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this year, the ruling party had preferred to field only two candidates leaving one berth for BJP's Vaishnaw. The Naveen Patnaik-led BJD had announced its support to Vaishnaw "for the larger interest of the state's railways and telecom development". In 2019 also, Patnaik had supported Vaishnaw when he got elected to the Upper House of the Parliament for the first time. In June 2019, the BJD had announced to extend support to Vaishnaw, a former Odisha cadre IAS officer, following a telephone call from Prime Minister Narendra Modi to Odisha Chief Minister Patnaik. As the three candidates filed their papers for three seats to be vacant, there was no need for an election, the Returning Officer said. The tenure of three RS members - Vaishnaw, BJD's Prashant Nanda and Amar Patnaik will end in April this year. The election process was made to fill up the three vacancies.

safeguard ocean resources and explore potential pathways to achieve a sustainable blue economy. Prof. Mrutyunjay Suar, DG, R&D and Innovation at KIIT observed that Odisha is the ideal launchpad for India's blue economy initiatives. Echoing this sentiment, Dinabandhu Sahoo, President of the Indian Phycological Society and a senior professor at Delhi University, highlighted the blue economy's current valuation at 24 trillion dollars globally, emphasizing the ocean's future potential for humanity.



Jain Muni Acharya Shri Vidyasagar Ji Maharaj leaves for heavenly abode



**Kolkata (KCN):** Jain Muni Acharya Shri Vidyasagar Ji Maharaj left his body late on Saturday (17 February) at Chandragiri Tirtha in Dongargarh, Chhattisgarh. The Prime Minister Narendra Modi has expressed deep grief

over the demise of Jain saint Acharya Vidyasagar Maharaj. Former member of West Bengal Minority Commission, Narayan Jain also expressed heartfelt grief over the demise of the Jain Saint Acharya Vidyasagar Ji

Maharaj. In a state of complete wakefulness, Jain sage Acharya Shri Vidyasagar Maharaj, renouncing the post of Acharya, took samadhi in the night. He was staying in Chandragiri of Dongargarh for about 6 months. Acharya shri had completely given up food and water for the last three days. After which he breathed his last at 2:35 am on Saturday night. Acharya shri remained in a state of consciousness till his last breath and left his body while chanting mantras. At the time of Samadhi, revered Munishree Yogsagar Ji Maharaj, Shri Samtasagar Ji Maharaj, Shri Prasadsagar Ji Maharaj along with the Sangha were present with him.

946th Coronation Day of Eastern Ganga Emperor Anantavarman Chodaganga Deva Celebrated

**Puri(KCN):** The 946th Coronation day celebration of Eastern Ganga Emperor Anantavarman Chodaganga Deva was held at the Badu Mahapatra Jaga at Chudanga Sahi in Puri today. Jointly organised by the Rediscovering Lost Heritage (RLH) Group, INTACH Odisha and Badu Mahapatra Jaga, the gathering saw many eminent heritage experts and historians including local residents of Puri. This was the second year that the day was commemorated by the group. Puja was performed at the ancient stone panel which has the image of Chodaganga Dev kept at the small shrine in the place. The illustrious ruler of the Ganga Dynasty was known for his religious tolerance. His efforts for the reconstruction of the Jagannath Temple at Puri and his efforts to unite all religious faiths under a single cult i.e. the Jagannath Cult; was a watershed moment in the history of Odisha. His seventy-year reign was a golden period in the history of Odisha. His



military genius is evident from the extent of his empire that extended from the Ganga till the Godavari. Deepak Kumar Nayak, from 'Rediscover Lost Heritage Group' had shared more information on the old image at the Badu Mahapatra Jagaghara. The sculpted image of a royal had been worshipped as Lord Rama since ages. It was only recently that a proper identification of the image was done based on the rich iconography and the fact that it was Chodaganga Dev image was established. His ruled his kingdom akin to

Maryada Purushottom Lord Rama. The great King's personality based on his personal abilities and physical construction had perhaps portrayed him as Purushottoma through this sculptural depiction. Bikram Kumar Nayak, an INTACH member, said that a proper statue of the great King Emperor should be set up both in Puri and Bhubaneswar. Last year the group had written to the government asking them to include the development of the Jagaghara in the Parikrama Project. He said proper studies need to be made to identify

other heritage sites and structures connected with this great emperor which remain neglected. The large Chuganga pond near the Jagaghara should be properly desilted and renovated. The place where the idol is kept is just 100 metres away from the Parikrama Path, proper signage should be installed so that visitors can come to the place too. Anil Dhir, the Co-Convenor of INTACH Odisha said that the missing gaps in Odishan history should be filled up. Proper place of pride should be accorded to the great rulers who had established the identity of Odisha but have been relegated to the back pages of history. Few members of the Badu Mahapatra Jaga were felicitated during the occasion for their notable contributions to preserve this ancient heritage related to Odisha's history. Dhir said that Intach will organise a two day seminar on the Great Ruler soon. He said that scholars will be invited to present papers on the Great King whom we have forgotten and relegated to the back chapter of history.

NSS Winter Special Camp of Govt Degree College, Manuguru on at Gondhigudem

**Bhadradi Kothagudem, (KCN):** As part of the one-week Winter Special Camp organized by the NSS Unit of the Government Degree College at Manuguru, volunteers went to Vanadarshini field trip programme on Saturday. Volunteers visited the historical pond of the region, Tummal Cheruvu. Later, they acquainted themselves with Plant Nursery near BPL crossroads and Palle Prakruti Vanam near ITC where the forest officials explained the nursery techniques to the NSS volunteers. Deputy General Manager, PSPD of Sarapaka Chandal Rao



explained the paper manufacturing process of ITC plant. Interacting with the media, the NSS Programme Office and Principal of Government Degree College, Manuguru Dr Bhukya Srinivas said that the one-week Winter Special Camp with 50 volunteers at Gondhigudem village of Aswapuram mandal of Bhadradi Kothagudem district commenced on the 12th February with the

aim of developing among the volunteers a sense of social and civic responsibility and utilizing their knowledge in finding practical solutions to individual and community problems besides gaining skills in mobilizing community participation and acquiring leadership qualities and democratic attitudes. Stating that the volunteers participated in various camps which included blood donation

and health camps and conducted door-to-door survey besides a road safety awareness rally during the last seven days, Dr Bhukya Srinivas said that the volunteers had identified the needs and problems of the community and involved them in problem-solving. Expressing gratitude to the government officials, revenue department and the management of Singareni Collieries of Manuguru and Heavy Water Plant at Aswapuram and BTPS, Manuguru, ITC at Sarapaka, Dr Srinivas said that the Camp would come to an end on Tuesday with a valedictory.

Odisha CM Inaugurates, Lays Foundation For Various Projects In Bargarh



**Bargarh(KCN):** Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik visited Bargarh district today and inaugurated 62 different development projects worth Rs. 2149 cr. at Katapali under Bijepur tehsil in the district. Along with this, he laid

the foundation stones for 21 different development projects worth Rs. 263 cr. ,33 lakhs,18 thousand. The inaugurated projects are the Gangadhar Meher Irrigation Project at a cost of Rs 1677 crore 42 lakhs, a five-storied 100-bed cancer

treatment centre at a cost of Rs 106 crore 6 lakhs and the Nrusinghanath pith for the convenience of devotees, pilgrims and tourists at a cost of Rs 22 crore 78 lakhs. Sohela-Nuapada Biju Expressway, 37 High School conversion work

will be completed. Along with this, 56 colleges will be converted into modern education systems, conversion of 5 health institutions into 'Ama Hospital', 'Ama Bank' facilities for the 185-gram panchayats, 262 bus stops under the

LAccMI Yojana, 431 Kalyan mandaps, community centres and the development of religious places, and 3,355 projects will be implemented under 'Ama Odisha Navin Odisha' at the cost of Rs 126 cr., 50 lakhs.



