

Bhubaneswar,(KCN): Awhopping Rs 50,000 crore was being misappropriated every year in the name of 5T during the rule of the BJD government, alleged the state unit of BJP in its political resolution passed at its first Executive Committee meeting held in Puri on Saturday

Row Over Sankha Bhawan: BJD Responds Sharply Over Revenue Minister's Statement

any misconduct is uncovered, those responsible will face action.

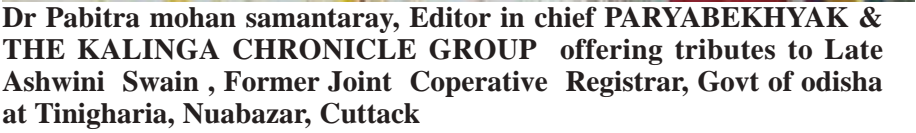
“During the previous government’s tenure, ‘Officer Raj’ prevailed, and they acted at will. Those who have deliberately erred and compromised Odisha’s interests will be held accountable soon,” Pujari stated.

The BJD party headquarters, Sankha Bhawan, is under scrutiny over allegations that it was constructed illegally by altering the land category designated for public use. The opulent BJD office is reportedly built on four plots, with one classified

as ‘Sadaka/Road’ for public use. However, accusations suggest the ‘Sadak’ plot was illicitly converted into a ‘gharabari’ plot. Countering the allegations, senior BJD leader Debi Prasad Mishra said, “The construction of the building was for institutional purposes, and all legal requirements were met in setting the proper benchmark value. The presence of quarters is separated by a bylane, which is not a public road. The Minister has been misinformed, leading to misleading allegations that are without merit”.

BJD's organisational secretary Pranab Prakash Das, in an 'X' post, wrote: "No irregularities exist in the lease deed or the construction of Sankha Bhawan. It seems the Revenue Minister is unaware that the land was allocated to the BJP party office following a High Power Committee decision, which also provided land for the BJD state office. The BJD secured the land allotment by adhering to the rules and government instructions. There was no deviation from the process. Unfortunately, without full knowledge, Minister Pujari made an offhand statement to the

media. BJD has carried out all activities transparently, in accordance with government decisions. The BJD stated that the land allocation for its party headquarters in Ganga Nagar complied with the benchmark value norms and a sum of Rs 13 crore was disbursed for it. BJD media coordinator Lenin Mohanty, in a statement, asserted that the land was allocated following the rules. He elaborated that the BJD received 1 acre and 183 decimals of land, while the BJP was granted a plot of 1 acre and 269 decimals at Kharavel Nagar in the state's capital.



Bhubaneswar(KCN): Padma Shri awardee and noted organic farmer Kamala Pujari died Saturday after suffering from kidney-related ailments, CMO sources said.

Jeypore District
Headquarters Hospital
after her condition
deteriorated.

Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi condoled her death and announced that her funeral would be held with full state honours. Majhi also spoke to Pujari's son Tankadhar Pujari over the phone. "Her contribution to the field of agriculture will be remembered forever,"

Leader of Opposition in Odisha Assembly and former chief minister Naveen Patnaik said in a statement. Born in Patraput village of Baipariguda block in Koraput district, Pujari was a promoter of organic farming and had harvested 100 varieties of rice. She was associated with the MS Swaminathan Research Foundation. She was conferred with the Padma Shri in 2019 by then-President Ramnath Kovind. She was a member of the state planning board in 2018 and was conferred with the best farmer award by the Odisha government in 2004.

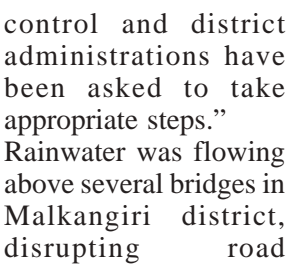
Bhubaneswar(KCN): The newly elected BJP government has renamed Biju Patnaik Sports Award as 'Odisha Rajya Krida Samman'. Odisha Sports and Youth Services Department Friday issued guidelines

for the 'Rajya Krida Samman' which will be awarded in eight categories annually, subject to availability of suitable candidates. The cash rewards remain unchanged. According to the guidelines, the lifetime

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Odisha experienced heavy rainfall Saturday as a depression over the Bay of Bengal crossed the coast near Chilika Lake, officials said. At least 23 families were moved to safety from vulnerable areas in Malkangiri district, which received heavy rainfall. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) forecast more rain over the next five days. According to sources in the Regional Meteorological Centre, Bhubaneswar, Chitrakonda in Malkangiri district received the highest rainfall of 220.5 mm, followed by 217 mm at Korkunda in the same district. Many parts of Malkangiri district have been inundated. The depression laid around 40 km south-southwest of Puri and 70 km east-northeast of

Gopalpur Saturday morning, the IMD said in a bulletin. The depression will continue to move west-northwestwards across Odisha and Chhattisgarh and it would gradually weaken in the next 24 hours till 8.30 am Sunday. Under its influence, Odisha is likely to witness heavy to very heavy rain on Saturday. Isolated heavy rainfall may continue in the state over the next five days, the IMD bulletin said. The weatherman has forecast heavy to very heavy rainfall at a few places in Kandhamal, Boudh, Kalahandi, Bolangir and Nuapada Saturday. It also forecast heavy rainfall in Bargarh, Sunarnapur, Sambalpur, Angul, Jharsuguda, Gajapati, Ganjam, Rayagada, Koraput, Malkangiri, Mayurbhanj, Keonjhar and Balasore districts during the day.

The weatherman warned of temporary water-logging in low-lying areas, poor visibility during intense rain and traffic congestion in urban areas. On July 21, heavy rainfall is likely at a few places in Mayurbhanj, Keonjhar, Sundargarh, Jharsuguda, Sambalpur, Deogarh and Bargarh. Heavy rain may continue to lash a few places in Mayurbhanj, Keonjhar, Sundargarh, Jharsuguda, Sambalpur, Deogarh, Angul, and Dhenkanal July 22, the IMD bulletin said. The Met department also forecast heavy rainfall July 23 in Keonjhar, Mayurbhanj, Jharsuguda and Sundargarh districts. Meanwhile, Odisha's Revenue and Disaster Management Minister Suresh Pujari reviewed the situation and said, "The situation is under



communication between Malkangiri and Kalimela, Motu and Kalimela and to neighbouring Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. An official release issued by the SRC office

said that as reported by the Malkangiri collector, roads and bridges have been submerged in some parts of the district due to the rainfall.

Challaguda bridges have been submerged, while Podia-Kalimela road has been affected. Police have been deployed to prevent people from using the bridges, while tahsildars

and BDOs have also been sent to the spots to take all necessary measures.

“As many as 23 families have been evacuated and moved to safety in Malkangiri district. Cooked food is being provided to them,” the minister said.

The collector of Nabarangpur district reported that a bridge over Turi River connecting Papadahandi and Chandahandi has been submerged and the traffic movement has been prohibited, he said.

Odisha’s Special Relief Commissioner (SRC) Satyabrata Sahu asked the district collectors to strictly prohibit the movement of vehicles in submerged roads and bridges till water receded.

“Local police must be at the site to regulate it,” the SRC said.

NTPC Bongaigaon Conducts Comprehensive Joint Mega Mock Drill for Emergency Preparedness

New Delhi, (KCN): In a proactive step towards enhancing emergency response capabilities, NTPC Bongaigaon successfully conducted a Joint Mega Mock Drill on 20th July 2024. The extensive drill, supervised by Shri G.M. Thangzom, Commandant, CISF, focused on earthquake, chlorine leakage, and flood scenario preparedness. The drill commenced at the New Administrative Building outside the plant premises, simulating a major earthquake scenario with Assam as the epicenter. This exercise was part of NTPC-Bongaigaon's Disaster Management Plan. It involved realistic scenarios, including the simulation of a magnitude 7 RS earthquake, leading to significant structural impacts at the simulated site. The drill began at 10:00 AM and was conducted under the vigilant eye of Chief Incident Controller Shri Akhilesh Singh, Head of Project, NTPC Bongaigaon, along with Shri Induri S. Reddy, GM (O&M), Shri Ashutosh Biswas, GM (Operation),

and other senior officials. The CISF, along with the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), State Disaster Response Force (SDRF), and local police, promptly informed employees and initiated rescue operations within 15 minutes of the simulated earthquake. The response teams demonstrated exceptional coordination and efficiency, showcasing surface casualty recovery, rope rescue techniques, and other strategic recoveries. Shri M.S Kandari, Assistant Commandant, CISF (Fire) at NTPC Bongaigaon, briefed the team on the incident and ensured the smooth coordination of the drill, effectively managing the dynamics of the emergency response. NTPC Bongaigaon, under the supervision of Shri G.M. Thangzom, Commandant, CISF, successfully organized a Joint Mega Mock Drill focused on earthquake, chlorine leakage, and flood situation preparedness. This significant exercise was



