

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Mohan Charan Majhi was sworn in as the Chief Minister of Odisha by Governor Raghubar Das Wednesday at a ceremony that was attended by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, former Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik, Union Ministers and senior BJP leaders at Bhubaneswar's Janata Maidan. Apart from Majhi, Kanak Vardhan Singh Deo and Pravati Parida were sworn in as Deputy Chief Ministers. The BJP legislature party which met at state BJP headquarters in Bhubaneswar under the supervision of two central observers-Union Ministers Rajnath Singh and

Bhupendra Yadav Tuesday, unanimously elected four-time MLA from Keonjhar (ST) Assembly seat Mohan Charan Majhi as its leader and the Chief Minister. The legislature party also named six-time MLA from Patnagarh Assembly KV Singhdeo and first-timer MLA from Nimapara Pravat

Parida as the two Deputy Chief Ministers. Apart from Modi, BJP chief JP Nadda, Union Ministers Amit Shah, Rajnath Singh, Bhupender Yadav, Dharmendra Pradhan, Jual Oram, Ashwini Vaishnaw and others attended the ceremony. Several Chief Ministers of BJP-ruled states including Uttar Pradesh, Goa, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Assam, Gujarat, Chhattisgarh and Uttarakhand were also present. Odisha's outgoing chief minister Naveen Patnaik also attended the ceremony. BJP for the first time got a clear mandate in Odisha, ending the 24-year stint of the BJD. The Commissionerate

Police have made elaborate arrangements by deploying 67 platoons of security personnel for the high-profile event. Addressing the media in Bhubaneswar Tuesday, Twin City Police Commissioner Sanjeeb Panda said the route connecting airport to Governor House would be cordoned off by the security personnel, in view of several VIPs including the Prime Minister attending the event. Following the brief visit to the Governor House, the Prime Minister would be escorted to Janata Maidan in a high-security carcade, he added. The BJP stormed to power in Odisha by winning 78 of the total 147 Assembly seats in the 2024 election in Odisha.

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Prime Minister Narendra Modi along with several dignitaries witnessed the grand swearing-in ceremony of the first Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) government in Odisha Wednesday. Notably, Mohan Charan Majhi was sworn in as the Chief Minister of Odisha by Governor Raghubar Das. Apart from Majhi, Kanak Vardhan Singh Deo and Pravati Parida were sworn in as Deputy Chief Ministers. The BJP managed to wrest power from the Biju Janata Dal (BJD) following a intense poll campaign led by PM Modi himself. PM Modi, during the campaign, had asserted that “June 4 was the expiry date of Naveen Patnaik-led BJD government in Odisha”. During his speeches at almost every public meeting, the Prime Minister used to extend an invitation to the people of Odisha to attend the oath taking ceremony June 10 at Bhubaneswar. PM Modi along with other senior leaders of the party toured extensively to every part of the state and addressed a number of



public gatherings during the campaign. PM Modi after reaching Bhubaneswar airport at around 2.10pm Wednesday went to the Raj Bhawan — the residence of Odisha Governor. Later, the Prime Minister reached the venue in a special carcade and attended the swearing-in ceremony as promised during the campaign. Various cultural programmes were performed along the road from Raj Bhawan to Janata Maidan during the movement of PM Modi's convoy. Similarly, Union Home Minister Amit Shah Minister of Road Transport & Highways Nitin Gadkari, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, Union Minister of Information and Broadcasting Ashwini Vaishnaw, Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan among others, were also present

during the oath-taking ceremony. Former Odisha Chief Minister and Biju Janata Dal president Naveen Patnaik also attended the mega event. Besides Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, Goa CM Pramod Sawant, Gujarat CM Bhupendra Patel, Chhattisgarh CM Vishnu Deo Sai, Uttarakhand CM Pushkar Singh Dhami, Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sarma, Tripura CM Manik Saha, Haryana CM Nayab Singh Saini and Rajasthan CM Bhajan Lal Sharma also attended the swearing-in ceremony of new Odisha Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi and his Council of Ministers Wednesday. More than 50,000 people witnessed the grand event at Janata Maidan, a source said.

New Delhi/ Bhubaneswar(KCN): Lauding the swearing-in of the first BJP government in Odisha as historic, Prime Minister Narendra Modi expressed confidence Wednesday that it will usher in record development in

the state. Modi attended the oath ceremony in Bhubaneswar and congratulated new Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi and his deputies Kanak Vardhan Singh Deo and Pravati Parida, besides other ministers. "It's a historic day in

Odisha: With the blessings of my sisters and brothers of Odisha, @BJP4Odisha is forming its first-ever government in the state,” he said on ‘X’.”With the blessings of Mahaprabhu Jagannath, I am confident this team will usher in record development in Odisha and improve the lives of countless people,” the Prime Minister added.



Vijayawada(KCN): Telugu Desam Party (TDP) president Nara Chandrababu Naidu turned emotional after taking oath as Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh here Wednesday. Naidu hugged Prime Minister Narendra Modi soon after being sworn in by Governor S Abdul Nazeer in the presence of a galaxy of political leaders and celebrities at a ceremony attended by lakhs of people. Amid loud cheers from the audience, the 74-year-old took the oath of office and secrecy in Telugu. The Prime Minister presented

him with a bouquet to congratulate him. Naidu was visibly emotional as he hugged PM Modi and returned to his chair next to his wife Bhuvaneswari. In 2021, Naidu walked out of the Assembly after his wife was allegedly insulted by some MLAs of the YSR Congress Party and vowed to return only after taking oath as the Chief Minister. After taking oath as a minister, Jana Sena leader Pawan Kalyan went up to his elder brother megastar Chiranjeevi and touched his feet. Chandrababu Naidu's son

Nara Lokesh was the next to take oath as the minister. Lokesh, the TDP general secretary, took the blessings of his father, Prime Minister Modi and the Governor. A total of 24 ministers of the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) took oath at the ceremony held at Kesarapalli IT Park near Gannavaram Airport. The ministers include three from Jana Sena and one from the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). TDP's Andhra Pradesh unit president K. Atchannaidu and Jana Sena political affairs committee chairman



Nadendla Manohar were among the key ministers. The other members of Naidu's ministerial team are Kollu Ravindra, P. Narayana, Vangalapati Anitha, Satya Kumar Yadav, Nimmala Rama Naidu, N.M.D. Farooq, Anam Ramanarayan Reddy, Payyavula Kesav, Anagani Satya Prasad, Kolusu Parthasaradhi, Dola Balaveeranjanya Swamy, Gottipati Ravi Kumar, Kandula Durgesh, Gummadi Sandhyarani, B.C. Jardhan Reddy, T.G Bharath, S. Savitha, Vasamsetti Subhash, Kondapalli Srinivas and Mandipalli Ram Prasad

Reddy.
Former Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu, former Chief Justice of India N.V. Ramana, Union Ministers Amit Shah, J.P. Nadda, Nitin Gadkari, Ram Mohan Naidu, Pemmasani Chandra Sekhar, Chirag Paswan, Kishan Reddy, Ramdas Athawale, Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde, state BJP president D. Purandeswari were present.
Superstars Rajinikanth, Chiranjeevi, popular actor and TDP MLA N. Balakrishna were among those present on the dais.

The Pillow

(Shibangi Dhara), Bandana Sahoo

He gets wet
When he cries
In the middle of the night
Wiping the tears from his eyes.

The chest brusts with a
Soundless roar
towards me.

Even though I understand,
I am confused
beside him,
Wire in his arms
bang to the head .

He has seen even the stone melt
drowning in tears
He who speaks harshly
blood flows through the hole
to break it .

Simple to very simple
From hard to very hard
to break
to join
and to stand firm.

In the dark he lived
He wakes up in the light of the
day
To share a little peace
A little hug in his tenderness.

Who else is the mother?
Where there is love, compassion
Where there is kinship
Selflessness
Where brutality thrives.

