

SOP,” he clarified. Law Minister Prithiviraj Harichandan said the process of opening the Ratna Bhandar is divided into three parts as per the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP). “The first part, opening the ‘Bahar Ratna Bhandar,’ is completed, and all ornaments from the outer chamber have been transferred to the temporary treasury. The inner chamber of the Ratna Bhandar will be opened soon, and the ASI will oversee its repairs,” Harichandan added.

situation and other crucial aspects along with welfare programmes will also be discussed and a draft on the next course of action will be prepared,” Tripathy said.

The BJP will “do the needful to make a ‘Viksit’ (developed) Odisha”, he said.

BJP Sources said the party may review the Assembly segments where its candidates lost by a slender margin.

The saffron camp won 78 seats of the 147-member Assembly, while it bagged 20 of the 21 Lok Sabha constituencies in the state.

Nematighat, Tezpur and Dhubri. The Burhidihing was also above the red mark at Khowang and Disang at Nanglamuraghat. Sharma, in a post on X Monday, said he briefed the Union Home Minister about the flood situation, while also thanking the Centre for continued cooperation. Shah reiterated “augmenting all possible assistance from the Government of India to help the state deal with the situation”, the CM said.

KIMS to Offer Free Cleft Lip & Palate Surgeries from August

Bhubaneswar, (KCN): KIMS has announced a new initiative to offer free cleft lip and cleft palate surgeries starting next month. This move aims to benefit patients from all sections of society and is being launched in association with the Smile Foundation. The idea for this initiative developed last year when a family inquired about the availability of cleft lip and palate

surgeries at KIMS. Recognizing the need for such services, KIMS decided to make these life-changing surgeries accessible to everyone. The announcement was made on Monday during the celebration of World Plastic Surgery Day by a team of senior functionaries from KIMS, including Principal Prof. (Dr.) A. P. Mohanty, Medical Superintendent; Prof. R. C. Das, Advisor to the Founder; Dr. R. N.



Samanta; and Senior Advisor Dr. P. K. Patnaik. Dr. Sunil Kumar Rout, Senior Consultant in the Department of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, highlighted that the free treatment is being offered in partnership with the Smile Foundation, with which an agreement has been signed. Dr. Samir Kumar Patel, Assistant Professor in the department, noted

that the average incidence of cleft lip and palate worldwide is 1 in 700 live births, emphasizing the importance of making these surgeries available to all. Dr. Banshidhar Mulia, Consultant in Plastic Surgery, spoke about the benefits of the free treatment, underscoring how it can significantly improve the quality of life for affected individuals. Dr. P. K. Patnaik also announced

that a new burn unit will be commissioned at KIMS next year, likely on World Plastic Surgery Day, further expanding the hospital's range of specialized services. This initiative by KIMS, in collaboration with the Smile Foundation, is set to bring hope and healing to many families and stands as a testament to the hospital's commitment to accessible and inclusive healthcare.

Roundtable Discussion on Non-Communicable Diseases: Bringing Science and Media Together



Bhubaneswar, (KCN): REACH (Resource Group for Education and Advocacy for Community Health) organized a media roundtable discussion titled "Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs): Bringing Science and Media Together" at Hotel Swosti Premium in Bhubaneswar, bringing together key stakeholders to discuss the growing burden of NCDs and the necessary measures to address this public health challenge. The event aimed to raise awareness and foster collaboration among healthcare professionals, policymakers, and the media. The roundtable featured a welcome address by Mr. Mayank Mohanti, Senior Media and Communications Associate at REACH, who provided a synopsis of REACH's work across India and highlighted the non-profit's vision of strengthening ground-level reporting on health. "By bringing the realities of non-communicable diseases to the forefront, the media not only informs and educates the public but also drives policy changes and resource allocation. It is crucial that journalists are equipped with the right knowledge and tools to highlight these issues, fostering a more informed and health-

conscious society." The first session titled, Understanding NCDs in India, started with an introduction to NCDs by Dr. B Ravindran, Professor Emeritus and former Director, Institute of Life Sciences, Bhubaneswar. "Non-communicable diseases pose one of the greatest health challenges of our time. Understanding the prevalence and impact of NCDs is crucial for developing effective prevention and management strategies. By addressing the root causes and promoting healthy lifestyles, we can significantly reduce the burden of these diseases and improve the quality of life for countless individuals," he mentioned. The session featured a panel discussion with two distinguished doctors: Dr Sweekruti Jena, senior endocrinologist, Kalinga Hospital, Bhubaneswar & Dr Nirmalya Deo Pradhan, senior pediatric oncologist, Sri Shankara Cancer Centre, Bhubaneswar. The panelists discussed the current trends, challenges, and advancements in the prevention and management of NCDs, focusing on cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, and cancer. They highlighted the importance of early detection, lifestyle modifications, and technology integration in healthcare to improve patient outcomes. "By focusing on prevention,

early detection, and effective management, we can significantly reduce the burden of non-communicable diseases. Collaborative efforts between medical professionals and public health initiatives are essential to create a healthier future for our communities," Dr Jena opined. Dr. Pradhan contributed further to the discussion by emphasizing, "Combating non-communicable diseases necessitates a multidisciplinary approach. It's essential that we combine medical advancements with public health initiatives to not only treat but also prevent these diseases, thereby enhancing the overall well-being of our communities." The second session titled Reporting Realities in Healthcare was led by a renowned public health expert, Dr. Ambarish Dutta, Indian Institute of Public Health, who provided an in-depth analysis of the socio-economic impact of NCDs and the need for a multi-sectoral approach to tackle this issue. He remarked, "Effective communication, that is culturally sensitive and contextual, that makes communities understand the risks and preventive measures related to non-communicable diseases is at the heart of successful public health initiatives. By fostering open dialogue

and education, we can empower individuals to take proactive steps towards better health and influence positive policy changes." The session was followed by powerful experience-sharing by Ms. Subhashree Dash who has lived with NCDs, who narrated her personal journey, challenges, and the support systems that have helped her manage and overcome the conditions. In the final session titled Communicating Effectively: Messaging for NCDs, a senior independent journalist, Ms. Nibedita Pattanayak, engaged the audience with insights on the role of media in shaping public perceptions and policies related to NCDs. She remarked, "Responsive reporting in healthcare goes beyond merely presenting facts; it involves highlighting the human stories and systemic issues behind the statistics. By providing in-depth coverage, which is data-driven and analysis-based, journalists can drive awareness, influence policy, and encourage informed public discourse on non-communicable diseases. Our role is to ensure that the voices of those affected are heard and that accurate information reaches all levels of society."



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Vicky Kaushal on perfecting 'Tauba Tauba' steps: Had 3-4 days to learn it

Vicky Kaushal spoke about the hard work and choreography behind the popular song 'Tauba Tauba' from 'Bad Newz'. The film releases on July 19.

Vicky Kaushal, who is in Delhi to promote 'Bad Newz', spoke about perfecting the steps of 'Tauba Tauba'. The actor said that he was given three-four days to learn

it. Vicky also credited choreographer Bosco-Caesar for the song's popularity and success. Vicky Kaushal's leg-work, swag in 'Bad Newz' song 'Tauba Tauba' is the talk of the town. Talking about what went behind the song's success, Vicky said, "We were very excited ki isko jama ke kuch karte hain (let's do a great job) and

the choreographers, Bosco-Caesar, they have been choreographing such songs for the past 20 years. And they have worked on such nice songs with Hrithik Roshan, Katrina Kaif, and others."

He continued, "We were very happy with the team that came together. We got 3-4 days to learn the 'Tauba Tauba' steps.



Hats off to Bosco Sir and his team who taught me the steps and worked hard on me. And all of you gave me the results

of my hard work and gave me so much love. Overall, we are very happy."

