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VOL-12 ISSUE NO-70 BHUBANESWAR SATURDAY, 20 JANUARY, 2024 ₹ 2.50

Ama Odisha Nabin Odisha (Sahari) From Jan 22

Bhubaneswar(KCN): The Odisha Government is implementing several schemes and programmes under 5T Initiatives to ensure sustainable growth for all sections of society. In order to ensure that the benefits of these initiatives reach the eligible and deserving people, it has been decided to undertake a state wide awareness programme "Ama Odisha Nabin Odisha, Sahari" under UNNATI. This would kick start from 22.01.2024 onwards to sensitize them on the benefits meant for them, on campaign mode which will be completed by 7th of February, 2024. A detailed Guideline in this respect has been issued by Housing & Urban Development Department.

In this regards Sri Sangramjit Nayak Director Municipal Administration in a letter to all Collectors, PD DUDAs, Commissioners of Municipal Corporations and Executive Officers of all Municipalities & NACs communicating the Resolution containing the Guide lines has advised to follow the guidelines for organising the event.

Various camps shall be organized as part of the Ama Odisha Nabin



Odisha (Sahari) programme to make the citizens aware of the various people centric initiatives of the Government and ensure that the benefits under various schemes reach the beneficiaries on camp approach basis. The programme is aimed at ensuring transparency and accountability in distribution of benefits as well as empowers the citizen by providing information on all welfare/ Development schemes and other initiatives of the Government. According to the guidelines issued awareness camps will be organized by all ULBs between 22.01.2024 to 07.02.2024 covering all wards as per calendar prepared by DUDA. Location of the camp will be decided by the respective ULBs. Benefits under various schemes may also be distributed following transparency. The ULBs shall prepare a schedule of the camps to be held in the ULBs

schemes and provide benefits to the eligible beneficiaries. The concerned departments shall undertake 360 degree IEC campaign through TV commercials, radio jingles, newspaper advertisements, banners and hoardings and promote their schemes on their respective social media accounts (Facebook and Twitter). Arrangements for cultural events by local performing groups and community participants during the camps have to be made.

The members of the State level committee/ officers from H&UD Department will visit the camps and will remain present during the programme for necessary supervision and to gauge the success of the camps.

After the conclusion of scheduled camps on a specific day, the DUDA will provide the information to H&UD Department for record. The format for submission will be communicated separately.

The IEC materials will be distributed on the day of camps and outdoor creative about the scheme shall be displayed at various places within the ULB along with videos.

OBITUARY



LATE JUGAL KISHORE PATTNAIK
Saintala, Bolangir
Deeply Mourned & Remembered by
Sri sarat Pattnaik,
Bharat Pattnaik
Rajat Pattnaik, family, friends and Relatives

Five Dead, One Critical As Scooter, Motorcycle Collide Head-On In Ganjam

Ganjam(KCN): At least five persons were killed while another sustained critical injuries after a scooter and a motorcycle collided head-on near Kesari Patna village under Bhanjanagar block in Ganjam district late on Thursday night. The deceased persons have been identified as Rajni Goud, Mahendra Nayak, Jayant Badta, Srikant Goud and Manu Dakua. The injured person is Purna Goud. According to reports, three bike-borne persons; Srikant, Manu and Purna were on their way to Sorada from Asurabandha. At Baradihi Chhak, their bike collided head-on with a scooter coming from the opposite direction, in which three employees of the Electricity department; Rajni, Mahendra and Jayant were travelling. Police and Fire service personnel on receiving information reached there and rushed them to the Community Health Center, Sorada. There, four of them were declared dead by the doctors. Another two critically injured persons were shifted to MKCG, Berhampur.

Sundargarh(KCN): The Income Tax department officials have raided units linked to major coal trader and industrialist Ghanshyam Dalmia in Sundargarh district. The raids are being conducted at several places in Sundargarh, Rourkela, Rayagada, Rajganjpur, Bargarh in Odisha and Raipur in



benefit from this initiative.

On Tuesday, Pradhan wrote to the Union Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Distribution Piyush Goyal and said, "I request you to kindly issue instruction to FCI to procure 10 LMT of parboiled rice from Odisha in the KMS 2023-24 for the benefit of the farmers of the state, the proposal has been accepted.

Shri Pradhan thanked Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Minister Piyush Goyal for taking prompt action to protect the request. He said that lakhs of

farmers of Odisha will

augmentation of procurement target, which will significantly help secure the livelihood of lakhs of farmers in the state whose main source of earning has been through MSP operations of paddy procurement."

Pradhan mentioned that the central government has allocated a target of procuring 44.28 LMT of

rice in the KMS 2023-24 in the initial allocation target. However, besides meeting the state's own requirement of rice for NFSA, SFSA and other welfare schemes, enough parboiled fortified rice would be left which needs to be evacuated by the FCI, the Union Education Minister, who belongs to Odisha, said in the letter.

AMRIT UDYAN TO OPEN FOR PUBLIC FROM FEBRUARY 2

New Delhi(KCN): The Amrit Udyan of Rashtrapati Bhavan will open for public viewing from February 2 to March 31, 2024 under the Udyan Utsav-1, 2024. People can visit the Udyan six days a week except on Mondays which are maintenance days.

The Amrit Udyan will be open for special categories on following days:

February 22 – for differently abled persons

February 23 – for personnel of defence, paramilitary and police forces

March 1 – for women and tribal women's SHGs

March 5 – for children of orphans

The visitors will be allowed to visit in six hourly slots between

1000 hrs and 1600 hrs. The capacity for the two forenoon slots (1000 hrs to 1200 hrs) will be 7,500 visitors during weekdays and 10,000 visitors in each slot on weekends. The capacity for the four afternoon slots (1200 hrs to 1600 hrs) will be 5,000 visitors in each slot during weekdays and 7,500 visitors on weekends. Booking can be made on <https://visit.rashtrapatibhavan.gov.in/> visit/amrit-udyany/rE.

North Avenue meets Rashtrapati Bhavan. For the convenience of visitors, shuttle bus service from Central Secretariat Metro Station to Gate No. 35 will be available at the interval of every 30 minutes between 9.30 am to 5.00 pm. During the tour, visitors will pass through the Bonsai Garden, Musical Fountain, Central Lawn, Long Garden and Circular Garden. At the exit there will be food courts for them. Visitors can carry mobile phones, electronic keys, purse/handbags, water bottles and milk bottles for infants. Provision for drinking water, toilets, and first aid/medical facilities will be made at various places along the public route.

Sundargarh: I-T Raids On Premises Of Coal Trader Ghanshyam Dalmia

Chhattisgarh.

It is worth mentioning here that Ghanshyam Dalmia's business establishments are spread across Odisha, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, and Mumbai. His business interests include coal mining, the steel industry, sponge iron factories, hotels, and many more.

The 10 locations that are

being searched include the houses, business establishments, and offices of Dalmia, his brothers Bablu and Jogesh, in Rourkela, Sundargarh town and Barpali in Odisha and Raigarh, Raipur in Chhattisgarh, and Bilaspur in Madhya Pradesh.

Ten teams of the I-T Department are



conducting the raids at Dalmia's two-storeyed residential building in Gopalpur in Sundargarh, office premises, showroom, sponge iron factory, MCL coal shipping site at Barpali in Odisha, Raigarh Iron, Steel & Power plant factory in Chhattisgarh, residence and office in Raipur, and a hotel in

Bilaspur. More than 100 I-T officers and CRPF forces have been involved in the raids and all the places have been sealed. The employees and owners of the business establishments have been detained by the I-T officials and their mobile phones seized.