Jajpur
7205550713



Monsoon Came

Mr. Sadyant Satapathy

Monsoon Came Rain Came
Let's drink a glass of milk shake
Rain Came Rain Came
Let's play indoor game

Come on to make paper boat
Also come wearing with raincoat
Balcony is waiting for us
Tea is ready for us

Let us play in puddle
Let us drink hot water from the bottle
Come on to eat the maggi
Come on to eat coffee

Let us see cartoon
Let us eat popcorn
Have day with full of fun
Monsoon came Rain came



Class-VI A

Mother's Public School, Puri

Quotation of the Day

We don't have
a great day,
we make it
a great day!
Frosty Westering

Naga Log Drums and The Stories They Tell

Music is an inherent part of a tribal community and constitutes the essence of their society. The role of didactic performances and folk music are not limited to producing melodious sounds, but are also a way to communicate with their ancestors, and surroundings, and to transmit knowledge to future generations. It is not just the musical instruments themselves, but everything they incorporate that makes it an indispensable part of our tangible and intangible cultural heritage. One such instrument is the Naga log drum.

A Naga log drum can be categorised as an idiophone, an instrument that creates sound primarily by vibrations. It is called by different names depending on the tribe and region it belongs to. Though its primary function is that of a drum, it is also venerated like an idol. This tradition of making a log drum is practised in Naga tribes like the Konyak, Ao, Yimchunger, Sangtam, Phom, Khiamniungan and Chang of Nagaland and Wancho of Arunachal Pradesh. Traditionally, a log drum may be installed in the Morung (youth dormitory) or at a vantage point. Villages of these tribes could have one or two log drums, with the size of the village reflected in the size of the drums. The larger the village, the larger the drums.

Myths and beliefs associated

Each tribe has certain beliefs and myths associated with the making and beating of the log drum. The log drum of the Konyaks, Kham, is associated with the tribe's origin myth. Konyaks of Nagaland regard it a chief duty to serve their elders and to keep the memory of their ancestors alive. They believe that their ancestors used canoes carved out of single tree trunks to cross a mystical river and reach

their present settlement. Hence, in memory of this journey they carve the log drum to be of similar shape to the fateful canoe used by their ancestors. In a Konyak village, a new log drum may be carved every few decades depending on the village's needs.

A log drum cannot be made for individual purposes and must be for and by the community. This custom of carving log drums also created an environment that birthed Naga wood craftsmen and blacksmiths, further aiding in the preservation and development of their heritage.

A Sikkimese boy painting a mask

A log drum is considered to be a female entity and given a name by the village elder, believed to have been revealed to him in a dream. The whole process of making and installing a log drum could take three weeks or a month, and is all the while accompanied by rituals, prayers and feasts. This community feast is primarily prepared by the women folk and is an important part of the process. It is considered to be a bad omen if any community member were to miss out on this feast, as it is believed that they would have missed out on blessings.

Preparation and carving of the log drum

An extraordinary skill is required to make a log drum. A typical log drum consists of the head, chest, wing, neck, body, tail and drum sticks or beaters. Some may also have steps carved on the sides, which help in climbing the drum. Before the process of making a log drum starts, all disputes within the community members are settled. Compromises and negotiations are made, and debts and interests paid to ensure that a strong spirit of harmony and community prevails. The dense rainforests of

Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh make it ideal for sourcing the raw materials required in making a log drum. Once the tree is selected, it is struck with precision keeping in mind the direction the trunk would land. It



is felled amidst loud cries and prayers are offered. The log drum is ceremonial and must be protected at all costs. Tribesmen cover it with twigs, branches and leaves so that no wild animal vandalises it or worse, defecates on it. If any such unfortunate events were to occur then the log is abandoned. To ensure it is always supervised and protected, every night a camp is set up by members of the Morung wherever the log drum is.

Once the face and head of the trunk is decided, precise measurements and markings are made and the carving begins. The carvings on the drum could vary from each tribe and each village.

The whole carving is done in the forest by using traditional swords, knives and other indigenous tools. Only male members are allowed to participate in the making of the log drum. If a male is too young to help in the carving, he is required to contribute by setting up the camp and bringing

food and water. Young boys are to watch and learn as one day they are expected to take over the roles of their elders. Sturdy ropes are made out of vines to be used in pulling the drum, and wooden dowels are placed underneath to

make transportation easier. This task is usually assigned to the junior males who also gather the wood for the baton-shaped beaters, or Laphu and Lamphu as it is called in Konyak. Shaping of the log drum usually starts on the 8th-10th day. A long slit runs across the length of the drum and through this the drum is made hollow. The Konyaks believe that if the right side of the drum is slightly raised, then the village will be influenced by males, and if the left side is raised then it will be more influenced by females. The head of the log drum could be simple and blank, or be carved to represent auspicious animals like the mithun or tiger with their features painted in black, white and red. On the day when the final shaping is done, the tree trunk is formally recognised as a Kham/Khum or log drum. Men return to the Morung while singing songs that invoke the spirit of the mighty tree out of which the drum was carved. The log

drum is then named as a female entity and thenceforth, her name is invoked all the while that the drum is being pulled to the village. The Konyaks believe that the log drum is a female entity with wills and wishes of her own. This entity decides the



number of days she would take to reach the village, and would not move an inch if she didn't want to. She could create obstacles that would render her immovable, or she could create a smooth pathway leading to the village. The tree owner's consent is equally vital in deciding the movement of the log drum. Members of the Morung make a clear pathway, and any person who owns property in the line of

the pathway is duly compensated with cooked rice, meat, and blessings. Using the ropes, rollers and dowels, it is then pulled by employing the combined force and strength of the community members, all the while

the role of this chosen man is replaced by a pastor or church elder. Traditionally, women did not join the men in pulling, but their contribution is noted in the preparation of feasts, and singing of songs to the spirits and their ancestors. One such Konyak song goes, "Oh, mighty tree do not be upset Oh, mighty tree do not be upset Protect all men and women from any harm Oh, come mighty tree Oh, come mighty tree". This song is sung to venerate the tree from which the log drum is carved. It shows respect and gratitude for the tree's role in bringing blessings to the village. Such practices are common in tribal settlements as the forest and all that it encompasses are considered sacred and ceremonial.



accompanied by loud cries. To be the first man to climb the felled tree was an honour given to an experienced warrior, who was usually the one with the highest headcount. An honest man, he was also one of the few chosen men allowed to ride the drum into the village. This man must not have any in-laws residing in the village as it was considered to be a bad omen. Today, with the onset of Christianity

Finally, on an auspicious day pre-decided by the female entity, the log drum arrives in the village. A sumptuous feast is organised on her behalf, with contributions made by the whole village. Each family's contribution is decided based on their wealth and prosperity. In preparation for this, small sticks are used to accurately count the number of people ensuring that no one is left out. The final carvings are

done once the drum reaches the village and it is welcomed with merry songs and dances. It is then formally installed in the Morung, where men grab the beaters and beat the drum in rhythmic successions. In olden days, sacrifices were also made in honour of the log drum. The arrival of the log drum would be accompanied by hoisting of the heads of enemies up on a flag post. Blood of the enemies would also be smeared on it, and in Ao villages the log drum was not beaten until it was coloured with the blood of the enemy. A log drum serves numerous purposes. It was used to announce the return of the warriors after a successful raid, to call for a public meeting, to mourn the death of a community member, to sound an alarm on being attacked or when there was a fire, when a wild animal was killed, and

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Anurag Kashyap reacts amid alleged 'spineless' comment by Pankaj Jha



