



Rath Yatra: Holy Trinity's Chariots Roll On Bada Danda

Puri(KCN): Amid chants of Hari Bol and Jai Jagannath, pulling of Chariots of Lord Jagannath and his siblings Lord Balabhadra and Devi Subhadra began as per the schedule. With the pulling of three chariots, Juggernaut started rolling here. As the chariots started moving on the Grand Road here, the holy Trinity started their nine-day journey to Sri Gundicha temple. Puri Shankaracharya Swami Nischalananda Saraswati accompanied by his disciples and servitors offered prayers

to the deities on their respective chariots. Following this ritual, Gajapati Maharaja of Puri, Dibyasingh Deb arrived in his royal palanquin and carried out the Chhera Panhara ritual, the ceremonial sweeping of the chariots with a golden broom, amid chanting of hymns by the priests. All rituals, starting from Pahandi Bije of the Trinity, to Chhera Panhara of the annual Rath Yatra completed by the scheduled time and in a very high spiritual atmosphere. Lakhs of devotees are present at the Grand Road to witness the mega cultural festival. Adorned with tahias (giant floral crowns), chants of Hari Bol and Jai Jagannath, the three deities along with Lord Sudarsan were brought out of the sanctum sanctorum in the Dhadi Pahandi procession to their chariots parked before Srimandir.

As soon as Lord Jagannath came out of the Singhadwar (main gate of the temple) in Pahandi swinging his giant tihia, devotees chanted religious hymns while Hari Bol,

is regarded as a holy occasion by most Hindus, especially Vaishnavites. The entire stretch of the Grand Road transformed into an ocean of humanity. Pulling of the three gigantic chariots by the

servitors started around 4.30 pm. Taladhwaja of Lord Balabhadra was pulled first followed by Darpadalana of Devi Subhadra and Nandighosa of Lord Jagannath. President Droupadi Murmu, Odisha Governor Raghubar Das, Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi, former CM Naveen Patnaik, Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan are here to witness the Rath Yatra. Besides, several State Ministers, MLAs and opposition party leaders also visited Puri today. More than 180 platoons of police personnel are deployed in and around Puri to ensure safe conduct of the festival. The police made special arrangements for smooth flow of traffic and the President's visit.

Heavy Rains Predicted In Odisha In Next 24 Hours

Bhubaneswar(KCN): The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has forecasted heavy rainfall in multiple areas of Odisha over the next 24 hours. According to an IMD bulletin, a cyclonic circulation over the West-central Bay of Bengal off the south Andhra Pradesh coast is persisting at 5.8 km above mean sea level. The districts expected to receive heavy rain are Mayurbhanj, Keonjhar, Rayagada, Nayagarh, Ganjam, and Kendrapara, Cuttack, Jagatsinghpur, Puri, Khurda, Nayagarh, Ganjam, and Gajapati. Thunderstorms with lightning are expected in one or two places over several districts, including Balasore, Bhadrak, Jajpur, Kendrapara, Cuttack, Jagatsinghpur, Puri, Khurda, Nayagarh, Ganjam, and Gajapati. The IMD has also stated that heavy rainfall is very likely in one or two places over the districts of Koraput, Rayagada, and Gajapati on July 8 and 9.



Rath Yatra: Holy Trinity's Chariots Roll Prez Droupadi Murmu, Govt Raghbar Das, CM Majhi Pull Taladhwaja Chariot On Puri Bada Danda



Puri(KCN): The nine-day annual sojourn of the sibling deities of Shree Jagannath Temple in Odisha's Puri began around 4.45 pm, with the pulling of Taladhwaja chariot of Lord Balabhadra by lakhs of devotees, who congregated at Bada Danda (Grand Road)

on Sunday. President Droupadi Murmu, Governor Raghubar Das and Chief Minister Mohan Majhi also joined them in pulling the Rath as the entire stretch of Grand Road was transformed into an ocean of humanity against the backdrop of

three colourful chariots and the 12th-century shrine decked up with flowers.

The pulling of the chariots started after the sevayats opened the charamala (ladder) of the three chariots and fixed wooden horses to them. On Bada Danda

Puri Rath Yatra 2024: Devotee dies of suffocation during chariot pulling

Puri(KCN): In an unfortunate incident, a devotee died during the pulling of the Taladhwaja chariot of Lord Balabhadra at Rath Yatra in Puri on Sunday. The victim was rushed to Puri District Headquarters Hospital immediately after he was injured. However, doctors declared him brought dead. As per sources, the deceased is a non-Odia and he died due to suffocation. However, the identity of the devotee was not ascertained immediately.

"The person didn't have a cardiac arrest and his pulse was running. We took him to the hospital immediately in the ambulance and gave him CPR. However, doctors declared him brought dead. I don't know his name. May his soul rest in peace," said Sushant Kumar Patnaik, Assistant Commandant of St. John Ambulance service. Sources said that over 300 persons were rushed to the Puri District Headquarters hospital and as many as 50 persons were released after being given primary treatment. As per the latest report, many devotees were injured in the process. Health Minister Mukesh Mahalinga, Health Secretary and Director reached the hospital to take stock of the situation. "We are trying to identify the deceased. The exact reason behind his death can be said after post-mortem. The government will take immediate steps. I am in the hospital and monitoring the situation personally. I am also directing the hospital authorities to provide immediate treatment to the injured," said Mahalinga.

Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan, Odisha Ministers And BJP MLAs Meet Puri Shankaracharya



Puri(KCN): Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan, along with State Ministers and BJP MLAs, meet Swami Nischalananda Saraswati – the Shankaracharya of Govardhana Peeth in

Puri – and seek his blessings. Union Minister Pradhan said, "On the occasion of Jagannath Yatra procession, I have visited here. I got the opportunity to offer my blessings to

Shankaracharya of Govardhan Peeth. I am delighted." He also said in his response that "Guruji's teachings are important for social life. He said, "Guruji got the benefit of the country."

"Very Significant": Indian Envoy On PM Modi's Visit To Russia

Moscow: India's Ambassador to Russia, Vinay Kumar, has called Prime Minister Narendra Modi's upcoming visit to Russia "very significant" and noted that it is taking place after a gap of three years. Speaking to ANI, Vinay Kumar stated that the visit of PM Modi is "very important" for the two

leaders to exchange views on developments in bilateral ties and discuss other regional and important issues of mutual interest. He noted that the two nations have the tradition of annual exchange of summit-level meetings between the Russian President and Indian Prime Minister and added that the last one took place in 2021. Notably, this will be the

22nd India-Russia Annual Bilateral Summit. The 21st bilateral Summit was held in December 2021 when Russian President Vladimir Putin visited New Delhi. Asked about the importance of PM Modi's first overseas visit after being sworn in as PM of India for the third time, he responded, "The visit is very significant. It is taking place after a gap of three years. We have the tradition of the annual exchange of summit-level meetings between the President of the Russian Federation and the Prime Minister of India and the last one was in 2021. So,

since then, a lot has changed around the world, but also our relations have expanded." "Russia is now one of the very important sources of energy resources in India. Also, trade has expanded in other areas. So this visit becomes very important for the leaders to exchange views on all these developments in the bilateral relationship, but also other regional and

international issues of mutual interest," he added. Vinay Kumar said that PM Modi during his visit will have a private meeting with Russian President Putin, delegation-level talks, restricted talks, lunch on hosted by President Putin for Prime Minister and his delegation, visit to an exhibition center in the Badenah complex, Rosatom Pavilion, and also exchange of documents which we are preparing to sign and exchange during the visit."



Rath Yatra Celebrated at Shrivani Kshetra

Bhubaneswar, (KCN): Like every year, the much-awaited Rath Yatra was celebrated at Shrivani Kshetra of KISS, today amidst much religious fervour and gaiety. In the forenoon religious ceremonies like "Mangala Arati, Mailama, Tadapalagi, Rosha Homa, Abakasha, Surya Puja" and establishment of Chariots were held according to the prescribed time and the ceremonial "Chhera Pahanra" was conducted by Achyuta Samanta at 4:00pm.