conducted on 20th July 2024, spearheaded by Chief Incident Controller, Shri Akhilesh Singh, Head of Plant (HOP) at NTPC Bongaigaon. The mock drill was meticulously planned and executed at the New Administrative Building outside the plant premises, as per the NTPC-Bongaigaon Disaster Management Plan. The scenario simulated a major earthquake with Assam as the epicenter, depicting a magnitude 7 RS earthquake, which was designed to test the preparedness and response mechanisms of the teams involved. Key

participants included Shri Induri S. Reddy, GM (O&M), Shri Ashutosh & Biswas, GM (O), Shri Ashish Kumar, Dy Commandant CISF, Shri M.S Kandari, Assistant Commandant, CISF (Fire), Shri Pavel Sarkar, AGM (Safety), and other senior officials from various departments. These leaders orchestrated the drill, which commenced at 10:00 AM and involved multiple emergency response teams. The CISF, along with the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), State Disaster Response Force (SDRF), and local police were

prompt in notifying employees and initiating rescue operations within minutes of the earthquake simulation. The operations included rope rescues, recovery of surface casualties, and immediate medical interventions. Following the earthquake simulation, the drill encompassed a chlorine leakage scenario and a flood-like situation at the NTPC reservoir, further testing the adaptability and efficiency of the emergency teams.

Innovative rescue techniques and flood safety measures were demonstrated, particularly by the NDRF, which showcased 'desi jugad' flood safety items for public preparedness. The exercise concluded at 12:30 PM with a comprehensive debriefing at the Fire Station by Shri Kumar, Dy. Commandant CISF, and Shri Kandari, AC/ Fire. Shri Akhilesh Singh provided critical feedback on various

areas of improvement, ensuring that the lessons learned from the drill are integrated into future response strategies. This mock drill not only reinforced the preparedness of NTPC Bongaigaon's teams in dealing with potential disasters but also demonstrated the organization's commitment to safety and the well-being of its personnel and the surrounding community.



The Heritage School bagged the best school award in academic excellence and students engagement. The award was given by His Excellency Mr. Eric Garcetti Ambassador of USA to India and Her Excellency Ms. Melinda Pavek, US Consul General in Kolkata to Ms. Seema Sapru, Principal, The Heritage School in the presence of Mr. Pradip Agarwal, CEO, Heritage Group of Institutions, Kolkata

DURAND CUP JERSEY UNVIELED: SRINAGAR'S DOWNTOWN HEROES FC

Srinagar, (KCN): The Chinara Corps Commander unveiled the new jersey of the Downtown Heroes FC at Srinagar, in an exciting prelude to their second consecutive campaign for prestigious Indian Oil Durand Cup. The unveiling event, held at Srinagar, was attended by officers of the Chinara Corps, team officials and players. While interacting with the team, the Chinara Corps Commander congratulated the team for their endeavour and wished success in the upcoming tournament. The event was a significant step in the continued initiatives to uplift the spirit of sportsmanship in the



region. Founded in 2020, the FC aims to spotlight the heart of Srinagar, a region rich in culture and natural beauty providing a platform for local talent to shine on national stage by participating in the I-League 2nd Division, the Durand Cup and other

major tournaments. This year, the team is set to play the inaugural match against defending champions Mohun Bagan Super Giants, symbolising a proud moment and a beacon of hope for Srinagar's downtown

community. Downtown Heroes FC's success and continued participation in prestigious events like the Durand Cup are testaments to the potential and resilience of Srinagar's youth, bringing pride and transformation to the community.



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'Stree 2' trailer review: Shraddha-Rajkummar promise the funniest film of 2024

Shraddha Kapoor and Rajkummar Rao star in 'Stree 2', the sequel to the 2018 film 'Stree'. The trailer of the film promises a lot of organic humour and an engaging story rooted in Indian legends.

The people of Chanderi are back to screaming their lungs out. After they anointed 'stree', the previous ghost, with an almost-Goddess-like status, a new ghost is lurking over their town. Only this time, it's headless, and is after women, not men. The first trailer of 'Stree 2', a sequel to the 2018 hit film 'Stree', is out online, and it is all things funny and engaging.

When the first film arrived six years back, it revived the horror-comedy genre in the Indian cinema. And 'Stree 2' seems to be taking that success



ahead. At least, the trailer promises the same. The biggest strength of the 'Stree' franchise lies in its rootedness, its simple performances and the organic humour. The trailer of 'Stree 2' treats you with the same elements.

It is a simple trailer that tells the film's story but limits the narration to build curiosity. You see Pankaj Tripathi, Abhishek Banerjee and Aparshakti Khuranna delivering the most hilarious performances of their career - setting the stage

for a whirlwind of comedy.

As shown in the trailer, the humour in the film doesn't take away from the intensity of its narrative. While you laugh at Tripathi's 'ab lag raha hai asli Rajkummar' and 'vo influencer hai, followers

badhane aya hai', you are also mindful of how dangerous this new ghost could be.

'Stree 2' brings Shraddha Kapoor back in the titular role - a mysterious woman in Vicky's (or is it Bicky?) life, who will help the town people to

fight the 'sar-kata' and his 'aatank'. The actor's appearance in the trailer brings freshness on-screen. Her chemistry with Rajkummar is stunning, to say the least, and the trailer promises more scenes from their reunion in Chanderi. They have teamed up this time, but we never know if they are already a couple. And that's where the trailer piques. It gives away only enough and leaves many questions unanswered. From the trailer, 'Stree 2' looks like the funniest Bollywood film of the year so far. The film is hitting the screens on August 15 as the big Independence Day release. Directed by Amar Kaushik and produced by Dinesh Vijan's Maddock Films, it is the highest-grossing film from India's first supernatural cinematic universe.



Janhvi Kapoor hospitalised following food poisoning

Actress Janhvi Kapoor, who was recently seen in the sports drama 'Mr. & Mrs. Mahi', has been hospitalised. The actress has been feeling unwell for the last few days. As per a media report, the actress had cancelled all her appointments for Wednesday in order to rest and recuperate. However, when her health deteriorated Thursday, her family rushed her to the hospital. The media reports have stated that it's a case of severe food poisoning. As Mumbai battling torrential rains, the city has witnessed a spike in infections and ill-health. The actress will be in the hospital for 1-2 days till her condition improves under the observation of doctors. On the work front, the actress has 2 films in the pipeline. She will be seen essaying the role of the Deputy High Commissioner of the embassy in 'Ulajh'. The film, directed by Sudhanshu Saria, also stars Gulshan Devaiah, Roshan Mathew, Rajesh Tailang and Adil Hussain in the lead roles. It follows the story of a young IFS officer with a legacy of patriots in her family, entangled in a dangerous personal conspiracy far away from her home. She also has 'Devara: Part 1', which marks her Telugu debut. The film also features the 'RRR' star NTR Jr. and actor Saif Ali Khan. It is directed by Koratala Siva, and is set to debut in cinemas September 27.

Actor Bijay Anand on criticism received by 'Adipurush': 'Don't see if you don't like'

'Bade Miyan Chote Miyan' actor Bijay Anand, who also played a crisp role as Brahma in 'Adipurush', spoke to IndiaToday.in about the criticism the film received. He said that people should not criticise art. The actor praised Om Raut's vision for the film. Anand, who has

pain, money and time." He continued, "If Rs 600 crore was spent and Om Raut, as the director; it's his canvas, paint and choice of colours to make it this way. Don't see it if you don't like it. Who are we to criticise art?" He further said, "When you start criticising art,

daily soaps all your life)." The actor further said, "But to criticise it [art] and scare other directors or the same director into being creative again; don't create a formula which is successful and force others to follow the same formula for the fear of rejection. And Om Raut didn't have the

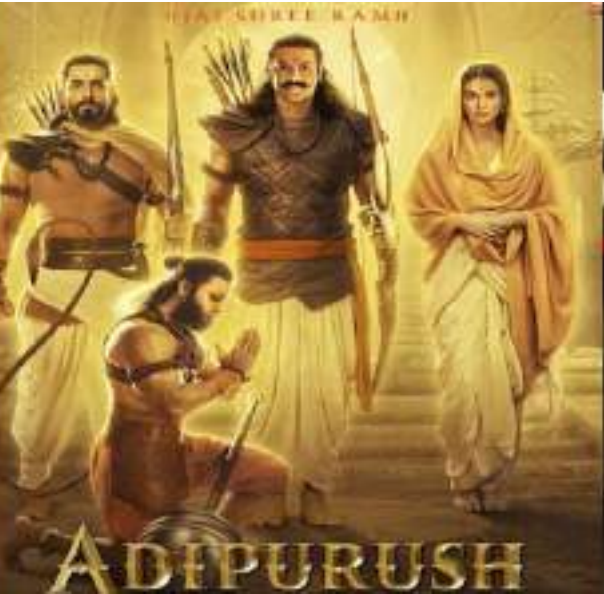
has their own version of Ram-Sita and Lakshman. It's an epic, and it doesn't matter how many people make it or who makes it. If they make it well, it's always going to do well, and it is always going to be interesting to watch it. For no other reason, except that this is your version of Ravana."



also worked in Ravi Chopra's 'Ramayana' and 'Siya Ke Ram', spoke to us about Nitesh Tiwari making his version of 'Ramayana' with Ranbir Kapoor.