Director Anurag Kashyap recently reacted to reports of 'Panchayat' actor Pankaj Jha allegedly calling him 'spineless.' Kashyap said there are multiple versions of every story. Panchayat actor Pankaj Jha's recent comment about Anurag Kashyap and Pankaj Tripathi stirred a controversy. In an interview, the actor mentioned how he was supposed to play the part of Sultan in Gangs of Wasseypur, which later went to Tripathi. It was also reported that he had allegedly called Kashyap spineless and timid for not keeping his promise. However, the actor denied making such

comments, saying his statement was twisted. Reacting to Jha's reported comments, Anurag Kashyap exclusively told IndiaToday.in that there are two versions of every story as two people are involved in the same: "I don't remember what exactly happened. But we were shooting for The Girl in Yellow Boots and he had moved to Osho in Pune to paint. We were supposed to start shooting for Gangs of Wasseypur and he (Pankaj Jha) was not available. We were on a tight budget and could not wait for him. We made the film in a very



different condition and budget." Kashyap added that Pankaj Jha may be speaking about it now because he might be upset as Pankaj Tripathi has become very successful: "Now he may be thinking after 20 years, he could have become Pankaj Tripathi." Calling Jha his 'go-to actor', Kashyap added, "I have worked with him, and he has actually been my go-to actor. We worked in Gulaal and Black Friday. I would love to work with him again, but the fact is, he is not accessible at all." A few years back, Dev D actor Abhay Deol made comments about

Anurag Kashyap and even called him 'toxic'. Given an actor-director's relationship is based on faith, we wonder how he takes all these statements. "With Abhay, it was a different story. Whatever happened, the true story cannot be spoken out in public. Jitna bolna tha bol diya, usne bhi and maine bhi (Both of us have said what we had to). None of us can speak about it anymore on it," he added. Anurag Kashyap will soon be seen as the primary antagonist in Bad Cop, a series on Disney+ Hotstar. Also starring Gulshan Devaiah, the Aditya Datt-directed thriller will release on June 21.

'Ishq Vishk Rebound' trailer: Rohit Saraf, Pashmina Roshan film looks dated



The first trailer of 'Ishq Vishk Rebound' is out. The film stars Pashmina Roshan, Rohit Saraf, Naila Grrewal and Jibraan Khan in lead roles. It releases in cinemas on June 21. The first full trailer of Ishq Vishk Rebound is out, and by the looks of

it, this Rohit Saraf, Pashmina Roshan, Jibraan Khan and Naila Grrewal film appears to be a predictable affair, with friends falling in and out of love with each other, much like the original Shahid Kapoor-starrer. Except this time around,

we see some millennial and Gen Z lingo thrown in for good, like a 'rebound,' which means a relationship with someone after a rough break-up. Here, Pashmina Roshan and Rohit Saraf are close friends who break up with their respective

partners and realise they are actually attracted to each other. The official synopsis of the film reads, "Experience the journey of three best friends, 2 relationships, 2 breakups, and a cascade of unfolding confusions. See how the equations shift when romance sparks, and you are bound to wonder whether exes can truly remain friends? In an era where labels seem to matter less, Ishq Vishk Rebound asks: What really defines a bond?" Bankrolled by Ramesh Taurani and Jaya Taurani, Ishq Vishk Rebound has been directed by Nipun Avinash Dharmadhikari. It releases in cinemas on June 21.

Avneet Kaur Opens Up On Working With Nawazuddin Siddiqui In Tiku weds Sheru, Says 'He Is Serious, Passionate'

A fun and crazy journey of a hustler and a dreamer, Tiku Weds Sheru is the quirkiest romantic comedy-drama you'll be watching on Prime Video this weekend. Starring the versatile actor Nawazuddin Siddiqui and rising talent Avneet Kaur, the romedy is a tale of two starry-eyed characters, who want to make it big in Bollywood, journeying through all the worldly chaos and challenges. Avneet started her career in the entertainment industry as a child artist



twelve years ago and has now bagged her big break as a lead in Kangana Ranaut's maiden production. In the film, she gets to work with the National Award-winning actor Nawazuddin. Recently the actor opened up about the experience and

shared, "The seriousness and dedication that Nawaz sir has for his work is commendable. It is extremely important for us actors to be on and off. When an actor is on screen, they are on screen, you can't let anything affect you at that point. He is so

actor, no matter how many projects I do."

Kabir Khan on 'Chandu Champion': Would be criminal not to celebrate Murlikant Petkar

In an exclusive interview with IndiaToday.in, Kabir Khan discusses 'Chandu Champion', a biopic on Paralympic gold medallist Murlikant Petkar, and why Kartik Aaryan was chosen for the lead role. Kabir Khan's film 'Chandu Champion' is set for release on June 14. In an exclusive chat with IndiaToday.in, the filmmaker spoke about the film and why he chose Kartik Aaryan for the intense role. The sports biopic is based on Paralympic gold medallist, Murlikant Petkar. Calling it a 'compelling underdog story', Kabir feels that it would be 'criminal to not celebrate' the sports icon. Murlikant Petkar, India's first Paralympic gold medallist, is a true national hero. What inspired you to tell his story on the big screen? Sometimes we don't choose stories, the stories choose us. This is such a fabulous story. And I consider myself so fortunate that it came to me because it's just one of those most compelling underdog stories that you've ever heard. We tend to sometimes segment our stories - this is a sports story, this is a drama story. Actually, it's an amazing story of a man who refused to give up and when you read it, you feel so inspired and motivated. I felt that this story has to be told to this country because it's a hero that we've completely forgotten. And when you see the film, you realise what all this person achieved and how he achieved it - it would be criminal if you did not celebrate him. Fortunately, I was able to meet Mr Murlikant Petkar. I spent some time with him understanding the entire story because, as I said, he's a forgotten hero. Also, there's not much documentation about what he did, when he achieved all that. So, I had to spend a lot of time with him and his family to understand the story fully from him. And then, of course, also do deeper research with the associated parties to understand the story. **Kartik Aaryan is known for portraying lighter roles. What made you believe he was the right fit for this role?**



If you see my entire career, I never go by the image of that particular actor. If that was the case, then Salman [Khan] would not be chosen for 'Bajrangi [Bhaijaan]'. John and Katrina wouldn't be in 'New York'. For me, I just see the raw material in that person who's the actor. And, in this case, I just saw the sort of boyish enthusiasm that Murlikant Petkar needed in Kartik. I also saw the hunger in Kartik - to do something that is not what he's used to, to go into a zone which is going to be uncomfortable for him, to go through the journey of body transformation. He was so famous for his hair, he had to cut his hair off and present himself differently. And, sometimes, when you see that enthusiasm in an actor, that itself is half the battle won.

What do you have to say about the biopic formula that is often employed in Bollywood? We tend to call them biopics, but I'm glad that people are picking up true stories because our country is so full and rich with such amazing (stories), like the story of Murlikant Petkar, for example. If we had not made this film, unfortunately, maybe it would have gone uncelebrated, and we would have lost it forever. It's such an amazing and motivational story. It actually is more bizarre than something that a writer can sit in a room and write. If this was a fictional film, people would have said 'yeh toh ho hi nahi sakta'. But actually, this happened, and then it hits you. Deep in your heart, you feel like 'Oh my God, something like this really happened'. So I'm really happy that, of late, we have started digging into our contemporary history. As a film student, I used to always watch films when I was growing up. I used to envy Hollywood because I felt they would pick up such beautiful stories from contemporary or recent history and bring them to the screen. I used to wonder, 'Why can't we do that?' But I'm so glad, today, many filmmakers are doing it, and audiences are supporting and loving those films. **This is your second film with Sajid Nadiadwala. How has the association been?** Sajid is a great collaborator. He's one of those who comes from that old world of the Hindi film industry, where producers are really passionate about their product and were not just money bags or committees in boardrooms sanctioning films. He truly is a storyteller himself. He becomes your support system to be able to mount a film at a certain level and at a certain scale. 'Chandu...' needed huge mounting and Sajid has been a pillar of strength in allowing me to mount it in a certain way that I needed.

As the release is approaching, how are you feeling about sharing Chandu Champion with the world? I'm truly excited. See that's what (happens) when you feel strongly about a story. You can't wait to share it because that's what you make it for. We were so happy with the way 'Chandu Champion' has come out. We are really happy with the kind of response that our trailer has got. It just goes to show that I think he managed to strike a chord with the people. So I'm truly excited to share it with the rest of the world.

