), State Police, and forces from neighboring Naxal-hit states. The Chief Minister also highlighted that coordination between the State Intelligence Wing (SIW), the Central Intelligence Bureau (CIB), and intelligence

agencies of neighboring states has been strengthened. Maoist activities are closely monitored, and operations are increasingly based on intelligence inputs. The Chief Minister also pointed out that steps are being taken to fill vacant positions within the State Police Department. Senior administrative and police officials are closely overseeing the situation and taking all necessary actions to address it.

## 123 Maoists, 11 security personnel killed in encounters since 2014 in Odisha: CM Majhi



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# Congress should stop spreading lies about EVM: Haryana CM

**Chandigarh (JAG MOHAN THAKEN), December 2** – Attacking Congress party for raising EVM issue time and again for its defeat, Haryana Chief Minister, Nayab Singh Saini said that the opposition leaders are continuously raising questions about EVMs. He advised Congress leaders to look into their own actions to understand who is wrong. He said that Congress is merely spreading falsehoods and creating confusion among the people. While Congress managed to seize power in Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, and Telangana through lies, their governments did not

benefit anyone, and the truth behind their lies has been exposed, said Saini. Further reacting to the opposition's statements regarding EVM, the Chief Minister said that the issue is not with the malfunctioning of EVMs, but the Congress is finding it difficult to accept that the people have given their blessings to the BJP and strengthened Prime Minister, Narendra Modi's leadership. He said that his government has fulfilled all its promises. While taking a jibe at the Opposition said that prior to 2014, regionalism and nepotism dominated the state's development.

## East Coast Railway Enhances Hygiene and Comfort with Advanced Linen Washing Systems

**Bhubaneswar, (KCN)–** EastCoast Railway continues to prioritize passenger comfort and hygiene with the implementation of advanced linen washing systems across its network. With a strong commitment to cleanliness, it ensures that every passenger traveling in air-conditioned coaches receives fresh, hygienic, and well-maintained linen.

EastCoast Railway currently operates a fleet of 2,428 LHB coaches (1,327 AC and 1,101 Non-AC) and 938 ICF coaches (239 AC and 699 Non-AC), providing linen in all air-conditioned coaches in line with Railway Board guidelines. The bedroll sets provided to passengers consist of 2 bed sheets, 1 blanket, 1 face towel, 1 pillow cover, and 1 pillow.

### Key Highlights:

1. Efficient Complaint Management: Indian Railways has set up war-rooms at zonal and divisional levels to quickly address passenger complaints, particularly those related to bedding. Complaints are managed efficiently through the Rail Madad portal, ensuring a swift resolution.

2. Reduced Blanket Cleaning Time: Indian Railways has significantly improved the frequency of blanket washing. In 2010, the cleaning cycle was every 3 months, which was then reduced to 2 months



by 2016. In an ongoing effort to maintain high standards, the frequency has now been further reduced to once every month.

3. Bedding Provision: For every passenger traveling in air-conditioned coaches, Indian Railways provides two bed sheets—one to spread over the berth and another to use as a cover for the blanket. This ensures cleanliness and comfort during the journey.

4. Comfortable AC Temperature: The temperature inside AC coaches is maintained at a comfortable 24°C, which eliminates the need for heavy blankets. Passengers typically find that the provided bed sheets are more than sufficient for comfort.

Efficient Linen Washing Process: EastCoast Railway ensures that all linen is cleaned to the highest standards. The washing cycle includes segregation, washing, hydro-extraction, drying, calendaring, folding, and

packaging, ensuring that the linen is both clean and presentable. The washing frequency is designed to meet the needs of passengers while maintaining the highest hygiene standards:

- Bed sheets, face towels, and pillow covers are washed after every trip.
- Blankets are washed monthly using dry cleaning machines, ensuring deep cleaning and freshness.

Sustaining Linen Quality: EastCoast Railway carefully monitors the lifespan of its linen to ensure consistent quality:

- Khadi bed sheet: 12 months
- Polyvastra bed sheet: 24 months
- Pillow cover: 9 months
- Pillow: 24 months
- Blanket: 24 months

Linen quality is rigorously tested through random checks, and the cleanliness of each batch is verified daily using a "Whiteness meter". This attention to detail guarantees that

passengers receive top-quality linen for every journey.

Linen Washing Systems in EastCoast Railway: EastCoast Railway utilizes two primary models for linen washing:

- BOOT (Build, Own, Operate, Transfer) Model: At Visakhapatnam and Sambalpur depots, with capacities of 8 tons/day and 2 tons/day, respectively.
- Outsourced Model: Outsourced agencies manage washing at Puri (29 tons/day), Bhubaneswar (13.5 tons/day), and Visakhapatnam (9.4 tons/day), ensuring sufficient capacity to meet daily demands.

Linen Requirements and Distribution in East Coast Railway:

EastCoast Railway total daily linen requirement is 49.2 tons, distributed as follows:

- Puri: 18.5 tons/day
- Bhubaneswar: 10.8 tons/day
- Visakhapatnam: 17.9 tons/day
- Sambalpur: 2 tons/day

With a combined washing capacity of over 61.9 tons per day across both in-house and outsourced facilities, EastCoast Railway ensures the timely availability of clean linen for all passengers.

Passenger Comfort and Feedback:

EastCoast Railway actively monitors the quality of linen through passenger feedback, random test checks, and daily cleanliness assessments. Passengers' comfort and satisfaction are key priorities, and the railways are committed to providing the highest standard of cleanliness to enhance the overall travel experience.



An official release states that the Haryana Government on Sunday celebrated Maharaja Shoor Saini Jayanti with

great grandeur in Kaithal district. The programme was part of the state government's plan of celebrating anniversaries of saints and great men under the Sant-Mahapurush Vichar Samman and Prasar Yojana. The scheme aims to propagate the teachings and messages of saints and great personalities to the masses.

Following the path shown by these great men and saints, the state government is continually taking steps for the welfare and upliftment of all sections with the spirit of Haryana Ek-Haryanvi Ek, said Saini. The Chief Minister said that Maharaja Shoor Saini Ji was a very valiant and virtuous king. Everyone in his kingdom enjoyed equal rights. The region around Mathura was named Shoor Saini Pradesh after him. The history of the Saini community is ancient and glorious, he said.

The Chief Minister said that with the blessings of the people and such a massive mandate, our government has been given the opportunity to serve the people, and with their support, we will take Haryana forward on the path of

rapid development. He said that following the Prime Minister, Narendra Modi's mantra of 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas, Sabka Prayas,' the state government will ensure the equitable welfare of all 36 communities. Claiming his government as the well-wisher of the farmers, Chief Minister Saini said that his government passed three new farmer-friendly laws in the very first session after assuming office. The Haryana Lease of Agricultural Land Act, 2024 was enacted to build trust between lessee farmers and landowners. Besides this, farmers who have been cultivating shamlat (common) land for over 20 years have been granted ownership rights. People residing in houses built on 500 square yards of land in villages for more than 20 years were also granted ownership rights, informed the Chief Minister.

CM Saini said that the government had also pledged to procure every grain of all crops. During the current procurement season, all grains of paddy, millet, and moong have been purchased at MSP. To alleviate farmers' financial burden due to low rainfall, a bonus of Rs. 2,000 per acre, amounting to Rs. 825 crore, has been disbursed for Kharif crops, informed the Chief Minister.

He said that in its third term, the present state government has reaffirmed its commitment to providing merit-based employment opportunities for the youth. So far, 26,000 individuals have got government jobs without any favouritism, as a result of which so far 1,71,000 candidates have got jobs on merit basis.

The Chief Minister added that job security has been given to the outsourced employees. Accidental insurance coverage for employees has been increased from Rs. 30 lakh to Rs. 50 lakh, and permanent term insurance from Rs. 2 lakh to Rs. 4 lakh. Under the 'Har Ghar Grihni Yojana,' 13 lakh poor families have received gas cylinders for just Rs. 500 per month.

The Chief Minister said that the government is tirelessly working for the welfare of every section of society. Several new commitments made during the assembly elections have already been fulfilled. As promised, from October 29, individuals above 70 years of age have been given free annual treatment under the Ayushman Bharat Scheme. Additionally, free dialysis services for kidney patients began on October 18, benefiting around 20,000 patients.

