

PM Modi's First Visit To Varanasi After 3rd Win, Mega Farmers' Outreach

Varanasi(KCN): Days after taking the oath of office again, Prime Minister Narendra Modi is visiting Varanasi for the first time after the constituency elected him as its Member of Parliament for the third consecutive term.

Addressing a massive crowd at a Kisan Samman Sammelan, a farmer event, on Tuesday along with Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath and others, PM Modi said the love of the people of Varanasi has made him feel that the Ganga has adopted him.

The Prime Minister has also released ₹ 20,000 crore as part of the 17th instalment of the Kisan Samman Nidhi, an income support scheme under which farmers get up to ₹ 6,000 per year. He also visited the Kashi Vishwanath temple and is now at the Dashashwamedh Ghat for the Ganga aarti (prayer).

Speaking in Bhopal for the initial part of his address at the farmer event, PM Modi said, "I



am coming to Varanasi for the first time after winning the elections. Kashi ke janta janardhan ke hamaar pranam (I greet the people of Varanasi). Thanks to the blessings of Baba Vishwanath and Ma (Mother) Ganga and the love of the people of Varanasi, I have had the privilege of becoming the country's Pradhan Sevak for the third time. I now feel that Ma Ganga has adopted me and I have become a part of Varanasi."

"The elections for the 18th Lok Sabha have shown the world the strength, scope and deep-rootedness of India's democracy. Over 64 crore people voted and an election of this scale does not take

place anywhere else in the world. I attended the G7 summit in Italy and the number of voters in India is 1.5 times the figure of all the G7 countries combined," he added.

Praising the participation of women voters in the country, PM Modi said that it is a matter of pride for the people of Varanasi that they haven't just chosen an MP but a Prime Minister for the third time. He said the election results are unprecedented because it is rare for a sitting government to return to power for a third time.

"This happened in India 60 years ago and no other government has

scored a hattrick like this since then. You gave us this privilege, you gave it

to your servant Modi...

Your belief in me spurs me on to work hard to serve you and take the country to new heights. I will work day and night to fulfil your dreams, aspirations and resolutions. I have always seen farmers, youth, women and the poor as a key pillar of a developed India," he added.

"Agriculture will play a big role in making India the third-largest economy. We have to think global and become a leader in exports. Varanasi's Langda mango, Jaunpur's radish and Ghazipur's ladyfinger are now reaching foreign markets... We have to take the country to new heights in packaged food exports. My dream is to see an Indian food product on every dining table in the world," the Prime Minister said.

Stressing that women have played a key role in several sectors, PM Modi said agriculture will also benefit from their involvement through the Krishi Sakhi scheme.

Speaking about all the projects taken up in the city, the PM also said, "Varanasi has shown the world that a heritage city can also write a new chapter in urban development."

Majhi, DyCMs, Patnaik take oath as member of Odisha Assembly



Bhubaneswar(KCN): Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi, his two Deputy Chief Minister and former Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik have taken oath as Member of the 17th Legislative Assembly here today.

Senior most BJD MLA and Pro tem Speaker Ranendra Pratap Swain has administered the oath to the CM, Deputy Chief Ministers K V Singh Deo & Pravati Parida, Minister and many newly elected MLAs.

The Chief Minister accompanied by his two deputies, Kanak Vardhan Singh Deo and Pravati Parida, entered the State Assembly, went to the statue of Mahatma Gandhi inside the Assembly complex, and offered floral tributes to the father of the nation.

The Pro Tem Speaker administered the oath first to the Chief Minister and his two Deputy Chief Ministers, after which the Cabinet Ministers and MLAs took the oath.

Former Chief Minister and six-time MLA Naveen Patnaik also took oath from the Pro Tem Speaker. Patnaik sat in the opposition bench for the first time in his political career.

Actor-turned-politician and Digapahandi MLA from BJP Sidhanth Mohapatra, was seen coming to the Assembly on a bicycle. "I will try to come to the Assembly and Secretariat on my bicycle. We can also use public transport, bicycles if we have to cover a short distance. There is no need for law; rather, cooperation of all is needed," he told media persons.

BJD MLA from Puri, Sunil Mohanty said he has taken oath as MLA today. The BJD had served people for a long time and this time, the people have formed the BJD government and voted for a change.

"The opposition also has a crucial role. When my father late Maheswar Mohanty had taken oath as MLA for the first time in 1995, he

was in Opposition. Whatever the ruling party MLAs could not do, my father did the work. I feel a similar thing happening this time," the first time MLA said.

Assembly sources said of the 147 MLAs, 83 entered the house for the first time, and will be taking the oath during the two days.

A three-day short session of the Assembly has been convened by the Assembly Secretariat for the oath-taking, which will continue for two days until June 19, with the election of the new Speaker to be held on June 20.

This was the first session after the formation of the new BJP government, which was sworn in on June 12.

DGP Arun Sarangi, Twin City Police Commissioner Sanjeeb Panda, and other senior officers are supervising the security arrangements in and around the Assembly.

Jai Demands CBI Probe

Bhubaneswar(KCN): Veteran Saffron Lawyer Jayanarayan Mishra today demanded CBI probe into high-profile Naba Das murder case and the 2008 gruesome murder of Swami Laxmanananda Saraswati.

Speaking to media

persons here at Assembly premises, Shri Mishra said he is demanding for CBI

probe into the broad daylight murder the then Health Minister Naba Kishore Das and Hindu seer Laxmanananda Saraswati, who was killed by some miscreants at his ashram in Kandhamal district.

"I will stick to the demand of CBI probe into these two murder cases," the Sambalpur MLA said.

When asked whether he is unhappy as no position



has been given to him in the new BJP government, Mishra said, "I am not unhappy. Why I will be unhappy?"

On his absence in the

oath-taking ceremony of the BJD government, he

replied, "Why should I visit there when I was not supposed to take any oath?"

Though he was denying, Shri Mishra's reply indicates that he is unhappy with the decision of the BJD leadership on formation of the government in the State.

Naba Das was shot at by a policeman in Brajarajnagar in the Jharsuguda district on

January 29 last year and succumbed to his bullet injuries in Bhubaneswar hospital a day later of the incident.

He had been the Health and Family Welfare Minister since 2019. He was a three-time MLA from the Jharsuguda constituency and was said to be an influential leader in the area.

Contain Diphtheria; Pandit



camps to be conducted for vaccination of all left out/dropout children as per National immunization schedule.

As per the instructions, adequate medicines & vaccines should be made available at block to meet any exigency. Inter-departmental convergence meetings at block & district level will be held every day for containment of the outbreak.

The Collector was asked to submit daily surveillance reports and vaccination coverage reports to the State Surveillance unit as well as Directorate of Family Welfare. It is worthy to mention that the CDM & PHO Rayagada along with the State team visited from 12th to 14th June 2024. The State team along with district, Block and SLNMCH medical team visited the village, which is 11 km from PHC, Dongasil and out of which, 4 km is not motorable due to hilly terrain.

New Delhi(KCN): The Supreme Court Tuesday said even if there was "0.001 per cent negligence" on the part of anyone in the conduct of the NEET-UG 2024 examination, it should be thoroughly dealt with. Observing that students have to labour hard while preparing for these examinations, the apex court said the litigation pertaining to the National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test (Undergraduate)-2024 examination ought not be treated as adversarial.

