

Schools, Colleges In Odisha To Remain Closed On July 8 For Rath Yatra



Bhubaneswar(KCN): All educational institutions in Odisha will remain closed on July 8 for Rath Yatra as the world-famous festival will be held for two days this year.

The School & Mass Education Department and Higher Education Department have issued separate press notes in this regard.

All government, government-aided, and private schools, as well as universities and colleges in Odisha under the Higher Education Department, will be

closed on July 8. July 8 has been declared a public holiday by the State government.

PRESIDENT OF INDIA GRACES THE 96TH DEATH ANNIVERSARY OF U T K A L A M A N I P A N D I T G O P A B A N D H U D A S
The President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu graced the 96th Death Anniversary of Utkalaman Pandit Gopabandhu Das at Bhubaneswar, Odisha today (July 6, 2024).

Speaking on the occasion, the President said it

doesn't matter how long a person lives; rather, what is important is the kind of life he or she lives. That is, the reputation of a person is evaluated based only on his/her contribution to society and country. She stated that it is amazing to think about the number of good deeds Pandit Gopabandhu Das did in his short lifespan. She said that his contribution to the fields of social service, literature, education, and journalism is unforgettable. She paid her tributes to Pandit Gopabandhu Das.

The President said that Pandit Gopabandhu Das knew very well that no society or nation can progress without proper education. That is why he established Muktakash School, also known as Van Vidyalaya, at Satyabadi in Puri district. His approach of introducing students to nature right from the beginning is very important. Pandit Gopabandhu emphasised on holistic development of students through Van Vidyalaya. In his view, education does not mean only bookish knowledge

but, education should develop students physically, mentally, intellectually, and spiritually as well.

The President said that in the year 1919, Pandit Gopabandhu Das started the publication of the Samaj newspaper. Through this publication, he spread the message of freedom in Odisha. He also raised the problems of the people through this newspaper. His editorials in the Samaj have enriched Odia literature. The President said that Pandit Gopabandhu Das believed in nationalism and democratic values. His poems and prose give the message of patriotism and the welfare of the world. He was dedicated to Odia pride as well as Indian nationalism. Pandit Gopabandhu wrote 'Wherever I am in India, I should believe that I am at home'. We should take inspiration from this pan-India thinking of Gopabandhu ji, the President stated.

President Droupadi Murmu arrives in Odisha on four-day visit



Bhubaneswar(KCN): President Droupadi Murmu arrived in Bhubaneswar on a special IAF flight Saturday on a four-day visit to Odisha. Governor Raghubar Das and Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi received her at the Biju Patnaik International Airport. Murmu then went to a programme held on the occasion of the 96th death anniversary of Gopabandhu ji, the President stated.

Odia icon 'Utkalaman' Pandit Gopabandhu Das, who played a pioneering role in the formation of Odisha as a separate state in 1936. Murmu, who hails from Mayurbhanj district of the state, is also scheduled to witness the Rath Yatra in Puri July 7, officials said. She will visit Udayagiri caves and interact with the students of Bibhutti Kanungo College of Art and Crafts and Utkal

University of Culture the next day, they said. The President will inaugurate the Divine Retreat Centre of Brahma Kumaris July 8 at Haridamada village near Bhubaneswar and launch the 'Lifestyle for Sustainability' campaign. Murmu will grace the 13th graduation ceremony of the National Institute of Science Education and Research (NISER) in Bhubaneswar July 9.

'Agyan Mala' Ritual Held On Chariots Ahead Of Puri Ratha Yatra



Puri(KCN): The servitors of Srimandir in Puri on Saturday performed the 'Agyan Mala Bije' rituals for the three chariots ahead of the world-famous Rath Yatra to be celebrated tomorrow.

After bringing the Agyan

Mala from the sanctum sanctorum of the temple, the senior servitors went in a procession to the three chariots of Lord Jagannath, Lord Balabhadra and Devi Subhadra and performed the rituals there. The ritual was performed on

the occasion of 'Ubha Jatra'. With the Agyan Mala Bije ritual, the three chariots—Nandighosa, Taladhwaja and Darpadalana—will move from Ratha Khala to Singha Dwara from where Lord Jagannath along with siblings and Sudarshan will board the chariots towards Gundicha Temple tomorrow.

The preparation is in full swing by the daita servitors and temple administration for 9-day festival of deities. Meanwhile, with a day left for Lord Jagannath's annual sojourn, all arrangements have been made by the administration. Chariot construction work has reached the final stage.

Bhubaneswar(KCN): The high-level committee set up by the Odisha government to supervise the Shree Jagannath Temple Managing Committee in carrying out inventorisation of valuables including jewellery in the 'Ratna Bhandar' will meet July 9 to fix the date for reopening of the temple's treasury. Justice Biswanath Rath, who is the chairman of the high-level committee said this after the committee held its first meeting in Puri Saturday. Speaking to media persons after the meeting, Justice Rath said, "After examining the available documents



and record, it was found that a duplicate key of the Ratna Bhandar is there in the Puri government treasury. So, we have decided to hold another meeting of the panel July 9 to fix the date for the reopening of the Ratna Bhandar." The chief administrator of Shree Jagannath Temple Administration (SJTA), who is the member convenor of the panel, has been asked to produce the duplicate

key of the Ratna Bhandar before the committee in the next meeting, he said. As the inner chamber of the treasury has not been opened for several decades, the lock of the door might not be working. So, keeping it in mind, a SOP will be prepared with the approval of the government to break the lock in such a situation, Rath said. The committee has

observed that the repair work cannot be taken up without shifting the jewellery and other valuable materials stored in the treasury. It was decided in the meeting to ask the temple managing committee to take a decision on proper storage of the jewellery and ornaments during the repair work, he said. Rath said the SOP will also mention the inventorisation of valuables including jewellery immediately after its shifting to a safe place. During the last time, experts from Hyderabad and Chennai were brought for the inventory of the ornaments. So, this time also, the managing

Centre Plans Co-Operative Bank, Milk Producers' Union In Every District



Gandhinagar: Union Cooperation Minister Amit Shah on Saturday said the Centre has set a target to have a co-operative bank and a milk producers' union in each district of the country and also establish in the next five years multipurpose primary agriculture credit societies (PACS) in two lakh panchayats that have no cooperative institution. Addressing the 'Samriddhi' (Prosperity through Co-operation) programme organised to mark the 102nd International Day of Cooperatives, Mr Shah

thanked the Gujarat government for announcing a subsidy of 50 percent on Nano-urea and Nano-DAP and said their use will increase production and save the soil. He said the cooperative sector is making very important contribution in the rural and agricultural

viable district cooperative bank and a viable district milk producers' union. Even today there are two lakh panchayats in the country where there is no cooperative institution. In the next five years, we will work to create multipurpose PACS in these two lakh panchayats," Mr Shah said. The Centre will soon bring a National Cooperative Policy, he said, adding that 1100 new Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) have been formed in the country, and more than 1 lakh PACS have accepted the new

bylaws. The National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) will be able to work for the welfare of more cooperative institutions with the issuance of bonds worth ₹ 2000 crore, Mr Shah said. He urged National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) and state cooperative banks to make arrangements for PACS and other cooperative institutions to open their accounts in the district or state cooperative banks, which will strengthen the cooperative sector and increase capital and confidence.

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman to present Union Budget July 23

New Delhi(KCN): Parliament's Budget Session will be held between July 22 and August 12, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju said Saturday.

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman will present the budget July 23.



Rijiju said, "Hon'ble President of India, on the recommendation of Government of India, has approved the proposal for summoning of both the Houses of Parliament for the Budget Session, 2024 from 22nd July, 2024 to 12 August 2024 (Subject to exigencies of Parliament). This will be the first budget presented by the government led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in its third term amid high anticipation following President Droupadi Murmu's assertion that it will be marked by many historic steps. In her address to a joint sitting of Parliament, she had said major social and economic decisions will be a highlight of the budget. An interim budget was presented in February due to the Lok Sabha polls, which were held in April-June.