Vicky also said, "There are some songs which create a flow of their own. Nothing is bigger than a song that we drop on the highway and the audience takes it off from there and makes it their own. That is what happened with 'Tauba

Tauba'. It's there in the film as well and whoever wants to enjoy this song on the big screen, please do."

Vicky was accompanied by Triptii Dimri and Ammy Virk at the Delhi press conference. Also, watch 'Tauba Tauba' here:

'Bad Newz' was previously titled 'Mere Mehboob Mere Sanam'.

Disha Patani Misses Sushant Singh Rajput As 'MS Dhoni: The Untold Story' Clocks 7 Years, Says 'Couldn't Say Goodbye'

Actor Disha Patani remembered late actor Sushant Singh Rajput on the occasion of their film 'MS Dhoni: The Untold Story' 7th anniversary. Taking to Instagram, Disha shared a clip from the movie featuring herself and Sushant.

Sharing the video, she wrote, "Grateful for this beautiful journey and my first film in Hindi cinema Love whole heartedly and cherish the ones who make you happy safe and heard life's too short for regrets! We couldn't say goodbye but i hope you're

happy and at peace"

As soon as she shared the video, fans and industry friends chimed in the comment section. Actor Anil Kapoor wrote, "Phenomenal scene .. both of you are so good ..."

One of the users wrote, "One of the finest scenes from this movie"

Another commented, "Miss u SSR."

Helmed by Neeraj Pandey, 'MS Dhoni: The Untold Story' biopic is on one of the most celebrated cricketers in our country, Mahendra Singh Dhoni. The film



was released in 2016 and saw the late Sushant Singh Rajput essaying the role of Dhoni. It also starred Kiara Advani.

Disha, with her girl-next-door appeal and million-dollar smile, instantly became the talk of the town. Her chemistry with Sushant was widely appreciated. The biopic turned out to be one of the biggest hits of Sushant's career, who went on to receive several nominations in the Best Actor category at that year's awards ceremonies for his performance in the film.

Leo Advance Booking: Vijay's Action-Thriller To Become Highest Tamil Opener In UK

Actor Disha Patani remembered late actor Sushant Singh Rajput on the occasion of their film 'MS Dhoni: The Untold Story' 7th anniversary. Taking to Instagram, Disha shared a clip from the movie featuring herself and Sushant.

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Lokesh Kanagaraj's reunion after the 2021 blockbuster 'Master'. Taran Adarsh shared a report on advance booking of the film in the UK and posted on X, "VIJAY: 'LEO' SETTING NEW BENCHMARKS... #ThalapathyVijay's #Leo is SHATTERING RECORDS #Overseas. Distributed in #UK and #Europe by #AhimsaEntertainment, with 19 days left, the film has already taken the *#Tamil* Day 1 #BO crown in #UK from the previously held #PS1. #Leo is targeting to



surpass the current single-day earnings for an INDIAN film in #UK, a record presently held by #Pathaan."

The Lokesh Kanagaraj directorial has begun on an excellent start and has already crossed USD 100K in the US for the

premiere shows. As reported by the trade website sacnilk, the film has sold around 5800 tickets worth USD 130K

gross. 'Leo' is all set to arrive in theatres worldwide on October 19. The much-awaited film stars Vijay and Trisha, alongside Sanjay Dutt, Arjun Sarja, Gautham Vasudev Menon, Mansoor Ali Khan and Mysskin. The film was officially announced in January 2023 with tentative title 'Thalapathy 67', as it is Vijay's 67th film as a lead actor. Apart from Tamil, it is expected to be released in dubbed versions including Telugu, Kannada, Malayalam and Hindi languages.

Aditi Rao Hydari: 'Been told I'm fragile like glass'

Actor Aditi Rao Hydari is one of the few actors in Indian film industry who has worked with numerous maestros. She has been a Mani Ratnam heroine as well as a Sanjay Leela Bhansali heroine, both depicting a side to her that had never been explored. In SLB's 'Heeramandi', she plays Bibbo Jaan, a sweet woman whose purpose in life is beyond the walls of Heeramandi. In an exclusive chat with IndiaToday.in, Aditi spoke about being perceived as a 'delicate darling' and her looks being used as an excuse to perhaps not cast her sometimes. Speaking about how she felt almost liberated playing Bibbo Jaan, Aditi said, "I am perceived in a particular way because

of the way I look or the way I am or the parts I have played, usually the fragile, feminine, petite girl. Often people say, 'oh, she will just blow away.' Or 'oh she is like glass, if you touch, she will break.' Today, I own it and I am what I am. It is not a burden for me, but if it is for you, then you need to figure it out. Secondly, my vulnerability is my strength."

Aditi then elaborated on why she feels Bhansali manages to show women with their flaws, strength and vulnerabilities alike: "I also feel it is also about directors who bring that out in an actor. To have a vision and say that there are different kinds of strengths. I'm so happy that I lived this life of Bibbo Jaan because it was literally like 'here is a girl who



is so kind, so feminine, and artistic.' She sings and dances. She is celebrated for her beauty, but beneath that, she has this simmering purpose, courage and fearlessness. I feel that fearless belief is so inspiring, and they are not mutually exclusive. You can be both. I relate to it."

Aditi also spoke about

'silly' things actresses hear for any project they are offered, like 'you are too beautiful'. Responding to it, she shared, "That's so silly. It is somebody's insecurity that is speaking because it is such a silly thing to say about somebody. A person is how they look, but there is more to the person. There

are directors who create very beautiful female characters, and in this case, like Sanjay Bhansali, he doesn't look at a woman as a one-tone character. Bibbo could have been a sweet and obedient girl, but the fact that she has this arc, shows how he looks at women as complete beings."

The actor also

questioned why many in the industry fail to look at an artist as an artist: "I have 100 per cent been told that you are too beautiful for this role. But I am a person. I am a sum total of many things." Aditi quipped, "Also, why is this a problem? You don't tell somebody that 'you act too well'. It doesn't make sense. But that is also being heard now, oh 'that girl is too good an actor, she will outshine the others.' It has not been told to me, but I have heard this as well. It just doesn't make sense. It means your intentions aren't pure."

'Heeramandi' is currently streaming on Netflix. It also features Manisha Koirala, Sonakshi Sinha, Sanjeeda Shaikh, Richa Chadha and Sharmin Segal in pivotal roles.

Protecting Banks from Scams and Cyber Crime

By Vivek Shukla



The re-election of the Narendra Modi government at the center has raised hopes for concrete steps to be taken towards making the banking sector more transparent and efficient. In recent years, Indian banks have faced more ups and downs than perhaps any other country's banks. Indian banks have been plagued by numerous scams, loan defaults, frauds, increasing non-performing assets (NPAs), wrong policies of loan waivers, leading to their sinking or facing huge losses. While previous central governments took some steps to address these issues, their half-hearted implementation did not yield the desired

results. Fortunately, the Modi government took swift action to address the irregularities in the banking sector, leading to a gradual improvement in the banks' condition. Many banks are not only recovering from losses and moving towards profits, but also bringing scams under control. Many fraudsters' assets have been seized to recover loans, banks have been recapitalized, and the burden of NPAs has been significantly reduced. Isn't it a positive situation that NPAs, which were 12.47% between 2013 and 2017, have gradually reduced to 3.2% in September 2023, even though the government's recapitalization of banks played a crucial role in this reduction? The question now is whether this current state of improvement in banks will continue in the future or will

the adage "The fool returns home" prove true? Indian banks are witnesses to the fact that they have been sinking or suffering huge losses both before and after independence. This turbulent state compels us to ponder that until the reform process continues for a long time, a permanent solution to the problem is not possible. A recent publication by senior writer Shri Pal Jain, "Bharatiya Bankon Ka Badalta Chehra" (The Changing Face of Indian Banks), analyzes these various aspects in detail. It provides a detailed account of scams, mega-fraudsters, fraudulent tricks, cybercrime in banking, the rise and fall of Yes Bank, the web of NPAs, etc., both before and after independence. Additionally, it critically discusses the echoes of bank privatization, the economics of