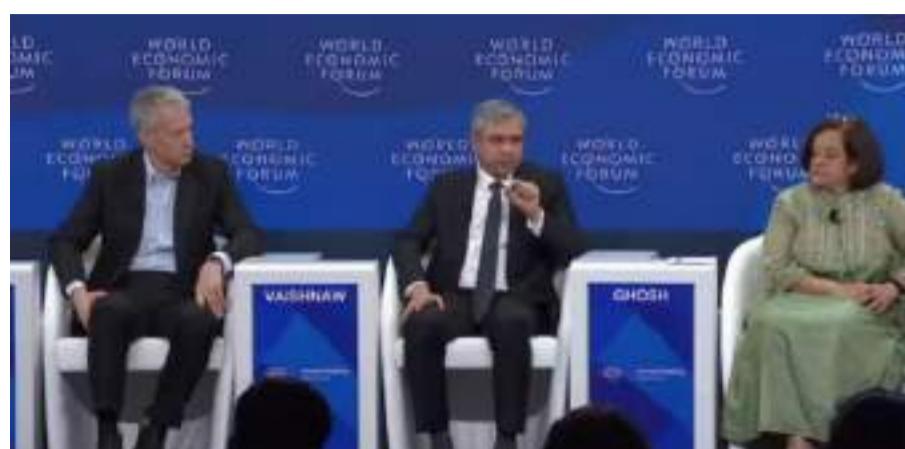
Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw at WEF2024 session: Can India seize its Moment?

New Delhi, (KCN): The last decade has seen a significant structural shift in India's economy. This is basically underpinned by 4 major pillars.

The first important pillar is to improve productivity, to improve efficiency in the economy, major investments have happened in the physical as well as digital infrastructure. If you look at the investments made in infrastructure, from a base of about \$30 billion, in this fiscal year, India is investing \$120 billion in infrastructure, that has multiple impacts, the impact on productivity is very good, the impact on overall economic activity is a multiplier of 3.6, so you invest \$100, the economic activities actually of \$360.

The positivity brings in close to 240 industries,

the steel industry, cement industry, construction machinery, paint industry, lighting industry, cable industry, practically every major industry in any economy is getting a boost because of the physical infrastructure. On the digital side, in the last 10 years, from something around 600 thousand towers, telecom towers, we have reached something like 2.4 million telecom towers. More than 600,000 kilometres of optical fibre cable has been laid. A completely digital public infrastructure which does practically every transaction whether it is payment, digital insurance, digital credit, digital document verification, it's a very good structure which has been put in place. So, major investments in physical and digital infrastructure.



The second big structural thing which has happened is, the entire growth under Prime Minister Narendra Modi Ji, is a growth which is very inclusive. He has always kept the people at the bottom of the pyramid as the focus of his growth story. I'll give it a few numbers, in the last decade 510 million bank accounts have been opened, that is the number of people who have been brought into the formal financial system. If you

look at the number of houses constructed, 40 million houses constructed for rural and urban poor. That's like completely changing the landscape of size of a continent. Look at the number of tap water connections, gas connections, 110 million gas connections given. So, change the entire cooking habits from wood base to gas base. Multiple number of factors which are basically bringing a transformational change

in the people at the bottom of the pyramid. The 3rd most important pillar is focus on manufacturing. Manufacturing whether it is electronics manufacturing, whether it is defence manufacturing, pharmaceuticals, chemicals, textiles, practically every sector of the economy, very clearly focused incentives, lots, and lots

of interventions which the industry asked for. It's a government which is listening, it's a government which responds positively to ideas, open minded government and manufacturing has again given very good impetus in terms of job creation. In 2019, every month formal jobs that were created were of the order of 600 thousand, today it is of the order of 1.5 million formal job opportunities created every month, that's the positive impact which has come and that helps the entire economy in multiple ways.

The 4th big pillar is huge amount of simplification which has happened, more than 1500 archaic laws on the statute book have been repealed, many of the colonial era

laws and procedures have been totally removed, more than 30,000 compliances have been removed, it's a government which listens with absolute open mind. I will give an example, telecom sector, some friends from the telecom sector sitting here. 10 years ago, the time it would take to get a permit for setting up a telecom tower was an average of 230 days, today that 230 days average has come down to 7 days because so much simplification has happened and out of that if you look at 85% of the permissions for telecom tower, they are instantaneous, you press the enter button and you get your permit out, except for the towers which are close to defence and aviation

DR. Himanshu Pathak, Secretary DARE, and DG, ICAR inaugurated the National Ranching Programme 3rd Phase as part of 'NamamiGange' at Barrackpore



Kolkata, (KCN): Dr. Himanshu Pathak is Secretary, Department of Agricultural Research and Education, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India; and Director General, Indian Council of Agriculture and Research visited ICAR-CIFRI, Barrackpore on 19th January, 2024 and inaugurated the 3rd Phase ranching programme under 'NamamiGange' at Seoraphuli Ghat, Barrackpore. River ranching programme can pave the way for stock enhancement in open water resources and is vital for the restoration, conservation, and

upliftment of this declined fish fauna. In the 2nd Phase of NMCG about 63.5 lakhs advanced fingerlings were released in the river Ganga. Dr. Pathak released fifty thousand advanced fingerlings of Indian Major Carps at the river Ganga as a part of the National River Ranching Programme. Dr. J.K Jena, DDG (Fisheries Science) was also with him during the ranching programme. Dr. Pathak also inaugurated the boat 'Matsiki Manthan' that was purchased under NMCG Phase-II to gear up the exploratory river research programme. The boat has been developed as a floating

laboratory to address various issues riverine research. Platinum Wing, Block-A at ICAR-CIFRI, Barrackpore was also inaugurated by the Honorable DG, ICAR. After the inauguration of the ranching programme and the facilities, all staff meeting was conducted by DG, ICAR at CIFRI New Auditorium. The meeting was chaired by Dr. Himanshu Pathak, DG, ICAR, and was Co-chaired by Dr. J.K Jena, DDG (Fisheries Sciences). Dr. Pathak interacted with the scientists, technical staffs, administrative staffs, and, skill support staff. The meeting started with the welcome address by Dr. B.K Das, Director

Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan Shares Video Message On Establishment Of Ram Lalla In Ayodhya

Bhubaneswar (KCN): When Lord Sri Ram returned to Ayodhya after 14 years of exile, the people of Ayodhya decorated the entire city with lamps. We too will celebrate the day as 'Diwali festival' on January 22nd on the day of Bhava Ram temple soul establishment by lighting lamps everywhere. Union Minister for Education, Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Dharmendra Pradhan has appealed to the people of Odisha through a video message to make the day memorable and historic for Sri Ram.

The Union Minister said that after only 3 days, the long wait of 500 years will come to an end. Lord Ramlala's soul will be enshrined in Ayodhya, the city of Ram, on January 22. This day will bring a great and holy retirement for the whole of India, billions of Hindus, Sanatnis and Rambhakti. I pay my obeisance to all the great men and individuals who have made efforts to establish the Ram Temple in Ayodhya today. Shri Ram is the symbol of good governance. Lord Shriram's life is an eternal source of inspiration for us. His

life story teaches us about sacrifice and commitment. Mahaprabhu Shri Jagannath becomes Durullabh Raghunath Besh. That great Lord Sri Ram is the great Lord Sri Jagannath. In the Tretaya Yuga, Mahaprabhu Sri Ramachandra returned to Ayodhya from 14 years of exile. And in this age, century after century, the soul of Ramlala is being established in Ayodhya. The country was delighted to welcome Lord Shriram to Ramnagar. Citizens and devotees of Rambhakti from all over India, including Odisha, are participating in the

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Samba Dashami

Prof. Dr. Umesh Chandra Patra



Samba Dashami is a festival unique to the state of Odisha, India. It is celebrated on the 10th day of the Shukla Paksha of Pausha Masa as per traditional Odia calendar. This festival is especially celebrated in the eastern part of Odisha.