"Even if there is 0.001 per cent negligence on the part of anyone, it should be thoroughly dealt with," a vacation bench of Justices Vikram Nath and SVN Bhatti told the advocates appearing for the Centre and the National Testing Agency (NTA).

The NTA conducts the

all India pre-medical entrance test. The bench was hearing two separate petitions raising grievances, including on grace marks given to students in the examination held May 5. "We all know the labour which the children undergo, especially in preparing for these exams," the bench said, adding, "Imagine a person who has played fraud on the system becomes a doctor, he is more deleterious to the society".

"Representing an agency which is responsible for conducting the examination, you must stand firm. If there is a mistake, yes this is a mistake and this is the action we are going to take. At least that inspires confidence in your performance," the bench told the NTA's counsel.

Stressing on timely action by the authority,

the top court said the purpose of your submissions. In these matters, we are prepared to sit up to evening," it observed. While hearing separate petitions raising grievances over the NEET-UG 2024, the apex court had last week sought responses from the Centre and the NTA on a plea for a Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) probe into allegations of question paper leak and other irregularities in the exam.

The Centre and the NTA had June 13 told the top court that they had cancelled the grace marks given to 1,563

NEET-UG exam row: SC says any negligence should be thoroughly dealt with



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When one of the advocates appearing for some petitioners raised the issue pertaining to a question asked in the exam, the bench said, "They (NTA and Centre) will respond to it".

"Let us understand the

candidates who took the examination for admission to MBBS and other such courses.

They will have the option to either take a retest or forgo the compensatory marks awarded to them for the loss of time, the Centre had said.

The examination was held May 5 across 4,750 centres and around 24 lakh candidates took it. The results were expected to be declared June 14 but were announced June 4, apparently because the evaluation of the answer sheets got completed earlier.

There have been allegations of question paper leaks in states like Bihar and other irregularities in the prestigious exam.

The allegations have led to protests in several cities and filing of petitions in several high courts as also the Supreme Court.

Heavy Rain, Thunder Squalls Lash Bhubaneswar; IMD Issues Yellow Alert For Several Districts

Bhubaneswar(KCN): A similar warning has been issued for Balasore, Bhadrak, Jajpur, Kendrapada, Cuttack, Jagatsinghpur, Sundargarh, Jharsuguda, Bargarh, Sambalpur, Deogarh, Angul, Dhenkanal, Keonjhar, and Mayurbhanj during the subsequent 24 hours.

Thunderstorm with lightning accompanied by gusty surface windspeed reaching 30-40 kmph is likely at one or two places in Balasore, Bhadrak, Jajpur, Kendrapada, Cuttack, Jagatsinghpur, Puri, Khurda, Nayagarh, Ganjam, Gajapati, Mayurbhanj, Keonjhar, Angul, Dhenkanal, Sundargarh, Balangir, Kalahandi, Boudh, Nuapada, Sonepur, Jharsuguda, and Sambalpur till 8.30 am on Wednesday (June 19), the IMD said.



Kalahandi districts.

Heavy rainfall may also occur in Mayurbhanj, Keonjhar, Sundargarh, and Balasore on June 21 and Mayurbhanj, Keonjhar, and Sundargarh on June 22. Though there is no weather warning thereafter, light to moderate rain may

continue at a few places across the state during the subsequent two days.

Hot and Humid weather conditions are also likely at one or two places in Balasore, Bhadrak, Jajpur, Kendrapada, Cuttack, Jagatsinghpur, Puri, Khurda, Nayagarh, Ganjam, and Gajapati

districts till June 20. The weather agency further informed that conditions are favourable for further advance of Southwest Monsoon into some more parts of Odisha during the next 3-4 days. The day temperature may fall by 2-4 degrees Celsius after 2 days, it added.

Bhubaneswar Open Drain Mishap: CM Majhi Expresses Deep Grief Over Minor's Death, Announces Rs 4 Lakh Ex-Gratia

Bhubaneswar(KCN):

Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi has expressed deep grief over the death of an eight-year-old boy, Abu Bakar Saha, after falling into an open drain at Masjid Colony of Unit-3 area of Bhubaneswar on Tuesday.

Expressing his deepest condolences to the bereaved family, the Odisha CM also announced an ex-gratia of Rs 4 lakh from the State Disaster Response Fund for the next of kin of the deceased boy.

Expressing serious concerns over the rising death toll in open drain mishaps, the Odisha CM has directed the departmental officials to cover all open drains in



incident took place this afternoon when heavy rains lashed the state capital. The minor boy who was playing near his house fell into an open drain while trying to fetch a balloon being swept away in the flash flood.

After two hours of ordeal, the ODRAF personnel reduced the boy from the canal near Laxmisagar Oscar City and rushed him to the Capital Hospital. But, the doctors declared the child dead.

According to reports, the

Don't Spare Corrupt; Pujari

Bhubaneswar(KCN): After taking charge, Revenue and Disaster Management Minister Suresh Pujari today made it clear that he is going to adopt zero tolerance towards corruption in the Department.

Shri Pujari today assumed the office of Minister for Revenue and Disaster Management Department in presence of Additional Chief Secretary (ACS) Revenue & Disaster Management, Satyabrata Sahu. Later he took a comprehensive review of the entire sector. ACS Shri Sahu presented details in the review meeting, which went on for more than two hours. RDC Northern Division Srikant Prusty, RDC Central and Southern



Division R Santhanagopalan and other senior officers were present during the review meeting. Speaking to media persons, Shri Pujari said there would be zero tolerance towards corruption. If any official found involved in corrupt practice, exemplary action will be taken against, he warned. He lauded the Department officials for creating a record in distribution of different revenue services and certificates to more than 1.04 crore people in

2023-24. The Minister advised the Department officials to put up a mechanism to change the name in the RoR in the name of legal heir of the actual owner after his/her death. Similarly, two newly elected Deputy Chief Ministers Kanak Vardhan Singh Deo and Pravati Parida today assumed office of their respective departments. They also interacted with the senior officials of their respective departments. After taking charge, Shri Singh Deo said, "First and

foremost I would like to thank the Chief Minister for having trusted me and given me one of the most important portfolios of Agriculture because it deals with the majority people of the State and the responsibility is humungous. You have to deliver."

"We have always been faced with farmer suicide cases and others. We have to now work towards ensuring that there are no suicides by farmers in the State and this department has already achieved 90 per cent expenditure we would like to carry it forward and make it 100 per cent in the coming days," said Singh Deo briefing reporters after assuming office.

Cuttack Agrivet's State-of-the-Art Grain-Based Ethanol Plant inaugurated at Banara, Cuttack



Cuttack / Bhubaneswar, (KCN): Advancing clean energy landscape of India, Smt. Aparajita Sarangi, Hon'ble Member of Parliament (Bhubaneswar) today inaugurated Cuttack Agrivet's state-of-the-art grain-based Ethanol Plant inaugurated at Banara, Cuttack. Shri. Debi Prasad Tripathy, Hon'ble MLA (Banki) graced the occasion as Guest of Honour. Smt. Rashmi Mohapatra, Social Activist and Shri Mohit Singla, Managing Director of Cuttack Agrivet Ltd were present on the occasion. The ethanol plant with a production capacity of 125 Kilo Litres per day (KLPD) utilises latest technology to produce

Ethanol from damaged grain/Broken rice and maize as feedstock for blending with petroleum as biofuel. This plant aligns with the Government of India's National Policy on Biofuels, which promotes biofuel production to reduce dependency on imported crude oil.