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# Kirti Azad Sanjay Bhardwaj Panel promises better facilities for DDCA members

Dr. Ravi Chaturvedi



Zealand; Kings Mead, Durban, Wanderers, Johannesburg, South Africa; and Queen's Park, Oval, Trinidad & Tobago, Sabina Park, Kingston, Jamaica. Even at home-Eden Gardens, Kolkata, Narendra Modi Stadium, Ahmedabad and Inderjit Singh Bindra Stadium, Mohali take pride in hassle-free facilities and world-class hospitality. However, Kotla and Green Park have been a subject of criticism and ridicule.

Since the elections in the DDCA are round the corner, Kirti Azad Sanjay Bhardwaj panel have come out with an elaborate plan to improve facilities and hospitality for the cricketers and its members. The panel aims at augmenting facilities and bringing it to the level of the prestigious clubs like of Cricket Club of India (CCI), Mumbai, Delhi's Gymkhana Club and

The scribe has found ambience and top-class facilities at Lord's, Old Trafford in England; SCG, MCG, Australia; Basin Bay, Eden Park, New

Zealand; Kings Mead, Durban, Wanderers, Johannesburg, South Africa; and Queen's Park, Oval, Trinidad & Tobago, Sabina Park, Kingston, Jamaica. Even at home-Eden Gardens, Kolkata, Narendra Modi Stadium, Ahmedabad and Inderjit Singh Bindra Stadium, Mohali take pride in hassle-free facilities and world-class hospitality. However, Kotla and Green Park have been a subject of criticism and ridicule.

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The launching pad in the endeavour of Azad Bhardwaj panel is the construction of an exclusive Members Block (within the present RP Mehra Block). The new block will provide ideal viewing and comfortable sitting in the Stadium, with convenient exclusive entry and exit and ideal facilities like food court, washroom, drinking water. These

innovations will put an end to rat race for a VIP pass.

Another welcome move on card is conferring Automatic Life Membership on attaining the age of 60 years without any fee and automatic Transferable Membership. DDCA has failed to recognize and advantageously utilize the multidimensional talents of its members. The

efforts will be directed to utilize the capabilities of such members on its committees and subcommittees.

The DDCA will earn accolades by offering Member & Spouse Card for Automated entry during matches and other days, in addition to the second match pass entitlement. There will be a move to permit members to use the DDCA premises for

family functions. To foster fraternity feelings social and cultural events like Annual Members Day, Diwali Mela, Holi Milan for the members and their families is on the cards of the Kirti Azad Sanjay Bhardwaj panel and to provide world class family resto-bar and coffee lounge for members and their families. The other projects on the table are construction of

Indoor Sports facilities such as Badminton, Squash, Snooker, Chess for members and their families, besides construction of new card room. There is a big demand for affiliation with national and international clubs for members to avail themselves of facilities in such Clubs on members visit there.

On the promotional front of the game, the projects on the offing are to establish Cricket Academy; organize university league to unearth budding talent; construction of indoor practice nets; swimming pool; to cater for the cricketers of the yester years by executing enhanced pension scheme, and honour former Test stalwarts with a stand in their names in Ferozeshah Kotla.

Since DDCA has been mired in administrative and financial controversies, Azad and Bhardwaj panel are

likely to implement voting right system and enhanced grant for the affiliated clubs; implement Hon'ble Supreme Court Retired Chief Justice RM Lodha Committee Report in letter & spirit by not inducting any member in its committee who has criminal charge/s, insolvent, and holds a position in any other athletic association. To bring about financial transparency in its functioning by introducing statutory and internal audit of Annual DDCA Account by the world ranked CA firms like Deloitte, PwC, and EY. Ernst and Young. Hoping by implementing the promised reforms, the Azad Bhardwaj panel will bring whiff of fresh air in the presently corrupt Ferozeshah Kotla set up.

**TV & Radio Cricket Commentator C/O Manish Chaturvedi**  
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# Negligently increasing heart risks

Vijay Garg



occur in India alone. The death rate due to heart diseases is very high in India. The death rate is higher in cities than in rural areas of our country. In rural areas, 200 out of every 100,000 people die from heart disease, while in cities, 100 out of every 100,000 people die. It has also been told in the report that 24.5 percent of the total deaths in India are due to heart related diseases. The situation is more serious in Bengal and Punjab. In these states, more than 35 percent people are losing their lives due to heart diseases. Even before this report showing the seriousness of heart disease in the country, such research and studies have come to light which reveal the increasing crisis facing the heart. In August this year, the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and Delhi AIIMS' joint medical study also points to an increased risk of heart disease. It has been told that in the next ten years i.e. by 2034, fifteen percent of the



country's population is at risk of heart diseases. The World Health Organization and the world's major institutions that conduct research on heart disease keep releasing reports from time to time about heart disease. Such reports are meant to make the general public aware of heart diseases. Last year, in a report by the 'World Heart Federation' it was stated that heart disease is the most common disease in the world. It is the leading cause of death. While 1.21 crore people died due to this disease in the year 1990, this figure has increased to 2.05 crore in 2021. In a report of the World Health

Organization, heart-related diseases have also been cited as the biggest cause of death. According to this report, in the year 2019, 1.79 crore people in the world died due to heart related diseases. It is a serious matter that once upon a time heart disease was found only in the elderly, but now it is affecting even the youth and children. 30 to 40 year old people. The risk of heart disease is increasing rapidly. Experts consider poor diet, physical inactivity, tobacco use and excessive alcohol consumption to be the most significant risk factors for heart disease and stroke, symptoms of which

can be seen in the form of increased blood pressure, increased blood glucose and overweight and obesity. Doctors say these risk factors can be measured in primary care facilities and indicate an increased risk of heart attack and other complications. Doctors say that stopping tobacco consumption and adding moisture to the diet. The risk of heart disease can be reduced by reducing intake, eating more fruits and vegetables, regular physical activity and avoiding alcohol, but people seem to be careless about this matter. While the addiction of drinking alcohol is increasing among

people, the inclination towards a leisurely life is also increasing. This is the root of the problem. Doctors say that treatment of high blood pressure, diabetes and high cholesterol is necessary to reduce cardiovascular risks and prevent heart attacks, but most people seem to be careless about it. Even often people also ignore common symptoms like chest pain or discomfort, pain in the left shoulder, elbow, jaw or back, shortness of breath, vomiting, dizziness or fainting and sweating. High blood pressure or hypertension can also be the cause of heart disease, but surprisingly people are not aware of it. A

disease and high blood pressure among the common people, it is also important to make them aware about diabetes, obesity, smoking and alcohol consumption. In the latest report on this issue, it has been said that there are less deaths due to heart disease in rural areas as compared to cities. However, in earlier ICMR reports also, rural people have been said to be at less risk of heart diseases. According to this report, the urban population The risk of serious heart diseases has been found to be highest. This risk was found to be moderate to severe in about 17.5 percent of the urban population, which is only about 13.8 percent of the rural population. In the report, about 86.2 percent people in villages or small towns are considered to be free from the risk of heart related diseases. If this disease is less among the village people, it is definitely because of their active lifestyle, hard work and favorable diet. Everyone should follow it.

**Retired Principal Educational Columnist Street Kaur Chand MHR Malout Punjab**

# Climate Change and Nutrition



Climate change poses a significant threat to nutrition, with its impacts felt most acutely by vulnerable populations. The intricate relationship between climate change, agroecology, and food systems is critical to understanding this threat. Climate change affects food production by altering weather patterns, increasing the frequency of extreme weather events, and disrupting water availability. These changes impact crop yields, reduce biodiversity, and degrade soil health, ultimately affecting the availability and quality of food.

Traditional food systems, deeply rooted in local cultures, are particularly vulnerable to these changes. These systems often rely on diverse crops and indigenous farming practices well-adapted to local agroecological conditions. However,

climate change threatens this diversity, reducing the availability of nutritious foods and increasing the risk of food insecurity.

Nutritional security depends on access to various foods that provide essential nutrients. Climate-induced food system disruptions can reduce dietary diversity, exacerbating malnutrition and health issues. For instance, rising temperatures and changing precipitation patterns can diminish the availability of fruits, vegetables, and other nutrient-rich foods while increasing the prevalence of pests and diseases.

Resolving the impacts of climate change on nutrition requires integrated approaches that promote climate-resilient agriculture, preserve biodiversity, and support traditional food systems.

