

Utkal Journalists Demand Action : 6-Point Protest Shakes Legislative Grounds



Bhubaneswar, (KCN): In a powerful display of solidarity, members of the Utkal Journalist Association surrounded the state legislature, pressing for immediate attention to their six critical demands. Led by State President Bibhuti

Bhushan Kar, the journalists rallied at Lower PMG, Bhubaneswar, calling for the introduction of the Journalist Protection Act, pension for senior journalists, expanded health insurance, media academies establishment, accreditation committee reorganization, and unhindered access to government offices including Lok Seva Bhawan. Mr. Kar presiding over the protest, issued a warning that the agitation would intensify across the 30 districts if

their demands were not met promptly. The assembly featured impassioned speeches from influential figures including Advisor Pradosh Kumar Pattnaik, senior journalist Rabi Das, Sanat Mishra, Editor-in-chief of Daily 'Paryabekhyak'

and 'The Kalinga Chronicle' Dr. Pabitra Mohan Samantray, Pitabash Mishra, Sugyan Chowdhury, Srimaya Kar, Niranjan Biswal, Bipin Singh, Kishor Dwivedi, Bankim Chandra Nayak, Pappu Mohanty, Benudhar

Panda, Purna Chandra Nayak, Pramod Mohan Samantray, Pattnaik, Haradhan Banerjee, Rajen Mukesh Mahaling, Nauri Nayak, Subash Panigrahi and Sajjan Sharma expressed their support for the journalists' cause. The former MP Tathagat Satpathy declared

including Opposition Leader Mohan Majhi, MLA Kusum Tete, Mukesh Mahaling, Nauri Nayak, Subash Panigrahi and Sajjan Sharma expressed their support for the journalists' cause. The former MP Tathagat Satpathy declared unwavering solidarity with the Journalists' Union, promising to stand by them until their demands were met. The ball is now in the government's court as the Utkal journalists Association stand united, determined and ready for further action.



The President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu paid floral tributes to Dr. Zakir Hussain, former President of India, on his birth anniversary at Rashtrapati Bhavan today

Odisha Sets Benchmark In Fiscal Management With Zero Market Borrowings

Bhubaneswar (KCN): With prudent fiscal management and a robust policy framework, Odisha has set a benchmark in the country with zero borrowing from the market.

As per the Reserve Bank of India report, Odisha is the only state which has not borrowed from the market since 2021 while capital expenditure is the highest among all major States in the country and programming expenditure

clocked Rs 1,25,000 Cr. Odisha has repaid nearly Rs 17,000 Crore borrowings in the last three financial years. Odisha has repaid borrowings of Rs 6473 crore in FY 21-22, Rs 7500 crore in FY 22-23 and Rs 3000 crore during FY 23-24, the RBI Report says.

The latest State Finances Report 2023-24 of the Reserve Bank of India shows that Odisha has the lowest outstanding

liabilities as a percentage of the Gross Domestic Product in the country.

According to the RBI report, Odisha has an outstanding liability of just

13.9 per cent of the GSDP as of the end of

March 2024 – the lowest

liability percentage for

any state of India. The

debt-to-GDP ratio of

Odisha has reduced

significantly post the

COVID-19 period due to

the prudent efforts of the

state government.

said in the House. Of the total Rs 2.55 crore provision, Rs 1,03,500 crore has been allocated for administrative expenditure, Rs 1.40 lakh crore for programme expenditure, Rs 3,900 crore for disaster management, and Rs 7,600 crore for transfer to Panchayati Raj Institutions and Urban Local Bodies, Arukha said.

Stating that 'leaving no one behind' has been the governance motto of the BJD government for the last 24 years, the minister said, "We are relentlessly working for empowerment of women, youth and vulnerable sections of the society. The 5T (transformational) mantra of our government has brought about transformative and paradigmatic change in our approach to governance." To take the legacy of Lord Jagannath forward, Ama Odisha Nabin Odisha (Our Odisha, New Odisha) has been launched and the government has

earmarked more than Rs 4,000 crore to implement various initiatives under the scheme, he said.

"Keeping in view the requirement of funds for expenditure on payment of salary, pension, interest payment, repayment of principal, relief, old age pension, scholarship of ST & SC students and other ongoing scheme and programmes, a sum of Rs 1,18,000 crore is proposed in the vote on account," the minister

facilities within a period of five years with an investment of Rs 3,389 crore. An outlay of Rs 1,314 crore has been proposed for the purpose in the budget for 2024-25, he said.

Similarly, an outlay of Rs 5,450 crore has been proposed for the "Biju Swasthya Kalyan Yojana" (BSKY) scheme in the budget while Rs 529 crore allocated for "Mission Shakti Scooter Yojana" and Rs 1,449 crore for disbursement of scholarship to 14.86 lakh ST, SC and OBC students.

The state government has allocated Rs 1,050 crore for the skill development sector and Rs 21,004 crore for construction of logistics like roads, bridges, airports, and railways including Rs 1,000 crore for metro rail, which is 25 per cent higher than last year, the minister said. Arukha said the Srimandir Parikrama Prakalpa (Jagannath Temple Heritage Corridor project) is a milestone in the annals of history of Odisha and the world.



Odisha has now become more than a 100 billion dollar economy. Since 2015-16, the state has registered an average growth of 7.25 per cent, which is about 1 per cent higher than the average growth of the national economy," Arukha said. According to advance estimates for 2023-24, it is projected that the state economy will grow at 8.5 per cent compared to 7.3 per cent of the country. Thus, Odisha continues to be a bright spot in the whole country, he pointed out.

Former Supreme Court Judge AM Khanwilkar Likely To Be Next Lokpal: Sources

New Delhi (KCN): Former Supreme Court judge Justice AM Khanwilkar is likely to be appointed the next Lokpal of India, sources have told NDTV. The anti-corruption body has been without a full-time chairperson since May 2022.

The sources said the high-level committee comprising Prime Minister Narendra

Modi, Chief Justice DY Chandrachud and the leader of the largest opposition party, Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury, approved Justice Khanwilkar's appointment on Wednesday. The judge, who retired on July 29, 2002, delivered several important judgments during his time at the Supreme Court. He headed the benches that

upheld almost all the stringent provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) and dismissed a petition against the clean chit given to Prime Minister Narendra Modi in the 2002 Gujarat riots.

On June 24, 2022, a bench led by Justice Khanwilkar dismissed a petition filed by activist Teesta Setalvad and Zakia Jafri, wife of

Congress MP Ehsan Jafri, who was among the 68 people killed at the Gulbarg Society in Ahmedabad in 2002. The bench said the petition was "devoid of merits" and was filed "to keep the pot boiling". The court added that "all those involved in such abuse of process need to be in the dock", and Ms. Setalvad was arrested by the Ahmedabad Crime Branch the next day. On July 27, 2022, two days before Justice Khanwilkar's retirement, a bench headed by him upheld almost all the stringent

provisions of the PMLA - pertaining to proceeds of crime, search and seizure, power of arrest, attachment of properties, and bail, among others - which were under challenge in the court. The bench said Section 19 of the Act, which deals with the power to arrest, did not suffer from the "vice of arbitrariness" and upheld Section 5 of the Act, relating to the attachment of property of those involved in money laundering, as constitutionally valid. Justice Khanwilkar also led the bench that cleared the way for the construction of the Central Vista and the new Parliament House by dismissing the petitions filed by social activists and environmentalists.

Medical Milestone in Odisha: KIMS Doctors Successfully Treat 70-Year-Old's Leaking Heart Valve with MitraClip Procedure

Bhubaneswar, (KCN): The Kalinga Institute of Medical Sciences (KIMS) has again set new milestones in offering advanced care and treatment for complex cases. The cardiologists have for the first time in Odisha performed a procedure called MitraClip to clip a leaking heart valve on a 70-year-old female patient.

The patient had suffered severe heart failure due to leakage in the mitral valve, which is one of four valves in the heart that keep blood flowing in the right direction. She

was considered very high risk for surgical valve replacement. Hence, she was offered MitraClip therapy to repair the leaking heart valve.

The mitral valve controls blood flow between the lower left heart chamber (ventricle) and the upper left heart chamber (atrium). In mitral valve regurgitation, the mitral valve doesn't close properly, causing leaking. This leaking means the heart has to work harder to pump blood through the body, which can cause atrial fibrillation (AFib) or



heart failure. In Odisha, treating patients through the MitraClip procedure to

cure leaking heart valves wasn't available. However, doctors led by Assistant Professor Dr.