The Legend say, Samba was the son of Lord Krishna, once affected by leprosy disease. Samba performed a severe penance of 12 years for Lord Surya at Surya Khetra Konark. After 12 years of severe penance Samba succeeded in pleasing the Sun God and was cured of his illness. He has decided to dedicate his gratitude to Surya Bhagwan by constructing Surya Temple & worship in Konark. Lord Surya granted his wish, when he discovered statue of Lord Surya standing on a Lotus pedestal holding two lotuses in his both hands at Chandrabhaga at the time of bath. These Legends are embodied in Brahma Purana, Kapila Samhita, Madala Panji, Prachi Mahatmya, Bhavishya Purana and Samba Purana.



On the day of Samba Dashami, the women in the family wake before sunrise. After bathing they prepare dishes such as khichdi, Odia puri, and ghadghadia tarkari, and offer them to Surya at sunrise. One of the specific characters of this ritual is variety of individual food item is offered to Sun God in the name of each member of the family, especially children. Once the food items have been offered to the Surya, the women prepare a set of cake-like dishes called pitha (cake), which includes manda pitha, kakara pitha, poda pitha, arisha pitha, biri laddoo, makar chaula, chhenaguda, dhanu muaan, khiri, rasagulla, jhilli, chhenagaja, and sweet curd.

At noon, a bowl of turmeric water with betel in it is taken to chaunra mula (a small temple-like structure with a tulsi plant overhead). All the cooked food is served on Egg Plate leave(Brinjal leaf). The women in the family view Surya through the bowl of turmeric water and offer all the dishes to Surya. They read the legend of Samba Dasami vrata Katha and pray for the well-being of all family members.

In the evening, another puja is observed as a part of the Samba Dashami ritual. This is the Mahakala puja(Yama puja), in which special budha chakuli is offered to Yama. Lord Krishna was disillusioned with the fraternal killing among the Yaduvanshis. He went to a forest near Somnath in Bhalka Tirth to meditate. Jara, a hunter mistook the Lord's feet to be a deer and accidentally shot him with the arrow. Lord Krishna's spirit left for heaven. Bhagwan Krishna's disappearance marks the beginning of the current debauched age, also known as Kaliyug. The great sage Vyas then wrote the famous 'Bhagawad Puran' to save the heritage and miracles of Lord Krishna. The story of Lord Krishna has since been passed from generation to generation.

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"Small Acts, Big Impact: Navigating Life with Compassion and Grace"

Aubaid Ahmad Akhoon



"In the intricate tapestry of life, the principle that the good you do for others will find its way back to you holds a profound truth. It's a timeless belief that resonates across cultures and religions, encapsulating the essence of humanity's interconnectedness."

"Whoever relieves a believer's distress, Allah will relieve his distress in this world and the Hereafter." - Imam Nawawi

Acts of kindness, no matter how small, possess

remarkable ability to create a positive ripple effect. When you extend a helping hand or offer support to someone in need, you set in motion a chain of goodwill. This ripple, though unseen, travels through the intricate threads of existence, weaving connections that bind us all.

"The example of the believers in their affection, mercy, and compassion for each other is that of a body. When any limb aches, the whole body reacts with sleeplessness and fever." - Prophet Muhammad (Peace Be Upon Him)

The essence of spreading kindness always lies not just in the anticipation

of personal gain but in the acknowledgment of our shared humanity. Each act of compassion contributes to a collective reservoir of positive energy that, like a reservoir, can be drawn upon in times of need.

"Allah is kind and loves kindness in all matters." - Prophet Muhammad (Peace Be Upon Him)

The belief that helping others is not just a moral duty but a pathway to divine assistance adds a spiritual dimension to our actions. In the Islamic faith, the promise that Allah will help those who help others serves as a reminder of the interconnectedness of our deeds and the benevolent

forces that govern our lives.

The Prophet Muhammad, peace be upon him, exemplified the significance of kindness through his teachings and actions. His life serves as a beacon, guiding us to emulate compassion, empathy, and selflessness. By helping others, we align ourselves with the teachings of Islam and contribute to the betterment of society.

It's important to recognize that acts of kindness need not be grand gestures. Small, sincere efforts have the power to create significant impact. A kind word, a thoughtful

gesture, or a helping hand extended in times of need can be the catalyst for positive change.

"In the heart of a believer, his humility, love, and kindness towards others is the true reflection of his faith." - Ibn Qayyim Al-Jawziyya

In a world often marked by challenges and uncertainties, the call to spread kindness always stands as a beacon of hope. It invites us to look beyond our differences and extend a hand to our fellow human beings. By doing so, we not only make a difference in others' lives but also set in motion a cycle of positivity that enriches our own.

As we navigate the

complexities of life, let us engrain in our hearts the belief that kindness is never wasted. Whether acknowledged or not, the goodness we sow finds its way back to us, shaping a future where compassion reigns supreme. May we be agents of positive change, inspired by the timeless truth that by helping others, we pave the way for a world where kindness is abundant, and Allah's blessings are ever-present.

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Significance of conceptual clarity in Mathematics for maximum marks in JEE main -2024

Vijay GarG



Conceptual clarity, which is very much required for success in this subject. Before going into specific topics, ensure a strong foundation in fundamental mathematical principles.

CALCULUS

Calculus, with its maximum weightage

to a significant boost in overall score.

COORDINATE GEOMETRY

Certain sections within Coordinate Geometry, such as Conic Sections, 3D Geometry, and Vectors, are relatively easier to master compared to others. JEE places

like Permutations and Combinations, Binomial Theorem, and Trigonometry

STRATEGIC PRACTICE

fall into this category. While not to be ignored, it's essential to manage your time efficiently on these topics. Allocate your study time based on the weightage of each topic, ensuring a balanced and

relatively lower level of difficulty.

STRATEGIC PRACTICE

Beyond mastering individual topics, it is crucial to develop a strategic approach to problem-solving. JEE Mathematics often tests not only your knowledge of concepts but also

subject that thrives on consistent practice. Regular revision of concepts, formulas, and problem-solving techniques is essential to retain information and stay sharp. Create a systematic revision schedule that allows you to revisit previously covered topics while progressively incorporating new ones.

This iterative process of learning and revision is key to reinforcing your understanding and staying ahead of the learning curve.

Mastering mathematics for JEE examinations is a journey that requires diligence, conceptual clarity, and strategic planning. By emphasizing fundamental understanding, dedicating focused efforts on high-weightage topics like calculus and coordinate geometry, and managing time efficiently, aspirants can unlock their full potential in this challenging yet rewarding subject.

Retired Principal Educational columnist malout,Punjab



in both JEE Main and Advanced papers, is unarguably the bedrock of JEE Mathematics.

We'd like two minutes of your time in order to understand you better. Please take this reader survey.

To excel in this formidable section, a student must possess strong fundamentals, a deep understanding of concepts, and the ability to apply them to diverse problem sets. Dedicate ample time to master calculus, and the rewards will extend

significant weightage on these topics, making them crucial for scoring well.

Invest time in understanding the intricacies of these sections, as they not only contribute to a substantial portion of the examination but also offer an opportunity to secure a competitive edge.

T I M E MANAGEMENT FOR TOPICS WITH LESS WEIGHTAGE
While every topic is important, certain areas in JEE Mathematics carry less weight. Topics

strategic preparation approach.

