



# Assembly by-poll results need to be reviewed: Chhattisgarh CM Sai

Raipur (KCN) : BJP leader and Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai on Sunday said that the recent Assembly by-poll results, in which the BJP suffered a setback, need to be reviewed.

The opposition INDIA bloc won 10 out of 13 seats in the by-polls in seven states and the BJP won only two seats. Sai said that there are different political situations prevalent in the country and in a democracy, the decision lies with the people.

"There are different situations. In a democracy, the decision lies with the people. The results need to be reviewed," he said. Meanwhile, reacting to the bypoll results, Congress leader Sandeep Dikshit said that if the Lok Sabha election schedule had been advanced 6-8 months, the BJP would not have won more than 120 seats. "Right after the Lok Sabha elections, we have won 12-13 seats in 4-5 states, which clearly indicates that the BJP's graph has been falling. Had the Lok Sabha elections been organised

after 6-8 months, BJP would not have won more than 120 seats," he said. "For the first time, NDA parties are performing better than the BJP in their respective states and the BJP is absolutely relying on them... The BJP has multiple organ failures and is failing in multiple states. It is soon headed to an ICU," he further stated. The results of the assembly by-polls came as a setback for the BJP, where the party won only two of the 13 seats, with the INDIA bloc winning 10 seats and an independent candidate

winning a seat in Bihar.

Polling took place on July 10 for the assembly seats in seven states, including Bihar, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Madhya Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Punjab, and Himachal Pradesh.

The by-elections were

held in one seat of Bihar, Tamil Nadu, Punjab, and Madhya Pradesh, two seats of Uttarakhand, three seats of Himachal Pradesh, and four seats of West Bengal.

Uttarakhand witnessed

the BJP losing both the

two seats and saw the

## Cyber crime culprits arrested

Sambalpur (KCN) : The Kolabira Police of Jharsuguda district arrested two cyber criminals involved in cyber fraud case under Kolabira PS Case No. 210 dated 12.12.2023 u/s 420 IPC. The accused fraudsters arrested in connection with the case based on a complaint lodged by TVS Credit customer Sribastab Patel of Kola. Sribastab Patel, P.S. Kola, Bira, Dist. Jharsuguda. As reported that on 10.11.23 one unknown culprit dialed him in

mobile No. 9078206645 and falsely stated him that he is the collection agent of TVS Credit and told him to pay his EMI through phone pay. Being believed he paid EMI of Rs.5000/- through online at nearly GRAHAK SEWAKENDRA on 14.11.23. Further it came to light that the same culprit took away EMIs from customers Mahesh Oram of Kelda and Chandrakanta Rohidas of Katikela. On verification, at the Customer Care Centre where transaction was

made and found that the amount has been deposited in the account of one Jitendra Bhue. As all offences took place under Kolabira P.S. of Jharsuguda district, Area Security Officer of TVS credit Mr. Surya Kumar Panda along with other collection team accompanied the victim customer Sribastab Patel to Kolabira PS and lodged FIR as mentioned above. As the culprit is same, other two fact of offences have also been reflected

in the same FIR. During investigation the FIR named accused has been arrested from his native Katikela under Ambabbona PS of Bargarh district. During interrogation to him and basing on evidence, another accused Birendra Mirdha of Kharelpali PS - Dhamma, Dist. Sambalpur also arrested and forwarded in to the Court of SDJM, Jharsuguda and the investigation is under progress.

## Budget memorandum to Finance Minister



KOLKATA, (KCN) : Narayan Jain, tax advocate, President of Calcutta Citizens' Initiative has written in pre budget memorandum to Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman that Taxpayers expect reduced tax burden. The exemption limit should be increased to Rs.5 Lakhs, Tax slabs need to be reviewed. 5 Lakh to 10 Lakh 10 percent, from 10 Lakh to 20 Lakh @20 percent and above

20 Lakh @25 percent. There is no longer justification to continue Surcharge and Cess. FM will do well to do away the same for the sake of

simplicity. It may be noted that the Govt does not justify as to how the education cess has been spent. After all providing education and medical facilities are duties of Govt. The tax under section 115BBE on unexplained cash credit/ loans as well as unexplained investment and expenditure used to be charged @30 per cent but was effectively enhanced to 75 per cent plus cess from the time of demonetization from

Asst year 2017-18. Now it is high time to revert to rate of 30 per cent only. CA KN Gupta, Secretary of NGO said the tax structure should be simplified so that it is easier in tax compliance. The threshold limits for tax deduction and collection at source should be significantly revised upwards. TCS rate on foreign travel should be reduced to at best 5 per cent only.

today in Bhubaneswar, Odisha, the Board of Directors of IREDA commended the company's exceptional performance and sustained growth, approving the Audited Financial Results for the first quarter of FY 2024-25.

The company's net worth as of 30 June 2024 has reached Rs. 9,110.19 crore, up from Rs. 6,290.40 crore, reflecting a YoY growth of 44.83%.

Key financial highlights for Q1, FY 2024-25 compared to Q1, FY 2023-24 are as follows:

Profit After Tax: Rs. 383.69 crore as against Rs. 294.58 crore (up by 30.25%)

Revenue from Operations: Rs. 1,510.71 crore as against Rs. 1,143.50 crore (up by

32.11%)

Loan Sanction: Rs. 9,210.22 as against 1,892.45 crore (up by 383.68%)

Loan Disbursement: Rs. 5,325.88 crore as against 3,173.27 crore (up by 67.84%)

Loan Book: Rs. 63,206.78 crore as against Rs. 47,206.66 crore (up by 33.89%)

Net-worth: Rs. 9,110.19 crore as against Rs. 6,290.40 crores (up by 44.83%)

Net NPAs: 0.95% as against 1.61% (reduction by 41.01% in percentage terms)

Pradip Kumar Das, Chairman & Managing Director of IREDA, expressed his happiness at the remarkable financial results.

He emphasized IREDA's steadfast commitment to

accelerating the adoption of renewable energy solutions in India, indicating a promising trajectory for investors and stakeholders.

CMD, IREDA attributed the company's growth to unwavering trust and support of stakeholders.

He extended gratitude to Pralhad Joshi, Union Minister of New & Renewable Energy, Consumer Affairs and Food & Public Distribution and Shripad Naik, Minister of State for Power and New & Renewable Energy.

Shri Das also thanked Secretary, MNRE Bhupinder Singh Bhalla and the Board of Directors for their crucial support and guidance.

He also commended Team IREDA for their dedication and persistent efforts, which significantly contributed to the outstanding financial performance.



victory of Congress. In Hamirpur. In Punjab, the INDIA alliance's partner, the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), secured victory in Jalandhar West. In Tamil Nadu also, INDIA alliance partner DMK secured a win from Vikravandi. In all four seats of West Bengal, the All India Trinamool Congress, which is the partner in the INDIA alliance, secured victory and defeated the BJP. In Bihar, neither the JDU of the BJP-led NDA nor the RJD of the INDIA alliance managed to secure a victory.



