



विकसित भारत के लिये विकसित ओडिशा

माननीय प्रधानमंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी के कद-कमलों द्वारा



68 हजार करोड़ से अधिक की 18 परियोजनाओं का उद्घाटन, लोकार्पण एवं शिलान्यास

शनिवार, 3 फरवरी 2024 | सुबह 10:00 बजे

भव्य उद्घाटन

- राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग - 520 का रिमुली कोड़डा खंड 4 लेन
- राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग - 143 का बीरमित्रपुर ब्राह्मणी बाईपास खंड 4 लेन
- राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग - 143 का ब्राह्मणी बाईपास राजामुंडा खंड 4 लेन
- लखनपुर में स्थित आईटी वैली वॉशरी (10 एमटीपीए)
- जगटीशपुर-हल्दिया-बीकारो-धामरा पाइपलाइन परियोजना का धामरा-अंगुल पाइपलाइन खंड (412 किमी)
- लाजकुरा भारएलाइस
- भुवनेश्वरी फेज-1 सीएचपी साइलो
- आईआईएम संबलपुर

शुभारम्भ

पुरी-सोनपुर-पुरी
सासाहिक एक्सप्रेस

लोकार्पण

- एनटीपीसी बर्लिपालि सुपर थर्मल पावर स्टेशन (2 x 800 मेगावाट)
- एनएसपीसीएल साउरकेला पीपी-॥ चिंस्तार परियोजना (1 x 250 मेगावाट)
- झारसुगुड़ा-बारपाली-सडेगा रेल लाइन दोहरीकरण
- संबलपुर - तालचेर रेलवे लाइन दोहरीकरण (168 किमी)
- सोरधा रोड - बलांगीर नदी रेल लाइन का झारतरभा - सोनपुर रेलखंड (21.7 किमी)
- झारसुगुड़ा का नवीनीकृत प्रधान डाकघर चिरासत भवन

शिलान्यास

- एनएलसीआईएल तालाबीरा ताप विद्युत परियोजना (3x800 मेगावाट)
- एनटीपीसी तालचेर थर्मल पॉवर प्रोजेक्ट चरण - III (2x660 मेगावाट)
- मुंबई - नागपुर - झारसुगुड़ा पाइपलाइन परियोजना का नागपुर-झारसुगुड़ा पाइपलाइन खंड (692 किमी)
- संबलपुर रेलवे स्टेशन का पुनर्विकास

गरिमामयी उपस्थिति

श्री रघुवर दास
माननीय राज्यपाल, ओडिशा

श्री नवीन पट्टनायक
मुख्यमंत्री, ओडिशा

श्री धर्मेन्द्र प्रधान
केन्द्रीय मंत्री, शिक्षा तथा कौशल
विकास एवं उद्यमशीलता

अश्विनी वैष्णव
केन्द्रीय मंत्री, रेल, संचार तथा
इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स एवं सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी

श्री विश्वेश्वर दुड़
केन्द्रीय राज्य मंत्री जल शक्ति
तथा जनजातीय कार्य

श्री नीतेश गंगा देव
सदस्य लोकसभा

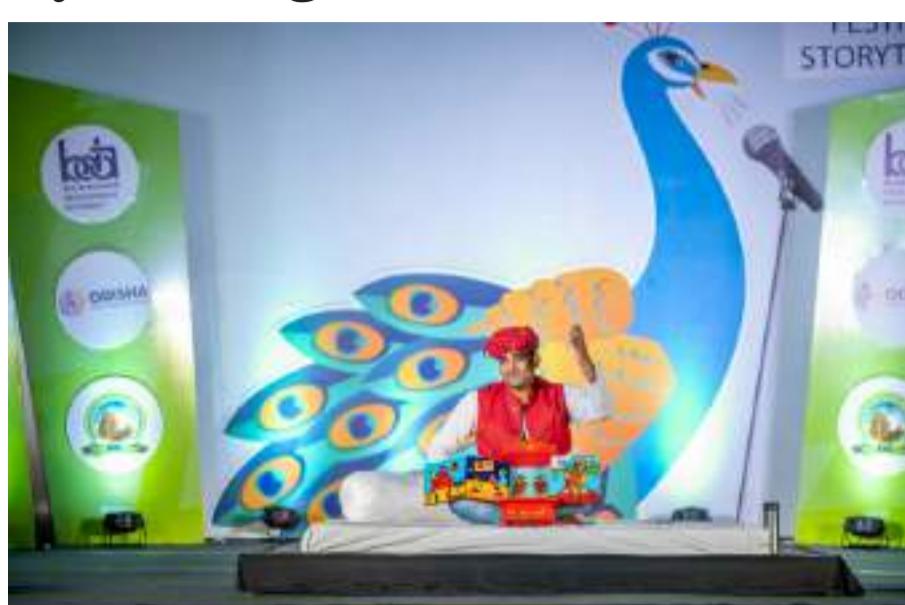
श्री नौरी नायक
सदस्य ओडिशा विधानसभा

An ode to Odia story telling culture: BDA hosts third edition of BhuFesto

Bhubaneswar,(KCN): The Bhubaneswar Development Authority (BDA) has brought back the Bhubaneswar Kahani Utsav (Bhu Festo) as part of the Ekamra Utsav, a vibrant festival celebrating the rich culture and language of Odisha. Scheduled to begin from February 3 to run upto February 5, 2024, the event also coincides with the "Biswa Odia Bhasha Sammilan" as planned by the State government. The third edition of Bhubaneswar Kahani Utsav (Bhu Festo)

promises to immerse attendees in the rich medley of Odia culture through storytelling, comedy, and inspiring narratives. Ekamra Utsav is set to provide a trip down the memory lane for the capital city residents, reminiscing good old days, in the form of Bhubaneswar Kahani Utsav.(BhuFesto) Spanning four prime locations – Indira Gandhi Park, Odisha Handicrafts Museum (Kala Bhoomi), APJ Abdul Kalam Park (Kalinga Nagar), and Buddha Park in Niladri Vihar. Bhu Festo aims to recreate the

enchanting atmosphere of folktales and bedtime stories reminiscent of childhood days spent listening to grandparents. The festival is free for all, and intends to target both adults and children.



ICC National Women's Entrepreneurship Council (INWEC) Celebrates Leadership Transition

Bhubaneswar,(KCN): The ICC National Women's Entrepreneurship Council (INWEC) successfully conducted its changeover ceremony on the 2nd of February 2024 at Hotel Crown. The event commemorated the leadership transition from Ms. Tanaya Patnaik, Executive Director of Sambad Group, to the incoming Convenor, Ms. Preeti Patnaik, MD of Tushi Motors and Co-founder of Kalinga Desi Agro Foundation, alongside Ms. CA Swati Kejriwal, Partner at M/s O.M. Kejriwal & Co., as the new Co-Convenor. Ms. Tanaya Patnaik, in her former role as the Convenor, made invaluable contributions to INWEC and now continues her association with the council as a member of the Advisory Board. Her experience and vision will further enrich the council's strategic direction. The incoming leadership, marked by Ms. Preeti



Patnaik and Ms. CA Swati Kejriwal, represents a blend of entrepreneurial spirit and professional expertise. Their induction is a testament to INWEC's commitment to fostering a diverse and dynamic leadership landscape. An engaging fireside chat was a key feature of the ceremony, involving Ms. Tanaya Patnaik, Ms. Preeti Patnaik, and Ms. Nisha Jamwal, a renowned celebrity columnist. The insightful conversation highlighted the challenges and triumphs of women entrepreneurs. Ms. Jamwal, also invited to

join the Advisory Board for the term 2024-25, brought a unique perspective to the discussion. Another significant milestone was the launch of the INWEC-App. This digital platform is designed to streamline communication among members, offering easy access to information, business referrals, and networking opportunities across various sectors and categories. The ceremony was graced by distinguished guests including Mr. J B Pany, Chairman of ICC Odisha State Council, who delivered the welcome

NTPC Bongaigaon Strengthens Vendor Relationships with Day-long Meet



Bongaigaon, (KCN): NTPC Bongaigaon's Contracts and Materials (C&M) Department organized a highly successful day-long vendor meet on February 1, 2024, at the Employee Welfare Association Hall of NTPC Bongaigaon. The event was a part of the vendor relationship program and saw a remarkable turnout with over 60 vendors in attendance.