The Solegas' experience exemplifies the transformation of traditional food systems, which have been the foundation of food and nutritional security for many communities over millennia. Since independence, India's concern with ensuring

food security for its growing population has been a significant part of political discourse. However, this discussion has primarily focused on the daily per capita availability of a designated number of calories.

The concern for food availability has structured discussions around food justice, calling for programs that enhance food availability for the most marginalized and vulnerable households and expand their access to an adequate daily calorific intake. However, food policy in India has primarily focused on hunger rather than addressing nutritional security (Banik, 2016). This oversight is evident in data on the nutritional status of children and women.

According to the Global Nutrition Report (2022), India is on course to meet childhood stunting targets. However, it is of course for achieving childhood wasting targets and anaemia targets for both women and children. The National Family Health Survey-5 (2019-2021) reports that childhood stunting and wasting fell

marginally between 2015-16 and 2019-21, from 38.4% to 35.5% and 21% to 19.3%, respectively. However, anaemia among women aged 15 to 49 years increased from 53.1% to 57%, and among children, it rose more steeply from 58.6% to 67.1%. Nutritional outcomes are closely related to health outcomes and are linked to dietary adequacy and diversity. Nutritional security depends on adequate access to and consumption of diverse foods. This is where the intricate relationship between climate change, agroecology, and traditional food systems gains importance. Food production is intricately linked to local agroecology, including biodiversity, forests, water, livestock, and ecological commons, all immensely vulnerable to climate change impacts. It is also tied to social practices, including caste, tenurial arrangements, labour practices, and the power dynamics of entrenched socio-economic relations. The intersection of these components forms a complex web with

profound implications for nutrition security. Traditional food systems, deeply rooted in local culture and practice, are pivotal in promoting nutritional security. These systems often incorporate time-tested agricultural techniques well-adapted to the local agroecology, including the forest and its produce, where appropriate. Practices such as crop choices based on weather fluctuations (e.g., growing short-duration varieties if there is an increasing flood risk), multilayered and intercropped farming systems, crop rotations, soil and moisture conservation, conservation of traditional seed varieties, and wild food foraging are indigenous strategies for climate-resilient agriculture. Indigenous knowledge, passed down through generations, provides valuable insights into sustainable farming practices that can withstand the challenges posed by a changing climate.

The Solega practice of burning the forest floor in early summer, known as taragubeni or litter fire, helped control

pests and invasive species. However, following the Wildlife Protection Act of 1972, this practice was banned, leading to cascading impacts. In the absence of controlled burning, invasive species like Lantana camara have proliferated, suppressing the growth of native grasses, tubers, bamboo, and fruit trees such as amla, which were significant sources of income and supplementary nutrition. This regime shift in the forest ecosystem has been well documented (Sundaram et al. 2012; Sundaram et al. 2015). One of the critical contributions of traditional farming practices is preserving biodiversity, which contributes to a resilient and varied agricultural landscape. This biodiversity enhances the adaptability of agricultural systems and serves as a buffer against the potential impacts of climate change on food production, maintaining everyone's nutritional balance. As Lantana camara took over, it overwhelmed a range of wild foods consumed by humans

and animals. The thick Lantana bushes also impede the movement of tribals within the forest, constraining their ability to gather whatever forest produce is still available. In conclusion, the experience of the Solegas exemplifies the transformation of traditional food systems, which were the basis for the food and nutritional security many communities enjoyed for millennia. Since independence, India's concern with ensuring food security for its growing population has been significant in political discourse. However, this discussion has primarily focused on the per capita availability of a designated number of calories per day rather than addressing the broader issue of nutritional security. This focus needs to shift to ensure better health and nutrition outcomes for the most marginalized and vulnerable populations.

To mitigate the impacts of climate change on nutrition, it is essential to promote climate-resilient agricultural practices that enhance

the adaptability of food systems, such as adopting drought-resistant crop varieties, implementing soil conservation techniques, and utilizing sustainable water management practices. Encouraging the preservation and use of traditional food systems can support dietary diversity and nutritional security by maintaining a rich variety of nutrient-dense foods that are often more resilient to local environmental conditions. Moreover, integrating agroecological principles into farming practices can help protect biodiversity, which is crucial for the resilience of food systems. Strengthening community-based initiatives focusing on sustainable food production, nutrition education, and local food sovereignty can empower communities to build adaptive capacities against climate-induced nutritional challenges.

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## SAFETY OF JOURNALISTS AND MEDIA FREEDOM

DR. SOUMYA SHARMISTHA MALLICK



"A free press can, of course, be both good and bad, but, most certainly without freedom, the press will never be anything but bad"- Albert Camus. Freedom of expression and freedom of press are the fundamental human rights. It is enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in Article-19, which says "Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers". The rights of the press in India arise out of the freedom of speech and expression under Article-19(1)(a) of the Constitution. The freedom of the speech and expression involves the right to express by word of mouth, writing, printing, pictures or any other manner. It includes the freedom of

communication and the right to propagate or publish one's view. The only restrictions available under the Constitution, which can be imposed on this right are those given under Article-19(2), which constitute reasonable restrictions, on grounds of the interest of the sovereignty and integrity of

India, the security of the states, friendly relations with foreign states, public order, decency, morality or in relation to contempt of Court, defamation or incitement to an offence. Article-19(2) of the Constitution amply makes it clear that freedom of speech is a fundamental right, but it is not absolute and cannot be used to justify violence, slander, libel or obscenity.

The challenges for a democracy are one of balance to defend freedom of speech and expression while countering speech which truly encourages violence, intimidation or subversion. Thus it is widely accepted that free speech is an essential part of a democratic society and should be upheld to some degree. Indian Judiciary has taken



Express Vrs. Union of India (1995) SCC 614, it has been held by the Supreme Court of India that the press plays a very significant role in the democratic machinery. The Court has a duty to uphold the freedom of press and invalidate all laws and administrative actions that abridge that freedom. Freedom of press includes freedom of publication, freedom of circulation and freedom of pre-censorship.

Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru, the first Prime Minister of India was a staunch supporter of press freedom. His views on press freedom is laudable. He said "I would rather have a completely free-press, with all the dangers involved in the wrong use of that freedom, than a suppressed or regulated

press". Press is called the "fourth pillar" or "Fourth Estate" of democracy. The erosion of the press will definitely affect the democracy. When freedom of press is throttled or whittled down, there may be emergence of illiberal democracy or kleptocracy. Hence it should be the duty of Government to uphold press freedom.

In India, the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting acts as a catalyst for creating a conducive environment for press, radio, Television, Broadcasting, Film sector etc. The Ministry is striving relentlessly to adapt itself to the changing technological paradigm in order to foster the growth of media and entertainment industry. Similarly the Press Council of India, a regulatory body for the print media is working for the protection of the journalists and Press freedom. Apart from above two Governmental Organizations, Editor's Guild of India, has been defending press freedom and addressing journalists' rights and responsibilities since its formation by renewed journalist and human rights activities Kuldip Nayar in March, 1977. Interestingly two International Organizations i.e. Reporters Without Borders and the Committee to Protect Journalists also monitors Press freedom in India and other countries and raise awareness about violations on global stage. But the fact

remains that journalists in India often face physical threats and violence, especially when reporting on sensitive issues like corruption, organized crime, terrorism, human trafficking, communal tensions etc. Some journalists have been attacked or even killed in the line of duty. In order to restrict press freedom and throttle the voice of journalists, sometimes laws like defamation laws, sedition laws and laws related to National Security are misused to intimidate and scare them.

"Real journalism" in India has become a challenging profession. Because in 2023, 5 journalists were brutally killed and 226 were targeted by different forces including non-state political actors and anti-socials. As per available report the anti-socials hacked 03 journalists to death in 2024 till the end of September. Killing of journalists is definitely considered as black spot on democracy. The Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Damodardas Modi, after assuming office in the summer of 2014 said "India's democracy will not sustain, if we cannot guarantee freedom of speech and expression". In view of his statement, it is expected that all State Governments should make a strong law to protect journalist and media institution to boost their moral and facilitate them to what independently. The Governments of Maharashtra and Chhattisgarh have enacted the Maharashtra Media Persons and Media Institutions (Prevention of Violation and Damage or Loss of Property) Act, 2017 and Chhattisgarh Protection of Media Persons Act, 2023 respectively. All States and Union Territories may also make laws to protect Press Freedom or it will be better if Government of India enacts the Journalists (Prevention of Violation and Damage or Loss of Property) Act, which is pending in the form of Bill in the Parliament since 2022.