agricultural loan w a i v e r s , demonetization, the Jan Dhan scheme, the autonomy of the Reserve Bank, the i n c r e a s i n g popularity and risks of digital banking, etc. After independence, both private and public banks existed in the country, but numerous scams and failures occurred within them. Nonetheless, public banks remained a key driver of economic growth and business expansion. Private banks generally did not even open accounts for ordinary people. The nationalization of banks in July 1969 led to increased access to banks for the general public. During this period, many banks merged, which led to some positive outcomes. However, gradually, corruption, bribery, and political interference in public banks led to

the issuance of huge loans to genuine and fake companies, many of which went unrecoverable or partially recoverable. This resulted in massive losses for both public and private banks. In the early 1990s, liberalization policies were adopted, and shortly after, private banks like HDFC, ICICI Bank, Yes Bank, etc., became popular due to their use of modern technology (credit operations, debit operations, fast clearing of checks, insurance, mutual fund opening, etc.). The new products, schemes, and modern technology of private banks posed stiff competition to public banks. This forced public and other private banks to adopt new products, schemes, and modern technology. As a result, some improvement in the condition of public and private banks was recorded, but the wave of liberalization

also saw a continuation of scams, bribery, corruption, and p o l i t i c a l interference. Events like the Harshad Mehta, Ketan Parekh scams, and the sinking of banks like Global Trust occurred during this period. In the first term of the Modi government, a major crisis arose due to scams in PNB Bank, PMC Bank and other cooperative banks, Yes Bank, and the flight of mega-fraudsters to foreign countries. The burden of NPAs of banks reached record levels. In this context, the c o m m e n d a b l e initiative of merging smaller banks with large public banks to reduce their number was taken. Meanwhile, India's trade continued to grow rapidly, maintaining liquidity in banks. The Reserve Bank's supervision was

made more robust. Demonetization, the Jan Dhan scheme, housing schemes, and significant boosts were given to Atmanirbhar Bharat, manufacturing, and other sectors. In the meantime, the COVID-19 pandemic struck, giving a severe blow to the economy. However, within a few months, the Modi government made concrete efforts to regain control over the economic front. During the pandemic, transactions via digital banking i n c r e a s e d significantly, breaking all records worldwide. UPI is making its mark not only in India but also abroad. Despite this, the health of banks cannot be considered worry-free. Sporadic bank scams are still occurring, digital banking frauds are on the rise, and the network of cybercriminals in banking is constantly

expanding. This is causing serious damage not only to banks but also to account holders. A foolproof control over this issue has not yet been established. Shri Pal Jain correctly stated in the conclusion of his book, "Currently, most banks are moving towards profits. The Modi government has turned problems and challenges into opportunities, in which the key contribution of the Reserve Bank's supervision can be seen." However, until corruption, bribery, lending to companies or individuals based on fake documents, and infiltration of cybercriminals into banking are stopped, the dream of bank strengthening and foolproof security will remain half-fulfilled.

The Author is a Delhi based columnist and former Editor 9818155246

Jimmy Anderson's last hurrah

Dr. Ravi Chaturvedi



Cricket is often regarded as a batter's game, with few occasions where pacers dominate. The short boundaries and large-sized bats make life difficult for bowlers. Despite these challenges, many fast bowlers have left a significant impact with their blistering pace, swing, and bounce. During the early days of cricket, Frederick Spofforth (9 September 1853 – 4 June 1926), also known as "The Demon Bowler," was the first to take 50 Test wickets and the first to achieve a Test hat-trick. Harold Larwood's infamous bodyline bowling nearly severed diplomatic relations between Australia and the UK. Other legendary fast bowlers include Dennis Lillee, Jeff Thomson, Frank Tyson, John Snow, Freddie Trueman, and a plethora of West Indian pacers such as Andy Roberts, Michael Holding, and Malcolm Marshall. Recently

retired England bowler Jimmy Anderson is the latest to join this illustrious list of exceptional fast bowlers. Anderson stands apart by relying on the art of fast bowling to claim his victims rather than targeting their bodies. England pacer Jimmy Anderson's final appearance at Lord's was a poignant and nostalgic moment. "Obviously this morning was quite emotional with the two teams lined up and the reaction from the crowd," Anderson told Sky Sports commentator Nasser Hussain from the dressing room shortly after the match concluded. "I'm still trying to hold back the tears now. Playing for over 20 years is an incredible effort, especially for a fast bowler, so I'm happy I've made it this far. It's the best job in the world, and I've been privileged to be able to do it. We talk a lot in the dressing room about creating memories, and it's not just for us in here, it's for our families as well. They've been incredibly supportive back home, allowing me to play for as long as I have. I'm

grateful that they got a chance to be part of this week as well." "I've been lucky to play with some amazing players, some of the most talented cricketers that have ever played the game, but more importantly, some friends for life. It is a sport that fosters this sort of atmosphere and these sorts of friendships. I think I'll miss the feeling we have now of winning the Test match. There's no better feeling. Everyone has put in the graft this week." James Anderson, with his cap in his left hand and his right hand raised, acknowledged the thunderous applause of the full house at Lord's as he bid adieu to Test cricket. It has been a monumental journey, beginning in May 2003 against Zimbabwe. The generation of England fans who stood up to poignantly bid farewell to a gentleman fast bowler recognized his m o n u m e n t a l contribution to English cricket. The stage for Anderson's send-off was set when both teams lined up to cheer him as he walked past them onto the green grass of Lord's. It was an emotional moment



for him. "It has been different; the emotions have been up and down. Walking out today with both teams lined up was pretty emotional—I forgot what I was trying to do when I bowled that first ball. The reaction has been brilliant; I can't get my head around it right now. I'm proud of every moment," Anderson told Michael Atherton on the field after the close of play. "Winning series and Test matches has been

the only thing I've been interested in since joining the England team. Winning in Australia, winning in India, becoming the number one side in the world—these are the things that I will remember forever," he added. Even the walk off the field was an emotionally significant moment for everyone involved. "There was an overwhelming feeling out there, that this was the last time we'd get to walk off the field with Jimmy,"

Ben Stokes said. "And also the last time the crowd would get to see Jimmy leave the field." At 2 pm, the MCC invited the crowd onto the Lord's outfield. Half congregated under the England balcony at the pavilion and were duly rewarded by the sight of Anderson draining a pint of Guinness. The rest engaged in their own mini games of cricket. Truth be told, the Test itself as a send-off was

somewhat flat; enforced, subdued, with no atmosphere to speak of for the first two days, and ultimately, too brief. Anderson even dropped a simple return catch that would have ended it on his terms. Goodbyes are rarely perfect, and this was far from it. What was heartening, though, was that the occasion gave Anderson an insight into how he made people feel, as much through enduring as excelling. "I'm

certainly getting more of a feeling of that this week," Anderson said when asked if he can appreciate what he has meant to others. "I think that's probably what makes me most happy about having a long career."

"And if people ask you how you would like to be remembered? I'd love to think that someone took up the art of bowling because they've watched me bowl, or perhaps their parents encouraged them to do so because they've seen me bowl." "You're not just a cricketer trying to win games; you're also trying to be a role model. When I was growing up, I looked up to players to try and imitate or copy them, to be like them. And I love the thought that kids are still doing that because of me." Well, Jimmy, that responsibility is no longer yours. You've more than done your share.

TV & Radio Cricket Commentator C/O Manish Chaturvedi 50 Dubois Street, Stamford, CT -06905 USA



The Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare and Rural Development, Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan visits an exhibition at Bharat Ratna C. Subramanian Convention Center, NASC Complex, in New Delhi

Complete Migrant Labourers' Ration Card Verification In 1 Month: Supreme Court To States

New Delhi(KCN): The Supreme Court today rapped defaulter states for the delay in verification of migrant labourers registered on the e-shram portal for issuance of ration cards and directed them to complete the exercise within four weeks.