Speaking on the occasion, Chief Guest Smt. Sarangi said, "This grain-based ethanol plant is a significant step in our endeavours to achieve environmental sustainability and empower rural communities. I am optimistic that this plant will contribute to the economic empowerment of the local community". Guest of Honor Shri Tripathy appreciated the

Cuttack Agrivet for building one of the modern ethanol plant in Odisha. The ethanol plant is equipped with most advanced technologies, which make it a zero-liquid discharge facility. The plant has created about 250 direct employment opportunities and more than 1000 indirect employment opportunities. In addition to contributing to a cleaner future, the ethanol plant is also expected to empower local farmers by creating a robust market for domestic grain production. More than 30000 farmers are expected to benefit from this plant.

"With the establishment of

facility, we are happy to contribute to the India's sustainable energy landscape and promote economic growth in rural regions. We have adopted latest technologies to ensure zero waste discharge, which reflects our dedication to sustainable development," said Mr. Singla. In future, Cuttack Agrivet is looking to expand its product offerings by introducing a range of new maize-based products, including malt, glucose, starch, and more, he added.

Cuttack Agrivet entered into a long-term agreement with Bharat Petroleum, Indian Oil and Hindustan Petroleum for supply of ethanol for 10 years.



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Rajkumar Hirani's Dunki To Be Screened At Shanghai International Film Festival (SIFF)



Filmmaker Rajkumar Hirani's latest outing Dunki starring Shah Rukh Khan, Taapsee Pannu, Vicky Kaushal and Boman Irani got good views from critics and captivated the masses. The movie has been selected for screening at the prestigious Shanghai International Film Festival (SIFF). Rajkumar Hirani will attend SIFF as a Film Representative, where Dunki will be showcased in the esteemed International Panorama section of SIFF 2024, scheduled from June 14 to 23. Audiences can catch screenings of Dunki on June 15, 18, and 20. Established in 1993, the Shanghai International Film Festival (SIFF) is accredited by the International Federation of Film Producers Associations and is renowned for its non-specialized competitive platform.

Aranmanai 4: Tamannah Bhatia And Raashii Khanna's Horror-Comedy's To Premiere On OTT



The OTT release date for the Tamil horror-comedy hit 'Aranmanai 4', starring Tamannah Bhatia and Raashii Khanna, has been announced. This highly successful fourth instalment of the popular franchise will be available on Disney+ Hotstar from June 21 onwards. 'Aranmanai 4', featuring the pan-India star Tamannah along with the versatile powerhouse actress Raashii Khanna in lead roles, achieved immense box office success.

It went on to break the dry spell at the Tamil box office, and emerged as the industry's first big hit of the year. The film's success has proven Tamannah to be the box office queen, while it has established Raashii Khanna as the Golden Girl of Tamil cinema as the film marked her third consecutive box office blockbuster after 'Thiruchitrambalam' and 'Sardar'.

Prabhas, Deepika Padukone's Project K To Create History, To Be First Indian Film To Debut At San Diego Comic-Con



There's good news for Bollywood lovers who have been waiting for a long time to get an update on Amitabh Bachchan, Deepika Padukone, Kamal Haasan and Prabhas-starrer 'Project K'. According to Variety, The hugely-anticipated Indian big-budget sci-fi film will unveil exclusive footage in the presence of talent at the San Diego Comic-Con (SDCC). Kicking off the SDCC celebration, Vyjayanthi Movies will offer fans a look at the film as part of an opening night party on July 19. On July 20, the film's

team will host a panel titled "This is Project K: First Glimpse of India's Mytho-Sci-fi Epic" with Deepika, Prabhas and Haasan during which the film's full title, teaser trailer and release date will be revealed, Variety reported. Interestingly, the stars will also feature in a performance on SDCC's largest stage. "This exclusive event will transport guests into India's most ambitious cinematic universe yet with their captivating storytelling, futuristic setting, and 'Spice Punk' aesthetic

Shah Rukh Khan, Taapsee Pannu's Dunki Hits OTT, Netizens Laud 'Their Acting & Chemistry'



Shah Rukh Khan and Taapsee Pannu have indeed left an indistinct mark of their brilliant acting prowess in Dunki. Having made her strong hold on the craft, the talented actors proved their presence.

Netizens loved Taapsee as a mainstream heroine with the film being a blockbuster. While the actress received tremendous love from all across, her chemistry with Shah Rukh Khan was also been loved unanimously. Now, as Dunki releases on OTT, netizens hail the chemistry of Taapsee and SRK. Here's how netizens took social media by storm and expressed their love for this fresh on-screen couple.

Taking to social media, a

user commented, "Their acting & chemistry together <33 they were just too cute in #Dunki." Another user appreciated the story and wrote, "Their Love Story!" "Manu & Hardy deserved so much better !! this version of O Maahi went so well with

the scene! #Dunki" While talking about the film and his collaboration with Shah Rukh Khan, director Rajkumar Hirani said, "You always want to make a movie with a meaningful and good story. Shah Rukh liked it very much and happy about it. I also wanted to work with SRK for so long and, 'mere liye vo baat puri ho gayi' and finally we worked together and 'bahut maza aaya'."

Poacher: Quest Of A Woman Investigator At The Heart Of A Gripping Narrative



In the plethora of content available for audiences, very few characters make a mark in the audience's mind, and seldom, it is a female character, especially in a cop role. However, with Richie Mehta helming a project, a trend seems to be emerging with a female character at the heart of it, be it Vartika Chaturvedi in Delhi Crime or Mala Jogi in Poacher. Known for his signature style of investigative storytelling, Richie Mehta develops his characters to match the pace of his engaging narratives. While Poacher is a perfect example of an ensemble show, the character of Forest Range Officer Mala Jogi truly stands out, and played aptly by highly acclaimed and appreciated actor Nimisha Sajayan.

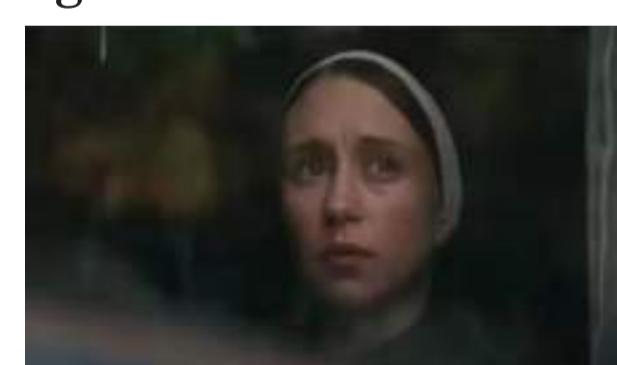
As a forest range officer in the Kerala Forest Department, Mala (played by Nimisha) is deeply committed to

combating wildlife crime. This commitment is aggravated due to her father's past involvement in wildlife crime. Fueled by a strong desire to atone for her father's sins, she is prepared to surpass conventional boundaries in her relentless pursuit to investigate and prevent such criminal activities. The manner in which Richie Mehta envisions and brings to screen powerful female characters has been path-breaking. His female protagonists are powerful, fearless, willing to take risks, and challenge the world. Based on true events, and inspired by real-life characters Poacher is a gripping investigative crime series which uncovers the largest ivory poaching ring in Indian history. What very few know is that Nimisha's character Mala is based on several individuals Richie met during the research of

the series, specifically Manu Sathyam, DCF of Kerala Forest Department, who played a pivotal role in the real-life operation.