Stop Tampering with the Statues of Bapu, Baba Saheb, Shivaji

Vivek Shukla



There is a commotion brewing over the relocation of the statues of Mahatma Gandhi, Baba Saheb Ambedkar, and Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj, which have stood in the Parliament House complex for decades. They are now being moved to new locations, to be called "Prerna Sthal ". The question arises: what is the point of moving these statues of great figures of our nation from one place to another, especially after they have been in these spots for so many years? The entire country draws inspiration from them. Their very presence exudes a unique blend of emotion and dynamism. For decades, visitors to Parliament House have bowed before them. Let's begin with the life-size statue of Mahatma

Gandhi installed in Parliament House. The entire nation sees this statue on their television sets during every parliamentary session. Bapu is depicted in a meditative state. In front of him, leaders from different political parties hold protests or shout slogans to attract the government's attention on various issues. This statue of Bapu was created by the renowned sculptor Ram Sutar. He is also the creator of the Statue of Unity, the monument dedicated to Sardar Patel. Ram Sutar is an expert at crafting captivating statues from concrete, clay, plaster of Paris, and other readily available materials. He is a man of conviction, never tiring. Unmindful of the weather, this unique artist is so engrossed in his art that he loses track of day and night. Atal Bihari Vajpayee was one of his ardent admirers. He has created hundreds of life-size and bust statues across India and abroad. But Sutar Ram

considers the statue of Gandhiji in Parliament to be one of his finest works. He always found it more pleasing to see larger-than-life statues of the nation's heroes standing atop rocks or mountains, rather than confined within the walls of a building. As you stand near Gandhi ji's statue in Parliament House, you truly feel elevated. A sense of peace washes over you. At times, it even feels like Gandhi ji is about to ask you a question. Clearly, many people are disappointed with the relocation of this statue from Parliament House. Interestingly, the portrait of Gandhi ji was unveiled in Parliament house even in his life time on August 28, 1947. It was made by Oswald Birley (31 March 1880 – 6 May 1952). He was an English portrait painter. He painted several highly regarded portraits of Sir Winston Churchill and many war-time leaders such as Generals Eisenhower and Montgomery.

Bapu's First Statue
Meanwhile, after the assassination of Mahatma Gandhi, the government entrusted 28-year-old sculptor Sadashiv Rao Sathe from Mumbai with the task of creating a life-size statue of the Father of the Nation. This statue was to be

sculptor. He took on this momentous responsibility as a challenge and proved his creative genius by creating an unparalleled statue of Gandhiji. This statue was unveiled in 1952. It is possibly the first life-size statue of Gandhiji in the nation. When was Baba

S a r v e p a l l i R a d h a k r i s h n a n , unveiled it. This statue was crafted by the great sculptor, B.V. Wagh. Meanwhile, the portrait of Baba Saheb in the Central Hall of Parliament House was painted by Ms. Zeba Amrohawi . This portrait was unveiled

The first statue of Baba Saheb was installed at Ambedkar Bhavan, located on Rani Jhansi Road in capital city, on April 14th, 1957? Baba Saheb laid the foundation stone for Ambedkar Bhavan on April 16th, 1950. " Dr. Saheb's s first birthday after his death on December 6th, 1956, saw the installation of his first statue here. After that, statues of Baba Saheb began to emerge all over the country, " informs writer and poet Dr. Ravinder Kumar, whose father Heti Lal Pipal used to work with him (Dr Ambedkar) when he was staying at 26 Shamnath Marg in capital.

The statue of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj was installed in Parliament House on April 28th, 2003. It is a 18-foot tall statue made of copper. On the day it was unveiled, nearly all the parliamentarians from Maharashtra were present. It is also installed at a new place.

Meanwhile, Delhi showcased its deep respect for this valiant son of India by installing a life-size statue of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj on the road leading from Connaught Place towards Minto Road in 1972. This statue was also sculpted by Sadashiv Rao Sathe. Who hasn't been captivated by this equestrian statue? Chhatrapati Shivaji's horse is standing on one leg. The statue will only stay balanced if the tail is secured with a strong rod for stability. Only an artist like Sadashiv Sathe could understand this.

In any case, those wise men who have decided to relocate the statues of Gandhiji, Baba Saheb, and Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj from Parliament House should have given more thought before implementing their decision.

The Author is a Delhi based columnist and former Editor



installed outside the Town Hall in Chandni Chowk in Delhi. Sathe was not known until then. However, he was beginning to make a name for himself as a promising young

Saheb's Statue Installed?
The statue of Baba Saheb in the Parliament House complex was installed on April 2nd, 1967. The then-President of India, Dr.

on April 12th, 1990, by Mr. Vishwanath Pratap Singh, who was the Prime Minister of India at the time. This statue is also being relocated to a new site. This is not right.

Will Rajasthan be able to be free from TB by 2025?

Amarpal Singh Verma



Many diseases are still a challenge in the whole world. Many countries are trying to eradicate these diseases but due to various reasons, it is becoming difficult to control them. Tuberculosis, which is said to be the oldest disease in human history, is also one of these diseases. Rajasthan, the largest state of India, is facing the challenge of TB disease. Although treatment for TB is available, still a lot of hard work has to be done to eradicate TB in the state as compared to all other infectious diseases. Like the whole country, the roots of TB are very old and deep in Rajasthan too. 26 percent of the world's TB patients are in India and six percent of them are in Rajasthan, due to which TB eradication has remained a challenge for a long time. The government has taken extensive steps for this, but even today there is a lack of necessary awareness about this deadly disease, lack of knowledge about the ways to avoid infection

and misconceptions, negligence and blind faith prevalent in the community regarding proper treatment of patients are obstacles in TB eradication. The World Health Organization set the goal of eliminating TB by the year 2030, and India went even further by setting the goal of eliminating TB by 2025. Under the central government's goal, work was started on a large scale in Rajasthan, but instead of decreasing, new cases of TB are increasing continuously here. According to the data, one lakh 2032 patients were found in the state in the year 2015, which increased to one lakh 6756 in the year 2016. Similarly, one lakh 5953 patients were found in the year 2017, which increased to one lakh 79 thousand 168 in the year 2018. One lakh 75 thousand 218 patients were found in the year 2019, which increased to one lakh 37 thousand 343 in the year 2020. Similarly, in the year 2021, one lakh 49 thousand 225 patients were found in the state, whose number has increased to one lakh 69 thousand 522 in the year 2023. Most of the cases in the state are of lung TB, but MDR TB also remains a big crisis for health. This is a type of TB on which medicines

have no effect. Every year about one and a half thousand patients of MDR TB are coming up in the state. Out of every one lakh people in the state, 209.3 people are suffering from TB. The rural and poor and deprived class people of the state are facing the maximum outbreak of TB. Although no district of the state is untouched by TB, but the maximum number of patients are coming up in Jaipur, Ajmer, Alwar, Banswara, Bharatpur, Bhilwara, Bikaner, D u n g a r p u r , H a n u m a n g a r h , Sriganganagar, Jodhpur, Karauli, Kota, Nagaur, Tonk, Udaipur and Sikar districts. TB disease has become a challenge in tribal-dominated Banswara, Dungarpur districts because most migration takes place from there. Due to migration, the identified patients are not getting treatment. According to a study by Geetanjali Medical College, Udaipur, an increase in the prevalence of TB has been observed among silicosis patients in the mining area near Udaipur in the southern part of the state. The outbreak of TB has increased in many villages around the Suratgarh Thermal Power Station in Sriganganagar district.