Anupam Jena from the Department of Cardiac Science have his team carried out the procedure with success. MitraClip procedure that offers significant benefits over open-heart surgery for mitral valve disease. Patients typically recover more quickly, spending less time in the hospital and experiencing fewer complications. Patients also report less pain following catheter-based procedures. The patient

recovered from the procedure well and was discharged in a stable condition after three days. MitraClip is a small device used to stop leaking in the mitral valve. It is placed on the mitral valve in a minimally invasive procedure through a small puncture in the groin. It is also called transcatheter edge-to-edge repair (TEER). No need to open the chest. Earlier, KIMS had also

performed the Transcatheter Mitral Valve Replacement (TMVR) procedure for the first time in the State to repair the damaged valve. Dr Achyuta Samanta, Founder, KIIT and KISS congratulated the doctors for successfully conducting the procedure, emphasizing the commitment of the KIMS to offer advanced care and treatment.

Unsettled Waters in Nimapara : BJD Contemplates Future Amidst Sameer Ranjan Dash Controversy



Bhubaneswar, (KCN): In the run-up to the upcoming general elections in Odisha, the ruling Biju Janata Dal (BJD) is diligently working to fortify its organizational structure across constituencies. However, a cloud of uncertainty looms over the Nimapara constituency in Puri district as the party grapples with a crucial decision regarding the candidacy of the controversial MLA Sameer Ranjan Dash.

Amidst allegations linking Mr. Dash to various controversies including his alleged involvement in the suicide case of Puri district council member Dharmendra Sahoo and a

recently circulated sensitive video, the BJD high command is deliberating whether to field him as their candidate once again. Sources reveal that Mr. Dash, seemingly undeterred by the party's reservations, has been actively projecting himself as the party candidate in government programs bypassing the official endorsement from the party Highcommand. The most recent incident occurred during the 'Ama Odisha - Naveen Odisha' government scheme awareness campaign meeting at Tulasipur in Nimapara constituency. The

During this event, Mr. Dash not only deviated from government guidelines but also presented himself as the next candidate, soliciting support directly from the thousands of attendees. This move has sparked criticism from the general public, questioning the party's discipline and raising concerns about the controversial figure's candidacy.

In response to the growing discontent, constituency voters are expressing a desire for a new, vibrant and undisputed youth leader to represent them in the upcoming election. The

preference appears to be for someone who can bring about positive change and uplift the constituency, contrasting the controversies surrounding Mr. Dash. Amidst this scenario, numerous candidates from BJD have surfaced in Nimapara and the name gaining prominence is that of the highly educated and disciplined youth organizer as well as the party co-observer of Mayurbhanj and Keonjhar District, Subrat Chhatoi. Actively participating in every program in the Nimapara and Gop regions, he is reshaping the party organization. His widespread acceptance is steadily on the rise.

Naveen Babu's popularity and Subrat's undisputed image attributed to the government's people-oriented programs are becoming subjects of discussion in the Nimapara constituency. Subrat's growing appeal spans across voters from all segments of society.

Sustainable Future: ICAR-CIFRI's Vision for Chandil Reservoir

Kolkata, (KCN): Nestled in the heart of Jharkhand, Chandil Reservoir stands as more than a waterbody; it serves multiple purposes like supporting electricity generation, fishing, cage culture, and irrigation. Nearly two thousand indigenous people find their livelihoods here, making Chandil a notable hub for cage culture. A recent study conducted by ICAR-CIFRI under the supervision of Dr. B.K. Das, Director of ICAR-CIFRI, has illuminated the reservoir's potential, uncovering crucial insights for its sustainable management.

The water in the reservoir is of good quality because of having the right balance of acidity and nutrients. This makes the environment healthy, and it's estimated that the fish production potential is 55 kg per hectare per year.



Chandil Reservoir hosts a rich diversity of 42 fish species, all indigenous to India except pangas and Nile Tilapia. Plankton, including phytoplankton and zooplankton, thrives. Local fishers, using gill nets and shore seines, contribute to a catch where IMC constitutes 23%, with a current fish yield of 18 kg/ha/year, hinting at increased production.

However, a health assessment of fishes reveals the presence of parasites, emphasizing the need for ongoing monitoring. The ecological health assessment gives the

fish larvae by regulating small mesh gill nets, 3. Assess Impact: Evaluate the impact of exotic fish on local species, 4. Designate Conservation Zones: Preserve biodiversity by designating riverine zones, 5. Introducing FADs: Enhance habitat suitability with Fish Aggregating Devices, 6. Mandate Seed Certification: Ensure certified stocking for quality, 7. Implement Biosecurity: Prevent exotic fish escape with cage culture biosecurity, 8. Encourage Indigenous Cage Culture: Promote cage culture with Indigenous fish, 9. Expand Sustainably: Consider expansion based on sustainability assessments, 10. Enhance Stakeholder Knowledge: Build knowledge for scientific fisheries management embracing these recommendations, Chandil Reservoir is poised for a balanced and thriving future.



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Rasika Dugal, Arjun Mathur-Starrer Lord Curzon Ki Haveli To Be Screened At Wench Film Festival

In a delightful leap year surprise, the much-anticipated Wench Film Festival (WFF) is set to illuminate screens from February 29 to March 3, 2024. Diving into its fourth edition, WFF promises an unparalleled voyage into the genres of horror, sci-fi, and fantasy. March 1 to 3 will witness a cascade of cinematic wonders, physical screenings, breath-taking performances, and insightful panels at Veda Factory, Versova in Mumbai. As the festival unfolds, audiences will be immersed in a diverse range of films, each carefully curated to stir the imagination and transcend the ordinary.

New York and California-based actor, writer, director and producer Toby Poser, will be present with her film 'Where The Devil Roams' that will be screened as the opening film at WFF. Toby has co-directed the film with Zelda Adams and John Adams. Film "Lord Curzon Ki Haveli" directed by Anshuman Jha, starring Rasika Dugal and Arjun Mathur will have its India Premiere at the festival. "I am most thrilled to be introduced to India's creative community - its filmmakers and film lovers and what an honour to share through Terror Tutorials our love of genre movies and unusual methods of

making them. I've never been to India, and I cannot fathom a more glorious, more perfect way to get to know India than through the lens of artistic expression - film, art, music - and with new friends who live, love, and represent them all. Thank you, Wench Film Festival and wenches near and far, for having me along for this wicked-

wonderful ride!" Said Toby Poser. Beyond its cinematic offerings, WFF is a cultural phenomenon led by the indomitable Chief Wench, Sapna Moti Bhavnani. "As the founder of the Wench Film Festival, now in its exhilarating fourth edition, I am thrilled to announce a unique celebration of

horror, sci-fi, and fantasy that transcends boundaries and delves into the heart of storytelling. Our focus on India this year is a testament to the untapped potential of our storytellers and filmmakers, who are ready to take you on a journey through the unseen, the unknown, and the unimaginable. The Wench Film Festival is more than an event; it's a gateway to the extraordinary." Said Sapna Bhavnani, Founder, WFF. Diving into history, the festival embraces the term "Wench," derived from the 13th-century term Wenchel, meaning a child, female infant, or

young unmarried woman. Over time, it acquired negative connotations, evolving into a derogatory term. However, under the visionary leadership of Chief Wench Sapna Moti Bhavnani, the term is being reclaimed to reflect its original and empowering meaning.

At its core, WFF stands as a beacon for underrepresented voices. With a commitment to inclusivity, the festival provides a platform for BIWOC, LGBTQ+ women, and non-binary filmmakers, reshaping the narrative landscape and ensuring that every voice finds its place in the world of cinema.

Prerna Arora's Hero Heeroine To Feature A BIG STAR?



Pooja Entertainment's 'Mission Raniganj' has indeed come along with an immensely intriguing and captivating tale of courage and resilience on the big screens. While the film left an indelible mark on the minds of the audience, it emerged as one of the most cherished and reviewed films of 2023. After paving a successful journey on the big screens, now the film has arrived on the OTT grounds and is now exclusively available on Netflix. The time has come when the audience can finally get to watch the story of a valiant mission led by courageous Late Jaswant Singh Gill to rescue coal miners in 1989 as 'Mission Raniganj' starring Akshay Kumar is now available only on Netflix.

The film has ruled the hearts of the audience and now it's all set to create the same magic on the OTT screens. In fact, it also emerged as the first choice of the audience on National Cinema Day. 'Mission Raniganj' has indeed touched the hearts of millions with its gripping narrative. Produced by Vashu Bhagnani, Jackky Bhagnani, Deepshikha Deshmukh, and Ajay Kapoor, the film, directed by Timu Suresh Desai and music by Jjust Music, promises to bring to life the coal mine accident that shook not only the nation but also the world. The relentless dedication of the rescue team, led by Jaswant Singh Gill, offering audiences an unforgettable cinematic experience, screening in cinemas now. The film is now streaming on Netflix.