75th Van Mahotsav in Astaranga : A Celebration of Greenery and Conservation

Bhubaneswar, (KCN Bureau): The annual tree-planting festival, "Van Mahotsav," observed nationwide across India, was celebrated in the Astaranga forest range under the Puri Wildlife Division, Odisha on Saturday. Spanning from the 1st to the 7th of July, Van Mahotsav aims to propagate awareness regarding forest conservation and environmental preservation. This year marked the 75th celebration of this important event. In the Astaranga forest range under the jurisdiction of the Puri District Wildlife Forest Division, the 75th Van

Mahotsav was organized by the Department of Forests, Environment and Climate Change at the Muhana Muhan Section. The event was conducted under the meticulous supervision of Senior Forester Engineer Sabir Kumar Sahu. The program saw the presence of several dignitaries including Kakatpur MLA Tushar Kanti Behera, Astaranga Block Chairman Arati Nayak, BDO Sasmita Behera, Block Vice-Chairman Durjay Mishra, Range Officer Monalisa Mahapatra, former District Council Chairman Jyotirmaya Dalai and local Sarpanch Kshirod Kandi.



Notably, the event was graced by international award-winning environmentalist Soumya Ranjan Biswal and state

Biju Patnaik Wildlife Awardee Bichitranand Biswal. These prominent figures along with other attendees ceremoniously worshipped trees and participated in the planting of saplings. The involvement of local men and women added to the community spirit and underscored the collective effort towards environmental

sustainability. The purpose of Van Mahotsav is multifaceted. It aims to promote environmental protection, safeguard forests and wildlife and enhance social awareness regarding ecological balance. By planting trees, the event highlights the importance of afforestation and the role of individuals in conserving natural resources. The celebration was well-managed by the dedicated departmental staffs including Forester Kali Charan Mohanty, Forest Guard Subhasis Biswal, Milan Muduli, Sonali Pradhan, Banalata Sahu, Nirmalendu Chatterjee and Dilip Nayak. Their coordinated efforts ensured the smooth execution of the program reflecting the commitment of the Department of Forests, Environment and Climate Change to its conservation goals. Van Mahotsav serves as a reminder of the critical need to protect our environment. As communities come together to plant trees, the festival fosters a sense of responsibility towards nature. The Astaranga event with its significant participation and ceremonial activities, exemplifies the spirit of Van Mahotsav and its enduring relevance in today's world.

EAST COAST RAILWAY APPEALS TO RATH YATRA PILGRIMS FOR SAFE AND SECURE TRAVEL

Bhubaneswar, (KCN): As the auspicious occasion of Rath Yatra approaches, East Coast Railway (ECoR) is gearing up to ensure a safe and hassle-free travel experience for pilgrims. In anticipation of increased passenger traffic during this festive season, ECoR has launched a Special Awareness Drive aimed at enhancing passenger safety in overcrowded trains. Pilgrims and travellers are urged to refrain from risky behaviours such as traveling on footboards, buffers, or rooftops of train compartments. The safety of passengers is the utmost priority of Railways. ECoR also advise pilgrims and passengers not to carry any inflammable items, accepting food or drinks from strangers and touching unattended baggage or suspicious items.

In addition to cautioning passengers, ECoR has enlisted the support of Railway Protection Force (RPF) personnel to enforce crowd control



measures and monitor against anti-social activities. RPF staff and Security personnel are deputed to keep constant watch and to be in vigil in crowded areas,

ensuring the safety and security of all travelers, especially pilgrims and devotees. Recognizing the surge in demand during Rath Yatra, ECoR has

announced the operation of special trains from various parts of Odisha, West Bengal, Chhattisgarh, and Andhra Pradesh, complementing the regular services to Puri. These additional services aim to accommodate the influx of pilgrims attending Rath Yatra, Bahuda Yatra, Sunavesa, and Adharapana Days. To further enhance passenger convenience, ECoR has provided additional ticket counters, enquiry counters, and information centers at key locations. Special amenities including catering services, sanitation facilities, medical assistance booths, and enhanced security arrangements have been put in place to ensure a comfortable journey for all travelers.

ECoR encourages all pilgrims to cooperate with Railway Staff and adhere to safety guidelines during their journey. Let us all come together to make this Rath Yatra a memorable and safe experience for everyone.

DAV, KALINGA NAGAR OBSERVES ITS 28th FOUNDATION DAY 'Vedic values: The best way to live a life of fulfilment'



Bhubaneswar, (KCN): DAV, Kalinga Nagar witnessed a day of fest and jubilation as it observed its 28th Foundation Day in its premises today. As a holy spark to this memorable occasion, a sacred Havan was organized in the school premises early in the morning. It was followed by a Free Health Check Up Camp in collaboration with IMS and SUM Hospital for the parents, grandparents of the students and staff members of the school. Nearly 280 parents including staff went for

the health check up. As a mark of remembrance, the school felicitated the meritorious students of Std.-X and XII board examination on this occasion. In the formal meeting organized in this connection, chairman of the school Sj Madan Mohan Panda extended the official welcome address to the audience. Principal of the school Mr. Balaram Mahapatra praised the achievement of the students in CBSE Class X & XII examination. Attending the chief guest of the occasion, Additional



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Kabir Khan: Cannot underestimate Salman Khan's role in my career



Filmmaker Kabir Khan is currently basking in the success of Chandu Champion, which stars Kartik Aaryan in the lead role, spoke about Salman Khan's role in his career. The two came together for the successful films 'Ek Tha Tiger' and 'Bajrangi Bhaijaan'. While the Tiger franchise was handled well by other filmmakers, many fans have been awaiting to see 'Bajrangi Bhaijaan 2'.

In a recent chat with IndiaToday.in, Kabir acknowledged the desire and shared that he and Salman would only work

again if they cracked the right script.

"If there's a script, I would love to seek Salman, and he too should be excited about it. We have had a fabulous collaboration.

The role he has in my career, I will never be

able to underestimate that. We had a fruitful collaboration and created some iconic characters. I would love to do it

[again] but it has to be

script-based. We cannot just get on any film, as it wouldn't make sense. I cannot just go to him with anything, it has to be something great. And if

we do find that, we would love to get back together," he said.

Kabir Khan also discussed the love the team has been receiving for his latest film 'Chandu Champion'. Sharing that it's 'overwhelming', he admitted that they were anxious about the reception the film might get.

"I have had a few

commercial blockbusters, but I never got this kind of love. It makes you emotional. The way people have picked up small nuances which Kartik and I pulled in, is amazing. People are even

appreciating the other teams, be it cinematography, sound design, or even Pritam's music, it really feels great. This kind of love carries for years, it's for posterity. Every time the film would come on OTT or a TV channel, there would be another wave of love, and that's what makes it special," he added.

Directed by Kabir Khan and produced by Sajid Nadiadwala, 'Chandu Champion' hit cinemas on June 14. The film is based on the life of Paralympic gold medalist Murlikant Petkar.

1 Years Of 'Lootera': Celebrating Ranveer Singh's Unforgettable Performance In This Cinematic Gem



Eleven years ago, 'Lootera' graced the silver screen, marking a significant departure from the mainstream Bollywood fare of its time. Directed by Vikramaditya Motwane and starring Ranveer Singh, 'Lootera' has since evolved into a cult classic, often hailed for its visual splendor but what stands out is Ranveer's win with the expressions in the ocean of silence that spoke more than one said.

Over the years, 'Lootera' has garnered a dedicated following, with audiences and critics alike revisiting the film to appreciate its art and narrative. As

audiences have evolved, so has their appreciation for the brilliance of 'Lootera'. It stands today not just as a film, but as an example of heartfelt storytelling.

Before 'Lootera', Ranveer Singh had

established himself as a vibrant and energetic actor through roles in 'Band Baaja Baaraat' and 'Ladies Vs Ricky Bahl'. These films showcased his youthful charm and on-screen charisma, however, 'Lootera' marked a bold shift in Ranveer's career trajectory.

Taking on the role of Varun, required a nuanced performance that contrasted sharply with his previous performances. And his impressive performance introduced audiences to

the versatility and range the actor possessed as a performer. Now, a cult classic for its ahead of the time, nuanced characterisation, Ranveer still is fondly remembered for the path less taken and winning the love of the audience.