Well, Richie's latest creation is just a couple of days from its global launch. Poacher uncovers the largest ivory poaching ring in Indian history. It is an eight-episode crime series featuring a talented cast including Nimisha Sajayan, Roshan Mathew, and Dibyendu Bhattacharya in pivotal roles. Poacher is produced by Oscar-winning production company QC Entertainment and created, written, and directed by Emmy Award-winning filmmaker Richie Mehta, with Alia Bhatt as Executive Producer of the series. Poacher will be available to stream on Prime Video in India and across 240 countries and territories worldwide on February 23, 2024.

The Nun 2 Trailer Teases Returns Of 'The Conjuring' Universe



The makers of 'The Nun' are all set to come up with the film's sequel. On Thursday, they unveiled the film's trailer and it has definitely left fans excited. The sequel, which is headlined by Taissa Farmiga, is set to be out on September 8.

As per Variety, the film begins in 1956 after a priest is viciously murdered in France. According to the film's official logline, 'The Nun 2' follows Sister Irene (Farmiga) as she once again comes face to face with the demonic Valak. Farmiga returns alongside Bonnie Aarons and Jonas Bloquet who will reprise their roles as Valak and Maurice "Frenchie," respectively. "The Nun 2" will introduce new additions to the "Conjuring" universe, including Katelyn Rose Downey as Sophie, Anna Popplewell as Marcella and Storm Reid as an

unknown new character. The USD 2 billion franchise began in 2013, with the original "The Conjuring" film, starring Patrick Wilson and Taissa Farmiga's older sister, Vera Farmiga. The original film was inspired by paranormal investigators Ed and Lorraine Warren's nonfiction book, "The Amityville Horror." Directed by "The Conjuring: The Devil Made Me Do It's" Michael Chaves, "The Nun 2" was written by "M3GAN" screenwriter Akela Cooper and "Fear the Walking Dead" screenwriters Ian Goldberg and Richard Naing.

How strong is the BJP without the RSS

Between the lines of Mohan Bhagwat's message to BJP

R.K. Sinha



They have become arrogant. They have distanced themselves from the concerns of the common people. They have alienated themselves from public service. Due to this, the people did not give BJP the expected success in the recent Lok Sabha elections. A top official of an organization allied to the BJP was telling me a few months ago, he met an Union Minister for some important work. The minister knew that he had dedicated his entire life as an RSS worker. Despite all this, the Union Minister did not give him much importance. The smug minister forgot that the BJP gets its strength from the RSS and its allied organizations. There is no doubt that BJP leaders who are not familiar with the importance and ideology of the RSS need to change their thinking. The BJP has no existence without the Sangh.

Addressing a Sangh event in Nagpur, Maharashtra, Mohan Bhagwat said, "A true servant maintains decorum while working. They don't have an ego like 'I did this'. Only such a person deserves to be called a servant." What does he intend to convey by discussing ego? One opinion is that some BJP leaders, after coming to power, have not remained humble.

In his speeches, Mohan Bhagwat has consistently praised Prime Minister Narendra Modi. During



the 'Pran Pratishtha' (consecration) of the Ram temple, Mohan Bhagwat said, "Before coming to consecration festival, Prime Minister Modi observed a strict fast. He followed a much stricter regimen than what was asked. I have known him for a long time and I know, he is an ascetic."

The Sangh is the parent organization of the BJP, so it's natural that it will have an impact on the BJP. Additionally, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been an active Sangh campaigner. However, for some time now, there has been a muted discussion about whether the BJP always operates under the influence of the

Sangh? If not, to what extent does the Sangh have control over the BJP?

You will remember that during the Lok Sabha election campaign, BJP President JP Nadda said that the BJP is a political organization and the RSS is a cultural and social organization that does its own work. He also said that the BJP's structure has become strong and now it runs on its own. Nadda made this statement in an interview to a noted daily newspaper when asked if the presence of the Sangh within the party had changed compared to the Atal Bihari Vajpayee's era.

Whether Nadda should

have said all this about the relationship between the Sangh and the BJP or not, but somewhere there are signs that some ideological differences arose between the Sangh and some BJP leaders during the Lok Sabha elections. However, I cannot say anything concretely about this, whether the BJP ignored the suggestions given by the Sangh regarding the selection of some candidates for the elections in Uttar Pradesh after the party's defeat there. The Sangh and the BJP have been working together for a long time in many elections.

Yes, it is true that a lot of leaders from other



parties have joined the BJP. They may not have a lot of allegiance to the Sangh's thinking. But no one can deny that the BJP still needs the support of the Sangh. The BJP must follow Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay's ideology. He was far from ego. He was a serious philosopher and deep thinker, as well as a dedicated organizer and leader who established the highest level of personal integrity and dignity in public life. I worked with him in Bihar in the 1960 to 1968, till his last days. I was a teenager then though politically very active and aware.

There was no trace of arrogance in his personality. BJP leaders must always follow his ideas and lifestyle. Mohan Bhagwat speaks plainly. He has also expressed his opinion on the unrest in Manipur. "Manipur has been seeking peace for almost a year. Violence and massacres continue there. The situation hasn't come under control. Just when it seems that peace is about to be restored in Manipur, bad news comes from there. The situation in Manipur has troubled the entire country. Obviously, the whole country connects with Mohan Bhagwat's opinion on Manipur. Now the country's desire is that peace be restored in Manipur and the warmth that existed in the relationship between the Sangh and the BJP should return.

(The author is a senior editor, columnist and former Rajya Sabha MP.)

SURESH GOPI- KERALA'S OWN SAFFRON SUPERSTAR

M.R.LALU



DMK led alliance putting his fans and party members in a serious dilemma. Chiranjeevi was another popular star obviously from the Telugu industry, whose Praja Rajyam Party made its maiden election victory from Tirupati Assembly seat in 2009. Year 2012 saw him as the Minister of State for Tourism in the Manmohan Singh led UPA government.