Bijay Anand played Brahma in Om Raut's 'Adipurush'. Speaking to IndiaToday.in, the actor spoke about the film receiving flak online. Talking about it, he said, "I am an art lover. The concept of a painting is that if there is an empty canvas in front of a painter, it is their choice as an artist as to what they want to paint on it. It's their choice, canvas,

you start degenerating as a society. If you say this is good art or bad art; art cannot be good or bad. It is the artist's interpretation. You don't like it? Don't call it good or bad." Making his point, Anand shared, "I'm not taking anybody's side here. I'm just being the devil's advocate and saying that today, if we start sitting, judging and hammering people, then what society does is that they scare other artists into being creative. Then go back to 'saas-bahu', wahi dekhte raho zindagi bhar (keep watching



fear of rejection, which is why I love him and find him commendable."

We also told Bijay Anand about a version of Ramayana that is currently in the making, directed by Nitesh Tiwari, starring Ranbir Kapoor. When asked to share his take on it, Anand said, "Mythology, even if it is trolled 100 times by 100 different people, it will still be interesting because it's what binds India together. It's India's story." He also said, "I have travelled to Bali, Vietnam, to all the Asian countries and everybody

"The first Ravana we saw was the one made by Ramanand Sagar, where he had a big moustache and a big fat belly. We accepted that. And then we saw another Ravana in someone in Ravi Chopra's show. Then we saw another Ravana in 'Adipurush'. So it's okay. It's always interesting to see what someone else's version is. So let Mr Kumar [Nitish Kumar] make it. I would love to see what he's doing," he added. Bijay Anand's latest screen outing is Akshay Kumar and Tiger Shroff's 'Bade Miyan Chote Miyan'.

Bhumi Pednekar keeps this year's birthday celebrations 'very simple'

Mumbai: Actress Bhumi Pednekar, who turned 35 Thursday, celebrated her birthday on the sets of 'Daldal', saying that she loves celebrating it but this year she kept it very simple. "I brought in my birthday on set. I cut my cake at 12 with friends and family and everybody from my set, from my Daldal set and it was incredible because that's my happy place and it just felt like the right start to my new year," Bhumi told IANS. "Otherwise I'm just gonna spend the day at home with my mother, with my family and just people that love me," the actress added.

Asked if she is big on birthday parties or if she likes time with her family on her big day, Bhumi said: "So this year my birthday is going to be different because usually I'm very very big on birthday parties."

"I love going all out, I love celebrating my birthday but this year I've kept it very easy, simple, just like me with my closest friends and people that I really really love. Gonna eat one massive, large, phenomenal meal and just keeping it easy." Talking about her upcoming web series 'Daldal', Bhumi will play the challenging role of a cop. Written by Priya Saggi, Sreekanth Agneeshwaran, Rohan D'Souza and Hussain Haidry, the series will bring to life Vish Dhamija's fictional detective, DCP Rita Ferreira.

Based on Dhamija's second novel, 'Bhendi Bazaar', 'Daldal' follows Ferreira as she sets out to catch a serial killer, even as she grapples with her past traumas and present demons.



Guru Purnima: A day of introspection for gurus and disciples.



In our country , the full moon day of the month of Ashadha is celebrated annually with joy and enthusiasm as Guru Purnima. In Indian culture , Guru Purnima holds special significance because it offers an opportunity to remember , salute , and pay homage to all teachers who have shown the right path in life , eradicated darkness , provided good education , and helped in becoming economically prosperous and mentally strong individuals . Guru Purnima is the birthday of Adi Guru Vedavyasa ,hence it is also called Vyasa Purnima . Both the words "teacher" and "guru" carry profound meanings and are essential for guiding human life in the right direction . In ancient Indian culture , gurus

were a major and significant part of the educational system based on Gurukuls , imparting spiritual and practical knowledge . In contrast , today's teachers, under the modern education system , are the means of transferring textbook -based education to students . It is said that a guru would selflessly transfer whatever knowledge and experiences he had acquired through grace , study , and practice to his disciple with complete dedication and honesty . Today's teachers, however , are bound to impart knowledge contained in the current education policy , methods , and textbooks , often limited to their specific subject or faculty . Despite this , today's teachers play a vital role in imparting their knowledge to students in the best possible , simple ways with the available resources . History testifies that India has been a world leader in education and knowledge . What , then , led to the loss

of this esteemed position ? It is also true that India was under foreign rule for a long time and was shackled by the chains of subjugation . Unfortunately , those who ruled this country first attacked its Gurukul education system , rich knowledge traditions , educational materials , literature, and culture . Historical records show the barbaric destruction of treasure troves of spiritual , scientific, artistic , literary, and musical knowledge stored in the libraries of universities like Taxila and Nalanda . India's guru-disciple tradition has been the best in the world . Swami Vivekananda described the relationship between a guru and a disciple by saying that a person whose soul imparts strength to another person's soul is a guru, and the person whose soul receives this strength is a disciple . Indeed , this is a sacred relationship between two individuals where the guru endeavors to transfer all his acquired knowledge and experiences to his disciples with complete dedication

and honesty . However , this is possible only if the guru has the ability, skill , and capacity to impart his knowledge to the



disciple and if the disciple has the willingness to receive this knowledge from his guru . For disciples to genuinely assimilate their guru's knowledge and experiences , it is essential for them to cultivate purity , dedication , truth , discipline , and a thirst for knowledge within themselves , keep their minds calm and focused , and make efforts to absorb the teachings with hard work and diligence . This is possible only when learners keep their egos , pride , wealth

, status , prestige , caste , and religion aside while receiving education . Similarly , for a teacher to become a good , capable, and beloved or guru who teaches one to live life easily, simply , and gracefully , to remain happy in all situations, and to walk the path of truth into one's life . Gurus and disciples who are still considered ideal in our Indian culture and history include Vashistha-Rama , Sandipani-Krishna , Parashurama -Bhishma , Dronacharya -Eklavya , Chanakya-Chandragupta , Ramdas-Shivaji , and Ramakrishna Paramhansa -Vivekananda , among others . In today's India , it seems that neither the rich Gurukul education system nor the Gurukuls and gurus of the past exist . Unfortunately , national education policies have replaced our Gurukul education system , while schools , colleges , and universities have taken the place of Gurukuls . In today's educational system , teachers cannot be equated with gurus , nor can students be equated with disciples . Education today is bound by textbooks and curriculum-based ; teaching has become a kind of profession , and educational institutions have

incorporate them into one's life . Gurus and disciples who are still considered ideal in our Indian culture and history include Vashistha-Rama , Sandipani-Krishna , Parashurama -Bhishma , Dronacharya -Eklavya , Chanakya-Chandragupta , Ramdas-Shivaji , and Ramakrishna Paramhansa -Vivekananda , among others . In today's India , it seems that neither the rich Gurukul education system nor the Gurukuls and gurus of the past exist . Unfortunately , national education policies have replaced our Gurukul education system , while schools , colleges , and universities have taken the place of Gurukuls . In today's educational system , teachers cannot be equated with gurus , nor can students be equated with disciples . Education today is bound by textbooks and curriculum-based ; teaching has become a kind of profession , and educational institutions have

become so-called business centers . In ancient times, one fully capable guru would provide both spiritual and practical education , whereas today, there are many spiritual gurus for spiritual education . It is difficult to say how many of these are true and how many are pretentious , but it must be ensured that these so-called spiritual gurus do not prepare a legion of unscientific , superstitious , orthodox , and timid people under the guise of spiritual and religious education . Therefore, today there is a need for teachers to become good teachers (gurus) , for learners to become good disciples , and for educational institutions to become excellent institutions like Gurukuls . Today , the primary duty of teachers is to instill moral knowledge , skills, and national spirit in their students so they can connect with Indian culture and values (for information , Google Guru is sufficient) . Only then can our country regain its position as a world teacher (Vishwaguru).