The event was inaugurated by Shri Karunakar Das, Business Unit Head, NTPC Bongaigaon, alongside esteemed guests Shri K C Muraleedharan, Chief General Manager (O&M), and Shri Induri

Srinivasa Reddy, General Manager (Maintenance).

Shri Das, in his inaugural address, underscored NTPC Bongaigaon's capacity and future trajectory, emphasizing its pivotal role in the nation's growth. He commended the invaluable contributions of business partners and emphasized the significance of integrity in all endeavors.

Prior to Shri Das's address, Shri Siddharth Kumar Sarkar, Senior Manager (C&M), welcomed the attendees, providing insights into various initiatives and opportunities within NTPC Bongaigaon. The

vendors lauded NTPC Bongaigaon's commitment to fostering dialogue, where their concerns were earnestly heard and addressed by the site management, ensuring prompt resolutions.

A comprehensive presentation during the meeting spotlighted the robust processes and systems in place for vendors, emphasizing two-way communication, integrity, and transparency as fundamental principles for mutual success.

The interactive session served as a testament to NTPC Bongaigaon's commitment to nurturing enduring

partnerships with its vendors and contractors.

Over the years, NTPC Bongaigaon has actively facilitated platforms for regular interaction between management and vendors, aimed at understanding and mitigating challenges encountered in contract execution.

The event also saw contributions from Shri Prolay Chowdhury, Addl. General Manager (C&M), Shri Ujjwal Sarkar, Deputy General Manager (Vigilance), Shri Onkar Nath, Addl. General Manager (HR), and other Heads of Departments, who reiterated the pivotal role of vendors as partners in the organization's progress.

The successful vendor meet highlights NTPC Bongaigaon's unwavering commitment to fostering robust vendor relationships, driving mutual growth, and ensuring operational excellence.

Kindly publish the same in your esteemed newspaper and digital media.

In a nod to the upcoming World Odia Language Conference, all stories featured in the festival will be in Odia, offering residents of the capital an opportunity to delve into Odisha's vibrant heritage.

Renowned storytellers such as Kuna Tripathi, Akash Das Naik, and Usasi Mishra, among others, will regale audiences with humorous anecdotes, personal narratives, and classical Odisha literature from 2:30 pm to 7:30 pm daily.

Highlighting the culinary delights of

Odisha, storytellers Prachitara Mishra and Shashwati Patnaik will share tales of finger millet and Odia cuisines, including the captivating story of Manda Khiya Asur and other folk tales. The festival also features stand-up comedy sessions aimed at introducing children to the Odia language through playful humor, with comedians Rainish Mishra, Riten Patnaik, and Satyabrat set to tickle the audience's funny bones.

Moreover, attendees can expect to be

inspired by the life stories of notable personalities such as Shruti Mohapatra, Meera Parida, and Ramendra Kumar, who will share their journeys through compelling biographies. Adding a contemporary twist to classical Odia novels, Sujatha Priyamwada and Meera Das will offer modern interpretations, while Kandhei Nach performances will infuse traditional entertainment into the festival atmosphere.



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PM to visit Odisha and Assam on 3-4 February

Sambalpur,(KCN): In line with the Prime Minister's vision to strengthen the energy security of the country, inauguration, dedication to nation and foundation stone laying of multiple projects aimed at boosting the energy sector will be done in the public programme in Sambalpur, Odisha. Prime Minister will inaugurate 'Dhamra – Angul Pipeline Section' (412 Km) of 'Jagdishpur-Haldia & Bokaro-Dhamra Pipeline Project (JHBDPL)'. Built at a cost of more than Rs 2450 crore under the 'Pradhan Mantri Urja Ganga', the project will connect Odisha with the National Gas Grid. Prime Minister will also lay the foundation stone of 'Nagpur Jharsuguda Natural Gas Pipeline Section' (692 Km) of Mumbai-Nagpur-Jharsuguda Pipeline. The project, which will



be developed at a cost of more than Rs 2660 crore, will improve the natural gas availability to states like Odisha, Maharashtra and Chhattisgarh. During the programme, Prime Minister will also dedicate to nation and lay the foundation stone of multiple power projects worth about 28,980 crore. The projects to be dedicated to nation include NTPC Darlipali Super Thermal Power Station (2x800 MW) and NSPCL Rourkela PP-II Expansion Project (1x250 MW) in Sundargarh district of Odisha. He will also lay

the foundation stone of NTPC Talcher Thermal Power Project, Stage-III (2x660 MW) in Angul district of Odisha. These power projects will supply low-cost power to Odisha as well as several other states. Prime Minister will lay the foundation stone of the Neyveli Lignite Corporation (NLC) Talabira Thermal power project worth more than 27000 crore. Strengthening the Prime Minister's vision of Atmanirbhar Bharat, this state-of-the-art project will provide reliable, affordable and round the clock power contributing

significantly to the nation's energy security and playing a vital role in the country's economic growth and prosperity.

Prime Minister will inaugurate coal infrastructure projects of Mahanadi Coalfields Limited including First Mile Connectivity (FMC) projects - Bhubaneswari Phase-I in Talcher Coalfields in Angul district and Lajkura Rapid Loading System (RLS). Built at a cost of about Rs. 2145 crore, these projects will boost the quality and supply of dry fuel from Odisha. Prime Minister will also inaugurate Ib Valley Washery, built at a cost of over Rs. 550 crore in Jharsuguda district of Odisha. It will mark a paradigm shift in coal processing for quality, signifying innovation and sustainability. Prime Minister will dedicate

to the nation a 50 km long second track of Jharsuguda-Barpali-Sardega rail line Phase-1 built by Mahanadi Coalfields Limited, with an investment of Rs 878 crore.

Prime Minister will also inaugurate three road sector projects of National Highways, developed at a cumulative cost of about Rs 2110 crore. The projects include

four laning of Rimuli-Koida Section of NH 215 (New NH No. 520), four laning of Biramitrapur-Brahmani Bypass end section of NH 23 (New NH No. 143) and four laning of Brahmani Bypass End-Rajamunda Section of NH 23 (New NH No. 143). These projects will enhance connectivity and also contribute towards economic development of the region. Further, Prime Minister will dedicate to nation and lay the foundation stone of railway projects worth about Rs. 2146 crore. He will lay the foundation stone for redevelopment of Sambalpur Railway Station, whose architecture is inspired from the Sailashree Palace.

New Delhi,(KCN): The President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu inaugurated the 37th Surajkund International Crafts Mela at Surajkund, Haryana today (February 2, 2024).

Speaking on the occasion, the President said that the Surajkund International Crafts Mela is a celebration of our cultural diversity. This fair is a celebration of our tradition as well as innovation. It is an effective platform to connect our craftsmen with art lovers. This fair is both an art exhibition and a business centre.

The President said that art and craft cut across

borders and build bridges of understanding. Artists and crafts-persons are creative ambassadors of humanity. She stated that

Gujarat, the partner state of this year's Mela, has a very rich art tradition.

She was happy to note that North-Eastern Handicrafts and Handloom Development Corporation is the cultural partner at this year's Surajkund International Crafts Mela.

The President was happy to note that Tanzania is the partner nation for this year's Mela. She said that it is a wonderful platform to showcase Tanzanian dance, music, and cuisine, in which we

can also glimpse some Indian influence, thanks to the centuries of

people-to-people contact between India and the East African coast.

She underlined that

Tanzania's participation as the partner nation in this Mela highlights India's engagement with the African Union.