Ranveer effortlessly captured the essence of a complex man haunted by his past. The role demanded a deep understanding of subtle emotions and restraint, qualities that Ranveer brought to the fore with finesse.

Adapting a literary work for the big screen requires a delicate balance, and Ranveer's involvement in 'Lootera' at an early stage in his

career showcased his ambition to explore diverse narratives and the versatility that he brings on the table.

As we celebrate 11 years of 'Lootera', it is evident that the film's legacy continues to grow with Ranveer's character at its center and most importantly, how Varun stands out as a character still celebrated for the brilliance that he brought to the screen, with sincerity and commitment.

A marvel as we look at the many memo characters of Ranveer over the years, as we approach his birthday on 6th July, while marking 'Lootera's anniversary!

Jackie Shroff, Neena Gupta Win Hearts In 'Mast Mein Rehne Ka', Fan Urges Everyone To 'Forget The Archies'



Veteran actor Jackie Shroff has struck another chord with the audience with his family entertainer 'Mast Mein Rehne Ka'. Critics and fans alike are showering love on Jackie for his heartfelt portrayal in this film that explores the highs and lows of life. Sharing the screen with the talented Neena Gupta, reviews highlight the delightful on-screen chemistry between the two seasoned actors. Critics expressed, "Jackie Shroff and Neena Gupta shine as individual performers but

also have great onscreen chemistry. Their random conversations, such as about body hair, are as hilarious as deep ones are heart-touching - Kamath compares his lonely existence to the sea waves crashing against rocks. Jackie is outstanding in a scene towards the end when he has a monologue where he compares human life to a video game."

Another fan added, "A sweet little gem called Mast Mein Rehne Ka released along with Archies. Jackie Shroff and Neena Gupta

Rakhi Sawant in mast mein rehne ka."

Fans have taken to social media to express their admiration for the legendary actor. It is evident that Jackie Shroff's magnetic presence and nuanced performance have made 'Mast Mein Rehne Ka' a

must-watch for those seeking a heartwarming cinematic experience. The legendary actor continues to captivate audiences with his timeless charm and unmatched acting prowess.

In the film, the two will be seen overcoming loneliness in Mumbai city. "I agree today our life has become difficult. Youngsters are facing a lot of problems...there's so much competition out there but we should not take too much stress in our life. Thoda mast mein bhi hona chayie (There

should be some fun too)," Neena Gupta told ANI. Echoing the same sentiments, Jackie Shroff said, "One should maintain a perfect balance in life... be healthy... do yoga, love nature... use technology but use it for good...Everyone is dealing with some kind of problem in their life. it all depends on how one reacts to it... Take care of health."

'Mast Mein Rehne Ka' is now streaming on Prime Video.

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



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

While Triptii Dimri has been garnering acclaim for her portrayal in the film, several reports claimed that Sandeep wasn't convinced that Sara would be able to pull off

the bold scene in the film. He, however, was impressed by Triptii when she auditioned for the role and cast her in the film, claimed the report.

Sara Ali Khan is among

the prominent Bollywood actresses of this generation. She made headlines with her debut in 'Kedarnath' and has been a part of films like 'Atrangi Re', 'Love Aaj Kal', 'Simmba', 'Coolie No 1', 'Luka', 'Gaslight' among others. She was recently seen in 'Zara Hatke Zara Bachke'

opposite Vicky Kaushal. She will be next seen in 'Ae Watan Mere Watan', which will premiere on Amazon Prime Video.

Triptii Dimri played the role of 'Zoya' in 'Animal'. Though she had a small screen time, her role is one of the most talked-about elements of the film. Triptii Dimri spoke about her intimate scenes with Ranbir Kapoor in 'Animal'. She said that Ranbir and Sandeep made sure that she was comfortable doing the scenes. She also mentioned Ranbir coming and checking up on her

every 5 minutes to ensure that she is not feeling awkward.

Triptii made her acting debut in the comedy film 'Poster Boys' (2017) and had her first lead role in the romantic drama 'Laila Majnu' (2018). She gained acclaim for her performances in Anvita Dutt's films 'Bulbbul' (2020) and 'Qala' (2022), before bagging 'Animal'. She has a film with Vicky Kaushal among her upcoming projects. Released on December 1, 'Animal' is getting an overwhelming response from the audience.

ATTACK ON HINDUTVA - PINCHING THE CONGENIALITY OF INDIA



enough to send clear signals. A decade that it lost, the period it was crushed under the powerful Modi regime, has become a bitter memory. Whatever might have been the tactics it played to make this resurgence, the common cause that the members found among themselves to unite was their archenemy, Narendra Modi, whom they systematically portrayed as a dictator. Frankly, the country's electorate do not subscribe to this view. But the Congress and its warmongering friends in the INDIA camp have many reasons for this exultation. As they frequently projected since the election results, a mighty Modi with his clipped wings is no more a threat.

The opposition began to feel that they are entitled to shout out its throat and disrupt the parliament proceedings and that is Indian democracy's perilous dilemma. As voters we have two choices. If this despicable nonsense by the policy makers in the parliament gives you a snigger of

satisfaction, enjoy it. Or withdraw yourself into solitude and shed at least a single tear for your having voted them to the temple of democracy. Should they be allowed to meet you in your respective constituencies after what they have put us through in the parliament? India, the largest democracy, is seriously disconnected with the ground realities. Both houses have become battlefields and revenge is the slogan. Those who lost for three consecutive terms began to display their desperation and the result is they are raucously wild. And those who made resounding victories twice have also reasons to be desperate. Of course, the apparent hysteria on both sides is enough to conceal the reality.

Their relentless sarcasm on each other is a reminder to every citizen. As the world's largest democracy, we have not grown enough in terms of our constitutional responsibility. Except for his blazing presence as the Leader of the Opposition (LOP),

Rahul Gandhi's speech in the parliament was an underperformer's usual plaintive number. His gimmick was too harsh and embarrassing.

Certainly, his presentation was a reflection of his acute intellectual crisis. He should have had the sense of what he had been up to in the parliament as he flashed pictures of divine figures. His statements not only highlighted his unchanged behavior, it also underscored his insensitivity. Arrogantly calling a particular religion in the parliament violent was a deliberate attempt to satisfy his party's vote bank, especially the minorities. The Prime Minister's reply had been direct, and he incrementally hit the opposition with resounding resilience. To what Rahul Gandhi meant by displaying the images of Gods in the parliament, the Prime Minister retorted by saying that images of Gods are not for Pradarshan for petty political gains, but they are for Darshan.

A devotee takes the darshan of the God and for a non-believer it is for Pradarshan (Display).

I thought the opposition, having increased its tally considerably, would present its acts more responsibly. But its performance in the Rajya Sabha was a deplorable repetition of what it did in the Lok Sabha. Borrowing the words of Keir Starmer, Leader of the Labour Party in England, I would say that they have kicked the hope out of people thoroughly. They seemed to have retained their narcissist mindset loaded with contempt and took no notice of democratic values.

The Prime Minister, throughout his speech, had exposed the volatility in their behavior and their double standard and impertinence for constitutional morality.

This behavior of the opposition cannot be an admirable gesture. Distressingly, Sanatan Dharma, which represents almost 80 percent of India's population, is frequently under attack. It has become an international

phenomenon as most of the western views on India are designed and defined to accuse its Hindu ethnicity. And more distressing are the efforts to humiliate it in its birthplace. Rahul Gandhi's understanding of Sanatan Dharma goes against what in real terms it stands for. Imagine India without Sanatan Dharma. We need to understand how deeper its roots of congeniality penetrated and how impactful was its effect that survived for millennia despite external aggression toppling its symbols of civilizational greatness. Therefore, to imagine India without Sanatan Dharma at its center is terribly depressing. Throughout its political journey, the Congress party consistently failed to understand its depth and veracity. It has institutionalized its anti-Hindu stand. Sanatan Dharma or Hindutva is unadulterated nationalism. Its principal view of nationalism stems from the idea of

motherhood. Nation, according to precise, an understanding that went for generations, and even today keeps elevating people to make great sacrifices for their country. Hindutva in principle is this notion, in its highest realm of application. And Rahul Gandhi for obvious reasons, has not been culturally equipped enough to understand this doctrine, which made brave men live and die for this noble cause. So, India, according to Hindutva, is not a tattered landscape which is closely stitched into a union for administrative reasons. But it is a cultural interconnectedness that survived through our rich traditions and practices. Rahul Gandhi seriously failed to know this dimension of India.

