



Puri Srimandir Heritage Corridor Project Unveiled By Odisha CM Naveen Shreemandira Parikrama Prakalpa Dedicated To The Devotees.

Puri(KCN): Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik on Wednesday dedicated the much-awaited Shreemandira Parikrama Prakalpa or Srimandir Heritage Corridor project to the

public in the presence of Puri Gajapati Maharaja Divyasingha Deb.

Adorned with flowers, lights, and graffiti, the Pilgrim Town of Puri is immersed in

divinity, devotion and festivities for the grand inauguration of the Srimandir Heritage Corridor Project today. The project includes parking areas, Shree Setu (a bridge), Shree

Danda (a road), running parallel to Bada Danda to ease pilgrim movement, pilgrimage centre, restroom facilities, cloakrooms, toilets and other amenities for

visitors in and around the Shree Jagannath temple. The CM reached Puri at around 1 pm and unveiled the much-awaited project at 1.30 pm amid a large

number of devotees from different parts of Odisha and the country congregated here for the inaugural ceremony. The three-day-long yagna culminated on

Wednesday afternoon, after Gajapati Maharaj of Puri Divyasingha Deb gave 'purnahuti' in the 'havan'. Patnaik dedicated the project to devotees

with the culmination of the Yagna. Later, the priests, sadhus and other delegates along with the chief minister went around the Parikrama around the temple.

Former Odisha CM Gamang, Two Family Members Back In Congress

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Former Odisha Chief Minister and Union Minister Giridhar Gamang and former MP Sanjay Bhoi today returned to the Congress party.

Gamang's wife Hema and son Sisir too rejoined the grand old party in the presence of All India Congress Committee (AICC) in-charge for Odisha, Ajoy Kumar, and party treasurer Ajay Maken in New Delhi. Gamang (80), a tribal leader, had been elected to the Lok Sabha from



Koraput constituency in Odisha for nine times in between 1972 and 2004. He was a Union Minister for around 10 years in governments led by Indira Gandhi, Rajiv

Gandhi and PV Narasimha Rao at the Centre. The veteran leader had served as the Chief Minister of Odisha from February 17, 1999 to

December 6, 1999. Gamang along with his wife and son had left Congress in 2015 and joined the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). He shifted his allegiance to

K Chandrasekhar Rao-led Bharat Rashtra Samithi after resigning from BJP last year. Bhoi, the son of former Union Minister Krupasindhu Bhoi, had taken plunge into politics by quitting his job in a software company some years ago. He got elected to the Lok Sabha from Bargarh constituency in Odisha on a Congress ticket in 2009. Bhoi had resigned from Congress and joined the BJP after he was denied a ticket by the grand old party in 2019 elections.

The visibility ranges from 999 m to 500 m, 499 m to 200 m, 199 m to 50 m and less than 50 m, respectively. "Latest Satellite pictures at 0700 am of today indicates that fog has reduced over Bihar, east UP, north MP & and very dense fog.

Delhi since midnight. However, dense fog is still prevailing over parts of Punjab, Haryana, West Uttar Pradesh & northwest Rajasthan and likely to continue few more hours," IMD said in a tweet at 8:30 a.m.

Buddha's teachings are not relics of the past, but a compass for our future : VP



influence of Buddha's teachings on India's approach to service-driven governance. He underscored how these principles serve as a guiding force in the nation's commitment to prioritizing citizen welfare, inclusivity, and environmental sustainability.

Reflecting on the Buddha's timeless wisdom, VP stated that this offers a powerful, harmonious, wholesome, seamless path to peace not only for human beings but also for living beings. Highlighting the relevance of Buddha's

Four Noble Truths and Eightfold Path in fostering inner peace and non-violence, Shri Dhankhar highlighted their capacity to guide individuals and nations towards inner peace, compassion, and non-violence. In his address, the Vice President also underscored the universal relevance of Buddha's principles in addressing contemporary challenges such as climate change, conflict, terrorism, and poverty. He called for a collaborative, collective approach to overcome these existential threats,

highlighting Bhagwan Buddha's teachings as a beacon of hope. Referring to the theme of 12th General Assembly - "ABCP - The Buddhist Voice of Global South", Shri Dhankhar stated that the theme coincides with India's growing leadership role, amplifying the voices of the Global South. "As evidenced by its G20 presidency, India is committed to representing the concerns of nations with three-quarters of the world's population, he added.

Describing Bharat as a nation guided by the

principles of Bhagwan Buddha, Shri Dhankhar echoed PM Modi's statement where he said "we are proud to belong to a nation that has given the world 'Buddha' and not 'Yuddha' (war)." Highlighting India's commitment to ensuring that the younger generations across the world learn more about Lord Buddha, Shri Dhankhar mentioned India's proactive role in development of the Buddhist circuit and India International Centre for Buddhist Culture, boosting connectivity for international travellers to access sites of Buddhist heritage.

Shri KirenRijiju, Union Minister, Government of India, Most Ven. D ChoijamtsDemberel, President, ABCP, Dr. Khy Sovanratana, Secretary of State (Deputy Minister), Royal Government of Cambodia, and delegates from various countries attended the event.

Over 1600 Bottles Of Banned Cough Syrup Seized In Bhubaneswar, Two Held



Bhubaneswar(KCN): The Commissionerate Police seized 1680 bottles of banned cough syrup at Kasturba school bus stop in Bhubaneswar, on Wednesday and arrested two persons in this connection. The accused have been identified as Jagannath Jena of Gadakana,

Mancheswar and Anil Kumar Nayak of Salia Sahi in Bhubaneswar. Based on intelligence input, the team of cops conducted a raid in that area and arrested the two accused. As per reports, the WINCEREX cough syrup bottles were being transported by the two smugglers from Kolkata to Bhubaneswar by bus. The police nabbed the two persons while they were waiting for the bus. The entire cough syrup bottles were seized from their possessions. The smugglers were taken into custody and forwarded to the court, police said.

'Mother Pradhanpat'

Sanjib Kumar Dash

It's my dreamland, my Pradhanpat, figuring a small unique spot, impinge a serene sense, often surging into mute corner of mind, It's a shrine of deity on earth, as if, in remote era once hit upon by some angelic glance...

Ivory along water course, in moonlit evening, some see, Rainbow plays at fall's feet, with dusk shattered sunbeam, Birds twitter, fountain murmur, with cool breeze n sweet fragrance, an ever greenness cultures here, That's the beauty of it.

Headjoining series of hills stretching over the valley, smiling foliage n tendrils, even a lonely planttightening



around a corner stone, the blue sky above, all in one, Real assemblage of nicety of nature, Mother Pradhanpat, True embodiment of love n sacrifice, ever eyeful on our peace, from birth till end, salute you, pray you Mother....

Reader in Physics
Deogarh College
Mo 9437739577

Intricate interplay

Gajanan Mishra

I know not
The hidden purpose,
I know not
The meaning thereof.

I know my on point
I live in.
So and so I emphasize
Love, faith, unselfishness
In life.

For greater good
Here I am.
So and so I want to know
Intricate interplay of
The ocean and the sky.

Tapobana, Titilagarh-767033

Quotation of the Day

"Write it on your heart that every day is the best day in the year."

—RALPH WALDO EMERSON

Temples Of Khajuraho

India is known to have more than 2 million Hindu temples. These temples reflect the variety of Indian culture and way of life. Temple architecture in India has always embodied an underlying vision. It is a representation of experience, space and time. The art and architecture involved in the construction of Hindu Temples is well defined in the Shilpa Shashtra. It mentions three main kinds of temple architecture in India: Nagara or the Northern Style, Dravida or the Southern style and Vesara or the Mixed style. The defining features of a Nagara style are Garbhagriha (Sanctum Sanctorum), Shikhara (Curvilinear tower), and Mandapa (Entrance Hall). The Nagara style developed gradually as the earlier temples had only one Shikhara, while the later temples were constructed with multiple Shikharas and the Garbhagriha can always be found under the tallest tower. The Temples of Khajuraho are a magnificent example of the Nagara style of temples as the temples consist of a sanctum, a narrow ante-chamber (antarala), a transept (maha mandapa), additional halls (ardha mandapa), a mandapa or nave and an ambulatory passage (Pradakshina-path) which is lighted by large windows.