At around 4.30 pm thousands of devotees participated in pulling the three decorated chariots of Lord Jagannath, Balabhadra, and Devi Subhadra up to the newly-built Gundicha Temple near the KIIT-Sikharchandi Road.

The atmosphere along the "Ratha Danda" near KISS was filled with devotees with traditional musical instruments, religious recitals and the sound of "Jay Jagannath".



The exclusivity of the Rath Yatra at Shrivani Kshetra is that the chariot of Devi Subhadra is tugged by women devotees only. More than 50,000 devotees joined the festival today as the weather conditions were good.

It can be mentioned here that all rituals at Shrivani Kshetra are done as per the traditions of Jagannath Temple Puri. The traditions of Rath Yatra are also followed as laid by the Puri Shri Mandira. For the construction of the three beautiful chariots special "bindhani", "maharana" and "chitrakara" are engaged by the Shrivani Kshetra Temple Trust. Starting from the construction of the Jagannath Temple at Srhibani Kshetra to all the rituals, "niti" and "puja", all activities are done with the consultation and guidance by the Gajapati Maharaja of Puri, Shri Dibyasingh Deb. As per the Rath Yatra traditions of Puri, the three chariots of Lord Balabhadra, Jagannath and Devi Subhadra have 16, 14 and 12 wheels, respectively. During this nine-day festival, there will be "Bhajan Samaroh" every evening near Gundicha Temple. Devotees from nearby localities throng the Gundicha temple and have a 'darshan' of the Trinity.

5 hotels running inside Bhitarkanika sanctuary



Kendrapara / Rajnagar (KCN): Despite a host of steps being taken by the government for extensive plantation and protection of forests, the ecology and sensitive biodiversity of Bhitarkanika National Park are facing continuous threats of serious damage due to human interference. In a fresh instance, five hotels have been illegally constructed on forest land in Dangamal and Bankual, the entry points of the national park, for tourists flocking to Bhitarkanika.

Despite the establishment of restaurant cottages to three-storeyed hotels in the sanctuary, Rajnagar forest division and tehsil administrations are sitting idle instead of taking administrative action. In this connection, members of Bhitarkanika Suraksha Samiti—Sanjay Kumar Bag, Pabitra Sethi, Ranjan Pradhan, Madhab Sethi, Soumya Ranjan Choudhury, Debadatta Sethi, Jagabandhu Khatua, Surya Narayan Mishra,

Sudam Kumar Ojha, Abhay Kumar Raut, Raghavendra Mohanty, Liton Sethi, Jagabandhu Das, Shambhu Mandal, Vivekananda Das, Sahadeb Sethi, Debrabrat Mishra, Debasish Raul—Thursday met Rajnagar tehsildar Ajay Kumar Mohanty and Divisional Forest Officer Sudarshan Gopinath Yadav along with proof and demanded action against the illegal hotels. Giving an ultimatum, they warned the officials that they would be forced to take to agitation if the illegal hotels were not removed within seven days. As per the complaint of Bhitarkanika Suraksha Samiti, Hotel Bhitarkanika has been constructed on the forest land under Bankual Mauza Khata No 7 and Plot No 92. Similarly, Hotel Red Crab has been erected on forest-type land under Bankual Mauza Khata No 7 and Plot No 39. A three-storeyed hotel Kanika Sundari and its cottages have been built on three plots of forest land under Bankual

close to the national park. This village comes under the Eco-Sensitive Zone of Bhitarkanika as recently declared by the Central government. Complaints were raised in October 2023 regarding presence of Swad Hotel on uninhabited and cemetery land despite a ban on new construction in the area. The DFO and local tehsildar were also given a memorandum to investigate the type and location of the land and take action. Even after frequent agitations over such irregularities, nothing has been achieved. Nowadays, there is a buzz on social media calling for action against the wrongdoers after proper investigation into the location of the land and the ownership. The matter of Swad Hotel came to the fore on social media after an inquiry with the local tehsildar Ajay Kumar Mohanty in this regard. Mohanty said the matter will be investigated soon and appropriate action will be taken.

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Shah Rukh Khan's 'Jawan' set to hit Japanese theatres in November

Shah Rukh Khan's 'Jawan' is set to debut in Japan on November 29, 2024, with advanced bookings starting July 5. The film, already a global hit, is now aiming to capture the Japanese market.

After achieving remarkable success and breaking multiple box office records worldwide last year, Shah Rukh Khan's blockbuster film 'Jawan' is now ready to take over the Japanese market. The movie is scheduled for release in Japan on November 29, 2024.

Twin, a renowned distributor of Indian cinema in Japan, will handle the release of 'Jawan' in the country, marking the film's debut

in the Japanese market. Advanced bookings will commence on July 5, 2024, a full four months ahead of its release. As a special treat, people who secure their tickets in advance will receive exclusive posters featuring Shah Rukh Khan from the hit song 'Chaleya.'

With this strategic release, 'Jawan' is poised to make a significant impact in Japan, further expanding its global footprint and reinforcing Shah Rukh Khan's international appeal.

Previously, Japanese video game designer Hideo Kojima had praised Shah Rukh Khan's film 'Pathaan,'

showcasing his love for the Bollywood superstar's work. Kojima tweeted last year, "Too busy these days, mentally and physically exhausted. Need to refill my high-octane tank. So, I saw the Indian movie 'PATHAAN' in IMAX! Well, it was awesome! I was numb! It opened my blood vessels! It was a MAD MAX level of energy! After seeing this, I think I'll be able to hold it for a while! Mission Impossible, 007, RRR, John Woo, the whole shebang! A few Metal Gear elements too! There was applause after the screening. Highly recommended! (sic)." Too busy these days, mentally and physically exhausted. Need to



7TH SEPT.

Ali Abbas Zafar says why he retained 'Bade Miyan Chote Miyan' title for his next

Ali Abbas Zafar recently talked about why he chose to retain the iconic title 'Bade Miyan Chote Miyan' for his upcoming film, much to the curiosity of fans and critics alike. The director, who is known for delivering blockbuster hits, has recently stirred up excitement among Bollywood enthusiasts for his upcoming action thriller, starring Akshay Kumar, Tiger Shroff and Prithviraj Sukumaran.

In a recent interview, Zafar shed light on the reason behind his decision to retain this classic title for his action-packed spectacle. The title 'Bade Miyan Chote Miyan,' was originally associated with the 1998 comedy film starring Amitabh Bachchan and Govinda. Speaking about the same, Ali told

IndiaToday.in, "Well there is a connection which will be revealed in the film. So when you come and watch the film you will know why it is called 'Bade Miyan Chote Miyan.' I would say that this film had a certain vision and the way the producers of this film, Jacky Bhagnani, Vashu Bhagnani, and

Himanshu, all supported this film, it wouldn't have been possible if you didn't have producers like that backing in this version."

Further speaking about the film he said,

"Jacky called me one day I was shooting in Abu Dhabi, and he said that I have

something to offer you.

He and I have been jamming to do something together. And one day he used this line, 'I will make you an offer that you will not be able to refuse' from the 'Godfather'. So I said ok, tell me what is that?

He said, do you like

making action films? I

said yes. I like making

action films. So just

imagine if, in an action

film, I get you Akshay Kumar and Tiger Shroff together."

He continued, "Now for any action film lover, forget the maker, it is a dream combination to have two action stars in the same film and quintessential action stars who do their own stunts, and are known for their action. At the

same time, it's so bizarre that I was working on a two-hero film with a crazy mad villain. I always call him an anti-hero more than a villain. Then, somewhere or another, that conversation stayed with me."

He adds, "Then he called me again a week later and by that time I really thought it through that how we can do this thing with Akshay and Tiger. And then he said that it's my father's dream to call this film 'Bade Miyan Chote Miyan'. So I said, you've got such a great offer served on a platter to me. I would respect that. Later we made changes to the script. So when you watch the film you will understand why it is called BMCM, but it is very special how it comes in the film."