The top court also directed the Centre to release food grains to those states which have completed the verification of migrant labourers.

Terming the delay as "unfortunate", a bench of justices Sudhanshu Dhulia and Ahsanuddin Amanullah said if the states fail to complete the verification process within the stipulated time it will summon the secretaries concerned. "Why could the verification be not completed in four months. This is too much. After four months you are still doing it and have the audacity to say another two months are required... We hereby



direct that the entire verification be completed in four weeks," the bench said. The top court noted that Bihar and Telangana were the only states have completed 100 per cent verification of migrant labourers. During the hearing, advocate Prashant Bhushan, appearing for the petitioners, submitted that while some states have completed the process of verification, others have not even started the exercise. "There is also another issue that if ration card is issued, these states

are not issuing rations to these workers and they say that central government has not allocated them additional ration for these people," Bhushan said.

The top court has posted the matter for hearing on August 27. The top court had earlier directed all the states and Union territories to provide within two months ration cards to approximately eight crore migrant labourers registered on the e-shram portal for availing benefits of various schemes of the government. It had taken note that

the authorities have failed to comply with the court's April 20, 2023 directions by which it had granted three months' time to them to provide rations cards to the labourers. The top court had said unnecessary delays were being caused by putting in impediments such as requiring eKYC of all ration card-holders to be updated before the direction could be compiled with.

It had directed that the ration cards must be issued irrespective of the quotas set under the National Food Security Act (NFSA). The top court was hearing an application filed by petitioners Anjali Bhardwaj, Harsh Mander and Jagdeep Chhokkar who had sought that ration to the migrant labourers be given irrespective of the quota of ration under the NFSA.

The top court had earlier said the migrant workers play a very vital role in building the nation and their rights cannot be ignored.

It had also asked the Centre to devise a mechanism so that they receive food grains without ration cards.

Earlier, the top court had issued a slew of directions to the authorities on a plea of the three activists seeking welfare measures for migrant workers and ordered the states and the Union territories to frame schemes for providing free dry rations to them till the Covid pandemic lasted and said the Centre will have to allocate additional food grains. It had also directed the states and the Union territories to register all establishments and licence all contractors under the law and ensure that the statutory duty is imposed on the contractors to give particulars of migrant workers.

National Christian Council Holds Ordination Ceremony at Guwahati



Guwahati(-ABHIJIT SETH): The National Christian Council (NCC) recently held an ordination ceremony at the esteemed Council of Baptist Churches of North East India (CBCNEI) campus in Guwahati. The event marked a significant moment for 36 individuals from various North Eastern States and several other countries, who were ordained as Reverends. This sacred ceremony was presided over by Bishop Dr. Sam Paul Kolakaluri, the Founder President of NCC.

In his address, Bishop Sam Paul emphasized the need for radical love, grace, and a lifestyle dedicated to serving society. He evoked the spirit of Mother Teresa, recalling her response to a media question on why she helped the destitute: "In each of the dying person's face I see the image of Lord Jesus Christ." His words underscored the profound dedication

required in Christian service.

Bishop M. Jagjivan attended the ceremony as the Special Guest. He highlighted the importance of the NCC certificates, issued in collaboration with the World Communion of Biblical Churches (WCBC) registered in the United States, stating that these credentials would significantly enhance the identity and efficacy of the ordained in their Christian activities and services.

Rev. Brighty Beulah, National Vice President, stressed the need for NCC to focus more on its Divyang Wing among its 17 operational wings. She advocated for increased support for disadvantaged special children, sharing insights from her experience as a Special Educator with the Government.

The newly ordained leaders were prayed for through anointing with oil, dedicating them to societal service. They received internationally

valid ordination certificates, solidifying their new roles. Key leaders who participated in the ceremony included Mr. Israel Nanda, NCC State General Secretary; Rev. Akon Bajranayak; Pastor Anuradha from Gurgaon; and Rev. Vangpong Phom, Nagaland State General Secretary. Additionally, Mrs. Amy Hughes, NCC International USA Secretary, addressed the gathering online from the USA, extending her greetings and blessings. The program was efficiently coordinated by Rev. Nand Kumar Gurung, NCC North East India Region President, and Rev. Dr. Thungdemo Lotha, North East India Vice President, ensuring a smooth and memorable ceremony. This event not only marked a milestone for the newly ordained Reverends but also reinforced the NCC's commitment to fostering dedicated service and community upliftment across diverse regions.

Rotary Club of Bhubaneswar Galaxy Celebrates Third Charter Day



Bhubaneswar, (KCN) :The Rotary Club of Bhubaneswar Galaxy celebrated its third Charter Day and conducted its first weekly meeting of the new Rotary Year. The event was presided over by the Club's Charter President, Rotarian Sri Mohes

Kumar Behera, who addressed the members with inspiring remarks on Rotary's Four-Way Test principles.

The meeting saw enthusiastic participation from several club members and guests, including Rotarians Sri Rajesh Ratan, Sri Chitta

Swain (Treasurer), Sri M. Loknath, Sri Rasmi Ranjan Nanda, and Sri Arun Jena. During the meeting President Sri Behera emphasized the importance of public image and membership development, key areas for the club's growth and community impact.

The celebratory atmosphere was complemented by a sense of camaraderie and dedication to Rotary's mission. The meeting concluded with expressions of gratitude to all well-wishers and participants, setting a positive tone for the upcoming year.

"No Defamatory Remarks Against Governor": High Court To Mamata Banerjee

New Delhi: The Calcutta High Court today restrained West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee from making any defamatory or incorrect statement against Governor CV Ananda Bose, noting the freedom of speech is "not an unfettered right" under which defamatory statements can be made.

"The defendants are restrained from making any defamatory or incorrect statement against the plaintiff (the Governor) by way of publication and on social platforms till 14th August 2024," the court, which will next hear the case on August 14, said.

"If at this stage, an interim order is not

granted it would give the free hands to the defendants to continue making defamatory statements against the plaintiff and continue to tarnish the reputation of the plaintiff," it added.

Ms Banerjee's lawyer Sanjay Basu said in a statement that the order of the court will be challenged before a higher bench. The court said that the right to freedom of speech and expression is "not an unfettered right in the garb of which defamatory statements can be made to tarnish the reputation of a person". Mr Bose had sought

to restrain Ms Banerjee, two newly elected MLAs and another Trinamool Congress leader from issuing remarks in connection with alleged incidents at Raj Bhavan.

The Bengal Governor filed the defamation suit against Mamata Banerjee's comment that women had expressed fear about visiting the Raj Bhavan. She made the comment while expressing her displeasure over the confusion regarding the oath-taking ceremony of two newly elected party MLAs. She had backed their decision of not accepting the Governor's invitation to go to Raj Bhavan and attend the oath



ceremony there. The MLAs, Sayantika Banerjee and Reyat Hossain Sarkar, had written to him seeking to take oath at the assembly. On May 2, a contractual woman employee of Raj Bhavan had alleged

harassment by Mr Bose following which the Kolkata Police also started a probe. Under Article 361 of the Constitution, no criminal proceedings can be instituted against a Governor during his or her term in office. Mr Bose has criticised

Ms Banerjee's remarks for creating "erroneous and slanderous impressions". Today, Justice Krishna Rao said that the Governor being a Constitutional Authority "cannot meet the personal attacks being

made by the defendants against him by taking the benefit of social media platform.

During the July 15 hearing, the Trinamool Congress chief stood by her statement and said, through her lawyer, that her remarks were a fair comment on issues of public interest and not defamatory.