Reports of increase in TB cases have also come in the media in many other industrial and mining areas of the state. However, the success rate of TB treatment has increased in Rajasthan. According to the India TB Report 2023, the success rate in the state is 84.7 percent, but still three percent of people suffering from TB die every year. In the year 2021, 4852 people have lost their lives due to TB. These deaths are happening due to delay in starting treatment. TB patients leaving treatment midway, many registered patients not being traced after some time and treatment failing are also the reasons for the increase of TB. According to the latest report, 2.7 percent people in Rajasthan leave treatment midway and disappear, due to which it is not possible to follow up their disease. While the disease of such people is increasing due to lack of treatment, they are also becoming the reason for spreading infection. This is very worrying because one TB patient can infect fifteen people. Apart from this, the treatment of 0.6 percent people in

the state is proving ineffective. The government in the state is sending five hundred rupees to the account of every patient under the Nikshay Poshan Yojana. The government is spending crores of rupees every year on expensive medicines and tests, but every year a large number of new patients are found and deaths due to TB show the seriousness of the situation. In such a situation, the question arises whether the target of making Rajasthan TB free by 2025 can be achieved? Dr. SP Singh, a former Indian Administrative Service officer who has served in the Medical and Health Department of Rajasthan for 27 years, says that the efforts to eliminate TB have certainly gained momentum due to the activeness of WHO, the government and various agencies, but it is still not possible to eliminate TB by 2025. Even though this is due to increasing the scope of investigation, the way TB patients are increasing year after year in Rajasthan, it is certain that it will take time to eliminate TB. Until the number of patients does not decrease, TB cannot be expected to end. If all efforts are made in a

coordinated manner, it will take three to five more years to eliminate TB. Dr. Singh, who was selected as a consultant in the Revised National Tuberculosis Control Program (RNTCP) of the World Health Organization in the year 2001, says that lack of necessary resources, poor health infrastructure in rural areas, poverty, lack of nutrition, blind faith are such reasons which are not allowing us to achieve victory over TB. The last chapter of TB can be written only with additional efforts. On the other hand, the state government claims that extensive work is being done to make the state TB free. 'TB Free Gram Panchayat Abhiyan' is being run to make villages TB free and to identify and treat patients up to the Gram Panchayat level. In Rajasthan, last year, the second phase of 'TB Free Gram Panchayat Abhiyan' was started in 7 thousand Gram Panchayats to make the Gram Panchayats of the state TB free. This year this campaign will be run in 9328 Panchayats. Next year this campaign will run in all the remaining Panchayats. In the year 2022, eight districts have been honored by giving Sub National Certificate of

TB Elimination Award for remarkable work towards TB elimination. 29 Gram Panchayats of the state have been declared TB free. Last year, Rajasthan has reached fourth place in the country in terms of identifying TB patients, giving better treatment and providing them financial assistance. The state has done remarkable work in 9 indexes like examination of infected patients, expenditure on medicines and tests etc. and TB Preventive Therapy (TPT) in small children up to the age of six years, but the target of making the state TB free by the year 2025 still seems to be far away. Acting State Nodal Officer (TB) Dr. Indrajit Singh says that we are making the facility of molecular test available to CHCs in the state. Due to this, correct investigation is being done and the risk of untimely death is being averted. We are rapidly increasing these tests in the state. He tells that more TB cases are being reported in the state because there has been progress in registering the information of TB patients in the state. Active TB cases are being detected by connecting private health providers to the

campaign on a large scale. On the question of Rajasthan becoming TB free by the year 2025, Dr. Singh said that we are trying to ensure that no one dies of TB in the state, take care of potential patients and provide smooth treatment. This will make the dream of TB free Rajasthan come true. As per the need, the government can extend the target of TB free by the year 2025 by one or two years.

Dr. SP Singh says that there is a need to work on a large scale to eliminate TB. On the one hand, while working as a mass movement for TB free Rajasthan will have to be done, on the other hand, coordinated and effective efforts will have to be made to ensure success in identifying people who come in contact with TB infected and implementing measures for prevention of the disease, otherwise not only will the efforts to eradicate TB in Rajasthan be affected, but the fulfillment of the dream of making India TB free will also be questioned.

(The author is a Independent journalist from Rajasthan. He has written this article under Reach Media Fellowship.)

Surama Padhy Likely To Be New Speaker Of Odisha Legislative Assembly

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Senior BJP leader and Ranpur MLA Surama Padhy is likely to become the new Speaker of the Odisha Legislative Assembly.

Padhy has been named as the candidate for the Speaker's post in the 17th Assembly in Odisha by the BJP after the party formed government in the state



by defeating the Naveen Patnaik-led BJD in the 2024 polls. Born on 29th December 1960, Smt Padhy is an Indian politician of Odisha. She is an MLA from Ranpur Assembly Constituency in Nayagarh district. She represents the Bharatiya Janata Party. Padhy won the 2024

Odisha Legislative Assembly election from Ranpur Assembly Constituency representing Bharatiya Janata Party. She defeated Satyanarayan Pradhan of Biju Janata Dal by a margin of 15,544 votes. Earlier, she lost the 2019 Odisha Legislative Assembly election to Pradhan by a narrow margin of 4,251 votes.

Defence Minister, Goa CM Visit Puri Srimandir



Puri(KCN): The Defence Minister of India Sri Rajnath Singh and the Chief Minister of Goa Sri Pramod Sawant visited Puri Srimandir today ahead of the oath-taking ceremony of the new Odisha CM Mohan Majhi in Bhubaneswar. Along with the Defence Minister, the Railway Minister Sri Ashwini Vaishnav, Puri MP Sambit Patra, Bhahmagiri MLA Upasana Mohapatra, Satyabadi MLA Om

Prakash Mishra visited Srimandir today. Puri SP and Collector and the Servitors of Srimandir welcomed the Defence Minister and the Railway Minister. The Chief Minister of Goa Sri Pramod Sawant also visited Lord Jagannath temple today. Ex-MLA of Puri Jayant Sarangi and the Servitors welcomed him. The ministers are scheduled to attend the oath-taking ceremony of Odisha CM Mohan Majhi at Janata Maidan, Bhubaneswar at 5:00 PM.

Gujarat Government Prepares Draft Rules For Gaming Zones, Invites Suggestions

Ahmedabad(KCN): In the wake of the deadly fire at a game zone in Rajkot which claimed 27 lives last month, the Gujarat government on Wednesday came out with draft rules which seek to ensure safety at such recreation facilities. The objective behind the proposed 'The Gujarat Amusement Rides and Gaming Zone Activities (Safety) Rules-2024' is to ensure that such tragedies do not take place again, said health minister and government spokesperson Rishikesh Patel.

The draft rules were uploaded on the state home department's website so that people can submit suggestions or objections, Patel told reporters in Gandhinagar after the first meeting of the state cabinet following the Lok Sabha elections.



Suggestions can be submitted by June 25 to the home department's email ID 'home@gujarat.gov.in'. Under section 33 of the Gujarat Police Act, 1951, the Commissioner of Police and District Magistrates have the authority to frame rules in this regard. The final rules will be

notified after getting necessary approvals, the minister said. As to the Rajkot tragedy, the BJP government in the state is committed to take action against those who would be found guilty in the inquiries being conducted by local police as well as the Special Investigation Team, Patel said.

The government will not hesitate to take action against even senior officials or elected representatives, he added. "The SIT has been recording statements of concerned officials. It is free to call anyone for investigation. It will submit its report to the High Court as well as the

government by June 20 and further action will be taken as per the findings," the minister said. As many as 27 persons, including children, were charred to death in a massive fire that gutted TRP Game Zone in Rajkot city on May 25. Probe found that the facility did not have the No Objection Certificate (NOC) from the municipal fire department. Following the incident, the state government formed an SIT headed by senior IPS officer Subhash Trivedi to find the cause of the fire, loopholes in the system and to suggest steps to be taken to prevent such incidents in the future. So far, police have arrested five co-owners of the game zone and four government officials on the charges of negligence and dereliction of duty.