The anticipation for the upcoming movie 'Hero Heeroine' is escalating, fueled by intriguing posters that features actress Divyay Khosla Kumar. Speculations abound regarding the male lead. Rumors suggest an extended special appearance by a South Indian superstar, While Rishabh Shetty,

known for delivering powerful messages aligned with the theme of 'Dhumra Pyar Nishedi', aiming to resonate with the youth. The industry buzzes with excitement, with names like Rishabh Shetty and the dynamic Nagarjuna surfacing as potential leads.

While Rishabh Shetty,

celebrated for versatile roles with societal messages, might share the screen with Divyay Khosla Kumar, the enigmatic Nagarjuna brings his charismatic presence, adding an extra layer of intrigue. Seasoned actor Sudeep and emerging talent Rishabh Kashyap also

Stay tuned as the veil of mystery surrounding "Hero Heeroine."

The mention of Vikram, whether it's the seasoned Chiyaan Vikram or a new face, adds grandeur and mystery. As the casting decisions unfold, the question of whether the lead actor will be from the Tamil or Kannada industry remains unanswered.

Stay tuned as the veil of mystery surrounding the male lead in "Hero Heeroine" is gradually lifted, promising a cinematic journey that not only captivates but also carries profound messages for the youth.

Leaked: Ranbir Kapoor's Animal Full HD Movie Leaked Online On Tamilrockers, Telegram

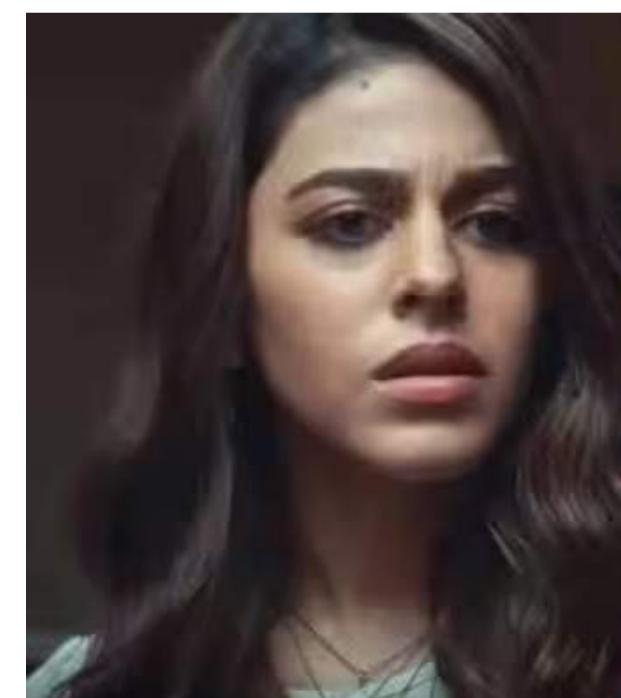


is over and fans and critics have already declared Animal a blockbuster hit film. As

fans are enthralled to witness this second Bollywood film by Sandeep Reddy Vanga

after 'Kabir Singh' on the big screen, there is a sad update for the makers. The film has been leaked online in HD quality to download free on Torrent websites, Tamilrockers, Telegram and Moverulz. The movie leak on day one of the release is likely to impact the Box Office collection.

Rani Mukerji To Alaya F: Actresses Who Aced Their Roles As A Journalist



young age, she has delivered a remarkable performance by carrying the film on her shoulders. She shines in intense scenes and commands a good screen presence. After the success of 'Freddy' and now 'U-Turn', she is considered



as one of the most sought after and bankable GenX actors of Bollywood!

Yami Gautam Dhar - Lost

While 'Lost' featuring Yami Gautam Dhar was praised for being an intriguing and thrilling

journalists during the making of the film.

Kareena Kapoor Khan - Satyagraha

Prakash Jha. While Kareena is known for playing glamorous roles mostly in her career, her performance as the obstinate and headstrong Yasmin demonstrated her acting prowess in this film.

Rani Mukerji - No One Killed Jessica

One of her best performances till date, Rani Mukerji as feisty television journalist Meera, takes up the case of Jessica Lal murder. Rani's character was inspired from the different TV news reporters covering the case. Meera takes up the cause as Sabrina loses all faith in her ability to ever bring her sister's case to justice. Rani was highly praised for her performance as a staunch journalist and got much critical acclaim.

Strategic importance in Lakshadweep



China has increased India's strategic challenge by building inland waterways and ports in several countries bordering the Pacific Ocean-Arabian Sea. In the past few decades, India has become a sensation. Has rapidly modernized the power. India has also strengthened its navy and coast guard forces in the last few years to deal with it. In addition, Bashgadwip is very important among the centers that India has established to enhance its maritime security capabilities. Lakshadweep is a sum of sixty islands and its total area is thirty two square kilometers. It extends to about thirty thousand square miles in the Arabian Sea.

The Arabian Sea borders Yemen, Oman, Pakistan, Iran, India and the Maldives. It is a

strategic area, which connects many important 'CP lanes' ports. It therefore becomes an important route for international trade. The Arabian Sea is rich in oil and natural gas. It is an important form of energy in the region. The archipelago can be used as a vantage point to monitor movement. It is also interesting to note that India's EEZ is very large, including Lakshadweep. The EEZ extends for over two hundred miles. For example, 370 km from the coast of any country. KM. Thanks to Lakshadweep, India has gained control over a large area of sea through which the movement of ships going far away can be monitored. There is an Indian naval base in Lapa. It is expected to be helpful.

The total coastline of India is seven thousand five hundred and sixteen kilometers. It extends to the states of Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Cuttack, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Odisha and West Bengal and the islands of Daman and Diu, Lakshadweep,

Puducherry, Ashman and Nicobar Islands. Located on the southwestern border of India between the Arabian Sea and the Sahidri mountain range, the state of Kerala is considered to be a major center of India's strategic security. Kodi is a port city in Kerala, bordering Lakshadweep. Kodi is considered as an important gateway to the Arabian Sea and the Indian Ocean. It is one of the major importers and exporters of the state, including agricultural products, industrial goods and raw materials.

Controls critical parts. It has been an important port city since ancient times, attracting traders from all over the world including the East and Europe. Codport is well connected with the international bazaar through regular shipping services.

Vikram Saralai West Center is located in Ahubanantapuram, Kerala. Here the designs of satellite launch vehicles and related technologies are

developed. It is the primary center of ISRO, which is responsible for the design and development of rocket technology. It conducts active research and development in the areas of aeronautics, space armaments, structures, chassis physics and system reliability. So Lakshadweep to protect these centers. The lagoons and exclusive economic zones of the Lakshadweep peninsula have significant fisheries and mineral resources, which are economically important. India is developing Aglega Island in Mauritius. Lakshadweep, becoming a connecting point between India and the Aglaga Peninsula, will give India a strategic border on China in the Indian Ocean. In other words, Lakshadweep's strategic location and its sensitivity to China and its territorial restrictions, efforts to promote it as a sub-classified defense island could add to the

security challenge. Citizens here are protesting against it. They believe that doing so will destroy the unique culture and traditions of the beautiful islands. Strengthening India's strategic capabilities in the archipelago is crucial. The Nine Degree Channel located in the Lakshadweep Archipelago is the most direct route for ships bound for East Asia through the Persian Gulf. This channel is used by all traders traveling to Europe, Middle East, West Asia, South East Asia and the Far East. During the war, India could block the channel and cut off enemy supply lines. The geographical location of the Lakshadweep archipelago also raises India's security concerns. Therefore, a monitoring system has been prepared on this. Language Island is very close to Macau Island. The continent is emerging as an anti-India center. Not because of the influence of China, where extremist activities have also increased.

In recent years, religious

fundamentalism has also been exported from this country with the help of Saudi Arabia and Pakistan. The South Asian country has the largest number of jihadist recruits for ISIS. 100 percent are from the continental United States. While hundreds of islands of the continent are uninhabited, there is a danger of the rise of the aristocratic power. This could have a direct impact on India's internal security. Lakshadweep can be redeveloped to counter China's growing influence in neighboring countries such as the mainland, Mauritius, Mauritius, Settey, Sri Lanka, Pakistan and Myanmar. About three hundred kilometers away from India, China is in Sri Lanka. Hambantota is under construction. Similarly, it controls much of the continent.

An airport is being built there. The spatial distance of Chennai, Kodi and Visakhapatnam ports is about nine hundred to fifteen kilometers. Sriharikota Satish

Dhawan Space Center for the Indian program is also located about eleven hundred kilometers away. The importance of the island has increased for India to counter China's naval presence and activities in the Indian Ocean and to establish a new surveillance system. Six hundred and fifty kilometers away from Kodi, India's Sana Vicki land is being built on the 16th level at Kar Karwar in Karnataka on the west coast.