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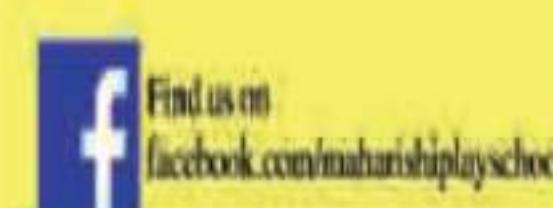
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## Maa Tujhe Salaam, India's anthem of pride, was actually created for a father



Cricketers Virat Kohli and Hardik Pandya singing AR Rahman's 'Maa Tujhe Salaam' during the celebrations of India's 2024 T20 World Cup victory will remain etched in our memory. The song by AR Rahman and Mehboob redefined love for the motherland 27 years ago. Here's how it was actually created for a father.

It was a heart-warming sight as Indian cricketers Virat Kohli, Hardik Pandya, and Rohit Sharma led the entire Team India in singing AR Rahman's 'Maa Tujhe Salaam' as a roaring crowd of 33,000 people joined them at Mumbai's Wankhede Stadium. Their heartfelt rendition on July 4 resonated perfectly with the song's poignant lyrics, capturing the collective euphoria of a nation celebrating the 2024 T20 World Cup victory. It was a moment that summarised not just the sporting glory but also the deep-seated emotions of millions across India.

Every year, watching the Republic Day Parade on DD National with the entire family feels complete only after AR Rahman appears on the screen, singing 'Maa Tujhe Salaam' in the end credits. This moment provides a perfect finale to the celebration of the nation's strength, diversity, and pride. The

song beautifully represents the tricolour in our hands and Bharat Mata in our hearts.

The song, created 27 years ago, has transcended generations like few others. It has become India's anthem of pride. The three words — Maa Tujhe Salaam — stir up patriotic fervour every time the song, sung by AR Rahman, one of India's most celebrated composers and singers, is belted out. The three words beautifully complement Vande Mataram, praise of the motherland.

The song holds a Guinness World record for being performed in the most number of languages. Despite its association with patriotism and motherland, the origins of

it are quite the opposite. It is inspired by a father and created for him.

A top ad filmmaker working from Chennai in the late 1980s and early '90s, Bharatbala Ganapathy was inspired by his father V Ganapathy to make the 'Maa Tujhe Salaam' video with AR Rahman.

"He was a freedom fighter," Bharatbala told Scroll, while adding, "He told me, 'You generate these big ideas for clients to create empathy for a product. Why don't you do the same for India? Vande Mataram was a war cry for us. Why don't you reintroduce it to a new generation?'

Following his father's suggestion, Bharatbala took a break from ad-filmmaking and spent the next couple of years creating what has become an ageless composition. He contacted AR Rahman, his long-time collaborator and school friend. His brief to the young singer-composer was simple, yet resounding, "We need to create a song, a sound that, even after 25 years, the new generation can resonate with."

He needed a song that could tug familiarly at old hearts, yet connect to new ones. "I needed something to bridge the gap between the freedom fighter and the young," Bala told India Today.

Initially, Bharatbala didn't have a vision about how the song would be created.

"It was just a challenge that my father posed to me and I jumped into it, and it took shape," he told Swarajya Magazine. But what helped him was contacting the right man at the right time. Bharatbala contacted AR Rahman at the right time. The singer was trying to break out from the "chains of film music".

Rahman, in a 1997 interview with India Today, said, "It's easy making a masti number, but this [Maa Tujhe Salaam] was challenging."

With the singer-composer finalised, the next challenge for Bharatbala was to zero in on the lyricist who could write something with a unifying impact on the country's patriotic mood.

Rahman introduced lyricist Mehboob, who had written songs for

Bombay (1995), Rangeela (1995), and Daud (1997), to Bala. The song 'Maa Tujhe Salam' was released in 28 countries simultaneously. The album 'Vande Mataram', of which the song was a part of, sold a whopping five lakh copies in its first week, and it continues to be the largest-selling Indian non-film album internationally.

"Making the album was a great experience," Rahman told Nasreen Munni Kabir. It was a song he made with a lot of love. He later also emphasised the key to its success was adding a personal touch by making it for a mother instead of making it for a country. "In all lives, the common factor is, not many people have seen the divine, but we are created through our parents. If we have a sound and love in that life where we get the nurturing of a mother and a father, I think we are stable in mind," he told news agency IANS.

"I had this in my mind on how to crack it because I was very objective about it, thinking about whether patriotism would work or not. So, I was like, forget about the country, let's do it as a personal song -- like singing a song for one's mother. That's how it was created," Rahman added.

## India's Best Dancer Returns With Season 4: 'Jab Dil Kare Dancer Kar!'

Dancing stirs diverse emotions, offering a dynamic way to express feelings. Sony Entertainment Television urges viewers to experience this emotional spectrum with the upcoming season of its homegrown dance reality show, 'India's Best Dancer - Season 4.'

Heightening the glamour quotient of the show will be Bollywood's dancing diva, Karisma Kapoor who takes on the role as a judge. And, joining her in this journey will be Terence Lewis, and Geeta Kapur, as they reprise their role as judges this season.

Produced by Frames Production Company, Promising a captivating journey of extraordinary talent and electrifying dance moves the fourth season of the much-cherished dance reality show urges viewers, 'Jab Dil Kare Dance Kar!'

In all of 90 seconds on the clock during the auditions, the contestants must showcase three power moves to impress the judges, also known as E.N.T specialists to go ahead in the show. Evaluated based on the criteria of



Judges share their excitement, promising a spectacular season filled with extraordinary talent and captivating performances.

Karisma Kapoor said, 'As a judge this season, I am thrilled to witness the evolution of dance styles and the boundless creativity of our contestants. This platform not only celebrates talent but also fosters a spirit of innovation and perseverance among participants. I am eager to embark on this

journey alongside Terence and Geeta, where we aim to inspire, empower, and elevate each dancer's performance to new heights.'

Celebrating talent, diversity, and sheer entertainment, India's Best Dancer Season 4 promises a dynamic fusion of dance, expression, and emotion. Terence Lewis said, 'As we embark on another exhilarating journey with India's Best Dancer Season 4, I am thrilled to return to the judges' panel. This show is a beacon for dance enthusiasts nationwide, offering a platform for raw talent to shine. It's truly gratifying to witness the evolution of dance forms and witness fresh, innovative performances that redefine creativity.'

Hosted by Jay Bhanushali and ex-contestant Aniket Chauhan, India's Best Dancer Season 4 starts 13th July. Sharing her excitement for this season, Geeta Kapur said, 'Being part of India's Best Dancer Season 4 fills me with immense joy and anticipation. Each season brings forth a new wave of talent that redefines the boundaries of dance. I am eager to witness the passion and dedication of our contestants as they showcase their unique styles and stories on stage. This platform continues to inspire and uplift, celebrating dance in its myriad forms.'

India's Best Dancer Season 4 airs every Saturday and Sunday at 8 pm only on Sony Entertainment Television.