For 300 Crore Property, She Allegedly Got Father-In-Law Killed, Paid 1 Crore



Nagpur(KCN): The investigation into an 82-year-old man's death in a hit-and-run in Nagpur has uncovered a grisly murder conspiracy allegedly hatched by his daughter-in-law for family property worth ? 300 crore. Archana

Manish Puttewar, assistant director in the town planning department, was arrested last week, over a fortnight after her father-in-law Purushottam Puttewar was run over by a car. A police officer told

news agency PTI that Ms Puttewar hired people for the hit and spent about ? 1 crore. "She gave funds to the accused to purchase a used car to knock down her father-in-law. This was done to make the murder look like an

accident. It is apparently to gain control of his property of ? 300 crore," the officer said. The officer added that the 53-year-old woman allegedly plotted the murder with her husband's driver Bagde and two other accused, Neeraj Nimje and Sachin Dharmik. Police have charged them with murder and other sections under the IPC and Motor Vehicles Act. Two cars, gold jewellery and mobile phones have been seized. The police's investigation has found that on the day of the incident, Purushottam Puttewar had gone to the hospital to meet his

wife Shakuntala, who was recovering after a surgery. On his way back, the hired car ran him over. His son and Archana's husband Manish is a doctor. The investigation into the murder case, meanwhile, has also found gross irregularities in Ms Puttewar's work in the town planning department. There were multiple complaints, but no action was taken owing to her political connections, the probe has found. She is accused of violating norms and clearing illegal layouts. Her arrest and the serious charge of plotting a family member's murder may also prompt a deeper investigation into alleged irregularities in her work.

Reviving the Ganga: ICAR-CIFRI's Ranching Triumph in Murshidabad

Kolkata,(KCN): Under the banner of the Namami Gange project, the ICAR-Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute (ICAR-CIFRI), Barrackpore, continues its steadfast efforts towards the conservation and restoration of the revered Ganga River. Recently, a significant milestone was achieved in Lalbag, Murshidabad, as part of the National Ranching Program III. The primary objective of this river ranching endeavor is to replenish the depleted fish stocks of the Ganga. ICAR-CIFRI, in its unwavering commitment, has successfully released over 110 lakhs of fish fingerlings of Indian Major Carps across various sites spanning four states. In Murshidabad, the institute orchestrated a ranching program aimed at safeguarding and rejuvenating the Ganga River. A collaborative effort involving 40 local fishermen and women, alongside scientists and other members of the ICAR-CIFRI project team, culminated in the release of an additional 3.27 lakh fingerlings of



Indian Major Carps into the Ganga River at Badha Ghat, Lalbag, Murshidabad. Scientists from ICAR-CIFRI elucidated the goals of the Namami Gange initiative, underlining its recent achievements while raising awareness among local fishermen about the imperative need to preserve the health of the Ganges River system. Shri Banamali Roy, the Sub-Divisional Officer of Lalbag, attended the program and appreciated all the members of the Namami Gange Project for their tireless efforts. Emphasizing the results from NMCG Phases I and II, the scientists underscored notable accomplishments. These included studies on fish diversity, assessments of economically significant species like Hilsa, development of seeds

from wild germplasm, and mega ranching activities along designated river lengths. The success of this ranching event could potentially render the Ganga River system more sustainable in the long run. Dr. Basanta Kumar Das, the Principal Investigator and Director of ICAR-CIFRI, provided an overview of the latest fish conservation efforts under the Namami Gange program, accentuating the successes of the previous Phase III project. This concerted effort signifies a crucial step towards the preservation and restoration of the Ganga River, vital not only for its ecological significance but also for the livelihoods it sustains and the cultural heritage it embodies.

SMP, Kolkata Unveils Historic Volume-Based Rebate Scheme to Boost Cargo Throughput at Haldia Dock Complex for FY 2024-2025



Kolkata, (KCN):In a landmark achievement, the Haldia Dock Complex of Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port, Kolkata (SMP, Kolkata) has registered its highest-ever cargo throughput in the fiscal year 2023-24. To sustain this growth momentum, and facilitate more cargo traffic at the port, SMP, Kolkata has introduced a groundbreaking volume-based rebate scheme for FY 2024-25.

The scheme provides concession on augmentation of cargo like all dry bulk cargo like Coal, Manganese Ore, Iron Ore, lime stone etc. This innovative scheme offers customers a rebate of up to Rs. 100 per metric ton of cargo handled, significantly reducing cargo-related and vessel-related

charges. There is also provision for new customers who are all willing to come to Haldia Dock Complex. The initiative underscores SMP, Kolkata's dedication towards ease of doing business to attract more customers.

To facilitate utilisation of the potential offered by the instant rebate scheme, SMP, Kolkata organised an interactive session, with the key stakeholders on June 10, 2024. Shri Rathendra Raman, Chairman, SMP Kolkata emphasised, "We are committed to fostering growth and prosperity for our stakeholders. The session was conducted by Shri Raman, along with Shri A. K. Mehra, Deputy Chairman of Haldia Dock Complex and Shri Samrat Rahi,

Deputy Chairman of Kolkata Dock System.

Shri Raman added that the rebate scheme is a testament to our dedication to supporting our customers and driving economic development in the region. He urged all users to maximise their cargo throughput and fully benefit from this historic initiative.

The session saw enthusiastic support from stakeholders, who hailed the rebate scheme as a historic initiative, marking a new era of collaboration and growth for the port and its hinterland. This trade-oriented initiative is set to propel the Haldia Dock Complex of SMP, Kolkata to new heights in the coming fiscal year and is expected to unleash new voyages of growth for both the port and its hinterland.

CRPF organises free medical camp in Sarmarg Village Of North Kashmir Handwara

NewDelhi,(KCN):A free medical health check-up camp was organized by 92 Battalion Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) at Government Upper Primary School Sarmarg Handwara, during which free check up and free medicines were distributed among local populace. The camp was inaugurated by

Commandant 92 Battalion Naresh Kumar along with former sarpanch Tanvir Ahmad Lone, Second in Command S Kengoo, Assistant Commandant Depak Kumar, Dr Irshad Ahamd Rather Medical Officer 92 Battalion and other dignitaries were present on this occasion. Medical camp was organised in consonance

with the ongoing peace process by security forces across Kashmir Valley. A team of specialist doctors rendered their services to over 315 patients. During the medical camp a number of people including women, children and senior citizens of the area visited to take advantage of the camp.

Battling Dengue : Dr. Jasmine Afroz's Essential Advice for a Safe Monsoon Season

Bhubaneswar, (KCN Bureau): With the onset of the rainy season from June to September the risk of dengue transmission peaks, necessitating heightened awareness and proactive measures. Dr. Jasmine Afroz, the esteemed medical superintendent of the Community Health Centre in Gop, Puri district, Odisha has shared essential prevention tips to help reduce the risk of dengue fever infection during this critical period.

Dengue fever is a mosquito-borne viral infection, primarily spread by the Aedes aegypti mosquito. According to the World Health Organization

(WHO) about 390 million Dengue infections occur globally each year with approximately 96 million resulting in clinical manifestations. Symptoms of the disease include high fever, severe headaches, pain behind the eyes, joint and muscle pain, rash and mild bleeding, such as nose or gum bleeds. In severe cases, it can lead to Dengue Hemorrhagic Fever or Dengue Shock Syndrome both of which can be fatal. Understanding these symptoms and the mode of transmission is crucial for effective prevention and control.

Dr. Afroz emphasizes the importance of regularly inspecting and eliminating

stagnant water in and around homes as the Aedes mosquito breeds in such environments. Common sites for mosquito breeding include flowerpots, discarded tyres, buckets and containers. She advises ensuring that water storage containers are tightly covered and that birdbaths, pet water bowls and vases are emptied and cleaned at least once a week. Additionally, proper disposal of old tires, broken appliances and other items that can collect rainwater is essential in reducing mosquito breeding grounds. Preventing mosquito bites is another critical

aspect of Dengue prevention. Dr. Afroz recommends using mosquito repellents containing DEET, picaridin or oil of lemon eucalyptus on exposed skin and clothing. Wearing long-sleeved shirts, long pants and socks especially during early morning and late afternoon when Aedes mosquitoes are most active, can also help reduce the risk of bites. In areas with high mosquito density, using mosquito nets while sleeping provides an additional layer of protection. In India alone, it is estimated that 6-24 million Dengue cases occur annually highlighting



the importance of such preventive measures.