Khajuraho, known for its ornate temples, was built by the Chandela rulers between 900 CE to 1130 CE. The first mention of Khajuraho and its temples is in the accounts of Abu Rahyan al Biruni (1022 CE) and Ibn Batuta (1335 CE). The temples were said to have been spread across 20 square kilometres and there were around 85 temples in the 12th century. The ravages of time have reduced the number of temples in Khajuraho to just 20 today.

The Chandela Empire

ruled central India from the tenth to the fourteenth centuries. Chandelas were well known for their interest in art and architecture. Although followers of Shaivism, the Chandelas were also said to have been inclined towards Vaishnavism and Jainism as well. The carvings at the temples seem to be predominantly about Hindu deities and mythology. The architectural style also follows Hindu traditions. This can be validated by various factors. A predominant feature of the construction of a Hindu temple is that the face of the temple should be towards the direction of sunrise. All the temples of Khajuraho have been built with this in mind. Moreover, the carvings reflect the four goals of life in Hinduism, viz, dharma, kama, artha, moksha.

The major focus of the study of the Temples of Khajuraho have been on the sculptures. The walls of these temples have some of the best sculptures of the time, making Khajuraho a representation of excellent artistic features. It is believed that the temples constitute five different sets of sculptures: These sets of sculptures and erotic images represent scenes from day to day life.

The father kindly reasoned with the child, saying that the moon was very far from there and it was possible to get near it as no road leads one to the Moon. But the spoilt child would not be appeased by these gentle words. He cried incessantly and insisted on having the moon. He refused to eat and drink food and consequently, he grew pale and haggard-looking. Jarang's wife, unable

all?" The fool could not realise the gravity of the situation that she was pushing her husband into, an impossible task. Unnable to bear any longer the constant nagging of his wife and the persistent crying of his child, the young man decided to build a staircase to the moon. He assured his son that he was going to fetch the moon for him.

Jarang set about

Manas Ranjan Mahapatra

to endure the distressing tantrums of the child any longer, scolded her husband, saying: "Do you wish the doleful cries of the child should continue till he dies? Surely, had you tried, you could have fetched the moon for him. Why not construct a staircase to the moon and drag it here within our reach once and for

gathering together enormous quantities of wooden posts and bamboos where with to raise the intended structure, and piled up the needful material at one place. With the help of his nephew, he laid the foundation for the immense staircase. The job of fetching the wooden posts and bamboos from the huge pile was assigned to the

sounded as if he was shouting exultantly: "I've got the moon. I've got the moon. Hew down the staircase." Again and again they listened attentively and the same message seemed to be wafted down. Immediately the obedient nephew took up an axe and hewed down the main pillars of the enormous structure.

weary waiting, Jarang's wife and nephew angrily concluded that he had furtively fled to the abode of the moon and stars. The fallen heap of the staircase afterwards became a small range of hills which eventually came to be known as Jarang Kadoras. This small hill range can still be seen in the

A Staircase to the Moon



Once upon a time among the Achiks in Achik Asong lived a man named Jarang. He had a beautiful wife and a good-looking son in his early teens. Jarang loved his wife and child dearly, in fact more than anything else in the world and tried his level best to please them in all possible ways. One evening as he was sitting with his beloved wife and child in the open courtyard of his house, there appeared the moon in all its glory, high up in the clear, serene sky. The child especially watched it delightfully for a long time and then cried out to his father:

"Oh, what a beautiful moon! I wish I could grasp it in my hands and play with it. Father, please fetch it for me."

The father kindly reasoned with the child, saying that the moon was very far from there and it was possible to get near it as no road leads one to the Moon. But the spoilt child would not be appeased by these gentle words. He cried incessantly and insisted on having the moon. He refused to eat and drink food and consequently, he grew pale and haggard-looking. Jarang's wife, unable

nephew, while Jarang got himself immersed fully in erecting one staircase upon another. When the staircase ascended far above the clouds, Jarang got confident that he was surely near the moon. He shouted from above to his nephew below: "Bring up bamboos. Bring up bamboos." His wife and nephew on the ground far below could not catch his words distinctly. To them it

Soon it fell with a tremendous crash, propelling Jarang through space to a distant place where he was killed instantaneously. Not finding his fallen body, his wife and nephew waited expectantly for many days for him to return bearing triumphantly in his hands the cherished moon. But there was no further sign of the returning conqueror. After many more days of

Achik Asong to this day. (Based on a Garo Folktale) Visiting Professor of Development Communication Former Director, I & PR and Culture, North Eastern Council Ministry of DoNER, Govt. of India Former Director, Book Publishing Courses & Editor, NCCL National Book Trust, Ministry of HRD, Govt. of India



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Bigg Boss 17 Episode Preview: Vicky Jain Vows To Never Speak To Wife Ankita Lokhande Amid A Fiery Nomination Battle



In tonight's episode of COLORS' 'BIGG BOSS', the nomination drill sets off a fierce battle among the contestants, as the season of favouritism teeters on its conclusion. The housemates are divided into two teams. Team A includes Arun Srikant, Abhishek Kumar, Munawar Faruqui, and Mannara Chopra and Team B has Ankita Lokhande, Vicky Jain, Ayesha Khan, and Isha Malviya. The drill is that one team will be locked in a cage in the garden, tied together

with bungee cords, and they must keep a buzzer pressed for two hours. The twist is that out of the cage, the opponent team will stop at nothing to snatch them away from that buzzer. If the light on the buzzer goes off, it's game over for that team, and all its members risk getting nominated. If one person lets go of the buzzer, their team members are dragged down too. The contestants outside the cage go full throttle, desperate to make the rival team break their

buzzer-holding grip as if their lives depend on it. Who will be left trapped and nominated after this intense nomination drill?

In the ongoing

rollercoaster of drama between Ankita Lokhande and Vicky Jain, sparks are flying once again as they fight over boundaries and possessiveness. Ankita

is fuming over her husband Vicky's seemingly close friendship with Mannara Chopra. When Vicky attempts to get to the bottom of the issue, back to each other?

Animal: Sara Ali Khan Never Auditioned For Triptii Dimri's Role In Ranbir Kapoor-Bobby Deol's Starrer

Actress Triptii Dimri might have a brief appearance in Sandeep Reddy Vanga's latest blockbuster 'Animal', but the actress has managed to become the talk of the town for her performance. Her intimate scenes with Ranbir Kapoor in the film have been a topic of debate on the internet with a section of people criticizing the makers for promoting toxic masculinity.

While Triptii Dimri has been garnering acclaim for her portrayal in the film, several reports claimed that Sara Ali Khan had auditioned for the role of 'Zoya' but could not crack it.

Putting all the rumors to rest, an industry insider revealed that "Sara Ali Khan never auditioned for Sandeep Reddy Vanga's latest released 'Animal'."

For the unversed, rumours of Sara Ali Khan auditioning for the role played by Triptii Dimri in the film made headlines recently. The report claimed that Sandeep Reddy Vanga's latest released 'Animal'.