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# WAGING A WAR ON CHILDREN MEANS TO WAGING A WAR ON FUTURE

M.R.LALU



Efforts to strike a truce between Israel and Hamas have failed multiple times. Death toll has been mounting ever since Israel began its offensive. There has been complete disregard for human sentiments. Civilian lives and safety have been seriously impacted and thousands of children were forced to look up for help and hope with the world becoming a mute spectator. Undoubtedly, wars are disastrous. That's how it can be defined. The quantum of bloodshed and disaster get them a place in the pages of history. And nobody can ultimately say for what wars are fought and who gains out of the bloodshed. But the calamitous impact of all conflicts stays for a long period until people who suffered roll back to normalcy. From Ukraine to Gaza and from Sudan to Myanmar and elsewhere on the globe, wars are equally vigorous as millions have so far been buried

under the rubbles of mansions and many more turning orphans and thrown into perils. Why do wars bring long term horror to those who survive its grave violations? This is because most of the human right violations target innocent children and women. And they are the segment of society that carries the collective memory of ruthless invasions and bloodshed for generations. Their susceptibility is that they are non-combatants and easily targetable. This is the case with all wars that began to shake up the human conscience recently. Organizations that are enforcing the need of protecting human rights, especially that of the children, cry against the 'grave violations' of wars. The UN has come out with startling revelations on the drastic horror being carried out on children in its latest report. Antonio Guterres, the UN secretary general calls it shocking and unforgivable. The number of children affected by the horrible impact of the Gaza war is alarming. He calls them the disproportionately affected and the most

vulnerable. Warning the world for its far-reaching effects he says that the atrocities include rape, sexual violence, recruitment of child soldiers and abductions. The Secretary General's report also says that out of 27800 violations against 18890 children in 2022, about 8630 were either killed or mutilated and 7622 children got illicitly recruited to militant establishments and approximately 3985 children were abducted. The global scenario is so precarious that instead of receiving protection, children are made victims and punished for the reason they occupy less space of authority in a world of inhuman conflicts. Children were treated heartlessly as they belonged to any side of the parties in conflict. A United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) report points out that the number of grave violations inflicted on children are increasing daily in troubled areas of Congo, Palestine, Israel, Sudan and Somalia. While hundreds of children were killed in Sudan, more than a million got displaced. Another

report says that more than 3 million children and adolescents were victims in Columbia due to recruitment, kidnapping, forced disappearance, murder and sexual violence. Russia is accused of illegally abducting thousands of children after its invasion of Ukraine in 2022. This atrocious inhuman act of the offender not only destroyed families and societies but also eradicated a generation. Most of such unbelievable, emotional and psychological damage to people and societies stay for a long period. The frequent ceasefire failure between Israel and Hamas has caused brutal bloodshed of children and women. Though wars do not directly target children, the horror of each war finally makes their life a hell. International laws demand children's protection while wars and their raging destruction cause colossal damage. But unfortunately, such laws get blown into smithereens ruthlessly pushing children into horrible scenarios. The UN reveals statistics of brutality that breaks all conventional understanding of violence. Impartially

verifying the statistics, it puts a discomfiting picture of barbarity. Staggeringly, another report brings a horrible account of human ruthlessness about the Israel- Palestine conflict. It says that more than 11500 Palestinians under 18 years have been killed by the Israeli aggression and about 24000 children have lost one or both parents. Many children have also been reported as recruited to military and militant groups with the purpose of using them in wars. They are directly used in combat operations and as support forces. Islamic radicalism has been flourishing all over the world through a large number of child recruits being well trained and employed in armed combat operations. International Human right laws proclaim 18 as the minimum legal age for recruitment and use of children in hostilities. But laws have often been disregarded and abysmally disabled by groups that are engaged in conflicts. Use of children under the age of 15 is not only prohibited but the International law defines it as a war

crime. So what happens in regions that are engaged in armed conflicts amounts to be seen as war crimes. But their brutal enforcement of horror remains merely labeled as war crimes and the international community totally mute and emasculated. UNICEF says the war crimes on children severely impact their mental health. The alarming reality of it is that more than a million children suffered in the Israel - Palestine conflict needs support. They have been forced to suffer perennial symptoms of persistent anxiety, loss of appetite and sleeplessness. Their outbursts of panic as they hear the bombings increase their predicament, it says. It is not necessary that there should be wars to the magnitude of Russia- Ukraine and Israel-Palestine for the children to get abducted and raped and used for violent acts. Children are frequently abducted and weaponized by armed groups and terrorists and gangs. Another UN data says more than 105,000 children, both boys and girls, were used in violent conflicts between 2005 and

2022. As wars emerge afresh, a disturbing paradox potentially troubles the literal civility among societies and countries. Between conflicting groups and countries, wars are not always fought for a sudden political outcome, but with an indubitable purpose of altering the geopolitical alignments and dismantling the cultural frameworks. This is mainly due to the annihilation of a large segment of population or its permanent displacement. The worst authoritarian regimes across the globe that found solutions for every single conflict through wars and bloodshed had this fundamentalist view of finding joy in destroying the cultural threads that ran through the younger generations. Wiping out an aspirational generation of their greater goals and seamless possibilities, the impact of wars would adversely affect the trajectory of life forever. Disabled, orphaned or displaced in wars, children would drastically find themselves marginalized everywhere. Sadly, there could be an endless list of

adversities that wars can bring on children. Death, injury, disability, illness, psychological suffering, rape and prostitution and many more such obvious situations would cripple their lives. Endless sea of sufferings would turn them into a colossal representation of brutality. Humanitarian responses need to emerge as inhuman atrocities on children keep mounting in every conflict. Human minds need to evolve from conflicts to compassion and there should be clear alternatives to wars. It is so shocking to count the death toll of innocent children in wars that are fought between adults and nations. Wars have to stop, if not, at least, the children should be allowed to capture the glimpse of their future without any calamitous outrage of war befalling on them. Waging a war on children means to wage a war on our future.

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# Remembering the martyrs to the cause of mother-tongue

Vivek Shukla



They shed their blood for the cause of their mother-tongue. It was not acceptable to them that their mother tongue consigned to back waters. They fell to senseless bullets of Pakistani Rangers when they were protesting against the imposition of Urdu on people Bangla speaking people of the then East Pakistan ( now Bangladesh). On February 21, 1952, students of Dhaka University called for a strike against the imposition of alien language on them. Even though it was a peaceful protest, Pakistani Rangers fired on them, killing dozens of students. The protests were on without any break

M . A . Jinnah 's announcement during his Dhaka visit in 1948 that Urdu will be the national language of newly created Pakistan.

The massacre occurred near Dhaka Medical College and Ramna Park in Dhaka. The unprovoked firing shocked the world, but the leadership in Pakistan remained apologetic. It even demolished a m a k e s h i f t monument erected by students of University of Dhaka and other educational institutions. The decision to build memorial was first taken by the students of Dhaka Medical College. It is adjacent to the M a t h e m a t i c s department of Dhaka University. Although curfew was in place, students started building the Minar in the afternoon of

February 23, 1952. They worked through the night and finished it at dawn. A hand written paper was attached to the Minar with ' S h a h e e d Smritistombho ' written on it. The original Minar measured 10 feet (3.0 m) by 6 feet. The Minar was inaugurated by the father of Sofiur Rahman, killed during the massacre. The Minar was severely damaged during the B a n g l a d e s h Liberation War in 1971. The columns were destroyed during the fighting. The Pakistani Army crushed the Minar and placed over the rubble a signboard reading "Mosque." After Bangladesh came into existence, Shaeed Minar was restored. The first phase of the Bengali language movement started immediately the

emergence of Pakistan on August 14, 1947. Although the first phase of the language movement was not a mass uprising by any standard, those initial reactions had prepared the progressive forces of East Bengal to launch an organized movement against the anti-Bengali design of the Pakistani ruling elite. The second phase of the Bengali language movement, which started in early 1948, was essentially confined within the student community and the intelligentsia. The third phase of the Bengali language movement began in early 1952 after Khwaja Nazimuddin, the Prime Minister of the then Pakistan and a lifelong collaborator of the anti-Bengali ruling coterie, declared in a public meeting in Dhaka on January 26,