Indore

GURU PURNIMA- REMINDER OF A GLORIOUS TRADITION

M.R.LALU



Guru Purnima is a reminder. It comes every year reviving our understanding of the cherished values of the Guru-Shishya tradition. Remove this ideal transition of knowledge from one generation to the next, India as a nation would cease to exist. In its entirety, India can be defined as a landscape that idealized this great tradition that existed and passed on to generations from the ages of sages. In principle and practice India's spiritual inheritance survived through this tradition. And whenever there had been a decline of values in the Indian society, there appeared a person to light a million lamps of spiritual effulgence. The first lamp goes on shining for centuries with undiminished light. This, with the brightness of supreme spiritual exuberance is the Guru and the lamp that is

lighted from it is the disciple. This remained a profound way for transmitting the great knowledge that India possessed for centuries. Many enlightened masters came and illuminated the minds of people on various subjects. Guru, according to our scriptures, is someone who removes the darkness in us. This needs to be understood with clarity. 'GU' means darkness and 'RU' means who removes it. Darkness is mostly internal and by removing it the disciple is all set to fine-tune his essential self with the supreme and thus relieved from all perennial contradictions of life. So we are supposed to pay our obeisance to the Guru on the day of Guru Purnima. In the West, this idea of Guru was never prominent to the extent it existed in India. West admired spiritual luminaries as teachers who gave intellectual knowledge. India treated Gurus with reverence and admired them for the spiritual current they were able to set in motion. The tradition existed as the Gurus

transmitted their power to their immediate disciples and the disciples carried the light of knowledge further. From the days of the Vedic wisdom to those we admire today as Gurus all have admittedly continued this process. We will see such links and lineages of Gurus exist in scriptures as well. The greatest aspect of the Guru-Shishya tradition is that even the incarnations of God had to be a part of this lineage. Lord Rama and Lord Krishna are known to have gained their knowledge under great masters who were eminent Gurus of those days. The political system that existed then had provided profound examples of rulers being servile to the spiritual power and knowledge of their Gurus, who in turn advised the Kings when the country was flooded with adversities. An ideal desire in every aspirant of knowledge was that a Guru must teach him and lead him to light, lead from death to deathlessness and lead him from untruth to truth. The ancient Gurukula system provided platforms to this aspiration for gaining knowledge to flourish in

the inner depth of a person and help him receive it from an accomplished Guru.

Experiential learning was the path that the intellectual luminary in the Guru would put the disciple through. This was an excellent aspect of preserving



knowledge and keeping the education system intact. Down the line, the period of external invasion that lasted for centuries could dismantle this firm establishment of spiritual lineage. But to revive it did happen occasionally. How deep and practical was the practice of Guru-Shishya tradition can be understood from Swami Vivekananda's

words. Once, a Christian friend of Vivekananda asked him if he believed in Christ. Since Vivekananda admired Jesus the Christ, his friend told him to get baptized. But Vivekananda made him sense the reality as to what true baptism was. He said mere sprinkling of

knowledge in an admiring way and the one who penned down one of the greatest epics, the Mahabharata. He is known for the incredible essence of the Vedic wisdom that he codified and ever since got promulgated through various generations.

The impact of having a Guru in a person's life is known to bring tremendous transformation. This, according to the scriptures and testimonies of great masters, is proof for the master delving into the depth of the supreme reality while helping the disciple to take strides experiencing sparks of realization bit by bit. This intervention of the Guru ultimately takes the disciple to experience the abundance of knowledge dawn in him. Gradually, the darkness diminishes and various talents of spiritual rejuvenation manifest in the disciple. Even today, India is known for the global presence of its enlightened masters, who, with great involvement continue to disseminate the knowledge of yoga, meditation and India's traditional spiritual wisdom for the universal good. They cover a variety of aspects of life on a global level and cover subjects such as spirituality, environmental conservation, education

and many other aspects for the betterment of humanity. India's emergence as a global power has also been a contributory factor. 'Mother India', according to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, is still truly potential to once again establish her past glory. He wanted India to become the 'Vishwa Guru'. His government has consistently been putting its efforts to see this dream materialize. And in actuality, it is a matter of time; that India, with its ethical imperatives of Dharma (righteousness), has been exemplifying its ancient values across the world. "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam" (world is one family) was an inspiring theme that India echoed as its march towards accomplishing its global vision of becoming a Vishwa Guru, a global teacher.

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BOBBY CHAKRABORTY GUIDES THOUSANDS OF STUDENTS FROM THE PRESIDENCY GROUP OF SCHOOLS–BANGALORE, TOWARDS A HEALTHY LIFE WITHOUT ADDICTION



Kolkata, (KCN): Social evils of addiction and harmful trends like smoking, alcoholism, smart phone addiction, online obscenity to grab eyeballs, online gambling through games etc. have become rampant in every strata and should be addressed to a child as early as possible. Reputed actor/activist/teacher of method acting from Kolkata-India, Bobby Chakraborty has been raising awareness among the children, against those evils, with remarkable consistency since 2012, through his globally acclaimed, award winning, free of cost, anti addiction campaign titled 'I AM THE KING OF MY MIND'. Till date he has reached nearly 430 schools, colleges, universities, red light areas and orphanages with his awareness program and saved thousands of young lives and families.

Recently in July, he collaborated with one of the most nationally renowned chain of schools from Karnataka-India, The Presidency Group of Schools (PGS) – Bangalore to conduct 6 inspirational & motivating campaigns in 6 of their schools. They were :-

- 1) PRESIDENCY SCHOOL-NANDINI LAYOUT
- 2) PRESIDENCY SCHOOL – NORTH (PSBN)
- 3) PRESIDENCY SCHOOL – SOUTH
- 4) PRESIDENCY SCHOOL – R. T. NAGAR
- 5) PRESIDENCY SCHOOL – KASTURI NAGAR
- 6) ST. PAUL'S ENGLISH SCHOOL

From various videos/photos/posts in the

social networking platforms and after having a talk with the changemaker himself, it can be understood that all the 6 campaigns were resounding success, with highly positive feedbacks from nearly 5000 Students (7-12th grade), Parents, Teachers, Principals and The Administration, who were extremely appreciative about Bobby's noble initiative, to build a healthier and wiser young generation, who are our future. Dr. Nafeesa Ahmed, The socially responsible Director of The Presidency Group of Institutions (PGI), which governs numerous schools, colleges and a university in Karnataka, praised Bobby... "I truly appreciate it. I thoroughly enjoyed your motivational session. It was inspiring and thought provoking. Your insights have made a significant impact on our

children. Your ability to inspire and motivate through your words is commendable and I am certain that your contributions will continue to positively influence many. I look forward to many more such enlightening interactions in the future."

Dr. Angelo Michael D'Cruize, a renowned name in the Indian Educational World, who is the dynamic Director of Academics of PGS, who is also The Principal of PSBN and on whose initiative, Bobby was there in Bangalore, was highly appreciative about his awareness drive said ... "Thank you so much Bobby for these wonderful sessions at our schools and what you have done for our students. They are awestruck! You have awakened their senses. My prayers and blessings are with you as you touch many more young lives through your powerful anti addiction campaign, which is the need of the hour". We sincerely need more socially aware educators like Dr. Ahmed and Dr. D'Cruize in our society, who would think about the betterment of their students beyond academics. We too wish Bobby a great journey ahead to every corner of the world, as we earnestly feel that this awareness should reach each and every child out there, before it's too late.

"World Food India " to be held in New Delhi in Sep'24

Kolkata (PARTHA ROY): The 3rd edition of "World Food India", a premier global food and food processing industry show will be held from 19th to 22nd September 2024 at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi. Ministry of Food

Kumar, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Food Processing Industries, Government of India; Mr. Sandipan Sensarma, Senior AVP, Invest India; Mr. Prashant Jalan, Member, ICC Executive Committee & MD, Bengal Nestor's

holistic development and growth of the Indian food processing sector, implementing various policies and reforms to promote this sector and business opportunities within it. The Ministry of Food Processing Industries has introduced

2024, emphasising holistic development across the food and allied sectors to achieve the goals of Aatmnirbhar and Viksit Bharat. World Food India aims to promote diverse food cuisines and cultural practices globally, hoping to



Processing Industries, (MOFPI) Government of India in collaboration with Indian Chamber of Commerce (ICC) organised industry stakeholders meet in Kolkata on 18 July 2024.