When many of the superstars had their successful stint in politics in South India, the Malayalam film industry maintained its distinction. No big names with superstardom from the industry did dare to give it a try until recently. The political ambiance in the state was totally disrespectful to actors planning to make their political plunge. The perceived belief in the state was that actors from the film industry can't seriously contribute to the spectrum of politics like any seasoned politician. This remained a prominent view for decades in the state except for a few mediocre actors trying their space in politics and winning in the state elections. But for the parliament, nobody from the superstar repute tried. Popular comedian Innocent was an exception. But he did

not enjoy the stardom of Mohanlal, Mammootty and Suresh Gopi. Superstar Suresh Gopi made the most unlikely political pitch in Kerala by joining the BJP. Nobody from the film world in Kerala would have appreciated his move. But the action star, well known for his police roles, had chosen the saffron umbrella and his critics put him through unethical prosecution in mainstream media and social media ever since he made his view public. His victory in Thrissur, the constituency Mr Gopi emotionally nurtured since his debacle in 2019, has overturned the perennial assumptions of holding the BJP a political pariah. Suresh Gopi's entry into politics had evoked mixed emotions among his supporters who adored him as the best action hero. The Malayalam action thriller Commissioner had given his movie fans breathtaking moments of heroism. Suresh Gopi, who played the City

Police Commissioner, an angry young officer committed to book the brutes and the corrupt, is seen taking on the Union Minister in public. The dialogues from the movie scenes still give hair-raising moments. Gopi's acceptance as a Good Samaritan among the general public has also been a contributing factor in his victory. He could, this time, cut across caste and religious barriers and mostly it is viewed that along with his popular support base in Thrissur, a tectonic shift in voting among the Christian community in the area got him elected. Voters in the constituency adore him to be one among the best human beings, who stand with the poor. More than three decades of his acting career had got him a tremendous fan base across the state. Beyond that, he could successfully connect his persona with the social sensibilities of the common men. Outside his party that he

represents, what he gained was from the common voter, especially women. This victory in Thrissur, the cultural capital of Kerala, where he was put to dust in the 2019 Lok Sabha Election, gives him a historic moment for two reasons. First, he represents the BJP, the party that the state of Kerala kept at a distance as an untouchable for decades and second, he was destined to give his party its first, credible and resounding victory with a margin of 74686 votes. The Saffron Star, as you may call him, is the first popular actor who dared to declare his allegiance with the BJP in the state of Kerala. As the minister for tourism he is expected to do well for the state that enjoys tremendous tourism potential. The BJP made him a Rajya Sabha MP in 2016. Its decision did pay off today. His messiah of the poor image had given him significant backing. Not only as an actor and politician but he is known for his sizable humanitarian initiatives as well. There are numerous beneficiaries of his acts of kindness. These initiatives include his personal help to the needy irrespective of their caste and religion and political affiliation. Prayers for the actor's victory had been resonating from all over the state. But pundits hold

Letter to Editor

Sir,

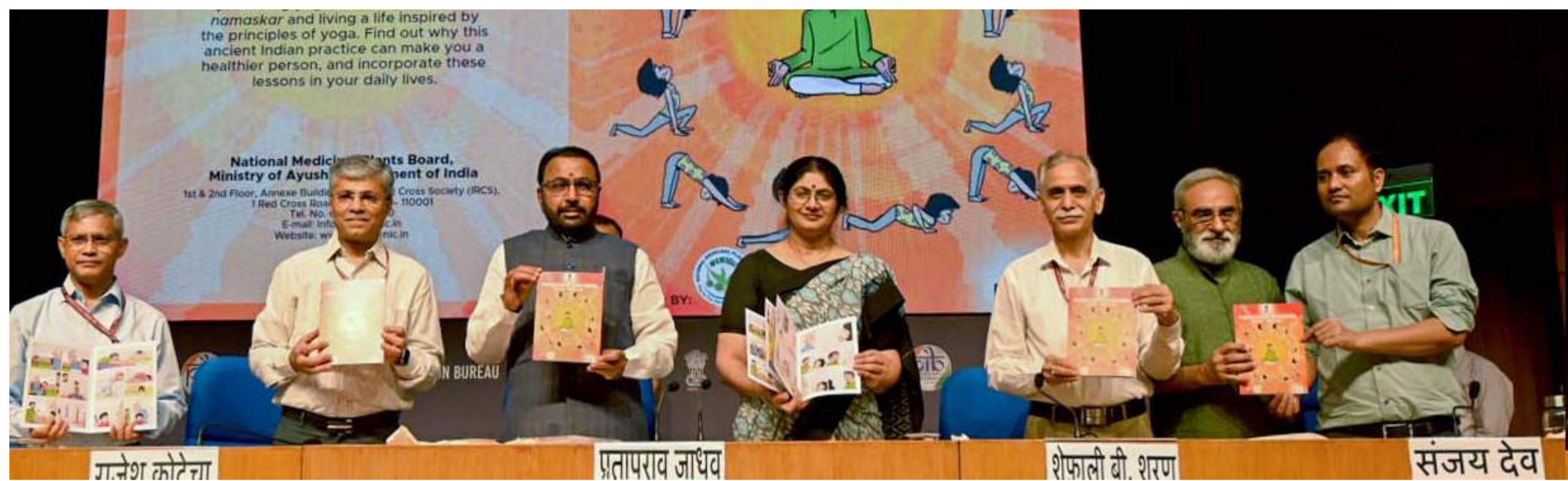
The horrifying Kanchenjunga express goods train collision again points finger at the negligence of the railways and also that no lesson has been learnt after last year's Balasore train tragedy. Are not the authorities concerned taking everything in such a lackadaisical 'come what may attitude' manner which is resulting in so many mishaps? Actions are to be taken against erring staff who play with the life of the passengers.

Rail collisions and derailment occur and often and immediately after an incident what follows is an enquiry, an ex gratia, some condolences and griefs expressed by the leaders. Though so many mishaps happen, the railways, it seems never learn lessons and rectify the errors.

It is bewildering to note that in an era when the most sophisticated technology is being used, accidents such as these are continuously happening. Hundreds of crores of rupees are being pumped in for bullet trains and hi tech world class stations but before that dream comes a reality why can't the higher ups think of pumping just a few crores that can make our tracks safe and signalling system perfect and make common man's railway journey if not comfortable, at least safe?

M Pradyu Kannur

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The Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Ayush and Health and Family Welfare Shri Prataprao Jadhav releases 'Common Yoga Protocol 2024' and a Comic Book 'Professor Ayushman Yoga Special' at the occasion of International Day of Yoga 2024 with the theme "Yoga for Self and Society", in New Delhi

"Textbooks Should Not Have Propaganda": Train Services Fully Restored At West Bengal Crash Site Where 10 Died

Thiruvananthapuram(KCN): Kerala General Education Minister V Sivankutty on Tuesday criticised the recent controversial modifications made in school textbooks by the NCERT and said textbooks should not contain narrow ideological positions or propaganda of any movement.

He said the state does not accept the changes made in various portions, including with regard to Babri Masjid demolition and Ayodhya, by the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT). In a statement, the Minister further said children should be taught real history and science and Kerala has always upheld and implemented this stand.

"Textbooks should not comprise narrow ideological positions or propaganda of any movement," he said.



Mr Sivankutty recalled and the earlier controversial changes made by the NCERT in some of its textbooks in the past and how the state government had brought out parallel textbooks incorporating portions omitted by it.

He said the government had prepared parallel textbooks on the basis of the belief that education should be shaped according to Kerala's cultural heritage, secular

approach, and progressive mindset. Those textbooks, brought out by the state, reflected the socio-cultural features of the country and the state and were in adherence with the nation's constitutional values, he said.

The Minister also pointed out that the unique intervention made by Kerala in the education sector was a source of optimism for the secular society in the country.

On Monday, state LSGD Minister M B Rajesh also termed the NCERT's modifications a move to communalise all systems of the government and said there was a need to continue the collective fight against such attempts.