# Income Tax Search in what circumstances Part 3



Adv. Narayan Jain &amp; CA Dilip Loyalka

(Contd from 8th July 2024)

7. Reasons recorded for initiating search or requisition of books of account and other documents u/s 132A :As per explanation inserted in sec. 132(1) amended by the Finance Act, 2017 with retrospective effect from asst. year 1962-63 and similar explanations inserted in sec. 132(1A) and sec. 132A (w.e.f. 1.10.1975), the reason to believe, as recorded by the Income-tax authority for initiating search proceedings or requisition of books of account, shall not be disclosed to any person or any authority or the Appellate Tribunal. In this connection the decision of the Supreme Court in the case of DIGIT (Inv.) v. Spacewood Furnishers Pvt. Ltd. [2015] 374 ITR 0595 (SC) may be referred to, wherein the apex court held that reasons recorded prior to authorizing search need not to be disclosed or communicated to the person against whom the warrant of authorization is issued. No right is conferred on taxpayer of inspection of documents or to a communication

of the reasons for the belief at the stage of issuing of the authorization. The Supreme Court observed that "Any such view would be counter-productive of the entire exercise contemplated by Section 132 of the Act" and material may be disclosed only at the stage of commencement of the assessment after search is completed.

Further, the amendment has nullified the decision of ITAT Jodhpur Bench in the case of Shri Parma Ram Bhakar [TS-515-ITAT-2013(JODH)], wherein it was held that search conducted without recording reasons to believe is invalid and quashed the assessment framed in pursuance of invalid search.

Reference may also be made to the apex court's decision in the case of Ess Dee Aluminium Ltd. [TS-625-SC-2016], wherein it has been held that "if the assessment order which is based on the search operations is under challenge, the validity of the search proceedings can also be gone into by the CIT (Appeals)".

8. Whether

information from CBI that a particular person possesses undisclosed money will constitute information for the purpose of search u/s 132: For a valid search there should be information which provides reason for believing that the person concerned is in possession of money or other assets representing, either wholly or partly income which has not been disclosed by such person and in the absence of such information search cannot be validly authorised.

Mere intimation by CBI that money was found in the possession of a person, which according to CBI was undisclosed, without something more did not constitute "information" within the meaning of section 132, on the basis of which a search warrant could be issued, and the search conducted on the basis of such information and the block assessment made pursuant to such search was not valid - UOI v. Ajit Jain & Another [2003] 260 ITR 80(SC): 129 Taxman 74 (SC) : 181 CTR (SC) 22.

9. Whether information that documents, papers, undisclosed cash, jewellery and other assets is likely to be found at the residence of the assessee can at best be a "reason to suspect" but does not form any "reason to believe". Therefore no valid search warrant under such circumstances can be initiated - Mahesh Kumar Agarwal v. Dy. Director of Income Tax & Others [2003] 260

freedom of the assessee, the power must be exercised strictly in accordance with law and only for the purpose for which the law authorised it to be exercised. The Commissioner or the Director of Investigation must have, in consequence of information, reason to believe that the statutory conditions for exercise of the power to order search exist.

ITR 67 (Cal), Spacewood Furnishers (P) Ltd. & Others v. DIGIT (Inv.) & Others [2012] 340 ITR 393 (Bom); Madhu Gupta v. DIT (Inv.) [2013] 350 ITR 598 (Del.); Smt. Kavita Agarwal & Anr v. DIT (Inv.) & Ors. [2003] 264 ITR 472 (All.): 185 CTR (All.) 129.

10. Who can issue authorisation for search: The following authorities are competent to issue authorisation for

w.e.f. 01.10.1998 to 30.09.2009.

Similar amendment has made in respect of cases for requisition of books of accounts u/s 132A.

However, w.e.f. 1st October 2009 only those Addl. Director, Addl. Commissioner, Joint Director or Joint Commissioner who have been empowered by CBDT for the purpose of authorising search, can issue

of the search warrant are called 'authorised officers'. These authorities actually carry out the search and seizure operation.

11. Whether a single Search warrant can be issued for search against a group of persons or for two or more individuals: There is no bar in authorizing search of a group of concerns by a single warrant issued u/s 132 - Jose Cyriac v. CIT [2012] 20 taxmann.com 738 (Kerala), Embassy Classic (P.) Ltd. v. ACIT [2012] 20 taxmann.com 291 (Bangalore), Dr. Oswald Anthony v. CIT [2004] 141 taxmann 520 (Pat.).

12. Where search warrant is issued in the name of a person, can other member residing in the same premises be also searched: Where warrant of authorisation indicated premises where search and seizure operation was to be conducted and said premises had not been partitioned by metes and bounds, while searching said premises, search of portions occupied by other person can also be made even though their names were not mentioned in authorisation of search, in such case provisions of section 153C would be attracted - Harbhajan Singh Chadha v. DIT [2015] 58 taxmann.com 21 (Allahabad).

13. Whether

multiple premises of a person can be searched on a single search warrant: Separate search warrant for separate premises is required. Since, the address of the place to be searched is required to be mentioned on the search warrant therefore no search can be conducted on the premises whose address is not mentioned in the search warrant.

14. In which Form search warrant is to be issued: As per Section 132 read with Rule 112, the search warrant is to be issued in Form 45, Form 45A or Form 45B, as the case may be.

In case search is initiated as per the provision of Section 132(1), the search warrant is to be issued in Form 45. In case the search is initiated under the proviso to section 132(1) the search warrant is to be issued in Form 45A.

In case the search is initiated u/s 132(1A) the search warrant is to be issued in Form 45B. The search warrant should contain the name of the person who is to be searched- Southern Herbals Ltd. v. DIT (Investigation) [1994] 207 ITR 55(Kerala). The address of the premises or place to be searched should be correctly mentioned. It should be signed by the authorized person. It should also bear the seal.

(Contd.)

Adv. Narayan Jain & CA Dilip Loyalka are authors of the Book "How to Handle Income Tax Problems".



The condition precedent for search and seizure is "reason to believe" u/s 132 of the Act which cannot be equated with "reason to suspect". The information that documents, papers, undisclosed cash, jewellery and other assets were likely to be found at the residence of the assessee can at best be a "reason to suspect" but does not form any "reason to believe". Therefore no valid search warrant under such circumstances can be initiated - Mahesh Kumar Agarwal v. Dy. Director of Income Tax & Others [2003] 260

search: (i) Director General or Director of Income Tax; (ii) Chief Commissioner or CIT; (iii) Joint Director or Joint Commissioner, as may be, authorised in this behalf by the Central Board of Direct Taxes. (iv) Additional Director and Additional Commissioner have also been empowered to issue authorization for search by the Finance (No.2) Act, 2009 w.r.e.f. 01.06.1994 to 30.09.2009. Similarly, Joint Director or Joint Commissioners have also been empowered to issue authorization to conduct the search on the basis