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Creating good human being



It is propagated that the long-awaited consecration of Ram Mandir in Ayodhya stands as a timeless symbol of faith, unity, and cultural resurgence. The temple's construction and inauguration mark the realization of a centuries-old aspiration, uniting devotees and fostering a sense of collective harmony. Beyond religious devotion, it serves as a testament to the nation's rich cultural tapestry and the enduring legacy of Lord Ram, inspiring millions with its message of righteousness, peace, and communal coexistence. However, liberal and democratic minded people think that it is not a nation's rich cultural tapestry rather against religious diversity, tolerance and pluralism and our very concept of secularism as envisaged in the constitution. The fact that the temple is being built as part of Hindutva politics of BJP after demolition of Babri mosque with skewed judicial verdict favouring construction.

Hinduism is the most ancient religion in India practised by a majority of people in the country, Hindutva is a political philosophy dealing with Hindu majoritarianism.

A Hindu temple or mandir, devasthana, is a structure designed to bring Hindus and Gods together through worship, sacrifice, and devotion, thought of as the house of the god to whom it is dedicated. Every religion has religious shrines. While Muslim have mosques, Christian have Churches, Hindus have temples. While other religious people are promoting their religion, there is nothing wrong if a temple is being constructed. But there lie some serious questions? What is the real intention of building a temple? Why have been politicised so much and the consecration ceremony of temple has become BJP's own party agenda. Why political parties are denigrated if not attending ceremonies when visiting temples is purely personal choice. Why selective politicians, powerful, and celebrities are invited to ceremonies when everybody is equal in the home of God. Given its potential for communal polarisation, why could it not ever be separated from politics? When God is omnipresent, omniscient

and omnipotent and service to humanity is service to All Mighty, then visiting religious shrines may not be necessary to become a good human being and build up a better society. No conscientious citizen can forget the significant outcome of the prolonged legal clash over the structure at Ayodhya and the extent to which it was exploited for nefarious political gains by BJP and had its gruesome after-effects across the country. Any idiocy, and gruesome act that has ever been recorded in the annals of history re-emerged during communal riots after bloody aftermath of Babri Masjid demolition across India when local administration maintained stoic silence. The religious hatred engulfed the nation and over 2000 people were killed, and huge numbers of people were put into discomfiture revealing the human's poignant story of cruelty and unkindness for which Lord Rama would have felt mortified.

Religion must be private because only when encircled and in escape from public intervention are groups able to pursue the purity and limpidness that many of them perceive to be integral to their religion. Our constitution advocates separating religion from

Dr Santosh Kumar Mohapatra

politics. Hence the state should not be directly involved in religious functions. But since the 1990s, especially during the past nine years, the public face of religion has morphed into a private affair which undermines the secular character of our constitutions. In fact, the grand inauguration ceremony with Prime Minister Narendra Modi presiding over it himself, is the biggest instance of how the BJP has successfully merged religious matters with State policy by manufacturing a mass frenzy and excitement around the ceremony to navigate the 2024 Lok Sabha election successfully by wooing Hindu majority voters. Had it been not so, the consecration ceremony should not have been made before completion of the temple. Even the all four Shankaracharyas, pontiffs of Hindu religion, have decided to not visit Ayodhya (for Pran Pratishttha' of Ram Temple) on the plea that repulsive politics has outweighed religious rituals.

Nation should not be swayed and people's mindset, thinking should not be hijacked even obliterated by such emotional issues and the government should use temple issues to divert

the attention of people from rising problems like poverty, hunger, unemployment, price rise and inequality plaguing masses.

The very purpose of any religion is to create good human being and ensure welfare of society. It is believed that religious faith plays a predominant role in this regard especially regulating human lives. As people reward themselves when they can convince themselves that doing good makes a self-fabricated deity happy, while doing bad makes that same deity punish them. The popular idea is that religion is a system of rewards and consequences. But it is an idea that works for some people and does not work for others.

Gullible people adhere to this basic philosophy while rich, powerful, corporates, and politicians preach above philosophy but practise just the opposite. That is why a few enjoy unbridled power, wealth and prestige while there is a massive rise of inequality and growing impoverishment, mass immiserization. Religions have failed to prevent greed, rapacity and hedonism of people which pose a threat to survival of human beings on earth. While the rich are voluntarily donating money for building temples or religious

shrines, they are reluctant to pay taxes for the development of the nation. They hesitate to contribute to the welfare of the poor.

By several standard measures, Indians are highly religious. Pew Research Centre surveys (June 29, 2021) reveals that for many Indians, the high importance of religion is reflected in religious practices centered at home. Roughly eight-in-ten Indian adults (81 percent) have an altar, shrine or religious symbol in their home for worship, and a similar share (78 percent) say they have invited a religious leader to conduct religious rites at their home.

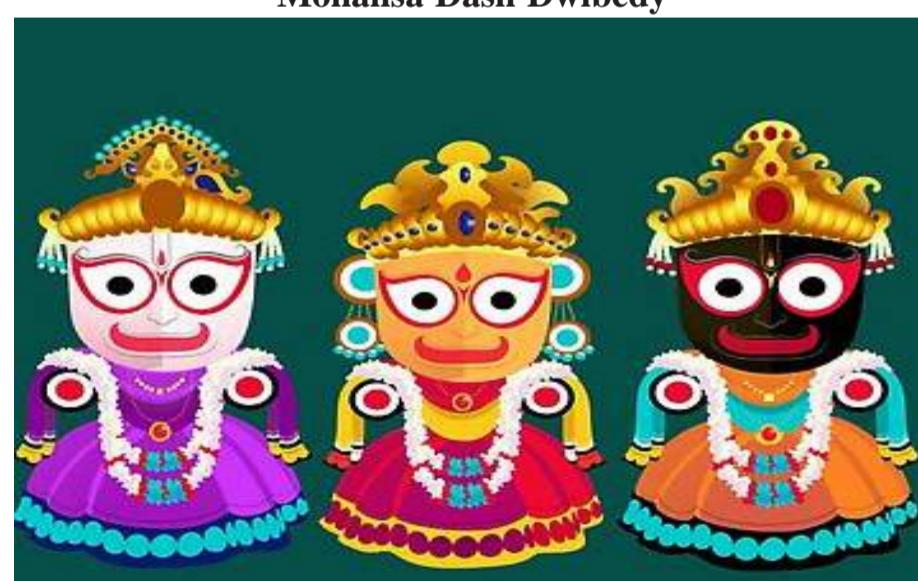
But in India, as a whole, religious faiths have failed to improve the life of people and create good human beings simply because it is misused and misdirected. India's abysmal position in world happiness index (126 out of 149 countries), world peace index (126 out of 163 countries), prosperity Index (103rd in 167 countries) corroborates the same. The criminal activities, atrocity on women, suicide, mental disease, disintegration of family, corruption, loot, and plunder are increasing leaps and bounds each day. It is not in India alone but in the world, nothing

more divides people, society more than religion and caste today because religious faith is exploited by politicians and religious pontiffs for their suzerainty. The existence of so many religions, religious faiths, and religious rituals have caused disintegration, division among people. Various countries are plagued by conflicts, terrorism and violence based on religious faiths. India already has a large number of religious shrines. India needs more educational institutions, hospitals and old age homes. When we talk of Lord Rama, society is getting contaminated, and deteriorating at a faster rate because good people are facing more problems than bad people. If someone commits evil deeds, he/she will have supporters and accomplices too. If someone does any noble work, he/she may have supporters but opponents too in society. Many good people are changing the course of their path after facing multivariable problems while doing noble work. Unless this trend is reversed, society will deteriorate further and posterity will suffer more.

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Connect With Lord Jagannath

Monalisa Dash Dwibedy



mood of sweetness (madhurya), and they have a confidential relationship with Krishna that surpasses awe and reverence because it is based on friendship and love. Rohini's narration was thus extremely confidential, so she placed Subhadra at the door to prevent anyone from entering.