Rejecting accusations of saffronisation of school curriculum, NCERT's director had said that references to Gujarat riots and Babri Masjid

demolition were modified in school textbooks because teaching about riots "can create violent and depressed citizens." National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) director Dinesh Prasad Saklani said the tweaks in textbooks are part of annual revision and should not be a subject of hue and cry. "Why should we teach about riots in school textbooks? We want to create positive citizens, not violent and depressed individuals," he had said. The comments by Mr Saklani come at a time when new textbooks have hit the market with several deletions and changes. The revised class 12 political science textbook does not mention the Babri Masjid but refers to it as a "three-domed structure." It has pruned the Ayodhya section from four to two pages and deleted details from the earlier version.

Kolkata(KCN): Train services on both the up and down lines at Rangapani near West Bengal's New Jalpaiguri station were fully restored on Tuesday, a day after a goods train rammed into the Kanchanjunga Express from behind, killing 10 people. Electrical traction was restored at the accident site and trains with electric locomotives starting work on the stretch from Tuesday afternoon, Divisional Railway Manager of Katihar S Kumar said. He said that trains were moving through the accident spot with speed restrictions, following repair of the tracks and other components.

The Monday morning collision of the two trains from behind, killing 10 people. Electrical traction had caused extensive damage to tracks and electric traction poles, officials said. Operations on the down line using both electric and diesel locomotives were restored on Monday night, and in the up line, diesel locomotive-run train services were restarted on Tuesday morning. Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnav, while visiting the accident site on Monday evening, had said that since it is the main line connecting the northeast with the rest of the country, focus was to restore services on the route at the earliest.

17 Indian Cities Identified As Emerging Hot Spots For Real Estate: Report

New Delhi(KCN): Emerging cities will play a key role in India's march towards becoming the world's third largest economy. In its latest report "Equitable Growth and Emerging Real Estate Hotspots", Colliers says factors such as infrastructure development, digitization, tourism and changes in the office landscape will drive the next wave of urban growth.

By 2050, India is expected to have nearly 100 cities with populations exceeding one million, in addition to its eight megacities. In its report Colliers has identified over 100 such emerging cities to determine their real estate demand and growth potential over next 5-6 years.

The report says real estate sector in India is going through a transformation with smaller towns becoming vital to the economy, because of infrastructure, affordable houses, skilled labour and government support. The sector could reach USD 1 trillion by 2030 and potentially USD 5 trillion by 2050,



contributing 14-16 per cent to India's GDP. Colliers report projects urban growth in about 100 cities having a million population by 2050. After detailed analysis Colliers identified 30 potentially high growth cities from the universes of 100 plus cities. The report further says that 17 out of these 30 cities will emerge as real estate hot spots. Cities like Amritsar, Ayodhya, Jaipur, Kanpur, Lucknow, and Varanasi are set to benefit from improved infrastructure and rising economic activities. These locations are strategically positioned to capitalize on enhanced connectivity and government initiatives, making them attractive destinations for real

estate investments. Patna and Puri in the eastern region are identified as potential growth centres, bolstered by infrastructure upgrades and increasing commercial activities.

Dwarka, Nagpur, Shirdi, and Surat in the western region are expected to see robust growth driven by industrial development and infrastructure expansion. The shift towards hybrid work models is fuelling demand for office spaces in smaller cities. Locations like Coimbatore, Indore, and Kochi are witnessing increased interest as satellite office markets due to lower rental costs and affordable housing options, attracting both companies and skilled talent.

Increased digital penetration is transforming smaller towns into hubs for data centres and smart infrastructure. Cities such as Jaipur, Kanpur, and Lucknow are anticipated to witness significant real estate activity driven by e-commerce and data consumption, leading to the development of fulfillment centres and warehouses.

Temple towns like Amritsar, Ayodhya, Varanasi, and Tirupati are set to benefit from spiritual tourism, supported by infrastructure improvements and government policies. These destinations are expected to attract investments in hospitality and retail sectors, catering to growing tourist footfalls.

Badal Yagnik, CEO of Colliers India, highlighted, "Smaller towns are emerging as dynamic contributors to India's economy, driven by improved infrastructure, affordable real estate, skilled talent, and government initiatives. This growth is set to propel the real estate sector to an estimated USD 1 trillion by 2030 and potentially USD 5 trillion, a 14-16 per cent share in GDP by 2050."

"Delighted to share that after a gap of some months due to the elections, #MannKiBaat is back! This month's programme will take place on Sunday, 30th June," he said in a post on X.

"I call upon all of you to share your ideas and inputs for the same. Write on the MyGov Open Forum, NaMo App or record your message on 1800 11 7800," PM Modi said. In the 110th episode of the programme, PM Modi had asked first-time voters to poll in record numbers in the elections and said their maiden vote should be cast for the country. The Model Code of Conduct (MCC) guidelines of the Election Commission asks governments to not use official events or public-funded platforms for something that may be seen to give the ruling party publicity or political advantage.

PM Modi's Monthly Radio Broadcast 'Mann Ki Baat' To Resume From June 30



Prime Minister Narendra Modi today said his 'Mann Ki Baat' monthly radio broadcast will resume from June 30 and urged people to share their ideas and inputs for it. "Delighted to share that after a gap of some months due to the elections, #MannKiBaat is back! This month's

Communal tension prevails in Balasore

Balasore (KCN): Tension prevailed in the communally sensitive area under the Town police station limits of Balasore Monday following a clash between two groups, after a group noticed red fluid in a drain, suspected to be of slaughtering of cows. Chief Minister Mohan Majhi took a serious view of the situation and directed the Balasore District Collector Ashish Thakare to maintain law and order, peace and harmony in the area. Odisha is a peaceful state and under no circumstances, peace



least 10 bikes and one SUV were vandalised by the mob during the clash. SP Sagarika Nath rushed

to the site with force and held discussions with both the warring groups. Police had to

baton charge the mob to bring the situation under control.

Prohibitory orders under Section 144 CrPC were imposed to prevent further deterioration of the law and order

situation. The district police also sought further enforcement of force. According to reports, the incident occurred after a group noticed red fluid flowing in a roadside drain, suspected to be of slaughtering of cows and called the police to enquire if it was cow slaughter. The cops reportedly did not find anything. However, they collected the red colour samples for further investigation. The cops while enquiring about the issue another group came and protested. Following heated arguments, the number of either side swelled. The mobs took to stone pelting and brick batting. After the incident flared up, the vehicular traffic on the road that connects Town with Chandipur was disrupted. Notably, the road connects the defence establishments including ITR, PXE, Chandipur Beach and the fishing base at Balramgadi. The injured persons were admitted to the Balasore district hospital, officials said. At least 150 police personnel have been deployed in the area to prevent any further flare-up. Night patrolling would also be held in some sensitive areas, police said.