## Jagannath's Rath Yatra: Strengthening Social Harmony and Family Relations.

Dr. Man Mohan Prakash



The Rath Yatra of Lord Jagannath is an unparalleled gift for the preservation of Sanatani traditions and culture. During the Rath Yatra, Lord Jagannath, accompanied by his elder brother Balabhadra and sister Subhadra, comes out of the temple to tour the city on a chariot and visits his aunt Gundicha's house for a week. In essence, Lord Jagannath, the lord of the universe, introduces the world to the importance of relationships through this journey. We all know that relationships are of two types: blood relationships



like those between siblings and non-blood relationships which are formed through bonds of affection, mutual trust, selfless cooperation, and dedication, transcending caste, religion, community, gender, and language. In the Rath Yatra, Lord Jagannath (Lord Krishna) pauses for a moment at the shrine of Salabega, a Muslim devotee, and then goes to the house of his foster aunt Gundicha (Queen of King Indradymna, the founder of the Puri Jagannath Temple) for a few days. His chariot is not automated or driven by a single charioteer. It is bound by the ropes of love, moved by collective efforts, mutual cooperation, and the power of faith. It progresses with ego-free dedication, driven by the coordination of temple management and the public's strength on the path of people. This journey is inspired by the

selfless love between brothers and the unparalleled affection for their sister. In today's times, when the sanctity of relationships is being torn apart and selfishness is dominating human minds, when we do not hesitate to harm the family for our selfish gains, and the power of society is being divided into many castes, increasing hostility - this journey brings a new ray of hope to our society. In this Rath Yatra, along with local devotees, a large number of devotees from across the country and abroad join in, wishing to maintain grace and receive blessings from their deity. The participation of a multitude beyond caste, religion, attire, gender, and language shows faith and

dedication towards divine power and conveys many messages. This journey of the Lord indeed teaches mutual love, harmony, respect, honor, and dedication and cooperation with a sense of family. It emphasizes holding the threads of relationships firmly. During the coronavirus pandemic, in adverse circumstances and times of trouble, we closely felt the need and importance of relationships. This journey becomes even more significant in today's era when some people, driven by greed, lust, and desires, are tarnishing relationships. Breaking families, ending true connections, and diminishing cordiality, cooperation, participation, and harmony are pointing towards the pollution of the familial atmosphere, leading to misunderstandings, hostility, and enmity. This situation cannot be considered good for the family, society, and nation. Thus, Lord Jagannath's Rath Yatra reminds humans every year to strengthen their traditions, culture, and faith, understand the importance of affectionate relationships while avoiding overly ambitious selfishness, and dedicate themselves to the progress and development of society and the nation.

## Letter to Editor

Dear Editor

The profound impact of Artificial Intelligence (AI) on precision agriculture, commonly known as AgriTech or AgTech. The synergy of AI with farming practices revolutionizes the industry by employing machine learning, data analytics, and automation for optimal resource allocation and decision-making. Precision agriculture enhances crop yields while minimizing waste through real-time data from AI technologies like remote sensing, satellite imagery, and IoT sensors. AI-driven insights provide precise recommendations for irrigation, fertilization, and pest control, boosting productivity and reducing environmental impact. Additionally, AI improves crop health assessment, expedites genetic research, and cultivates climate-resilient crops. AI's potential in predictive analytics, genetic editing, global food security, and sustainable practices can change the global scenario. Automation in agriculture tasks using AI-driven robotics and machinery increases productivity. Despite AI's positive environmental impact through resource optimization, concerns about energy consumption and hardware management necessitate attention. A balanced approach to AI development, incorporating energy-efficient algorithms and renewable energy integration, ensures its positive contribution to sustainable practices. It has potential research directions and the intricate interplay between AI's benefits and environmental considerations.

Thanking you  
Sincerely yours

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# Journalist Ahsan Ansari honoured

**New delhi ( KCN)** : Supreme Court senior advocate and national media panelist Rudra Vikram Singh honoured journalist Ahsan Ansari by giving him his book, *Dand Samhita Se Nyay Samhita Tak*'.

Delhi's well-known journalist and social worker Ahsan Ansari, who has been making headlines in journalism for the past several years and has been making efforts to leave a special mark with big officials. Let us tell you that Ehsan Ansari comes from a family, despite this he completed higher education to take his career to the top and by taking a step towards journalism in Delhi, he has been honoured by big officials and public representatives for selflessly publishing news related to the region by giving his valuable time in English print media and



many channels. The latest case is of Thursday, where today in Delhi, Honorable Supreme Court advocate Rudra Vikram Singh honoured him by

giving a book on the law related to the new criminal law, from the Penal Code to the Nyay Samhita, the penal system established by the British, which has been changed

by the current government. Let us tell you that Rudra Vikram Singh is currently serving as an advocate of the Honorable Supreme Court. He is also known

as a well-known political analyst of the country and is seen on almost every national channel of the country giving his views on current issues and political issues. Apart from this book, he has written a very popular book (22 Rooms of Taj Mahal) in his career, which has been appreciated all over the country. As a legal advisor, Advocate Rudra Vikram Singh is associated with UGC ICMSR Education Ministry, Central University of Haryana, AMG Media Networks (Adani Group) and many other resources. He is also serving as a political advisor for India in Kantar Group, the world's largest data analytics company. However, his organization Kutumb Delhi provides free medical service to the elderly. And this organization is working at home for children.

## ICCR Kolkata organized an Indian Classical evening



**Kolkata, (Arindam Bhattacharya)** : A program of Indian classical instrument and Odissi dance was held at

Satyajit Roy Auditorium by ICCR Kolkata, Ministry of External Affairs, Govt. Of India under its Horizon

Series. The program was held in two phases. It began with an Indian instrumental performance by Joydeep

Mukherjee on various ragas and songs played in Mohanveena, Sursingar and Sarod. At the end of the program, the artist was felicitated. The next episode started with Odissi dance performance by popular Odissi dance artist Shatabdi Mallik and her students. Jagannathastakam was her first presentation as part of Mangalacharan. This was dedicated to Lord Jagannath on the occasion of the ongoing holy week of Chariot Festival of Ratha Yatra. Next was a Shiva Stuthi which was energetically performed by her students, Sumita, Debasmita and

Sampriti. Finally, Shatabdi Nrityayan's Odissi dance drama production "Mahiyashi Kaikeyi" based on the native legends of the epic Ramayana was presented by her group Shatabdi Nrityayan. The main character of Queen Kaikeyi was portrayed by Shatabdi herself while Manoj, Sampriti, Pallavi, Krittika and Debanjana played the role of Dasarath, Manthara, Ram, Sita and Laxman respectively. This dance drama won the heart of each and every audience. The evening ended with the felicitation of Shatabdi and her students by ICCR Kolkata Zonal Director Minakshi Mishra and Program director, Ramesh Chand.

## VANDE KARGIL RALLY FLAGGED OFF



**Srinagar (KCN)** :

'Vande Kargil Rally' by The Mahindra Group as part of the nationwide celebration of Kargil Vijay Diwas (Adani Group) and many other resources. He is also serving as a political advisor for India in Kantar Group, the world's largest data analytics company. However, his organization Kutumb Delhi provides free medical service to the elderly. And this organization is working at home for children.

Nation.

The rally featuring a team of 43 participants comprising Ex-Servicemen, kin of Bravehearts and citizens was flagged off by GOC, 31 Sub Area from Srinagar on 14 July 2024. A notable event of the ceremony was unboxing of 'Thank You Message Box' containing personal messages from citizens

across India, expressing their heartfelt gratitude to the soldiers for their unwavering dedication and service. This gesture symbolizes the Nation's collective appreciation and respect for the Armed Forces. It stands as a testament to the courage and sacrifice of our soldiers, whose legacy continues to inspire and strengthen the fabric of our Nation.