1952, that "Urdu would be the "only" State language of Pakistan. Although the prospect of carving out a Muslim State was at a rudimentary stage in 1937, the concept of Pakistan caught up the imagination of the Bengali Muslims by early 1940s. There is little wonder why the language issue did not prominently manifest in Bengal province during the elections of 1936-37 and 1945-46. There was no dearth of Muslim leaders for championing the cause of Urdu to be the State language of the Muslim nation both before and after the emergence of Pakistan. However, the Muslim middle-class intellectuals, leftist activists, and other progressive forces vehemently opposed such absurd idea, and they demanded that Bengali should be

the lingua franca of Bengali Muslims. Indeed, these progressive forces were in the vanguard of the earlier phases as well as the 1952 phase of the language movements for establishing Bengali as one of the State languages of Pakistan. Once Pakistan became a reality on August 14, 1947, the unresolved language c o n t r o v e r s y continued to surface during the early months of i n d e p e n d e n t Pakistan. The Government of Pakistan had already started the unilateral use of "Urdu" in money order forms, postal stamps, currencies and coins, railway tickets, and official letterheads and forms even without formally adopting "Urdu" as the "only" State language of Pakistan. The rejection of Bengali as one of the State

languages of Pakistan by the unilateral imposition of Urdu as the "only" State language had spawned the feeling of distrust and discontent among the student community of East Bengal. Even the common people of East Bengal started suspecting motives of Pakistani ruling elite. In order to fight the imposition of Urdu on them, an All-Party Convention was organized by the Action Committee on January 30, 1952, and it was decided to observe protest rallies and a general strike throughout East Bengal on February 21, 1952. And what was happened on that day is now a history. A reign of terror was unleashed on the participants and supporters of the Bengali language movement. Yet, those dauntless language activists made history. And those

who had to sacrifice their lives for defending their mother tongue are the immortal martyrs of the glorious Bengali language movement. It is widely recognized that the historic Bengali language movement was one of the most defining moments of Bangladesh's history, and the foundation of the national identity of today's Bangladesh was clearly laid down during the Bengali language movement. Rightly, in order to commemorate the memory of those who die for their mother-tongue, UNESCO declared 21 February International Mother Language Day in year 2000 for the whole world to celebrate, in tribute to the Language Movement and the ethno-linguistic rights of people around the world. Ends.

**The Author is a Delhi based columnist and former Editor**



# Sustainable Agriculture in India: Empowering Farmers



Agriculture plays a crucial role in India, given that most of the country's population depends on this sector for livelihood. As is well-known, in recent years, the agriculture sector in most developing countries has been experiencing a lot of difficulties. Inadequate attention for the rural areas in general and the agriculture sector in particular in public investment over the recent decades is believed to be one of the factors underlying the agrarian distress in such countries. Agriculture's intricate connection to sustainable development plays a pivotal role in alleviating poverty eradication, sustainable consumption and production, and various other dimensions, influencing and being influenced by different sectors within the overall development system. Ensuring equitable access to resources, including food and necessities, aligns with the positive right-to-life concept, emphasizing the state's

responsibility to provide adequate food and ensure a healthy environment, fostering dignity for all individuals and addressing challenges through a comprehensive approach considering social, economic, and environmental factors. The holistic approach to food security extends beyond mere production, encompassing physical, environmental, economic, and social dimensions. This requires integrating various elements to address multifaceted challenges globally, emphasizing the need for a comprehensive strategy in the face of complex food security issues. Ensuring food security for the country's large population with domestically grown food grains also requires greater attention in prioritizing public investment in this sector. Provisioning for food security through subsidy has gained importance after the enactment of National Food Security legislation in 2013. The imperative for a systemic approach to positive change in rural areas underlines the increasing necessity and feasibility of extension services. These services are crucial in enhancing

sustainable productivity through targeted capacity building and support mechanisms, particularly in small-mixed farming systems in rain-fed areas and neglected regions. Integration of research, science, and technology with a focus on resolving the specific needs of the poor and hungry, as scientific and technological advancements alone are deemed insufficient. The strategic integration of these elements becomes crucial in benefiting marginalized communities and aligning with sustainability and poverty reduction principles. The government's untiring commitment to technological advancement is clearly demonstrated through its proactive measures to make drone technology accessible and affordable for farmers. In a significant move, financial assistance covering 100% of the drone cost, along with provisions for contingent expenditures, has been extended to facilitate demonstrations on farmers' fields. Its generous financial assistance program reflects the government's commitment to supporting farmers in

embracing drone technology. This initiative aims to alleviate the financial burden on farmers, encouraging widespread adoption. Recognizing the additional costs associated with adopting new technology, the government has gone a step further by including provisions for contingent expenditures. This comprehensive approach ensures farmers receive holistic support, addressing direct and ancillary drone utilization expenses. Recognizing the importance of practical understanding, the government has facilitated on-field demonstrations. Drone technology is brought directly to farmers' fields through on-field demonstrations, providing a hands-on experience that allows farmers to witness firsthand the numerous benefits and practical applications of drones in agriculture. Promoting drone technology aligns with the broader goal of empowering precision agriculture. Drones with advanced sensors and imaging capabilities enable farmers to monitor crop health, assess soil conditions, and optimize resource utilization. Thus, the

government's initiatives to make drone technology financially accessible to farmers and on-field demonstrations mark a significant stride towards modernizing agriculture. By empowering farmers with cutting-edge technology, the government aims to usher in an era of precision agriculture, fostering sustainability and strengthening food security in the nation. The potential of underutilized species in supporting household food security is crucial. Often managed by women, these species contribute to food security, agricultural diversification, and income generation, emphasizing the need to promote their cultivation in economically marginal areas. The government's efforts to modernize the cooperative movement include computerizing Primary Agricultural Credit Societies. The linkage of 62,318 functional PACS with the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) through a single National Software Network underscores the commitment to improving credit delivery systems in rural areas. The creation of Agristack, a federated architecture, reflects the government's comprehensive approach towards

planning, monitoring, policymaking, and strategy formulation for agricultural schemes. This initiative aims to enhance the efficiency of farming practices by providing timely information and facilitating effective implementation. The Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF) and Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana (PMKSY) focus on enhancing post-harvest infrastructure, ensuring farmers have the necessary facilities for storage and processing. This investment contributes to reducing post-harvest losses and improving overall agricultural productivity. The adoption of sustainable agriculture practices, such as the Per Drop More Crop component of the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayi Yojana (PMKSY-PDMC) and the promotion of Natural Farming, underscores the government's commitment to making agriculture more resilient and environmentally friendly. Timely and efficient procurement and distribution of food grains remain a priority for the government. The successful implementation of the Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan

Abhiyan (PM-AASHA) scheme, coupled with the extension of the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY), ensures remunerative prices for farmers, and provides free food grains to vulnerable populations. Recognizing the need for continuous innovation in farming practices and technology adoption, the government emphasizes the importance of policy consistency and continuity. These factors play a crucial role in expanding market and production choices for farmers while considering broader environmental and ecological considerations. The critical role of policies and legislative measures in creating an enabling environment for sustainable agriculture has been emphasized. This includes promoting access to land, water resources, and agricultural inputs for people experiencing poverty, recognizing, and protecting indigenous land tenure systems, and building local capacities for natural resource management. Mitigating the challenges related to ownership, intellectual property rights, and exchange of agricultural resources requires

participatory processes and a unified national program. Developing a framework for such a program is crucial to streamlining efforts within the country and effectively tackling ownership and intellectual property issues. As the agriculture sector continues to perform well, the government's initiatives and policies aim to ensure sustainable growth, empower farmers, and resolve the evolving challenges in the industry. Through prioritizing cooperative strength, credit accessibility, post-harvest infrastructure, sustainable practices, and food security, the government is laying the foundation for a resilient and prosperous agricultural landscape. However, the problems in India's agriculture sector are different across the country. While the diverse agro-climatic conditions of the country require specialized public investment policies, some agricultural policy analysts have also opined that state-directed policies over the last few decades have aggravated the problems of agriculture in the dryland or rain-fed regions in the country.