Combating Dengue requires collective action and Dr. Afroz calls for community participation in cleanliness drives and mosquito control programs. Regular community-wide initiatives can significantly reduce mosquito populations and prevent the spread of the disease. She also stresses the importance of educational campaigns to inform the

public about Dengue symptoms, transmission and prevention. Schools, local organizations and media can play a pivotal role in disseminating this information empowering individuals with the knowledge needed to protect themselves and their communities.

Prompt medical attention can prevent severe complications associated with Dengue. Dr. Afroz advises seeking immediate medical care

if Dengue symptoms appear. Early diagnosis and supportive treatment can improve outcomes and reduce the risk of severe illness. Public awareness and education about the importance of early detection and treatment are therefore crucial components of an effective Dengue prevention strategy. The Indian government reports that timely medical intervention has reduced the Dengue fatality rate to below 1%, underscoring the efficacy of early treatment.

Dr. Jasmine Afroz's insights underscore the critical importance of proactive and preventive measures in combating

Dengue. As the rainy season brings an increased risk of Dengue transmission, her advice serves as a vital resource for communities in Odisha and beyond. By eliminating breeding sites, protecting against mosquito bites, fostering community action, promoting education and ensuring early medical intervention we can collectively work towards a Dengue-free environment. Her comprehensive approach highlights the need for both individual and collective efforts to prevent the spread of this debilitating disease and safeguard public health during the peak transmission period.

Kewda, lifeline of Ganjam farmers



Ganjam(KCN): Kewda flower plant, which is found in many coastal areas of the country, is considered a cash crop for farmers in Ganjam district.

The coastal areas of Ganjam district have the maximum concentration of Kewda forests in the country. Moreover, Kewda has also been cultivated here since ages as the flower is considered to be an asset for the farmers of this district.

Apart from the flower, other parts of the Kewda plant are also commercially exploited in the district.

Kewda is mainly grown in Chhatrapur, Chikiti, and Rangeilunda blocks, while it is also cultivated in Khallikote, Patrapur, and Kanishi blocks. Villages such as Kelua Palli, Indrakhi, Tulu, Chhandanbadi, Golabandha, Sanapadar, Mananti, Bishwanathpur and Markandi are known for their large Kewda flower plantations.

The Kewda plant grows up to 4-6 metres in height. Lingraj Sahu, who grows Kewda flower in Indrakhi village, said that the plantation constitutes the lifeline for many

farmers in various blocks of the district.

The Kewda plant blooms three times a year – between April to May, July to September, and December to February. The plant starts blooming when it is about five to seven years old. It is said that as the tree ages, it produces more flowers. An 18 to 20-year-old Kewda plant can produce around 40 flowers, while a plant aged between 30 and 40 years gives a yield of around 40 to 60 flowers.

The Kewda plant thrives well in the coastal sandy soil. Harvesters, or agents, collect the flowers and bring those to distillation units. Fresh and mature Kewda flowers are sold at prices ranging from Rs15 to 40 per flower.

The petals and the lower part of the Kewda flower are removed, and the filaments are separated before they are placed in large brass or copper vessels for distillation. The hot vapour through the flowers is passed through a paraffin filtration system, and, thereafter, through a low temperature condensation system (roots) to extract the

essence. About 15 to 20 milligrams of essence can be extracted from approximately one thousand flowers. The high-quality essence collected from these flowers is sold at prices amounting to lakhs of rupees. One litre of Kewda flower essence usually fetches over Rs4 lakh in the international market. However, it is alleged that the farmers in Ganjam get anything between Rs10,000-15,000 as proceeds of sale of one litre of the essence.

There is a significant demand for Kewda flower essence in the international market. Annually, the Kewda flower trade generates around Rs50 -60 crore rupees. The essence is particularly used in the manufacturing of pan masala, zarda, sherbet, sweets, incense sticks, and medicinal products. The essence is sold to various states and countries, providing a good source of income to the farmers.

Noted social worker Natabar Sahu said there are around 170 to 180 Kewda flower distillation units in Ganjam district, benefiting around 5 lakh

harvesters. There are about 1.5 lakh people involved in the trade.

Aju Nayak, a Kewda flower harvester, said that the industry in Berhampur has been adversely affected, particularly due to cyclones like Phailin which destroyed around 30 per cent of the Kewda forests in the coastal areas of Ganjam district. However, efforts to regenerate Kewda forests have provided a renewed source of livelihood to the harvesters. Training programmes have been conducted at regular intervals to examine the quality and requirements of the flowers. Despite this, there has been some dissatisfaction among the harvesters due to a perceived reduction in the support and incentives provided, he said.

The Odisha University of Agriculture and Technology (OUAT), along with other research institutions, has decided to provide technical assistance and encouragement to Kewda flower harvesters. However, these initiatives have not yet been fully implemented. Locals said if the necessary governmental incentives are provided, the harvesters would greatly benefit.

Apart from the Kewda essence business, some harvesters also make handicraft products such as baskets, mats, trays, and chairs from Kewda leaves, supplementing their income.

Jilted youth kills girlfriend over denial of marriage

Bissam Katak(KCN): In a shocking incident, a youth allegedly killed his girlfriend and threw her body in a forest near Kiribiri Chowk under this police limits in Rayagada district Monday over her family members' denial of their marriage.

The deceased was identified as Nitu Nauri of Block Colony under Bissam Katak police limits and the accused as her boyfriend Manual Sabar, a resident of

Marathiguda under Gunupur police limits.

According to the family members of the deceased, Manual had a relationship with Nitu for long and was often coming to their residence. Manual wanted to marry Nitu, but her family rejected his marriage proposal. Manual called Nitu over phone Monday afternoon and tried to convince her for marriage. However, when she refused to

marry him, he killed her and threw her body in the forest.

Later Manual surrendered before police at Gunupur police station. However, Gunupur police handed over the accused to officials at Bissam Katak police station under whose jurisdiction the crime was committed. Informed, police reached the spot, seized the body and sent it to hospital for post-

mortem. Police then initiated an investigation into the incident with the help of a scientific team to ascertain the exact reason behind her death.

On the other hand, family members of the deceased have demanded strict action against the accused. Demanding justice for the bereaved family, villagers blocked the main road connecting Rayagada to Bhawanipatna.



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Upgradation of knowledge and skills of the fishers of Seohar district, Bihar through on-campus training

Kolkata, (KCN): When it comes to inland open water resources like rivulets, reservoirs, canals, chauras, and mauns, the Sheohar district in Bihar is incredibly resourceful. In the Sheohar district, there is a shortage of fish despite the abundance of aquatic resources. In keeping with the goal of improving the knowledge and abilities of the fishers of Seohar District, ICAR-CIFRI, Barrackpore, has conducted a seven-day training program on "Inland Fisheries Management" from January 3-9, 2024, with an emphasis on improving production and ensuring livelihood security. This training program was attended by 30 active fish farmers. The Institute's Director, Dr. B.K. Das, placed special emphasis on the fishermen's knowledge-based skill development regarding



multiple aspects of the inland fisheries production system and management, which will secure their sustainable livelihood. He believed that to maximize production and productivity, fishermen needed to acquire scientific information and apply it to their resource exploration. Dr. Das also gave the trainees information on the

emerging opportunities for entrepreneurship in India's inland fisheries. Untapped potential is abundant in this district for inland fisheries development, which might raise living standards. The goal of this training program was to bridge the attitude, skill, and knowledge gaps that existed between inland fishery administration and