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Income Tax Search in what circumstances Part 2



Adv. Narayan Jain & CA Dilip Loyalka

(Contd from 1st July 2024)

1. Filing of returns or completion of assessments do not preclude search: The fact that returns were being filed and assessments were being made cannot, by itself, preclude the department from ordering a search, if reliable information reaches the concerned authorities regarding large undisclosed income of the assessee - Jain & Jain v. Union of India [1982] 134 ITR 655, 666 (Bom) relying on Pooran Mal v. Director of Inspection [1974] 93 ITR 505, 520-21 (SC); Kalpaka Bazar v. CIT [1990] 186 ITR 617, 620 (Ker).

2. The requisite belief to be formed by the Authorising Authority only - Section 132(1) enjoins that before a warrant of authorisation can be issued, the authorising authority must have reason to believe the existence of any of the factors mentioned in clauses (a),

(b) and (c) of section 132(1) as given above and that reason to believe must be in consequence of information in his possession. The opinion must be formed by the authorising authority. But, the authorising authority cannot delegate the function of the formation of the opinion or belief to his subordinate authority as also pronounced in the case of Dwarka Prosad Agarwalla v. Director of Inspection [1982] 137 ITR 456, 467-8 (Cal). In the above case, the Assistant Director of Inspection recorded the reasons and Director of Inspection, one of the authorizing authorities u/s 132(1), issued the warrants of authorisation on the basis of these reasons. It was held that the formation of the belief could not, on those facts, be said to be one by the authorising authority himself. The searches conducted on the basis of such warrants were not valid.

3. D e e m i n g provisions of section 69A

cannot be used at the time of forming belief: The deeming provisions of section 69A confers a power on the Assessing Officer and the same is available only at the time of assessment. The deeming provisions cannot be availed of at the time of issuance of the warrant of authorisation u/s 132(1). The two stages of issuing authorisation and assessment are different. If section 69A as such or its principle could be invoked at the stage of issuing authorisation it would result in negation of safeguard provided by the expression "reason to believe" in section 132(1). In this view of the matter, a warrant of authorisation could not be held to be valid by virtue of section 69A - Ganga Prasad Maheswari & Ors. v. CIT [1983] 139 ITR 1043, 1051-52 (All).

4. Power of search

to be exercised bona fide

- If the action of the officer issuing the authorisation or of the designated officer is challenged, the officer concerned must satisfy the Court about the regularity of his action [ITO v. Seth Bros. [1969] 74 ITR 836, 843 (SC); Kalpaka Bazar v. CIT [1990] 186 ITR 617, 620 (Ker)]. If challenged, it is the duty of the authorising officer to show to the Court that he had prima facie "reason to believe" so as to bring the matter

within the four corners of section 132(1). He has to show facts which prima facie will convince the Court that a reasonable man could, under the circumstances, form a belief which will impel him to take action. The Court will not go into the sufficiency or adequacy of such reasons. Similar view has been expressed in the case of Ajay Kumar Singh v. Director General of Investigation, Bihar [2021] 124 taxmann.com 518 (Patna). On the other hand, if the Commissioner fails to disclose even a prima facie case or if the action is maliciously taken or power under the section is exercised for a collateral purpose, it is liable to be struck down by the Court. For example: mere possession of money is not sufficient material to form a belief that the same has not been and would not be disclosed by the assessee, when it appears in his books of account - Ajit Jain v. UOI & Sons 159 CTR (Del.) 204, affirmed by the Supreme Court in 260 ITR 80 (SC).

5. The competent authority must have information in its possession: For taking action u/s 132 there are conditions precedent. Firstly, the competent authority must have information in its

possession. Secondly, on the basis of the said information, it must have reason to believe that the conditions as stipulated in sub-clause (a), (b) and (c) of section 132(1) exist. It is only then that it can authorise the search of the premises and seizure of the documents. Section 132 impinges upon the privacy of a citizen. It even carries a social stigma. To a sensitive man, the consequences can be serious. The Legislature has consequently provided in-built safeguards. These have to be satisfied before any order for search, etc., can be passed. The Punjab & Haryana High Court, on this point, has held, that repeated assertions had been made, both in the files of the Department as well as in the pleadings before the High Court that information was available "on record". However, at the time of hearing of the case and in spite of repeated opportunities, the respondents could not produce any record indicating the existence of any information. In the "satisfaction note" it had been stated that B was likely to have invested, in the business of the petitioner. However, this was a mere surmise. Admittedly, the "note" did not constitute "information" as contemplated under the law. In the absence of information the order for search and seizure could

not be sustained - Janak Raj Sharma v. Director of Inspection (Inv.) & others 215 ITR 234 (P & H). Similar view has been expressed in Suvidha Association v. Addl. DIT (Inv.) 320 ITR 461 (Guj.). However where reasons to believe exist, the Court cannot examine the adequacy or sufficiency of the reasons - Doctors X-Ray and Pathology Institute P. Ltd. v. DIT [2009] 318 ITR 125 (All.).

6. C B D T Instruction for deciding the cases in which search should be conducted: The searches are to be conducted keeping in view the recent CBDT Instruction No. 7/2003, dated 30.07.2003, the contents of which are summarised hereunder - "1. With a view to focus on high revenue yielding cases and to make the optimum use of manpower, the Board has decided that officers deployed in the Investigation Wing should restructure their activities. They should henceforth strictly adhere to the following guidelines:

a) Searches

should be carried out

only in cases where

there is credible

evidence to indicate

substantial unaccounted

information in its

relation to tax normally

paid by the assessee or where expected concealment is more than Rs. 1 crore;

b) Search operation will also be mounted when there is evidence of hidden unaccounted assets arising out of a conspiracy to cause public harm, terrorism, smuggling, narcotics, fraud, gangsterism, fake currency, fake stamp papers and such other manifestations;

c) Tax payers who are professionals of excellence should not be searched without there being compelling evidence and confirmation of substantial tax evasion.

2. Henceforth, search operations shall be authorized only by the concerned DGT (Inv.), who will be accountable for the action initiated by the officers working under him. He should also ensure that all the work relating to search & seizure, like post-search inquiries, preparation of appraisal report and handing over of seized books of account etc., should be completed by the Investigation Wing within a period of 60 days from the date on which the last of the authorizations for search was executed.

3. DGsIT (Inv.) are requested to ensure that officers of competence and proven integrity are taken in the

Investigation Wing. The officers posted in the Investigation Wing will be trained at NADT in a special course for which arrangements will be separately made.

4. DGsIT (Inv.) are required to ensure strict compliance of the above guidelines/instructions." It may be mentioned that the Task Force on Direct Taxes chaired by Dr. Vijay Kelkar had stated in para 3.25 of its final report as follows -

"3.25 Search and seizure has a limited role, in the Income tax proceedings. Search and seizure is not a substitute for investigation. It is only a tool for investigation. It is not an end in itself. Search and seizure cannot be a way of life for any civilised society. Search and seizure should be used in rarest of rare cases, when it is a must and where alternative measures of investigation have failed. And once it is used, it should have its full impact as a deterrent. The tax evader should suffer the penal consequences of interest, penalty and prosecution in respect of the concealed income detected as a result of the search."

(Contd.)

Adv. Narayan Jain & CA Dilip Loyalka are authors of the Book How to Handle Income Tax Problems. Email npjainadv@gmail.com

When Artificial intelligence becomes a part of life



The world is growing every day with new technology and advancements in lifestyle enhancements. As we live longer and technology continues its rapid development, we can imagine in the near future when machines will augment our human abilities, help us make better life choices, and become a part of the lifestyle. Our dialogue and digital breadcrumbs will understand our life goals and aspirations, obligations and limitations, and suggest or create a lifestyle according to the best available resources. AI will seamlessly and automatically help us budget and save for different life events, so we can enjoy life's moments more lively.