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# The Exemplary Mellifluous Virtuoso of Nupur Kundu

Rudrarup Gupta



Every human life is having some indispensable stands to form his/her life where the common priority is prosperity and it is quite needless to convey that every ambitious human being should undoubtedly be ensuring for the successful prosperous movements in style. In this regard, most exemplary human beings are the prime examples. Respected Nupur Kundu is one of them. She has been entrenched from Chandannagar and her contributions have snatched the mute attention of common people through her most mellifluous magic. That is why; she has been in an otherworldly stature to devote upon her prime focus about music and its impactful splendor for our real cultural magnificence. She has established her tuneful mind in such a graceful manner which has been influenced by her most respectful and

veteran "Father" and this exclusive quality has already influenced a lot to the society at large. It has been really conducive especially for the students for their imperative spirits of education. Because, according to her noble perception music brings out the exclusive balance in between body and mind. Moreover, this concept is undoubtedly deciding for our students not only to concentrate hard upon their inhabitable "Music" but it shall be undoubtedly pivotal for analyzing the need of "Melodious Representations" indeed. As a result each student may conceptualize their day-to-day learning as per the prescheduled thought and need respectively. She has been working hard upon the same and her prime focus is music. On the other hand, she firmly compares music with learning and education which might be the best consequential weapon to elevate our precious span of lives without any second thought. She has performed in a number of occasions and she has felt about the indomitable mileage of



musical culmination as well. In other words, she analyses about music and various songs respectively. According to her everlasting envision she will be able to navigate the high-end boulevard for our forthcoming generation who will be really compelled to think about their self aspirations right from day one. N-"Noteworthy Desire for Hard Work": It is indeed one of the prime focuses of this qualitative empowered personality to disseminate in all over the globe from the perspective of her sincere initiatives and

perceptual magnificence at all times. This is how; she will be able to bring out the noticeable modification of culture based upon the collective participations towards the destined occupational merits. U-"Unstoppable Speed of Movements": "This Avenue" should invariably be pivotal and imperative for the people of every individual class. Therefore, she is truly desirous to do some extensive research based upon "Music" which shall be refining the "Positive Frame of Mind" of us at every now and then. We shall be able to



concentrate upon our destined jobs according to our both wills and targets in a very conforming manner. P-"Painstaking Elevation of Feeling": She realizes about the florid need of culture which is undoubtedly entrenched upon "Music". Moreover, she has really been influenced by her most adorable parents' right from day one. It is quite extraordinary to state that she is entirely devoted to fulfill the decisive dreams of her "Referred Father" from the core of her "Irresistible Psychological Transmissions". That is how; she does pay her

immeasurable regards towards her parents in all the regards. U-"Unprejudiced Aspiration": Nupur Kundu has already been into the real "Societal Elevation" through her noticeable magnanimity. She aspires to be with "Poor Fellows" and absolute "Needy Class" not only to care but to reorganize their twinkling inclinations of life in a most historic dimension. It shall be truly imperative for our promising societal culmination within a very short while. R-"Radiant Reformation": She is purely passionate about flowers and the glistening "Roof Decoration" which is one of the finest interests of her to bring out the inhabitable "Cognitive Positivity". It shall be really for her blinking family and inclining students to be perceptually aligned not only to take prompt initiatives but to ensure the successful "Cultural Metamorphosis" for shiny tomorrow. Therefore, Nupur Kundu is an elite acrobat for our best global sustainable development goal and that is entirely desirable for our global

Kolkata, India

## Letter to Editor

Sir

The demise of renowned TV actress Kavita Chaudhary of 'Udaan' serial fame is truly shocking and the entertainment world has lost an excellent artiste, who with her histrionics carved a niche of her own in the Indian TV world. The actress is best known for her portrayal of IPS officer Kalyani Singh in the iconic television series 'Udaan' telecast by Doordarshan during 1989-91.

Her role as Kalyani Singh in 'Udaan' serial was praised by critics and audiences alike. The serial which portrayed the true story of a girl who face all odds in life and became a police officer was in fact inspired by the life of Kavita's sister Kanchan Chaudhary Bhattacharya, the second IPS officer after Kiran Bedi.

Kavitha was the writer and director of the show. The serial became one of the most iconic television shows in the history of Indian Television world.

Kavita and her Udaan was celebrated as a symbol of women empowerment and many girls, inspired by the serial, confidently came forward to join the police force. Kavita also produced television shows such as Your Honour and IPS Diaries.

Kavita was also famous for a detergent commercial where she played the role of housewife Lalita Ji, a house maker who makes wise decisions, in an advertisement making her establish herself as a household name at that time.

Kavita will live eternally in the hearts of Indian TV viewers and shall remain as one of the greatest of TV icons of our country. Rest in peace, Kavithaji.

M PRADYU KANNUR  
Geeth Thalikavu Kannur  
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# "Renaissance Lady of India Rani Rasmoni" remembered on her Death Anniversary in Kolkata

**Kolkata (PARTHA ROY):** Rich tributes were paid to Renaissance Lady of India Rani Rasmoni (28 September 1793 - 19 February 1861) on the eve of her Death Anniversary (19th February) at Dakshineswar Kali Mandir complex in Kolkata on 18th February 2024. Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Institute of Asian Studies (MAKAIAS) under Ministry of Culture, Government of India in collaboration with Lokamata Rani Rasmoni Foundation organized a National Seminar on "Azadi Ka Amrit Kal :

Women Empowerment- The Life and Contribution of Lokamata Rani Rasmoni to the Society" on 18th February, 2024 at the temple precincts. Shri Kushal Choudhary Trustee of Dakshineswar Kali Mandir while welcoming the august gathering highlighted multi-dimensional path breaking socio-cultural-economic reforms initiated by Rani Rasmoni during her time. Speakers and Researchers highlighted lesser known facts about Rani Rasmoni. Rani Rasmoni played a major role with her husband Babu



Rajachandra Das in abolition of " Sati " , across India by motivating British administration to formulate legal measures to stop " sati ". She also supported fight against child marriage , as well supported widow remarriage. Rani Rasmoni

became center of Hindu religious reforms as well as socio-cultural reforms and promoted inclusiveness while asserting & preserving Hindu religio-cultural practices. During her life time and subsequently , Dakshineswar Kali Mandir became center of source of divine inspiration for patriotism and nationalism .It played major role in India's freedom struggle. Rani Rasmoni played major role in upliftment of farmers, members of fishing communities and their families in undivided Bengal

including areas what is now in Bangladesh. Rani Rasmoni built road from Subornorekha river to Puri, the seat of Lord Jagannath. Lokamata Rani Rasmoni Foundation is initiating several measures to spread awareness about various visionary initiatives , reforms , initiated by Rani Rasmoni during her life time and its wider positive contribution to the present time. Bangladesh's iconic singer Padmashri Rejwana Choudhary Banaya enthralled the audience by singing varieties of Bengali songs.

## Flagging In Of Kashmir University Students



**Srinagar, (Aasif Malik):**The Chinari Corps & HQ 31 Sub Area is pleased to announce the Successful conclusion of an enriching educational tour for Students from Kashmir University. The tour was meant to broaden the horizons of the students and foster cross-culture understanding. From February 17, the students embarked on a transformative journey, engaging in insightful interactions, exploring historical landmarks, and forging lasting

connections with press from Delhi University. The educational tour, organized by the Chinari Corps, provided students with a unique opportunity to immerse themselves in a diverse array of experiences, ranging from academic engagements to cultural excursions. Throughout the tour, students had the privilege of visiting iconic landmark such as Rashtrapati Bhavan, India gate, National War Memorial, PM Sangrahalay & historic

places like Red Fort, Qutub Minar, Jama Masjid & thereby gained first-hand insights into India's rich cultural heritage and architectural marvels. A highlight of the tour was the interaction with students from Kirori Mal College, Delhi University, where participants engaged in vibrant discussions on topics ranging from academia to current affairs. This exchange of ideas and perspectives served as a catalyst for intellectual growth and mutual learning, transcending boundaries and fostering camaraderie among students from different backgrounds. Furthermore, the students had the distinct honor of engaging in a thought-provoking dialogue with Lieutenant General M. V. Suchindra Kumar, Vice Chief of Army Staff. Lieutenant General M. V. Suchindra Kumar commended the students for their enthusiasm, intellect, and curiosity, emphasizing the importance of youth empowerment and academic excellence in

nation building. He encouraged the students to leverage their experiences from the tour to become catalysts for positive change in their communities and beyond. The success of the educational tour, highlighting its significance in nurturing talent and promoting cross-cultural exchange remains Indian Army's commitment to empowering youth through education, leadership development, and community engagement initiatives. As the students returned to Kashmir University, they brought along cherished memories and newfound sense of purpose, perspective, and camaraderie. The Chinari Corps remains dedicated to supporting the academic aspirations and holistic development of the youth in the region, recognizing their potential as future leaders and change-makers.