World Food India is organised by MOFPI in collaboration and in partnership with Invest India and Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FICCI). Mr. Preet Pal Singh, IAS, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Food Processing Industries, Government of India; Mr. Arvind

Industries Ltd.; and Shri. Siddharth Dutta, Consultant, FICCI, attended Industry stakeholders meet in Kolkata. Shri Siddharth Dutta of FICCI is overseeing implementation of 3rd World Food India in New Delhi. India's agricultural sector is a powerhouse of innovation and productivity, being a global producer of diverse products ranging from grains to fruits, vegetables, milk and spices. The Government of India is dedicated to the

numerous schemes, including the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana and the PMFME scheme, covering the entire value chain and supporting everyone from micro-entrepreneurs to large industries. Union Minister of Food Processing Industries, Mr. Chirag Paswan and Union Minister for State Food Processing Industries, Ravneet Singh Bittu, launched the website (<https://worldfoodindia.gov.in>) and mobile app for World Food India

drive growth and development through this mega event. World Food India will provide opportunity to showcase, connect and collaborate amongst various Global, National, Regional, Local stakeholders in food and food processing industries. World Food India will have Policy Round Tables, B2B / B2G / G2G Meetings, Exhibitions, Global Food Regulators Summit, Thematic Sessions, Great Indian Food Street and more.

Nauseating display of wealth and power

Dr Santosh Kumar Mohapatra



After hosting a series of pre-wedding festivities this year, Anant Ambani--youngest son of Asia's richest person Mukesh Ambani--recently tied the nuptial knot with Radhika Merchant, the daughter of pharmaceutical tycoon Viren Merchant. This is being hailed as one of the most extravagant and expensive weddings or "a big fat Indian wedding" the world has ever seen. It may be the wedding of the century; the cost of the entire wedding will have exceeded ₹3000 crore. Unofficially, it might have exceeded ₹5000 crore. The celebration, spanning multiple continents and featuring an array of high-profile performances, has enchanted the public's attention and sparked considerable debate too. The entire extravaganza is nauseatingly uncouth as over the past year, multiple pre-wedding events have featured a music festival's worth of megastar private performances. A writer described it as "an ode to

excess" with "a feast which even Nero might have thought a little over the top. The marriage ceremony seems less like a meaningful moment between two people in love and rather vulgar and grotesque displays of wealth, power and cronyism. By any measure, India is an outrageous plutocracy, unequal country inundated by cronyism. Highly publicized celebrity weddings are nothing new. But the Ambani wedding is something different to draw the attention of the entire world to know the power of his wealth. Marriage is not a vulgar display of wealth, power but union between people called spouses. Marriage is meant for legalising physical relation, procreation and sharing spouse's emotions and feelings. The success of a conjugal life depends upon not only physical and mental compatibility but mutual trust and understanding. Never wealth and power only can make connubial life happy. Had it been so, there would not have been any divorces, marital discords among

rich, powerful couples. The grim reality is that there have been many instances where unbridled power and colossal wealth have led to extra marital relations and marital disharmonies. The "glitz and glamour" is also a manifestation of wealth inequality. Inequality based on religion, caste, income, wealth, colour, power, positions are perpetuated by those who are beneficiaries of those unequal and reprehensible systems. That is why, rich, powerful, celebrities have been invited and gathered in the wedding ceremony to project themselves that they are not normal human beings like others. They are superior to the rest of society. This corroborates views of George Orwell who said "All animals are equal, but some animals are more equal than others" while explaining disparities that exist in society. What is disconcerting is that the government has tacit support to such burlesque as the government makes special airports to traffic diversion to long duration. Display of obscene wealth and power of the

Ambani family is not only confined to this wedding ceremony only, but reflected in their day today's lives too. The Ambani family "home," named Antilia, is a 27-storey tower valued at \$4.6 billion complete with its own temple, 50-person movie theatre, six floors of parking and, of course, helipad. It is located in Mumbai, right next to the Golibar slum. However, critics lamented the ostentatious display of wealth as some of the poorest people in India struggle to eke out a living and sleep with half-filled stomachs. "The wedding's overindulgence "can easily be seen as a kind of derision, a sort of blindness to the grim reality of the country," - a nation grappling with the complex interplay of wealth, poverty, and the ever-widening gap between the two. Critics have voiced their discontent, arguing that the extravagant spending is in poor taste given the pervasive poverty, inequality, unemployment, hunger and squalor and other socio-economic disparities in India where monthly income

of 70 percent of households are below ₹10000. The scale of hunger in India is so pervasive that three of four Indians underfed. According to the 2023 report on food security and nutrition by five UN agencies, 74.1 percent of Indians, approximately 104.3 crore people, were unable to afford a healthy diet in 2021. The report also estimated India's proportion of undernourished population at 16.6 percent during 2020-2022. In 2020, a study found that the Indian diet is mostly devoid of essential nutrients. The study published in BMC journal revealed that the Indian diet has insufficient amounts of protein fruits and vegetables. "The average daily calorie consumption in India is below the recommended 2503 kcal/capita/day across all groups compared, except for the richest 5 percent of the population, the study which is a comparison of the Indian diet with the EAT-Lancet reference diet. India has one of the starkest examples of income inequality in the world, ahead of Brazil, South Africa and the U.S.

And the gap between the rich and the poor is so high that it breaks all historical precedents, even under British colonial rule, according to a March 2023 world inequality report by the World Inequality Lab. As per the 'World Inequality Report 2022', India is among the most unequal countries in the world, with rising poverty and an 'affluent elite'. The contrasts of grandeur and glamour to abject poverty couldn't be greater where almost 46.54 percent Indians in 2021 will be found poor. If the poverty rate at \$3.65 a day (2017 PPP) of the upper middle-income countries as defined by the World Bank is used. By contrast, Narendra Modi's regime is creating billionaires at a brisk pace, with the number of billionaires rising to 200 in 2024, a significant rise from the 169 counted last year. Some argue that Ambani's extravagance at their son's marriage would spur economic activities and create jobs. But Reliance Jio has announced a price increase for all its prepaid and postpaid plans by around 25 percent

recently without any valid reasons and this has eroded the purchasing power of 4676 crore Jio subscribers. The truth is that every expenditure --public or private--spurs economic activities and creates employment opportunities for others. But public expenditure has equitable benefits while private expenditures contribute to the rise of unequal society, inequitable growth. Further when resources are scarce, it should be properly utilized. Legally it may be Ambani's money but not earned by dint of hard work, entrepreneurship but due to crony capitalism and manipulation of stock market, corporate rate tax cut, lower real interest rate on loan. Crony capitalism, sometimes also called simply cronyism, is a pejorative term used in political discourse to describe a situation in which businesses profit from a close relationship with state power, either through an anti-competitive regulatory environment, direct government largesse, and/or corruption. The cronyism is an economic system characterized by

close, mutually advantageous relationships between business leaders and government officials. Critics say the company thrived due to its political patronage of the Congress government in the '70s and '80s and then with Prime Minister Narendra Modi since he took office in 2014, allegations both deny. The empire that Ambani and his siblings took over from their father, Dhirubhai Ambani, has operations in energy, petrochemicals, retail, telecommunications and textiles, among other industries. What is disquieting is that such a blitzkrieg will spur demonstration effect, keeping with Joneses, rampant consumerism, consumption splurge and hedonism. This may encourage many people to spend heavily on the marriage ceremony of their siblings and on other functions. This will result in overconsumption and push many into a quagmire debt abyss.

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Construction of Mantei bridge begins

Basudevpur(KCN): After initial hiccups, construction of a bridge on Mantei River in Bhadrak district got off to a kick start spreading cheer among the local residents, sources said Wednesday. The bridge on the Mantei river, which flows through Basudevpur, Chandbali and Tihidi blocks in Bhadrak district, will benefit lakhs of residents of these three blocks when completed. It will ensure direct connectivity between Bhadrak, Balasore and Kendrapara districts and reduce the distance between these places. Notably, Mantei River has a fond memory linked

to Mahatma Gandhi as he crossed the river on a boat and visited Charbatia village in 1927. The bridge will be constructed at an expense of Rs 60 crore by a private consultancy agency Bekem Infra Projects Private Ltd. Basudevpur block lies on one side of the river while Tihidi and Chandbali blocks are on the opposite side. The river has been termed as the sorrow of the people here as travelling by boats across this river was a risky proposition due to presence of crocodiles in the water body. Several lives have also been lost in the past to boat mishaps in the river. Realising the problems, caretaker Chief



Minister Naveen Patnaik had given a green signal for the construction of a bridge on the river in public-private partnership (PPP) mode.