Believe that this will bring with it great economic and social benefits, but that it will also require us to address the many challenges to ensure that the benefits are broadly shared and that people are not marginalised by these

algorithmic bias, AI has begun to permeate every aspect of our lives.

The report argues that we are at an inflection point where researchers and governments must think and act carefully to contain the risks AI presents and make the most of its benefits.

When AI is becoming real!

There is remarkable progress made in AI over the past five years. AI is leaving the laboratory and has entered our lives, having a "real-world impact on people, institutions, and culture". Read the news on any given day and you're likely to find multiple stories about some new advancement in technology in AI or some new use of AI.

In the coming decade, I expect that AI will play an increasingly prominent role in the lives of people everywhere. AI-infused services will become more common, and AI will become increasingly embedded in the daily lives of people across the world.

Believe that this will bring with it great economic and social benefits, but that it will also require us to address the many challenges to ensure that the benefits are broadly shared and that people are not marginalised by these

new technologies. In recent years, homeowners have adopted smart home technologies to improve their quality of life. Connected devices and appliances perform actions, tasks, and automated routines based on a homeowner's preferences. Smart technologies enable homeowners to save time, money, and energy. Many AI technologies have emerged that come equipped with learning and decision-making capabilities in recent years. We can artificial intelligence mimics human intelligence but the output from the data collected and organized will give a better result for the human life upliftment

AI-powered smart home

continue to drive massive innovation that will fuel many existing industries and could have the potential to create many new sectors for growth, ultimately leading to the creation of more jobs. While AI has made major strides toward replicating the efficacy of human intelligence in executing certain tasks, there are still major limitations. In particular, AI programs are typically only capable of "specialized" intelligence, meaning they can solve only one problem, and execute only one task at a time. Often, they can be rigid, and unable to respond to any changes in input or perform any "thinking" outside of their prescribed programming. There are lots of limitations to AI and programming in machine learning.

AI is likely to have a

strong impact on certain sectors in particular: Medical: The potential benefits of utilising AI in the field of medicine are already being explored. The medical industry has a robust amount of data and produces a huge volume of data that can be utilised to create predictive models related to healthcare. Connected hospitals and rooms also are very helpful for diagnosing

medical conditions, preexisting diseases and giving the doctor a better outcome for the patient and monitoring the patient in real-time when it's needed even though they are not at the hospital. The behavior of the patients also can be well diagnosed for the treatment using the new age technologies.

Automotive: We're already seeing how AI is impacting the world of transportation and automobiles with the advent of autonomous vehicles and autonomous navigation. Vehicles are becoming more connected and data-driven.

This will create more and better output for the efficiency of the vehicle and safety. The user experience in AI will also have a major impact on manufacturing, including within the automotive sector.

E-Commerce: AI will play a pivotal role in e-commerce in the future, in every sector of the industry from user experience to marketing to fulfilment and distribution.

We can expect that moving forward, AI will continue to drive the industry with various system and machine learning capacities, including through the use of chatbots, shopper personalization, image-based targeting advertising, and

warehouse and inventory automation.

AI for Energy Management

As we move toward an increasingly electric world, more energy will be produced by decentralised, renewable sources. It will be from microgrids, wind farms, solar panels, and batteries.

The global transition to renewable energy will need artificial intelligence (AI) technology to manage decentralised grids. AI can balance electricity supply and demand needs in real-time, optimize energy use and storage to reduce rates.

Technology governance will be needed to democratize access, encourage innovation and ensure resilient electricity sources. A consistent challenge with renewable energy sources such as wind and solar power is their unreliability. Weather-dependent power sources will often fluctuate in their strength.

This means that greater precautions could be taken to harness and preserve the energy that was generated. In order to provide these detailed weather reports, the AI system mines a combination of data from local satellite reports, weather

stations as well as wind farms in the surrounding area. The algorithms driving the system are trained to identify patterns within these data sets and make predictions based on those data points.

Essentially, the AI acts as a marketplace advisor, providing recommendations to help clients make informed decisions regarding to make renewable energy technologies purchases for their homes. When a household appliance is turned on, the algorithms driving the AI assistant recognize patterns and can automate a running tally of the energy costs that the item is generating.

The renewable energy sector is a growing economic force and an effective strategy for improving environmental sustainability. Artificial intelligence is being integrated across major sectors of this industry, increasing the capacity of data analytics.

The variable nature of weather presents inherent challenges which may cause suppliers to rely on traditional energy sources to meet consumer demands. Therefore, AI-driven energy forecasting platforms may hold promise for providing energy suppliers with the data required to respond to fluctuations that may negatively affect operations and to plan accordingly.

The term "artificial intelligence" may sound intimidating to some, but it has been in use for decades and its applications are more common than you might imagine. AI powers many programs and services that help us do everyday things such as connecting with friends, using email program, or using a ride-share service.

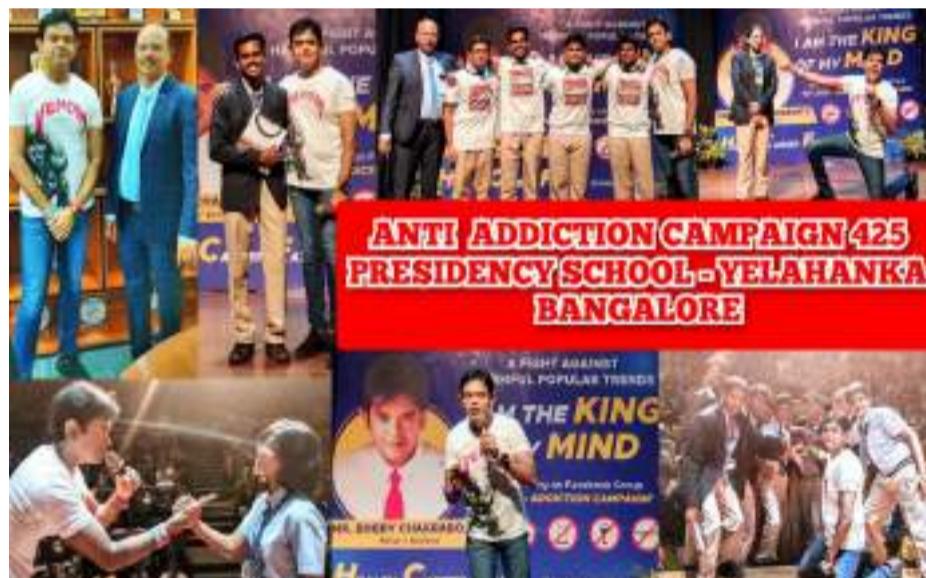
Retired Principal Educational columnist malout, Punjab



Rath Yatra at BT Road Rathatala, Kolkata.

Photo - Arindam Bhattacharya

BOBBY CHAKRABORTY'S LIFE CHANGING ANTI ADDICTION CAMPAIGN NO. 425 AT PRESIDENCY SCHOOL BANGALORE SOUTH (YELAHANKA)



Kolkata, (KCN): How many of us actually come on the forefront, on to the battlefield... to fight against the harmful social trends of smoking, alcoholism, online obscenity, drug abuse, abusive language, smartphone addiction, online gambling and betting, bullying etc.? We would say very few, as most us are either silent spectators or indulging into these vices ourselves!

This is where popular actor/activist/teacher of method acting, Bobby Chakraborty from Kolkata, is becoming the game changer, through

his widely popular, globally acclaimed, free of cost awareness program for the youth, against all the above mentioned evils of the society, titled 'I AM THE KING OF MY MIND'.