## SARANG HELICOPTER DISPLAY TEAM ALLSET FOR SINGAPORE AIRSHOW 2024



**Kolkata, (KCN):** After arriving at Singapore on February 12, 2024, the Sarang Helicopter Display Team of the Indian Air Force (IAF) conducted its first practice display on 18 February 2024. The team is operating from the Changi airbase of the Republic of Singapore Air Force (RSAF). The Singapore Airshow is scheduled to commence tomorrow, i.e. on February 20, 2024. The air-show features a variety of display teams from all across the globe. The show also features leading aircraft and

system manufacturers and operators showcasing their products. The Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL), manufactured Advanced Light Helicopter (Dhruv), which the Sarang team operates, is featuring in the show for the very first time. However, the first international display for the Sarang team also happened to be in Singapore for the Asian Aerospace Air-show at Changi Exhibition Centre in 2004. The Sarang team is performing a four

helicopter display for the audience at the Singapore Air-show this year. The display is designed to highlight the ALH Dhruv's agility and manoeuvrability, as well as the high degree of skills of the IAF pilots flying these machines. The indigenously manufactured ALH and its advanced variants are operated by all the military services of India. The successful induction and operational utilisation of this platform is one of the glowing success stories of self-reliance (Aatmanirbharta) in the defence sector.

## Dr. Rama Chandra Khuntia, Ex-MP, INTUC National Vice President attend World Social Forum meeting at Kathamandhu



**BHUBANESWAR, (KCN):** Dr. Rama Chandra Khuntia, Ex-MP, National Vice President of INTUC attended World Social Forum meeting at Kathamandhu on 17th & 18th February attend various side conferences held on migrant worker, climate justice and human rights organized by BWI, NTUC, ITUC and Migrant Workers Campaign Committee.

While addressing the various side meeting Dr. Rama Chandra Khuntia, Ex-MP said that workers migrant and human rights cannot be protected if ILO Decent work convention Health Safety and Social Security conventions are not implemented in all developing countries of Asia and Pacific region and all countries

including India, Nepal, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Afghanistan, Bhutan, Maldives must sight the non-binding capacity of UNO on migrant works which has already been signed by 125 countries. Equality gender justice could be given only by empowering women and unemployed youths. INTUC lead in Chandraprakash Singh, Amit Yadab, Uma Nagamani, Bipul Pandia, BWI South Regional Office, Dr. Rajeev Sharma, Prerana Prasad participated in the all discussion BWI South Sub Region also organized gender equality which was addressed by Mr Chandraprakash Singh. Smt Sante B. Snet, Pradeep Acharya, Amit Singh of Gfnd and NTUC.

## Developments in Red Sea underline need for creation of multiple connectivity corridors: Jaishankar

**New Delhi (KCN):** The recent developments in the Red Sea reflected the fragility of existing connectivity link and it reinforced the need to create multiple transport corridors with in-built resilience, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar said Tuesday. In an address at a conference, he highlighted India's deepening relations with Europe and said the ambitious India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC) would create significant opportunities for global economic growth. Emphasising the need for creating different connectivity corridors, Jaishankar said the fragility of the existing routes were not clear when the IMEC initiative was unveiled last September. "When this (IMEC) understanding in principle was reached last September on the sidelines of the G20, perhaps all of us were not adequately cognisant



of the fragility of existing connectivity," he said. "Recent events in the Red Sea in the Gulf of Aden have reminded us of that," he said at the C I I - o r g a n i s e d conference on "India and Europe: Partners in Growth and Sustainability". There have been mounting global concerns over Houthi militants attacking various cargo vessels in the Red Sea and other strategic waterways in the region apparently in response to Israel's military offensive in Gaza. "The need today is to create multiple supporting corridors of connectivity. Different ones with their

own in-built resilience is something which is vital. It is vital because at either end of this, you actually have two big production and consumption centres — Europe and India," Jaishankar said. The IMEC is seen as an initiative by like-minded nations to gain strategic influence in the face of China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) which has faced increasing criticism over lack of transparency and disregard for sovereignty of the nations. Jaishankar said the IMEC is not the only corridor and there are others as well. "There is a longer one which is being worked through Iran. But I also want to mention some

other potential connectivity channels which would be of long-term interest to India, Europe, and India," he said. Jaishankar cited the India-Myanmar-Thailand trilateral highway project saying it can complement larger connectivity projects. He also talked about the "polar route". "There is today a serious assumption that the polar route could actually open up a different logistical pathway between India and Europe which would go through the Indo-Pacific," he said. The external affairs minister also showcased the strength of the Indian economy and its future trajectory. "Part of the reason why we need a much smoother interface between our economies is that it is important for the European Union to prepare for the India that is to come," he said.



# Odisha SSEPD Dept Inks Two MoUs For Skill Training & Placement Of PwDs

**Bhubaneswar(KCN):** Prioritising skill training and placement, the Odisha Social Security and Empowerment of PwDs (SSEPD) Department has signed MoUs with AssisTech, Sakhyam and Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan.

A Tripartite Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed with AssisTech (IIT, Delhi) and Sakhyam, an NGO. AssisTech provides a d v a n c e d technological-aided solutions to visually impaired children for

their education, livelihood and independent living. It will also impart training to special educators. The MoU will stand for the coming 3 years. In the first phase, it will undertake activities in six Special Schools for visually impaired students and will enhance its work in the next phases. It will be a partner in knowledge power for the PwDs. Another MoU was signed with Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, Bhubaneswar Chapter for skill training and placement assistance



for PwDs. Operational for the coming 3 years, the MoU said it will extend adequate training and skilling to prepare PwD students in office assistance, tourism and hospitality sectors. SSEPD Dept Principal Secretary Bishnupada Sethi said such understanding will serve larger disabilities issues through collaboration. He wished that extensive skilling would empower PwDs to make them meaningful partners in the mainstream. Smt. Niyati Pattnaik,

Director was the signatory in both the MoUs on behalf of the Department while Prof. Madhusudan Rao and Dipendra Manocha have signed on behalf of AssisTech and Sakhyam respectively. The other MoU was signed by Prof. R.N. Pattnaik, Senior Director and Col. Sriprakash Pany, Deputy Chairman of Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan. Dillip K. Ray, Special Secretary, SSEPD Department and other senior officers were present in the signing programme.