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India is facing a big political tussle as the confrontation in the parliament has made it a den of rage and uproar. Rahul Gandhi, being elected as the Leader of the Opposition seems to have given his alliance partners a nudge of confidence. Definitely, their euphoria has a reason. This is mainly due to the opposition's elevated strength and that defines the power and quantum of chaos that the INDIA alliance is vehemently unleashing in the parliament. This unity by the defeated camp seems to tell certain facts. That its failure was real, but it could successfully cut the Modi camp into size and also managed to increase its tally into a credible, viable and powerful group. The members in the group seem to have defined their purpose. The level of disruption and pandemonium by the opposition was

M.R.LALU

phenomenon as most of the western views on India are designed and defined to accuse its Hindu ethnicity. And more distressing are the efforts to humiliate it in its birthplace. Rahul Gandhi's understanding of Sanatan Dharma goes against what in real terms it stands for. Imagine India without Sanatan Dharma. We need to understand how deeper its roots of congeniality penetrated and how impactful was its effect that survived for millennia despite external aggression toppling its symbols of civilizational greatness. Therefore, to imagine India without Sanatan Dharma at its center is terribly depressing. Throughout its political journey, the Congress party consistently failed to understand its depth and veracity. It has institutionalized its anti-Hindu stand. Sanatan Dharma or Hindutva is unadulterated nationalism. Its principal view of nationalism stems from the idea of

motherhood. Nation, according to precise, an understanding that went for generations, and even today keeps elevating people to make great sacrifices for their country. Hindutva in principle is this notion, in its highest realm of application. And Rahul Gandhi for obvious reasons, has not been culturally equipped enough to understand this doctrine, which made brave men live and die for this noble cause. So, India, according to Hindutva, is not a tattered landscape which is closely stitched into a union for administrative reasons. But it is a cultural interconnectedness that survived through our rich traditions and practices. Rahul Gandhi seriously failed to know this dimension of India.

Prasanna bats for quota for state cricketers in IPL

Dr. Ravi Chaturvedi



hoped that local players would have ample opportunities to showcase their skills on a mega stage.

As the Indian Premier League (IPL) continued to captivate millions of cricket fans around the world, there has been a persistent call for the inclusion of local talent in the league. However, as Prasanna pointed out, the dynamics of investment and returns took precedence. "When the IPL started, many believed that local players would get opportunities."

"However, the reality is driven by investment and returns. No franchise will invest money without expecting a return, and the



this missed opportunity, Prasanna acknowledged the invaluable contributions that foreign players have made to the league. "What foreign

players have brought to the IPL is the standard of fielding. It may be recalled that Prasanna, the legendary off-spinner used to cast a web with his flight and trajectory on the

others in the quartet was the fact that he always had complete control over the flight, which made him a very difficult person to pick even on even the most placid pitches. In 58 Tests, he picked up 242 wickets at an average of 29.74 in 58 Tests.

Ian Chappell, a highly talented dogged Australian batter regards Erapalli Prasanna as the best slow bowler he faced, and Prasanna retains healthy respect for Chapple's main lethal weapon.

Prasanna was often said to be a chess player in the body of a spinner; a man who outthought his victims well before reaching his delivery stride. What separates him from

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

Congress demands CM Mann's resignation over the collapse of law and order in Punjab

Chandigarh (JAG MOHAN THAKEN), July 6: Arshpreet Singh Khadial, the Chief Spokesperson of the Punjab Pradesh Congress Committee (PPCC), has called for Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann's resignation, citing his tenure of over two years as a period marked by the decline and downfall of the state across multiple areas.

Khadial on Saturday organized a press conference in Chandigarh to address the pressing issues currently plaguing Punjab.

In his address, Khadial expressed deep concern over the deteriorating law and order situation in the state. He highlighted a series of recent incidents

that have left the citizens of Punjab alarmed and questioning their safety. "These are scary times in Punjab with the state facing back-to-back law and order incidents. The attack on the Shiv Sena leader in broad daylight in Ludhiana has been shocking and has made the entire state wonder about the law-and-order situation in Punjab," Khadial stated.

Khadial did not mince words in his critique of Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann's administration. He called for CM Mann's resignation, citing his tenure of over two years as a period marked by the decline and downfall of the state across multiple areas. "Instead

of governing the state and working for its betterment, Bhagwant Mann is staying in Jalandhar due to the upcoming by-elections in Jalandhar West. I would like to ask, is Bhagwant Mann the CM of Punjab or a representative of only Jalandhar?" questioned Khadial. He further emphasized the growing discontent among the people of Punjab towards the Aam Aadmi Party government. "The Punjab CM can try his best, but it is clear that the people of Punjab have gotten fed up. Their bold claims of 13-0 in Lok Sabha elections by the AAP have failed to win only 3 seats, a similar image is set to be seen following

the by-elections in Punjab," Khadial predicted.

Khadial painted a grim picture of the current state of Punjab, noting the lack of investment, industry, and infrastructure. He attributed the decline in employment and the



Bhagwant Mann-led AAP government for diverting attention from their shortcomings by blaming the administration.

He also addressed the pressing issue of brain drain, where the youth of Punjab prioritize migrating abroad over staying in the state due to the lack of job opportunities.

"Even though the situation abroad isn't fruitful, people still prefer that over staying in Punjab. This has all been caused due to the incompetence and inexperience of the Aam Aadmi Party, a party which has not worked throughout the last two years but only focused on false branding and marketing," Khadial said. Khadial criticized the

AAP government for diverting attention from their shortcomings by blaming the administration.

He noted that such accusations have severely impacted the morale of the police force.

"Instead of focusing on their own shortcomings, the AAP government has focused on pushing the blame on the administration with the blame of the drug menace on the Punjab Police, by claiming that the police force is hand in glove with the drug peddlers. Such incidents have led to a serious drop in morale of the police," he added.

Highlighting the discrepancy in security measures, Khadial pointed out that AAP leaders continue to receive security while those facing real threats are ignored.

Arshpreet Singh Khadial called for immediate action and accountability from the current administration.

He urged the citizens of Punjab to remain vigilant and demand better governance to restore peace, stability, and progress in the state.

"It is time for the people of Punjab to rise and demand the leadership they deserve. We cannot afford to let incompetence and negligence dictate our future," he concluded.

Empowering Women, Enhancing Futures: WICCI's Finance Talk Breaks Barriers and Builds Bridges

Kolkata (PARTHA ROY): In present time, every woman needs basic and advance knowledge and understanding on finance to prudently manage her personal and family finance and assets as well as secure the finance & assets every day. Money matters every life every day. A talk titled "Finease: Navigate finance with ease" by Ms. Sireesha Kadiyala was organised by Women's Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (WICCI) [Eastern Regional



Council] and All Ladies League (ALL) in Kolkata on 2nd July, 2024. ALL Ladies League (ALL) is a multinational movement of Global Sisterhood. Ms. Sireesha Kadiyala

is a trainer on finance and part of Millennium Mams a Kolkata based a global entity—dedicated to educating and empowering women in financial literacy.

Sireesha Kadiyala

emphasized need to make informed decisions about creating, managing, and protecting their financial portfolios with practical awareness.

Smt. Indu Gandhi Chairperson ALL

introduced Ms. Sireesha Kadiyala.

Smt. Manjula Jain Chairperson WICCI's Eastern Regional Council in her welcome address emphasized need for every woman to be aware about her finance, usage & optimisation of return on investment, as well as to be financially independent.

In a fast changing financial landscape, awareness on various aspects of finance and assets is crucial for managing as well as securing all available finance and assets .