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## BOBBY CHAKRABORTY'S INSPIRING 441ST ANTI ADDICTION CAMPAIGN AT SOUTH POINT HIGH SCHOOL TOUCHES A MEMORABLE NOTE



**Kolkata, (KCN):** It has been a lifelong mission for renowned actor/activist/teacher of method acting, Bobby Chakraborty, to raise awareness against all sorts of addiction (smoking, alcoholism, smart phone) and harmful social trends (abusive language, obscenity online, online gambling, gender insensitivity, ragging, bullying etc.) among the youth, globally, since the demise of his uncle at the age of 29, due to addiction. His free of cost, award-winning

awareness program, I AM THE KING OF MY MIND' has won hearts and opened the eyes of millions of young boys and girls globally. Nov 27th, 2024, was an opportunity for the 9th graders of South Point High School, Kolkata, one of the leading schools in India, to experience the adrenaline rush of being included as soldiers, in the army of their beloved 'BobbyDada'. It's not only the responsibility of one individual like Bobby to

fight against these evils in the society. It is our collective responsibility. That's exactly the vibe we got from the extremely effective School Management. The socially responsible Principal Rupa Sanyal Bhattacharjee, The Coordinator Brita Sarkar and their able team of teachers and technicians, who organised Bobby's motivational adda session no. 441 and his 32nd in their school, over a period of 10 years, for the benefit of their

students. The official photographer of this powerful session was soldier Hritoja Das, who was assisted by soldier Adrija Saha, who also won the all important designation of 'the trendsetter'. The enthusiasm, participation and interaction from the students poured over, as Bobby took stage and addressed these pertinent issues of addiction and harmful trends, those are destroying the generation.

## Hirakud's Eco retreat 2024-25: A Symphony of Nature, Culture & Wildlife



**Sambalpur, (KCN):** Odisha tourism has now opened the awaited, Hirakud's Eco retreat 2024-25 for public. Inspector General of Police (ND), Himansu Lal, (IPS), District Magistrate-com- Collector, Sambalpur, Siddheshwar Baliram Bondar, (IAS), Superintendent of Police, Sambalpur Mukesh Kumar Bhamoo, (IPS), were amongst other who were instrumental for opening the event. Hirakud dam is the longest earthen dam in the world that stands across Mahanadi, in the Sambalpur region of Odisha. Hirakud along with Eco retreat would be good for a day visit; can easily spend around 4 to 5 hours here enjoying the scenic beauty of Mahanadi reservoir. In addition to this, Eco retreat offers Jet ski, Banana ride, Zorbing Ball, Bumper Boat Ride, Speed boat, Parasailing, Paragliding, ATV Rides, Rifle shooting, Archery, Volleyball, Guided

Trekking, Yoga Classes, E-bicycles and many more. The presiding deity of the area is Maa Samaleswari and one can even catch the evening light and sound show at Maa Samaleswari Temple located nearby. After a day full of exciting activities, witness a cultural evening with beautiful folk performances before retiring for a luxurious night at a capacious swiss cottage that comes replete with every modern amenity. Entertainment begins with sun down music flowing into curated cultural performances & winding with a selection of romantic melodies. Hirakud Eco Retreat is an unparalleled glamping experience and an invitation to embrace the majesty of the Hirakud reservoir, discover the rich history and culture of the region, and engage in an array of exciting activities. Located near the amazing Debrigarh Wildlife Sanctuary and the reservoir.

## MAINTENANCE OF ANCIENT MONUMENTS IN WEST BENGAL

**Kolkata, (KCN):** The Union Minister for Culture & Tourism, Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat in a written answer to an unstarred question posed by MP Shri Saumitra Khan in the Lok Sabha today regarding the schemes being implemented by the Government for the maintenance of ancient monuments in the State of West Bengal, particularly in Bankura District and whether the Government proposes to take any

special steps for the maintenance and beautification of the famous ancient heritages of Bishnupur Lok Sabha Constituency of West Bengal, particularly in Bankura District, Shri Shekhawat added. The Union Minister clarified that ASI undertakes the conservation, restoration and maintenance works of the Centrally Protected Monuments including ancient heritage of Bishnupur as per the requirements and availability of resources.

Border Security Force (BSF) celebrates its 60th Raising Day, marking six decades of service in securing Bharat's borders. Raised in 1965 in the aftermath of the Indo-Pakistan War, BSF has been entrusted with responsibility to guard Bharat's borders with Pakistan and Bangladesh. The Eastern command BSF raised in the year 2002 has been securing the 4096.67 km of international border with Bangladesh. Besides, BSF is also deployed in Manipur for Law & Order duties and in Nagaland for Counter-Insurgency operations. On the occasion of Raising Day celebration, Sh. Ravi Gandhi, ADG BSF Eastern Command, extended his heartfelt greetings to all ranks and families and exhorted to be upright and committed in discharging duties. He underlined that Eastern Command remains steadfast in its commitment to safeguard Bharat-Bangladesh border. Besides, BSF has apprehended 2294 Bangladeshi Nationals on the Bharat-Bangladesh border while attempting to

crimes on Bharat-Bangladesh border, with an impressive seizure of Narcotics worth ₹119.52 crores, contraband goods worth ₹27.77 crores and 174.65 kg Gold worth ₹117.31 crores. The huge seizure manifest the BSF's commitment in curbing smuggling and trans-border crime along Bharat-Bangladesh border. SF has played a crucial role in containing the law & order situation in Manipur. After the ethnic clashes in

infiltrate into Indian Territory.

Security Forces (SF) under Eastern Command has played an important role in conducting free and fair Parliamentary Elections during the year despite facing many challenges. Besides, Coys/Bns under Eastern Command always remains committed towards welfare of the Border Population. BSF officials regularly interact with local inhabitants to extend support and cooperation. BSF also organised Civic Action Programmes to help the

needy people by providing them free medicines, health check-ups, running of Skill development programmes, distribution of stationery / sports items to the school going children and also constructed toilets along the border for use of border community. Besides this, in the AOR of 32 Bn BSF in PS-Krishnaganj, Distt-Nadia (WB), BSF in collaboration with National Beekeeping and Honey Mission (NBHM) of India under Central Sector Scheme, organising bee culture which has given employment to local population. SFE works jointly with State Police of all bordering states i.e West Bengal, Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram and carrying out Joint Operations to control Trans-border crimes. BSF has also good collaboration with Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB). Regular meetings are held at various levels and Simultaneous-Coordinating Patrolling's (SCPs) are held to keep vigil. Since, 05 Aug 2024 after the unrest in Bangladesh, BSF carried out 27213 SCPs and held 643 Border Meetings with BGB.

## Shaping Future leaders



**Kolkata, (KCN):** In the heart of India's educational renaissance stands, Shri Pradip Agarwal, an educationist and visionary deeply committed to nurturing the next generation of achievers and leaders.

As India strides towards its Viksit Bharat mission, with education as a corner stone, Shri Pradip Agarwal's work aligns seamlessly with the transformative National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, championing the cause of 'education for all.' A Global Perspective on Education Shri Pradip Agarwal, an alumnus of the prestigious Harvard Kennedy School, brings a global outlook to his philanthropic and educational endeavors. His involvement in shaping educational policies extends beyond national boundaries, aiming to elevate the quality of education across all societal strata. For Shri

Agarwal, education is not a privilege reserved for the affluent but a fundamental right that should be accessible to all. This vision found resonance on the world stage during India's G20 Presidency in 2023. The Educational Ministerial meeting saw a convergence of minds, with ministers and delegates from G20 and guest countries underlining the transformative power of education in realizing the Presidency's theme: 'One Earth, One Family, One Future.'

Fostering Innovation and Research, the global recognition of India's strides in education and research was evident in the WIPO's Global

vibrant research ecosystem that spans across its various institutions. From undergraduate research programs to advanced doctoral studies, Heritage has implemented a comprehensive approach to fostering innovation. The institutions have established state-of-the-art laboratories, research centers, and incubation hubs that provide students with hands-on experience in cutting-edge technologies. Collaborations with industry partners and international research institutions have further enriched the research environment, exposing students to real-world challenges and global perspectives.