## 62nd State Level Co-Ordination Committee On Crop Insurance Held



**Bhubaneswar(KCN):** The 62nd State Level Co-ordination Committee on Crop Insurance (SLCCCI), which is the highest State level body for implementation of the crop insurance scheme-PMFBY, was held today under the Chairmanship of Chief Secretary Pradeep Kumar Jena in the Second Floor Conference Hall of Lok Seva Bhawan. The Principal Secretary to Government, Agriculture & FE Department,

Commissioner-cum-Secretary to Government, Cooperation Department, Director, Agriculture and Food Production, Registrar, Cooperative Societies (Odisha), Director, Horticulture, Director, Economics and Statistics, representatives of OSCB, ORSAC, IMD, SLBC, Insurance Companies attended the meeting. The Director of Agriculture made a detailed presentation on the agenda points. Chief

Secretary PK Jena appreciated the efforts of the Cooperation and Agriculture Department in the smooth implementation of the Crop Insurance Scheme and considerable growth in coverage under the scheme in Kharif 2023 and Rabi- 2023-24. He emphasised early settlement of all the claims of farmers by the insurance companies. It is noteworthy to mention that, the State Government has made enrolment under the

scheme free of premium for farmers for land up to 2 hectares from Kharif-2023. The State is bearing the additional financial burden from its resources. The Committee appreciated the use of technology in crop yield estimation and crop cutting experiments (CCEs), which has considerably reduced the number of disputes being raised by insurance companies against the CCEs. The representatives of the insurance companies also expressed their satisfaction with the support being extended by the district administration and the Departments in the smooth implementation of the scheme. The Committee decided to do a pilot study on the 4 other models suggested under the scheme. The committee also approved for issue of notification by the Cooperation Department in the next Kharif Season.


## Sagarpali VSS shines in national webinar

**Sundargarh(KCN):** The remarkable success story of Sagarpali Van Surakhya Samiti (VSS) under Tangarpali block in Sundargarh district took centre stage in the second edition of the national-level webinar 'Community Conference on Commons' organised by the Foundation for Ecological Security (FES). The selected success story, titled 'Transformation of Bald Hill into a Lush Green Forest', authored by SEWAK team leader Digambar Upadhyay, was presented in the prestigious forum during the first session on the initial day of the three-day webinar. Out of numerous success stories submitted by various government and private organisations as well as individuals from India, Bangladesh, and Nepal, Sagarpali VSS's story was among the top 80 selected for presentation. The national-level webinar aimed to showcase and celebrate

impactful initiatives from across the region. In the inaugural session of the first day, Digambar Upadhyay delivered a compelling presentation on the success story of Sagarpali Van Surakhya Samiti under the Sundargarh forest division. The narrative covered the innovative initiatives for forest protection and management initiated by the villagers of Sagarpali since 1985, highlighting the collaboration with the Odisha Forest Development Project-2 and the continuous support and guidance from the voluntary organisation 'SEWAK'. Key aspects of the presentation included the 'Thengapali', 'Mutidhan' system, SHRAMADAN plantation, protection of paddy fields and forests from fire, and strategies to reduce community dependence on forests through income-generating programmes. The presentation also emphasised on biodiversity conservation, alternative fuels, and

wildlife conservation. The success story was highly appreciated by the audience, serving as a shining example of joint forest management, demonstrating effective collaboration with the Sundargarh forest division and the collective efforts of community forest management, supported by the Odisha Forest Development Project-II. Representatives from Sagarpali VSS including Debanand Mahaling and Bharti Patel shared their experiences during the programme, highlighting the importance of community motivation, participation, and action in achieving sustainable conservation goals. The virtual event witnessed active participation from members of Sagarpali VSS, Ujalpur Range Officer Debadatta Nanda, Forester Vinod Kumar Pattanaik, SEWAK Secretary Pradeep Kumar Brahma, SEWAK Chairman Amiya Kant Naik, Finance Manager

Nilambar Upadhyay, Development Officers Haripriya Naik, and Manoranjan Mallick, among other staff members. The success story of Sagarpali VSS stands as a testament to the power of community-led conservation efforts, showcasing the positive impact of collaborative initiatives in preserving and enhancing natural resources. The recognition received at the national level further underscores the significance of such grassroots initiatives in fostering sustainable environmental practices. The author of the case study, Digambar Upadhyay, expresses gratitude to RCCF Arun Kumar Mishra, Sundargarh DFO Pradeep Mirase, ACF Mohan Hemram, Sundargarh DMU, Ujalpur FMU, SEWAK management, and all the villagers of Sagarpali for their unwavering support and guidance.



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## ‘UnserHaus’ by BSH Home Appliances - Kolkata’s new luxury address

**Bhubaneswar:** BSH Home Appliances Group, one of the world’s leading home appliances companies today launched its first ‘UnserHaus’ in Kolkata. This is BSH’s only experience center in India to house all its three brands – Bosch, Siemens and Gaggenau under one roof. Located at Salt Lake city’s Advantz Infinity @ 5, this new experience center is all set to welcome customers as well as Kolkata’s strong architecture & design community. The company already has two other stores in Kolkata – a multi-channel Bosch & Siemens Brand Store in Dhakuria and a Bosch Studio in Shakespeare Sarani. UnserHaus is the German name for “Our House”. It is a place where comfort,

convenience, inspiration, and memories reside in every corner. The philosophy and core ethos of BSH’s UnserHaus are focused on building long-lasting trust with all customers & business partners. Keeping this in mind, the space is designed to ensure that all visitors feel at home when they visit, helping them experience the products as if they were in their own house.

Commenting on the launch of UnserHaus, Kolkata, Neeraj Bahl, MD & CEO, BSH Home Appliances (India & SAARC) said, “Kolkata is one of our high performing markets and we’re thrilled to further expand our presence here by opening doors to our 101st retail space\*. The new-age Indian consumer continues to look for offline

experiences especially in the home and cooking category and we’re glad to offer this state-of-the-art, practical space where buyers can get a first-hand experience of our innovation-fueled appliances across all three brands Bosch, Siemens and Gaggenau. This is our sixth experience center in India and the only one to house all our three brands. We look forward to continued growth momentum in the city and we’re confident that this space will also boost our presence in key neighboring cities as well.”

\*The company now has six experience centers across Mumbai, Delhi, Bangalore, Chennai and Kolkata, and an India-wide retail network of 95 brand shops (80 brand stores for Bosch and 15 brand stores for Siemens).

## Mahagram offers door to door banking services through Kirana stores

**Bhubaneswar:** Mahagram is a social enterprise focusing on Financial Inclusion that has enabled banking from the mom-and-pop store around the corner through fintech solutions. The company’s mission is to enable rural women to save money at the local Kirana (or grocery) stores, instead of traveling miles to the nearest bank branch.

Recently, Mahagram has tied up with a public sector bank – the Bank of Maharashtra to roll out the ‘Bank Sakhi’ project in Odisha. The fintech would provide

financial technology and infrastructure support to augment rural financial inclusion. As part of the tie-up, the company has onboarded more than 11,000 bank sakhis (women) on the BharatATM platform to help the rural citizens avail themselves of basic banking services at their doorstep or the next door Kirana stores.

Mahagram aims to increase the ratio and habit of household savings in rural India. “At Mahagram, we are indulged in offering basic banking services like deposit and

withdrawing transactions to consumers but it is now high time for rural people to save money. We are focusing on Financial Inclusion the flagship project of Modi government, by helping lot of beneficiaries to open bank accounts under the ‘Jan Dhan Yojana’. We are also emphasizing on rural women because they are the ones who run households. Our vision for 2022 is to offer women the service of recurring deposit.” says Mr. Ram Shriram, CEO, Mahagram.

# Rise of non-communicable diseases in India



studies have indicated that incorporating almonds into a well-balanced diet can positively affect cardiovascular health, cholesterol reduction, blood sugar, and weight management. Additionally, almonds have satiating properties that promote feelings of fullness, which may help to manage hunger between meals and keep cravings for unhealthy food away.

Ritika Samaddar, Regional Head –

Dietetics, Max Healthcare, Delhi, said, “I believe that prevention is key to reducing the burden of non-communicable diseases. This makes it very important to be mindful of our lifestyle habits. Hence, I would urge everyone to make a commitment to prioritize their health and well-being by making healthier choices such as including natural and nutritious foods like almonds in their diets.

Almonds are a nutrient-dense food that can help to reduce the risk of heart disease, diabetes, and other health issues. They are rich in several nutrients like vitamin E, protein, calcium, magnesium, and phosphorus required for the growth and development of the body. In fact, a review by a panel of Indian nutrition and cardiovascular experts, published in the journal Nutrients, suggests that daily inclusion of almonds as part of a healthy diet may help reduce dyslipidemia, one of the most important risk factors for cardiovascular disease among Indians.”