ISKCON's three Vice Presidents - Radharaman Das, Vallava Chaitanya Das, Ananga Mohan Das (Chairman of ISKCON 'Kolkata Yatra and Dayaram Das (Temple President).

The founder Acharya of I S K C O N , Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada, started the first Rathayatra in the western world was organized in San Francisco on July 9, 1967, by Srila Prabhupada. Since then, the festival has spread to many other countries. By 1975, it had become so popular that the Mayor of San Francisco issued a formal proclamation celebrating Rathayatra Day.

Lord Jagannath, along with His Divine siblings, Balabhadra and Subhadra Devi will stay at Brigade Parade Ground from July 8 to 14, 2024, where a

grand mela is being organized. Hot kichadi prasadam will be served daily from 3:30 pm to 8:30 pm. Prominent artists from India and abroad, including Padma award-winning dancers, will perform daily. Cultural programs, including dance, drama, kirtans, shadow dance, and pravachans will be held daily.

West Bengal Chief Minister Smt. Mamata Banerjee will inaugurate a park with water body which is named after Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada on 7th July opposite ISKCON Albert Road in Kolkata

Two-week Training Program for media professionals from Sri Lanka concludes

Hyderabad, July 6 (KCN): "In this rapidly evolving media landscape, the role of Media and Public Relations Officers is more critical than ever. The Training Program is of immense significance in today's context when we find ourselves amidst a profound transformation in the world of media and communication, driven by technological advancements," said Director General of Dr Marri Chenna Reddy Human Resource Development (Dr MCR HRD) Institute Dr Shashank Goel. Participating as the chief guest at the valedictory of the two-week training programme sponsored by the Ministry of External Affairs under Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) programme on 'Media Management' for Media

Professionals from Sri Lanka on Saturday, Dr Shashank Goel said, "It is of pertinent importance for the Media Professionals to keep their skill sets, current and up-to-date, by adopting a proactive approach to continuous learning and professional development." Calling upon the media professionals to embrace innovation while staying true to their core values of honesty, integrity, and accountability, Dr Goel said that to empower the media professionals to survive in this fast changing scenario, the Institute made a deliberate attempt to equip them with the new skill set and required competencies and, towards this, a number of sessions on topics of

immense importance were conducted by senior-most professionals from print, electronic, and social media. Stating that the training program was not confined to mere classroom lectures, but involved subject-related field visits to T-Hub, Deccan Development Society at Zaheerabad, Ramoji Film City, Integrated Command and Control Centre of Hyderabad Police, he detailed that visits were also organised to places of cultural and historical importance at Hyderabad and Warangal. He further stated that the media professionals were also taken to Nagarjunasagar to visit Nagarjunakonda and Buddhavaram of great significance for Buddhists. He hoped that the training programme would further strengthen the media capabilities of the trainee officers and would also enrich the centuries old bilateral relations between India and Sri Lanka. Speaking on the occasion, Media Advisor to Prime Minister of Sri Lanka and

participant in the training programme Sugeeswara P Senadhira said that a fusion of lectures, followed by an array of relevant field visits, was greatly instrumental in fully understanding different aspects of media management in their true and total frame of reference. Course Director and Head of CLP and CIS Dr Madhavi Ravulapati said that in 2006-07, the ITEC Program of the Ministry of External Affairs offered training to about 4000 participants from its partner-developing countries. However, in the current financial year, this number went up to a whopping over 11,000 participants. Dr Madhavi thanked Dr MCR HRD Institute for offering training programs for a global audience under the ITEC Programme. Prof Abbas Ali also spoke on the occasion.

Today, ISKCON

Near Threatened fish Chitala conservation started through river ranching programme at Farakka

KOLKATA, (KCN): ICAR-Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute, Barrackpore continues its mega 'National Ranching Programme-2024' under National Ganga Programme at Farakka, West Bengal for the conservation and restoration of river Ganga. The main objective of the river ranching is to replenish the depleted fish stocks of river Ganga. Chitala is Near Threatened fish species under IUCN Red

List. On 5th July, 2024, ICAR-CIFRI rached 50,000 Chitol fish seed at Farakka, West Bengal. Along with Chitala 3 lakhs Rohu, Kayla and Mrigal fish seed and 10 tagged Hilsa fish have been rached under NMCG project. In continuation of this, an awareness programme was also organized on that day at Farakka under the presence of Dr Basanta Kumar Das, Director CIFRI and PI NMCG project, Mr. Rajan Varshney and Mr.

25 LOCAL CITIZENS AWARDED CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION AT 'URI KI UDAAN' AWARDS CEREMONY AT URI

Srinagar, (KCN): A unique initiative called "Uri Ki Udaan" was organised by the Indian Army at Govt Degree College, Uri. The event saw felicitation of 25 local citizens, young men, women and others, who were awarded Certificate of Appreciation in recognition of their invaluable contribution across various fields primarily to include Women Empowerment,

Education, Sports, Art & Culture and Environment. The contribution of each of the achievers were highlighted and were referred as 'Heroes of Uri'. They were encouraged to continue

their good work for the betterment of the society and the region of Uri. The harmony and brotherhood among the people of Uri was lauded during the address. The awards ceremony was held in the presence

of a large gathering of eminent people from various walks of life from Uri and adjoining places including senior military officials, Sub Judge of Uri, Vice Principal GDC, SDPO, BMO and Tehsildar. The felicitation ceremony was complimented by a cultural kaleidoscope in which the rich heritage of the region was showcased by the dance performance of



Meva Ram, DGM, NTPC, Farakka. Dr. Das highlighted the riverine pollution particularly about the plastics pollution in the river and urged people for holistic conservation. The efforts of ICAR-CIFRI will help in boosting the livelihood of then local fishers beside conservation of native fish germplasm. The river ranching was supported by the local fishermen. More than 60 fishermen participated the programme.

PMAY goes haywire in Rayagada

Rayagada(KCN): The Centre sponsored housing scheme Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY) has allegedly gone haywire in the tribal-dominated Rayagada district as over 862 beneficiaries have failed to build a house despite receiving work orders. The unavailability of land for the beneficiaries is said to be the chief cause behind this. The Union government launched the PMAY housing scheme in 2015 to provide pucca houses to poor households in the country.

Officials said the Centre has been conducting surveys in rural areas to identify poor to very poor people and bring them

under the housing scheme. Villagers of Haladipada in JKpur alleged that the actual beneficiaries have failed to get the benefits of the scheme while work orders for the construction of houses are issued to only those who pay bribe. Moreover, many beneficiaries have received work orders but they are unable to carry out construction due to unavailability of land.

Reports said as many as 862 beneficiaries were identified in 2021 and work orders were issued but they are unable to proceed as land is not available. As per government norms, the District Rural Development Agency (DRDA) which manages



and oversees the implementation of various anti-poverty programmes identifies the landless and submits the list to the tehsil office. The beneficiaries construct their houses after the tehsildar reviews the list

and provides government land for the purpose, an official of the DRDA said. He, however, said that they are regularly writing letters to the tehsil office but without any success. When contacted, Nihar

Ranjan Kanhar, executive officer of DRDA and Rayagada Zilla Parishad said that there were 2,868 landless beneficiaries in the district before he took charge. However, the number has come down to 862 after he repeatedly raised the issue in Revenue Department meetings and wrote to the tehsildars to expedite the matter.

Similarly, 26,647 beneficiaries have been issued work orders in 2021-22 FY. However, 13,643 houses have been completed while 13,004 are incomplete. A maximum of 1,951 houses have remained incomplete in Kalyansinghpur block, 152 in Bissam Cuttack, 652 in Chandrapur, 752 in Gudari, 870 in Gunupur, 1,206 in Kashipur, 1,510 in Kolnara, 1,530 in Muniguda, 710 in Padmapur, 550 in Ramnaguda and 1,553 in Rayagada. It has become a difficult task to transport building materials to the hilly regions in the district,

DRDA executive officer Kanhar said. "However, we are regularly conducting meetings and making efforts to complete the houses in the given time period," he added. Rayagada MLA Appalaswamy Kadraka alleged several beneficiaries in rural areas have been deprived of a house under PMAY.