## IPS Alok Kumar becomes new DGP of Goa, social worker Dr. Javed Farooqui congratulates him at his home



**New Delhi (KCN)** : Senior IPS and sharp officer Alok Kumar has been appointed as the new DGP of Goa. Till now Alok Kumar was IG in CISF. According to the order issued by the Home Ministry on Friday, Alok Kumar will join Goa in place of IPS officer Jaspal Singh (of his own batch 1996). Alok Kumar said that better policing and law and order are his top priorities. Soon Alok Kumar will take up new responsibilities in Goa. Before this, Alok Kumar has also been Joint Commissioner Crime and Special Commissioner in Delhi Police. Apart from this, IPS officer Alok Kumar has also held important posts in NSG and BSF. Alok Kumar said that better policing and law and order are his top priorities. Soon Alok Kumar will take up new responsibility in Goa. Delhi's social worker and Lok Janshakti (R) party leader Dr Javed Farooqui reached IPS Alok Kumar's house in Delhi and congratulated him on becoming the DGP of Goa.

## Notorious thief arrested by delhi police



**New Delhi (KCN)** : The Model Town police station of North West District has arrested a cunning thief who used to go to his native place in Kolkata after committing a crime in Delhi. Here he used to sell the stolen jewellery. The name of the accused is Sheikh Farid. He already has 45 cases registered against him in different police stations of Delhi. Additional DCP of the district Sikandar Singh said that on July 4, a theft took place in a house in Model Town area. The complainant had told that the thieves broke into his house and

stole jewellery worth lakhs of rupees. After this, a team was formed to investigate the matter. At the same time, the investigation of this entire case was handed over to Inspector Model Town. The police identified the accused with the help of CCTV installed near the crime scene and arrested him. The arrested accused lives in Bhalswa Dairy area. The police have recovered all the stolen items from the accused. Many cases have been registered against the accused

## Union Sports Minister visited multi sports complex; interacted with sportspersons



Sheikh Farid earlier. The police claim that many more old cases can be solved with his arrest. According to the police, Sheikh Farid had come out of jail only a few months ago. He had carried out this crime with his cunning mind. If the police is to be believed, the accused used to do a thorough recce of the crime spot beforehand. One lakh cash, 5 gold bracelets, 17 gold rings, 5 gold chains, one diamond tops, two gold lockets and one diamond watch have been recovered from the accused.

Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya received a warm reception with flower bouquets and traditional izbandh soz. He then visited the Synthetic Turf, where he interacted with players from the U17 Indian National Team, J&K Sports Council Football School and Academy trainees, Downtown Heroes Football Club Boys and Girls teams, and other school children. The Hon'ble Minister

praised the launch of the

Blue Cubs Initiative by the All India Football Federation, awarded to JKSC, aimed at enhancing grassroots football. He also flagged off a bicycle rally, in which athletes from Khelo India Center Cycling, Budgam participated with

enthusiasm. Following this, the Hon'ble Minister visited the Indoor Sports Complex, where hundreds of excited athletes and school children awaited his address. He enjoyed a performance of the local Kashmiri and Dogri Folk

Centres. Conveying the best wishes of Honourable Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, he expressed his pleasure at the large participation of children in multiple sports and commended the efforts of the J&K Administration, particularly the Youth Services and Sports Department and the J&K Sports Council. He noted that J&K is rapidly becoming a sports hub and praised the J&K Sports Council for hosting National Team camps in Kashmir. He assured the audience that the Government of India will fully support the development of the sports ecosystem in J&K. Secretary Youth Services and Sports, along with the Secretary J&K Sports Council, thanked the Hon'ble Minister for his time and encouraging words, and pledged to elevate J&K's sports development to the next level.

# Crocodile nest numbers go down in Bhitarkanika

**Kendrapara(KCN):** The recently conducted census has registered a fall in the number of crocodile nests this year in the famous Bhitarkanika National Park in Kendrapara district.

A total of 114 estuarine crocodile nests were spotted in four wildlife and forest ranges within Bhitarkanika National Park by the enumerators, Divisional Forest Officer (DFO) of Rajnagar Mangrove (Forest) and Wildlife Division, Sudarshan Gopinath Yadav, said

Friday. Last year, the Bhitarkanika National Park authority had spotted 122 nests of estuarine crocodiles in the Kanika, Gahirmatha, Mahakalapara, and Rajnagar wildlife and forest ranges under Bhitarkanika National Park, Yadav informed. According to Yadav, the Forest personnel have spotted 102 crocodile nests in the Kanika Forest and Wildlife Range, 10 nests under the Rajnagar Forest and Wildlife Range, and one each at the Gahirmatha

Forest and Wildlife Range and the Mahakalapara Forest and Wildlife Range. Last year, the Forest personnel had spotted 107 nests of crocodiles in the Kanika Forest and Wildlife Range, 12 nests under the Rajnagar Forest and Wildlife Range, one crocodile nest in the Gahirmatha Forest and Wildlife Range, and two nests in the Mahakalapara Forest and Wildlife Range. Generally, crocodiles tend to form nests in the same spot or nearby



areas where they previously laid eggs as they are acquainted with the location.

Female crocodiles lay eggs inside the mangrove forest near the water bodies of the park and guard the eggs until the hatchlings emerge. During the nesting season, crocodiles lay

eggs by creating mound-like nests with mangrove leaves. Hatchlings generally emerge from the nests after about 60 to 70 days.

As female crocodiles in Bhitarkanika National Park grow up to 14 feet, they can lay nearly 45 to 60 eggs. If a female crocodile grows longer than 14 feet, she is likely to lay more eggs, Forest officials said.

As many as 50 eggs from a wild nest were collected from the Kanika Forest and Wildlife Range, Manas Kumar Das, said.

## Scanty rainfall hits Bhadrak farmers



**Tihidi(KCN):** Even one month after the onset of monsoon in the state, Kharif farming activities in this block of Bhadrak district are yet to begin, primarily because of inadequate rainfall.

Additionally, the Dasamauja Canal, the only alternative irrigation source, has dried up. As a result, paddy fields in the block look parched with cracked soil, while the plants have turned yellow.

Even as the present crisis has caused despair among the farmers, it is feared that the situation will become worse if it does not rain significantly in the coming weeks.

Paddy is cultivated on around 20,000 hectares in the block. However, due to unfavourable weather conditions before Raja Sankranti, farmers were unable to prepare the fields. They could prepare the fields only after Sankranti. Some farmers even managed to prepare fallow fields for planting rice. It is learnt that around 4,000 hectares of land in various panchayats of the block have been prepared for paddy cultivation. This year, farmers have sowed improved varieties of rice seeds which they purchased at Rs 750-1,000 for 20 kg pack. However, due to sporadic rainfall and intense heat,

water is quickly evaporating from the soil, causing the fields to crack and the rice plants to turn yellow.

Importantly, the farmers are staring at a situation when they will have to irrigate the land by shelling out extra money if it does not rain sufficiently in the coming days. This is because it will be difficult to pull the paddy seedlings from moderately wet fields for transplanting.

Meanwhile, Block Agriculture Officer Raghunath Pati said that the adverse condition from the beginning of the farming season has disappointed the farmers. "If there is no significant rainfall in the coming weeks, it will lead to a situation where paddy cultivation will be affected and rice production hindered," he said.