Recently he has collaborated with the nationally renowned, Presidency Group of Schools, Bangalore, for a series of anti-addiction campaigns, in their schools, through the socially responsible initiative from the enterprising Director of Academics, Dr. Angelo Michael D'Cruize and of course through the

guidance of The dynamic Director of The Presidency Group of Institutions, Dr. Nafeesa Ahmed, who themselves are great supporters of a life without addiction. On July 3rd Bobby conducted his 425th life changing session and his 3rd in Bangalore, at Presidency School Bangalore South (Yelahanka). The packed, state of the art auditorium had soldiers from the 8th-12th grade, who promised to fight with Bobby, keeping the formula of HCF (Health-Care-Family) in mind. They were highly motivated by Bobby,

with his customary wit and eloquence, to believe in the mantra 'I am the king of my mind'.

The official photographer of the session was soldier Tejas Vaddepalli, from Grade 12, assisted by soldier Mukta Kulkarni, Grade 8. The highly interactive session had Mukta as 'The 1st soldier' and the title of 'The Trendsetter' went to Garishma. The concluding surprise contest had soldiers Aarosh, Shourya and Archit as the winners, who, along with Tejas, were given special prizes, HCF Tshirts and community service certificates by their beloved 'Bobby Dada'.

Dr. Angelo Michael D'Cruize, who is also

The Principal of this school, sat throughout the session, inspite of his busy schedule and appreciated Bobby, in his vote of thanks, for his noble service and urged his students to take away everything they could from this powerful session, to ensure a happy and healthy life ahead.

New Delhi (KCN): Self-styled godman Bhole Baba's lawyer AP Singh alleged on Sunday that witnesses told him some people opened cans containing a poisonous substance in the crowd during the July 2 Hathras 'satsang', triggering the stampede. Addressing a press conference in Delhi, Singh also alleged a conspiracy, which he attributed to Bhole Baba's "rising popularity", behind the stampede.

Alleging a conspiracy behind the stampede, he said, "There were

vehicles parked at the site to help the men escape. We have proof and we will submit it. This is the first time I am speaking about it." Singh claimed the witnesses who reached out to him requested anonymity. "We will demand security for them." So far, nine people, including key accused Devprakash Madhukar, have been arrested in connection with the stampede. On Saturday, Hathras police said it was also probing into the suspected funding of the congregation by a political party and

warned of the "strictest possible" action against it.

Madhukar was the main organiser and fundraiser of the 'satsang' where more than 2.5 lakh people had gathered, much beyond the permitted limit of 80,000, officials had said.

The godman was not mentioned as an accused in the FIR lodged at the local Sikandra Rao police station.

The judicial commission set up by the Uttar Pradesh government will speak to anyone required for its inquiry, a probe panel member said when asked if Bhole Baba would also be questioned. The commission will also issue a public notice soon, asking locals and witnesses to share any evidence related to the stampede, along with their statements, another member and chairperson of the panel, retired Allahabad High Court judge Brijesh Kumar Shrivastava, told reporters in Hathras.

3rd Kolkata Rathyatra inaugurated by CM Mamata Banerjee: A 9-Day Celebration of Culture, Togetherness, Unity and Harmony'

Kolkata (PARTHA ROY): West Bengal Chief Minister Smt. Mamata Banerjee flags of 53rd Kolkata Rathyatra at ISKCON Temple on Albert Road in Kolkata on 7th July 2024 in presence of thousands of devotees of Bhagwan Jagannath including three Vice Presidents of ISKCON - Radharaman Das, Vallava Chaitanya Das, Ananga Mohan Das (Chairman of ISKCON's Kolkata Yatra) and Dayaram Das (Temple President).

The founder Acharya of ISKCON, Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada, started the first Rathyatra under ISKCON banner in India and in Kolkata in 1972.

CM Mamata Banerjee inaugurated and renamed a park with

water body as "Bhaktivedanta Swami Sarovar" which was earlier known as Victoria Square under Ward no 63 of The Kolkata Municipal Corporation (KMC) in presence of local Ward councillor Smt. Susmita Bhattacharya Chatterjee and other officials of KMC as well as monks and devotees.

Bhaktivedanta Swami Sarovar is situated opposite ISKCON Temple on Albert Road.

CM Mamata Banerjee inaugurated Adhyama Temple in Alipurduar in North Bengal using video conferencing technology.

Despite heavy rain, thousands of devotees



of Bhagwan Jagannath, Baladev, Subhadra Devi participated to pull three chariots of three divine entities. Make shift Temple has been

constructed at TAI Parade Ground near Park Street where chariots were taken which are temporary abode of Jagannath, Baladev and Subhadra Devi and Sudarshan Chakra.

The theme of this year's Rathyatra is 150th Birth Anniversary of

ISKCON's founder Acharya, His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada. Srila Bhakti Siddhanta Saraswati Prabhupada Maharaj planted the seed of ISKCON in the heart of young Abhay Charan Dey, who later became His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada, and started the worldwide Hare Krishna movement, known as the International Society for Krishna Consciousness or "ISKCON."

In Bengal, Odisha, Bihar and other states in Eastern India,

Rathyatra is part of rich Hindu religion & cultural heritage for centuries especially for followers of Vaishnavism. In Kolkata,

and across Bengal, as well as in Odisha, Bihar, Assam and other states, Rathyatra was taken out by Bhagwan Jagannath. In Kolkata's Bhowanipore area, Councillor of Ward no. 70 of KMC, Shri Ashim Bose is organising Rathyatra and Jagannath Dev puja and puja of other deities at Subash Udayan. Ratha Yatra processions have been historically common in Vishnu-related (Jagannath, Krishna, Rama) traditions in Hinduism across India.

Rathyatra begins on Ashadha Shukla Dwitiya and ends on Ashadha Shukla Dashami as per Hindu calendar.

Rathyatra Celebration will conclude with Ulta Rathyatra on Monday 15th July 2024.

Mayawati Aide, Hacked To Death, Cannot Be Buried In BSP Office: Court

Chennai (KCN): The body of K Armstrong, BSP's Tamil Nadu chief who was hacked to death near his Chennai home Friday, cannot be buried at the party's office in the state capital, the Madras High Court ruled today, upholding the DMK government's stand. The court said K Armstrong's body can be buried in a one-acre privately-owned plot in the adjoining Thiruvalluvar district. It added that the funeral procession taken out by BSP supporters must be held peacefully.

Earlier, the slain BSP leader's wife K Porkodi had filed a petition in court, seeking its approval to bury the body at the Chennai party office. The petitioners argued that the 2,600

square feet was owned by the BSP.

Additional Advocate General J Ravindran, appearing for the Tamil Nadu government, opposed the petition. "It is a residential area. Without going into merits, we have identified three places around 2,000 sq ft each close to the BSP office and their residence that they can choose for burial or memorial, whatever they want," he said, according to Bar and Bench.

Justice V Bhavani Subbarayan noted that burial is only allowed at pre-notified places and the petitioners would need the state government's permission.

"We have already passed a government order rejecting their demand as

it is a primary residential area, thickly populated, inadequate approach road, and the building itself doesn't have requisite permissions," Mr Ravindran said.

Addressing Senior Advocate Chandrasubbu, appearing for K Armstrong's wife, the judge said, "Sentiment is different, but you cannot make a burial in a residential area as per the rules. That is why I am asking if you can choose another place.

"I understand your emotions but you have to understand what the court is saying. There will be a law and order problem and everyone will suffer then. This area has small lanes. You need a bigger place where thousands of people can gather.

Child marriages continue secretly in Mahakalapara

Mahakalapara(KCN): The incidence of child marriage cases has been increasing day by day in this block of Kendrapara district. Child marriage is particularly prevalent in panchayats such as Batighara, Kharinasi, Ramanagar, Petchhela, Baulakani, Jambu, Kebidandua, Nanju, Suniti, and Gogua under this block. These illegal marriages, predominant among the scheduled tribes (ST), are conducted secretly, mainly due to poverty, illiteracy, and lack of awareness. Fearing administrative action, some families are marrying off their underage daughters in temples, monasteries and other religious places secretly at night by calling priests for quick ceremonies.