The development of warships has been targeted at the Naval Base of Thuba Karobar, 'Project Se Barhar Naval Infrastructure Project Seaberg', which is the country's largest *136 neighboring country. It is within reach of fighter jets and is very close to the world's shipping route between the Persian Gulf and East Asia. Karobar Kot in Karnataka is located in Vinaga Garh. It is currently the third largest Indian Navy and after its full expansion, it will be the largest naval base in the eastern leg of Golar. The Cha Lalun and Economic

Zone of the Las Vegas Peninsula are important fisheries and mineral resources that are important in the area. is important. Va India is developing Olega P in Mauritius. Lakshadweep, becoming an 11th point between India and the Aglaga Peninsula, will give India a strategic frontier after China in the Indian Ocean.

In other words, Lakshadweep's strategic location and its sensitivity to China and territorial restrictions suggest the need to turn it into a special defense island, but efforts to promote it as a tourist center have increased security challenges. Citizens here are protesting against it. By doing so, the unique culture of the beautiful islands will be destroyed. There will be a possibility of smuggling due to tourism and research of this place. Recently, China and Pakistan are also doing this in India's security sensitive areas.

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Dr. Laxman Sahoo

Beauty Tips to Look Awesome This Valentine's Day

Shahnaz Hussain



partner, girlfriend, boyfriend, husband, or wife.

It doesn't matter if you are going on a special date for a romantic night out, looking for one or just a walk with friends and family, It brings the biggest date night of the year and the restlessness that comes along to look one's best on the special day.

If you can't be with your sweetie in person this year, then you might as well send them something sweet through online store/e-commerce websites. There are a lot of Valentine's gift packs in the market containing chocolate truffle flavours: milk chocolate, milk chocolate caramel, and dark chocolate strawberry. You may choose desi Ladoo / mithai depending on the taste of your sweetie.

Especially impressive if you live apart, a surprise gift might be the perfect way to share the love this year. Not sure what to buy? Keep it classic – paintings, art objects and flowers like roses will always be well-

received and create a sense of occasion. Twinned with a scented candle, Valentine's Day will be truly wrapped up.

Take advantage of sweater weather and escape into the wilderness, where you can relax by the fire and enjoy some hot chocolate. Take a scenic hike together and enjoy all the beautiful sights and the fresh air – it's a great way to bond while getting some much-needed time to unplug, too.

If you've got a new boyfriend, a hot date, or a tried-and-true love, Valentine day gives you the perfect excuse to pamper yourself to look romantic, sweet and attractive with flawless looking radiant skin with youthful glow.

Water based moisture is key for glowing skin. Moisturizers provide a good base before applying any makeup. Moisturizers which are formulated with shea butter, dimethicone, ceramides, hyaluronic acid and aloe vera water help

provide long-lasting hydration. Hydrate and nourish your skin every night before sleeping.

If your skin is clear, leave out the foundation during the day. Use baby powder or compact powder. Pay more attention to the oily areas of the face, like the nose, forehead, and chin. Press the powder all over the face and neck, with a slightly damp sponge. This helps it to set and last longer.

If you want to use foundation at night, choose a water-based one. Add a drop of water for a lighter coverage. Before applying foundation, apply astringent lotion if your skin is oily, or moisturizing lotion for dry skin. Wait for a few minutes to allow the

skin to absorb it. Next, use concealer to cover up pimples and scars, if any. Or, use two shades of foundation. One shade should be as close to your skin colour as possible. The other should be a shade lighter if the blemishes are dark. Take a little light coloured foundation and apply it directly on the pimple or pimple scar. Avoid rubbing or smearing.

Pat it into the skin. Then apply your normal foundation on the face and using a moist sponge, spread it evenly, going outwards. Remember the neck too. Blending is important to achieve a smooth finish then apply tinted loose powder on top to "set" the foundation. Or, use compact powder.

Blusher comes next, or you can apply it at the end. Use powder

together. Brush them with an eyelash comb. Wear a sunblock for outdoor events during the day, this acts as a shield and also works as a good under base for your foundation accelerating its performance.

Take proper sleep for at least eight hours during night. Lack of sleep will show on your face no matter how well you fashion your appearance. Put a drop or two of lavender oil on your pillowcase and try to relax. Sandalwood and Clary Sage are other good options.

For the night and for a more dramatic effect, use a dark brown, or dark grey eyeshadow on the eyelids close to the lashes and stroke it upwards and outwards.

For the smoky-eyed look, line the eyes with eyeliner close to the lashes and then smudge the eyeliner slightly with a sponge-tipped applicator. It should not be a harsh line.

Who ever heard of a Valentine's Day date ending without a goodnight kiss? Go with a soft pink or berry hue that is no more than two shades darker than your natural lip color is a good way to keep your lips colored without

going overboard. Exfoliate your lips the night before date night with a gentle lip scrub to remove dead skin cells to soften your pucker and improve the look and application of your date night lipstick.

For the buttery soft and smooth lips, plain gloss can be enough for the day, or add a touch of gloss over light pink or mauve lipstick. Coloured gloss is also available. Avoid using lip liners and just brush the lips with lipstick, going for shades of pink, from pale pink, to rose or tawny pink. At night, go for rose, coral or bronze, or just stick to pink. Just don't forget to hydrate your lips with your favorite lip balm, salve, or conditioner after exfoliating.

Wear a light flowery or lemony fragrance, nothing too overpowering. Always be kind and confident. I think these two traits together make someone beautiful.

As the last step, touch up your nails, smooth your strands, and spritz on some perfume. You're ready to go!

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



8



The President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu in a group photograph during the inauguration of the Vividhata Ka Amrit Mahotsav event at Rashtrapati Bhavan, in New Delhi

"BJP Has Waged War Against Opposition-Ruled States": Arvind Kejriwal

New Delhi: Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Thursday hit out at the BJP-led Centre, accusing it of waging a war against state governments led by opposition parties.

Leaders and lawmakers from the Left Democratic Front of Kerala, led by Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan, staged a protest against the Union government at Delhi's Jantar Mantar on Thursday.

"The governments led by opposition parties represent 70 crore people in the country. The BJP has waged a war against the opposition-ruled states. They have created a India-Pakistan situation with us. The Centre is using all the tactics to harass the opposition governments," alleged Arvind Kejriwal who took part in the protest.

He alleged that the Centre is not giving funds

to the state governments, using Governors and Lt Governors to meddle in the functioning of the state governments and unleashing central agencies on the opposition leaders.

"It is depriving them of valid funds and obstructing work through Governors and LGs. It is also harassing them by using central agencies to arrest the opposition leaders. How will the governments work?" He said the protesters were not "here to beg or ask for anything for our families".

"I have come here to ask for the right of two crore people. If you do not give us funds how will we build roads, provide electricity and work for development. How can you snatch the people's rights?" the Aam Aadmi Party national convener said.

Citing Punjab's instance, he said the state

government had to move the Supreme Court for release of rural development fund.

"The SC has fixed the matter for hearing next week. Immediately we received a call from Centre asking us to come and sit with them for a discussion. The Delhiites pay 2 lakh crore as income tax and out of that, they only get 325 crore. Even the British did not loot the country like this during the 100 years they were here," he claimed.

The governors are meddling with state subjects in the opposition-ruled states and agencies like ED are being used to frame the opposition leaders, he alleged.

"ED is a new weapon for them. Till now, there were laws and a case would be investigated. Then it would be tried legally and the accused would be sent to jail after

due legal process. Now they decide whom to put behind bars and then it is decided which case that person should be framed in," he alleged. They have arrested

Hemant Soren, without anything being proved against him, he claimed. "They can arrest even me, Pinarayi Vijayan or MK Stalin. They can arrest anyone and send

him to jail to topple the government. They even tried to topple the Jharkhand government but they could not," he said.

He said he is labelled

"corrupt" and underlined how he provides free electricity and free treatment in the government hospitals in Delhi.

"I provide free electricity to the people of Delhi while the electricity rates are quite high in Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh. You tell me - is the one who provides free electricity corrupt or the one who provides it at higher rates? "I want to tell the BJP not to be arrogant. Times can change. A time can come when we will be there (in power) and you will be here (in opposition) and the same laws can come to haunt you," Arvind

Kejriwal said. His Punjab counterpart Bhagwant Singh Mann said at a time when they should have been at their respective secretariats preparing for budget, they are here to protest at Jantar Mantar.

"We should have been at our respective secretariats and attending to work as this is the time for budget preparation. But, here we are at Jantar Mantar asking for our rights. They have withheld 5500 crore of our funds and we had to approach the SC.

"Where the BJP has no MLAs, the governors start ruling," he alleged at the protest.