Heritage's commitment to research is evident in its annual research symposiums, where students present their findings to peers and experts alike. These events not only showcase the institution's research

## FIEO Election Results announced

**Kolkata (PARTHA ROY):** FIEO (Federation of Indian Export Organisations) announced results of election as per law of its Management Committee. Election was conducted on 30th November 2024 & result declared on the same day.

Shri Mahesh Chandra Keyal of Mortex India Pvt Ltd., Kolkata is declared elected to the Management Committee in category of Recognised Three, Four & Five Star Export Houses (Eastern Region).

Shri Ravikant Shyamsunder Kapur of Grentex and Company Pvt Ltd., Mumbai; Shri

Siddharth Maloo of Jay Market Creators Pvt Ltd., Kolkata; and Shri Subhash Chander



FEDERATION OF INDIAN EXPORT ORGANISATIONS  
An Sector Ministry in Commerce, Government of India

Jeyavishnu Clothing Pvt Ltd., Tirupur is declared elected for Southern Region. Elected Regional Chairmen in different regions are: (Northern Region): Shri Raj Kumar Malhotra of Asian Handicrafts Private Limited, Gurgaon; (Eastern Region): Shri Yogesh Gupta of Megaa Moda Pvt Ltd., Kolkata; (Western Region): Shri

Parsh K Mehta of Sharda Corporation, Mumbai; (Southern Region): Shri P Gopalakrishnan of Metro Fabrics, Karur. Formal announcement of result will be made in 59th Annual General Meeting to be held on 4th December 2024.

## Tourism Circuit in Murshidabad

**Kolkata, (KCN):** The Union Minister for Culture & Tourism, Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat in a written answer to an unstarred question posed by MP Md Abu Taher Khan regarding whether the Government has a proposal to create a tourism circuit with special focus around Mayapur ISKCON Temple 'Punya Bhumi of Shri Chaitanya' and wide areas of Murshidabad for economic development of the people of these areas, stated that the Union Ministry of Tourism under the Schemes of "Swadesh Darshan" and "National Mission on Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD)" provides financial assistance to State Governments/Union Territory Administrations for the development of tourism related infrastructure and facilities at various tourism destinations in the country. Shri Shekhawat added that the ministry from time to time receives proposals from the State Governments regarding development of infrastructure under its ongoing schemes and these proposals are evaluated as per scheme guidelines and established procedures.

## BSF's 60th RAISING DAY celebrated by BSF(EC) in Kolkata



Manipur during May 2023, BSF was called for Law & Order duties to maintain peace in the State of Manipur. At present 104 Coys of BSF are deployed in Manipur. 09 Seema Prahris sustained injuries and 02 Seema Prahris attained martyrdom in the line of duty in Manipur. BSF has recovered 83 weapons and 768 rounds of ammunition of various calibres from the miscreants during operations in Manipur.

While performing duties, 119 personnel of BSF made supreme sacrifice, 49 personnel of BSF were severely injured in securing Bharat's border as well as maintaining internal law & order duties. ESE is moving hand in hand with Border communities who are an important stakeholder in Border Management. BSF always remains committed towards welfare of the Border Population. BSF officials regularly interact with local inhabitants to extend support and cooperation. BSF also organised Civic Action Programmes to help the

needy people by providing them free medicines, health check-ups, running of Skill development programmes, distribution of stationery / sports items to the school going children and also constructed toilets along the border for use of border community. Besides this, in the AOR of 32 Bn BSF in PS-Krishnaganj, Distt-Nadia (WB), BSF in collaboration with National Beekeeping and Honey Mission (NBHM) of India under Central Sector Scheme, organising bee culture which has given employment to local population. SFE works jointly with State Police of all bordering states i.e West Bengal, Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram and carrying out Joint Operations to control Trans-border crimes. BSF has also good collaboration with Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB). Regular meetings are held at various levels and Simultaneous-Coordinating Patrolling's (SCPs) are held to keep vigil. Since, 05 Aug 2024 after the unrest in Bangladesh, BSF carried out 27213 SCPs and held 643 Border Meetings with BGB.

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# Historic old Nabarangpur jail lies in neglect, oblivion

**Nabarangpur (KCN):** The historic old jail within the premises of the Nabarangpur Sub-Treasury and the Tehsil office that stands as a silent witness to the sacrifices made by scores of valiant fighters towards the country's freedom struggle now lies in a neglected and dilapidated condition. Cracks have long appeared on the stone walls that once housed the heroes, while the ceilings have collapsed in many places. The entire structure is at risk of crumbling at any point in time due to lack

of maintenance. This historic jail, which once fell under the undivided Koraput district, housed numerous freedom fighters who endured incarceration that lasted from months to years while wishing to see an Indian free from the imperial British yoke. Even today, the prison's walls echo the stories of patriots like Dr Sadashiv Tripathy, revolutionary Sonu Majhi, martyr Bagha Pujari, Mohammad Baji, Jagannath Tripathy, and Miru Harijan. Their bravery and sacrifices remain etched in the jail's locked chambers.



Records reveal that the jail was established in 1932 by the then-British government. From 1936 onwards, it became a regular site of incarceration for freedom fighters, with its premises soaked in the blood and spirit of revolution. In 1942, the jail housed over 250 freedom fighters. Significantly, these fighters were confined to just 14 small cells, a testament to their unputdownable spirit and resilience. After trial, they were often transferred to Koraput or Berhampur jails. Historical accounts state that seven great fighters succumbed to hunger strikes on the jail premises, further solidifying its place in India's freedom struggle. Even today, locals claim to hear chants of "Bande Mataram" and cries of pain and suffering emanating from the jail in the dead of night. The symbol of resistance and triumph of human spirit on the face of adversaries now stands abandoned and forgotten. Local residents and activists have repeatedly demanded its restoration and preservation as a national monument. Such a move would honour the memory of the sacrifices made here and ensure the legacy of the freedom struggle lives on for future generations.

## 21 foreign sailors plead for freedom

**Paradip (KCN):** Twenty-one crew members of cargo ship MV Debi, which has been detained at the Paradip Port's PCIT berth since November last year following seizure of cocaine worth Rs 220 crore from the vessel, have sought their release citing prolonged detention. On November 26 afternoon, the sailors, all from Vietnam – staged a sit-in demanding their immediate release when the vessel approached the port's MPB (multipurpose berth) for essential supplies, including water, fuel, and provisions for the crew. According to reports, the sailors, who have been confined to the ship for two years now (one year in sailing and another year in detention), have ceased all operations and remain in the vessel. A representative from Vietnam had visited Paradip to take stock of the crew members November 28. However, the Customs department reportedly refused him permission to enter the ship. Left with no option,



he went back to Vietnam the next day. Sources said the case has become a point of contention for Paradip port authorities, immigration officials, and Customs Department. With no immediate solution in sight, the fate of the vessel and the crew members remain shrouded in uncertainty. For reference, MV Debi docked at the private berth operated by Paradip International Cargo Terminal (PICT) at Paradip Port November 30, 2023. Following routine Customs inspections and clearance, the loading of cargo onto the vessel commenced. During the process, a crane

area, continued to remain malfunctioned, prompting the deployment of a mechanic for repairs. While the mechanic was working on the crane, 220 packets of cocaine, valued at an estimated Rs 220 crore, were allegedly found. The discovery was immediately reported to Customs authorities. Since then, the ship has been detained at Paradip Port under the supervision of Customs Department as the investigation into the drug bust continues. The 21 Vietnamese crew members of the ship, anchored 5 kilometers off the coast in the designated anchorage area, continued to remain

onboard the ship. The vessel periodically returns to the berth for essential supplies. Sources said the prolonged year-long detention has taken a toll on the crew's mental health. In June this year, one of the crew members allegedly attempted suicide by jumping into the sea.

Meanwhile, PICT has approached the Odisha High Court, seeking relief regarding berth occupancy. The court has directed the ship's seizure as part of ongoing investigations. The vessel remains under Customs' jurisdiction while the case unfolds.