Ms Banerjee's lawyer submitted that she merely echoed the apprehensions of women over certain alleged activities in Raj Bhavan.

The matter first came up for hearing on July 3. However, on that day, the court directed that the media houses whose reports were the basis of the defamation should be made parties

in the case. Then, July 4 was scheduled as the next date of hearing.

When the matter came up for hearing again on July 4, the Governor's counsel told the court that the hearing in the matter had not been enlisted in the records of the Calcutta High Court.-+

Thereafter, the court adjourned the hearing and fixed July 10 as the next date of hearing. The matter was again scheduled for a hearing on July 15.

Besides the Chief Minister, Trinamool Congress leader Kunal Ghosh and MLAs Sayantika Banerjee from Baranagar and Reyat Hossain Sarkar from Bhagawangola have been named in the suit.

Balanda Rath Yatra: A unique & rich 114-yr-old tradition

Rourkela(kcn): The remote Balanda village in Sundargarh district holds a special significance for its unique Rath Yatra.

People in this sleepy village, located 1.5km away from the Kalunga railway station, pull the chariot a day after Puri celebrates the holy occasion.

The village boasts of its rich and ancient Jagannath culture, and, is perhaps amongst the few places in the state with a history of one of the oldest Rath Yatra celebrations which goes back to 114 years (1910).

“There are many places in the state with such history of Rath Yatra

celebrations. But ours’ is unique festival because the area is located in a very remote corner of the state. Moreover, the tradition has a very interesting legacy with an erstwhile royal link,” said Pradeep Parida, a Rath Yatra organiser from Balanda village.

He said ‘gountia’ or ‘ganju’ used to be appointed by erstwhile kings in the area during the Raj to collect taxes and adjudicate minor legal and social issues. Balanda was part of the Nagra Estate under Kuanrmunda zamindar, explained noted historian Dr Prabhat Mallick who has done extensive research on royal

families of the district.

Arjun Raj was one such ‘gountia’ in 1889, and was notoriously arrogant. He would have differences of opinion with the zamindars on many occasions. “Fed up with his behaviour and mannerism, the then Kuanrmunda zamindar removed him from the prestigious post and put up Balanda, Junen and Pitamahar villages for auction,” said Mallick. One Jagatram, a native of Jharsuguda, bought the three villages and became the new chief. His youngest son Dayanidhi Nayak was given the charge of Balanda.



It is said once Dayanidhi in his dreams saw idols of the sibling deities floating on water and a voice said to him that they should be retrieved. “The news spread like wildfire, and it also reached the Kuanrmunda zamindar. To everyone’s surprise, the idols were actually found floating near the holy confluence of Vedvyas. They were

quickly brought to the banks by fishermen,” said Parida.

The Kuanrmunda zamindar appointed one Jagannath Das as the servitor and priest after completing the installation of the deities with all due procedure. However, after a few months, the zamindar asked Dayanidhi to shift the deities to Balanda.

“The zamindar’s logic was Dayanidhi should

install the deities at Balanda since the latter was ordained in his dreams,” said Makhlu Oram, a villager.

However, the zamindar’s instructions to shift the deities came with a rider that the Rath Yatra at Balanda be observed a day after the K u a n r m u n d a celebrations.

“And since then, we have been abiding by the instructions and never deviated from that,” said Parida.

For more than a century after the shifting, the three deities used to be kept in a tiled roof room. It was only in 1997-98 the then ‘gountia’ Narendra Patel, with

financial help from the villagers and other donors constructed the present temple in Balanda.

Some locals have a different take. “We have heard that the three deities came floating from Jharkhand where they were worshipped in a Brahmin village. For some reasons they released them in River Koel, and Dayanidhi’s dream coincided with that event,” said a villager.

Another villager said, “Sukadev Dash was appointed the priest here in 1926, and later his son Bhagirathi took his position. Now, Bhagirathi’s son

Lingaraj, who lives in Junen village and works as a priest there, corroborates the lore. We heard it from him only.”

After the demise of Narendra Patel his daughter Dr Minu Patel and son-in-law Dr Nimain Patel have taken charge of the Rath Yatra celebrations and bear all the expenses.

“They conduct the chhera pahanra ritual every year,” said Parida. Newborns in and around Balanda are made to touch the chariot during the 10-day festivities so that they can have the first glimpses of the sibling deities, said the villagers.

Enrolment fees to curb dropouts in Odisha’s Ganjam district



Chhatrapur(KCN): The number of school dropouts is witnessing a gradual increase in Ganjam district, even as the authorities have decided to collect enrolment fees from the students to address the issue.

As per the data available on the ‘Prabandh’ portal, 1,327 students aged between 14 and 18 years have dropped out of various schools in the district. However, the actual number of students who dropped out of school in the middle of their studies will be more than the official figures, sources added.

The report on the number of school dropouts is prepared by sub-ordinate

officers of the district administration.

Meanwhile, the Odisha School Education Programme Authority (OSEPA) has prioritised the enrolment of the dropouts in special schools again. The Mass Education department at the Centre had approved the enrolment of these students in the State Institute of Open Schooling (SIOS) study centres during academic year 2024-25.

These study centres have been running in government high schools at the district headquarters and blocks. In order to appear in Board examination, it has been made mandatory for the dropped-out students

to undergo Personal Contact Programme (PCP) at these centres. In this regard, a letter had been sent to Ganjam district education officer (DEO) by Yamini Sarangi, project director of state School Education Programme. The DEO was asked to submit a report in this regard at the earliest. Following this, the DEO issued a letter to all the SIOS study centres as well as principals of the government high schools, issuing the necessary instructions. This course is scheduled to be taught from September to November at the study centres. However, a fee will be charged from the

dropout students in order to enrol themselves at the study centres. The enrolment fee for general category male students has been fixed at Rs2,360, while for female students it is Rs2,110. Similarly, a fee of Rs1,910 has been fixed for SC, ST and persons with disabilities.

Instructions have also been issued to establish book banks in all study centres. Special emphasis has been given to motivate the students to return their textbooks to the study centres following the completion of their studies. The schools have been asked to keep the collected books in the book banks. It is worth mentioning here that most of the children drop out of school due to a host of reasons. After dropping out from school in the middle, no efforts are being made by the government for their return to schools at primary stage. Now it has been decided to charge a fee for teaching them. Even efforts are being made to get the allotted textbooks back.

Youth Shot At By Friend In Odisha’s Jharsuguda

Jharsuguda(KCN): A youth was critically injured after being shot at by his friend after an altercation while attending a marriage function in Jharsuguda.

According to local police, the injured, identified as Manoj Barik of Lakhanpur block, sustained bullet wounds on his waist and back. He was rescued by family members from the nearby village. Preliminary investigation revealed that the family first took him to MCL dispensary and after receiving first aid, he was transferred to Burla at around 9.30 pm.


Police sources informed that the accused has been identified as M D Sonu, who opened fire at Manoj



after an argument between them on the road while they were travelling

together to attend a barat. Also, the police have detected that criminal

cases are registered against both the victim and the accused youth.