farmers. Lectures on a wide range of topics were covered in the coursework, including how to construct and maintain ponds, the chemistry of soil and water, induced breeding, nursery and rearing pond management, transporting live fish seeds, composite fish farming, ornamental fisheries, enclosure culture, fish feed management, disease management, zero budget natural farming, inland fisheries and climate change, economic evaluation, and a general overview of the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana, along with showcasing the CIFRI products. Field trips included visits to

the ICAR-CIFA Kalyani Fish Farms, the East Kolkata Wetlands (EKW), the ornamental fish market, and the Halisahar fish farm. Participants had access to the Institute's Recirculatory Aquaculture System (RAS), Bio-floc units, ornamental hatchery units, and feed mill in addition to receiving hands-on training on a wide range of topics targeted to specific needs, such as basic water quality parameters, the preparation of fish feed using easily available feed ingredients, the identification of fish pathogens and their respective remedial measures, etc. During the feedback session, it appeared that the trainees were generally satisfied with the newly acquired information, which would be very helpful in their future activities. Dr. B.K. Das, director of the institute, encouraged the farmers to apply what they had learned to improve their level of production integration. Dr. Aparna Roy and Dr. Dibakar Bhakta coordinated the training program, with assistance from Sujit Chowdhury, Manabendra Roy, Mr. Y. Ali, and Kausik Mondal.

Nuvoco successfully completes AFR Project at its Risa Cement Plant, Chhattisgarh and Nimbol Cement Plant, Rajasthan

Bhubaneswar : Nuvoco Vistas Corp. Ltd., India's fifth-largest cement group in terms of capacity and among the leading players in East India, successfully announced the completion of its Alternative Fuel Resource (AFR) project at Risa Cement Plant (RCP), Chhattisgarh and Nimbol Cement Plant (NCP), Rajasthan. This milestone achievement illustrates Nuvoco's commitment to reducing dependency on fossil fuels and promoting sustainable practices within the cement industry. With the use of alternative fuels, the company strives to reduce the usage of fossil fuels and minimize its environmental impact. Alternative fuels are a crucial step towards reducing carbon emissions and mitigating the adverse effects of climate change. Nuvoco has dedicatedly installed a system that is capable of utilizing agricultural waste, RDF (Refused Derived Fuel), plastic waste, municipal waste, biomass, tyre chips and other hazardous waste

sources. By incorporating these alternative fuels into its manufacturing process, Nuvoco is taking significant strides towards achieving its sustainability goals. Nuvoco has introduced AFR feeding into the Pyro-process system for enabling uniform feeding and incorporating all necessary safety interlocks throughout. This system allows us to consume alternate fuels in an efficient and effective way without impacting the environmental standards prescribed and approved by the Pollution Control Board of India. Although this project is primarily focused on environmental sustainability, it also has several other benefits for clinker production and can offer significant cost savings through its alternative fuels program. Mr. Jayakumar Krishna Swamy, Managing Director, Nuvoco stated, "As part of our PROTECT OUR PLANET agenda, we view the AFR project as an important step towards fulfilling our

commitment to sustainable cement manufacturing and reducing the environmental impacts. The successful completion of this project demonstrates our commitment to reducing carbon emissions, maximizing waste consumption, and demonstrating responsible resource management practices." Additionally, he stated, "The adoption of alternative fuels also aids in resolving issues associated with landfills and unhygienic waste accumulation. For instance, in its cement manufacturing process, Nuvoco uses plastic waste, RDF (Refused Derived Fuel), and municipal waste that is harmful to cattle and other wildlife due to its carcinogenic qualities as an alternative fuel. This along with other themes under PROTECT OUR PLANET agenda are enabling Nuvoco to build robust partnerships with several stakeholders and contribute to society at large."

Experience the best-in-class customer services at 11 new Alpha Service Centers across India

Bhubaneswar : Sony India is expanding its Alpha Service Network across 11 cities in India including Mumbai, Coimbatore, Jaipur, Pune, Hyderabad, Ahmedabad, Trivandrum, Chennai, Indore, Bhubaneswar and Guwahati. This is expansion for Alpha Camera body and lens repairs facilities is a testament to the brand's continued dedication to customer satisfaction. Sony now has the widest service network of after sales support for Digital Imaging products with 8 service centers for lens repairs, 18 service centers for Alpha Camera Body repair, 40+ service centers which can offer basic services like CCD

Imager cleaning and firmware updates and 220+ collection centers pan India. The service centers are equipped with necessary jigs and tools to deliver best quality repair of Alpha camera body, Camera Lens, Professional Cameras and other digital imaging products like Digital Still Cameras and Camcorders. Customers can also avail instant services for basic supports like CCD Imager cleaning and getting the latest firmware update to enjoy best performance from their products. The friendly customer care staff at these service centers will help customers to register their in-warranty products on

Sony Alpha Community portal to enable them avail free of cost additional one year warranty on applicable products. Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Mukesh Srivastava, Head of Digital Imaging Business at Sony India, said, "By supporting and assisting partners in local markets, Sony aims to ensure customers receive exceptional service and satisfaction along with quicker and faster turnaround at all outlets across the country. The new service centers will offer customers a seamless experience across multiple touch-points to provide a consistent brand experience that surpasses expectations."

ATLAS OF AFFLUENCE - INDIA'S FIRST EVER WHITE PAPER ON LUXURY LAUNCHED AS A YEARLY FEATURE

Mumbai: Amidst leading luminaries of industries spanning across the business of luxury, the Atlas of Affluence (AOA) 2022 has been launched in Mumbai. Created by The Voice of Fashion (TVOF), a division of Reliance Brands Limited, the daily digital magazine that tracks and leads conversations on Indian

fashion, design, crafts and retail, AOA 2022, is the first such wide and deep white paper from India that dissects consumer behaviour studied through the prism of luxury. A collective reflection on what affluence means in India spiked during the two years of the pandemic. Charting the post-pandemic market and the clearly altered consumer mindset

through a specially commissioned study across six cities and markets of India, AOA 2022 has been published as a book with exclusively commissioned artworks. This study uses the time graph of "pre-pandemic" and "post-pandemic" months to specify a comparative matrix. It also helps debunk long-held ideas about what affluence and luxury have meant to Indians.

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Taking us on a 'Jatra' – The Journey of a Young Woman – the show encapsulated the journey of a woman from post adolescence to her nuptials, navigating the various challenges, trials and significant moments that come her way. The enigmatic journey was captured through the array of colours and textiles that Odisha Bandha/Ikkat offers.

celebrate and commemorate 75 years of India's Independence. Our program has been particularly aimed to create awareness about the financial markets to the young minds who will be the future of our country. In this Amrit Kaal, our digital education initiative focuses on building a path towards Financial Freedom for our youth, symbolizing the spirit of Atmanirbhar

Bharat." Students across India will benefit from this program as it does not restrict to just an area of the population. The program will be conducted for 1 hour and mainly educate the students on demystifying the jargons, 3I's – types of Income; Inflation and its impact, types of Investment; 3S – Start early- Power of Compounding, Spread wide, Stay long etc.

NSDL launches "Market ka Eklavya- Express" in 75 cities to mark 75 years of Independence

Mumbai: India's largest depository, National Securities Depository Limited (NSDL) launched 'Market ka Eklavya- Express', an online investment awareness program for students that will be conducted in 8 different languages including Hindi. The program would serve as a beginner's guide for investing for the youth. To mark the significance of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, an

initiative of Government of India to celebrate 75 years of independence and the glorious history of our people, culture and achievements, NSDL has launched a new initiative towards investor awareness 'Market Ka Eklavya - Express' across 75 cities, especially aimed at the college students who would very soon be entering the phase where they would start earning and naturally,

look for avenues of investment. Earlier this month, Market ka Eklavya (5-hours program) was launched by the hon'ble Finance Minister of India, Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman at the silver jubilee event of NSDL.

On the launch of the initiative Ms. Padmaja Chunduru, MD & CEO, NSDL said, "Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav is a special initiative launched by our Prime Minister to



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