## No takers for RMC vending zones



**Rourkela (KCN):** Aiming to support street vendors and decongest public roads, the Rourkela Municipal Corporation (RMC) constructed three special vending zones under the National Urban Livelihood Mission (NULM). However, despite the expenditure of Rs 3 crore, the initiative has largely failed, with vendors refusing to relocate to the designated zones. During a survey in 2017, a large number of vendors were identified by NULM and reports submitted by the agency to the RMC. Based on the survey report, these vendors were provided financial

aid during the Covid-19 pandemic. Subsequently, three vending zones were constructed in the first phase: one at Jail Road, another near Raghunathpalli Police Station, and the third one close to Municipal College in Udit Nagar. Of these, only the Udit Nagar zone has partial occupancy, while the other two remain unused at present. During the 2017 survey, the vendors were identified from areas such as Hanuman Vatika, Hockey Chowk, Birsa Munda Athletic Stadium, RMC office and Ambedkar Chowk as beneficiaries. The vending

zones at Raghunathpalli and Jail Road were constructed at Rs 3 crore. The Jail Road vending zone has 67 shops, 36 platforms and 30 open spaces. At Raghunathpalli vending zone there are 26 shops, 12 platforms and 8 open spaces. Meanwhile, when contacted, RMC Commissioner and ADM Rourkela Ashutosh Kulkarni said, "The balance vacant shops are being put for tender. Enforcement is also made active to ensure allotted shop owners don't again sit on streets. It is a continuous process."



**2024-2025**

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## CFA Institute in India Expands Student Accessibility with a New Exam Center in Bhubaneswar

**Bhubaneswar :** CFA Institute, the professional body for excellence and thought leadership in finance, has opened registrations for their upcoming February 2023 intake. Additionally, with the rising demand to increase candidate accessibility and convenience, the institute will have 4 new exam centers in Kochi, Chandaigarh, Bhubaneswar and Guwahati for the CFA Program. These centers will take the total number of test center cities for the CFA exam to 16 across India and over 400 worldwide.

The recent CFA Institute Investor Trust survey showed that Indians place a high level of trust on the potential growth in job opportunities in the financial services sector. However, in the post-pandemic era, students as

well as professionals are prioritizing safety, accessibility and ease of travel while accomplishing their life and career goals. Ease of accessibility to exam centers is expected to improve a candidate journey through the program and reduce costs associated with travelling to take exams.

The CFA Charter continues to be the global gold standard for professionals aspiring to work in the investment management industry. We constantly work to make the CFA Program affordable, accessible, meritocratic and relevant. During the pandemic we moved our examinations to Computer Based Testing from Paper Based Exams and started offering examinations four times a year. By expanding our test

## Experience the best-in-class customer services at 11 new Alpha Service Centers across India

**Bhubaneswar :** Sony India is expanding its Alpha Service Network across 11 cities in India including Mumbai, Coimbatore, Jaipur, Pune, Hyderabad, Ahmedabad, Trivandrum, Chennai, Indore, Bhubaneswar and Guwahati. This is expansion for Alpha Camera body and lens repairs facilities is a testament to the brand's continued dedication to customer satisfaction. Sony now has the widest service network of after sales support for Digital Imaging products with 8 service centers for lens repairs, 18 service centers for Alpha Camera Body repair, 40+ service centers which can offer basic services like CCD Imager cleaning and

firmware updates and 220+ collection centers pan India.

The service centers are equipped with necessary jigs and tools to deliver best quality repair of Alpha camera body, Camera Lens, Professional Cameras and other digital imaging products like Digital Still Cameras and Camcorders. Customers can also avail instant services for basic supports like CCD Imager cleaning and getting the latest firmware update to enjoy best performance from their products. The friendly customer care staff at these service centers will help customers to register their in-warranty products on Sony Alpha Community portal to enable them avail

free of cost additional one year warranty on applicable products.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Mukesh Srivastava, Head of Digital Imaging Business at Sony India, said, "By supporting and assisting partners in local markets, Sony aims to ensure customers receive exceptional service and satisfaction along with quicker and faster turnaround at all outlets across the country. The new service centers will offer customers a seamless experience across multiple touchpoints to provide a consistent brand experience that surpasses expectations."

## ATLAS OF AFFLUENCE - INDIA'S FIRST EVER WHITE PAPER ON LUXURY LAUNCHED AS A YEARLY FEATURE

**Mumbai:** Amidst leading luminaries of industries spanning across the business of luxury, the Atlas of Affluence (AOA) 2022 has been launched in Mumbai. Created by The Voice of Fashion (TVOF), a division of Reliance Brands Limited, the daily digital magazine that tracks and leads conversations on Indian fashion, design, crafts and retail, AOA 2022, is the

first such wide and deep white paper from India that dissects consumer behaviour studied through the prism of luxury. A collective reflection on what affluence means in India spiked during the two years of the pandemic. Charting the post-pandemic market and the clearly altered consumer mindset through a specially commissioned study

across six cities and markets of India, AOA 2022 has been published as a book with exclusively commissioned artworks.

This study uses the time graph of "pre-pandemic" and "post-pandemic" months to specify a comparative matrix. It also helps debunk long-held ideas about what affluence and luxury have meant to Indians.

## SBI CSR INITIATIVES AT BERHAMPUR

**Bhubaneswar(KCN):** CGM Shri Dinesh Pruthi visited Shradha Sanjeevani Child Care Home at Gopalpur on 04/08/2024. Under CSR initiative of SBI, support of Desktop with UPS, Projector set, Inverter with battery and clothing were provided for the inmates. The program was attended by Shri S K Sarangi, District Child Protection Officer along with Treasurer of the Child Care Home Shri Lokenath Mishra. General Manager Shri Ponnambalam M and other senior SBI

officials were also present in the event. Similarly, General Manager Shri Kaushal Kishore Singh and Deputy General Manager (B&O) Shri Sondeep Kumar Chowbey had visited Red Cross School for the Blind at Ambapua, Berhampur. Water Purifier, Freezer, Inverter and Dining seaters were provided for the Divyang students. District Social Security Officer Ms P Padma expressed her pleasure for SBI helping the students of the school at the time of their need.



## realme launches the Stylish realmenarzo 60 Series 5G and the revolutionary realme Buds Wireless 3

**Bhubaneswar(KCN):** realme, the Most Reliable Smartphone Service Provider in India, unveiled its latest offerings today, the realmenarzo 60 Series 5G and realme Buds Wireless 3.

Exemplifying the region's signature weave through a curated evening at the majestic Vivanta, Bhubaneswar, DC Square was Odia designer Sabyasachi Satpathy, whose intricately crafted ensembles drew inspiration from the multicultural city and its colourful history. In a true celebration of Odisha's distinct and masterful craftsmanship, the show was elevated with a captivating performance by the Prince Dance Group - from the small Odisha town of Berhampur - widely lauded for their artistry. The show drew to a finale with none other than actor Diana Penty, who captivated the audience in a beautiful ensemble by the designer. The "Made of Artistic Flair" edition of Blenders Pride Fashion Nights was a beautiful embodiment of the rich craft and cultural heritage of the city in a modern and contemporary setting.

Taking us on a 'Jatra' - The Journey of a Young Woman - the show encapsulated the journey of a woman from post adolescence to her nuptials, navigating the various challenges, trials and significant moments that come her way. The enigmatic journey was captured through the array of colours and textiles that Odisha Bandha/Ikkat offers. Truly encapsulating the spirit of 'Made of Pride', the designer made use of Odisha weave, which is sustainable, hand-woven, organic and a homegrown initiative of design, painstakingly woven by the weavers of Odisha. The upbeat set was a composition designed to narrate the spirit of Bhubaneswar along with the flair of the designer. The evening was attended by the city's A-listers & influencers. The fashion walk truly left the guests mesmerized and engaged.

Through this unique showcase of Pride encompassing diverse talent across creative fields, Blenders Pride Fashion Nights 2022, encourages everyone, especially youth at large to celebrate & take pride in their authentic and individual journeys. The evening spotlighted individuals who take pride in their choices, are comfortable in their skin and, most importantly, embrace their authentic selves - truly living a life that is 'Made of Pride'.

The realmenarzo 60 Series 5G is the first and only smartphone in the segment to come with 1TB storage. The realmenarzo 60 Series 5G is a groundbreaking lineup that revolutionizes the smartphone industry with its cutting-edge features. realmenarzo 60 Pro 5G is equipped with up to 12GB + 12GB of dynamic RAM and is the only smartphone in the segment with 1TB of ROM storage. It runs on the Dimensity 6020 5G chipset and boasts a massive 5000mAh battery with 67W SUPERVOOC charging support.