PRESIDENT OF INDIA INAUGURATES 37TH SURAJKUND INTERNATIONAL CRAFTS MELA



Prime Minister to launch 2400 MW NLC Talabira Thermal Power Station with investment of over Rs 27000 Crore



Sambalpur (KCN): NLC India Ltd. a Navratna Public Sector Enterprise under the Ministry of Coal, is setting up a 2,400 MW coal-based Ultra Super Critical Pit Head Thermal Power Project at Talabira in Jharsuguda district of Odisha at an estimated cost of Rs 27,212 Crore and further 800 MW is also planned in the second phase with investment of over Rs 8000 Crore approximately. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi will lay the foundation stone for the 3 x 800 MW of NLC India Talabira Thermal

Power Project under Phase-1 on February 03, 2024 as briefed in the press conference today by CMD Mr. Prasanna Kumar. He added, this is the largest Greenfield Pithead Thermal Power Station envisaged in the country in the recent past that ensures energy security of the country and power the growth of the nation. Leveraging on the cost benefits of a pit head project, the coal for the units will be fed from the adjacent Talabira II and III operational mines of NLC India Ltd., through eco-friendly conveyor

system, without involving any cost for road and rail transportation. The project would be able to supply power at one of the cheapest tariffs among all thermal power stations in the country. The first phase of the project will supply 1,787 Crore units of electricity to Odisha and other beneficiary states for which PPA is already in place

In addition to higher efficiency, this power plant is equipped with latest environment friendly designs of Flue Gas Desulphurization (FGD) for SOx control, selective Catalytic Reduction (SCR) for NOx control, 10% eco-friendly biomass co-firing, solid waste management and Effluent Treatment System.

This project would generate huge employment opportunities, both during construction and operation phases of the station. Apart from direct employment, a lot of indirect employment opportunities will be generated by this project. This Project will significantly boost socio-economic development transforming the lives of people in the region.

This project is a standing example of Atmanirbhar Bharat with indigenous equipment and an apt example of fulfilling Prime Minister's vision of establishing more pit-head thermal power stations in mission mode owing to its inherent benefits.

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Renowned actor from Odisha, Sadhu Meher, today breathed his last in Mumbai. He was 84. Meher carved a niche for himself in both Odia and Hindi film industries. He had been conferred with Padma Shri award in 2017. Meher was well-known for movies like Ankur, Manthan, Mrigaya and Bhuvan Shome. He had won National Film Award for

Best Actor for his movie Ankur. He had acted in critically-acclaimed Odia movie Bhukha. Meher was also the director and producer of a few movies. Chief Minister Naveen

Patnaik has expressed grief over the demise of the veteran actor.

"Meher was a popular actor and director in both Odia and Hindi film industries. He had received laurels for his brilliant acting skills. He was the first Odia actor to receive the National Film Award. His demise has left a void in the film industry," said the Chief Minister in a condolence message.

Odisha weather: Yellow Warning issued for dense fog; know which districts likely to be affected

Bhubaneswar(KCN): The

updated, dense fog is very

likely to occur at one or two places over Balasore, Bhadrak, Jajpur, Kendrapara, Cuttack, Jagatsinghpur, Mayurbhanj, Keonjhar, Sundargarh and Jharsuguda districts. In the

same timeframe, light rain

is likely to occur at one or

two places over Balasore, Bhadrak, Jajpur, Kendrapara, Cuttack, Jagatsinghpur, Mayurbhanj, Keonjhar, Sundargarh and Jharsuguda districts. Dry weather is

very likely to prevail over the rest districts of the state.

Disrespect to Lord Jagannath: Complaint lodged against Bhadrak Collector



Bhadrak,(KCN): The Bhadrak district administration has blacklisted the agency that was engaged to erect the structure for Bhadravati Lok Mahotsav at Nehru Stadium for abandoning an idol of Lord Jagannath that was used in the

festival. The festival jointly organised by ORMAS and the Agriculture Department from January 25 to 29 was kick-started with the lighting of lamps and worship of Lord Jagannath. The said supplier has been served a notice to refrain from doing any programme in the district.



Jammu and Kashmir PCC screening & election committee Meeting for Lok Sabha election 2024 chaired by chairman Bhakta Charan das with AICC incharge Bharat Singh Solanki, J&K PCC chief Vikar Rasool, AICC Dy incharge Manoj Yadav, Rajyasabha MP Neeraj Dangi at JAMMU

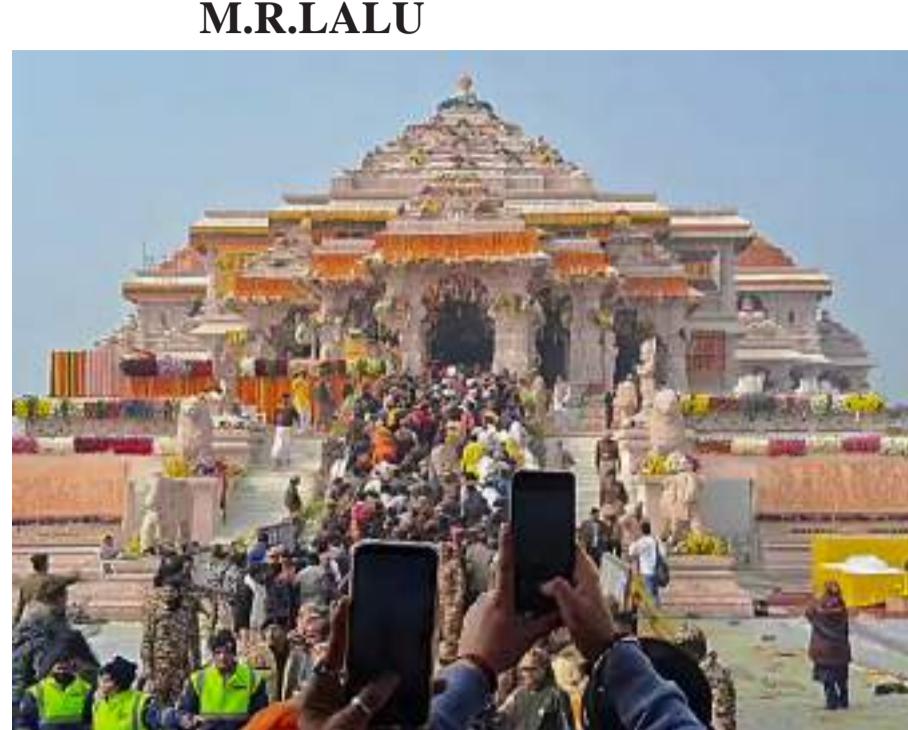
WESTERN MEDIA'S VITUPERATION AGAINST RAM TEMPLE



Amid shouts of "Jai Shriram" and hysterical sloganising in spiritual composure, the city of Ayodhya witnessed a truly religious event on January 22. The consecration of the Ram Temple at Ayodhya triggered an intense churn of political discourse in India and abroad. There have been numerous write-ups appearing in international dailies questioning the overwrought mobilization by an elected government that stood in unison with the cultural sensitivity of a 'militant majority' in a country that was known, in real sense, for its secular values. Further accusing a particular community and the government at the centre, the vituperative media went on calling the event at Ayodhya a blot on India's existence as a civilization and therefore, should have been sidelined and neglected as the chronology of Ayodhya's journey to this stage of consecration was deeply damped in blood and hatred. Extreme critical views

on the 'Hindu triumphalism', as that is what they call it have appeared in the Washington Post, the Guardian and the Time. The new majoritarian momentum, according to them, has been in emergence in India ever since the Modi regime began to hold the reins of the country and the latest event, the temple consecration was its orchestration. They have only one remark to be made with vociferous malignity that a violent Hindu majoritarianism had almost swallowed the secular essence of India. The country of 1.4 billion is almost at the brink of a doom with its poor minority, especially the Muslims being tortured, bullied and deliberately alienated by an aggressive militant Hindu majority with the support of the present authoritarian government.