STATISTICS AND MATRICES IN JEE MAINS

In JEE Main, Statistics, and Matrices are relatively easier to understand compared to some other topics. Despite their apparent simplicity, these topics are a must-appear in the Main Paper.

Aspirants should not underestimate their importance, as they provide an opportunity to secure essential marks at a

your ability to apply them in innovative ways.

PRACTICE SOLVING PROBLEMS

Practice solving problems from previous years and various reference materials to expose yourself to diverse scenarios. This not only reinforces your understanding but also enhances your problem-solving skills, enabling you to tackle any challenge the examination throws at you.

CONTINUOUS PRACTICE AND REVISION
Mathematics is a

India will add a new dimension to the energy sector

Amit Baijnath Garg

India has set a target of reducing carbon emissions to zero by 2070, for which a big target is to produce about 50 percent of energy from renewable sources. A target has also been set to produce 15,820 terawatt hours of electricity from renewable sources by the year 2040. In such a situation, solar energy can play an important role in achieving this goal.



Recently, Prime Minister Narendra Modi talked about India's energy sector along with climate change in the COP-28 conference held in Dubai. After this the energy sector once again became a topic of discussion. It is noteworthy that India has recently prepared a new plan for the next five years to become self-reliant in the energy sector by the year 2030. With the help of this plan, India will be able to achieve the target of 500 GW of non-fossil fuel based electricity. In this sequence, the Government of India has invited bids for 50 gigawatt renewable energy capacity annually for the next five years. Not only this, the annual bids for renewable energy capacity linked to inter-state transmission (ISTS) will also include installation of at least 10 GW of wind energy

capacity per year. Bids were invited in line with the Prime Minister's announcement at COP-26 to achieve 500 GW of installed power capacity from non-fossil fuel sources by 2030.

According to a report, if success is achieved in meeting the new targets, then about 15 lakh jobs will be created in this sector by 2030. India ranks fourth in the world after China, Brazil and America in terms of employment generation in the renewable energy sector. India accounts for 5.7 percent of the people employed in the renewable energy sector in the entire world. According to the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) report, by 2014 the renewable energy sector had generated four lakh jobs in India. In fact, there is a lot of growth potential in the energy sector in India and to enter this sector, students will need to do some special courses. In the energy sector, there are many courses related to B. Tech Power, MBA Oil & Gas, MA Energy Economics, Solar Energy etc., but in the coming time, the biggest potential is in Solar Energy, hence students should choose this course. Experts say that to make India a five

have also been set in the field of energy production till 2030.

Foreign investment worth \$14.32 billion has come into India's energy sector between 2000 and 2019. The government is paying special attention to this sector due to which investment in this sector will increase further in the coming time. This will also increase job prospects. The Government of India has increased the capacity of renewable energy (solar energy, wind energy etc.) to 175 GW by 2022. This includes 100 gigawatt solar power and 60 gigawatt wind power. India's coal-based capacity is likely to increase from 191 GW to 400 GW by 2040. Although India has long relied mostly on coal for energy production, the participation of green energy has been significant since the middle of the last decade. Since 2017, green energy has been at the forefront of new methods of power generation, in which solar energy plays a major role.

Improvements in technologies and steady decline in prices of solar panels are helping to achieve the goals. While the tender for solar energy in the country was Rs 12 per kilowatt in 2010, it fell to Rs 2 per kilowatt in the year 2020. At present this is the cheapest method of producing electricity. This is the reason why solar energy is being preferred the most in installing new power capacity. 92 percent of the new power added in India in the year 2022 was based on solar and wind alone. Green energy is thus becoming almost the sole source of energy in the country. Electricity consumption is increasing in India and green energy is the most attractive option. Investors have also started looking towards this sector to invest money and get returns.

However,

there are many zones related to

the development of this sector to invest money and get returns. The Modi government estimates that more than \$70 billion (about Rs 5.6 lakh crore) has been invested in renewable energy in the last seven years. This has happened at a time when this sector is still moving towards expansion.

One aspect is that at present India's energy dependence on other countries is very high. Many initiatives are being taken to make the country self-reliant in the energy sector. In this sequence, renewable energy is playing an important role, for which a lot of work is being done by the government in the field of solar energy. India has set a target of reducing carbon

emissions to zero by the year 2070, for which the big target is to produce about 50 percent of energy from renewable sources. India has also set a target to produce 15,820 terawatt hours of electricity from renewable sources by the year 2040. In such a situation, solar energy can play an important role in achieving this goal. To achieve this goal, various companies are working rapidly towards solar energy. Because of this, companies in this sector are still seeing good growth. With the growth of these companies accelerating in the coming times, India will successfully achieve all the goals of the energy sector.

International and National Award

Winner Journalist-Writer

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Odisha aims to be a startup hotspot

Pradeep Kumar Panda

Nestled along the eastern coast of India, Odisha, with its rich cultural tapestry and diverse landscapes, is not only a land of ancient temples and pristine beaches but is now setting its sights on a bold, innovative future-aspiring to be among the top three startup destinations in the country.

Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik envisions the state emerging as one of the top three startup destinations in the country, aiming to foster at least 5,000 startups by 2025.

While Bhubaneswar, Khurda, and Cuttack are witnessing a surge in startups, the entrepreneurial spirit extends across the entire state, with emerging ventures in places like Rourkela, Balasore, Berhampur, Sambalpur, Bargarh, and beyond.

Some notable startups from Bhubaneswar include Milk Mantra in dairy foods, Villa Mart in agri, and emerging firms like CureBay, EzeRx, and MedTelin the larger healthcare space. The drone sector features companies like IG Drones and Darubrahma,

while Innocule excels in speciality chemicals, iServeU in fintech, LectureNotes in education, and Bookingjini in hospitality. The role of Startup Odisha in nurturing companies can not be overstated. It has fostered over 1,800 startups across sectors such as agritech, IT, artificial intelligence, healthcare, fintech, and biotechnology. Its achievement is attributed to strategic partnerships, a supportive ecosystem, investments, and effective policy interventions.

In 2016, the Odisha Startup Policy laid the foundation for Startup Odisha, operating under the MSME Department, Government of Odisha, as the nodal agency for developing the state's startup and innovation ecosystem.

The policy was created in 2016 and was subsequently amended in 2018. Currently, a new policy is under consideration. The new policy, informed by global best practices and shaped by The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade's States Startup Ranking framework, strives to align with evolving trends.

It places a greater emphasis on Environmental, Social,

and Governance (ESG) factors, emphasising sustainable and green technologies. Furthermore, the policy intensifies its focus on onboarding and promoting women's entrepreneurship. The new policy draft is currently being shared with the Odisha Government, with ongoing work, and it is anticipated to roll out in the first quarter of 2024.

Odisha is focusing on creating incubators to ensure startups get funding as well as market access. The state hosts 27 incubators, and among them is Odisha Startup Hub (O-Hub), the Government of Odisha's incubator, featuring an expansive four lakh sq ft space—one of the largest incubators in the entire country. O-Hub, wholly owned and operated by the State Government, is equipped with state-of-the-art plug-and-play infrastructure to facilitate startup incubation. At any given time, O-Hub can accommodate nearly 400 startups and the space features various centres of excellence, common areas, exhibition spaces, demonstration areas, a Fab Lab, co-working spaces, and dedicated spaces for ecosystem enablers-stakeholders such as mentors, investors, venture capitalists, and others. It is designed to serve as a central hub for startup

activities across the entire state, with other incubators and entities acting as spokes, he remarks. At present, there are 75 active Entrepreneurship Cells (E-cells) and 93 incubates. The new policy will also enable to increase the

ecosystem, policies, programmes, and incentives from both state and central governments. The Startup Yatra and Express included 254 van camps across 30 districts engaging students from over 250 educational institutions, and gathering innovative ideas. It had 47

Startup Odisha, partnering with MIT Fab Foundation, plans to establish a Super Fab Lab in O-Hub's Tower B, serving as the central infrastructure for the upcoming Odisha State Fab Network, connecting all state-wide Fab Labs. Teaming up with MIT

incentives provided by Startup Odisha. Startup Odisha has also launched a Rs 100 crore Odisha Startup Growth Fund (Fund of Funds), with the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) as the fund manager. The state government will consistently replenish the fund to ensure continuous and long-term support for startups after the initial corpus of Rs 100 crore gets exhausted.