People are being harassed during transfer of money for construction while funds are not being released to the actual beneficiaries within the time frame. He however, assured to take up the matter with concerned officials and raise the issue in the state Assembly

Odisha to create dedicated force to handle natural disasters: CM

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Odisha government will initiate steps to create a dedicated force and raise the number of Odisha Disaster Rapid Action Force (ODRAF) from existing 20 units to 30 units to handle natural disasters, Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi said.

Majhi who chaired the state Natural Disaster Committee meeting on Thursday said, ODRAF is the first state level Disaster Response Force in the country which is considered as the best force at the all India level.

He said the ODRAF has brought laurels for the state in effectively handling natural disasters both in the state and outside the state.

The Chief Minister said the Home Department will be asked to raise the ODRAF strength from 20 units to 30 units and create a Dedicated Force to meet any eventualities during the natural calamities.

Majhi said keeping the Bahanaga train tragedy



in view, steps will be taken to create five Regional Fire Service Hubs in the state to handle such types of accidental calamities. He said the state government will emphasize zero casualties while managing the natural disasters and calamities.

The Chief Minister said the south west monsoon had already set in and the state is expecting heavy rains, floods and cyclones till October next.

Accordingly, a proper review meeting should be held and the administration has to be on alert to face the situation and initiate steps in advance for relief and rescue operation, drinking water problems and health care facilities.

The ODRAF and the Fire Service Units, he said should remain alert and 24

X7 control room should operate in various departments at the block and district level.

The Chief Minister said efficiency of the Fire Services has been strengthened with Rs.394 crores from the State Disaster Response Fund and another Rs 200 crore would be arranged for the purpose.

Majhi also directed the Health Department to keep sufficient anti venom injection at the health centres keeping in view the possibilities of snake bite cases during the rainy season.

The review meeting discussed the measures to control artificial flooding during torrential rainfall in urban areas in the state.

The Chief Minister also directed the concerned departments to

undertake necessary repair of weak embankments and clean the drains in the municipalities.

He said long-term measures will be taken to manage artificial flooding in Cuttack, Bhubaneswar and other cities on a long-term basis with the technical assistance of the IIT, Deemed to be Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC), Majhi said, would prepare a Rs.200 crore proposal for flood management in the city.

State Revenue and Disaster Management Minister Suresh Pujari conducted the meeting attended by MPs MLAs and other senior officials. Special Relief Commissioner Satyabrata Sahu briefed the meeting about the preparedness to deal with the possible flood situation.

The review meeting discussed the measures to control artificial flooding during torrential rainfall in urban areas in the state.

Odisha to plant 5 crore saplings under 'Ek Ped, Maa Ke Naam' campaign

Bhubaneswar(KCN): The Odisha government has set a target to plant five crore saplings under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 'Ek Ped, Maa Ke Naam' initiative, Chief Minister Mohan Majhi said here Friday.

"The 'Ek Ped, Maa Ke Naam' campaign is going on across the country including Odisha. Under it, any person can plant a sapling and upload the photos," he said.

The CM said 1.48 lakh photos have been uploaded in Odisha so far under this campaign, the highest in the country, while Kerala is at second position.

Majhi said this while addressing at the state-level 75th 'Bana Mahotsav', a tree planting festival here at



Government High School, Dumuduma. "As Odisha's population is four-and-a-half-crore, we should plant at least an equal number of trees in this campaign," he said. He called everyone to get more involved in this programme and upload photos by planting trees.

Majhi asked the district collectors and divisional forest officers (DFOs) to conduct joint monitoring for the success of the programme. The state forest department has also decided to plant 19 lakh palm trees to check lightning strikes and resultant fatalities in the state. The trees will be planted in all forest blocks of the state, he said. Majhi announced that

cherry blossom trees are being planted in Daringbadi, Kandhamal district, with the goal of placing the district on the global cherry blossom map. He emphasized the critical importance of environmental balance for everyone, stating, "If we are all vigilant, we can mitigate environmental changes."

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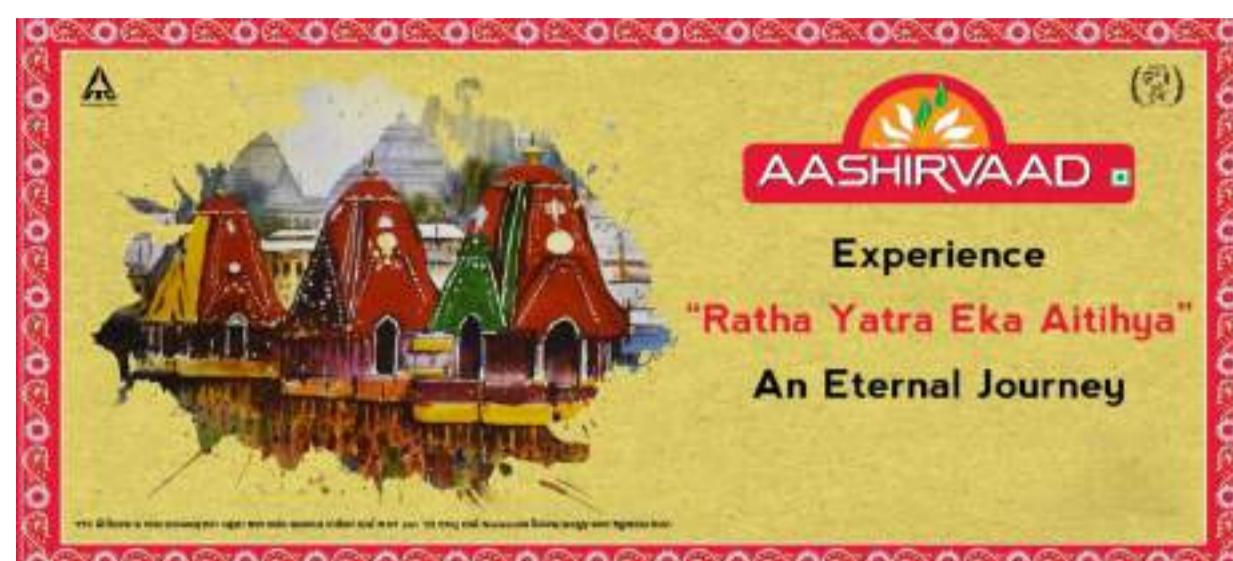


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Aashirvaad Brings alive 'Rath Yatra through the Ages'

Bhubaneswar : The Rath Yatra festival, a jewel in the crown of Odisha's rich cultural heritage, has been a symbol of tradition and faith for centuries. In the last few years, Aashirvaad Atta, India's Number 1 atta brand, has been blending innovation with tradition through its unique initiatives around Rath Yatra.

This year, Aashirvaad Atta presents 'Rath Yatra - Eka Aitiya', an initiative that promises to be a journey through time, showcasing the evolution of Rath Yatra since the 1100s AD to the present date through an immersive 3 screen technology. The brand's stall, set up on the bustling Grand Road, will be adorned with the vibrant traditional art of Patachitra. This ancient art form, known for its



intricate details and mythological narratives through the handlooms of Ikkat, Sambalpuri, Kotki, and Bomkai, each telling a story of their own.

In a unique blend of the virtual and the real, Aashirvaad will recreate the sacred

Rath pulling experience. This digital simulation is designed to be inclusive, allowing those who find the physical act of pulling the chariot challenging to partake in the ritual.

The immersive experience crafted by Aashirvaad Atta is poised to be more than

just a consumer attraction. It is an embodiment of devotion, a warm embrace of the festival's spirit that promises to deliver an experience to remember. 'Rath Yatra - Eka Aitiya' honors the timeless legacy of

Orissa's Rath Yatra. One can visit Aashirvaad activation near Bada Sankha More at Grand Road, Puri and embark on an unforgettable journey of devotion and innovation.

The stall will be open for visitors from 7th July to 15th July 2024.