## Kargil war hero from Baripada to be honoured



**Baripada(KCN):** The nation remembers the sacrifices of 527 brave soldiers on the occasion of 25th anniversary of the Kargil war. With the

Indian Air Force all set to celebrate the silver jubilee July 16, retired flight lieutenant Ajay Kumar Bhanja from Baripada in Mayurbhanj district will be honoured with gallantry award in Delhi on this occasion. Bhanja has been invited to the Kargil Day silver jubilee celebrations at Sarsawa in New Delhi.

Bhanja joined the Indian Air Force in January 1964. He served as the Chief Engineer of the Indian Air Force's advanced aircraft Mirage-2000 which played a crucial role in winning the Kargil war. He was stationed at the Gwalior Air Base. As many as 24 Mirage-2000 fighter jets and

many junior engineers were operating under his supervision. The aircraft delivered all kinds of equipment and flew soldiers to Tiger Hill. This operation lasted for 40 hours, Bhanja revealed. He also mentioned that many dignitaries, including the Defense Minister, will attend the celebration.

Before the Kargil war, he has also participated in the 1971 India-Pakistan war and the 1975 Pakistan war. For his contributions, Bhanja has been awarded multiple times.



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## Capri Global Appoints Coaching Beyond as Consultant for UAE ILT20 League

**Mumbai:** Capri Global has announced an association with Coaching Beyond, a premier cricket coaching institute, as a consultant for the franchise team of the UAE ILT20 League. The institution will assist Capri Global in appointment of coaching staff and matters related to cricket operations. R Sridhar, former fielding coach of the Indian Cricket Team and one of the founding members of Coaching Beyond, will be the Director of Cricket for Capri Global during the UAE ILT20 League. Capri Global intends to strengthen the cricket ecosystem on the global platform by engaging the right sporting talent and nurturing them. The company aims to play a vital role as an enabler by empowering deserving talent to showcase their sporting strength to the globe. Speaking on the association, Mr. Rajesh Sharma, Director, Capri Global, said, "Capri Global aims to reinforce the visibility and

popularity of sports nationally and globally and popularize homegrown sports to create opportunities for aspiring talent. We are pleased to associate with Coaching Beyond, a brainchild of sports stalwarts who will assist us in evaluating the deserving talent and offer state-of-the-art sports training infrastructure, world-class technology, and training to sportspeople. Mr. Sridhar's experience as a player and coach is almost unrivaled and his strategic insights, coaching approach, and collaborative style will be invaluable for our franchise team. We see great synergy coming through this alliance, including a host of exciting moments that are set to elevate the cricketing experience for the Indian audience on the global platform."

Coaching Beyond is a premier cricket coaching institute in India that provides performance-driven cricket coaching,

## Ashok Leyland launches industry first 8-wheel truck – AVTR 2620

**Chennai:** Ashok Leyland, flagship of the Hinduja Group and India's leading commercial vehicle manufacturer, today, launched the industry first 8 wheeler truck – AVTR 2620. With this launch of AVTR 2620, Ashok Leyland becomes the first and only player in the country to have a full range of trucks based on lift axle technology from GVW of 25.5 to 47.5T. This new product can be operated as 25.5 T (6x2) truck with the lift axle down (offering

payload closer to regular 6x2 MAV truck) and a 4x2 truck (18.5T GVW) with lift axle up (lower fuel and operating cost similar to 4x2) during light load/partial load/return empty. This new product thus offers an excellent operational flexibility to customers to choose the option based on their load, offering best-in-class Total Cost of Operation (TCO) benefits.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Sanjeev Kumar, Head - M&HCV, Ashok Leyland, said, "Ashok

Leyland, said, "Ashok

Leyland has a history of introducing products which have disrupted the CV industry. AVTR 2620 with its unique lift axle configuration offers higher TCO advantage to our customers operating in Ecom, Parcel & tanker. AVTR 2620 is a testament of Ashok Leyland's technological prudence & our commitment towards providing better logistical solutions to our customers, aligning with our philosophy of AppkiJeet, HamariJeet."

## OPPO India launches Reno12 5G series; makes AI phones accessible



Bhubaneswar: OPPO India today announced the launch of the Reno12 series, its first step towards accelerating the availability of AI phones in the country. The Reno12 series—"Your Everyday AI Companion"—boasts features such as AI Eraser 2.0, AI Clear Face, AI Best Face, and Smart Image Matting 2.0 for flawless yet fun photos without complex image editing. The devices also pack the AI Toolbox, powered by Google Gemini LLM, that comprises AI Writer, AI Summary, and AI Speak to enhance daily productivity.

The Reno12 Pro 5G will be available in two variants: INR 36,999 for the 12GB+256GB model and INR 40,999 for the 12GB+512GB version.

The Reno12 5G will be priced at INR 32,999 and come with 8GB RAM and 256GB storage. The Reno12 Pro 5G will go on sale in India starting 18th July, and the Reno12 5G will be available from 25th July on the OPPO e-Store, Flipkart, and across mainline retail outlets. Speaking at the launch PeterDohyung Lee, Head of Product Strategy, at OPPO said, "The Reno12 series marks a milestone for OPPO as we pledge to accelerate AI phone adoption. The Reno series, which showcases OPPO's advanced GenAI capabilities, futuristic fluid design, and unparalleled energy efficiency, reflects our commitment to cutting-edge technology. We envision that AI will

make mobile devices more personalised and intuitive to not only enhance smartphone capabilities but also transform the way users interact with their devices."

The Reno12 Pro sports a unique Quad-Micro Curved Infinite View screen with a 43-degree curve for extremely narrow bezels of just 1.69mm and a 93.5% screen-to-body ratio. Both devices come with 6.7-inch FHD+ AMOLED displays with 120Hz refresh rate for smooth browsing and scrolling; their 1200nits peak HDR brightness ensures legibility even under direct sunlight. The handsets boast 10-bit panels that output 1.07 billion colours to display images with a high dynamic range (HDR) and subtle colour gradations for life-like, immersive pictures.

The Reno12 Pro 5G—available in Sunset Gold and Space Brown—sports a Panda Glass back with dual textures: The top half is treated with anti-glare technology that is smudge-resistant, while the lower glossy area is defined by a smooth ribbon that carries the OPPO branding.

## Nuvoco Vistas Launches Its Second Ready-Mix Plant in Patna



**Bhubaneswar(KCN):** Nuvoco Vistas Corp. Ltd., India's fifth-largest cement group has widened its operational presence with the inauguration of its second state-of-the-art Ready-mix Concrete Plant (RMX) as Patna-II. Situated strategically at Ranipur Milki Chak,

Begampur bypass, this plant marks Nuvoco's continued commitment for providing top-quality building materials to the Patna region. Strategically located approximately 24 kilometers from the first plant, Patna-II is positioned as Nuvoco's regional flagship plant. It

capitalizes on untapped market potential by providing quick access to Nuvoco's Cement Plant in the region. Its proximity to nearby Industrial, Commercial, and Residential developments guarantees high-quality concrete solutions on time.