As the river was under the Union Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, the state government had floated tenders for over 10 times

but none of the consultancy agencies were able to take up its construction due to a host of reasons. The

bottlenecks in construction of a bridge on the river were removed after Union

Minister Nitin Gadkari and former Basudevpur MLA late Bijayshree Routray stepped in. The two made consistent efforts and removed all the bottlenecks that were hindering the construction of the bridge. Routray's son and former Basudevpur MLA Bishnubrata Routray also continued his father's efforts. As a result, the foundation stone for the bridge was laid at Karanjaadia in Charbatia, three months back.

In the absence of a bridge, scores of people along with their vehicles cross this river daily by boats endangering their

lives to reach their destinations. Balimeda panchayat of Basudevpur block manages the river ghat for one year while Tihidi block does it in the next year. Similarly, hundreds of people also travel from Karanjaadia River ghat to their destinations by holding onto a rope of the country boat. Here also, Karanjaadia panchayat and Chandbali block alternatively manage the ghat for one year each. While several boat mishaps in the past have claimed the lives of many, the river is infested by crocodiles making it even more dangerous

Missing Malkangiri doctor safe, traced to Karnataka

Malkangiri / Kalimela(KCN): Days after a doctor of Kalimela community health centre (CHC) in Malkangiri district went missing from his official quarters, police have traced him to Karnataka, sources said Wednesday. The government doctor was suspected to have been kidnapped by Maoists. "He has been traced and is safe and sound. The mystery surrounding his disappearance will be clear once the police team arrives with him," Malkangiri SP Nitish Badhwani said Wednesday. Meanwhile, a team comprising district police personnel have left for Karnataka to bring him back to the district. The missing physician was identified



as Dr Amlan Bhoi, a doctor posted at the Kalimela CHC in the Malkangiri district. He went missing from his official residence, June 1, Friday. He had attended hospital duty and returned to his official residence in the afternoon on the fateful day. However, he was found missing from his residence the next

morning, the SP said. Based on a complaint filed by the CHC authorities, Kalimela police launched an investigation and launched a manhunt for Bhoi. During probe, a letter purportedly written by Maoists in English and some posters were found at his residence along with one of his mobile phones. However, Malkangiri

SDPO Sachin Patel had then denied any role of Maoists in Bhoi's disappearance. The letter was found to be fake as there is no instance of Maoists writing letters in such style. Moreover, when someone is kidnapped by the Red rebels, they usually inform the media within 24 hours of the incident, the SP added.

3 killed, 12 injured as trailer rams into vehicles on NH-49




Keonjhar(KCN): At least three persons were killed and 12 others were injured in a series of accidents that took place on National Highway-49 under Sadar police limits of Keonjhar district. The deadly mishap occurred after a speeding trailer truck ploughed into several bikes, cars and auto rickshaws plying on the NH, Wednesday. The deceased were identified as Kusa Behera, 36, of Upper Kaipur area under Town police limits and Khageswar Behera, 28, of the same area. Another deceased, a scrap trader in Nayagarah district, is yet

to be identified. While two died on the spot, injured Khageswar succumbed on the way while being rushed to the SCB Medical College and Hospital in Cuttack. The rest of the injured were admitted to Keonjhar district headquarters hospital, of whom one was shifted to SCB Medical College and Hospital after his health condition deteriorated. The mishap took place Wednesday at about 11 am in between Thakurdihi and Putulupani Chhak under Sadar police station limits. The mishap occurred when a

Kolkata-bound trailer truck from Mumbai first hit a moped killing the rider on the spot. The deceased, a scrap trader in the Nayagarh area, was yet to be identified. The trailer then collided with a bike killing one more on the spot while rendering another person critical. According to sources, the accident took place when the trailer truck tried to overtake trucks parked in a long queue on the national highway. The vehicle further rammed into two cars and one auto-rickshaw, injuring 12 persons on board. Sadar police station IIC Trinath

Sethy said an investigation has been launched after the registration of a case after seizure of the vehicle. Sources said frequent accidents are happening due to illegal parking of trucks on the NH-49 for loading of minerals. Locals alleged that despite repeated accidents, the district administration and police have failed to take action against the rule violators. The administration is showing a soft corner to the truck drivers leading to the loss of many lives under the wheels, they alleged.



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realme redefines low light photography standards with the realme NARZO 70 Pro 5G starting from INR 18,999

Bhubaneswar : realme, the Most Reliable Smartphone Service Provider in India, unveiled the newest addition to their super successful NARZO By realme line-up - NARZO 70 Pro 5G. NARZO By realme is a stylish line of smartphones that delivers a comprehensive user experience. With a rapidly growing user base of over 16 million in India, NARZO By realme represents the next generation of smartphones. These devices are designed with advanced technology and premium features to help users stay ahead of the curve and express their individuality. The new

realme NARZO 70 Pro 5G aims to redefine industry standards for low-light photography, further cementing realme's commitment to innovation and excellence. realme& Amazon have strategically engaged to bring the NARZO By realme line-up and to provide consumers with an enhanced shopping experience. NARZO By realme is exclusively available on Amazon.in and has been committed to bringing advanced technology to its users. In line with realme's dual platform strategy, realme launched its first online store on Amazon in March 2023. The realmeNARZO 70

Pro 5G is a power-packed smartphone with remarkable features designed to enhance your smartphone experience. It boasts India's first 50MP Sony IMX890 Camera with Optical Image Stabilization (OIS) in the segment for capturing stunning, blur-free photos. The smartphone's visual appeal is elevated by the Horizon Glass Design and a 120Hz Ultra-Smooth AMOLED Display that offers vibrant colors and deep blacks. Powered by the MediatekDimensity 7050 5G Chipset, it ensures fast performance and supports 5G connectivity for faster internet speeds. First in the segment, realme NARZO 70 Pro incorporates Air Gesture controls, allowing



you to perform various actions without touching the screen. To maintain optimal performance during intense usage, it comes with a 3D VC Cooling System that effectively dissipates heat. The smartphone houses a large 5000mAh battery and supports efficient 67W SUPERVOOC charging technology for

quick power-ups. Lastly, the realme UI 5.0 based on Android 14 offers a smooth, intuitive user interface with several customization options and features for enhanced usability. The realme NARZO 70 Pro 5G is available in two stunning colors: Glass Green and Glass Gold and two storage variants:

Honda Motorcycle and Scooter India registers 3, 53,188 unit sales

Gurugram: Noting a positive upward movement during the month, Honda Motorcycle and Scooter India today announced its sales numbers for May 2022.

The company's total sales for the month stood at 3,53,188 with 3,20,844 domestic sales and 32,344 exports compared to the subdued market performance for same period last year amidst multiple lockdowns owing to impact from second wave of pandemic.

Commenting on the sales performance in May'22, Mr.Atsushi Ogata, Managing Director, President & CEO, Honda Motorcycle & Scooter India said, "The market is gaining back strength as disturbances in terms of supply side are subsiding coupled with rise in physical presence at office and educational institutions. The sales figures this month remain incomparable from May'21 as frequent lockdowns in wake of second wave marred the performance during this period last year. Growth in domestic as well as international trade continues to complement each other as we approach an early monsoon."

TVS Motor Company registers sales of 302,982 units

Hosur: TVS Motor Company sales was at 302,982 units in May 2022. The year-on-year growth is not comparable due to the low base of sales in May 2021 because of the localised lockdown imposed by the Government of India during that period.

Two-Wheeler
Total two-wheelers sales grew from 154,416 units in May 2021 to 287,058 units in May 2022. Domestic two-wheeler sales grew from 52,084 units in May 2021 to 191,482 units in May 2022.

Motorcycle sales grew from 125,188 units in May 2021 to 148,560 units in May 2022. Scooter sales of the Company grew from 19,627 units in May 2021 to 100,665 units in May 2022.

The shortage in the supply of semiconductors has impacted the production and sales of

premium two-wheelers. We are working aggressively with alternate sources and taking every effort to improve supplies at the earliest. Some improvement has been seen this month. We are optimistic that volumes will revive to normal levels once the semiconductor supplies improve.

The Company's total exports registered sales of 110,245 units in May 2022 as against 114,674 units in May 2021. Two-wheeler exports recorded sales of 95,576 units in May 2022 as against 102,332 units in May 2021.

Three-wheeler of the Company grew by 28% from 12,473 units in May 2021 to 15,924 units in May 2022.