IDEIMITSU Honda Racing India's Kavin Quintal clinches 11th position in hard fought battle at the 2024 FIM Asia Road Racing Championship in China



NEW DELHI: AP250 class Race 1 of Round 2: A Consistent performance throughout the race resulted in Kavin crossing the chequered line in 11th position, winning 5 points for the team. Mohsin P finished the race in 20th position.

Zhuhai International Circuit (China), 20 April 2024: Making a significant mark

in one of the toughest races of Asia, the IDEIMITSU Honda Racing India team rider Kavin Quintal achieved another milestone in race 1 of round 2 of the 2024 FIM Asia Road Racing Championship (ARRC) in China today.

Maintaining steadiness and displaying finesse in an intense race, Kavin Quintal competed well

and bagged another TOP 15 finish this season. Displaying his best performance in the race, young rider Kavin Quintal gave strong competition to the international riders. Starting from 15th on the grid, Kavin began advancing in the initial laps. He maintained his composure and a steady pace throughout. In the final laps, he applied his learnings well

and accelerated fast at the opportune moment, crossing the chequered line in 11th position without making any mistakes on the track. He completed the race with a total time of 19:03.094, earning five valuable points for the team. Kavin's teammate, Mohsin P, also showcased his full power on the racetrack today. Starting the race from the 23rd position, he

competed fiercely and maintained his pace well to avoid any mistakes or crashes on the track. He finished the race in 20th position with a total time of 19:25.863. However, at this position, he scored no points for the team. "I am satisfied with my performance today. China's track is new to me, and my focus was to maintain positive momentum throughout. After witnessing multiple crashes on the track, my goal was to finish the race without making any mistakes and earn points for the team. Today, my previous learnings and the guidance from my instructors supported me in meeting all the challenges. With today's score, we are motivated and hopeful for better results tomorrow."

I was expecting better results today. In the initial laps, I was confident and throttled well to secure a better position. However, the plan didn't work as per my expectations today. I am happy that Kavin performed well and earned points for the team. Taking today's learnings, I will enhance my strategies for tomorrow's race and expect better results."

TPSODL issues guidelines for the Festive Season

TPSODL
TP SOUTHERN ODISHA
DISTRIBUTION LIMITED

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

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

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

festive season.

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

These teams will also vigilantly ensure that there is no unauthorized hooking or access to TPSODL lines, guaranteeing a festive filled with uninterrupted joy. TPSODL's 24x7 Call Centre, in conjunction with our Social Media Monitoring

Unit, is tirelessly working round the clock to promptly address and resolve any complaints. In case of emergencies or concerns, we encourage to contact our toll-free helpline at 1912 or 1800 3456 797, or visit the nearest Fuse Call

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

Capri Global Capital Ltd announces Stock Split and 1:1 bonus

Mumbai (KCN): Board of directors of Capri Global Capital Ltd (CGCL), a diversified Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFC) with a presence across diverse segments like MSME, Affordable Housing, Construction Finance segments among others has approved stock split and 1:1 bonus issue. The company board also approved issuance of Non-Convertible Debentures through Public issue/private placement for an amount up to Rs. 500 crore in tranches.

The Board of directors at its meeting held on January 27 has approved sub-division of one equity share of the face value of Rs. 2 each fully paid-up into two equity shares of the face value of Re. 1 each fully paid-up. Company board also approved 1:1 bonus issue i.e. one new fully paid-up bonus equity share of face value of Re. 1 each for every one fully paid-up equity share of face value of Re. 1. Company has fixed the record date as Tuesday, March 5, 2024, for the stock split and bonus, subject to the approval of shareholders at the ensuing Extra-ordinary General Meeting of the Company scheduled to be held on Thursday, February 22, 2024.

For the Q3FY24 company has reported net profit of Rs. 68 crore, rise of 81.7% Y-o-Y from the net profit of Rs. 37.4 crore reported in Q3FY23. Asset under management of the company rise 54.4% to Rs. 13,362.1 crore as on Q3FY24, rise of 54.4% Y-o-Y from Rs. 8,654.5 crore in Q3FY23.

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

Mumbai: BOB Financial Solutions Limited (BFSL), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Bank of Baroda (BoB) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd. (HPCL) – a Maharatna Central Public Sector Enterprise in partnership with National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), have announced the launch of HPCL BoBco-branded contactless RuPay Credit Card. The card is designed to reward customers for spends at HPCL fuel pumps as well

as the HP Pay app. It also offers accelerated rewards for spends on utilities, grocery and departmental stores. This card can be used across merchants and ATMs globally through the JCB network.

Cardholders of HPCL BoBco-RuPay Contactless Credit Card will be able to earn up to 24 reward points (per INR 150 spent) for spends at HPCL fuel pumps and on the HP Pay app. In addition, cardholders will also benefit from 1% Fuel

Surcharge Waiver on fuel purchases at HPCL pumps or on HP Pay. Customers who spend INR 5,000 or more within 60 days of card issuance will get 2,000 bonus reward points.

The co-branded credit card will offer 10 reward points (per INR 150 spent) on utilities, grocery and departmental stores and 2 reward points on other categories. The card also offers attractive discount on movie ticket bookings.

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

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

Upadhyay, and General Manager, Sales & Distribution, Mr Ranit Rana.

Commending the development, Chairman, SCTEVT and Principal Secretary to Government, SDTE and Industries Departments, Shri Hemant Sharma (IAS) said, "This collaboration with Jindal Stainless will enhance the learning experience for students and faculty both, as it will give them insights about and practical exposure to the stainless steel industry."

CAPRI
GLOBAL CAPITAL LTD

Company has inducted Mr. L V Prabhakar, Mr. Shishir Priyadarshi, and Ms. Nupur Mukherjee as additional independent directors on its Board of Directors subject to shareholder approval. Capri Global is a diversified Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFC) with a presence across diverse and high growth segments like MSME, Affordable Housing, Construction Finance segments, and Car Loan distribution. Company also forayed into Gold Loans in Aug 22. Company is promoted by first generation entrepreneur, Mr. Rajesh Sharma and listed on BSE and NSE. With 917 branches in 14 states & UTs across North and West India and over 10,150 employees, company has reported AUM of Rs. 124 billion in Q2FY24. Promoter Group holds 69.89% stake in the company as on 31st Dec 2023. Going forward company is targeting AUM of Rs. 300 billion and earning target of mid-tear ROE over medium term with a strong focus on the business segments including Gold Loan, Affordable Housing and MSME loans.

On 16th January 2024, company received a composite Corporate Agency license from the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) in December 2023 to distribute life, general, and health

insurance products. Company has also emerged as the Most Consistent Wealth Creator in the 28th Annual Wealth Creation Study Report (2018-2023) released by Motilal Oswal. It has outperformed the BSE Sensex in all the last 5 years, and has the highest price CAGR of 50%. It is also among the fastest wealth creators in the period. During the period of 2018-2023, company has reported robust CAGR of 26% in Net Profit and 33% in Sales. With the excellent consistent growth in the financials, share price of the company went up by 7.6 times during 2018-2023.

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Pakistan home season: Tests against Bangladesh, England and WI announced

New Delhi: In a throwback to the ODI format of the 1990s and early 2000s, Pakistan is all set to host New Zealand and South Africa for a short tri-series that shall feature three round-robin games and a final. While the Associate nations actively play tri-series and quadrangular tournaments, multi-national tournaments outside the ICC events has been a rarity among the full-member nations. The tri-series is just a sample of what will be a packed 2024-25 season for Pakistan. They will be hosting Bangladesh, England and West Indies for Tests before the aforementioned tri-series.

After the home commitments are done with, Pakistan will

Australia, Zimbabwe and South Africa. While the trips to Down Under and Zimbabwe are a white-ball visits with three ODIs and as many T20Is apiece, the tour of South Africa shall also include two Tests. Pakistan's home season is scheduled to kick off from August 21 with the two-match Test series against Bangladesh followed by three Tests against England in October. This will be followed by the away tours after which the tri-series will be held in February 2025 as a precursor to the Champions Trophy that Pakistan are hosting.