Mr. Prashant Jha, Chief of the Ready-Mix (RMX) Concrete and Modern Building Materials business at Nuvoco Vistas expressed his excitement at the inauguration of this latest plant, stating, "The launch of the Patna-II plant underscores Nuvoco's dedication to providing

## Union Bank of India signs MOU with SIDBI for Co-Financing arrangement of MSMEs

**Mumbai :** Union Bank of India today signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) for a Co-Financing arrangement for MSMEs. The MoU was signed by Shri Lal Singh, Chief General Manager, Union Bank of India and Shri Vivek Kumar Malhotra, Chief General Manager, SIDBI. SIDBI is country's principal financial institution

engaged in the Promotion, Financing and Development of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME). Under the MoU, Union Bank of India would consider Joint financing/ Co-Financing with SIDBI to Projects/Units in the MSME. This MoU would help the Banks to increase their customer base, while helping the MSMEs to meet their funding requirements. The key highlights of the arrangement include joint

identification of viable projects and term loan and working capital financing to MSMEs. Initially the arrangement would be at specific centers and once the arrangement stabilizes at these centers, more locations would be covered.

Speaking on the occasion, Shri Lal Singh, CGM (MSME), Union Bank of India, said "MSME is one of the key sectors of our Indian Economy contributing to GDP, Exports, Manufacturing Output, Employment, Women Empowerment etc. MSME is one of the focused areas of the Bank and at Union Bank of India, we aim to become Bank of 1st choice for MSMEs. This tie-up with SIDBI aids in realizing the Bank's vision to have increased credit flow to the MSME sector and extend operational convenience to the MSME clientele. Under partnership, Union Bank of India through its Pan

India branch network can provide general Banking products like Current Accounts, Savings Accounts, Working Capital facilities and other related services to the MSME Customers of SIDBI."

Also, speaking on the tie-up arrangement, Shri Vivek Kumar Malhotra, CGM, SIDBI reiterated SIDBI's commitment towards timely financing for MSMEs across all sectors.

## India to see largest increase in energy demand worldwide over the next 20 years, says Infomerics

New Delhi,: India faces the twin dilemma of co-existence of shortage and abundance in several parts of its energy system. While the provision of electricity has increased significantly over the years, weak institutions and utility governance hamper the power sector's financial performance with issues of accountability, operational efficiency, customer service, and transmission to state-level transmission institutions. The sector takes a huge and grossly unacceptable hit due to extensive losses, leakages and pilferages, and the cost recovery

from tariffs. These are some major findings of a report titled Power Sector in India: New Emerging Opportunities and Challenges released by Infomerics Valuation and Rating Pvt Ltd., the well-known SEBI-registered and RBI-accredited financial services credit rating company.

The report explores the opportunities and challenges ahead for India as it seeks to ensure reliable, affordable and sustainable energy for a growing population. During FY20 and FY19, the growth of electricity generation was lower than in the previous financial years because

of the impact of COVID-19. The report quotes the International Energy Agency (IEA) stating that during FY21 recovery in electricity demand from the COVID-19 pandemic was faster and stronger in India than in EU countries.

India is the third-largest producer and the third-largest consumer of electricity in the world. With the increasing population, electricity demand is rising at a fast clip and India has improved its power generation capacity over the years. India has added more than 500 billion units until FY22 from FY10.

## Blue Dart signs the UNFCCC Climate Neutral Now Pledge

Bhubaneswar: Blue Dart, South Asia's premier express air and integrated transportation & distribution company and a part of the Deutsche Post DHL (DPDHL) Group has signed the 'Climate Neutral Now' (CNN) pledge by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The pledge highlights the organisation's commitment

to ambitious CO2 reduction targets. Deutsche Post DHL Group has adopted a package of measures worth up to 7 billion to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 in line with the Paris Climate Agreement. The initiative is a tool to promote voluntary action on climate change. Blue Dart has already invested extensively in remaining a Sustainable Provider of Choice by being the first

in the industry to set quantified carbon-reduction targets. The Climate Neutral Now Initiative encourages and supports interested stakeholders to act now in order to achieve a climate neutral world by 2050 as enshrined in the Paris Climate Agreement. The initiative is a tool to promote voluntary action on climate change. Blue Dart has already invested extensively in remaining a Sustainable Provider of Choice by being the first

developed a Sustainability Roadmap that supports the UN's Sustainable Development Goals. We are constantly working towards introducing innovative green logistics solutions that improve our carbon footprint. I am delighted to share that representing the DHL eCommerce Solutions Division in India, Blue Dart has been delivering high on its sustainability initiatives.



# Openers hammer Zimbabwe to seal series

**New Delhi:** India's opening pair of Yashasvi Jaiswal and Shubman Gill delivered an emphatic 10-wicket win for India over Zimbabwe in the fourth T20I to seal the series 3-1. Chasing a modest target of 153, India looked in total control as Yashasvi Jaiswal hammered an unbeaten 93 whereas Shubman Gill remained not out at the other end on 58.

Hard to point out one phase of play as the difference given how ruthless India were in the run chase. But Zimbabwe would rue the way they batted in the middle overs after a solid

start whereas India continued to remain on top post the powerplay as well.

Wessly Madhevere gave Zimbabwe the ideal start by finding the boundary thrice in the first two overs, including a couple of debutant Tushar Deshpande. Zimbabwe raced to 39 in the first five overs before Washington Sundar rounded off the powerplay in tight fashion.

While the openers did bring up a half-century partnership, Zimbabwe squandered the start and let India fight back through wickets. Tadiwanashe Marumani found the fielder in his



attempt to break free and Shivam Dube struck in his first over to send the other opener back to the pavilion as well. Sikandar Raza did try to up the ante with a boundary and a six but Washington put an end to Brian Bennett's misery. A run out in the

following over put the onus on Raza to deliver at the death.

The Zimbabwe skipper did step up for his side,

as he has done numerous times over the years. After smashing Washington for a six, Raza hammered a four and a six off Khaleel to race to 40 off just 20 balls at one point. Had Deshpande not dismissed him in the penultimate over, Zimbabwe could have gone past 160. An excellent final over from Khaleel saw them finish with a modest 152 on the board.

On expected lines, Jaiswal took on an aggressive approach right from the word go. The boundary was found thrice in the very first over of the chase before Shubman Gill hit a couple

of fours in the second off Blessing Muzarabani. Jaiswal then tore into Tendai Chatara to smash him for four boundaries as India raced to 43 in just three overs. That set the tone for the rest of the chase as India never dropped control. The last two overs of the PP were quiet but India still finished with 61.

Even the ever-reliable Raza couldn't stop the onslaught as Jaiswal welcomed him with a couple of boundaries en route his half-century. Raza had to take himself out of the attack after conceding 24 in his first two overs but the bowling changes hardly

made an impact. The entire attack was sent on a leather hunt throughout the chase. Gill played second fiddle to Jaiswal who could have eyed a spectacular century at one point before Gill chipped in with a few runs to raise his half-century. India ended up scoring 90 runs in the middle overs and needed just two more deliveries in the 16th over to get the job done. Brief scores: Zimbabwe 152/7 in 20 overs (Sikandar Raza 46; Khaleel Ahmed 2/32) lost to India 156/0 in 15.2 overs (Yashasvi Jaiswal 93\*, Shubman Gill 58\*) by 10 wickets

## Joe Root hopeful of 'bright future' after 'losing greatest-ever' James Anderson



**New Delhi:** Joe Root is hopeful of a bright future for England's bowling department after the departure of James Anderson. Root was impressed with Gus Atkinson's debut performance and hailed Anderson as the 'greatest-ever bowler'. Joe Root is hopeful of a bright future for England's bowling unit following Gus Atkinson's memorable debut with the ball. He also hailed the retired James Anderson as the 'greatest-ever bowler'. Anderson bid adieu to international cricket after the 1st Test match against the West Indies

at the Lord's Cricket Ground on July 12, Friday. The speedster ended his career on a high with a four-wicket haul in his last Test innings. His career spanned 21 years as the 41-year-old finished as the third-highest wicket-taker in Test cricket with 704 wickets, just behind Shane Warne (708) and Muttiah Muralitharan (800).