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Aarka 2024 Ignites Innovation and Fun at KLH Global Business School

Bhubaneswar(KCN): KLH Global Business School, located at the Kondapur Campus, is well-known for its frequent organization of international week-long seminars, guest lectures, workshops, and summits. These events are all dedicated to the comprehensive development of its students. Consistent with its progressive mission, the university was excited to host Aarka 2024, a student-organized, two-day Management Fest. This highly anticipated inter-college festival was

expected to attract many students from different colleges, offering them a stage to exhibit their managerial prowess and athletic abilities. The fest was set to be an unforgettable celebration. The inauguration of the fest by Mr. Bharadwaj K, Vice President & Branch Business Head of HDFC Bank Limited, Hyderabad, served as a source of inspiration for the students. His engagement with the attendees went beyond simple dialogue, providing them with a

potent motivational boost. Dr. G. PardhaSaradhi Varma, Vice Chancellor of KL Deemed to be University, remarked, “Aarka is more than a competition; it is a festivity of student potential. We encourage our students to fully manage this event, thereby enhancing their leadership and collaborative skills. Ranging from management simulations to artistic endeavors, this inter-college festival united students from different backgrounds, offering a venue for them to display their skills and



fuel their competitive spirit.” The event's agenda was impressively diverse, with numerous activities designed to engage a wide array of interests. Cultural events included

a Meme Show by Meme Circus, a Dance Show by Dancing Feet, a Singing Show by Vocal Vibes, a Drama Show by The Dramatizers, a Ramp Walk by Eternal Grace, a Treasure Hunt by Clue

Crew, a Painting Competition by Color Carnival, alongside DJ sessions, Live Band performances, and the Mr. Aarka and Ms. Aarka contests, ensuring broad participation.

Participants were also able to indulge in Managerial Events such as Talent Avengers hosted by HR Club, Brand Buddies by Marketing Club, Movie Marathon by Film Club, The Titans by Young Managers, and a Treasure Hunt competition by Clue Crew. For those inclined towards creativity, there were events like Doodling, Poster Making, Post Card Making, and Product Photography. Additionally, the festival featured unique attractions like a pet show, a blood camp, and opportunities to meet well-known celebrities. The fest concluded with an award distribution

ceremony, marking a grand end to this remarkable event. Aarka 2024 invited attendees to dive into a realm of innovation, creativity, and enjoyment. Sharing the excitement, T. Sri Harshitha, 3rd year BBA student said, 'Attending Aarka 2024 at KLH Global was an eye-opener for me. It was more than just showing off our skills; it was about learning, growing, and connecting with others. The energy was amazing, and participating with other students really broadened my perspective. I gained so much—new insights, valuable leadership experience, and memories to last a lifetime.

DSP Mutual Fund launches DSP S&P BSE Liquid Rate ETF Offers easy cash management with ample liquidity and low risk

Mumbai :DSP Mutual Fund announced the launch of DSP S&P BSE Liquid Rate ETF (DSP BLRETF), an open-ended scheme replicating/tracking S&P BSE Liquid Rate Index. The Fund offers investorseasy cash management with ample liquidity and low risk. The scheme is suitable for investors who have money lying idle in margin account which doesn't yield any returns; instead, parking money in units of DSP BLR ETF may help them earn additional returns. The scheme invests in overnight instruments with 1D maturity.

DSP S&P BSE Liquid Rate Index generally has a lower volatile return profile due to investment in low-risk securities in overnight markets. Apart from better utilization of money lying idle and generating no return in broker's account, DSP BLR ETF can also be used as cash equivalent margin for trading (subject to NSE and BSE approval). A minimum of 95% and up to 100% of the scheme shall be invested in low-risk instruments like Tri-Party REPOs, Repo in Government Securities, Reverse Repos and any other

similar overnight instruments as may be provided by RBI and approved by SEBI. The New Fund Offer for DSP BLR ETF will open for subscription on March 15th, 2024, and will close on March 20th, 2024. “DSP S&P BSE Liquid Rate ETF is designed to always let investors' money remain in action and hence makes it a useful product for brokers with large retail clients, PMS providers, F&O brokers, Institutions who invest in direct equities HNIs and retail investors who trade on the stock exchange,” says Anil Ghelani, CFA, Head – Passive Investments & Products, DSP Mutual Fund.

Eastern Command of Indian Army & Red FM Celebrate Vijay Diwas With The Guts & Glory - Salute 71

Bhubaneswar : 93.5 RED FM, India's leading private radio and entertainment network is thrilled to announce its partnership with the Eastern Command of the Indian Army to commemorate Vijay Diwas with a grand celebration titled "Guts and Glory - Salute 71." This event aims to pay tribute to the historic victory of the 1971 war and honor the brave soldiers who made it possible. As part of this unique initiative, Red FM will captivate its audience on-air with narrations of intriguing

war stories that depict the valiant efforts of the Indian armed forces during the 1971 war. Listeners will have the opportunity to learn about the heroic deeds of our soldiers, their unwavering spirit, and the sacrifices they made to ensure our nation's victory. Red FM will also collate all stories as episodes under a podcast, which will be available on various audio streaming platforms. Reflecting on the announcement, Lieutenant General Rana Pratap Kalita,

said “I am delighted to know that Red FM has taken the initiative to narrate stories of valour and courage of our soldiers who fought in the 1971 war. In our vision to salute the bravery of the heroes, we are delighted to present to you Guts & Glory - Salute 71, as part of this year Vijay Diwas Celebration. We are hopeful to present a deeper insight into the triumphant moment of Indian history." Speaking on the announcement, Nisha Narayanan, Director & COO, RED FM, and

Magic FM, said, “On the occasion of Vijay Diwas, we are elated to be joining hands with the Eastern Command of the Indian Army to honor the lives of the 1971 war veterans. Our army men live through times that are unimaginable to us. The sacrifice of our veterans is truly unfathomable but as a brand, we are looking forward to commending the valor of the keepers of our nation. The Guts & Glory - Salute 71 initiative will also recognize the unsung

heroes who walk amongst us as common citizens. We are hopeful that these stories will enrich us with empathy and esteem for the gallant troops who made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom.” The initiative will be rolled out in 12 East-Indian stations namely, Kolkata, Bhubaneswar, Asansol, Siliguri, Agartala, Patna, Muzzafarpur, Jamshedpur, Guwahati, Shillong, Aizwal, and Gangtok. Tune in to 93.5 RED FM to listen to these stories.

Isuzu Motors India to roll-out 'ISUZU I-Care Pre-Summer Camp' across India



Bhubaneswar(KCN) : In a constant endeavour to reaffirm ISUZU's commitment to provide best service and ownership experience, Isuzu Motors India will be conducting a nation-wide 'ISUZU I-Care Pre-Summer Camp' for its range of ISUZU D-MAX Pick-ups and SUVs. This service camp is aimed at offering customers exciting benefits and preventive maintenance checks for a hassle-free driving experience during the season across the country. An initiative of 'ISUZU Care', the Pre-Summer camp will be organised across all ISUZU authorised dealer

service outlets, between 19th to 24th March, 2024 (both days inclusive). During this period, customers can also avail special offers & benefits for their vehicles. Customers visiting the camp will receive the following: - Free 37-Point Comprehensive Check-up. 10% discount on Labour. 7% discount on Parts. 7% discount on Lubes & Fluids. 20% Discount on Retail RSA purchase. Free Top Wash. Free 'REGEN' etc. The Pre-Summer Camp will be organised at all authorised service facilities of ISUZU located in

Bhubaneswar, Ahmedabad, Baramulla, Bengaluru, Bimavaram, Bhuj, Calicut, Chennai, Coimbatore, Delhi, Dimapur, Durgapur, Gandhidham, Gorakhpur, Gurugram, Guwahati, Hyderabad (Kukatpally & L.B. Nagar), Indore, Jaipur, Jaigaon, Jalandhar, Jammu, Jodhpur, Kochi, Kolkata, Kolhapur, Kurnool, Leh, Lucknow, Madurai, Mandi, Mangalore, Mehsana, Mohali, Mumbai, Navi Mumbai, Nagpur, Nashik, Nellore, Noida, Pune, Raipur, Rajahmundry, Rajkot, Siliguri, Surat, Tirupati, Trivandrum, Trichy, Vadodara, Vijayawada and Visakhapatnam.