Eight incubators from the state have received the Startup India Seed Fund. A total of 140 startups have been seed-funded, and 21 startups have secured venture funding. Under startup incentives, recognised startups can apply for monetary benefits available under the Startup Odisha initiative, including monthly allowance, product development and marketing/publicity assistance, need-based support, financial support for event participation, and subsidised incubation. There are additional benefits for women-led startups. When discussing more mature startup ecosystems in the country such as Bengaluru, Pune, Chennai, Hyderabad, NCR, and others, he says that they thrive on the abundant talent available, particularly owing to India's IT industry. These locations attract numerous mentors,

investors, and ideas, collectively driving the entire ecosystem. Playing to one's strengths is a good approach to take. One of Odisha's strengths lies in agriculture, especially in producing specific agricultural items. Therefore, the state must excel in fisheries, seafood, and food processing. In sports, the potential for innovation is ample, particularly in areas like sports medicine, fitness, sports analytics, and sports nutrition, where a surge of startups is essential.

Looking at the larger picture-startups drive innovation through entrepreneurship, generating revenue, creating employment, and facilitating the growth of industries and their customers, contributing to the overall GDP and fostering prosperity in the state.

All the initiatives Odisha is undertaking, including the new policy and the infrastructure support are striving to create, are part of a comprehensive strategy. The measures, incentives, and initiatives embedded in policy, along with current actions, are aimed at positioning Odisha as a prominent and leading startup destination in the country.



Startup
Odisha

Centre Orders Early Closure Of Certain Government Offices For Republic Day

New Delhi(KCN): The Centre on Friday directed early closure of certain government offices here due to the Republic Day parade, the Beating Retreat ceremony and the At Home function at the Rashtrapati Bhavan, the Personnel Ministry said. It said that for full dress rehearsals on January 23, the government offices in South Block, North Block, Vayu Bhawan and Udyog Bhawan among others will be closed at 1830 hours on January 22. "Such closure will



continue till 1300 hours on 23.01.2024 to facilitate anti-sabotage

check," said the order issued to all central government ministries/

departments. The buildings, including Vayu Bhawan, Udyog Bhawan, Nirman Bhawan, South Block, North Block and Shastri Bhawan among others, will be sealed for the 'At Home function' on January 26 and shall remain closed on that date till 1930 hours, it added. The Personnel Ministry has also mentioned a list of offices including South Block, North Block and the Parliament House complex, which would remain closed on January 28 from 1600 hours to 1930 hours for a special show of the Beating Retreat ceremony.

"Entire Idea Must Be Abandoned": Congress On One Nation, One Election

New Delhi(KCN): The Congress today opposed what it called the "undemocratic" idea of holding simultaneous polls - referring to the BJP's push for the 'one nation one election' system - and criticised the idea as one that goes against federalism and the Constitution's basic structure.

Congress chief Mallikarjun Kharge called for disbanding the committee that is studying whether the 'one nation one election' system can be applied in a nation of 140 crore people.

"The Indian National Congress is strongly opposed to the very idea of 'One Nation, One Election'. For the sake of maintaining a thriving and a robust democracy, it is imperative that the entire idea must be abandoned and the high-powered committee dissolved," Mr Kharge said in a letter to Nitin Chandra, the secretary of the

committee. Mr Kharge in the letter asked the former President "not to allow his persona and the office of the former President of India to be abused by the Union government to subvert the Constitution and parliamentary democracy in this country."

The committee on October 18, 2023 had asked the public to send suggestions. Pointing at this, Mr Kharge alleged the committee seems to have "already made up its mind and seeking a consultation seems to be an eye wash".

"The government, parliament and ECI (Election Commission of India) should work together to ensure the people's mandate is respected rather than divert people's attention by talking about undemocratic



ideas like simultaneous elections," Mr Kharge said.

He alleged the composition of the committee is "biased". The committee was formed without discussion with Opposition parties that are in power in many states, Mr Kharge said, adding these states will be affected by the decisions taken by the committee.

"When the committee is headed by no less than the former President of India, it is distressing when even common voters feel the consultations of the committee are likely to

be a pretence since minds have already been made up," the Congress chief said. Mr Kharge said he was "amused" to hear the argument that holding simultaneous elections will result in financial savings. He said the expenses on elections are less than 0.02 per cent of the total Union Budget for the preceding five years.

"We feel the people will be willing to consider this small amount as the cost of free and fair elections to uphold democracy," Mr Kharge said. The government's website on 'one nation

one election' said the national and state elections were mostly held simultaneously from 1951-52 to 1967, after which this cycle got broken and now, elections are held almost every year and within a year too at different times, which result in massive expenditure by the government and other stakeholders, diversion of security forces and other electoral officers engaged in such elections from their primary duties for significantly prolonged periods, and disruption in developmental work on account of prolonged application of model code of conduct, etc.

The 'one nation one election' committee's terms of reference includes checking whether the amendments to the Constitution needed for simultaneous elections would need ratification by the states.

Seer Pulls Lord Ram Chariot With His Hair Over 566 Km To Ayodhya



Rae Bareli(KCN): As devotees countdown to the opening of the Ram Temple in Ayodhya on January 22, many are showing their devotion to Lord Ram in different ways. A seer from Damoh in Madhya Pradesh, Seer Badri is pulling a chariot, symbolic of the chariot of Lord Ram, using his hair to show his devotion.

Seer Badri started his 566 km-long journey from Madhya Pradesh's Damoh to Ayodhya Ram Mandir for the grand Pran Pratishtha ceremony of Ram Lalla on January 22. He started his journey on January 11 and is covering approximately 50 km every day.

Seer Badri reached Rae Bareli from Fatehpur on Friday late at night, where he halted and took rest. He visited several temples across the city during his halt. He again resumed his journey from the Hanuman temple complex located at the Behta intersection. Seer Badri, in 1992, took a vow that after the construction of a grand temple of Lord Ram in Ayodhya and the installation of the Ram Lalla statue, he would go to Ayodhya by pulling Ram's chariot

with his matted hair. Seer Pulls Lord Ram Chariot With His Hair Over 566 Km To Ayodhya

construction of a grand temple of Lord Ram in Ayodhya and the installation of the Ram Lalla statue, he would go to Ayodhya by pulling Ram's chariot with his matted hair.

Seer Badri during his journey said, "If there is Sanatan Dharma, then everything is there. Ram Mandir would not have been possible without Narendra Modi and Yogi Adityanath". Meanwhile, the idol of Lord Ram Lalla was placed inside the sanctum sanctorum of the temple in Ram Temple, Ayodhya, on Thursday. Covered with a veil, the first photo of the idol was revealed during the placement ceremony in the sanctum sanctorum on the same day.

The idol of 'Ram Lalla' is carved by Arun Yogiraj, a famed sculptor from Karnataka. The idol is 51 inches tall and weighs 1.5 tonnes. The idol portrays Lord Ram as a five-year-old child standing on a lotus also crafted from the same stone.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will perform rituals to mark the 'Pran Pratishtha', a team of priests led by Lakshmi Kant Dixit will lead the main rituals.