Petition Against Verdict Criminalising Gay Sex No Longer Valid: Supreme Court

New Delhi(KCN): The Supreme Court on Thursday said the curative pleas against the 2013 judgement, which had re-criminalised consensual gay sex in private, have become "infructuous" keeping in mind the subsequent 2018 verdict decriminalising the act.

A five-judge constitution bench, on September 6, 2018, had unanimously decriminalised a part of Section 377 of the IPC, which criminalises consensual unnatural sex, saying it violated the right to equality and "manifestly arbitrary". The pleas were filed by dancer Navtej Singh Johar and others.



Prior to this, a two-judge bench of the Supreme Court, in 2013, had overruled an earlier 2009 Delhi High Court judgment that had decriminalised consensual gay sex in private.

A five-judge bench comprising Chief Justice DY Chandrachud and justices BR Gavai, Bela M Trivedi, Pankaj Mital and Manoj Misra on Thursday said the

subsequent judgement in the Navtej Singh Johar case by which consensual gay sex was decriminalised has made these curative petitions infructuous.

"We will say this curative petition became infructuous in view of the constitution bench judgment we rendered in Navtej Johar," the CJI observed.

The case, seeking decriminalisation of gay sex, has a significantly long legal history.

Initially NGO Naaz Foundation in 2001 filed a PIL in the Delhi High Court seeking legalisation of gay sex among consenting adults. The PIL was dismissed.

Hours After PM's Manmohan Singh Praise, White Paper On "Lack Of Leadership"

New Delhi(KCN): Prime Minister Narendra Modi lavished praise on Congress stalwart and his predecessor Manmohan Singh this morning, declaring him an "inspiration" and "pray(ing) he lives long and keeps guiding us". Hours later, the government released a white paper comparing the state of the economy during the 10 years of Mr Singh's UPA government and Mr Modi's NDA administration, and slammed the former's

"lack of leadership" that "came out in full public glare, in shameful public tearing-up of an ordinance". The reference was to 2013, when Congress MP Rahul Gandhi tore up a piece of paper to signal his rejection of an ordinance - passed by former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh - overturning a rule that disqualified convicted MPs and MLAs. The Congress eventually scrapped the ordinance. In its white paper - which holds the



Congress responsible for transforming the "healthy" economy it inherited from the

BJP made repeated mention to "weak" leadership when the UPA was in power.

6th Pan India & South Asia IB Heads Conference at The Heritage School Kolkata



Kolkata,(KCN): The Heritage School, Kolkata, in association with RP Goenka International School and Calcutta International School hosted the 6th Pan India and South Asia International Baccalaureate (IB) Heads Conference on 8th February 2024 which will continue till 10th February.

The pre-conference session was being organized today i.e. on 8th February 2024 at The Heritage School campus. Nearly 30 IB Heads from various Schools across India and South Asia participated in this pre-

conference session. The Heads visited the School campus, met with the teachers and students and also explored various kinds of students' projects done by the IB students of The Heritage School. "We are happy to host the pre-conference session at our School and it gives us an opportunity to interact with various School Heads across the globe," said Ms. Seema Sapru, Principal, The Heritage School, Kolkata. IB Heads from Modern High School International, Birla Open Minds International School, Pathways World School, Strawberry

Fields High School, Suncity School, GJR International School, Mussoorie International School, Mount Abu Schools, Akshar Arbol International School, Singapore International School, BD Somani International School, Manchester International School, Aditya Birla World Academy, UWC Mahindra and many more visited the campus today. The Main Conference is scheduled to happen on 9th February at The Taj City Centre New Town, Kolkata followed by the Annual general Meeting on 10th February 2024.

Ganjam farmers bring turnaround in paddy farming with SRI method

Berhampur(KCN): SRI (System of Rice Intensification) method of paddy cultivation can help check climate change and benefit the farmers as it consumes very less water in comparison to other methods of cultivation. This is because SRI method does not require continuous flooding for rice cultivation. Taking up paddy cultivation in SRI method helps reduce the possibility of global warming by 29 per cent as it results in 25-70 per cent reduction in discharge of methane and carbon dioxide to the atmosphere. This method also produces more panicles during the harvest, reduces the crop harvest period by

at least 10 days, and requires a minimum amount of seed, water, and chemical fertiliser for the crop.

Moreover, paddy cultivation is rain and storm-tolerant and helps in increasing the fertility of the farmland. As a large volume of water is required for rice cultivation, farmers conventionally depend on rainfall to raise their crops. However, due to a change in climatic conditions, it has become a difficult task for the farmers to supply enough water to their farmlands for the growth of the paddy crops. Farmers have been failing to start their cultivation in time due to a lack of water every year. Even if they



manage to sow seeds, seedling death comes back to haunt them due to a lack of irrigation facilities. Lack of irrigation results in reduced output for farmers, which is why they are withdrawing from rice cultivation in most cases. Drought farmers look for financial assistance

from the state government but they are often left high and dry. As a result, in Ganjam district alone hundreds of acres are left uncultivated. In this situation, the district project management unit under the Berhampur Forest department is laying

stress on the SRI method of cultivation and drawing the farmers towards it. This has come as a relief for the distressed farmers fed up with crop loss and reduced output in the traditional method of cultivation. SRI method of cultivation is being implemented in the

district with the support of the state government, the Green Climate Fund, and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). This has helped many farmers in becoming self-reliant and financially independent. Farmers think that this new method is helping them raise their crops without hassle. However, there is significant difference between the SRI and traditional methods of paddy cultivation. In this method, eight to 10-day-old paddy saplings are transplanted within a distance of 25 cm on wet farmlands. Maintaining proper

distance during transplantation helps in the growth of the root. As a result, paddy saplings get more air, sunlight, and nutrients. Jute and long beans are sown along with paddy as green manure. The de-weeding machine is used every tenth day to clear weeds and unwanted shrubs on the farmlands. This helps in aeration of the soil and the weeds also act as organic manure for the crops. The cultivation is resilient to standing water and dampness on the farmland. The output is more where there is proper movement of air. When contacted, Ranjan Kumar Bhoi, the district coordination officer of

the Agriculture department said this year over 900 farmers in Chikiti, Rangeilunda, Khallikote and Ganjam blocks have taken up SRI method of cultivation which initially started with only 30 farmers on 10-acre land in 202-23 FY. Assisted by two voluntary outfits Lipika and Pallishree and supervised by 30 experts, an additional 870 farmers have taken up the cultivation this kharif season on 200 acre of farmland. The cultivation was initially started by training the farmers in 39 villages. An increase in cultivation in the coming days can help check climate change and benefit the farmers, Bhoi added.

Tribal cuisine most-wanted at the Ama Byanjana food stalls



Bhubaneswar(KCN): In Bhubaneswar, the Ekamra Utsav organized by the Bhubaneswar Development Authority (BDA) is drawing crowds eager to savor delicious food, to Ama Byanjana. One of the highlights is the wild food stall nestled, where daily gatherings indulge in tribal cuisine delights. From kanbora baha paired with khaseri pakodi (chickpea

pakoda) to kai chutney, the menu offers a rich array of flavors including, Khaseri Pakudi Served with Kawnra Baha (Roselle Flower), Simjil Pakudi (Chicken) Served with Kawnra Baha (Roselle Flower), Jil Rappah (Chicken) Served with Haw Chutney, Kahnra sala Iccha Rappah Pumpkin Flower with Prawn Served with Haw

Chutney, Uuch Raaph (Mushroom) Served with Haw Chutney. Also, the menu includes, Simjil Soley (Chicken) Served with Palwa Chutney (Tamarind Leaves) and Ghantal Soley (Jackfruit) Served with Palwa Chutney (Tamarind Leaves). Quenching thirsts are Handi Sarbat, Tonka Torani, and refreshing

Rotating Odia cuisine draws crowds to Ama Byanjana at Ekamra Utsav

Bhubaneswar(KCN): The Bhubaneswar Development Authority (BDA) orchestrated Ekamra Utsav, has been drawing an increasing crowd to Ama Byanjan, where food stalls are becoming a major attraction.