The saffron surge, as per the western media, is threateningly growing everywhere and the Muslims are vacating areas where such forces intensify their presence. The government under Prime Minister Narendra Modi has no Muslim representation and the most populous state Uttar Pradesh is governed by a Hindu extremist monk Yogi Adityanath. Cries of Jai Shri Ram became a warmongering call in almost all cities and the



M.R.LALU

situation is grim with a shadow of animosity hovering over the habitually amiable and secular Muslim population. A Muslim woman journalist who went to report the Ayodhya event was forced to wear a Hindu bindi and she had to leave the event before it culminated, reports the Time magazine. So Ayodhya temple, as the narrative goes, will remain a huge monument of Hindu supremacy symbolizing its violent militancy. In another article the Time refuses to accept the Hindu claim on the historicity of the temple and its remnants buried under the mosque that existed before 1992. It calls the demolition of the controversial structure in 1992 an explosion of Islamophobia violence by a Hindu mob numbering at least 75000 people. Purely blaming the Hindus for the riots that followed after the demolition of the structure which killed about 2000 people, the western media pronounced its judgment on the Hindu majority. A violent Hindu nationalism had catapulted the Modi era to its rise in India in 2014 and Modi surreptitiously watered and furthered this majoritarian aggression. He could manage to enhance his fortunes immensely in the

place of the controversial mosque with archeological evidence accentuating the claim scientifically, the woke media reflect, as usual, their negation calling it a framework of the oppressive Hindu majority. The country's apex court had unequivocally quashed the claims raised by the opposite side and pronounced its verdict favoring a temple at the disputed site. But outrageous on everything that India represents through its cultural legacy, more inflammatory remarks on the consecration and the Prime Minister's statements were tossed by the western media. For instance, let us examine the viciousness in what the Guardian reports. It says, "While the Congress and other opposition parties boycotted the ceremony, they have failed to mount an effective challenge to Mr Modi's dangerous majoritarianism and have at times succumbed to its dominance." The paper, with its colonial calculative approach further estimates that the Modi regime, if repeated for the third time, would rewrite the country's constitution, giving way to a dangerous and violent Hindu India emerging from the laments of a disconsolate minority. We need to know the level of animosity towards the Hindu population that plays its ugly game in India and abroad. For almost 80 percent of India's Hindu population, the consecration moment was one of the holiest. An event that they believe would be

remembered for centuries. Ayodhya would receive the best spiritual makeover throughout this revamping process and millions around the city, irrespective of their religious affinity would be benefitted both socially and economically. The wait for a magnificent temple in the birthplace of their highly venerated Lord was a moment of joy, which was both spiritual and socially elevating. Disregarding the legitimacy of India's legal process, media across various countries began to spit hate against the temple and the Hindus. Alarmingly, there is a visible repugnance to the Indian state, especially to its Hindu heritage. To stretch it further, what causes them to be seriously abhorrent about is the political triumphalism of the Hindu majority which the proponents of wokeism in the west and elsewhere think would successfully pull India giving it a powerful position. Modi is regarded as a persona non grata, who they think is the product of this majoritarian triumphalism that has been in power since 2014. The Hindus after the temple inauguration are expected to shoot their support for Narendra

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BRAUSS, SSSM, reviews Pradhan Mantri Khanij Kshetra Kalyan Yojna (PMKKKY), finds it a diverse basket of prospects

Prof. Sunil Goyal



water supply; Environment and pollution control measures; Health care; Education; Welfare of Women and Children; Special programmes for addressing problems of maternal and child health, malnutrition, infectious diseases, etc.; Welfare of aged and disabled people; Skill development; and Sanitation. In other priority Areas, up to 40% of the PMKKKY to be utilized under the heads such as, Physical infrastructure; Irrigation; Energy and Watershed Development; and any other measures for enhancing environmental quality in mining district. As per the data shared by Ministry of Mines, Government of India, out of the 2,52,995 projects sanctioned under PMKKY at the national level, the Government has completed 2,40,000 projects so far. Till September this year, Rs. 63534.07 crore stands allocated and Rs. 47,500 crores have been spent. As per the latest figures of Ministry of Mines, District Mineral Foundation (DMF) has

been constituted in 644 Districts spread across 23 States of India. In Madhya Pradesh, till November 2023, out of the 13,800 projects sanctioned under PMKKY, the Government of Madhya Pradesh has completed 6,064 projects so far. Till September this year, Rs. 4912.4 crore stands allocated and Rs. 1259.2 crore has been spent. As per National Mineral Inventory as on 01.04.2020(P), Madhya Pradesh hosts the country's 90% diamond, 29% molybdenum, 23% copperore, 12% manganese and 19% rock phosphate ore resources. Important mineral occurrences in Madhya Pradesh are: bauxite in Annupur, Balaghat, Guna, Jabalpur, Katni, Mandla, Rewa, Satna, Shahdol, Shivpuri, Sidhi & Vidisha district; copper in Balaghat, Betul & Jabalpur district; diamond in Chhatarpur and Panna district; iron ore (haematite) in Betul, Gwalior, Jabalpur & Katni district; limestone in Balaghat, Chhindwara, Damoh, Dhar, Hoshangabad, Jabalpur, Jhabua, Khargone, Katni,

Mandsaur, Morena, Narsinghpur, Neemach, Rewa, Sagar, Satna, Sehore, Shahdol & Sidhi district; manganese ore in Balaghat, Jabalpur and Jhabua district; and vermiculite in Jhabua district. Other minerals that occur in Madhya Pradesh: gold in Jabalpur, Katni & Sidhi district; graphite in Betul & Sidhi district; lead-zinc in Betul and Chhindwara district; molybdenum in Balaghat district; potash in Panna district rock phosphate in Chhatarpur, Jhabua & Sagar district; and sillimanite in Sidhi district.

The principal minerals produced in Madhya Pradesh are: Bauxite, Copper Concentrate, Copper Ore, Diamond, Iron Ore, Limestone, Manganese Ore, Minor Mineral, and Phosphorite. The value of Minor Minerals production is estimated at Rs.3702 Crores. The number of reporting mines for Mineral Conservation & Development Rules (MCDR) minerals in the state is 263. There is increase in production in Iron Ore (80.72%), Phosphorite (16.19%), Copper Ore (9.08%), Limestone (8.77%) and decrease in Diamond (-98.09%) and Bauxite (-3.71%) as compared to the previous year. A study was taken up by Prof. Sunil Goyal, Dean, School of Social Sciences and Management Studies (SSSM) & School of Agriculture and Rural Studies, Dr. B. R. Ambedkar University of Social Sciences (BRAUSS), Dr. Ambedkar Nagar (MHOW), Indore, Madhya Pradesh to analyse the PMKKY in the context of the recently notified rules on the District Mineral Foundation (DMF). The PMKKY and Central Rules on DMF were released within a day of each other—September 16 and 17. Both combine to make real the policy of the central government on sharing mining benefits with some of the poorest people of the country living on India's richest lands. While the DMF rules mandate contribution to the DMFs by mining lease-holders, the PMKKY lays out the roadmap for delivering development for the mining-affected areas and communities. While analysing the DMF Contribution Rules, these were found to be a significantly watered-down version of what was proposed in the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment (MMDR) Act, 2015 – a reduction in contribution to 10 per cent instead of one-third by lease-holders of mines that were leased after 12 January 2015 and 30 per cent instead of equal royalty for older mines. This means that less funds will be available for developmental work in mining-affected areas. In his study, BRAUSS Dean Prof. Sunil Goyal is of view that this will undermine the objectives of the DMFs and will dash hopes of mining-affected communities across the country. The PMKKY has been aligned to DMF to facilitate the implementation of the scheme. The scheme will be implemented by the DMFs by using the funds accrued to them. On analysing it was also found that PMKKY is a "diverse basket of prospects" – it has both positives as well as loopholes. The positive recommendations

include providing definition of directly and indirectly-affected areas that is crucial for development, involvement of Gram Sabha for identifying affected people use of DMF funds, taking into account long-term concerns, requirement of approval of Gram Sabhas for PMKKY plans and projects to be rolled out in scheduled areas, mechanisms of transparency and accountability. However, the study finds the scheme to be vague and limited in several aspects. Certain provisions of fund utilization, such as for building large infrastructure, putting in place environmental pollution control measures, staffing, purchasing vehicles etc., are misplaced which may lead to significant misuse of funds and hurt the spirit with which DMF has been instituted. It also restricts the possibility of community involvement limiting the role of Gram Sabhas, particularly in areas outside scheduled areas. States must act now, and properly. After the notification of DMF contribution Rules and