Krishna and Balarama came to the door and stood on Subhadra's left and right sides. While listening to Rohini's narration of Krishna's intimate Vrindavana stories, Krishna and Balarama became

ecstatic, and their internal feelings were exhibited externally. Their eyes became dilated, their heads compressed into their bodies, and their limbs retracted. Seeing these transformations in Krishna and Balarama, Subhadra also became ecstatic and assumed a similar form.

Thus, by hearing about Krishna's pastimes in Vrindavana, Krishna and Balarama, with Subhadra in between, displayed their ecstatic forms of Jagannatha, Balabhadra and Subhadra.

As per Skanda

Purana, the Lord Krishna himself took the form of Vishwakarma and secretly made the idols of daru (wood). Vishwakarma agreed to carve four idols for Indradymuna, on the condition that the door of the temple should be shut and nobody should try to enter the temple or disturb the carpenter until the idols were ready. Indradymuna promised to follow these conditions and Vishwakarma began his work. However, out of curiosity, the King (or in some versions, Queen Gundicha) could not help stealing a glance

at Vishwakarma's work. Vishwakarma, upset at the breach of promise, vanished without completing the idols. Thus, Jagannatha, Balabhadra, and Subhadra are still represented with incomplete limbs.

The Lord does not have perfect arms, still he is called MAHABAHU. He does not have feet, but he walks straight into your heart. If you look at him intensely once, your eyes will not look for anyone or anything else. If your eyes swell up with tears every time you see him, then you are in love with him. Soon you will find him within yourself and all your worldly worries will be taken care of. He is Lord Jagannath, as devotees call him BHABAGRAHI. (The Lord who accepts only love as offering.) OM Jagannathaaya Namah.

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ethical concerns surrounding AI, including biases in algorithms and privacy issues, could hinder its widespread adoption, influencing overall job creation.

Social inequality
Concerns remain regarding AI's impact on employment. While new jobs are being created for the world's brightest minds to control and maintain this groundbreaking invention, decline of jobs for existing labour is the harsh reality. The wide gap between the AI equipped and the unemployed is steadily increasing social inequality, especially in countries like India. Reskilling the workforce is essential.

Few new jobs
AI has endless usage. Manifesting and exploiting the power of AI will be our

Artificial intelligence will create new jobs and boost productivity Massive job cuts

Vijay GarG

choice, but once we start relying on it, it is less likely to have job opportunities for general folks.

Free up time
Repetitive tasks, such as sorting through emails, can be time consuming. By automating these tasks, AI will free up employees to focus on meaningful and engaging work, which can help boost overall productivity.

Universal system
AI will increase productivity as it can analyse vast data and interpret results in less time. The creation, use and development of AI systems require machine learning engineers, data scientists and specialised professionals so it will also create new jobs.

Vijay GarG Retired Principal Educational columnist malout, Punjab

Director Sericulture Development J&K, Mr. Ajaz Ahmad Bhat (IAS), Inaugurates Resham Krishi Mela at P-4, Basic Seed Farm, Manasbal Kashmir

Srinagar : Mr Ajaz Ahmad Bhat (IAS), Director Sericulture J&K, inaugurated a one-day Resham Krishi Mela today at P-4, Basic Seed Farm, Manasbal. In the event more than 500 Silkworm Rearers/ youths from all districts of Kashmir participated with great enthusiasm and fervour. On the occasion the Director Sericulture J&K felicitated 20 progressive Silkworm rearers and 5 Sericulture Entrepreneurs with memento, certificates, and tool kits as token of appreciation. The event was jointly organized by the Sericulture Dev. Department J&K and Central Sericulture Research & Training Institute, CSB, Pampore, showcasing therein the achievements of the sericulture community who have relentlessly dedicated themselves for the welfare of sericulture sector, farmers and silkworm rearers. The Director Sericulture J&K also released various booklets/ pamphlets on the occasion exhibiting

technical activities and information related to the sericulture practices as a whole. The stalls highlighting various Centrally Sponsored Schemes, Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP), U.T level schemes, and an array of silk/mulberry products were set up by the Sericulture Dev. Department J&K, CSB, Pampore, and various Entrepreneurs of U.T of J&K. The Director Sericulture J&K while addressing huge gathering of Silkworm Rearers and Sericulture Entrepreneurs, assured the full support of the Department for providing technical guidance of sericulture activities, including Silkworm Rearing, Reeling, and Weaving. He informed that Department has also enhanced its Cocoon Bank Revolving Fund from Rs. 70 lakh to Rs. 3.50 Crore for local Reeling Unit holders for increasing consumption of Cocoons at local level and at the same time the department has introduced

Production based Incentives to Rearers /Reelers on Cocoon and Silk production under Capex to encourage them towards higher production/ productivity. Besides the Director Sericulture J&K informed that presently the local buyers only consume about 30% cocoons while as the buyers from others states consume 70% cocoons in the Cocoon Auction Markets organized by the Department across J&K and expressed his desire that in coming years the trend should be other way around. Speaking on the occasion the Director Sericulture J&K conveyed that an automatic reeling unit at Khanmoh, Srinagar namely Bombyx Mori with a capacity of 1,50,000 Kgs of cocoons is the biggest reeling unit in entire North India which produces about 20 MTs of Silk yarn and giving employment to a large number of people in the area. The Director Sericulture J&K expressed that such kind of reeling units should come

up in large numbers so that the J&K shall become the largest silk producing hub in India for which the department requires to take the cocoon production from 699 MTs to more higher levels. Moreover, it was further informed that at present about 27000 families are engaged with silkworm rearing in J&K and efforts are being made to involve more families with this sector. At present there are about 55 lakhs mulberry plants existing as a mulberry wealth across J&K. The department distributes 24 lakhs DFLs across J&K among Silkworm Rearers.

The Director Sericulture J&K

highlighted the number of Schemes under HADP for upgradation of Basic Infrastructure at farmer and departmental Level which have been kept to increase the production of Silk in the UT and achieve Self sufficiency in Seed Productions. In this connection, it has been informed that the Government has earmarked 93.75 Crores under HADP in 5 year program to Sericulture Dev. Department for the purpose. Speaking on the occasion Dr. N.K. Bhatia, Director Central Sericulture Research & Training Institute, CSB, Pampore also shared his valuable inputs viz-a-viz

different schemes and the benefits which the people of J&K avail by associating themselves with Sericulture Dev. Department and the CSR&TI pampore. Besides, assured that his organization will extend full cooperation in capacity building and Skill development up-gradation of the farmers, Silkworm Rearers and the youths in all the Districts of J&K.

The other dignitaries present on the occasion while expressing their views highlighted the potential of Sericulture Sector in transforming the economic scenario of the people of J&K and also emphasized that it is the responsibility and obligatory duty for all stakeholders to closely work in a coordinated and cohesive manner to achieve all the goals and targets envisioned for the overall development of this sector which will certainly give impetus to take this noble mission forward for bringing about prosperity to all sections of people in UT of J&K. The Director Sericulture J&K during the occasion highlighted importance of the adoption of Cocoon farming as an easy and dignified means of

241st Foundation Day of iconic The Asiatic Society observed in Kolkata

Kolkata (PARTHA ROY): The Asiatic Society celebrated its 241st Foundation Day on 15th January 2024 in Kolkata. On the occasion, Foundation Day oration was presented on the theme " The Knower and the Known : Aspects of Asiatic Researches into Assam " by

day life . Soil of Assam is very fertile and very good for cultivation due the river Brahmaputra. People of Assam had their own form of Vaishnavism . Indigenous people of Assam and Kingdom of Assamese people (Ahom Kingdom) were nearly self- sufficient to meet



Professor Ranjit Kumar Dev Goswami, Sankaradeva Chair Professor of Cultural Studies Tezpur University and former Professor of Gauhati University. Dr. Goswami highlighted role of European scholars in mapping of geographical area of Assam as well as documentation of socio-cultural-economic scape of Assam during British & European company rule in certain areas of Bengal as well as effort of European explorers to promote trade between Assam & other regions of the world. He mentioned people of Assam had rich well developed , distinct indigenous culture for over thousand years. Assam was a land rich in gold , coal , petroleum beds , lac , tea as well as moonga silk. Assam had two indigenous languages : Assamese and Tai . Assamese people did not follow any particular religion ,but was very liberal and pluralistic in their socio-cultural interactions in their day to

day needs of the society. Before the oration , top officials of The Asiatic Society placed wreath at the tomb of Sir William Jones at South Park Street Burial Ground in Kolkata. During Welcome address Dr. Satyabrata Chakraborty General Secretary of The Asiatic Society highlighted roadmap includes " anything found in nature and anything which is product of human endeavour is within the scope of research and study of The Asiatic society." The Asiatic society was founded on 15th January 1784 by Sir William Jones a British lawyer and orientalist to encourage oriental studies during the Company Rule in India. The Asiatic Society has undergone several name changes since its inception. A large no.of institutions / organisations of higher learnings in India from science , arts , history , culture and others have their origin in The Asiatic Society.