The realmenarzo 60 Pro 5G comes in two stunning colors: Mars Orange, Cosmic Black and two storage variants: The 8GB + 128GB is priced at INR 17999 and the 8GB + 256GB is priced at INR 19999.

Buyers can avail bank offers of INR 1500 on the realmenarzo 60 Pro 5G with 6 months No Cost EMI and 18 month warranty on pre-booking starting from 6th July 1 PM on Amazon.in and realme.com. Users can also avail bank offers of INR 1500 on the realmenarzo 60 Pro 5G with 6 months No Cost EMI on first sale

on Amazon.in and realme.com. For realmenarzo 60 5G, buyers can avail a coupon of INR 1000\* and No Cost EMI for up to 6 months and 18 month warranty on pre-booking starting from 6th July 1 PM on realme.com and Amazon.in. Users can also avail coupons worth INR 1000 and No Cost EMI for up to 6 months on first sale on Amazon.in and realme.com.

Introducing the realme Buds Wireless 3, designed to elevate your audio experience with a 13.6 mm Dynamic Bass driver. Enjoy uninterrupted music with its 40-hour long battery life. Immerse yourself in crystal-clear sound with active noise cancellation. Indulge in a captivating audio journey with the 360-degree spatial audio effect. The realme Buds Wireless 3 comes in three stunning colors: Bass Yellow, Vitality White and Pure Black and is priced at INR 1799. Users can avail a special first sale day offer on realme Buds Wireless 3 on 12th July, 12 noon onwards. The realme Buds Wireless 3 will be available on realme.com, amazon.in, flipkart.in and offline stores near you.

The realme Buds Wireless 3 comes in three stunning colors: Bass Yellow, Vitality White and Pure Black and is priced at INR 1799. Users can avail a special first sale day offer on realme Buds Wireless 3 on 12th July, 12 noon onwards. The realme Buds Wireless 3 will be available on realme.com, amazon.in, flipkart.in and offline stores near you.

## Jindal Stainless signs MoU with SCTEVT, Odisha to train future-ready stainless steel professionals

**Bhubaneswar:** Odisha's State Council for Technical Education & Vocational Training (SCTEVT) today signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Jindal Stainless to promote technical education in the field of stainless steel and its various applications. Under this MoU, stainless steel courses will be introduced in all the Polytechnic colleges in Odisha from June 2022. The MoU was signed by Vice Chairman, SCTEVT, Shri Reghu G (IAS) and Unit Head, Jindal Stainless Limited (JSL), Shri Deepak Agrawal. Dignitaries present at the ceremony included Chairman, SCTEVT and Principal Secretary to Government, SDTE and Industries Departments, Shri Hemant Sharma (IAS); Additional Secretary, SDTE, Govt of Odisha, Shri Tapan Satpathy (OAS); Resident Director, JSL, Mr SS Upadhyay, and General Manager, Sales & Distribution, Mr Ranit Rana.

Commending the development, Chairman, SCTEVT and Principal Secretary to Government, SDTE and Industries Departments, Shri Hemant Sharma (IAS) said, "This collaboration with Jindal Stainless will enhance the learning experience for students and faculty both, as it will give them insights about and practical exposure to the stainless steel industry."

initiative of Government of India to celebrate 75 years of independence and the glorious history of our people, culture and achievements, NSDL has launched a new initiative towards investor awareness 'Market Ka Eklavya - Express' across 75 cities, especially aimed at the college students who would very soon be entering the phase where they would start earning and naturally,

look for avenues of investment.

Earlier this month, Market Ka Eklavya (5-hours program) was launched by the hon'ble Finance Minister of India, Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman at the silver jubilee event of NSDL.

On the launch of the initiative Ms. Padmaja Chunduru, MD & CEO, NSDL said, "Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav is a special initiative launched by our Prime Minister to

celebrate and commemorate 75 years of India's Independence. Our program has been particularly aimed to create awareness about the financial markets to the young minds who will be the future of our country. In this Amrit Kaal, our digital education initiative focuses on building a path towards Financial Freedom for our youth, symbolizing the spirit of Atmanirbhar Bharat."

Students across India will benefit from this program as it does not restrict to just an area of the population. The program will be conducted for 1 hour and mainly educate the students on demystifying the jargons, 31's - types of Income; Inflation and its impact, types of Investment; 3S - Start early - Power of Compounding, Spread wide, Stay long etc.

## AUS vs IND: First look at Adelaide pitch ahead of pink ball Test match

**New Delhi:** India are set to play their second Test match of the Border-Gavaskar Trophy in Adelaide. After winning the Perth Test match by a massive margin of 295 runs, India will face Australia against the pink ball, under lights. Traditionally the pink ball Test matches have been Australia's strength. The team has never lost a pink ball Test match in their history.

The last time India played a pink ball Test match in Australia, they were bowled out for just 36 runs in the 2ndinnings of the game. However, they made a remarkable turnaround in that tour, winning the series 2-1. With the Adelaide pitch expected to be spicy once again, India Today accessed images from the ground where the wicket is currently being made.

India played a pink-ball warm-up game against Australian Prime Minister's XI to prepare for the Adelaide Test



match. The 2-day game was cut short to a 50-over match by rain in Canberra. India bowled well in phases, bowling out Australia for 240 runs, which they later chased down with ease. Captain Rohit Sharma sacrificed his opening spot for KL Rahul who did a phenomenal job as an opener in the first Test in Perth. Hence, Rahul continued to open alongside Yashasvi Jaiswal in the warm up fixture as well. The duo continued from where they left off in Perth and

added 75 runs for the first wicket. Jaiswal was scratchy early on but Rahul looked solid and was very watchful at the crease. While Jaiswal was dismissed on 45 while trying to go big against Charlie Anderson, Rahul retired himself out on 27 (44) as Rohit walked in to bat. However, he couldn't survive more than 11 deliveries and got dismissed for 3 (11) edging Charlie Anderson to wicketkeeper Oliver Davies.

Following his dismissal,

Nitish Kumar Reddy joined Shubman Gill at the crease and the duo added 92 runs together at the crease. Reddy played his big shots all around the ground smashing five fours and a six during his innings of 42 (32). On the other hand, Gill scored a sublime half century after recovering from his injury and retired himself out to allow batting practice to other players. After Reddy was dismissed, Ravindra Jadeja and Washington Sundar came together at the crease and got

involved in another 37-run stand. While Jadeja was dismissed on 27, Sundar scored a brilliant unbeaten 42 as India finished on 257/5 in 46 overs.

Earlier, India captain Rohit Sharma won the toss and elected to bowl first and the Indian seamers made full use of the overcast conditions early on. Mohammed Siraj made Matt Renshaw (5) edge one to slips while Jayden Goodwin (4) edged one to wicketkeeper Rishabh Pant against Akash Deep to leave Prime Minister's XI on 22/2. After two early blows, Sam Konstas and Jack Clayton forged a 109-run stand for the third wicket to take their team's score past 130. Out of nowhere, Harshit Rana brought India back in the game as he broke the stand by shattering Jack Clayton's (40 off 52) stumps. Olivier Davies met the same fate for a two-ball duck which left PM's XI on 131/4.

The Reds now sit comfortably at the summit, nine points clear of second-placed Arsenal after 13 matches. In contrast, Manchester City, who

## PL wrap: Man City's misery continues vs Liverpool, United shine under Amorim

**New Delhi:** Premier League wrap: Pep Guardiola's misery deepened after Manchester City lost 0-2 to Liverpool on Sunday, December 1. On the other hand, Manchester United under new coach Ruben Amorim lifted their moods with a 4-0 win over Everton.

Liverpool inflicted more pain on struggling Manchester City with a dominant 2-0 win at Anfield on Sunday, extending their lead at the top of the Premier League to a commanding nine points. The victory, highlighted by Mohamed Salah's goal and assist, ended with the home supporters chanting about Pep Guardiola's future as City's misery deepened.

The Reds now sit comfortably at the summit, nine points clear of second-placed Arsenal after 13 matches. In contrast, Manchester City, who

suffered their fourth consecutive league defeat, find themselves in fifth place—a position they haven't occupied since 2008.

In other action, Manchester United continued their resurgence under new manager Ruben Amorim, who secured a thumping 4-0 win over struggling Everton in his first Premier League home game.

Marcus Rashford and Joshua Zirkzee both bagged a brace, lifting United to ninth in the table, just four points off fourth place.