PCB chairman Mohsin Naqvi appeared upbeat about Pakistan's upcoming season and hoped that the schedule would help to increase the competitive levels of the national side across



all formats. "It was critically important for us to finalise, lock and announce our 2024-25 home international cricket

season now. This ensures that both the men's cricket team managements and the PCB event staff have

sufficient time to prepare, plan and deliver these series to our very high expectations and standards, showcasing

Pakistan as an outstanding cricket nation and the PCB as a thoroughly professional organisation.

"By announcing the complete schedule of home international matches, we are also inviting and encouraging our passionate local and traveling cricket supporters to plan their holidays. They will not only be entertained with some exciting and intense cricket, but also have the opportunity to explore this beautiful country, which has so much to offer," said Naqvi.

"These series are a vital part of our strategy to strengthen Pakistan's position in international cricket and ensure long-term sustainability for the sport in our country. Through the 2024-25 home international cricket season, the PCB aims to promote, grow and develop the game by attracting new fans and audiences.

This is also an excellent opportunity to commercially leverage the series and maximise revenue generation, which will be reinvested into player welfare, infrastructure development and enhancing the profile of our domestic and women's cricket.

"The visits by five top cricket playing nations in the lead-up to the ICC Champions Trophy 2025, followed by seven countries participating in the event proper over the next eight months, also highlight Pakistan's standing and stature in international cricket. We deeply value the participation of these teams and players, who will bring immense talent and competitive spirit to our fields," added the PCB chairman.

Rashid and Boult set up winning start for MI New York

New Delhi: Defending Champions MI New York got off to a winning start in the opening game of MLC 2024 with a comprehensive six-wicket win over the Seattle Orcas in Morrisville. Having won an important toss on a tacky pitch, MI New York had star bowlers Rashid Khan and Trent Boult taking three wickets apiece to bowl the Orcas out for 108. This paltry total was then chased down in 14.2 overs with Nicholas Pooran hitting a 37-ball 62*.

As is now customary, Boult picked a first-over wicket when he had Nauman Anwar nicking off to a delivery angling across him. The left-arm bowler struck again in his next over to dismiss the dangerous Quinton de



Kock, whose attempted whip to a full delivery ballooned up off a leading edge and nestled in the gloves of the keeper, Pooran. Rashid, introduced into the attack in the last over of the PowerPlay, got himself going with a full delivery that Aaron Jones missed with his attempted sweep and was adjudged LBW. A bigger wicket followed for Rashid, who won an

important duel against Heinrich Klaasen, the South Africa miscuing a pull straight to deep mid-wicket. The Orcas kept stumbling through the knock with only Shubham Ranjane adding any notion of respectability to the scorecard with a 31-ball 35. He became the third of Rashid's wickets. Boult matched that with a third wicket of his own while captain Kieron

Pollard grabbed two wickets as the Orcas folded with four balls still left in their innings. MINY's chase got off to a wobbly start as openers Ruben Clinton and Monank Patel fell cheaply to Cameron Gannon. Pooran though went about the chase in counter-attacking fashion, stitching a 41-run stand in which his partner for the third wicket, Shayam Jahangir, managed only 3 off 8. The Caribbean T20 star smashed seven fours and two sixes and saw his team over the line with 34 balls to spare.

Brief scores: Seattle Orcas 108 in 19.2 overs (Shubham Ranjane 35; Rashid Khan 3-22, Trent Boult 3-25) lost to MI New York 111/4 in 14.2 overs (Nicholas Pooran 62*; Cameron Gannon 2-40) by six wickets.

Ronaldo, who had broken into tears after



missing the penalty in the previous game, held things together as the players around him were inconsolable after the team's exit from the tournament.

France secured a nail-biting win over Portugal via penalties, which marked a bitter-end to Cristiano Ronaldo's Euro 2024 journey. After a

Hernandez struck the winning penalty in a 5-3 shootout win against Portugal to reach the semi-finals of Euro 2024 where they will meet Spain. Joao Felix missed for Portugal during the shootout which came after the match finished 0-0 following extra time. Both teams missed a string of chances in 120 minutes of open play at the Volksparkstadion, the best chance falling to Cristiano Ronaldo in the first period of extra time when he skied over from close range.

France's Kylian Mbappe looked uncomfortable in a mask he was wearing for a broken nose and was substituted during extra time.

France will play Spain in Munich on Tuesday for a chance to reach the July 14 final.

Brits, Kapp help South Africa end losing run

New Delhi: Tazmin Brits and Marizanne Kapp came up with fine knocks as they set up South Africa's 12-run win in the opening T20I against India in Chennai on Friday (July 5). Brits (81 off 56) and Kapp (57 off 33) put on a 96-run stand for the second wicket of only 56 balls as it served as the backbone for South Africa's 189/4 after they were put in to bat. In reply, India started well thanks to Smriti Mandhana's brisk 46 but South Africa pulled things back well in the middle overs. Jemimah Rodrigues later struck an unbeaten 53 off 30 but her knock went in vain as India were restricted to 177/4, helping South Africa get their first win of the tour.

"Definitely we didn't play good cricket overall. Dropped too many

chances in the field, played too many dot balls in the middle overs," summed up Harmanpreet Kaur, speaking to the broadcaster after the match. India put down the catches of Kapp and Brits, allowing them to post a big partnership and capitalise in the middle overs. In contrast, the wicket of Mandhana pulled India back in the middle overs and despite Rodrigues batting well, Harmanpreet's struggle meant that they had a lot to do in the end and couldn't catch up. Laura Wolvaardt started with a lofted four off Renuka Singh in the opening over to get off the mark and targeted the same bowler in her next over, striking a six and two fours to take 16 off the over. The two batters also struck a six apiece in the 7-15 overs period, extending their

partnership past 50, as they set it up nicely for a flourish in the death overs. Both Asha Sobhana and Renuka proved expensive, with the latter finishing with 0 for 42 from her four overs. Brits and Kapp both brought up fifties with a boundary each off Vastrakar in the 16th over. Meanwhile, Richa Ghosh, who put down a catch of Brits, was struck

with 14 coming off the over. Brits then hit two fours off Deepti while Chloe Tryon struck a maximum as the experienced spinner conceded 18. Asha Sobhana bowled a quiet 19th over and Vastrakar did well in the final over despite being hit for a four by Brits. But despite only 12 coming off the last two overs, South Africa posted a hefty total.

It was a racy start from India who posted 17 more than what South Africa managed in their powerplay, thanks to Smriti Mandhana's blazing start as she extended her good form in the series. She scored 31 of the 61 that India managed in the powerplay, which included a six apiece off Nadine de Klerk and Eliz-mari Marx to go with

her four fours. Shafali Verma also played in a brisk fashion, with the openers raising the half-century stand in five overs, before the right-handed opener fell to Ayabonga Khaka in the sixth over. Meanwhile, Brits had to be stretchered off the field after due to a right lower leg contusion.

Mandhana and Dayalan Hemalatha built a steady partnership, although the latter scored at less than a run-a-ball. Mandhana, though, was striking it well and was looking good for yet another fifty-plus score in this series. But she fell to Tryon four short of half-century as South Africa picked up an important wicket. Hemalatha's struggle was ended by de Klerk in the next over as she was bowled trying to play across the line. Rodrigues



on her face as the ball deflected off her gloves. She suffered a concussion and was ruled out of the rest of the game, with Uma Chetry taking the gloves and S Sajana later being brought in as a concussion substitute. Kapp's outing came to an end in the 17th over as she fell to Radha but the spinner ended up being hit for two sixes by Brits,

hit regular boundaries, including three in an over off Marx, while Harmanpreet struggled a bit with her timing at the other end. Despite Rodrigues's positive batting, India had a lot of work to do in the last five overs as they needed 65. Ayabonga Khaka made it tougher for the hosts with a six-run 16th over, keeping Harmanpreet in check despite a four for the skipper. Rodrigues and Harmanpreet hit a four each off Tryon in the 17th but the equation was tough for India as the hosts needed 47 off the last three overs. Harmanpreet, who was also struggling with the heat, wasn't finding it easy against the South African bowlers. She struck a four off de Klerk but the 18th over yielded only 8 runs.