Within the chain of four stalls, the first stall

features a rotating menu of Odisha cuisine, tailored to match the ongoing festivals. With Odisha boasting thirteen festivals in twelve months, the stalls offer a diverse culinary experience reflecting the festive spirit. Each day of the seven-day event is themed around festivals

like Makar Sankranti, Raja, Kartik Purnima, Nuakhai, Kumar Purnami, Manavasa Gurubaar and Bali Yatra. For instance, Wednesday's menu, coinciding with Kumar Purnami, showcased dishes such as Bhushimishri Pana, Dalma Chop with Tomatoes, Dates,

Farewell To RS Members

New Delhi(KCN): Prime Minister Narendra Modi today bid farewell to the retiring members of Rajya Sabha. Three Members of RS are retiring from the House from Odisha. They are Amar Patnaik, Prashanta Nanda and Ashwini Vaishnav. Speaking on the occasion in Rajya Sabha, the Prime Minister said that Lok Sabha changes after every five years while Rajya Sabha gets a new life force every two years. Similarly, the Prime Minister said, the biennial farewell also leaves indelible memories and priceless legacy for

the new members. Remembering the contribution of Dr Manmohan Singh, the Prime Minister said, "Due to his long tenure guiding the house and the nation, he will figure in every discussion of the democracy of our nation". The Prime Minister suggested that all Members of Parliament try to learn from the conduct of such distinguished members as they are the guiding lights. The Prime Minister remembered the former Prime Minister coming on wheel chair to vote in the House as an inspiring example of a member's

dedication to his duties. "I believe he came to impart strength to democracy", the Prime Minister said. PM Modi conveyed his good wishes for his long and healthy life. The Prime Minister said that the Members who are leaving for a more public platform will hugely benefit from the experience in Rajya Sabha. "This is a diverse university of six years, shaped by experiences. Any one who goes out from here goes enriched and strengthens the work of nation-building", he said. Marking the significance of the present

moment, the Prime Minister said that the Members that are leaving today had the opportunity to be in both old and the new building and they are leaving bearing witness to the Amrit Kaal and 75 years of the Constitution. Recalling the Covid Pandemic when uncertainties loomed large, the Prime Minister lauded the commitment of the Members for not letting any hindrance come in the way of the functioning of the House. He noted the huge risks undertaken by the Members of Parliament to fulfil their responsibilities.

2024-2025



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Dalmia Bharat Foundation Signs MoA with BSL to Enable Social Transformation in Bokaro

Bokaro, Jharkhand : Dalmia Bharat Foundation (DBF), the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) arm of Dalmia Bharat Group has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoA) with Bokaro Steel Plant (BSL) to drive its community-centric initiatives in Jharkhand by upskilling 600 youth, annually. The aim of the MoA is to establish a skill training centre to impart short term, placement-based courses to local youth in the surrounding villages through DBF's DIKSHA (Dalmia Institute of Knowledge and Skill Harnessing) centre. The MoA was signed by Shri Chaudhary Ratnesh

Kumar Sudhanshu, Dy. General Manager (CSR & SAIL-Uday), SAIL-Bokaro Steel Plant and Shri Vishal Bhardwaj, Group Head - CSR, Dalmia Bharat Group and Chief Executive Officer, Dalmia Bharat Foundation.

"Since our inception in 2009, we've witnessed our role gradually transform from being a resource provider to a key enabler for positive change in society. While we've created a legacy of development and change for the better, we continue to strive to ensure that we meet newer economic and environmental needs and close wider societal gaps as much as possible," said Mr. Vishal

Bhardwaj, Group Head - CSR, Dalmia Bharat Group and CEO, DBF. "Through our leadership and dedication towards achieving social transformation, we will continue to work towards our vision of creating opportunities for people across the nation so that they can reach their full potential and give back to the community. We look forward to our partnership with BSL and also call upon our industry peers to join us as we make significant and sustainable differences and ensure social, economic, and environmental progress.

The skill development center at Bokaro Steel City, in association with DBF, will help strengthen

the social ecosystem in Jharkhand. While BSL will provide the necessary infrastructure support, DBF has been entrusted with managing day to day activities of the center including faculty and placement support.

"BSL and DBF share a common vision and value system for bringing about a transformative change in society by leveraging its demographic dividend through empowering the local youth through training that makes them market-ready," said Mr. Chaudhary Ratnesh Kumar Sudhanshu, Dy. GM (CSR & SAIL-Uday), SAIL-Bokaro Steel Plant. "It is our firm belief that this combined expertise and experience will ensure that the youth

being educated at the DIKSHA facility will receive quality and need-based training for the purpose of gainful employment across industries."

To ensure viable and sustainable income generation, training will be imparted in trades for self-employment and trades such as Assistant Electrician, Solar PV Installer, General Duty Assistant (GDA) and Customer Relationship Management, to begin with. Subsequently, more courses will be added as per demand and future prospects. The center shall largely focus on the development of the youth residing in BSL's peripheral villages.

Flipkart's Shopsy Summer Store steers tremendous growth for sellers in Odisha

Bhubaneswar: As the summer starts rolling in, Shopsy - Flipkart's social commerce platform, recently launched the Summer Store, a unique curation to address customers' nuanced seasonal needs by offering a wide range of products across categories under one umbrella. As a testimony to this endeavor, sellers in Cuttack recorded nearly a 9X growth in sales and sellers in Puri recorded nearly a 16X growth in sales bolstered by the summer store initiative. Sellers in Sundergarh have garnered a tremendous 34X growth in their sales over the past month. The summer store recorded increased traction from women buyers which indicates a positive women reseller growth in

Cuttack. Amongst several categories, Hygiene and Wellness, Fashion, Kitchenware and Home Decor emerged as top priorities for customers with demand for products such as deodorants, sunglasses, body washes, essential oils, sarees, table covers, bedsheets and kitchen tools topping the charts. Shopsy Summer Store is a one-stop-shop for products ranging from electronics, personal care, baby care, food and beverages, apparel, swimwear and kitchenware including air conditioners, deodorants, baby sunscreen, aerated drinks, cotton clothes for men and women, swimsuits and juicer mixer grinders. Of these, deodorants have taken

up the major share of the demand pie clocking over 50% growth, followed by sunglasses which grew by close to 22%. Kitchen tools also contributed to a 6X growth over the past month in Cuttack. This was followed by categories such as kurta sets, cotton sarees, deodorants and body washes that witnessed a 3X jump over the past month in Puri. Shopsy aims to continue its endeavor to offer a wide range of quality and engaging products for customers at affordable prices, while being a value-based and reliable platform. By providing a simplified social media interface, Shopsy is able to overcome user apprehension of trust and authenticity while shopping online.

Bhubaneswar: In observance of World Hypertension Day 2022 - commemorated every May 17th, to create awareness amongst people, a walkathon was organized by Shanti Memorial Hospital, Cuttack which covered some important roads of Cuttack city on the day. The walkathon was flagged off by Dr. Sreejoy Patnaik, Chairman & Managing Director and Prof. Dr. Rekha Das, Executive Director of the hospital after a briefing on the purpose of the observation day presented by Dr. Priyadarshi Tripathy, Cardiologist of the hospital. More than 150 employees joined the walkathon with plaque cards and banners carrying awareness message on hypertension prevention and treatment to communicate to the public the importance of hypertension and its serious medical complications, and to provide information on prevention, detection and treatment.

World Hypertension Day was first inaugurated in May 2005 ever since it has become an annual event. The main purpose behind the celebration of the World Hypertension Day is to promote public awareness of hypertension and to encourage citizens of all countries to prevent and control this silent killer, the modern epidemic. Later at Shanti Memorial Hospital, a free hypertension check-up camp was held in which around 100 persons checked their blood pressure and received free consultation.

Walkathon organized by Shanti Memorial Hospital on the occasion of World hypertension day

Bhubaneswar: Reliance Retail has launched a limited period Exchange to Upgrade offer for JioPhone Next. As per the offer, customers can exchange a functional 4G feature phone or smartphone for a brand new JioPhone Next for just Rs. 4,499.

The JioPhone Next 'Exchange to Upgrade' offer allows many more Indians to embrace a truly smart Digital Life. With this offer existing 4G feature phone and smartphone users will no longer be held back by their device constraints and be able to enjoy the true 4G Jio Digital Life to the fullest. Current users of 4G feature phones will

JK Lakshmi Cement Posted Net Profit up at Rs 161.26 Cr. in Jan-Mar.22

Bhubaneswar: JK Lakshmi Cement Ltd., one of the leading cement companies of India, recorded a turnover of Rs. 1497.64 crore in Jan-Mar.22 with an increase of 13% over Rs. 1321.99 crore in the corresponding quarter Jan-Mar.21. Despite unabated increase in Petcoke and Diesel prices which are hovering at all time high, JK Lakshmi Cement could achieve healthy profitability by continuous improvement in operational efficiencies, energy cost, better

Texmaco Rail & Engineering Ltd. Announces Key Developments in

Bairabi-Sairang Line Railway Bridge Project

Kolkata (Ambar Mukherjee): Texmaco Rail & Engineering Ltd., one of the leading organisations in the engineering and infrastructure sector, announced the key developments pertaining to the Bairabi-Sairang Line Railway Bridge Project, which is owned by the Indian Railways.

This significant project marks another milestone in Texmaco's legacy of delivering excellence in infrastructure development. The Bairabi-Sairang Line Railway Bridge Project is a crucial endeavour aimed at enhancing connectivity and facilitating transportation in the Northeast Frontier Railway zone of Indian Railways.