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CII Lauds Interim Budget 2024 as a Blueprint for Resilient Growth and Inclusive Development

Kolkata (ABHIJIT SETH): The interim budget for the fiscal year 2024-25, presented by Smt Nirmala Sitharaman, Minister of Finance and Corporate Affairs, has garnered positive reactions from industry leaders, with Mr Chandrajit Banerjee, Director General of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), expressing his views on the strategic and growth-oriented aspects of the budget. Mr Banerjee highlighted the budget's focus on capital expenditure (capex) as a key driver for economic growth. The CII had advocated for continued emphasis on capex, and the government responded by allocating Rs 11.1 lakh crores for capex, marking an 11.1%

increase over the previous year. The commitment to state capex is evident in the allocation of Rs 1.3 lakh crores as 50-year interest-free loans, coupled with Rs 75,000 crores linked to state-level reforms. The programs outlined in the budget reflect a commitment to inclusive development, with a spotlight on housing for the middle class and an ambitious target of adding 2 crore houses under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Gramin). The rural economy is set to receive a boost through initiatives like post-harvest infrastructure creation, Atmanirbhar Bharat mission in oilseeds, dairy development, and support for fishing and

aquaculture. The creation of 1 Lakh pati didi underscores the government's commitment to empower women and enhance inclusion. These measures, according to Mr Banerjee, not only provide economic security to vulnerable sections of society but also contribute to expanding the Indian consumer market. The emphasis on consumption-led growth enhances the resilience of the economy, a crucial factor in the face of global uncertainties, be they economic, political, or geopolitical. India's sustained high growth coupled with inclusivity positions it well for the future, aiming to achieve



developed nation status by 2047. Mr R Dinesh, President of CII, lauded the budget's prudence and substance. He commended the government for achieving a fiscal deficit of 5.8% of GDP for FY24, surpassing the projected

importance of macroeconomic stability driven by prudent fiscal management. The budget's substantive proposals were acknowledged, including the Rs 1 lakh crore fund for promoting new-age technologies and research and development (R&D). Dinesh highlighted the importance of state-level reforms and the focus on strengthening the ecosystem for electric vehicles, manufacturing, and EV charging infrastructure. The provisions for MSMEs, including credit facilitation, technology adoption, and regulatory support, align with the goal of making India a global manufacturing hub. The industry reactions from the Eastern region echoed the

positivity. Shiv Siddhant Kaul, Chairman of CII Eastern Region, appreciated the budget's emphasis on the poor, women, farmers, renewable energy, and tourism. Suvendra Kumar Behera highlighted the positive trajectory for infrastructure, women's empowerment, healthcare support, and small business support. The announcement of a 1 lakh crore corpus for innovation with a 50-year interest-free loan received praise for encouraging private sector participation in R&D and innovation. Sanjay Budhia, Co-Chairman of the National Committee on Exports, lauded the budget for reinforcing India's growth story, particularly in the

east. Dipankar Chatterji, Past Chairman of CII ER, termed the budget inclusive, forward-looking, and developmental. Vivek Bhatia, Chairman of CII Mining & Construction Equipment Division, highlighted the forward-looking budget with a thrust on infrastructure. Sucharita Basu, Chairman of CII West Bengal State Council, applauded the focus on the East and the government's commitment to the poor, women, youth, and farmers. The interim budget for 2024-25 indeed sets the stage for a resilient, inclusive, and growth-oriented Indian economy, emphasizing fiscal prudence, innovation, and development across various sectors.

Milestone in health care with Safdarjung Hospital and Bank of Baroda



New Delhi (KCN): Safdarjung Hospital is pleased to announce a significant milestone in its mission to enhance healthcare accessibility, thanks to the robust CSR program initiated by Bank of Baroda. The bank generously provided infusion pumps, mobility aids like wheelchairs, walkers, commode chairs & crutches showcasing a dedication to enhancing healthcare accessibility.

The equipment, presented by Bank of Baroda's General Manager, Rakesh Sharma, and Deputy General Manager, Mr. Nishant, aims to fortify Safdarjung Hospital's capabilities in delivering quality healthcare services. The infusion pumps will play a crucial role in patient care, while the mobility aids, wheelchairs, walkers, commode chairs & crutches enhance patients' comprehensive rehabilitation management & would also bring them in the main stream of community.

The presentation ceremony took place in the presence of Dr. Vandana Talwar, Medical Superintendent at Safdarjung Hospital, who expressed gratitude for the bank's generous support. This collaboration reflects Bank of Baroda's strong sense of corporate social responsibility and its proactive role in addressing healthcare needs within the community. "We are pleased to partner with Safdarjung Hospital in their mission to provide accessible and quality healthcare services. This initiative aligns with our CSR goals of making a positive impact on the communities we serve," commented Mr. Rakesh Sharma, General Manager. Bank of Baroda is a leading public sector bank committed to excellence and social responsibility. With a rich heritage spanning 108 years, the bank continues to play a pivotal role in fostering economic and social development. Safdarjung Hospital is a premier medical institution dedicated to providing comprehensive and compassionate healthcare services. With a focus on patient care, research, and education, the hospital stands at the forefront of the healthcare sector.

'Not A Single Word On Unemployment': Priyanka Gandhi On Interim Budget

New Delhi: Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra on Friday alleged that there is neither any vision nor any plan to create new jobs in the Centre's Interim Budget and said the "biggest misfortune" is Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman did not say a single word on unemployment.

She also claimed that the BJP-led government has failed to curb inflation and unemployment, and its Interim Budget has disappointed every section of the society. In a post on X, the Congress general secretary said the two biggest troubles that the people of India are facing are unemployment and inflation. "What measures were taken in the central government's budget to deal with these two problems?" she asked. "Unemployment has broken all records. Big institutes of the country

such as IIMs and IITs are facing the challenge of placements. There is neither any vision nor any plan in the budget to create new jobs and deal with unemployment. The biggest misfortune is that the finance minister did not say a single word on unemployment," Mr Gandhi said. Similarly, the general public, struggling with inflation, was also disappointed with this Interim Budget, she

claimed. "The poor and middle classes have been waiting for relief for the last ten years. No tax relief was given to the middle class. The BJP government, which has failed to curb inflation and unemployment, has disappointed every section of the society," she said. In another post on X, Ms Gandhi alleged inflation is increasing day-by-day and women bear the

maximum brunt of it. "On the other hand, crimes against women are increasing and they are discriminated against at the workplace also," she said. "According to the government agency Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS), female temporary workers are paid 48 per cent less than men for the same work. At the same time, permanent women workers get 24 per cent



Not A Single Person Died Of Hunger In Last 10 Years: Minister In Parliament



New Delhi (KCN): Not a single person died of hunger in the country in the last 10 years, Union minister and BJP leader S P Singh Baghel has claimed, while accusing the Congress of not taking measures to eradicate poverty.

Speaking during a debate on the Motion of

Minister of State for Health hit out at former prime ministers Indira Gandhi and Rajiv Gandhi. Baghel said while he acknowledges Rajiv Gandhi to be an "innocent prime minister", he would also characterise him as an "incompetent" one because it was his duty to prevent corruption

and ensure that theft did not occur under his government. Hitting out at former prime minister Indira Gandhi, he said despite giving the slogan of 'garibi hatao', poverty could not be eradicated by her Congress government. "If any responsible individual has deceived this country, it is the

late Indira Gandhi who gave the 'garibi hatao' slogan. If poverty had vanished, who are the 80 crore people we have inherited and to whom Modi Ji is providing five kilograms of rice and wheat?" Baghel said.

He said not a single person out of 140 crore Indians has died of hunger in the last 10 years. "Because they get 5 kg of rice for free, and it has been mentioned in the budget that a guarantee has been taken for the next five years as well," he said. Lauding the government for banning triple talaq, he said now, saying "talaq" three times will not work; you had to go to court for it". He also hit out at the opposition and said his party would come back in May with over 400 seats.

Doubt Congress Will Get "Even 40 seats" In Lok Sabha Polls: Mamata Banerjee

Kolkata (KCN): In a scathing attack, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Friday challenged the Congress to take on the BJP in the Hindi heartland states and said she has doubts whether the grand old party will secure "even 40 seats" in the upcoming Lok Sabha elections.