Odisha CM Naveen Inaugurates International Conclave On Urban Transformation In Bhubaneswar

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Three days' International Conclave on Urban Transformation began today at Hotel Vivanta, Bhubaneswar, organised by the Department of Housing & Urban Development (H&UD), Government of Odisha. Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik declared this International Conclave open by participating in the programme through virtual mode. In this conclave more than 400 participants from 11 countries and 20 States of our country have participated. This is the first ever International conference on Urban Transformation being conducted in Odisha.

Welcoming all the participants, in his inaugural address, Chief Minister in his Video messages said, Odisha, the land of Lord Jagannath, blessed with a rich heritage and adorned with beautiful temples, is now on a transformative drive to create smart avenues for all sections

of society. The Chief Minister also said that Odisha is recreating inclusive cities where no one is left behind. At the heart of our vision is the empowerment of communities. Our success is not just the physical transformation, but also the profound impact it has on urban life. The essence of this transformative journey is community-led urban development under the 5T framework.

Minister, Housing and Urban Development, Government of Odisha, Usha Devi, Chief Secretary, Odisha Pradeep Kumar Jena, Additional Chief Secretary, H&UD Department, Odisha G Mathi Vathanan, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India Rahul Kapoor attended in the inaugural session of the Conclave as guests and spoke on the occasion.

Addressing the Conclave H & UD Minister Usha Devi said, "Urban



development initiatives in Odisha has made remarkable achievements with best practices, new partnership and collaboration for inclusive development fostering innovation in multiple sectors. Providing safe drinking water, sanitation, livelihood generation support through technological innovation in urban governance are some of our priorities. People-centric, participatory and collective approach is our aim to bring quality of life in the cities," she said.

Chief Secretary Jena said that, the Government of Odisha under the able leadership of the Chief Minister has given thrust on people-centric and community-led development. Urban growth is now a challenge not only in India, but also for other countries. Though we all are investing more on

sustainable development. Puri became the first city in Odisha with 24X7 Drinking water under Drink from Tap mission and within 2 years our government is taking steps to cover all cities to have drinking water facilities, Chief Secretary said.

Joint Secretary, MoHUA, GOI said that Odisha has been role model in satisfying the people of Odisha providing basic urban amenities. Various schemes of State Government like Jaga Mission, Drink from Tap, MUKTA, Ama Pokhari Yojana with involvement of Mission Shakti Women SHGs and community is holding right way to go ahead for urban transformation.

Minister, H&UD, Odisha also dedicated the "Odisha Urban Academy" which will be a centre of excellence in imparting training and capacity building to all its stakeholders.

Village Analysis For Paddy Collect Centre Lauds Odisha Urban

Bhubaneswar(KCN):

To bring better transparency in Paddy Procurement, the State Government has decided to continue village-wise plot level analysis of paddy crop growing area of the State till Kharif Marketing Season 2028-29.

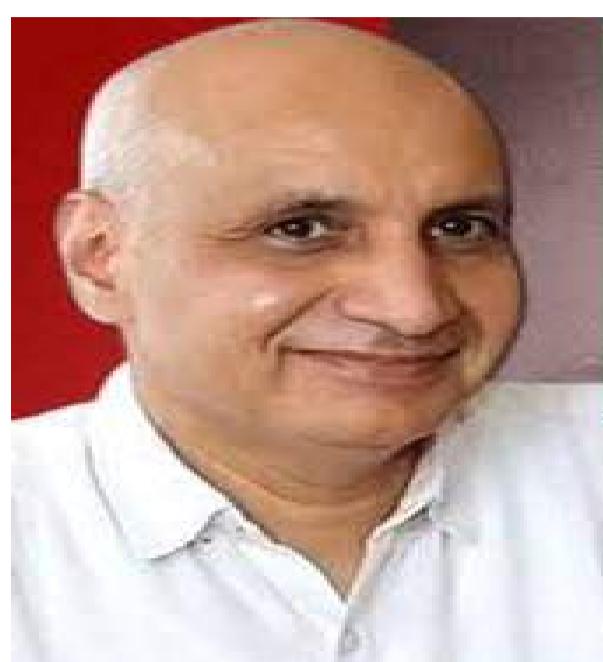
Food Supplies and Consumer Welfare (FS&CW), Principal Secretary Vir Vikram Yadav has decided to conduct village wise, plot level analysis of paddy crop growing areas using farmers registration data, cadastral maps, land records data (RoR) and near high resolution satellite images captured during the crop maturity period in both Kharif and Rabi Crop seasons, officials said.

Odisha Space Applications Centre (ORSAC) has

successfully implemented the project covering all 30 districts during the Kharif crop season and all 17 districts covered during the Rabi Crop Season from KMS 2021-22 to KMS 2023-24.

The objective based evaluation of farmer reported paddy crop, plot-by-plot, village-by-village, eliminating mis-reporting, has streamlined the procurement operations in the paddy procuring districts, they said.

Based on successful implementation of the project by ORSAC, the FS&CW department has extended the project for further implementation in 9 crop seasons by ORSAC, i.e., from Kharif Crop season (KMS 2024-25) till Kharif crop season (KMS 2028-29).



Kharif and Rabi Paddy crop procurement by Government of Odisha is a time bound exercise. Every year millions of farmers report paddy cultivation in millions of plots spread across the state that has more than 51000 villages. The FS&CW Department has implemented the PAS system to facilitate such reporting by farmers who are interested to sell their paddy crop to government availing the minimum support price (MSP) providing details of land on which they have cultivated the paddy crop.

Village wise plot level analysis of the paddy

crop reported by farmers has been introduced to check genuineness of the farmer reporting. The task warrants thorough understanding of the procurement process and close coordination with ORSAC, FS&CW department and its establishments. Further, the assignment involves large scale mobilization of infrastructure and highly skilled remote sensing, GIS and IT professionals with extensive domain experience to handle the large-scale data analysis, geo-spatial database generation, image analysis, quality checks, field checks, rule-based validations, field trainings, etc. for time bound delivery, the officials informed.

Bhubaneswar(KCN):

Union Joint Secretary Urban Affairs Rahul Kapoor today lauded the State Government for its transformative initiatives undertaken for the people of urban areas.

Joint Secretary, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, GOI, Rahul Kapoor said that Odisha has been a role model in satisfying the people of Odisha providing basic urban amenities.

Various schemes of the State Government like Jaga Mission, Drink from Tap, MUKTA, Ama Pokhari Yojana with involvement of Mission

Shakti Women SHGs and community are holding the right way to go ahead for urban transformation, he said. The Joint Secretary said this while speaking at the three days' International Conclave on Urban Transformation begins today at Hotel Vivanta, Bhubaneswar, organised by the Department of H&UD, Government of Odisha.



Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has declared this International Conclave open participating in this programme through virtual mode.

In this conclave more than 400 participants from 11 countries and 20 States of our country have participated. This is the First ever International conference on urban transformation being conducted in



Odisha. The Chief Minister in his video message said, Odisha, the land of Lord Jagannath, blessed with a rich heritage and adorned with beautiful temples, is now on a transformative drive to create smart avenues for all sections of society. He said that Odisha is recreating inclusive cities where no one is left behind.

Drunk man kills wife for dancing at wedding party in Odisha

BALASORE(KCN):

In a shocking incident, a man reportedly killed his wife for dancing in a wedding procession without taking his permission at Paikapada village within Oupada police limits in Balasore district on Saturday night. The accused is 43-year-old Ram Singh of Paikapada. The deceased was identified as Sharmila Singh (35). Ram is a driver by profession.