## Godrej Appliances offers wide range of home appliances and enhanced shopping experience to consumers

**Bhubaneswar:** Godrej & Boyce, the flagship company of the Godrej Group announced that its business Godrej Appliances plans to strengthen its presence and expand its network of exclusive brand outlets further, inaugurating its first store in Chandol, Kendrapara district in the state of Odisha, India. This will be the brand’s 26th exclusive outlet in Odisha under Bhubaneswar branch.

Towards strengthening the supply chain and creating a next-level experience for customers in Kendrapara, Godrej Appliances has launched its exclusive brand outlet – called Godrej Inspire Hub spread over 1200

sqft, strategically located on the Chandol main road, in collaboration with its channel partner Jagannath Electronics.

Convenience and comfort are primacies for consumers today. This is evident from the gradual increase in demand for premium products, even in tier II and tier III cities. Moreover, with the pandemic in the backdrop, appliances have emerged as a necessity in every Indian home.

EBOs solidify Godrej Appliances’ already extensive network across the country, fulfill the premium product requirement of its customers and most

importantly give them a much wider display to choose from thus enhancing their purchase experience. The brand currently has 120+ exclusive outlets across the country and aims to have 140+ EBOs by this financial year.

Speaking on the occasion of the launch, Sanjeev Jain, National Sales Head - Godrej Appliances said, “We have always endeavored to be as close to our customers as possible. We believe our Exclusive Brand Outlets will give even greater value to our loyal customers. With our exclusive showroom, we have the opportunity to showcase our entire range of best-in-class

appliances at a single location. Odisha is an important market for us and we look forward to delighting our customers with the best shopping experience.”

Adding further, Sanjay Kumar Behera, Owner of Jagannath Electronics said, “We are extremely delighted to have partnered with Godrej Appliances, which is a highly respected and trusted brand. We are sure that our outlet will prove to be a great destination for the discerning customers of Chandol through its unique offerings from Godrej Appliances.”

The exclusive brand outlet will display the entire range of Godrej appliances including

refrigerators, washing machines, air conditioners, dishwashers, air coolers, deep freezers, microwave ovens, thermoelectric technology-powered Godrej Qube and UV-C technology-based Godrej Viros shield. To top it, there are inaugural assured gifts on purchase of select models for customers. Consumers will also be able to avail one-year free extended warranty on select models and one year of product insurance, exclusively, at every Godrej Appliances’ exclusive brand outlet. The brand also provides priority after-sales service to every Godrej exclusive store customer.

## Amazon.in launches ‘Back to School’ store

**Bhubaneswar:** With the opening of schools and resuming of offline classes, Amazon.in announced the launch of ‘Back to school’ store – a one stop destination to simplify the shopping needs of children. The specially curated store offers deals on a wide range of products across study essentials like stationery, laptops, tablets, mobile phones, PCs, headsets & speakers, printers, Amazon devices, home furnishing among others

to help parents, teachers and students with school supplies and to create an effective learning and productive environment. The offers and deals will be available till 12th June 2022.

Here are some popular products customers can choose from the ‘Back to school’ store on Amazon.in. All offers & deals are from participating sellers. HONOR MagicBook X 15, Intel Core i3 Anti-Glare Thin and Light Laptop – It has stylish

appearance with premium aluminum metal body with 16.9MM thickness, 5.3 MM narrow bezels and the weight of the laptop is only 1.56kg, which allows you to carry it easily, making it very convenient for school, travel, and work. It is available for starting INR 37,990 on Amazon.in. Lenovo Tab M10 FHD Plus Tablet, Platinum Grey - Make way for the stylish 8.1 mm Tab M10 FHD Plus.

## OSL Group founder bags ‘Lifetime Achievement Award’ for reshaping Shipping & Logistics scenario in Eastern India



**Bhubaneswar (KCN) :** On the august occasion of the 4th Edition of prestigious Times Business Awards Odisha 2023, Orissa Stevedores Limited (OSL) founder Sri Mahimananda

(Mahima) Mishra was conferred with the coveted ‘Lifetime Achievement Award’ for reshaping the shipping and logistics scenario in eastern India.

The OSL Group founder received the honour at a glittering event organized by the TIMES Group at the Central Hall, Mayfair Convention here in the state capital city. Notably, the TIMES Group organizes such a glorious event in a bid to celebrate and honour outstanding business houses and business leaders who have made significant contributions to their respective fields and communities as decided by a renowned research agency.

## Annual General Meeting of Vitesco Technologies

**Regensburg:** Vitesco Technologies, a leading international developer and manufacturer of cutting-edge drive systems for sustainable mobility, held its first Annual General Meeting (AGM) today. The AGM was held virtually due to the continuing COVID-19 pandemic.

In separate votes, the shareholders formally approved the actions of all the Executive Board members during their term of office in the 2021 financial year. The actions of all members of the Supervisory Board in office in 2021 were also approved for their respective terms. “We are delighted to have received this vote of confidence from the Annual General Meeting.

We regard this outcome as a clear mandate to continue the successful collaboration and positioning of Vitesco Technologies as a supplier of sustainable drive solutions with a clear goal,” said CEO Andreas Wolf.

All current members of the Supervisory Board representing the shareholders who were up for election were re-elected to office. The members of the Supervisory Board who represent the employees will be elected separately. A complete list of all Supervisory Board members and the results of the voting at the AGM are available on the Vitesco Technologies website under ‘Annual General Meeting’.

## LV Prasad Eye Institute Organizes a Retinoblastoma Awareness Walk

**Bhubaneswar:** L V Prasad Eye Institute’s MithuTulsiChanrai Campus in Bhubaneswar organized a Retinoblastoma Awareness Walk on 8th May 2022. This walk is part of the ‘Whitathon’ event organized by LV Prasad Eye Institute across its campuses in Bhubaneswar, Hyderabad and Visakhapatnam and

Vijayawada. Celebrity actor, Mr Sabyasachi Mishra, will be flagging off the walk.

Whitathon is L V Prasad Eye Institute’s annual cause-related event focusing on raising awareness and funds for early diagnosis and treatment of Retinoblastoma – a Life and Vision-threatening Eye Cancer in Children. One of the most common

symptoms of Retinoblastoma is White Reflex (white glow) in a child’s eye. Through this walk, LVPEI aims to raise awareness among the public that if they spot a ‘White Reflex’ in a child’s eye, it could be a sign of eye cancer that needs immediate medical intervention. Hence, the event is named ‘Whitathon’.

Dr Devjyoti Tripathy,

Ocular Oncologist, MithuTulsiChanrai Campus, Bhubaneswar, L V Prasad Eye Institute said, “Our aim is to raise awareness about early detection and treatment of retinoblastoma eye cancer in children. No child should die of eye cancer because of lack of awareness and treatment. We extend our sincere thanks to Mr Sabyasachi Mishra for

joining us for the Retinoblastoma Awareness Walk and spreading awareness about Retinoblastoma. We also acknowledge the support received from Aroh – Giving Hope, an NGO working for children with Cancer and their families.”

Dr Tripathy further added that it is time to make detailed eye check-ups a part of mandatory paediatric examinations.



## Stokes coy about bowling in the final two Tests

**New Delhi:** Ben Stokes is coy on his plans to resume bowling in the final two Tests of the ongoing series in India. Stokes hasn't bowled since last June and had a surgery on his left knee at the end of November that has restricted his participation in the series as a batter. However, the allrounder did resume bowling in the nets ahead of the second Test in Vizag and got to bowling at near full tilt in practice at Rajkot. Even though head coach Brendon McCullum backed the skipper to do the right thing, he did warn that he may have to step in and stop the star all rounder from bowling if he gets into



longer spells.  
"Well, it's good that he's actually getting into a state where he thinks he might bowl," McCullum said. "But Ben is clever; he's really clever as well."

He won't bowl unless he thinks he's legitimately able to bowl. The problem would be if he starts getting into a spell and then he can't get out of the spell. So we'll see

what unfolds. If he does get that bit between his teeth, then let's see where the danger lies there and try and pull him away from it. But it's a good sign."