The domestic two-wheeler sales include TVS iQube Electric sales of 2,637 units in May 2022.

Spice Money to enable farmers to withdraw PM-KISAN subsidy through its 1 million Adhikari Network

New Delhi: The Government of India has disbursed PM KISANsubsidy, directly to the farmers' bank accounts benefitingover 10 crore farmers and families who have received a grant of Rs 2,000 each. Spice Money, India's leading rural fintech with 1 million strong Adhikari network covering 18,500 plus pincodes, is assisting the farmers and farmer families residing in the heartlands of the country, to withdraw this subsidy through AePS at their doorstep Adhikari

8GB+128GB, priced at INR 19,999 and 8GB+256GB, priced at INR 21,999

Commenting on the launch, a realme spokesperson said, "Today, we are thrilled to introduce the realme NARZO 70 Pro 5G, exclusively on Amazon, a smartphone that is set to redefine low-light photography standards in the smartphone industry. With Narzo By realme, we are committed to pushing boundaries and delivering products that resonate with our young and tech-savvy audience. With the realme NARZO 70 Pro 5G, we have introduced cutting-edge technology and

advanced features that will redefine the mid-range segment. We believe this smartphone will further solidify our position as a brand that offers innovative and trendsetting smartphones."

Commenting on the launch, Ranjit Babu, Director, Wireless and Home Entertainment, Amazon India said, "The Narzo series has been highly rated by customers on Amazon.in for its powerful performance, design and value for money. We extend our congratulations to the entire realme team on the launch of the Narzo 70 Pro, a smartphone

that aims to set newer benchmarks in the segment with its cutting-edge camera and stunning glass design. Along with other exciting launch offers, we are happy to announce that customers can also enjoy a hassle-free instant loan within minutes enabling up to 3 months of no-cost installments* on the Narzo 70 Pro, without the need for a credit card using Amazon Pay Later. We are proud of our continued engagement with realme and with the addition of the Narzo 70 Pro, we have further expanded our portfolio of 5G smartphones."

RELIANCE BRANDS LIMITED INKS A JV WITH PLASTIC LEGNO SPA

Mumbai: RELIANCE BRANDS LIMITED (RBL) and Plastic Legno SPA have signed a joint venture arrangement through which RBL will acquire a 40% stake in Plastic Legno SPA's toy manufacturing business in India. This investment by RBL serves a dual purpose, bringing in vertical integration for RBL's toy business and helping diversify the supply chain with a long-term strategic interest in building toy manufacturing in India.

Plastic Legno SPA is owned by the Sunino group that boasts of more than 25 years of toy production experience in Europe. The group started it's India business in 2009 out of a need to develop a strong production hub that would cater to global markets, but more importantly to the fast evolving and growing Indian market.

"Keeping with our

honourable Prime Minister's vision of Atmanirbhar India, this collaboration with Plastic Legno's deep experience in world-class toy manufacturing coupled with our strong footing in the global toy retail industry would open new doors and unparalleled opportunities for toys manufactured in India. It is imperative for RBL to build design to shelf capability for a strategic advantage over the competition and to be an accelerator in building a robust toy manufacturing ecosystem in India not only for domestic consumption but also for global markets," said the spokesperson of Reliance Brands Limited.

RBL has a strong play in the Toy industry with its portfolio of Hamleys, the British toy retailer and homegrown toy brand – Rowan, making RBL one of the leading toy distributors. Hamleys currently has a global

footprint across 15 countries with 213 doors and is India's largest chain of toy stores.

"We are very privileged to have RBL as a partner in this Joint Venture. We are confident that Plastic Legno's experience in Toys production and Hamley's commercial outreach, will complement one another to enable the JV Company to achieve greater heights and successes. We have important development plans to implement, always in the spirit of creating a cultural background in this specific sector in India. We are ready for the challenges of the future, but when there is a group like RBL alongside, we are sure that together we can do a great development," said Paolo Sunino, Co-owner, Sunino Group.

Aditya Birla Group formally launches TMRW – a Digital First ‘House of Brands’ venture in the Fashion & Lifestyle space

Mumbai: Aditya Birla Group today announced the formal launch of its new 'House of Brands' entity– TMRW. This move is in line with the group's strategy to launch and back new-age digital ventures. TMRW, an Aditya Birla Group venture, will create India's largest portfolio of disruptor brands in the fashion & lifestyle space and enable the next phase of direct to consumer (D2C) growth in India, which is poised to be a \$100bn market by 2025. Over the next 3 years, TMRW will acquire as well as incubate 30+ innovative, customer-obsessed brands. The venture will also enable multiple founders to operate within a synergistic 'house of brands' platform that share a common vision and shared capabilities. Aditya Birla Group has appointed ex Facebook & Bain executive, Prashanth Aluru, as the CEO & Co-Founder to lead the build out of this new venture. Prashanth will set-up a nimble and

agile founding team with the right skill sets and capabilities. Prashanth comes with extensive experience in Digital & Technology across strategy, growth and investing. He also brings to the fore rich entrepreneurial experience in helping build and scale new age ventures in Digital & E-Commerce.

Ashish Dikshit, MD of ABFRL said, "The formal launch of our D2C business, TMRW, is a key milestone for the company. This venture has the potential to become a significant growth engine by tapping into the new wave of entrepreneurial energy in India. Our aspiration is to build a portfolio of 30+ brands in the next 3 years. With the launch of this venture, we intend to double down on our ongoing program of strategically attracting new pools of capital that are seeking investment in high-growth businesses. We are confident that this

foray will successfully meet the aspirations of digitally native consumers and also create long-term value for investors and other stakeholders." Prashanth Aluru, CEO and Co-Founder, TMRW said, "I am excited to embark on this journey to build TMRW - a long-term enduring platform that will be home to the leading disruptor brands that provide the new age digitally savvy consumer what she is looking for across Fashion & Lifestyle. With the backing of the Aditya Birla Group and the right profile of long-term investors we will bring in, we are confident of powering the growth of several brands that shape the next phase of digital commerce growth till 2030 and beyond. With a new age Digital first DNA, at TMRW, we will jointly create an ecosystem of the most-loved disruptor brands partnering closely with highly competent founders."

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.

CONSTRUCTION WORK FOR SUB-WAY NEAR NIDHIPANDA BRIDGE STARTED



BHUBANESWAR,(KCN): Railway Minister Kept his promise and was sanctioned fund of rupees 14.7 Crores in September 2023The construction work for Sub-way near Nidhipanda Railway Bridge started today. Sri Ashwini Vaishnaw, Hon'ble Minister for Railways during his visit to Balasore on 21st June, 2023 had met the villagers who had a long pending demand for construction of a subway near Nidhipanda Bridge (Br. No. 259).

The Railway Minister discussed the issue with local villagers and assured them to resolve the matter. The 'Designing team' of Railway has immediately prepared the design for Subway which was approved by the competent authority. A fund of Rs. 14.7 crores has been sanctioned in September 2023 by the

Railway Board for construction of Subway near Nidhipanda Bridge of Balasore.

Nidhipanda bridge is an important bridge in Haldipada-Balasore section of Kharagpur – Bhadrak section. One of the spans of this bridge is being used by local people for commuting of both vehicular and pedestrian traffic. The area gets water logged during monsoon and the crossing under the bridge b e c o m e s unapproachable cutting connectivity to villages. In light of these issues, after Hon'ble Minister for Railways instructions, a survey was immediately conducted for provision of alternate, safe arrangement for vehicular traffic as well as pedestrians. A scheme was prepared whereby a subway of size 5m (W) X 5m (H) has been proposed at the

approach of the bridge at Kharagpur end. This subway will be used for passing of all kinds of vehicles including heavy vehicles.

In view of the above, the construction work has been started which will fulfill the demand of local people. Additionally, keeping in mind that the area is prone to waterlogging during monsoon, a second subway is proposed having dimensions of 4m(W)X 2.7m(H) which is about 1.6m above the bed level of the bridge and will act as an all-weather road even in times of heavy water discharges. With the intervention and close monitoring of Hon'ble Minister for Railways, the project and fund of Rs 14.7 crores was sanctioned in September 2023 and work is now started with close monitoring.

Nayar, ten Doeschate set to join Colombo-bound Indian team; T Dilip retained as fielding coach

New Delhi: Although the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has not formally announced it, Abhishek Nayar, a former India all-rounder, and Ryan ten Doeschate, a former Dutch international, are set to join the Indian team coaching staff. Cricbuzz reported about this on July 19.