Ram Lalla's Silver Idol Carried Around Temple Premises On Day 2 Of Rituals



New Delhi (KCN): A silver idol of Ram Lalla toured the premises of Sri Ram Janmabhoomi Temple this evening. This, however, is not the idol that will be placed in the sanctum sanctorum of the temple on January 22. The idol, garlanded with roses and marigolds, was placed inside a palanquin decorated with flowers. Priests carried it around the temple premises.

Today is the second day

of the week-long Pran Pratishttha ceremony being held in Ayodhya. The rituals began yesterday and will continue till January 21. A "Kalash Pujan" was held today as part of rituals being performed in the run-up to the January 22 event. It was done by Anil Mishra - a Sri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust member, his wife, and others on the banks of the Saryu River.

MSME Schemes Awareness Program initiated by MSME Department, QCI & ICIB in Kolkata

Kolkata (PARTHA ROY): A special session was organised on MSME Competitive (LEAN) Scheme (MCLS) by Quality Council of India (QCI) with support of Department of MSME in collaboration with Indian Chamber of International Business(ICIB) to spread awareness about the

scheme on 16th January 2024 in Kolkata.

The program aimed to enlighten MSME owners about the dynamic landscape of business, underscoring the pivotal role of innovation and efficiency as catalysts for transformative change.

Mr. Nitin Yadav, an analyst with QCI

emphasized that the initiative transcends mere ideas; it is a resolute commitment to translating these ideas into actionable strategies that leave a lasting impact.

MSME Competitive LEAN Scheme, meticulously designed around the principles of working smarter, reducing

3 Policemen Transferred For 'Third-Degree' Torture In Odisha's Koraput; IIC Slapped Show-Cause

Machhkund (KCN): Three policemen working in Machhkund PS were transferred to the district headquarters today over the alleged third-degree torture of a local businessman identified as P Shiva in Koraput. The IIC of the PS was also slapped show-cause notice in this regard by Department higher-ups.

The accused policemen are Lamataput outpost in-charge Chitra Pradhan, constable Bhurban Nayak,

and havildar Jagdish Bagh.

According to a source, the victim had previously given a written complaint to South Western Range DIG Charan Singh Meena alleging third-degree torture. A Departmental inquiry was subsequently initiated at Machhkund PS and Lamataput outpost, which is still underway.

Shiva was picked by police on January 10 in connection with a case after he was allegedly caught by a complainant while the former was secretly capturing video of the complainant and his wife at night near the latter's house. The complainant had submitted a video as proof, which is said to have been taken when Shiva was running away to escape, the source added.

The victim businessman was allegedly given third-degree torture by police.

Prayers Held On Banks Of Saryu River On 2nd Day Of Ram Temple Rituals

New Delhi (KCN): A "Kalash Pujan" was held on Wednesday as part of the rituals being performed in the run-up to the January 22 consecration ceremony at the Ram temple here, a member of the temple's trust said. The rituals started on Tuesday, and trust general secretary Champat Rai had said that these will continue till January 21. On the day of the consecration, minimum essential rituals needed for the "Pran Pratishttha" of the idol of Ram Lalla will be conducted, he had said. The "Kalash Pujan" was

done by Sri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust member Anil Mishra, his wife and others on the banks of the Saryu river.

Following this ritual, pots filled with water of the Saryu will be taken to the place (Ram temple complex) where the pre-consecration rituals are being held, according to Anil Mishra. Anil Mishra who is the

Deceased woman gave new life to 4 people



New Delhi (KCN): Prof. Dr. Vandana Talwar, Medical Superintendent of Safdarjung Hospital, shared that the multi organ retrieval from a deceased donor was done on 16/01/24 after a gap of almost 6 and a half

years in Safdarjung Hospital. A 62 year old lady became the cadaveric multi organ donor at Safdarjung Hospital Delhi, after her son & daughter decided to donate her organs

"yajman" for the "puja" has to attend all the rituals, including those which will be performed on January 22.

There are 121 "acharyas" who are conducting the rituals, and Ganeshwar Shastri Dravid is overseeing, coordinating and directing all proceedings of the "anushthan". The principal "acharya" will be Laxmikant Dixit of Kashi.

The Ram temple "Pran Pratishttha" will begin at 12.20 pm on January 22 and is expected to end by 1 pm.

Following this ritual, pots filled with water of the Saryu will be taken to the place (Ram temple complex) where the pre-consecration rituals are being held, according to Anil Mishra.

Anil Mishra who is the

My Struggle made me a stronger person.....

Tanushree Jena age 23, a para medical staff (GNM) completed her study at Maharashtra university and started to work in SUM hospital, Bhubaneswar and first became ill at the beginning of 2020 at the age of 21 and got the treatment of DS TB. She was well but feeling tiredness and followed it in capital hospital where she was treated. In 2022 she was identified as DR TB and advice for a treatment of 18 or 20 months without fail. She was worry that her father was died with AIDS when she was 16, elder brother of her father supports for her study and she is only child of her mother. Her mother is working as a helper of

Anganwadi center of Barikpur, Bhadrak. She has HIV test and was HIV negative.

She shared that "My first symptom was weight loss – at first, I didn't think anything of it. It wasn't till I had lost a stone that I went to the doctor. By this point I was feeling like it was somewhat out of control and I didn't like it. I also suffered from terrible night sweats.

"Once I had taken notice of the night sweats and weight loss, it was another few months before I noticed that I was feeling incredibly fatigued, it was like having the flu, cold and cough but with none of the pain. I

could sleep for 9 to 10 hours a night, and would still need a nap in the afternoon" and treated as DS TB for eight months of treatment. "One day I have body patches was found at the time of second time with joint pain and I went to doctor and identified as DR TB". Although TB was discussed and suspected at her first visit to the doctor, it took four months from the referral from her doctor where she was treated until she was started on anti-TB medication. "In the interim they were convinced it was cancer, and many other nasty sounding diseases" says Tanushree. After

numerous tests, she was treated by the professor of medicine at Capital Hospital for TB of the Gland as extra pulmonary TB. Tanushree has always lived in Bhubaneswar

but she was travelling to her native Bhadrak district by local transportation, and although she's done a little travelling, she has no idea how she picked up TB,



however it is suspected she may have first picked it up at her work place as she is a paramedical staff.

"When I found out I had TB I was actually relieved! By that point I felt so awful I just wanted answers, it was awful not knowing."

The start of treatment was particularly tough, as she still felt ill and lethargic, plus was feeling ill from the medication, with the nausea the worst part. Her treatment lasted six months. But when she starts again the treatment as a DR TB, she became stronger person to follow the treatment.