Local intellectuals have described this as a social ailment. Such clandestine child marriages are particularly attempted in tribal and Bengali-inhabited villages in the area. Tipped-off about such a child marriage, Mahakalapara Women and Child Development Officer Kabita Mallik took immediate action to stop the ceremony. Under

her direction, a committee went to the concerned village, stopped the marriage and presented both parties before the District Child Welfare Committee. Similarly, another child marriage attempted by a tribal household was prevented by the department in May this year. Legal action will be taken against the families involved in child marriage, said Mallik adding that over 20 child marriages have come to light in Mahakalapara in the past two years and action has been taken by

the department. Additionally, all Anganwadi workers in the block have been

instructed to raise awareness among local residents to stop unabated child marriages. Efforts are

conducted secretly with family consent when the girl is about 12-15 years old. Sources said families, usually from economically weaker sections, are marrying off their underage daughters with the help of local brokers to older men from Jhansi, Mathura, Vrindavan, Varanasi, Agra in Uttar Pradesh and Kolkata and Murshidabad in West Bengal. Many of these girls, after facing physical and mental torture post-childbirth, are returning to their parental homes. In 2017, a division bench of the Supreme Court had

pronounced that marrying an underage girl is a punishable offense. Marrying a minor and keeping sexual relations with her is considered as rape. Legal provisions mandate criminal investigation in such cases and the POCSO Act provides for severe punishment for those involved. All the states have been instructed to strictly enforce these laws. On the other hand, underage pregnancies pose a danger for both mother and child. In this scenario, the risk of mortality is also very high for them.



SHGs jittery over fate of Mission Shakti

Baripada (KCN): Members of women self-help groups (SHGs) in Mayurbhanj district have become self-reliant and financially independent by undertaking various livelihood programmes under the Mission Shakti scheme, a report said. However, the SHG members and residents of the district are in utter apprehension over possible abolition of Mission Shakti programme after Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) stormed into power by gaining majority in the recently concluded elections. They are now in a dilemma whether the new BJP government will continue with the schemes and programmes launched during the last 24 years of the former BJD government or abolish them. The possibility of scrapping the BJD schemes or replacing them has started haunting the SHG members while they are anxious about the approach of the new government that would be formed soon. This has pushed them into distress. Reports said sabai grass cultivation,



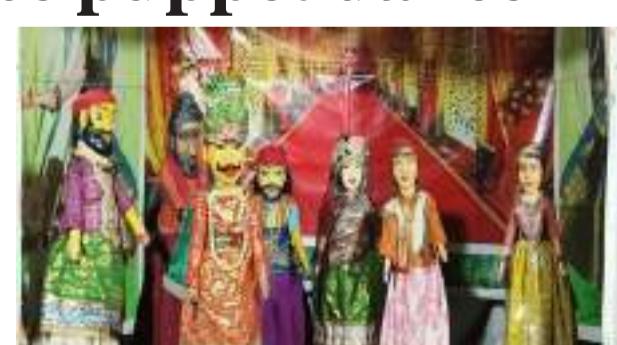
manufacturing of sal leaf products, collection of minor forest produce, raggi cultivation and livestock farming have not only provided them a livelihood but made them financially independent. The district has around 47,175 women SHGs in 26 blocks with a membership strength of around 4,71,750. There are 2,909 groups in Badasahi block, 1,180 in Bahalda block, 1,708 in Bangiriposhi block, 1,950 in Baripada block, 2,075 in Betanoti block, 1,014 in Bijatala block, 1,105 in Bisoi block, 1,321 in Gopabandhu Nagar block, 909 in Jamda block, 1,442 in Jashipur block, 2,328 in Kaptipada block,

1,924 in Karanjia block, 1,207 in Khunta block, 1,489 in Kuliana block, 1,268 in Kusumi block and 2,161 in Morada block. Similarly, there are 1,445 SHGs in Rasagovindpur block, 1,093 in Rairangpur block, 1,238 in Raruan block, 1,422 in Saraskana block, 1,436 in Shamakhunta block, 1,002 in Sukruli block, 1,693 in Suliapada block, 1,679 in Thakurmunda block, 855 in Tiring block and 1,368 in Udalab block. In order to strengthen the Mission Shakti programme and ensure its proper implementation, the state government had created district level federations,

Consequently, the votes of the women members went in favour of BJP. Meanwhile, the residents are also apprehensive on continuation of Ahaar scheme, LAccMI bus service, Nua-O scholarship, BSKY and other host of schemes launched by the BJD government. On the other hand, BJP has promised to launch Lakhpatti Didi scheme where every women will get a voucher of Rs 50,000.

Post dad's demise, youth vows to popularise puppet dance

Champua (KCN): Setting yet another example of preserving the dying traditional art forms of Odisha, Arjun Singh of a sleepy village under this block in Keonjhar district has taken a pledge to help 'puppet dance' (Kandhei Nacha in Odia) thrive following the untimely demise of his father Munibar Singh, a popular puppeteer of the region. Puppetry in Odisha has served as a medium of entertainment for the general public, not only in rural areas but also in urban setups. After the untimely demise of his father Munibar of Tiansi village, Arjun has kept his promise made to his father by embracing this traditional art form and



using it as a source of livelihood for his family. According to sources, after Munibar's death, his son Arjun upheld the traditional art form and never let it lose popularity. Arjun has gained considerable experience by assisting his father in various puppet dance events, and eventually, he established himself as an ace puppeteer in the region. He has taken the

responsibility of 'Jai Jagannath Kandhei Dance Art Institute', founded by his father. Arjun is leaving no stone unturned in the growth and popularity of puppet dance and he performs numerous puppet plays based on mythological stories like 'Kala Kahnei' and 'Kansa Badha', bringing wooden puppets to life. He portrays various characters through these puppets to entertain the audience, especially children and the elderly. Arjun maintained that the gradually disappearing puppet dance could further prosper if the government provided some further support. He also mentioned that the income generated from the puppet shows held in different locations is insufficient to meet the needs of the family as his family members also assist him in the profession.

So, his family has to depend on farming as well. While mythological stories serve as a medium of social change, creating awareness through traditional puppet dance about these stories is his ultimate goal.



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Empowering Resilience: Parna Mehta's Journey from Career Break to AWS, Inspiring Inclusion and Transformation

Bhubaneswar (KCN): Women are the embodiment of remarkable strength, juggling responsibilities at home, and thriving in their professional endeavours. They navigate the complexities of modern life with grace, carving their own unique paths to success. Their remarkable journeys serve as evidence of their adeptness at overcoming the obstacles of contemporary life and carving out distinctive paths towards success. To commemorate International Women's Day, the 'She Is Amazon' drive by Amazon under the theme of 'Inspire Inclusion' celebrates women who demonstrate resilience by forging their own unique identities while balancing

home and personal responsibilities. One such example is Parna Mehta, born and raised in Mumbai, who embarked on her career in the IT industry after graduating as a computer engineer in 2002. For over six years, she honed her skills in various software development roles across India, the UK, and Australia, then Parna opted for a career break that spanned almost 12 years as she chose to prioritize family and dedicated herself to raising her two sons. With an arising need to be financially independent, Parna decided to re-join the workforce. Returning to the workforce after such a long hiatus presented significant challenges. Her once-advanced skills had

become outdated, and the lack of readily available flexible work options seemed insurmountable. Yet, Parna refused to be discouraged. She started working part-time, teaching coding, and designing curriculum for kids, a testament to her ability to adapt and pivot. Never one to shy away from learning, Parna actively sought opportunities to upskill. She participated in the Amazon Web Services (AWS) re/Start, a 12-weeks full-time skill development training program that prepares individuals for careers in the cloud and connects them to potential employers. This was a crucial step in her journey towards cloud computing. This decision not only rekindled her passion for technology but also opened doors to

the world of cloud expertise. With unwavering determination, she earned multiple AWS certifications, including the highly sought-after AWS Certified Solution Architect. Associates supported by the SheBuilds program designed to create an inclusive and supportive environment for technical skills development.