Spanning a distance of 51.38 kilometers, the project involves the construction of vital infrastructure to support the Bairabi-Sairang line. Owned by Indian Railways, the project encompasses the construction of four stations and necessitates an estimated 28 hectares of land. Currently under construction, the railway line will feature a single diesel track built to broad gauge specifications (1676 mm). Texmaco Rail & Engineering Ltd.'s Bridges & Structural Division has been entrusted with fabricating and erecting structural steel bridges, including the casting of deck slabs and track linking. The scope of work entails the construction of 15 bridges with a total of 42 spans, showcasing Texmaco's expertise in complex engineering projects. Major materials involved in the project include 5762 metric tons of structural steel. Additionally, the project requires 3500 cubic meters of concrete, 733 metric tons of reinforcement, and 1100 H Beam Sleepers.

On this occasion, Sudipta Mukherjee, Managing Director of Texmaco Rail & Engineering Ltd., said,

"At Texmaco, we embrace challenges as opportunities to demonstrate our commitment to excellence. The completion of Bridge no.

44-45-46 reflects our steadfast commitment to providing high-quality infrastructure solutions, even in the most challenging circumstances. As we near the finish line on the Bairabi-Sairang Line Railway Bridge Project, we remain resolute in our mission to connect Aizawl to the rest of India with efficiency and precision."

Texmaco Rail & Engineering Ltd. (TEXMACO), is an ISO: 9001-2015, a premier multi-discipline, multi-unit engineering and infrastructure Company, with 6 manufacturing units extending over 6.78 million sqft. The Company is involved in the business of manufacturing of Rolling Stock, such as Wagons, Coaches, EMUs, Loco shells & parts, etc., Hydro Mechanical Equipments, Steel Castings, Rail EPC, Bridges and other steel structures. TEXMACO has been the leading and most reliable freight car manufacturer over the past 8 (eight) decades.

JioPhone Next 'Exchange to Upgrade' Offer

now be able to migrate much more easily to the large screen digital experience on the world's most affordable 4G smartphone.

Similarly, the current 4G low-end smartphone users too can affordably upgrade to a seamless and enhanced digital life offer by JioPhone Next which runs on Pragati OS - the optimised version of Android that supports a rich suite of applications and usage without compromising on the user experience.

The offer is available through Reliance Retail's extensive network of JioMart Digital, Reliance Digital and other outlets in the remotest corners of the country, making it

geographically and economically accessible to many more Indians.

It is worth mentioning here that JioPhone Next, designed jointly by Jio and Google, is the world's most affordable 4G smartphone that comes with a 5.45" HD screen with Corning Gorilla Glass 3 and anti-fingerprint coating, 2GB RAM, 32 GB in-built storage (expandable up to 512GB), 13MP back camera, 8MP front selfie camera, 3500 mAh battery, and a range of other advanced features which include voice fast capabilities, read aloud, translate now, easy and smart camera, automatic feature update, easy media share, OTG support etc.

product mix and higher volume. JK Lakshmi Cement's EBITDA before Other Income moved up to Rs. 276.23 crore in Jan-Mar.22 from Rs. 267.88 crore in Jan-Mar.21. After providing for interest, depreciation & Exceptional Item, PBT stood at Rs. 197.93 crore in Jan-Mar.22 as against Rs. 186.53 crore in Jan-Mar.21. After Providing for Taxes and Other Comprehensive Income, JK Lakshmi Cement's Profit was up at Rs. 161.26 crore in Jan-Mar.22 against Rs. 138.27 crore logged in the corresponding quarter. During the twelve months April 21-March 22, Sales increased by 15% to Rs. 5040.78 crore (Rs. 4384.71 crore) and EBITDA was up at Rs. 868.52 crore (Rs. 864.22 crore). JK Lakshmi Cement's profit at PAT level during this period moved up by 14% to touch all-time high at Rs. 417.56 crore against profit of Rs. 366.24 crore in the same period last year.

LVPEI Receives 'Project of the Year Award' from PMI South Asia for Rural ROP Care Initiative



lead, along with other team members, accepted the award on behalf of LVPEI. Retinopathy of Prematurity (ROP) is an emerging 21st-century epidemic and the leading cause of irreversible vision loss in preterm born

babies and/or babies born with a birth weight less than 2.0 kgs, especially babies who were managed in incubators. The efforts by Ministries of Health over the last two decades to reduce neonatal mortality have

improved the survival of preterm babies. About 30% of the children in NICUs/SCNUs are expected to be affected by ROP and close to 18% of them can go completely blind if they don't receive timely retinal

treatment within 30 days of birth. Approximately 1000 premature babies are susceptible to go blind every year in Odisha due to ROP. Increased awareness, early detection and appropriate treatment and follow-up are essential for preventing ROP blindness.

LVPEI campus at Bhubaneswar is the only centre in Odisha offering a protocol-based comprehensive ROP care including neonatal retinal imaging, laser, intravitreal injections, mini neonatal intensive care facility, advanced paediatric retinal microsurgeries, low vision, and amblyopia services under one roof.

Ambuja Cements and ACC's ChangeTheStory campaign wins Bronze at the ABBY Awards

Mumbai: The first sustainability campaign 'Change The Story' of Ambuja Cements and ACC, has won a Bronze Award at the recent ABBY Awards 2022, under the Green Award category. This category is awarded to outstanding communication that features planet conservation, sustainability etc. The "Change The Story"

campaign aimed to create awareness about sustainability and showcase technology-backed solutions that offer effective and measurable outcomes in this regard.

The #ChangeTheStory campaign highlights a non-invasive bubble barrier technology, which will remove around 2,400 tonnes of plastic waste from Agra's Mantola

canal, thereby preventing its entry into the Yamuna river. The crux of the campaign lay in reaching out to a wide audience across India and globally — and communicating the campaign's features. The campaign winning this honour at the ABBY Awards—often touted as the Oscars of Indian advertising—was designed in collaboration

with Alok Nanda and Company and serves as another reminder of the crucial role sustainability plays at Ambuja Cements and ACC.

#ChangeTheStory campaign was rolled out across multiple platforms, including print and digital, reaching out to an approximate 32 million people. One of its lead video films conveyed the message, through the lens of a scientist, that it's time to change the story by taking out the plastic and freeing our rivers of their polluted past. The campaign further leveraged the power of music and created a rap song across owned platforms featuring the campaign mnemonic "Bubble Sharma". This was followed by a bouquet of informative posts and videos on social media. ACC and Ambuja

Cements collaborated with micro and nano influencers to drive engagement around the bubble barrier technology.

The two companies were the first to launch an augmented reality-based game in India, which created an immersive experience for users by illustrating the state of marine plastic pollution and the basic functioning of the Bubble Barrier

technology. This game convinces the user to play their role in driving change by encouraging players to "bubble pop" their way to cleaner oceans and safer habitats for marine organisms.

Mr. Neeraj Akhoury, CEO India Holcim and Managing Director & CEO of Ambuja Cements Ltd., said that the award served yet another reminder of the company's efforts towards sustainability. "We are elated and honoured that a campaign that's important to us has received the recognition that it deserved. Sustainability and business go hand in hand at Ambuja Cements and ACC Ltd. This will encourage us to further step up our efforts in this direction."

Kishan training with Pandya brothers at Kiran More academy

New Delhi: As Ishan Kishan's prolonged absence from the competitive cricket scene has raised questions about his attitude and commitment, the wicketkeeper-batsman has been spotted working out and practising in Baroda. It is understood that the 25-year-old keeper-batter has been stationed in Baroda for the past couple of weeks, honing his skills at the Reliance Stadium in the city. However, there is no indication of when he intends to return to action.

Kishan has been training at the Kiran More

Academy in Baroda, a popular spot for cricketers in the Gujarat city, where he has the company of the Pandya brothers - Hardik and Krunal. Incidentally, Hardik Pandya is the captain of the Mumbai Indians, an IPL franchise that Kishan also represents. Kiran More confirmed to Cricbuzz that Kishan is indeed training at his academy but could not disclose much as the former India wicketkeeper is currently in Mumbai with the Mumbai Indians' Women's Premier League (WPL) side.

Kishan has not played a game since November last year and after departing from the team setup in South Africa mid-December, he has shown no inclination towards playing competitive cricket, despite national coach Rahul Dravid's remarks that he should participate in some games if he aims to be considered for national selection. However, it has been confirmed that he will not be part of his home state Jharkhand's Ranji game against Haryana in Jamshedpur from February 9. There are discussions about

whether his continued absence will impact the BCCI's consideration for central contracts. Currently, he is in Grade C with an annual retainership of Rs 1 crore. With KS Bharat

against England, but he may have missed out on that opportunity.