Tanushree's family were very supportive of her during this time, but others found it more difficult in her village. She found that no matter how much she explained to people it was not contagious at that point, it still had a lot of stigma surrounding it. But in work place she have no issue; all her room mates are nicely behaved to her as a friend.

"Today I am absolutely fine; following my treatment I started running to gain back some of the muscle loss from the result of being ill. My treatment is still continued and I had completed 10 months treatment of course as infected with DR TB and another 8 to 10 months have to go with the same line of treatment. I met TB champion Santilata Nayak in between, which supports me a lot became more confident. Since then, I have even completed all my assignments in my workplace without fail."

CS Plea On Parikrama



Bhubaneswar(KCN): The inauguration ceremony of The Srimandira Parikrama Project will be held at Puri on 17 January with devotion and gaiety. Guests from different States have also been invited to participate in this auspicious and historical event.

Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has declared 17 January as a Public Holiday in view of the fact that devotees and the public can participate in

this festival and pay their devotion to Mahaprabhu Shree Jagannath. Accordingly, 17 January has been declared as holiday for all Government institutions, Government Schools, Colleges and Universities.

Chief Minister is receiving requests through Social Media and other sources for participation of private institutions, educational institutions and business establishments in this

event. In this context, Chief Secretary, Pradeep Kumar Jena has requested all the private institutions, Schools and business establishments to make arrangements for screening of the live telecast of the Shree Mandir Parikrama Project in different Electronic Media from 12.00 Noon to 3 PM on 17 January in their respective institutions, so that the employees, teachers and students can watch the live telecast of the programme and associate themselves in this auspicious event.

Similarly, the Chief Secretary Shri Jena has also requested all the brothers and sisters of Odisha as well as General public to participate in this program watching the live broadcast of the Srimandir Parikrama Project inauguration event which will be also indirect participation for them in this historic event.

Odisha weather: These districts likely to experience rainfall January 18, 19



Bhubaneswar(KCN): Several districts of Odisha are likely to experience light rainfall January 18 and 19, IMD Bhubaneswar in its January 15 midday weather bulletin said.

Till 8.30am of Jan 16: According to the Yellow Warning (be prepared), dense fog is likely to occur at one or two places over the districts

of Mayurbhanj, Keonjhar, Sundargarh, Angul, Dhenkanal, Cuttack, Khurda, Puri, Nayagarh, Ganjam, Kandhamal, Kalahandi, Bolangir and Koraput districts. From 8.30am of Jan 17 to 8.30am of Jan 18: The weather agency said light rain is very likely to occur at one or two places over the districts of Odisha. From 8.30am of Jan 18 to 8.30am of Jan 19:

IMD said light rain is very likely to occur at one or two places over Sundargarh, Keonjhar, Deogarh, Mayurbhanj, Angul, Dhenkanal, Jajpur, Balasore and Bhadrak districts. Dry weather is very likely to prevail over the remaining districts of the state.

No large change in Minimum temperature (night) at many places over the districts of Odisha over the next four to five days.

Over the next 24 hours in Bhubaneswar, fog/mist is likely to occur in the early morning. Maximum and minimum temperatures are very likely to be around 29 degree Celsius and 18 degree Celsius respectively.

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VILLGAM CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIP: 2023



Handwara Jk(Aasif Malik): As part of country wide celebrations of Kargil Vijay Diwas, Rajat Jayanti Mahotsav to commemorate 25 years of Operation Vijay, a Cross Country Championship was organised at Vilgam Army Camp for the Boys of Ramhal, Kupwara, Magam, Taratpora and Zachalpora Blocks. The

motive of the sport event was to channelise the energetic youth to a self-confident, organised and a competent workforce of the community to bring impact in the socio-economic stature of the region. The competition was designed for a distance of 7.5 km for the age group of 13 - 16 years and 10 km for the age group of 17 and above years. The

JSW Paints launches its innovative product that focuses on consumers' health & well-being at home

MUMBAI: JSW Paints, India's environment-friendly paints company and part of the US \$13 billion JSW Group, has launched its product campaign focusing on the Halo Aquaglo range. JSW Paints Aquaglo is India's first water-based paints for wood & metal surfaces with Germ Block Zn²⁺ion technology. Previously, Indian consumers were using solvent-based enamels, popularly known as "Oil Paint", for painting wood & metal surfaces. These contain chemicals and solvents that have a strong odour and have a high VOC (Volatile Organic Content). As a result, these paints are not recommended for kids and people with health

conditions as the solvents pollute the home with their unhealthy fumes post-application. Such paint products take a relatively long time to dry, creating inconvenience for the family at home and can be smelly for a week or two. On the other hand, JSW Paints Aquaglo is 100% water-based, has low odour, dries quickly and is completely family-friendly. Due to its quick-drying benefit, it enables the painting to be finished in a very short time as well. It also retains its shine for a longer period. The Aquaglo campaign brings the focus back on consumers' overall health and well-being through the Bollywood

star and JSW Paints brand ambassador, Alia Bhatt, as she urges consumers to #PaintKaGKBadhao. The campaign also includes well-known artist and stand-up comedian Atul Khatri and brings to life the mass hysteria related to any new idea. Alia's reaction to the strong smell of solvent-based paint being used on her newly painted door results in social media tsunami and a cascade of jokes & banter with everyone joining in for a laugh, misconstruing Alia's point that the oil paint on the door causes pollution, as doors cause pollution, as doors cause pollution. This highlights the low level of awareness among consumers about the

Stay in Charge – the OnePlus 10R 5G Launches in India

Bhubaneswar : Today, global technology brand OnePlus officially launched the OnePlus 10R in India. The OnePlus 10R is equipped with 150W SUPERVOOC Endurance Edition – the fastest wired charging ever in a OnePlus smartphone and one of the fastest wired charging standards in the industry. The device is powered by the customized and exclusive MediaTek Dimensity 8100-MAX chipset and has a 120 Hz Fluid AMOLED display, along with the largest and most advanced cooling system in any OnePlus device to date.

"The OnePlus R series exists to make the seamless integration of top-of-the-line hardware and software more accessible to a wider audience of gaming enthusiasts. The OnePlus 10R takes this concept to the next level by offering industry-leading technologies like 150W SUPERVOOC Endurance Edition at a competitive price point," said Navnit Nakra, India CEO and Head of India Region, OnePlus India. "Our fastest ever charging technology, combined with the MediaTek Dimensity 8100-MAX chipset, a high refresh rate display, and an advanced cooling system enable the OnePlus 10R to deliver truly exceptional performance."

The OnePlus 10R with 150W SUPERVOOC Endurance Edition can deliver a day's power after just 10 minutes of charging and its 4,500 mAh battery can be recharged from 1-100% in 17 minutes. 150W SUPERVOOC Endurance Edition is TÜV Rheinland certified for safe fast charging, meaning it has gone through rigorous testing to ensure the device delivers a charging experience that meets OnePlus' high standards.

availability and benefits of water-based paints for wood and metal. Aquaglo is also the first paint for wood & metal in India with Germ Block, making it very safe for the family. The campaign is on air across leading TV channels across India and Disney+ Hotstar streaming platform. The campaign is conceptualized by TBWA\India. According to Anuradha Bose, Chief Marketing Officer of JSW Paints, "Following the successful disruption of our Any Colour One Price initiative, we are now delighted to launch our thoughtful product innovation, Aquaglo. It aims to change yet another convention in paints of using only 'oil paint' for wood & metal. Our new campaign draws consumers' attention to the clear benefit of adopting a water-based Aquaglo range of paints for painting wooden doors, metal grills and other such surfaces in their homes. Paint Ka GK Badhao is a clear call to action to make India sit up and choose wellness and comfort."