Chelsea, meanwhile, are showing signs of real progress under Enzo Maresca, securing a comfortable 3-0 home victory over Aston Villa. The Blues are now joint second with Arsenal, each on 25 points, as Maresca's tactical setup looks to be paying off.

Tottenham, fresh off their impressive 4-0 victory over Manchester City

last week, were brought back down to earth, drawing 1-1 at home against Fulham. The visitors, who finished with 10 men, salvaged a point with a late equalizer from Tom Cairney, though the match was marred by Cairney's red card following a VAR review for a tackle on Dejan Kulusevski. At Anfield, Liverpool were ruthless, with Salah playing a pivotal role. He set up Cody Gakpo for a simple tap-in in the 12th minute, and though Virgil van Dijk missed two good chances, City's defense faltered again in the 78th minute. A disastrous mix-up in the backline saw goalkeeper Stefan Ortega clatter into Luis Diaz, and Salah coolly converted the resulting penalty.

The win maintained Arne Slot's remarkable run as Liverpool manager, with the Dutchman securing 18 victories in his first 20 matches.

## Zimbabwe collapse to concede series lead to Pakistan

**New Delhi:** Zimbabwe collapsed with the bat in spectacular fashion to lose the opening T20I against Pakistan in Bulawayo. Zimbabwe were in a pretty decent position at 77/2 in the ninth over before losing wickets in clusters to get bowled out for 108, well short of Pakistan's 165/4. Zimbabwe didn't get off to the greatest of starts in the chase as Abrar Ahmed struck twice in the third over, rattling the stumps on both occasions, to reduce the home side to 18/2. However, the game turned on its head in the very next over as Tadiwanashe Marumani went berserk and hammered a six and three fours as Zimbabwe raced to 40/2 by the end of the fourth over. In the following over, it was the turn of Sikandar Raza to slam a hat-trick of boundaries as Zimbabwe's

powerful finish to the powerplay saw them knock off 60 runs. Just when things were looking rosy for the home side, a needless run out brought about their downfall. Just two overs later, Ryan Burl miscued Haris Rauf and from thereon, they lost five wickets in the next four overs. That included the key wicket of the well-set Raza as Zimbabwe slid in stunning fashion. Rauf and Abrar then finished proceedings to complete the rout. Sufiyan Muqeem and Abrar both finished with three-wicket hauls for Pakistan. Earlier in the day, a new-look Pakistan batting lineup started in watchful fashion. Omair Yousuf received a reprieve and followed it up with a six and a four before miscuing one off Richard Ngarava. Saim Ayub and

Usman Khan did help Pakistan score 49 in the opening five overs but post that, the scoring rate dipped. Pakistan reached the 100-run mark only after 14 overs and needed a big push in the final overs. Salman Agha's dismissal at that point came as a blessing in disguise as Irfan Khan walked out to the middle to join Tayyab Tahir to smash the Zimbabwean bowling attack at the death. Zimbabwe were particularly sloppy in the final three overs where they conceded 44 runs which definitely made a difference in the end. Brief scores: Pakistan 165/4 in 20 overs (Tayyab Tahir 39\*, Usman Khan 39; Sikandar Raza 1/14) beat Zimbabwe 108 in 15.3 overs (Sikandar Raza 39; Sufiyan Muqeem 3/20, Abrar Ahmed 3/28) by 57 runs

by 57 runs

in Bulawayo.

**T20I squad:** Rashid Khan (C), Rahmanullah Gurbaz (WK), Mohammad Ishaq (WK), Sediqullah Atal, Hazratullah Zazai, Mohammad Nabi, Darwish Rasooli, Zubaid Akbari, Gulbadin Naib, Karim Janat, Azmatullah Omarzai, Nangyal Kharoti, Mujeeb Ur Rahman, Noor Ahmad, Fazal Haq Farooqi, Fareed Ahmad and Naveen Ul Haq.

**ODI squad:** Hashmatullah Shahidi (C), Rahmat Shah (VC), Rahmanullah Gurbaz (WK), Ikram Alikhil (WK), Abdul Malik, Sediqullah Atal, Darwish Rasooli, Azmatullah Omarzai, Mohammad Nabi, Gulbadin Naib, Rashid Khan, Nangyal Kharoti, AM Ghazanfar, Mujeeb Ur Rahman, Fazal Haq Farooqi, Bilal Sami, Naveed Zadran and Farid Ahmad Malik.

## Mujeeb returns to Afghanistan squad for Zimbabwe tour

**New Delhi:** Afghanistan have been bolstered by the return of Mujeeb Ur Rahman to the white-ball squads after he was named for the upcoming tour of Zimbabwe. Mujeeb, who has been out of action for the last few months, recently recovered from his right phalanx sprain. Talented young top order batter Zubaid Akbari has been picked in the national squad for the first time, making the cut for the T20I series. Akbari has been in fine form in domestic cricket and played a role in Afghanistan's stellar campaign in the Emerging Asia Cup. The captain of that side, Darwish Rasooli, has made his return to the T20I setup after being rewarded for his domestic form. However, Ibrahim Zadran will remain on the sidelines as he continues his recovery from the

ankle surgery he underwent in England a couple of months ago. "It's a great feeling to see our frontline spinner, Mujeeb Ur Rahman, recover from his injury and be available for selection," ACB Interim Chief Selector, Ahmad Shah said. "He is an essential member of our squad, and we hope he

continues to shine brightly for Afghanistan. "Additionally, Zubaid Akbari and Darwish Rasooli have been consistent performers, not only in domestic cricket but also in the recently concluded ACC Emerging Teams Cup, where Afghanistan claimed the title. We have included both

players in the T20I squad and wish them the very best for the upcoming series."

The tour kickstarts on December 11 with the three-match T20I series which will then be followed by three ODIs. After the completion of the white-ball leg in Harare, the two teams will then play two Tests

retired allowing Shubman Gill, who had missed the first Test due to injury, to get some batting practice in. Gill grabbed the opportunity bagging a half-century in the process. Skipper Rohit, now slotting in the middle-order, could not get going however, slushing outside off and nicking behind for just 3. But India's all-rounders Nitish Reddy and Washington Sundar got a good hit, both hitting quickfire forties, as India finished their quota of overs for 257.

**Brief Scores:** Prime Ministers XI 240 (Sam Konstas 107, Hanno Jacobs 61; Harshit Rana 4-44) lost to India 257/5 (Shubman Gill 50, Yashasvi Jaiswal 45)

## Coetzee out of second SL Test and series against Pakistan

**New Delhi:** Gerald Coetzee, the South Africa pacer, has been ruled out of the second Test against Sri Lanka as well as Pakistan's all-format tour of South Africa (from December 10 to January 7) due to a groin injury sustained in the first Test.

The 24-year-old right-arm quick felt discomfort while bowling on the fourth day of the first Test against Sri Lanka. He underwent scans and the report revealed a right groin muscle strain, stated a CSA media release. The recovery period needed for Coetzee, according to the CSA release, is four to six

weeks, which means he could also miss the start of SA20, which begins on January 9. Coetzee is part of the Joburg Super Kings squad and their opening match is against MI Cape Town on January 11.

Meanwhile, South Africa have added pacer Kwena Maphaka to the squad for the second Test against Sri Lanka in Gqeberha, which begins on December 5. South Africa lead the two-match series 1-0.

## Rana, Gill shine in India's pink-ball practice match



**New Delhi:** India's rain-affected two-day practice match against the Prime Ministers XI got underway on the second day, with the game being reduced to 46 overs per side on the lone remaining day.

Bowling first, India reduced the hosts to 138/7 at one point with Harshit Rana picking up a four-wicket haul. However, opener Sam Konstas stuck through it and got to a well-deserved hundred. The teenager was also supported by the lower-order where Hanno Jacobs hit a quickfire 61. On the bowling front, India's frontline pacers Rana, Mohammad Siraj, Akash Deep and Prasidh

Krishna all managed to get at least six overs in with the pink ball. Similarly, the spinners Washington Sundar and Ravindra Jadeja both got to bowl more than five

overs although both were on the expensive side. India managed to bowl the PM's XI out for 240. While batting, India stuck with the successful opening pair of Yashasvi

Jaiswal and KL Rahul despite the return of Rohit Sharma. Jaiswal and Rahul were tested against the pink ball but got some useful batting practice in before Rahul