In the same Test match at Lord's, Gus Atkinson made his debut and shone with the ball to win the Player of the Match award. He became only the 19th player to take a 10-

wicket haul in his debut Test match against West Indies. He finished off the Test with 12 wickets and conceded 106 runs and already surpassed Anderson's career-best figures. This set up a perfect transition to a new era of England cricket, which could be spearheaded by the likes of Atkinson.

Root's remarks regarding the future of England's bowling department came after Atkinson's memorable performance. While he hailed Anderson as the 'greatest-ever bowler', he also realised that the England team needed

"I think as a player, the Ashes is the series that you're always looking forward to, they're the ones you're always building towards."

"When teams have gone out there, what they need for those conditions is someone like Gus that can bowl in the late 80mphs, early 90mphs, and still move the ball around and make things happen at high pace."

## BCCI to release INR 1 crore for Gaekwad's cancer treatment



secretary, instructed the Gaekwad," a BCCI statement said. Shah has also spoken to Gaekwad's family to take stock of the situation and

extend support. "The board stands by Gaekwad's family in this hour of crisis and will do whatever is essential for Mr Gaekwad's quick recovery," Shah said, adding, "The BCCI will continue to monitor Mr Gaekwad's progress and is confident that he will come out of this phase strongly."

Gaekwad featured in 40 Tests and 15 ODIs in an international career spanning 12 years between 1975 and 1987.

## Ricky Ponting steps down as DC head coach



**New Delhi:** Ricky Ponting has stepped down from his position as the head coach of Delhi Capitals, the franchise announced on X on Saturday. The former Australian captain was at the helm of the franchise for seven seasons starting from 2018. Under Ponting, Delhi Capitals registered some of its best seasons in the league, including 2020 when they reached the final in UAE.

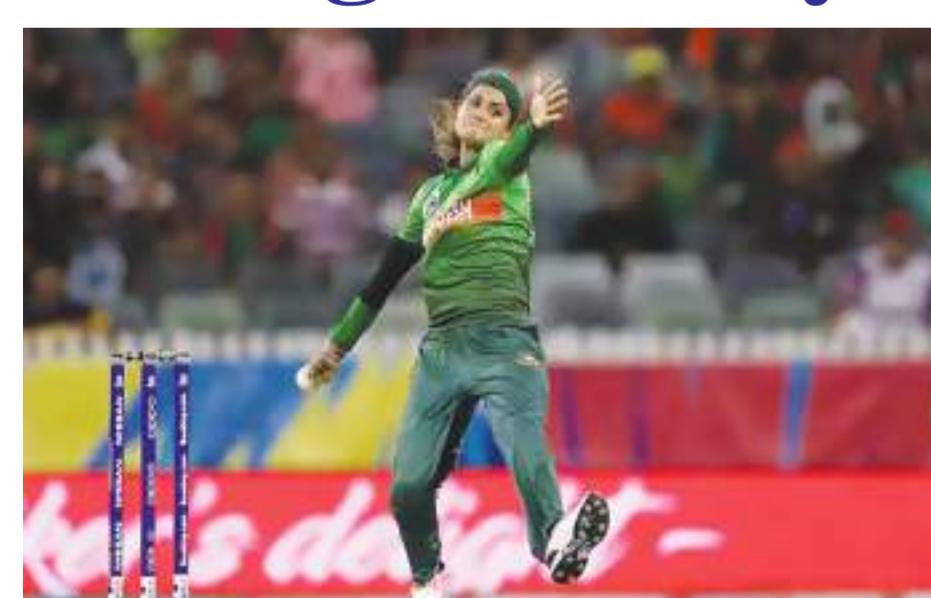
"Dear Ricky, as you move on as our Head Coach, we find it

incredibly hard to put this down in words," the franchise stated in an X post. "The four things you told us about in every huddle - care, commitment, attitude and effort - they sum up our seven summers together. "Seven summers of you being hands-on, but also hands-off, so that we could become better. As athletes, yes, but more importantly, as human beings. Seven summers of you reaching every training session first, and leaving last. Seven summers of you sprinting out of the dugouts during strategic timeouts, and

biting your nails off unless there were none left. Seven summers of your dressing room speeches, seven summers of your hugs, shoulder pats and fist pumps for us - newcomers, superstar...

and everyone in-between. "Thank you for everything, coach! Like you often close out, 'Let's leave this here, let's grab a beer, get back to work tomorrow, yeah?'

## Rejuvenated Jahanara gets ready for Asia Cup



**New Delhi:** Bangladeshi pace bowler Jahanara Alam is reaping the benefit of a remodeled bowling action that has helped her to increase her pace. It paved the way to make a comeback in the national set-up after more than one year. Jahanara, who made a comeback to the national team by earning a spot in the T20 Asia Cup squad on the back of solid performance in Dhaka Premier League where she ended up becoming the highest wicket-taker with 25 scalps, last played for Bangladesh during a three-match away T20I series against Sri Lanka in May 2023. The right-arm pacer credited renowned coach

Mohammad Salahuddin, who worked with her extensively at the Masco Cricket Academy since she was dumped from the national set-up, for helping her make an international comeback. "Alhamdulillah, I have returned to the national team after a long year and all the praise goes to Allah and during this one year I have trained at Masco academy for nine months. Sheikh Salauddin Sir and other coaching staff who were there have worked really hard with me and have tried to improve my performance," Jahanara said in a statement provided by BCB on Friday. "In fact in every moment

I have tried to be prepared so that whenever the call comes from the women's national team I can grab the opportunity," she said. "In the last Premier League I have shown a good performance as well and you can say it was the result of the long training I have done for nine months. So, overall the feeling is really good as I will be able to represent Bangladesh once again," she said. Salahuddin told Cricbuzz on Friday that their major focus was on increasing the pace of Jahanara during her time in Masco Academy. "No one can raise question about her dedication level because she used to visit

hard work she managed to do that and could understand what needs to be done to generate pace," he said. "We tried to remodel her action a bit so that she can generate more pace because with her previous action, it was difficult for her to generate pace by bowling with that action," he added. Jahanara added that she put major emphasis on her fitness as she is well aware that it is one thing that can make a difference in the long run while adding that they are eyeing to make a statement in the forthcoming Asia Cup. "Normally it is difficult to increase pace if someone lost it. But through sheer

play the semi-final as the champion of the group stage in that case we might get Pakistan and that is likely to be an easier opponent and we are trying to do that," said the former national skipper. Pakistan and India are placed in Group A along with Nepal and UAE, while Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Thailand and Malaysia are in Group B. The top two teams from each group will play in the semi-finals on July 26 while the final will be played on July 28. Bangladesh will take on Sri Lanka on July 20, followed by matches against Thailand and Malaysia on July 22 and 24, respectively.