Airtel Xstream Fiber unlocks its NEW All-in-One plans

Bhubaneswar: To serve the needs of premium households who want the next generational connectivity and entertainment experience, Bharti Airtel (“Airtel”), India's premier communications solutions provider, has once again raised the bar in the home broadband segment with the launch of three new all-in-one plans built for the evolving entertainment needs of today's connected homes. Vir Inder Nath, CEO – Homes, Bharti Airtel had this to say: “Our new plans are built for India's emerging entertainment needs. Through these bundle offers we plan to offer our discerning customers great value, convenience and unlock a multi-faceted digital experience.”

Increased broadband consumption in Indian homes has given rise to the phenomena of hybrid viewing, where families are looking to consume OTT content on the TV screen along with linear TV without the hassle of managing multiple subscriptions and devices. Airtel's plans are the first of their kind in terms of catering to the evolving entertainment needs of the whole family and come with: Subscription to 17 premium OTTs to go with unlimited data. This includes Netflix, Amazon Prime, Disney+ Hotstar and Airtel Xstream Premium ((SonyLiv, Lionsgate, Hoichoi and 11 more OTTs). 350+ TV channels covering the best of linear TV. Airtel 4K Xstream TV Box* that allows you to enjoy OTT and linear TV content with a single device and single remote.

WHEC recognizes Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham as excellence worldwide in Gender Equality

Barcelona: Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham was invited to the UNESCO World Higher Education Conference (WHEC), which recently took place in Barcelona, Spain. UNESCO recognized Amrita as one of five universities of excellence worldwide for its performance in gender equality. The WHEC aims to reshape ideas and practices in higher

education to ensure sustainable development for the planet and humanity, as well as to define and prepare a roadmap for a new era of higher education. As the world comes out of COVID-19, the WHEC's goals and strategic scope remain, and the new timeframe represents an opportunity to deepen and expand common efforts of knowledge production,

policy dialogue, exchange, and networking. Swami Amritaswarupananda Puri, President of Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham, participated in a round table called “Universities' Contribution to Gender Equality: A global perspective”. Adding to his views Swami Amritaswarupananda expressed how Amrita is

making a difference in terms of gender equality and which policies have been put into place at the university level. Gender equality is number five in the United Nations' list of 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). He explained how the culture of gender equality is not implemented only in terms of policies within Amrita, but also practiced in spirit.

The round table included Dr. Gloria Bonder, UNESCO Chair on Women, Science and Technology; Dr. Ricardo Vilanueva Lomeli, Rector General, University of Guadalajara; Ms. Elizabeth Shepherd, Leader of the Consultancy team, Times Higher Education; and Dr. Victoria Galan-Muros, Chief of Research and Analysis,

EXCEPTIONAL EXPERIENCES AWAIT SINGAPORE AIRLINES CUSTOMERS

Singapore: Airlines (SIA) today unveiled its all-new flagship SilverKris and KrisFlyer Gold lounges at Singapore Changi Airport Terminal 3, following a S\$50 million re-design, upgrade, and expansion project. This will further enhance the on-ground customer experience at the Airline's main hub, and comes as the demand for international air travel from and through Singapore takes off once again.

The Private Room, the First Class section of the SilverKris Lounge, the Business Class section of the SilverKris Lounge, and the KrisFlyer Gold Lounge can collectively accommodate around 1,150 customers within

their 6,100 square-metres, translating to 30% more seats and space. This also doubles the capacity that was available during the pandemic while the upgrading works were going on. The Airline has created a sanctuary that has been thoughtfully designed to enhance the comfort and convenience of diverse groups of travellers, and meet their evolving needs in the coming years. Customers will be able to enjoy world-class products and services, as well as enticing food and beverage options, around the clock at the lounges before their flight.

Mr Goh Choon Phong, Chief Executive Officer, Singapore Airlines, said: “Extensive customer

engagement and research have gone into the design of the new SilverKris and KrisFlyer Gold lounges. Customers will enjoy the thoughtfully curated product offerings and experience the signature Singapore Airlines hospitality, all within a comfortable and restful environment, ensuring that they are refreshed and ready for their journey.

“Opening these lounges at this time signals our commitment to SIA's premium brand and growth strategy. It reinforces our position as Changi Airport's anchor airline, and reflects our confidence in Singapore's future as a pre-eminent global air hub.”

Coley invokes Gabba comeback, asks West Indies to lift intensity

New Delhi: West Indies head coach Andre Coley has called on his players to up their intensity for this week's Trent Bridge Test after a flat performance at Lord's that condemned them to an innings defeat inside three days. Despite the drubbing, Coley said there were positives to take into the next Test and called for improved efforts in batting as well as on the field.

"I would love to see us with a lot more intensity that we're known to show in the field," Coley said on Monday (July 15). "I thought in this Test match, we weren't at our best in terms of imposing ourselves on the England

batters. That is definitely something that we need to be better at for the next Test.

"We know the conditions will be testing; that's why it's called a Test match. We're not playing at home. Our conditions are going to be slightly different, but we do have it within our ranks to be at our best and to compete with England. There were periods in the [first] game where [England] actually had to show really good application and grit... Jayden Seales, Jason Holder... you had Alzarri Joseph, his pace was back up; Gudakesh Motie played a fantastic role in terms of helping the

captain, Kraigg [Brathwaite] to be able to control and [took the] key wicket of the captain [Ben] Stokes. So yes, quite a few positives..." Coley invoked the memories from earlier in the year when West Indies hit back after a 10-wicket defeat in Adelaide to claim a famous victory in Brisbane, a Test remembered for Shamari Joseph's heroics with the ball. While Joseph faces a race against time to achieve match fitness after complaining of stiffness to his left hamstring, Coley said the team was in good spirits despite the dispiriting three days of cricketing action.



"They would've taken a lot of positives from that," Coley said about the Gabba Test. "In terms of how we were able to bounce back, the

process that we went through to be able to do that I believe is a lot more powerful [than the result].
"It reinforces the fact that

in a series you could actually not start well but then compose yourself and come back in the series and be quite competitive, potentially

set it up for a game-three decider. So there are real positives to be taken away, not only from the first Test here, but what we would've [faced in the] last six months."

Coley also said that his team had learnt the lessons from Lord's and will have a better understanding of the conditions heading to Nottingham. "Having been here now about two weeks, having a bit of time to acclimatise to conditions and actually getting time in the middle... yes, the result was not what we would've wanted and planned for, but I do believe that there's a lot to be had in terms of

learning and takeaways. "We admit that the side we have, it is young and emerging... but we are still very positive about how we are approaching the second Test. Everybody's in good spirits. We've been catching up with the players one-on-one and this will really be the first time that we'll be settled as a squad." There's been quite a bit of activity on and off the field leading up to the first Test and it's been a lot, I can imagine, for some of our players to have been able to absorb. So it's a massive learning for everyone, players and staff, and we are still very positive as we head to Nottingham."

Aaron Jones picked by St Lucia Kings at CPL 2024 draft

NewDelhi: USA international Aaron Jones, who put his hard-hitting skills to display at the 2024 Men's T20 World Cup, was snapped by St Lucia Kings at the Caribbean Premier League 2024 draft, on Monday. He came in as a local player courtesy of his Barbados passport. All six teams had done most of their squad picks through signings and retentions much before the draft day, when the rest of the squad was completed. Kings also picked Khari Campbell, Johann Jeremiah, Mikkel Govia and Akeem Auguste at the drafts. On the other hand, St Kitts & Nevis Patriots opted for Kyle Mayers as their first pick at the draft and followed that up by snapping Mikyle Louis, Ryan John and Veerasammy Permaul. Matthew Nandu rejoined defending champions Guyana Amazon Warriors, who also picked the all-round duo of Raymon Reifer and Ronaldo Alimohamed to complete their squad.