Ms Banerjee also criticised the Congress's Bharat Jodo Nyay Yatra, which traversed through the state's six districts, comparing it to a "mere



photo opportunity" for "migratory birds" who have descended upon the state to stir up Muslim voters. I doubt whether they will secure even 40 seats if they contested 300," Banerjee asserted. Speaking during a dharna in Kolkata to demand the clearance of the state's dues by the Centre, Ms Banerjee reiterated that her party was willing to form an alliance with the Congress for the upcoming Lok Sabha elections in West Bengal, but highlighted that it was the grand old party which declined her offer.

"I proposed that Congress contest 300 seats (across the country where BJP is the main opposition), but they refused to heed. Now, they've arrived in the

Man Arrested For Killing Son, 14, Over Complaints From School: Police

Pune: A man was arrested in Maharashtra's Solapur for allegedly killing his 14-year-old son with a sodium nitrate-laced drink due to frustration and anger over his behaviour, a police official said on Friday. Accused Vijay Battu (43) has claimed he was angry as there were constant complaints from school about Vishal Battu, while other issues included the victim watching explicit content on his phone, neglecting studies and picking fights with his sister, Inspector Ajay Jagtap of Jodhavi police station said. "On January 13, Vijay and his wife Kirti lodged a missing person complaint after Vishal did not return home. His body was discovered on the same day by the road near Tuljapur Naka, after which an accidental death case was registered."

Odisha CM Inaugurates Dialysis Centers At 16 Sub-District Hospitals



Bhubaneswar(KCN): With the motto "Every life is precious" and to reduce the financial burden of kidney patients, today, Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik on Thursday dedicated 16 new dialysis centers at different Sub Divisional

Hospitals, CHCs and DHH, Khordha under free dialysis service. As many as 32 dialysis centres will be opened at the sub-district level under the 5T initiative across the State. Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Minister said that along

about money in case of health issues. Explaining that the treatment of kidney disease is very expensive, the Chief Minister said that by establishing these centres kidney patients can get dialysis services free of charge near their homes. To provide better health services to the people of the State, the SAHAY scheme was started in 2018 to render life-saving dialysis services to kidney patients free of cost. Odisha was the first state in the country to provide this service. In the first phase, this service was started in all district headquarters hospitals. Now in the 5T

initiative, it has been extended to sub-district hospitals. 32 dialysis centres will be opened at the sub-district level, the CM said. He further said that the State Government would spend Rs 50 crore annually to provide free dialysis services to the patients. Expressing that all life is precious to him, the Chief Minister said that government healthcare centres are being transformed. The work is underway to provide better services under the Ama Hospital programme.

There are free medical facilities for the rich and poor. This programme will help us to achieve the goal of "Sustha (Healthy) Odisha, Sukhi (Happy) Odisha, the CM expressed.

PM Modi To Launch Power Projects Worth Rs 28,978 Cr In Odisha On Feb 3

Bhubaneswar(KCN):

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will dedicate to the Nation, NTPC Darlipali Super Thermal Power Station (2x800 MW), NSPCL Rourkela PP-II Expansion Project (1x250 MW) and lay the foundation stone of NTPC Talcher Thermal Power Project, Stage-III (2x660 MW) with a total investment of Rs 28,978 Crore on 3rd February 2024.

Addressing the media persons today at Bhubaneswar, Sudip Nag, Regional Executive Director, (Eastern Region I & II), spoke on the upcoming developmental power projects to be flagged off by the Prime Minister of India.

Located in the Sundargarh district of Odisha, Darlipali STPP is a pit-head Power Station with Supercritical (highly efficient) Technology and supplies low-cost power to its beneficiary states, such as Odisha, Bihar, West Bengal, Jharkhand, Gujarat and

Sikkim.

The 250 MW project of NTPC-SAIL Power Company Ltd was established in Rourkela Steel Plant (RSP) to provide reliable power for the steel plant which is vital for economic growth.

Further, NTPC is developing the Talcher Thermal Power Project, Stage-III within old TTPS plant premises in the Angul district of Odisha, which was taken over by NTPC from the Odisha State Electricity Board in the year 1995.

The old TTPS plant was decommissioned after completing more than 50 years of service to the Nation.

The upcoming plant will have highly efficient Ultra Super Critical Technology-based units and approximately three times the capacity of the old TTPS plant. While 50% capacity from this project is dedicated to the state of Odisha, other beneficiary states such as Tamil Nadu, Gujarat and Assam will also get low-cost power from this pit-

head station. This project is being constructed with all modern environmental features like efficient electrostatic precipitator, Flue gas desulphurization, biomass cofiring, and covered storage space for coal and will thus help in lesser Specific Coal Consumption and CO2 emissions.

Besides creating direct and indirect employment opportunities in the region, these projects have contributed to the improvement of physical infrastructure such as approach roads, drainage, transportation and communication facilities. Various

community development initiatives are also being undertaken by NTPC in the surrounding villages in the fields of education, drinking water, sanitation, health, women empowerment, rural sports, etc. NTPC has also set up a Medical College cum Hospital in Sundargarh, Odisha.

Smita Rout Gets IAS

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Union Government has appointed a senior officer of Odisha Finance Service (OFS), Smita Rout to the Indian Administrative Service (IAS). Department of Personnel & Training has brought out a notification in this regard on 1 February. She has been picked up from Non State Civil Service (NSCS) to IAS.



Shrimati Rout, who is having a brilliant career with Gold Medal in M A (Public Administration), M.Phil and MBA in First Class with specialization in Finance & Human Resources. After joining OFS, she served in crucial assignments, including District Audit Officer, Puri, Manager Finance, BDA, Joint Secretary

and later Additional Secretary in Department of Finance. Shrimati Rout is known for her brilliance and intellect was appreciated by senior officials in the State Government. Her mode of presentation and perspective on human resource management, industrial development, financial management is praiseworthy, said a senior mandarin.

5T Chairman Visits Akhayara Bhoomi, Reviews Preparation For First World Odia Language Conference



Bhubaneswar(KCN): 5T and Nabin Odisha Chairman V Kartik Pandian visited Janata Maidan and Akhayara Bhoomi this evening and reviewed the preparations being made for the first World Odia Language Conference.

During the review, Kartik Pandian emphasised on connecting all the blocks and gram panchayats of the state in the first World Odia Language Conference along with the live streaming of important sessions.



He also suggested that special focus should be given to the Odia language and its future. He advised to adopt the future course of action by determining the important policies based on the proposals to be adopted in this

The conference consists of 16 academic sessions on various topics. It will be attended by eminent linguists, intellectuals and students of schools and colleges. The conference will present the past and present transformation process of Odisha.

The World Odia Language Conference will be held for the first time in Akhayara Bhoomi. At the centre of

the historic city of Bhubaneswar, the conference will celebrate the Odisha language. It will reflect the beauty of our language and reflect the Kalingan style of architecture in Khondalite stone.

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PM to inaugurate MCL projects worth Rs 2145 crore in Odisha



Bhubaneswar, (KCN): Addressing a media conference on Friday, Shri Ajit Kumar Behura, Director (Finance), Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL) said that the hon'ble Prime Minister would be inaugurating four transformative projects in coal mining sector, built at a total cost of Rs 2,145 crore.

These projects, the Director (Finance) said, include two First Mile Connectivity (FMC) projects -- Bhubaneswari Phase-I of 10 Million

Tonnes Per Annum (MTPA) capacity in Talcher Coalfields, Angul district, built at an investment of Rs 335 crore, and Lajkura Rapid Loading System (RLS) of 15 MTPA capacity, built at an investment of Rs 375 crore in Ib Valley Coalfields. Among other projects to be inaugurated by the Prime Minister include, the Ib Valley Washery having capacity of washing 10 MTPA non-coking coal annually. "This significant

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.