With England trailing 2-1 in the series, Stokes did mention that he felt 'pretty good' bowling at full tilt in the nets. In case he does decide to finally play as an allrounder, England's combination would receive a boost given the fact that they have played with just a solitary pace option in the first two Tests before including both James Anderson and Mark Wood in the third Test that they lost heavily.

"I like to jump the gun a

little bit but things are feeling really good," Stokes told TNT sports after the third Test. "I'm not saying yes, I'm not saying no," he said when asked about the possibility of him bowling in the last two Tests. "Me being me, I'm always very optimistic about most things. That will be a more detailed chat with the medical team about what workload I have done to pass me off as not being a massive risk. I managed to bowl at 100% in one of the warm-up days here which made me feel pretty good. I felt like I could have bowled in the game but that would have been stupid."



**NEWDELHI:** Sri Lanka pacer Dushmantha Chameera has been named as replacement for Gus Atkinson by Kolkata Knight Riders for IPL 2024. "Chameera will join KKR at a reserve price of INR 50 Lakh," said a statement from IPL. Chameera has previously been a part of Rajasthan

Royals, Royals Challengers Bangalore and most recently for Lucknow Super Giants in 2022 in the IPL. Atkinson, who hasn't featured in the IPL previously, had been picked up at his base price of INR 1 Crore by KKR in the IPL Auction in December, 2023. Chameera, who had a

base price of INR 50 Lakh, had found no takers during the auction. Chameera had been laid low due to a shoulder injury that had kept him out of the Sri Lanka team for a while last year. Most recently, Chameera featured in the IL20 in UAE and also played against Afghanistan for Sri Lanka.

## Faiz Fazal announces retirement from professional cricket



**NEWDELHI:** Veteran Vidarbha opener Faiz Fazal has announced his retirement from professional cricket at the conclusion of his side's Ranji Trophy fixture against Haryana. The 38-year-old will now retire as Vidarbha's leading run-getter in both List A cricket and first-class cricket. Fazal was Vidarbha's captain when they won the Ranji Trophy for the very first

time in their history in 2017-18. They went on to successfully defend the title the following season under his leadership again.

The left-hander got to make his debut for the national side only in his 30s when he was picked for the Zimbabwe tour in 2016 with the selectors opting to send a second-string squad. Fazal made his debut in the third ODI in Harare and ended up

hitting an unbeaten half-century in India's dominant 10-wicket win. Incidentally, that's his only appearance for the senior side.

"Tomorrow marks the end of an era as I step onto the Nagpur ground for the last time, where my journey in first-class cricket began 21 incredible years ago," Fazal wrote on his Instagram page on Sunday (February 18), with just one day remaining in Vidarbha's final Ranji game of the season.

"It's been an unforgettable ride, filled with cherished memories that I'll hold dear forever. Representing both the Indian Cricket Team and Vidarbha has been the greatest honor of my life, and donning those cricket jerseys has always filled me with immense pride."

# Jasprit Bumrah set to be rested for Ranchi Test

**RANCHI:** It is now break time for Jasprit Bumrah. The India pacer, who was to be rested for the third Test of the ongoing England series, will now be allowed to skip the next Test in Ranchi. Whether he will play the fifth and final Test in Dharamsala is a decision for later and could depend on the outcome of the fourth Test, starting on February 23. The Indian team will fly out of Rajkot on Tuesday (February 20) and Bumrah is unlikely to travel with the side. He will probably drive down to Ahmedabad, a four-hour drive from Rajkot, on Monday itself. There is no information of any other player skipping the next Test. The decision to rest Bumrah is part of workload management by the Indian team. Bumrah, the leading wicket-taker of the series

(17 wickets at 13.64), has already sent down 80.5 overs in the three games so far. Mohammed Siraj was similarly rested for the second Test in Visakhapatnam. There is no immediate information if the team management will seek a replacement player for Bumrah. Mukesh Kumar, who was released from the third Test so that

he could take part in the Ranji game for his state Bengal, will rejoin the squad in Ranchi. India also have the services of another Bengal seamer, Akash Deep, available having given the 27-year-old his maiden call-up to the squad ahead of the Rajkot Test. It is understood that the team management and the Board of Control for

Cricket in India (BCCI) are waiting on the fitness update of KL Rahul. The Karnataka batsman was to join the squad in Rajkot by Saturday but has not reached here. It is still not clear if he has regained full fitness. Before the third Test, the BCCI had said that Rahul was 90 per cent fit. Cricbuzz can confirm that R Ashwin will travel with

the Indian to Ranchi on Monday. The ace spinner had to temporarily leave the match to attend to his ailing mother in Chennai and rejoined the teammates in Rajkot before the start of England's second innings on Saturday. The BCCI had chartered a flight for him for his sudden Chennai visit and timely return.

# From Cricket Legend To Leadership Icon, The Inspiring Journey Of Saurabh Ganguly

**New Delhi:**


Sourav Ganguly, the Prince of Calcutta, is a name synonymous with Indian cricket. His journey from a young boy playing in the bylanes of Kolkata to becoming one of the most successful captains India has ever seen is an inspiration to millions. His aggressive style of play and leadership qualities transformed Indian cricket, making the team a force to be reckoned with on the world stage. Born in Calcutta in 1972, Ganguly showed a keen interest in cricket from a young age. He honed his skills at the Mohun Bagan Club and soon made his first-class debut for Bengal in 1989. His elegant left-handed batting and



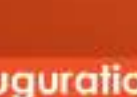
ability to score quickly caught the attention of the selectors, and he was picked for the Indian team in 1992. Ganguly's international debut was against England at Lord's in 1992. However, his initial years in international cricket were not smooth sailing. He was in and out of the team due to inconsistent performances. But Ganguly was a determined cricketer, and he worked hard to improve his game.

The 1999 World Cup was a turning point in Ganguly's career. He scored a magnificent century against Sri Lanka in the group stage, which announced his arrival on the big stage. He continued to bat well throughout the tournament, and India reached the final, where they eventually lost to Pakistan. After the World Cup, Ganguly was appointed captain of the Indian team in 2000. This marked the beginning of


the "Ganguly era" in Indian cricket. Under his leadership, India won numerous matches and series, both at home and abroad. Ganguly's aggressive approach to the game and his ability to motivate his teammates inspired a new generation of Indian cricketers. Ganguly retired from international cricket in 2008. However, he has remained involved in the game as a commentator and administrator. He is currently the president of the Cricket Association of Bengal (CAB). His hard work, determination, and leadership qualities have made him one of the greatest Indian cricketers of all time.




Ministry of Education  
Government of India



SVNIRTAR  
Odisha



Odisha  
Government




**Dr. Virendra Kumar**  
Union Minister of Social  
Justice & Empowerment


Inauguration of

# VOCATIONAL TRAINING CENTRE

**SVNIRTAR, Olatpur, P.O : Bairoi  
Dist: Cuttack, Odisha**



**Narendra Modi**  
Prime Minister of India



**VOCATIONAL TRAINING CENTRE**

**on 21<sup>st</sup> February, 2024 (Wednesday)**

by

**Dr. Virendra Kumar**  
Union Minister of Social Justice & Empowerment,  
Government of India

*In the august presence of*

**Shri Ramdas Athawale**  
Minister of State for  
Social Justice & Empowerment  
Government of India

**Shri Ashok Chandra Panda**  
Minister of Science & Technology, Public Enterprises,  
Social Security and Empowerment of Persons  
with Disability, Government of Odisha

**Shri Rajesh Agarwal, IAS**  
Secretary, DEPWd,  
Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment,  
Government of India

**Shri A. Narayanaswamy**  
Minister of State for  
Social Justice & Empowerment  
Government of India

**Dr. Rajashree Mallick**  
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Joint Secretary, DEPWd,  
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**Km. Pratima Bhoumik**  
Minister of State for  
Social Justice & Empowerment  
Government of India

**Dr. (Professor) Pramod Kumar Mallik**  
MLA, Niali Constituency, Odisha

**Dr. P. P. Mohanty**  
Director, SVNIRTAR, Olatpur

*All are Cordially Invited*