Antigua & Barbuda Falcons, the newest CPL team, picked five players at the draft: Roshon Primus, Justin Greaves, Jahmar Hamilton, Teddy Bishop and Kofi James, while Trinabago Knight Riders went with only two, adding Nathan Edward and Shaquere Parris in their emerging player spots. Barbados Royals had only three spots to fill in their squad, which was completed by the picks of Kadeem Alleyne, Isai Thorne and Nathan Sealy at the drafts. The 2024 edition of the CPL is set to begin on

August 29, with Antigua & Barbuda Falcons taking on the St Kitts & Nevis Patriots at the Sir Vivian Richards Cricket Stadium

CPL 2024 squads

Barbados Royals:
Rovman Powell, Jason
Holder, David Miller,
Quinton de Kock,
Maheesh Theekshana,
Alick Athanaze, Naveen-
ul-Haq, Obed McCoy,
Kevin Wickham, Keshav
Maharaj, Kadeem
Alleyne, Raheem
Cornwall, Isai Thorne,
Nathan Sealy, Nyeem
Young, Rivaldo Clarke,
Ramon Simmonds

G u y a n a
A m a z o n
W a r r i o r s :
I m r a n T a h i r ,
S h i m r o n
H e t m y e r ,
S a i m A y u b ,
S h a i H o p e ,
R o m a r i o
S h e p h e r d ,
A z a m
K h a n ,
G u d a k e s h
M o t i e ,
R a h m a n u l l a h
G u r b a z ,
K e e m o

Paul, Dwaine Pretorius,
Kevin Sinclair, Raymond
Reifer, Ronaldo
Alimohamed, Shamari
Joseph, Kevlon
Anderson, Matthew
Nandu, Junior Sinclair
Antigua and Barbuda
Falcon: Imad Wasim,
Brandon King, Fabian
Allen, Azmatullah
Omarzai, Mohammad
Amir, Chris Green,
Fakhar Zaman, Roshon
Primus, Justin Greaves,
Hayden Walsh, Jahmar
Hamilton, Teddy Bishop,
Kofi James, Shamari
Springer, Kelvin Pitman,
Jewel Andrew, Joshua
James
St Kitts and Nevis

Patriots: Kyle Mayers,
Wanindu Hasaranga,
Rilee Rossouw, Evin
Lewis, Sherfane
Rutherford, Sikandar
Raza, Nuwan Thushara,
Andre Fletcher, Tristan
Stubbs, Dominic Drakes,
Mikyle Louis, Odean
Smith, Joshua da Silva,
Veerasammy Permaul,
Ryan John, Ashmead
Nedd, Johann Layne
St Lucia Kings: Heinrich
Klaasen, Faf du Plessis,
Alzarri Joseph, Johnson
Charles, Roston Chase,
Noor Ahmad, David
Wiese, Bhanuka
Rajapaksa, Matthew
Forde, Aaron Jones,
Khary Pierre, Khari
Campbell, Johann
Jeremiah, Shadrack
Descarte, Mikkel Govia,
McKenny Clarke,
Akeem Augustine
Trinbago Knight Riders:
Kieron Pollard, Andre
Russell, Sunil Narine,
Nicholas Pooran, Tim
David, Akeal Hosein,
Jason Roy, Dwayne
Bravo, Josh Little, Waqar
Salamkheil, Jayden
Seales, Ali Khan, Mark
Deyal, Keacy Carty,
Terrence Hinds, Nathan
Edward, Shaquere Parris

Colombian football federation president arrested after chaotic Copa America final



New Delhi: Colombian football chief and son were arrested after Copa America final chaos
Ramón and his son Jesurun were detained after the event at Hard Rock Stadium
There were crowd control issues ahead of the Copa America final in Miami
Colombia's football federation president and his son were amongst 27 people arrested during the crowd control issues that broke out Sunday at the Copa America final between Argentina and Colombia, police said Monday. Ram³n Jesurⁿ and his son Ramon Jamil Jesurun were detained after the event at Hard

Rock Stadium and charged, Miami-Dade police detective Andre Martin told The Associated Press. Both men are facing three counts of felony battery on an official after being accused of fighting multiple stadium security guards. Arrest records said both men tried to go onto the field through a tunnel where the media were gathering after the match. They were stopped by security, and the police report said they "became irate" at the delay. A verbal altercation eventually turned physical with a guard placing an "open palm" on Ramon Jamil Jesurun's chest to "guide

him back" and the younger Jesurun grabbing the guard "around his neck" and pulling him to the ground before throwing "two punches that impacted" the guard, the report said. The two men were placed in custody after midnight. Colombia's football federation didn't immediately respond Monday to a request for comment from the AP. Ram³n Jesur³n, 71, has been president of the Colombian football federation since 2015 and is a vice president of CONMEBOL, South American football's governing body that organizes the Copa America tournament.

Dassanayake dismissal as Canada coach draws criticism

NewDelhi: Canada head coach Pubudu Dassanayake is to step down from the role at the end of the month, Cricket Canada declining to renew the former Sri Lanka and Canadian international's contract. Dassanayake had previously been informed that he was to be dismissed ahead of the T20 World Cup but that decision was not ratified at the time. With Dassanayake's contract up for running down at the end of July, however, Cricbuzz understands that Cricket Canada have elected to not to renew it. The decision has drawn criticism from some quarters, not least former president Rajpal Bajwa, who told Cricbuzz the decision "mirrors past

mistakes made by Cricket Canada, raising concerns about the organization's future direction." Adding "It is unfortunate that the new board has decided to let go of Pubudu, despite his impressive record of hitting all the milestones we had set in his contract."

When Dassanayake returned to begin his second stint as Canada coach in July of 2022, the Canadians were playing in the second tier of Associate one-day competition, the CWC Challenge League, having lost their ODI status in 2014. With Dassanayake at the helm Canada went unbeaten through the rest of the Challenge League to top their group and secure a place at the 2023 World Cup Qualifier Playoff in

Namibia. There a fourth-place finish saw them reclaim ODI status for the first time in almost a decade. Canada also gained promotion from the CWC Challenge League to the top tier of Associate competition, CWC League 2, where they currently sit unbeaten at the top of the table.

Dassanayake also successfully took Canada through the Americas T20 Regional Final last year to qualify for the 2024 T20 World Cup, Canada's first appearance at the short format world cup and first return to the global stage since the 2011 fifty-over edition. Canada's 1-2 record at that tournament was not enough to get through the group phase, a hard-



fought loss to rivals USA, whom Dassanayake had previously coached, proving decisive in that regard. Canada did pick up a win over Ireland, however, their first against a Full Member at an ICC pinnacle tournament.

In light of those achievements, Bajwa lamented the Dassanake's departure; "Canada will be losing a coach with immense knowledge and insight into associate cricket. Coach Pubudu is, and will continue to be, the

right man for this job in Cricket Canada. It was a pleasure working with Coach Pubudu and being part of some outstanding achievements by the Canadian team during his tenure. His dedication and expertise will leave a lasting impact on

Canadian cricket." Captain Saad bin Zafar also paid tribute to Dassanayake, saying "Coach Pubudu has consistently demonstrated an exceptional ability to produce remarkable results throughout his career. His profound understanding of the game, coupled with his dedication and tireless work ethic, sets him apart as an outstanding coach. Under his guidance, we were able to bring back our ODI status and qualified to play our 1st ever T20 World Cup which speaks volume about his capability to lead and inspire the team to achieve excellence. I thank him for his remarkable contribution to Canadian cricket and also for my personal growth as

a cricketer and as captain of the team." Alongside regaining ODI status, Dassanayake likewise identifies qualifying for the T20 World Cup and the win over Ireland in particular as a highlight of his second stint with Canada. "Beating a test-playing country at a World Cup was special, and I'm proud of where we are in 50-over cricket too, going 4-0 in Dubai (against the UAE and Scotland) to get to climb to the top of the table in Associate ODIs. Building a team culture and strong team values has always been key to my approach, I'm proud of what we've achieved as a team and I'm looking forward to the next challenge." Cricket Canada could not be reached for comment.