TPSODL issues guidelines for the Festive Season

TPSODL
TP SOUTHERN ODISHA
DISTRIBUTION LIMITED

(A Joint Venture of Tata Power and Government of Odisha)

Berhampur, September 2023: TP Southern Odisha Distribution Limited (TPSODL) is fully prepared to ensure a seamless and uninterrupted power supply during the forthcoming festive season. As part of our commitment to safety, TPSODL has undertaken several initiatives and released essential guidelines for temporary structures and pandals.

To ensure safety and reliability, TPSODL strongly advises obtaining temporary connections from our authorities for any temporary pandals and

shops erected during the festive season. In our pursuit of uninterrupted power supply, TPSODL has deployed dedicated teams from the Fuse Call Centre (FCC) to monitor and maintain seamless electricity

provision at all pandals. These teams will also vigilantly ensure that there is no unauthorized hooking or access to TPSODL lines, guaranteeing a festival filled with uninterrupted joy. TPSODL's 24x7 Call Centre, in conjunction with

SBI now offers Real Time Xpress Credit on YONO app

Mumbai : With an aim to digitally empower customers and offer additional convenience, the country's largest lender, State Bank of India (SBI) has announced the introduction of Real Time Xpress Credit (RTXC) on YONO. The bank's flagship personal loan product for salaried customers - Xpress Credit has a Digital Avatar now. Customers can now avail RTXC from the comfort of their homes through YONO - which is going to be 100% paperless and digital. The end-to-end 8 step journey would be easy and instant for the customers.

Under Real Time Xpress Credit, Central/ State Government and Defence salaried customers of SBI will no longer be required to visit the branch for availing a personal loan. The credit checks, eligibility, sanction & documentation will now be done digitally in real-time.

Shri Dinesh Khara, Chairman, SBI said, "We are pleased to introduce Real Time Xpress Credit (RTXC) Loan facility for our eligible salaried customers on YONO. The Xpress Credit product will enable our customers to experience a digital, hassle-free, and paperless loan process. We at SBI constantly endeavour to offer technology-led enhanced digital banking experience to the customers in order to simplify banking." The digitalization of Xpress Credit delivery will also help the bank to do away with the need to handle and store enormous paperwork.

Blenders Pride Fashion Nights arrives in Bhubaneswar

Bhubaneswar : Blenders Pride Fashion Nights, a unique travelling experiential property, arrived in the City of Temples - Bhubaneswar - celebrating the authentic spirit of the city through fashion and style. A spirit that echoes with Pride and inspires the creators of today to become icons of tomorrow. Bhubaneswar's 'Made of Artistic Flair' edition for Blenders Pride Fashion Nights, brought together an eclectic evening that blended fashion, culture and dance, celebrating a symbolic amalgamation of homegrown artistry and the unwavering spirit of local talent.

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'.

or visit the nearest Fuse Call Centre/office.

Mr. Amit Garg, Chief Executive Officer of TP Southern Odisha Distribution Ltd, stated, "We are fully prepared and committed to providing uninterrupted power supply to all pandals during this auspicious festive season. We urge the public to seek proper electricity connections and adhere to all safety measures. In the event of any emergency, please reach out to our toll-free helpline number." TPSODL wishes everyone a safe, joyous, and electrifying festive season.

Odisha Startup Yatra a hit among student community, received more than 500 ideas in just 5 days

Odisha Startup Yatra and Xpress to cover three coastal districts from September 18th onwards



Bhubaneswar: Odisha

Startup Xpress, a flagship initiative of the Government of Odisha to nurture entrepreneurial mindset in the state at grassroot level, has received and collected more than 540 Ideas in just 5 days, with participation from 5618 students across 47 colleges and 12 schools. Today, the Startup Vans visited 8 colleges and 2 schools of Cuttack and received 72 ideas with participation from 858 students.

In Silvercity of the state, Cuttack - the Yatra covered Eight educational institutes namely Ajay Binay Institute of Technology (ABIT), Raveenshaw University, Shaila Bala Women's University, Udayanath Autonomous College of Sc. & Tech, Govt ITI Cuttack, DRIEMS College, Ganpati Institute of Engineering and

BOB Financial and HPCL launch co-branded contactless RuPay Credit Card

Mumbai: BOB Financial Solutions Limited (BFSL), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Bank of Baroda (BoB) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd. (HPCL) - a Maharatna Central Public Sector Enterprise in partnership with National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), have announced the launch of HPCL B o B c o - b r a n d e d contactless RuPay Credit Card. The card is designed to reward customers for spends at HPCL fuel pumps as

well as the HP Pay app. It also offers accelerated rewards for spends on utilities, grocery and departmental stores. This card can be used across merchants and ATMs globally through the JCB network. Cardholders of

H P C L B o B R u P a y Contactless Credit Card will be able to earn up to 24 reward points (per INR 150 spent) for spends at HPCL fuel pumps and on the HP Pay app. In addition, cardholders will also benefit from 1% Fuel

Surcharge Waiver on fuel purchases at HPCL pumps or on HP Pay. Customers who spend INR 5,000 or more within 60 days of card issuance will get 2,000 bonus reward points. The co-branded credit card will offer 10 reward points (per INR 150 spent) on utilities, grocery and departmental stores and 2 reward points on other categories. The card also offers attractive discount on movie ticket bookings.

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,

SCTE&VT, Shri Reghu G (IAS) and Unit Head, Jindal Stainless Limited (JSL), Shri Deepak Agrawal. Dignitaries present at the ceremony included Chairman, SCTE&VT 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, SCTE&VT 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."

'For the first time in life, I had given up' - Rishabh Pant

New Delhi: While recovering from the life-threatening car accident, Rishabh Pant was in a conundrum. The doctors told him how "lucky" he was but he wouldn't be able to make sense of it. After all, he lay there covered in bandages, restricted to a bed and needed help for basic daily activities we all take for granted. Pant, though, can now piece together what the doctors meant.

"Doctors were surprised and told me that I didn't even have a hairline fracture despite having such an accident. Yes, the knee injury was major but this could have been a lot worse. They always tell me that I'm very lucky. I wonder how I'm supposed to feel lucky as I had such an accident but the flip side is that I'm still alive," Pant told Star Sports.

"For 30 days, I was bedridden. I couldn't move. The friction burns were extreme and initially when I was trying to walk, I wasn't sure whether I'd be able to resume walking/running in a normal way. I needed a lot of help in the early stages. Just to stand up, three to four people had to help me

around. Since my childhood, I'm used to running around and doing my things on my own. So, this feeling was disturbing for me and I felt disrespectful to myself as to how anyone can be so helpless."

Pant said that when he met the accident, he felt in the moment that "his time was up" and how he "gave up" for the first time in his life.

"Luckily when the accident happened, I was aware of the wounds, I was lucky as it could easily have been a lot worse than it was. I didn't know what it was that saved me. My right leg was dislocated, I was lying down. I asked somebody for help and thanks to them, I was able to fix my leg back into the right position. If my nerve had been damaged, we would have had to amputate my leg. That was when I got really scared, because earlier, I was in so much pain that I couldn't think of anything else."

"For the first time in life, I had given up. I felt like my time in this world was up. Never had this feeling before."

The 26-year-old spoke about the unconditional support from his mother

and how that helped him heal at a much faster rate. "For several years, I had been driving home late. I always loved to surprise my mom. I'd reach out of nowhere and tell her 'Mom, just open the gate, I'm here'. So she was used to me reaching late. She was obviously very upset about the incident but she wasn't upset about me driving late as she knew it was a habit of mine. She never faulted me for it and that was very satisfying. That's probably why people say that family understands us the best. Accidents can happen with anyone, anytime."

"I'm glad that I was driving when the accident happened and not anyone else. If that was the case, then I don't know how I'd have reacted. At least now, I'm responsible for my mistake."

The left-hander quietly went about the rehab process, brick by brick, taking baby steps towards his comeback. Finally, when he was ready to walk, albeit with crutches, Pant took to social media to let the world know that he was back.

"So, my first step, we luckily had a terrace and



that was my first step. I posted a picture also (on social media). So many people sent their love and blessings, and I'm really grateful to them. It was very helpful. So, I wanted to give them an update that I'm feeling slightly better. I was focusing solely on my recovery process. Cut off myself from the world and I felt that at such a time, it helps me to recover faster. Because you've to do the same things day in and day out, it is a boring process. It's irritating, it's frustrating but you have to do it.