Asked about his chances, coach Dravid had this to say: "I just don't want to go on labouring about the Ishan Kishan point. Whenever he is ready, I didn't say he has to play domestic cricket, I said whenever he is ready... he needs to play some cricket and come back. The choice is his. We are not forcing him to do anything. We are in touch with him.

"We know what it is. He hasn't yet started playing, right? At the moment, it's not something that we would

consider. He is maybe not ready. He decides when he wants to be ready." It is now clear that the earliest Ishan can play is the IPL in March-May. The Indian team selection for the last three Tests is expected over the next two days, and it is now evident that Virat Kohli will not be part of the squad, as previously hinted at by this website. Kohli has been overseas on a family emergency, and he is believed to have informed the BCCI that he won't be available for any of the five Tests against England.



Pacers shine as Super Kings wreck Royals in Eliminator



New Delhi: Sam Cook and Nandre Burger shared seven wickets between them to wreck Paarl Royals as Joburg Super Kings prevailed in the SA20 Eliminator on Wednesday (February 7) at the Wanderers Stadium. Cook, playing his first ever game in the competition, picked up four wickets whereas Burger finished with three as Paarl Royals' poor run of form eventually saw them lose another game after being bowled out for 138. Royals actually made a promising start with Jason Roy taking on Burger in his first over for a six and a couple of fours. In the next, Jos Buttler hit one straight over Cook's head for another six as Royals

raced to 26/0 after just 2.2 overs. But off the next ball, Buttler inside-edged one to the keeper while attempting his trademark scoop shot. Two balls later, Mitchell Van Buuren top edged one and a 44-year-old Imran Tahir ran backwards to complete an excellent catch and spark wild celebrations. Burger then repeated the feat in his next over as he first got rid of the dangerous Roy, who had moved to 24 off 11 at one stage before adding to his collection to reduce Royals to 43/4. Dane Vilas and David Miller then steadied the ship for a brief period but Burger returned again to remove the former that ended any hopes of a fightback. Miller hit a 40-ball 147 and

in the process, went past 10000 runs in T20 cricket but Tahir and Cook mopped up the lower order by the penultimate over.

The chase got going when Leus du Plooy gave Super Kings an excellent start once again. After smashing a couple of fours and a six off Codi Yusuf, du Plooy cleared the ropes again, this time off Obed McCoy. At the other end, Faf du Plessis hardly had anything to do in the powerplay with du Plooy handling the bulk of the scoring. Super Kings put themselves firmly on top, having knocked off 63 runs from the first six overs and du Plooy continued to make merry, bringing up a fifty in the process.

Du Plessis finally broke the shackles with a six against Andile Phehlukwayo as the openers added 103 in the first 10 overs. Du Plessis then took charge after Tabraiz Shamsi sent du Plooy packing for 68, got himself another half-century and finished the job with 40 balls to spare.

Rishabh Pant confident of playing entire IPL 2024 season: Ponting



New Delhi: In encouraging news for Delhi Capitals and India fans, Ricky Ponting has reckoned that Rishabh Pant is confident of playing the entirety of this year's IPL. Pant was in a horrific car crash on December 30, 2022 that has kept him away from the game since. Slowly, the wicketkeeper-batter returned to mild fitness routines and has even been spotted at India's matches in the last few months.

Having missed last year's IPL, the ODI World Cup and some key Test series, Pant was expected to return during this year's IPL. While Ponting reckoned that the 26-year-old feels he's ready for a return, he remained unsure about Pant taking the wicketkeeping gloves or being captain yet.

"Rishabh is very confident that he's going to be right to play. In what capacity we're not quite sure yet. You would have seen all the social-media stuff, he's up and about and

running well. But in saying that we're only a six weeks away from the first game as well. So we're not sure if we'll get wicketkeeping out of him this year," Ponting said.

"But I'll guarantee if I asked him now he'll say, 'I'm playing every game, I'm keeping every game and I'm batting at No.4.' That's just what he's like, but we'll keep our fingers crossed," he added.

While Pant is bullish about featuring all season, Ponting tempered his expectations and reckoned that managing him for 10 of the 14 games would feel like a bonus for a side that missed his services

dearly last year.

"He's such a dynamic player. He's obviously our captain. We missed him incredibly last year. If you understand the journey he's been on the last 12-13 months, it was a horrific incident. One that I know he feels very lucky to have even survived, let alone have the chance to play cricket again.

"We'll just keep our fingers crossed and hope that he can be out there and play. Even if it's not all the games, if we can manage him through 10 of the 14 games or whatever that might be then whatever games you can get out of him will be a bonus," Ponting said, and

confirmed that David Warner will remain in charge if Pant isn't ready to lead the team.

Delhi Capitals won just five of their 14 games and finished second-last in IPL 2023, but Ponting heads towards this year's season with a sense of optimism.

"With Harry Brook coming into the set-up as well, so Warner, [Mitch] Marsh, Harry Brook, in order to address an ongoing foot injury. The batting allrounder has been rested from the upcoming games after he experienced discomfort recently. However, the 32-year-old who has established himself as a key figure in the middle order across formats, is expected to regain full fitness by the time New Zealand take on Australia in the Test series, starting on February 29.

"Daryl is a hugely important member of the squad in all three formats and ensuring he is in the best shape is vital with the period of matches to come," said head coach Gary Stead. "Based on the schedule ahead, we feel now is an appropriate time for Daryl to complete a period of rehabilitation." Will O'Rourke, who was already added to the squad for the second Test, will replace Mitchell in the group. However, it remains to be seen if he is handed a debut or New Zealand replace Mitchell in the XI with Will Young. Meanwhile, Stead also confirmed that regular skipper Kane Williamson is set to miss the three-match T20I series against Australia, while pacer Trent Boult could earn a recall.

"Kane's wife is pregnant at the moment, so I think through the T20s it's unlikely he will be around as well," he said. "Trent's available if we want to select him - him and I are still having conversations, but from a selection point of view, we're going through that at the moment and hopeful in the next couple of days we can nail down what that looks like."

Mitchell sidelined for second SA Test and Australia T20Is



New Delhi(KCN): Daryl

Firsts cross South Africa's gender divide



New Delhi: The firsts are lining up in South African cricket. All New Zealand need to do to claim their first win - and become the inaugural holders of the Tangiwai Shield - in all 18 men's Test series they have played against the South Africans is not to lose in Hamilton next week. In Benoni on Tuesday, South Africa failed to take their chance to reach the men's under-19 World Cup final for the first time since 2014.

But it isn't all bad. In Sydney on Wednesday, South Africa beat bouts of bad weather along with the home side to earn their first win in 17 completed women's ODIs against Australia - which marked the first time in nine completed games in the format that the Australians were

beaten. It was also only Australia's fourth loss in their 54 ODIs from March 2018. That followed South Africa's first win in nine completed women's T20Is against the same opponents, in Canberra on Sunday. The Aussies clinched the rubber in Hobart two days later, but the South Africans had made their point. The hero of Wednesday's match was Marizanne Kapp, who scored 75 off

87 and took 3/12 in five overs. She overcame not only her opponents and two interruptions for rain while she was batting, which reduced the match to innings of 45 overs, but also an elbow injury sustained when she was hit by a throw from the field during the first ODI in Adelaide on Saturday. "Coming here this morning I felt 100%, and then I started hitting some balls and felt pain in my arm," Kapp told reporters

in Sydney. "After speaking to the physio and doctor, they assured me the pain meds would soon start kicking in. They convinced me to play, and everything worked out." But Kapp didn't need convincing about the importance of the result: "It's a proud moment, not only for me but for South African cricket as a whole. "We got a proper hiding in Adelaide [where South Africa were bowled out for 105 and Australia won by eight wickets in 19 overs], so to come out fighting in conditions that weren't easy showed a lot of fight and grit. It speaks volumes."

South Africa had slipped to 71/3 in the 16th when

Kapp took guard. She batted through three partnerships, none of which reached 50 runs or

Ben Duckett's Controversial Tweet About MS Dhoni's Wife Sakshi Sparks Social Media Frenzy



New Delhi: Amidst the gripping battle between England and India in the ongoing World Test Championship series, English opener Ben Duckett has found himself in the spotlight, not for his cricketing prowess but for an old tweet resurfacing and causing a stir on social media platforms. Let's delve into the details of this intriguing saga. Despite his commendable performances on the field, accumulating 131 runs in four innings during the ongoing series against India, Duckett's off-the-field actions have recently taken precedence. With a solid track record of 1203 runs in 16 Tests at an average of 43, Duckett's cricketing abilities are unquestionable. However, it's his decade-old tweet that has garnered widespread attention.