Expansion of Rangeilunda airstrip in limbo



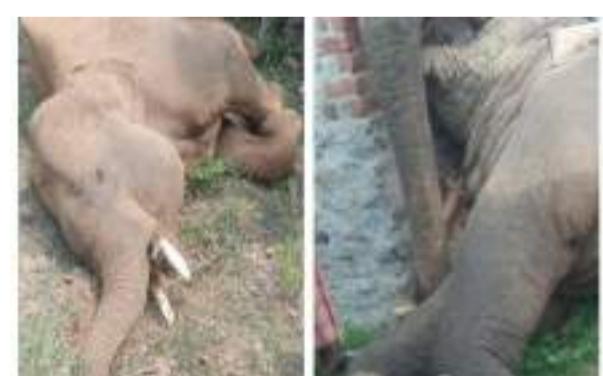
Berhampur (KCN): The proposed expansion of Rangeilunda airstrip in Gopalpur town of Ganjam district has failed to take off due to alleged negligence of the Union government. The British-era airstrip was included under UDAN (Ude Desh Ka Aam Naagrik) scheme by the BJP-led NDA government at the Centre. However, flights are unlikely to take off and land any time soon on the airstrip as the expansion of the runway is in suspended animation. The airstrip presently facilitates takeoff and landing of small flights and helicopters only. Meanwhile, the fate of the airstrip has been pushed into uncertainty and nobody knows when the expansion works will be carried out. A year back, a private firm had launched flight service on a small scale between Bhubaneswar and Rangeilunda. BJD leaders boarded the inaugural flight on the first day of launch of service and thanked the state government after their arrival in Bhubaneswar. However, the flight service was halted soon due to high price of tickets and lack of footfall of enough fliers. The district administration started working on the revival of the airstrip and expansion

of the runway last year. However, the project was abandoned soon due to unavailability of enough government land. Inflated prices of the private lands made it impossible for further acquisition. Rangeilunda airstrip, situated on the premises of Berhampur University, falls under Gopalpur Assembly constituency under the Berhampur Lok Sabha segment. Meanwhile, BJP's Pradip Panigrahy has been elected as Berhampur MP in the recently concluded Lok Sabha polls. Similarly, BJP's Bibhuti Jena, the new MLA from Gopalpur Assembly constituency, has been appointed as a minister in the first BJP government in the state. As a result, locals have been demanding the intervention of the two leaders for the revival and expansion of the airstrip. Sources said Rangeilunda airstrip fulfills all the criteria necessary for expansion as the scenic Gopalpur beach near Berhampur is a major tourist attraction in south Odisha. It sees a

NDA government in 2014. He visited Berhampur to attend a programme on first Modi government's victory celebrations June 14, 2016.

During his visit, many local residents besides BJP leaders and members of various outfits met him and submitted a memorandum demanding the expansion of the Rangeilunda airstrip. Raju then assured to take steps for the expansion of the airstrip. Since then, eight years have passed but the promise made by the former Union minister is yet to be fulfilled. The Berhampur MP thrice won as MLA of Gopalpur from BJD between 2009 and 2019 and also became a minister in the state government. He, however, did not take any steps for the expansion of the airstrip. Rather he made the expansion of the airstrip an election issue and targeted the state government during his campaigning before the 2024 elections. Meanwhile, people are waiting to see what steps Panigrahy will be taking for the airstrip as he has been elected as the BJP MP from Berhampur.

Two tusker carcasses recovered



Athagarh / Sambalpur (KCN): The carcasses of two tuskers were recovered Monday from a forest in Cuttack district and a village road under Jujumura block in Sambalpur district. In the first incident, a tusker was found dead under mysterious circumstances at Sorishpal reserve forest in Jenapada forest beat under Athagarh forest division in Cuttack district. The matter came to the fore after Athagarh divisional forest officer Jagya Dutta Pati and Forest officials rushed to the spot and seized the carcass after being tipped off about the animal's death. The

carcass was found lying near the Rengali south canal inside the Sorishpal reserve forest. The Forest officials launched an investigation into the death of the pachyderm aged about 5-6 years. While no injury mark was found on the animal's body, the absence of any electric connection at the spot also ruled out the possibility of electrocution. Later, a team from the Regional Chief Conservator of Forests (RCCF) in Angul also visited the spot and conducted a probe. Both tusks of the animal were found unhurt and veterinarians collected various samples of the animal and sent it for

laboratory examination. The dead elephant was buried at the spot after a post-mortem. When contacted, the DFO said the actual reason behind the death was yet to be ascertained and higher authorities were informed about the development. The post-mortem report will be available to them after a week, he added.

In the second incident, the carcass of a tusker was recovered on the Basiapada-Dalkhaipada village road under Jujumura block in the Sambalpur district. It is suspected that the animal aged around 35 might have died due to unknown reasons when it strayed into the village

2024-2025



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CFA Institute in India Expands Student Accessibility with a New Exam Center in Bhubaneswar

Bhubaneswar : CFA Institute, the professional body for excellence and thought leadership in finance, has opened registrations for their upcoming February 2023 intake. Additionally, with the rising demand to increase candidate accessibility and convenience, the institute will have 4 new exam centers in Kochi, Chandigarh, Bhubaneswar and Guwahati for the CFA Program. These centers will take the total number of test center cities for the CFA exam to 16 across India and over 400 worldwide.

The recent CFA Institute Investor Trust survey showed that Indians place a high level of trust on the potential growth in job opportunities in the financial services sector. However, in the post-pandemic era, students as

well as professionals are prioritizing safety, accessibility and ease of travel while accomplishing their life and career goals. Ease of accessibility to exam centers is expected to improve a candidate journey through the program and reduce costs associated with travelling to take exams.

The CFA Charter continues to be the global gold standard for professionals aspiring to work in the investment management industry. We constantly work to make the CFA Program affordable, accessible, meritocratic and relevant. During the pandemic we moved our examinations to Computer Based Testing from Paper Based Exams and started offering examinations four times in a year. By expanding our test

SBI now offers Real Time Xpress Credit on YONO app

Mumbai : With an aim to digitally empower customers and offer additional convenience, the country's largest lender, State Bank of India (SBI) has announced the introduction of Real Time Xpress Credit (RTXC) on YONO. The bank's flagship personal loan product for salaried customers – Xpress Credit has a Digital Avatar now. Customers can now avail RTXC from the comfort of their homes through YONO – which is going to be 100% paperless and digital. The end-to-end 8 step journey would be easy and instant for the customers.

Under Real Time Xpress Credit, Central/ State Government and Defence salaried customers of SBI will no longer be required to visit the branch for availing a personal loan. The credit checks, eligibility, sanction & documentation will now be done digitally in real-time.

Shri Dinesh Khara, Chairman, SBI said, "We are pleased to introduce Real Time Xpress Credit (RTXC) Loan facility for our eligible salaried customers on YONO. The Xpress Credit product will enable our customers to experience a digital, hassle-free, and paperless loan process. We at SBI constantly endeavour to offer technology-led enhanced digital banking experience to the customers in order to simplify banking." The digitalization of Xpress Credit delivery will also help the bank to do away with the need to handle and store enormous paperwork.

Blenders Pride Fashion Nights arrives in Bhubaneswar

Bhubaneswar : Blenders Pride Fashion Nights, a unique travelling experiential property, arrived in the City of Temples – Bhubaneswar – celebrating the authentic spirit of the city through fashion and style. A spirit that echoes with Pride and inspires the creators of today to become icons of tomorrow. Bhubaneswar's 'Made of Artistic Flair' edition for Blenders Pride Fashion Nights, brought together an eclectic evening that blended fashion, culture and dance, celebrating a symbolic amalgamation of homegrown artistry and the unwavering spirit of local talent.