"Till the time I resume playing cricket, I don't want to plan too much for the future. I never

dwell in the past, I want to stay in the present and do the best I can, which is to focus on my knee." From being one of India's potential game-changers for the upcoming ODI World Cup at home to not knowing when he'd be able to pick up his bat again, the quick turnaround of events was hard to take for Pant. And not being able to participate in the cricket in the middle, even harder.

"I tried not to watch cricket a lot. I realised that what the coaches say is true, that it is tough to just watch from the outside. Because the IPL was on, Delhi was playing and I wasn't feeling good. I felt we could have done a lot of things differently. I

wanted to discuss things with them but then I realised that I'm outside the team. When you're inside the team, things are different. You can control a lot of things. Sitting from outside, it's easy to make comments but the captain and coach will be having their own ideas. So it will only

cause a miscommunication if I also give my opinions.

"I realised I was getting stressed and understood that I had to cut down on watching cricket. I did

watch the Ashes later on, had a lot of fun as I loved England's new way of playing cricket. It was anyway my style of playing."

Mental struggles weren't new for Pant. After all, the sheer weight of expectations of being MS Dhoni's successor had already burdened him very early in his career. While lauding the dressing room environment for calming his nerves as a newcomer, Pant also felt that the unfair comparison with Dhoni made no sense to him.

"When I started out, there were a lot of seniors. Also Yuvi pa (Yuvraj Singh), Mahi Bhai (MS Dhoni) were

all there. So, there were super seniors in there. But they never made me feel like I was playing with super seniors. They were very welcoming and made me feel comfortable. I think this has always been the culture of the Indian team. To make each other comfortable.

"I never understood this comparison (with Dhoni) because one player had barely played five games and the other had played 500 games. The comparison made no sense at all. I used to go back in my room and cry. I felt a lot of pressure and wondered how I'll manage. Then I missed that stumping in Mohali and the crowd started to chant 'Dhoni! Dhoni!'. It was tough."

Ironically, it was Dhoni's constant advice that did the comforting job for the young apprentice during those testing days. Pant fondly explained how much the bond with his predecessor meant to him.

"I always find it difficult to explain my relationship with him (MS Dhoni). I could share anything and everything with him. Even those things that I'd normally not share with anyone else.

Jadeja likely to be ruled out of Rajkot Test

New Delhi: Already massively hit by injuries and the withdrawal of key players, the situation for the Indian team appears even gloomier than anticipated at this stage. The second Test versus England, scheduled to commence in Visakhapatnam on Friday, will be missing several key players, including Virat Kohli, KL Rahul, Ravindra Jadeja, and Mohammed Shami. The predicament may persist for the remaining three Tests as well, with perhaps only a couple of exceptions. Already one down in the five-Test series, the Rohit Sharma-Rahul Dravid combination may have to fight the Ben Stokes' England team without some of their regular players.

Cricbuzz understands



that Jadeja's hamstring injury may require more time for recovery than initially stated - normally hamstring issue need between four-eight weeks to heal -- and he could be sidelined for an extended period. In fact, insiders suggest that it would be remarkable if he manages to be fit for the fourth Test in Ranchi

from February 23 to 27, making him almost certain to miss the third Test in his hometown of Rajkot. The recent BCCI media release mentions his absence only for the second Test.

The situation with Shami is also not promising.

The pacer is grappling with an ankle issue

during landing, as

reported by Cricbuzz multiple times. He is currently in London, and while there is no immediate information about surgery, he is believed to be undergoing treatments for the ankle with injections. It is almost certain he will not be available for any match of the ongoing five-Test series. From which stage will he be able to play in the Indian Premier League (IPL) scheduled for March to May is the question. As for Kohli, there has been silence all round, with the BCCI itself requesting privacy. This website, refraining from delving into the reasons for his absence, can reveal that the star batter is currently out of the country, leaving a question mark over his availability for the second and third Tests.

New Delhi: Scotland

emerged victorious against Namibia by a narrow 3-run margin in a thrilling finish for the 16th place playoff in Benoni. Bahadar Esakhiel, who scored 76* off 54, was named Player of the Match whereas Ibrahim Faisal chipped in with three wickets in a winning cause.

Scotland won the toss and elected to bat but found themselves on the backfoot early after Jack Brassell and Junior Kariata dismissed Adi Hegde and Alec Price cheaply. Jamie Dunk (76 off 93) and Owen Gould (35 off 58), Scotland's best batters in the tournament, displayed resilience by putting together a crucial 80-run partnership. Despite Gould's departure for 35, Dunk continued to anchor the innings and

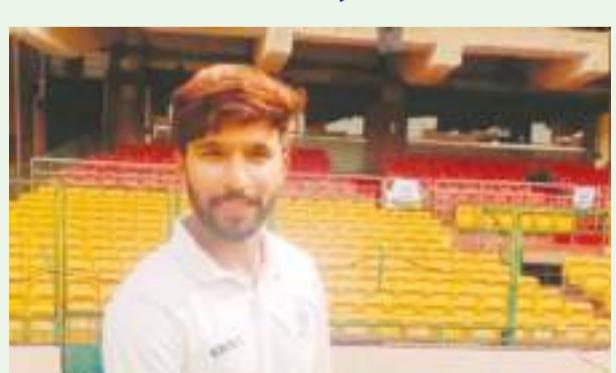


hit 8 boundaries. At the back end, Esakhiel's 4 fours and 6 sixes stirred an explosive finish and propelled Scotland to a competitive total of 251/6. The target defence got off to a good start for Scotland when Ibrahim Faisal sent both openers back to the pavilion pretty early. Johannes Visagie and Zacheo van Vuuren continued to anchor Namibia's chase with a brilliant 86. The equation was down to 16 off six but the final over bowled by Ibrahim Faisal proved decisive. Faisal, who finished with figures of 3 for 58, held his nerve and secured a nail-biting victory for Scotland.

Rising fast and slow, like Rajat Patidar

New Delhi: In the winter of early 2020, Shubham Sharma was fretting. Not only was the team he led crashing out of Ranji Trophy but also because he wasn't sure of a place again in the Madhya Pradesh side following a miserable campaign with the bat. To empathize with him was his roommate Rajat Patidar, who was also going through a rough patch, averaging less than 16 in that Ranji Trophy season.

The two 26-year-olds from Indore had known each other since their pre-teens and come through the age-groups of the state side. Yet when Shubham posed the question - "What will happen to us? Do you think we'll ever get to play Ranji Trophy again?" - he got a rather unexpected response from his long-time friend. "So what if I don't get to play Ranji Trophy? I'll play wherever I get a chance. If it's club



cricket, so be it." For as stunned as Shubham was with that response, he wasn't really surprised. "That's Rajat for you," Shubham tells Cricbuzz. "Always, extremely calm and relaxed, no matter what the situation is. That's why I always reach out to him whenever I'm worried."

Purely for his strokeplay, Patidar may have been a standout batter in Madhya Pradesh, but it wasn't a career that had

since the formation of Madhya Pradesh in 1950 has a frontline Indian batter played Test cricket from the central Indian state. Patidar is expected to be its first.

It's not just his teammates who gush over his batting talent, but even the coaches. Amay Khurasiya, who was the last specialist batter from the state to play for India (only ODIs) and Patidar's long-time coach, sheds light on what made him a

coach's delight. "With this boy, I've observed one thing. If you give him a task, he is on it. He will not cut corners. He used to sweat it out and practice for hours and hours in the field. When you see a boy with that sort of commitment, you start doing progressive coaching because you know this boy is committed. When the student arrives and is ready, the teacher is already there." In principle, Patidar had

all the ingredients of a good batter: ability to judge length early, technique to play spin and pace with equal ease, and a free-flow of the bat. Yet, in the five seasons before the pandemic, he averaged only 37.54 in first-class cricket; his downfall being his inability to make the right shot selection. Thus, for his well-wishers, he delighted as much when he scored as he frustrated when he was dismissed.