Speaking about her experience, Parna shares, "The flexibility and support offered by AWS have been instrumental in my professional growth. Programs like AWS re/Start and SheBuilds played a vital role in equipping me with the necessary skills and confidence to re-enter the workforce." Parna's ambition transcended acquiring

technical expertise. She wanted to empower others, especially women who, like her, sought to re-enter the workforce. Becoming a mentor, Parna actively involved herself in AWS programs like CloudUp for Her, Tech4Her, and BeSA, guiding and supporting aspiring women re-starters, "I appreciate the opportunity to inspire and empower other

women through mentorship and share my knowledge through training." In late 2022, Parna's dedication and perseverance paid off. She landed her dream role as an Authorized Instructor at AWS. Today, she trains customers, sharing her knowledge and passion for cloud technology. This success not only marks a personal triumph but also embodies the transformative power of Amazon's initiatives like re/Start and SheBuilds, which have been instrumental in empowering individuals like Parna to redefine their careers. Her story, a remarkable example of resilience and reinvention, was featured in the book "Cloud Career Journeys," further inspiring countless individuals.

TPSODL Bags Best Innovation Project Award for 'Press Fit Fuse'

Berhampur, March: TPSODL (TP Southern Odisha Distribution Limited) received the "Best Innovation Project" in Innovation Council-2023 in Mumbai for Designing and implementing of 'Press Fit Fuse'. This Patented Safety Innovation Project, "Press Fit Fuse," was implemented at various DSS (Distribution Substations) at TPSODL to eliminate electrical accidents and ensure utmost safety. The award was received by Mr. Sushil Panigrahi, Head, Safety, TPSODL from Mr. Himal Tewari, CHRO, Chief Sustainability, and CSR, TATA Power during the Annual Award Ceremony.

Earlier, in the case of a burnt fuse, linemen replaced it by climbing up to the HG fuse structure physically. Despite safety zones created surrounding the electrical structure, accident cases



kept occurring from time to time. Also, a longer time was required while replacing a faulty fuse. To tackle this traditional fuse and method of replacing the fuse, TPSODL developed the Press Fit Fuse. It works on press-fit principles,

which can be replaced in a comparatively easier way standing from ground level without taking any risk. No ladder and additional electrical tools are required to replace the newly developed fuse. This innovation ensures

quick fuse replacement and outage restoration in a safe manner. Additionally, it is cost-effective and safe. One skilled person can replace the faulty fuse in minimal time and effort without climbing to the heights. It is noteworthy that this Press Fit Fuse was developed along with Govt. ITI College, Berhampur, with required technical and resource support from the TPSODL Safety and Operation team. It is jointly patented by TPSODL and Govt. ITI Berhampur.

SBILife extends 'ThanksADot' Breast Cancer Awareness program, promoting self-breast examination among women in Bhubaneshwar



Bhubaneshwar (KCN): In its steadfast commitment to women's health and empowerment of underserved communities, SBI Life Insurance, under its 'ThanksADot' initiative, organized a breast cancer awareness program to educate and create awareness around the importance of self-breast examination amongst female sanitation workers of Bhubaneshwar Municipal Corporation (BMC). Through collaborative efforts with the Rotaract Club of Bhubaneshwar, the initiative aimed to bring about a behavioral change by empowering these women with an innovative easy-to-use tool for self-breast examination. Approximately 90+ sanitation workers attended the awareness program, who were equipped with the skills and confidence to perform self-breast examination regularly. Often, these sanitation workers face significant barriers in accessing crucial healthcare resources, compounded by socio-economic challenges that hinder their ability to prioritize their well-being. Recognizing the need for creating awareness around breast cancer & self-breast

examination, SBI Life Insurance continues to take a step forward in this direction to educate female sanitation workers on ways to fight this deadly disease. Mr. Rajesh Bhugra, Regional Director-Bhubaneshwar, SBI Life Insurance along with Dr. Sanjay Kumar Mishra, Director-Radiology Oncology at Utkal Hospitals, Ms. Nandita Shah, Vice President, SBI Life Insurance were accompanied by the members of Rotary club at this awareness program. They addressed these sanitation workers and distributed the innovative 'Thanks A Dot' hot water bag. The innovative 'Thanks A Dot' tool re-engineers the 'hot water bag', that is most commonly used by women across the country to tackle menstrual pain, by engraving special lumps on the front side of the bag allowing women to experience the sensation of how a real breast cancer lump would feel during self-examination. SBI Life Insurance reaffirms its dedication to this cause, pledging to continue its efforts for spreading awareness and facilitating innovative tools for early

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

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

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

EXCEPTIONAL EXPERIENCES AWAITS SINGAPORE AIRLINES CUSTOMERS

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

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

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

Mr Goh Choon Phong, Chief Executive Officer, Singapore Airlines, said: "Extensive customer engagement and research have gone into the design of the new SilverKris and KrisFlyer Gold lounges. Customers will enjoy the curated product offerings and experience the signature Singapore Airlines hospitality, all within a comfortable and restful environment, ensuring that they are refreshed and ready for their journey."

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

WHEC recognizes Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham as excellence worldwide in Gender Equality

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

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

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

Jindal Stainless partners with JBM Auto to roll out over 500 energy-efficient electric buses

Bhubaneswar (KCN): Pioneering eco-mobility revolution in India, Jindal Stainless, India's largest stainless steel manufacturer, is partnering with JBM Auto Ltd., the country's largest electric bus manufacturer, for fabrication of over 500 energy-efficient and lightweight stainless steel

buses. Jindal Stainless will provide JT Tubes, made up of low-carbon, chromium-manganese austenitic stainless steel to JBM Auto. The material, also denoted as N7 in Bureau of Indian Standards specification, 6911, has three times the strength of the carbon steel currently used to fabricate the buses.

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



Abhishek Sharma's blitzkrieg leads India's demolition job in Harare

Harare: India came back from a defeat in the opening game with a bullish 100-run victory over hosts Zimbabwe in the second T20I in Harare. Abhishek Sharma's 46-ball hundred, the joint third-fastest by an Indian in T20Is, helped Shubman Gill's side rack up 234/2 after opting to bat, the highest total against Zimbabwe on what Ruturaj Gaikwad reckoned was a "tough" and "two-paced" surface. It surely played like that in the second innings, when India's pacers and spinners combined forces to bowl out Sikandar Raza's side for only 134 and inflicted on them their joint-biggest defeat by runs in the format.

Abhishek Sharma's innings. The whirlwind knock, which featured 7 fours and 8 sixes, belied the nature of the used pitch on which the teams operated and helped India move past a mediocre PowerPlay and set the stage for the likes of Rinku Singh to do

what they do so well. As many as 160 runs were scored in the final 10 overs, the most by a Full Member team in T20Is. Abhishek Sharma opening his account with a six was a sign of things to come but Shubman Gill's early wicket perhaps meant that the fireworks had to wait. The wicket-maiden from Blessing Muzarabai, that saw Gill dismissed and Ruturaj Gaikwad's return chance dropped, was the highlight of the first six overs which were largely about India steadily recovering from losing their captain early on. That the duo was able to put on a 137-run stand, the highest partnership by India against Zimbabwe, was of course down to a lot of skill and power-hitting but also some luck. Abhishek was on 28* off 24 when he was dropped by Wellington Masakadza at long-off but the opening batter didn't look back after that. He got to his fifty off 33 balls, laying into Sikandar Raza and Dion

Meyers in the process, the latter conceding 28 runs in a single over. Abhishek would take only 13 more balls to get to his maiden T20I hundred, getting to the milestone with a hat-trick of sixes against Masakadza. He would fall next ball, caught at backward point, but the damage had been done. All the 7 sixes during this phase was hit by Abhishek, with Ruturaj proving to be the ideal steady foil at the other end. This was the phase of play where India pulled far ahead of Zimbabwe. Their designated finisher in Rinku Singh (48* off 22) joined forces with unbeaten Ruturaj Gaikwad and rained runs in the final five overs of the innings. Gaikwad got to his fifty off 38 balls but his next 25 runs came off only 9 balls, with most of those runs coming in Tendai Chatara's final over. Rinku managed to hit 3

sixes against Muzarabani, the best Zimbabwe bowler on show and wrapped up the innings with back-to-back sixes against Luke Jongwe, who bowled his quota of four overs for 53 runs. Zimbabwe went hard in the PowerPlay and outscored India but that

came fraught with risks and translated into four wickets. Innocent Kaia once again fell to an incoming delivery from Mukesh Kumar but the experiment to hand the new ball to Abhishek didn't go quite to plan, the part-time spinner conceding as many as 19 runs at the other end. Mukesh then bowled Brian Bennett in the next over after the batter had hit him for back-to-back sixes but it was really the double-wicket over from Avesh Khan that turned the PowerPlay decisively in India's favour. Myers cut one straight to cover before captain Raza was bounced out.