Sources said a wedding ceremony was organised by Ram's neighbour on Saturday night. During the marriage procession,

some women requested Sharmila to dance with them. Though she refused, the women forcibly dragged her to the middle of the procession and made her dance.

Ram, who was also present at the spot, saw Sharmila shaking a leg and became angry. However, he did not express his displeasure and waited for the function to get over. In the meantime, he consumed alcohol with his friends and became completely drunk.

After attending the wedding feast, the couple

went home. At around 11 pm, a fight broke out between them as Ram yelled at Sharmila for dancing in the procession without his permission. When the woman protested, Ram became furious and in a fit of rage, assaulted her with a digging bar. The couple's two minor kids snatched away the iron bar from Ram's hands but the latter grabbed the handle of an axe and continued to assault Sharmila. The woman bled to death. On hearing the commotion, neighbours rushed to the spot and found Sharmila lying in a pool of blood. They immediately informed the police about the incident.

The next morning, a team of Oupada police rushed to the village for investigation. Sub-divisional police officer (SDPO) of Soro Ritesh Kumar Mahapatra said the woman's body was sent for postmortem. Basing on the complaint of the deceased's parents, police registered a case under section 302 of the IPC and arrested the accused. Further investigation is underway.

Bitumen plant of Gopalpur MLA's aide sealed in Kukudakhandi


BERHAMPUR(KCN):

An illegal bitumen mix plant at Baulajholi village in Kukudakhandi tehsil of Ganjam district was sealed by the administration on Saturday. Sources said the plant belonging to one Balyaram Dalai was being run by violating the pollution norms since the past many years. Dalai is reportedly a close associate of

Gopalpur MLA Pradeep Panigrahi. Locals alleged the illegal plant polluted the area, causing diseases. They had also written to the Ganjam collector and sub-collector and Berhampur SP urging action against the plant several times in the past.

Accordingly, basing on collector Dibyajyoti Parida's direction, an enforcement team led

by Kukudakhandi tehsildar Kalyani Sanghamitra Devi along with officials from the pollution control board conducted a raid on the area. According to the sale deed, Balyaram's wife Priyanka had 2021 purchased around 750 decimal land in the village along with a stone crusher. The documents, however, reportedly had no mention of the bitumen plant being set up on the said piece of land. Since Dalai failed to produce requisite official permission for running the plant, it was sealed on the charge of being run in violation of environmental laws. However, the fact that the plant continued to operate and stayed out of the administration for so long has surprised many.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Imager cleaning and firmware updates and 220+ collection centers pan India.

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

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

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

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

TPSODL issues guidelines for the Festive Season

TPSODL
TP SOUTHERN ODISHA
DISTRIBUTION LIMITED

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

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

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

shops erected during the festive season.

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

SBI now offers Real Time Xpress Credit on YONO app

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

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

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

Blenders Pride Fashion Nights arrives in Bhubaneswar

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

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

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

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

or visit the nearest Fuse Call Centre/office.

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

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

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



Bhubaneswar: Odisha

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

In silvercity of the

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

Engineering and

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

Mumbai: BOB Financial

Solutions Limited (BFSL), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Bank of Baroda (BoB) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd. (HPCL) – a Maharatna Central Public Sector Enterprise in partnership with National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), have announced the launch of HPCL B o B c o -branded contactless RuPay Credit Card. The card is designed to reward customers for spends at HPCL fuel pumps and on the HP Pay app. In addition, cardholders will also benefit from 1% Fuel

well as the HP Pay app.

It also offers accelerated

rewards for spends on

utilities, grocery and

departmental stores. This

card can be used across

merchants and ATMs

globally through the JCB

network.

Cardholders of

HPCL B o B R u P a y

Contactless Credit Card

will be able to earn up to

24 reward points (per

INR 150 spent) for

spends at HPCL fuel

pumps and on the HP

Pay app. In addition,

cardholders will also

benefit from 1% Fuel

Surcharge Waiver on

fuel purchases at

HPCL pumps or on HP

Pay. Customers who

spend INR 5,000 or

more within 60 days of

card issuance will get

2,000 bonus reward

points.

The co-branded credit

card will offer 10

reward points (per INR

150 spent) on utilities,

grocery and

departmental stores

thus impacting 25,000+

students. With a core

focus on guiding and

empowering young

minds at the grassroots

level in the realms of

innovation and

entrepreneurship, the

initiatives seek to

equip them for

harnessing the ample

opportunities within

the startup ecosystem.

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

Bhubaneswar: Odisha's

State Council for Technical Education & Vocational Training (SCTEVT) today signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Jindal Stainless to promote technical education in the field of stainless steel and its various applications. Under this MoU, stainless steel courses will be introduced in all the Polytechnic colleges in Odisha from June 2022. The MoU was signed by Vice Chairman,

SCTE&VT, Shri Reghu G (IAS) and Unit Head,

Jindal Stainless Limited (JSL), Shri Deepak Agrawal. Dignitaries

present at the ceremony

included Chairman,

SCTE&VT and Principal

Secretary to Government, S k i l l

Development and

Technical Education (SDTE) and Industries

Departments, Shri Hemant

Sharma (IAS); Additional

Secretary, SDTE, Govt of

Odisha, Shri Tapan

Satpathy (OAS); Resident

Director, JSL, Mr SS

Upadhyay, and General

Manager, Sales &

Distribution, Mr Ranit

Rana. Commending the

development, Chairman,

SCTE&VT and Principal

Secretary to Government, S k i l l

Development and

Technical Education (SDTE) and Industries

Departments, Shri Hemant

Sharma (IAS); Additional

Secretary, SDTE, Govt of

Odisha, Shri Tapan

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Clinical Australia complete a comprehensive win

New Delhi: Clinical Australia thumped West Indies by 10 wickets in Adelaide to take 1-0 lead in the two-match Test series on Friday (January 19). Mitchell Starc-led bowling attack took just over an hour to wrap up the West Indies tail on the third morning even as another enterprising final-wicket stand from the tourists ensured Australia had to bat again for a humble target of 26. Finishing Day 2 at 73/6 in their second innings, West Indies needed nothing short of a miracle to escape Australia's wrath. Instead, Mitchell Starc set the tone early for his team by getting a couple of quick wickets in his opening spell. A well-directed bouncer brought the end of the overnight, and the last recognised, batter Joshua Da Silva as the early short-ball ploy



paid rich dividends. Even as Alzarri Joseph did well to bide his time in the middle against Australia's quicks, Starc had him half-heartedly poking at a length ball outside off to induce a regulation take for the keeper. Josh Hazlewood knocked back Gudakesh Motie's off-stump to

complete his fifer, having taken four the last evening to break the back of West Indies top-order. Australia fetched the ninth wicket with West Indies just one away from equalising the 95-run first innings lead, and in walked Shamar Joseph. Picking up from where he left off with the

bat in his debut knock, Shamar began with a gorgeous cover drive to give the visitors a slight moral win. He scored a couple of boundaries more, off Hazlewood, and added a brisk 26-run stand with Keemar Roach before Lyon had his number for the second time in the game.

Just after the Australian openers levelled the scores, a well-directed Shamar short ball hit Usman Khawaja on the helmet and the southpaw walked off after spitting a bit of blood during the mandatory concussion check. However, 6.4 overs was all Australia needed to complete the formalities and wrap up the game in under seven sessions.