Speaking about the Aquaglo campaign's attempt to change Indian paint consumers' expectations, Govind Pandey, CEO, TBWA\India said, "Paint category has been dominated by the same market leaders for decades without any real challenger. JSW Paints is the disruptor that is questioning the status quo prevailing in the industry.

accelerator program will address two key tenets of the NEP 2020 – on the extensive use of technology in teaching, learning, education planning, and management; and in the creation of open, interoperable, evolvable, public digital infrastructure in the

education sector to support multiple platforms and point solutions. The accelerator program will guide academic institutions on multiple aspects of the NEP 2020. It will support academic institutions by conducting digital innovation workshops to focus on

identifying and prioritizing unique challenges of the academic institutions, and co-building solutions or proof-of-concepts (POCs) using technologies such as artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML). AWS will drive these workshops based on the Amazon Working

Backwards innovation methodology, which uses design thinking to identify and define a customer-focused problem or opportunity and develop prototypes. Through the accelerator program, AWS and Apeejay Education will support academic institutions with AWS credits, capacity

building workshops, and access to dedicated resources, to build and implement the POCs. Apeejay Education will bring expertise on the use cases of digital solutions in the education sector, and support with testing the solutions to extend the reach to other institutions across India.

Apeejay Education and AWS announce new accelerator program

Bhubaneswar : Apeejay Education, an academic institution in India established for more than 50 years, and Amazon Web Services (AWS), an Amazon.com company, today announced the launch of the National Education Policy Accelerator Program (NEPAP), an initiative to

enable academic institutions in India to align with the technology requirements documented in the Government's National Education Policy 2020 (NEP 2020). This is the first program in India to support the technology transformation of education institutions as per the NEP 2020.

The NEP 2020 aims to strengthen India's education sector that directly contributes to the country's growth and development, demonstrating the need to integrate technology in education to improve learning and teaching at all levels. The

education sector to support multiple platforms and point solutions.

The accelerator program will guide academic institutions on multiple aspects of the NEP 2020. It will support academic institutions by conducting digital innovation workshops to focus on

identifying and prioritizing unique challenges of the academic institutions, and co-building solutions or proof-of-concepts (POCs) using technologies such as artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML). AWS will drive these workshops based on the Amazon Working

Burlington English empowers Educators in Rourkela, Odisha with '21st Century Educator's Engagement Programme'; aims to skill 50,000 educators countrywide

Rourkela (KCN) : Providing a unique opportunity for educators and school principals in Rourkela, Burlington English organised, '21st Century Educator's Engagement Programme' to empower them with leadership skills and elevate English language teaching-learning levels as aligned with the recommendations of the National Curriculum Frameworks (NCFs) and National Education Policy (NEP) 2020. The 15-city programme is designed to enhance the skills and knowledge of educators and aims to

train 50,000 educators nationwide over a year. This one-day leg of the programme, held at The Central Park, Rourkela, Odisha, covered crucial topics like Linguistic Confidence, Language Development Insights, and Tech Integration for Skills. Ms. Salony Priya, Master Trainer, Burlington, and Founder of Ummeed, conducted an insightful session for the educators, providing them with valuable tools and techniques to foster a dynamic learning environment. Amit Baveja, Managing Director, Burlington English, expressed his

enthusiasm for the programme, stating, "The 21st Century Educator's Engagement Program

reaffirms Burlington English's commitment to fostering educational excellence. As the programme advances nationwide, Burlington English remains dedicated to empowering

over 50,000 educators and contributing to the enhancement of the education system. We

believe that investing in the professional development of educators across the country is crucial to delivering quality education that prepares students for the challenges and opportunities of the 21st century." Ms. Salony Priya also shared her thoughts on the importance of the programme, saying, "It is essential for educators to adapt to the changing educational landscape and equip themselves with the tools needed to nurture the holistic skill development of students. These engagements make

educators alive to the national and global issues, with a long-term perspective. It's indeed the need of the hour and am glad to curate it with Burlington English. The session was so well received and found relevant by the participating educators, and the insights along with the strategies suggested are carried from workshop to school for effective changes." Empowering educators in Rourkela is just the beginning. Burlington English is committed to making a lasting impact nationwide, with the '21st Century Educator's Engagement Programme.'



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Why New York got three India games and Dallas none

New Delhi: The blueprint for the much-debated Nassau County International Stadium in New York, where the marquee India-Pakistan contest of the T20 World Cup will take place, is set to be unveiled on Wednesday (January 17). If the information emanating from the USA is any indication, work on the 34,000-seater stadium is expected to commence soon, possibly from later this week.

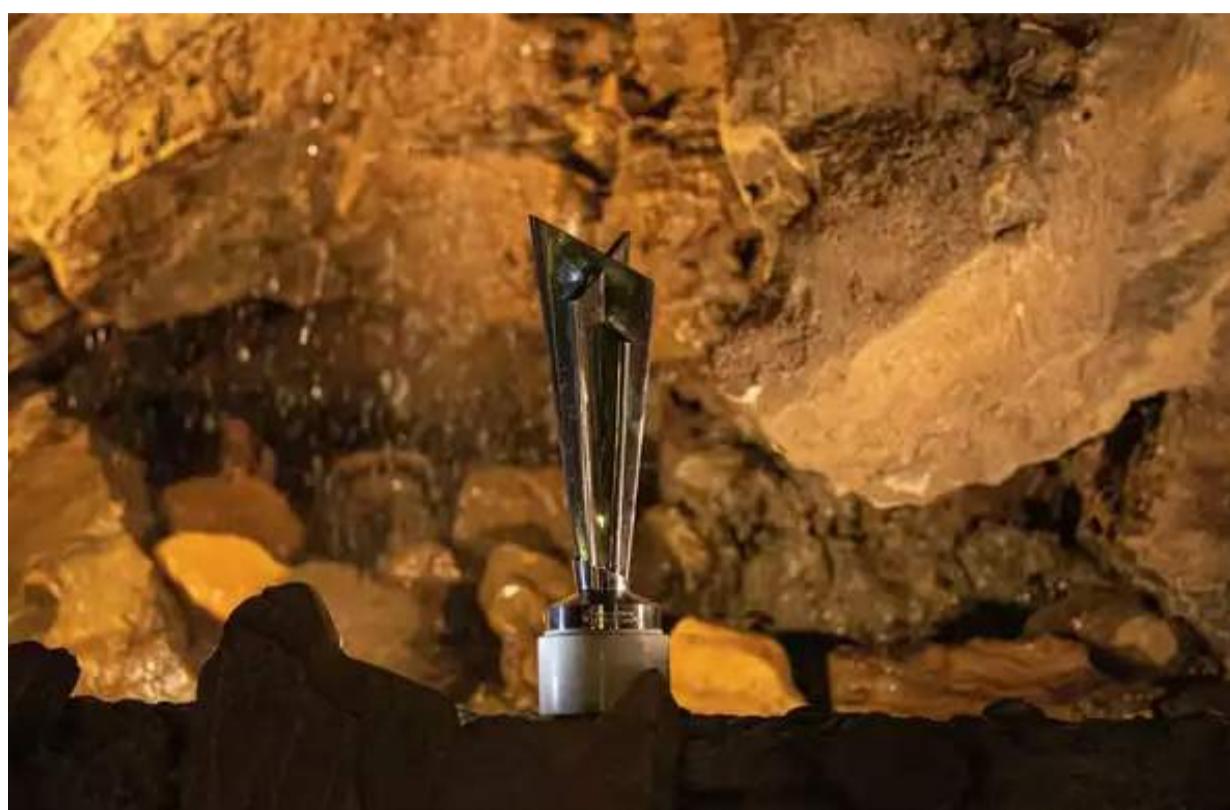
The stadium, located in Long Island, though a temporary one, is purportedly larger than any ground in England and even surpasses the size of the Wankhede. It has become a priority project for the ICC, designed as a modular stadium similar to those used in major golf and Formula One events. The seats utilized in the Las Vegas Grand Prix will be installed at the New York venue.