Once the pacers had done their thing in the PowerPlay, spinners reigned supreme in the middle overs. Ravi Bishnoi, who gave away only 3 runs in his first two overs, struck in his third with the wicket of Clive Madande (lbw). At the other end, Washington Sundar was a bit less economical but



Copa America: Uruguay knock Brazil out on penalties to move into semi-finals



Copa America: Uruguay beat Brazil to reach the semi-finals of the tournament on Sunday, 7 July. This was Brazil's second straight quarter-final exit from the tournament.

Uruguay edged Brazil 4-2 in a penalty shootout on Saturday after going down to 10 men in a bruising 0-0 draw at the Allegiant Stadium in Las Vegas to march into the semi-finals of the Copa America where they will face Colombia.

With Vinicius Jr suspended for Brazil and watching on from the stands, Dorival Jr's side struggled to create opportunities despite having a man-advantage late in the second half when Uruguay's Nahitan Nandez was sent off.

In the ensuing shootout, Sergio Rochet saved Brazil's first penalty from Eder Militao while his teammate Douglas Luiz hit the post to give Uruguay the upper hand. Although keeper Alisson Becker denied Jose Maria Gimenez and Gabriel Martinelli scored to keep Brazil alive, Manuel Ugarte buried the decisive spot kick as Uruguay continue their quest for a record 16th Copa crown.

"It was a very tense match, against a very tough opponent, suffering in the last minutes a man down. But we showed character despite our youth," Rochet said.

"To finish with penalties and winning, I was able to save one... The truth is that it is a tremendous happiness that this group deserves, the country deserves it. We are very excited, so we are going for more."

In a bruising encounter with 41 fouls from both teams, players from both sides were involved in physical battles across the pitch.

Brazil's 17-year-old forward Endrick was on the receiving end of brutal challenges as a high-pressing Uruguay refused to give him space to breathe.

On one occasion, Raphinha acted out when Endrick was pushed to the ground by Ronald Araujo as the Brazil skipper retaliated in anger by shoving back before the referee stepped in and had a stern word with both players, keeping his cards in his pocket.

But Araujo's night ended early when he was taken off with an injury after the half-hour mark and the

match suddenly burst into life moments later when Darwin Nunez missed a close range header that sailed over the net.

Within seconds, Raphinha saw his shot on a counter-attack thwarted by keeper Rochet, Brazil's best chance of the half.

With Uruguay unable to find a way through, coach Marcelo Bielsa made three substitutions by the 67th minute but his plans were thrown into disarray when Nandez saw red for a painful tackle on Rodrygo.

Nandez attempted to take the ball off the Brazilian with a studs-up challenge but only ended up catching his ankle, but the Real Madrid winger escaped any serious injury and was able to continue.

He was initially given a yellow card but it was upgraded to a red card by the referee following a VAR review.

However, Brazil could not score against 10 men as Uruguay sat back in numbers and shut shop for the last 20 minutes, opting to try their luck in the penalty shootout with no extra-time in the Copa America apart from the final.

Pitch preparation for Trinidad semifinal went awry, concedes chief curator



New Delhi: Kent Crawf顿, chief curator of the West Indies leg of the just-concluded T20 World Cup, conceded that the pitch preparation for the first semifinal between Afghanistan and South Africa went awry and stated that there was a conscious effort on the part of the ground staff to have something for all - the batters and the bowlers.

"The intention was to produce good cricket pitches, with something in there for bowlers to work with," Kent Crawf顿, who oversaw the pitches in the Caribbean leg of the tournament, told Cricbuzz on Saturday, a week after the tournament concluded with India lifting the trophy.

About the strip for the first semifinal at the Brian Lara Academy ground in Trinidad, that ended up being a nightmare for the batters, Crawf顿 admitted that the pitch was not adequately prepared.

"The first semi-final pitch ended up being too one-sided. The preparation programme was not carried out as planned. Thus, it became a cracked surface causing too much variation in pace, bounce, and sideways movement," he said.

Afghanistan were bowled out for 56 in 11.5 overs, the lowest score in a T20 World Cup last four game, and were beaten by nine wickets with South Africa knocking off the

target in less than nine overs. "It was ugly really. The pitch just deteriorated and it led to not a great spectacle for a T20 game. It would have been fascinating on day five of a Test match but for a T20, it wasn't up to scratch," former England pacer Stephen Finn said on BBC Test Match Special, the commentary of which was used on the ICC website.

"I don't want to get myself into trouble and I don't want to come across as bitter or it being a case of sour grapes but that's not the pitch that you want to have a match, a semi-final of a World Cup" on, plain and simple," Jonathan Trott, the coach of Afghanistan, said after the match.

"It should be a fair contest. I'm not saying it should be flat completely with no spin and no seam movement, I'm saying you shouldn't have batsmen worrying about going forward."

Discussing the issue

further in a Mason and Guest Radio show, he added: "There were a number of cracks. Preparation wasn't done according to our plan. And it was just a little to try when the preparation started." He also spoke about the overall preparation of the pitches in the West Indies, saying the weather pattern in the Caribbean this summer was strange.

"There were a number of reasons [for some pitches to go wrong]. First of all, we had a very strange weather pattern in April, even March-April, especially in some of our islands. It was extremely hot and dry. But I must say we all went for that period as strongly as we could in terms of getting our operations done.

"All the venues we put in the work that was needed in terms of rehabilitating our squares and getting them up to scratch. And I think generally we were quite ready. Certain things didn't

work according to plan. Based on what I would see could have been the management of our squares during that long period. I think it was one of our shortcomings."

Crafton also addressed the issue of some surfaces having grass cover while a pitch like

the one at the Kensington Oval in Barbados, which hosted the final, had a brownish look.

"The aim was to have all

pitches to be prepared with live grass, and all six venues were fully grassed ahead of detailed pitch presentation," Crawf顿 said. "The management of the squares during the tournament, especially at the Kensington Oval, where their matches span from June 2 to 29, is the outstanding reason. Excessive covering and not sufficient moisture retained in the pitch block. The green pitches were managed better than the bare

ones."

A part of the 29-day 55-match World Cup was staged in the US with 16 games of the first round played in New York, Dallas and Florida. For the eight games in New York drop-in pitches were used and Crawf顿 said he did not have much information on those surfaces where batting was difficult.

"Well, for sure, it's very difficult for me to make a pronouncement when I wasn't there to actually see the end result. But I did see those pictures in Florida when they were under construction.

They were fully built and they were grassed when I saw them, and they looked level and they looked good. The only issues we have with pitches is that the grass we use on those pitches has to be thinned and light. I'm not sure how much that was done. I'm not sure how thin that grass was," Crawf顿 said.

"According to our construction of pitches, the only difference we had with those drop-in pitches was that the grass that was used on those pitches was not the Bermuda grass, which we normally use on your pitches. It was more like that could have been a reason. I cannot pinpoint, as I said, because I don't have that information. But I know for sure the grass was different. But I don't think that a drop-in pitch constructed months ahead of the tournaments would have been a failure."