With their unassailable 1-0 lead, Australia have ensured they'll retain the Frank Worrell Trophy. Brief scores: West Indies 188 (Kirk McKenzie 50, Shamar Joseph 36; PA Cummins 4-41, Josh Hazlewood 4-44) & 120 (Kirk McKenzie 26; Josh Hazlewood 5-35) lost to Australia 283 (Travis Head 119, Usman Khawaja 45; Shamar Joseph 5-94) & 26/0 (Steve Smith 11*) by 10 wickets

Mickey Arthur leads resignation spree at Pakistan's NCA



New Delhi: Mickey Arthur

Grant Bradburn and Andrew Puttick have resigned from their respective positions at the National Cricket Academy (NCA) in Lahore.

The trio was relieved of their roles with the senior men's team as part of a major shakeup post World Cup debacle and assigned

new roles in the Pakistan cricket setup in November 2023.

Before their appointment at the NCA, Arthur was the Director of Pakistan men's cricket, a position that is now being fulfilled by Mohammad Hafeez.

While Bradburn was the head coach, Puttick served as the batting coach.

"All three individuals informed the Pakistan Cricket Board of their decision to leave their respective jobs by the end of January 2024. The decision was taken amicably between all the stakeholders. The PCB wishes them well in their future endeavours and is grateful for their services," the PCB said in a release.

Suryakumar Yadav Undergoes Second Surgery



New Delhi: In a significant development for Indian cricket, star batter Suryakumar Yadav has undergone a second surgery, this time for a sports hernia, in Munich, Germany. The surgery comes on the heels of his recent ankle surgery, which he underwent after sustaining an injury during the T20 series against South Africa in December. Suryakumar Yadav had been out of action since the third T20I in South Africa, where he showcased his batting prowess by

scoring 56 off 36 balls and a stunning 100 off 56 balls in the second and third T20Is, respectively. The recent surgery, performed by a specialist surgeon in Munich, took place on January 17. This marks the second surgical intervention for Suryakumar in a short span, emphasizing the toll injuries can take on professional athletes. The operation was necessary due to the progression of a sports hernia, a condition that demanded prompt medical attention.

Dhaka: The Bangladesh Premier League governing council said on Thursday that despite manifold challenges, they are not ready to welcome IPL franchises as they fear of losing their rights.

IPL franchises are investing heavily in different franchise leagues around the world even as BPL as a tournament is finding it difficult to find a place for itself.

"They (IPL franchises) don't want to come or maybe there is no reason to come. They (IPL franchises) approached us many times. The board's decision was to run the tournament

according to our country's style," Ismail Haider Mallick, BPL governing council member secretary, told reporters at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium.

"We don't want to do something where the tournament's rights will not be in our hands and will go to someone else."

Mallick added that they are losing money as they are not ready to welcome surrogate

betting companies to be involved in BPL but added that in future they might have to change their stand due to financial constraints.

As per the existing laws of the country, there are

stringent prohibitions on establishments that facilitate gambling. Allowing gambling businesses to function is in contravention to the law as well as the constitution.

Bangladesh all-rounder Shakib al Hasan had to back out of deal with Betwinner after BCB's ultimatum. "There was a question about surrogate betting companies and for these

the powerplay, reducing the visitors to 52 for 3 by the sixth over. Sean Williams attempted to steady the innings and he even got a reprieve when Hasaranga put down a tough return catch. Nonetheless, the spinner had his measure and

dismissed the batter soon enough, opening the floodgates for a middle order collapse as they lost their last six wickets for only 11 runs in a space of 23 balls, with Hasaranga bagging four of those scalps, bundling out Zimbabwe for only

82 runs.

With a small target to chase, Sri Lanka had little difficulty going about their business. Pathum Nissanka and Kusal Mendis put on a 64-run stand in only 46 balls for the opening wicket to all but end the

chase. Nissanka took on the short ball challenge by Richard Ngrava and Blessing Muzarabani, and cracked three boundaries of those. Mendis was fluent as usual but top-edged a six off Ngrava to bring up the team's fifty. He was soon cleaned up on 33 by Sean Williams's turner that beat his bat and knocked the stumps. However, Nissanka and Dhanajaya de Silva ensured there were no further hiccups along the way, with the former slogging Sikandar Raza for a six to help his side over the line with 55 balls to spare.

Brief Scores: Zimbabwe

82 in 14.1 overs (Brian

Bennett 29; Wanindu

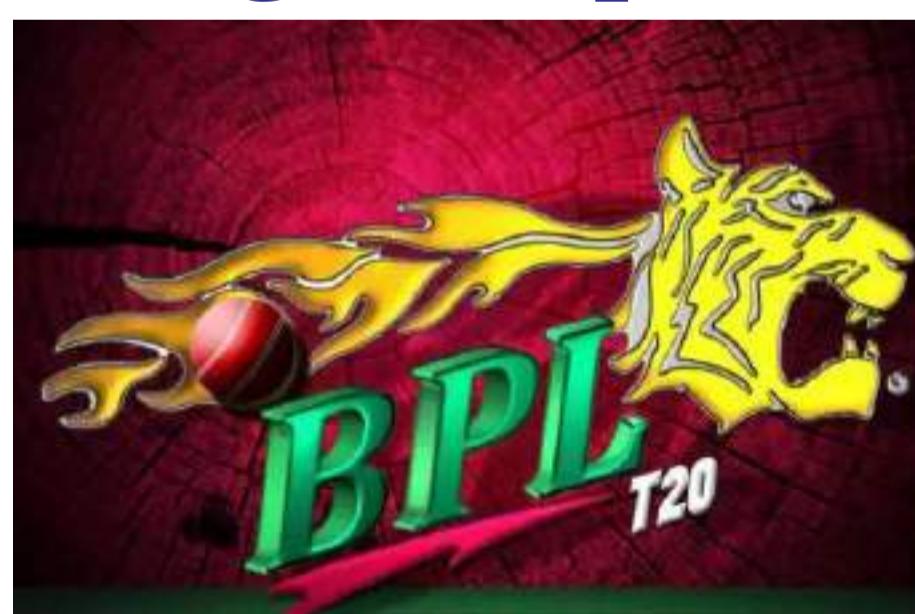
Hasaranga 4-15, Maheesh Theekshana 2-

14) lost to Sri Lanka 88/1 in 10.5 overs (Pathum

Nissanka 39*, Kusal

Mendis 33) by 9 wickets

BPL resists changes despite manifold challenges



Crores more from media rights but we didn't because we shut down betting sites," said Mallick.

"The whole world is going through an economic stagnation. Apart from IPL and India's cricket board, I also used Big Bash as example. Shujon bhai goes to ICC and talks to every board's CEO. We know how much everyone earns and what is being told to the media. It's a difficult thing to do a T20 tournament [in this climate]. Not only T20 tournament, most of the national teams allow surrogates. Apart from one or two most are accepting it, even

India," he said adding that in future they might welcome surrogate betting houses in cricket. In the recent past, Comilla Victorians owner Nafisa Kamal threatened to quit BPL if the revenue is not shared.

Mallick said that they can go for revenue sharing if the franchisee fees rise 10 times higher than what it is at present, which BDT 1.5 Crores to be precise. "Whether we will go for revenue sharing is a matter for the BCB and the board gives us a guideline and we follow that in running the tournament. In the first year, we had a system of revenue sharing but it

wasn't effective for us as there were many irregularities, players were not getting paid," said Mallick.

"Even in the second BPL there were lots of issues with players' payment and we had to go for arbitration and we had to solve them by sitting with the players and franchises. So our experience was not good in the first two years. If franchise fee was 15 Crores then board wouldn't have a problem with revenue sharing," he said.

"To run the tournament sustainably we have to keep in mind the financial and economic condition we are in," he concluded.