Along with Gautam Gambhir, the new head coach, these two are additions to the coaching staff being retained from the previous staff under Rahul Dravid, including T Dilip, who will continue as the fielding coach. Dilip has carved a reputation of not only as an effective fielding coach but also a good positive influence in the dressing room. He is believed to be very good at team bonding exercises, considered a major requirement for players in a highly-competitive environment. Both Nayar and Ten Doeschate have been



appointed as assistant coaches. There remains some ambiguity regarding the new bowling coach, but Morne Morkel is a strong candidate, with a high chance that the former South African pacer will take on this role in Gambhir's coaching team. All the new additions to the coaching team - Nayar, Ten Doeschate and Morkel - have previously worked with Gambhir at various stages of his coaching career in the Indian

Premier League (IPL). Nayar and ten Doeschate were with him during his successful tenure at Kolkata Knight Riders last season, while Morkel worked with Gambhir at Lucknow Super Giants for two years. Dilip and Nayar will, understandably, travel with the team on Monday, but it is unclear when and how ten Doeschate will link up with the side. He is currently in the US as part of the coaching staff for the LA Knight Riders

in the ongoing Major League Cricket (MLC). He may join the team directly in Colombo. Similarly, there is no clarity on Morkel's plans. Cricbuzz can confirm that the BCCI has held discussions with him about potentially becoming the team's bowling coach. The Indian team is scheduled to depart from Mumbai to Colombo on a charter flight at 1 pm on Monday. Prior to their departure, the BCCI is expected to formally

unveil Gambhir as the new head coach. A media conference is planned for July 22 at a five-star hotel in Andheri, Mumbai, with the newly appointed T20 captain Suryakumar Yadav in attendance. BCCI boss Jay Shah, who is already in Colombo for the Annual Conference of the International Cricket Council (ICC), will be able to meet the new members of the side on its arrival in Sri Lanka. Nayar, meanwhile, has had a brief stint with the Mumbai team, conducting a coaching clinic for the players preparing for the coming domestic season. Between 30 and 35 seniors attended a session, which focused on mental toughness and mindset of growth, among other aspects of the game. The session was held at the Mumbai Cricket Association (MCA) academy in Bandra Kurla Complex earlier this week.

BCCI to meet IPL owners at month-end; player retentions, salary cap on agenda

New Delhi: The much-awaited Indian Premier League (IPL) owners' meeting with the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) will take place at the end of this month. According to IPL insiders, the BCCI has asked the owners to be available for a meeting likely on July 30 or 31, although the exact date has not yet been confirmed. The meeting is expected to take place at the BCCI office in Mumbai. Generally, such meetings are held in a five-star hotel, but the BCCI wants to invite the owners to their newly refurbished office inside the Wankhede Stadium complex. The main agenda of the meeting will be the key issue of player retentions. There have been varying views on the number of retentions allowed for a franchise. Some argue that

continuity is essential, as most franchises have existed for over 17 years now and the number of retentions permitted should be as high as eight. It is being argued that for the sake of fan engagement and brand building, they need to structure their teams around players who are seen as integral to the franchise's image. However, there are arguments to the contrary, with some franchises informing the BCCI that the number of retentions should be minimal. There is also a debate whether to have a Right to Match (RTM) option at the mega-auction. As recently reported by Cricbuzz, the BCCI has elicited views of the franchises on the key issues. IPL CEO Hemang Amin met with representatives of the franchises, either by visiting their

headquarters in different cities or by calling them to the BCCI office earlier this month. There will also be a discussion on the salary cap, which is expected to be around INR 120 crore in the first year of the next three-year cycle. Subsequently, the retention value of each player could also come up for discussion. Previously, the salary of the top retention was around 16-17 percent of the salary cap (INR 15 crore in a salary cap of INR 90 crore). If the same principle is followed, the salary of the top retained player this time could be around or slightly over INR 20 crore. However, this remains speculative at this stage. The BCCI is expected to explain the formula for determining the salary of the retained players.

Taskin apologised for missing team bus ahead of India game, says BCB official

New Delhi: Bangladesh pace bowler and T20I vice-captain Taskin Ahmed apologised to his team mates for turning up late in the field after missing the team bus during their Super 8 game against India in the just concluded ICC T20 World Cup. A top BCB official confirmed the development to Cricbuzz on Monday on request of anonymity adding that he missed the team bus as he could not get up from his sleep on time. Quite a few eyebrows were raised after Bangladesh opted to play only two pace bowlers against India during their Super



8 clash and decided to drop Taskin from the playing XI. Cricbuzz understands that the BCB decided to keep one official of the touring party in the team hotel after they failed to make contact with the pacer as he was not

picking up the phone. There is wide-scale speculation that head coach Chandika Hathurusingha decided to not pick him in the XI, even though the official begs to differ. "It is true that he (Taskin) joined the team

coach (Chandika Hathurusingha)," he said. "If there was any issue (between coach and the player) how he played the next game against Afghanistan," he said. "He apologized to his team mates and everyone for not being able to get up on time and that's it and no need to make an issue out of it," he added. Bangladesh head coach Hathurusingha was not ready to make any official comment in this regard when contacted by this website as he insisted on focus being on the performances on-field.

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New Delhi: Colin Munro has re-signed for the Big Bash League franchise Brisbane Heat on a multi-year contract until 2026. The swashbuckling left-handed batter from New Zealand had retired earlier this year from international cricket in May, will be available for all matches for the Heat. Munro's contract with Desert Vipers in the T20 meant he wasn't available for the full season of the BBL in the last two years. With this new contract however, he will be there to feature in all the matches, including the finals should Heat make it there. Munro has amassed 10,961 runs in all T20s with a strike rate of 141.25 in 428 matches. In January 2018, he held the



record for being the first player to score three T20I centuries, achieving the feat by scoring 104 off 53 balls against West Indies. He is also the second fastest to 100 T20I sixes in terms of balls faced (963) behind only Evin Lewis. Brisbane Heat, who won the 2023-24 season of the Big Bash, would hope the retention of Munro would help them defend their crown

later this year. Munro said he was excited to be part of the squad and couldn't wait for the opportunities which await him during the summer. "It's a strong squad again and I'm looking forward to being part of what we can build together. There are always opportunities to get better and as a group, we should be excited about the new goals we will pursue this summer."

Sunil Narine, Andre Russell once again central to LA Knight Riders' fate

New Delhi: The LA Knight Riders looked rudderless in the inaugural season of the MLC. Despite a team packed with T20 paragons, a 1-4 win loss record characterised their lacklustre performance on the field. The team went down the doldrums with four defeats in their first four games. What was more disconcerting was the margin of the defeats, including being shot out for 114 and 50 in their first two games. The quality of domestic batting talent was an all pervasive issue for all the MLC teams in the first season. While some managed to perform in patches, the

LAKR domestic batting talent completely flopped. To make matters worse the likes of Martin Gupthill and Jason Roy were unable to make a substantial impact at the top of the order. Long-term KKR loyalists Sunil Narine and Andre Russell remained amongst the runs and wickets but lack of support around them deterred the duo to translate those individual performances into match winning ones. Russell particularly looked at his devastating best with a strike rate close to 160 with an astonishing average of 68 with two



fifties. Narine was as miserly as ever with the ball with an ECON of 6.4. KKR's only saving grace was a Rilee

Roussow blinder that gave the franchise its first taste of victory in the final league game. Rilee Roussow will

make way for his more illustrious countryman David Miller for this season. Jason Roy and a handful of

Englishmen will make a dash stateside at the height of the English cricket summer. Afghanistan wrist

spinner Waqar Salamkheil is expected to bowl in tandem with captain Sunil Narine. Aussie left arm quick Spencer Johnson will spearhead the bowling attack with Josh Little roped in as back up seam option. Andre Russell, Shakib Al Hassan and Alex Carey form the rest of the international contingent. LAKR drafted in TNPL wicket keeper batter Adithya Ganesh as their primary pick at \$75,000 at the domestic draft. Ganesh, who played the TNPL as recently as 2023 qualified as a domestic player based on his immigration on a spousal visa. Unmukt Chand, Saif Badar and

USA batter Nitish Kumar hung onto their spots in the roster despite low returns in the previous season. Chand would especially look to prove a point or two after being overlooked for a home World Cup, in what was fantasised as a great redemption story. USA quicks Ali Khan and Shadley Van Schalkwyk along with Corne Dry bring definite calibre to LAKR's domestic bowling reserves. Probable XI : Jason Roy, Sunil Narine, Unmukt Chand, Nitish Kumar, David Miller, Andre Russell, Adithya Ganesh/ Saif Badar, Corne Dry, Ali Khan, Spencer Johnson, Waqar Salamkheil