"It is anything but

makeshift...it's likely to be one of the most modern cricket stadiums in the world with everything you could possibly wish for," claims an official involved in the project's development.

The ICC, in collaboration with local organizers, has assigned three India games to New York - against Ireland on June 5, against Pakistan on June 9, and against the USA on June 12. The league game against Canada on June 15 will be held in Lauderhill, Florida. However, Dallas, the other hosting centre in the USA, has missed out on hosting an India game.

Dallas hosted Major League Cricket [MLC] games last July at Grand Prairie Cricket Stadium and it was expected to be allotted an India game. The home franchise in the Texas city, Dallas Super Kings, desired an India game at the venue to promote cricket in the



game in the region. Kasi Viswanathan, who manages the Dallas Super Kings, an affiliate of IPL's Chennai Super Kings, told Cricbuzz about writing to the ICC for an India game in Dallas. "If the ICC wants to

promote cricket in the US, they should have allotted an India game to us," said Viswanathan. However, the ICC seems to have its own reasons for not considering the request. It felt there are a few logistical and operational challenges in having a game in Dallas.

First, of course, is the time zone difference, and second is the capacity. Although Dallas boasts a permanent structure, its capacity is about 7,500. For an India game, the organizers wanted a larger venue. Further, direct flights from the

city to the Caribbean, the second country hosting the June event, apparently pose a challenge. "This event isn't a great time zone for Star [the broadcaster which bankrolls most of ICC's finances], and we have to

Vijay Srinivasan, co-founder, MLC, said, "Major League Cricket is delighted to host the marquee opening match for the biggest-ever ICC Men's T20 World Cup at the premier MLC venue, Grand Prairie Cricket Stadium in North Texas. "We know that cricket fans from across the country will be out in force on June 1 as the United States hosts Canada in the curtain-raiser for the tournament. The match will mark a new chapter in a rivalry dating back longer than any other in international cricket, all the way to 1844.

"In addition, we can't wait to welcome fans from Pakistan, the Netherlands, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh to the Lone Star State for a further three matches at Grand Prairie Cricket Stadium where many of the stars of Major League Cricket will be playing for their countries."

Comilla Victorians threaten to quit BPL over revenue sharing

New Delhi: Four-time champions Comilla Victorians have threatened to quit Bangladesh Premier League (BPL), the country's lone franchise-based T20 tournament, if the revenue is not shared from the coming season. Three days before the start of the BPL, franchise owner Nafisa Kamal insisted that it will be difficult for them to continue in the tournament with the current structure that's being followed by the BPL governing council. Nafisa had told Cricbuzz in 2019 that revenue sharing model should come into BPL but four years down the line, nothing has changed in this regard. The BPL governing council in 2022 insisted that they are not interested in sharing revenues with the franchises.

"Yes, hundred percent. I



will not be staying in the BPL (If the revenue is not shared)," a disappointed Nafisa told reporters at her office on Monday. "Ticket rights, ground rights and media rights - these three things (Victorians want a share)," she said.

"We started BPL long ago but we are still lagging in broadcasting even with such a big

population. Not a ticket would remain unsold if we had 50 percent of the ticket selling rights. BCB do not give us the rights, neither media nor ground rights," she added.

"The way a franchise tournament should run in theory on paper, in concept, is not at all applicable to the BPL. We don't get any of the rights that a franchise

should get. "We will be very flexible in this regard (revenue sharing) and we are willing to give what is good for them and if they give the lowest even that is all right but let the structure start and let us take the first step.

"It's good when we can reach a balance at the end of the day. Why would we lie about

profit? We never made profit," she added.

Nafisa said that the franchises should be shown respect by the board as they are big stakeholders but added that they have failed to sit with the organizers to share their views on where they are spending so much.

"I have forgotten when they last sat with us. This year, I just told them to hold a meeting and sit face to face but that didn't happen," said Nafisa. "I wanted to have a meeting. Last year, after becoming the champions, in the press conference I wanted to have a meeting..."

Nafisa also revealed that she will enter the board after the departure of BCB president Nazmul Hasan but added that she is not eyeing to sit in the hot chair at least for the moment.

a couple of tight overs, eventually equal the record in the format. He fell for 137 - the highest by a New Zealander in T20Is as the hosts finished with 224/7.

After their powerplay, they looked good to end up with 180 and nothing more. That's what eventually happened as the batters failed to make an impact. Only 11 came off the opening two overs before Mohammad Rizwan broke the shackles with a six. Tim Southee then forced Saim Ayub to miscue one to give New Zealand an early breakthrough and even though Babar Azam started off in positive fashion, the visitors could only score 52 in the powerplay. With both Rizwan and Babar not renowned for muscling the ball, it was always going to be difficult for Pakistan. Rizwan was stumped for a 20-ball 24 and a few hits from Fakhar Zaman gave the visitors some spark at the halfway mark.

Jongwe, Ervine help Zimbabwe win thriller to level series

New Delhi: Charith Asalanka's 39-ball 69 went in vain as Zimbabwe secured their first win of the ongoing Sri Lanka tour - beating the hosts by four wickets in the second T20I to level the three-match series 1-1 - at the R Premadasa Stadium in Colombo on Tuesday (January 16).

Put in to bat, Sri Lanka's top order was blown away, losing four wickets in just five overs with only 27 runs on the board. Blessing Muzarabani was the wrecker-in-chief. Pathum Nissanka got a thick edge to the third

man fielder and Kusal Perera edged a short delivery to the backward point fielder in the second over. Soon enough Kusal Mendis too cut Luke Jongwe to backward point and Sadeera Samarawickrama nicked Wellington Masakadza to the keeper. Angelo Mathews and Asalanka steadied the innings briefly and cut off risks till the mid innings. In the 13th over, Asalanka showed first signs of aggression when he went down the track to Sean Williams and carted him for a six down the ground. However, it was the 15th over when he eventually

cut loose against Masakadza, smashing a half-tracker for a six and cracking two boundaries. He brought up his half-century in 32 balls before the quieter Mathews took the attack to Muzarabani and encashed 20 runs off the 16th over. The duo kept the attack going through the death overs even as the hosts chipped in with two more wickets. In response, Zimbabwe openers attempted to go on the attack straightaway, without much success though. Eventually, T i n a s h e K a m u n h u k a m w e's attempt to slog Dilshan Madhushanka ended his

stay in the fourth over. However, Craig Ervine expertly shepherded the chase. After a slow start, scoring only 38 runs in 34 balls by the 10th over, he went a few gears higher. He started by picking Dasun Shanaka's half-volley for a six to bring up the half-century of the second wicket partnership

and then reverse swept Wanindu Hasaranga for a boundary to bring up his fifty. Sri Lanka struck thrice in quick succession with Brian Bennett and Sean Williams getting cleaned up by Maheesh Theekshana sandwiching Sikandar Raza's mistimed pull to deep mid wicket off Dushmantha Chameera.

Ervine eventually fell on a 54-ball 70 top edging a googly by Hasaranga. But Jongwe, Ryan Burl and Madande combined to smoke five sixes in the death overs to bring the visitors close to the target. To make matters worse, Mathews bowling the last over, started out by



overstepping and Jongwe smashed a boundary off the free-hit. Three balls later, Jongwe mistimed a slog which went high in the air but Theekshana dropped it. Needing two runs off two balls, Madande slogged a low toss over the deep mid wicket fence.

Brief Scores: Sri Lanka 173/6 in 20 overs (Charith Asalanka 69, Angelo Mathews 66*; Luke Jongwe 2-32, Blessing Muzarabani 2-36) lost to Zimbabwe 178/6 in 19.5 overs (Craig Ervine 70, Luke Jongwe 25*; Maheesh Theekshana 2-25, Dushmantha Chameera 2-30) by 4 wickets.