Exemplifying the region's signature weave through a curated evening at the majestic Vivanta, Bhubaneswar, DC Square was Odia designer Sabyasachi Satpathy, whose intricately crafted ensembles drew inspiration from the multicultural city and its colourful history. In a true celebration of Odisha's distinct and masterful craftsmanship, the show was elevated with a captivating performance by the Prince Dance Group – from the small Odisha town of Berhampur – widely lauded for their artistry. The show drew to a finale with none other than actor Diana Penty, who captivated the audience in a beautiful ensemble by the designer. The "Made of Artistic Flair" edition of Blenders Pride Fashion Nights was a beautiful embodiment of the rich craft and cultural heritage of the city in a modern and contemporary setting.

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. Truly encapsulating the spirit of 'Made of Pride', the designer made use of Odisha weave, which is sustainable, hand-woven, organic and a homegrown initiative of design, painstakingly woven by the weavers of Odisha. The upbeat set was a composition designed to narrate the spirit of Bhubaneswar along with the flair of the designer. The evening was attended by the city's A-listers & influencers. The fashion walk truly left the guests mesmerized and engaged.

Through this unique showcase of Pride encompassing diverse talent across creative fields, Blenders Pride Fashion Nights 2022, encourages everyone, especially youth at large to celebrate & take pride in their authentic and individual journeys. The evening spotlighted individuals who take pride in their choices, are comfortable in their skin and, most importantly, embrace their authentic selves – truly living a life that is 'Made of Pride'.

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 touchpoints 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.

TPSODL issues guidelines for the Festive Season

TPSODL
TP SOUTHERN ODISHA
DISTRIBUTION LIMITED

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

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

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

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

nearest Fuse Call Centre/ office.

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

Falcon Technoprotects India Ltd planning to raise up to Rs. 13.69 crore from public issue; IPO opens June 19



Mumbai (KCN) :

Mumbai based Falcon Technoprotects India Ltd specialized in providing mechanical, electrical and plumbing services to clients across sectors such as petroleum refineries, housing estates, nuclear power, construction etc is planning to raise up to Rs. 1,10,400 per application. Retail investor quota for the IPO is kept at 50% of the net offer. Promoter holding pre issue stands at 84.20%.

Established in 2014, Falcon Technoprotects India Limited provides mechanical, electrical and plumbing services to its clients across India and operates in various sectors such as petroleum refineries, housing estates, nuclear power, construction, etc. The company offers mechanical, electrical and plumbing (MEP) services. These services include the design, selection and installation of integrated mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems. This includes the installation of air conditioning, power

and lighting systems, water supply and drainage, fire protection and fire extinguishing systems and telephones. Company's client list includes – BARC, BPCL, Akashvani, NPCII, MOIL, Air India, Tata Housing, Lodha, L&T, JSW, GVK, Shapoorji Pallonji, Reliance, HAL, Jio, Hubtown among others.

For 10 months of FY23-24 ended January 2024, company has reported net profit of Rs. 87 lakh and revenue of Rs. 10.37 crore as compared to profitability and revenue of Rs. 1.04 crore and Rs. 16.57 crore for 12 months of FY22-23.

As on January 2024, Net Worth of the company was reported at Rs. 8.98 crore, Reserves & Surplus at Rs. 5.11 crore and Asset base of Rs. 21.43 crore. As on 31st January 2024, ROE of the company was at 9.68%, ROCE at 11.54% and RONW at 9.68%. Shares of the company will be listed on NSE's Emerge platform.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Upadhyay, and General Manager, Sales & Distribution, Mr. Ranit Rana. Commending the development, Chairman, SCTEV & T and Principal Secretary to Government, SDTE and Industries Departments, Shri Hemant Sharma (IAS) said, "This collaboration with Jindal Stainless will enhance the learning experience for students and faculty both, as it will give them insights about and practical exposure to the stainless steel industry."



Rhythm to batting doesn't really exist on these wickets: Williamson

New Delhi: After the comfortable win against PNG, New Zealand captain Kane Williamson reflected on a T20 World Cup campaign which ended even before it was about to take flight. Two defeats in their first two games, having not played much cricket in the lead-up to the tournament had all but knocked out the side before Afghanistan beat PNG, confirming Kiwis' fate. New Zealand were the last to kickstart their World Cup campaign as they played their first game after a few others had played a couple of them.

"It took a long time to start, and then in a matter of days, we were sort of not in contention, which

was frustrating. We wanted to start the campaign strong, and we weren't able to do that. We played against a couple of very strong sides who are very well equipped in these conditions and unfortunately it was the difference in our first two games and then some decent cricket in the last two, so all in all frustrating.

"The reality is that on these wickets 90, maybe 100 can be winning totals, and so T20 batting needs to look a certain way and then if you get a match up then you can get an above par total perhaps. But it's been really unique, a unique experience for all the guys. We always

"Naturally the scores are quite low. Rhythm to

love coming to the Caribbean, it's a fantastic place to be. The conditions have been challenging I think for batters all around, but it's just about trying to find a way."

T20 is deemed a batter's game but this tournament has seen only three 200-plus scores, highlighting the struggles the batters have faced, especially with most of them having

featured on terrific batting tracks in the IPL. He spoke about the pitches being challenging in the West Indies and how the conditions were different from what they had experienced on previous tours.

"Naturally the scores are quite low. Rhythm to



batting doesn't really exist on these wickets. It's trying to find a method that might allow you to get competitive totals and that's quite different I

think to other surfaces that are slightly more even, but that's the challenge that's in front of you and both teams have that. It's a very different style of cricket but it's trying to learn that as quickly as possible, and in a short tournament, that's quite challenging."

"I mean, we knew that we would be experiencing some challenging conditions. I think the up and down nature is quite difficult to prepare for. But at the same time, like I say, it's not about doing it perfectly, it's about trying to find a method and we weren't able to do that as well as we would have liked in the first couple of games." Meanwhile, for New Zealand's ace fast bowler Trent Boult, the game against PNG was his last in the format for the Kiwis. Having played with Boult at the youth level from 10 to 11 years old, the skipper was cognizant of his contribution to the team over the years and how he would be an inspiration for the youngsters coming through the ranks.

"What he's been able to do in the game, not just for New Zealand but really recognition from all around the world, a skill set, a strong desire to keep getting better and at this stage of his career. He's always brought a great energy, a real willingness to compete, and a big player for us that's difficult to replace. "I think when somebody puts the time that he has and the effort he's put into his country, it paves the way for new players to come through and see a standard that's been set and I think he can be really proud of that."

Kirsten's strong words creates a stir in Pakistan cricket



New Delhi: An outburst in the dressing room by coach Gary Kirsten has set the cat amongst the pigeons in Pakistan cricket.

Social media was abuzz with quotes attributed to Kirsten showing the Pakistan team in poor light.

"There's no unity in Pakistan's team. They call it a team, but it isn't a team. They aren't supporting each other; everyone is separated, left and right. I've worked with many teams, but I've never seen such a situation," was a quote that had spread across social media like wildfire with Kirsten seemingly saying this to a journalist. However inquiries have revealed that the said outburst had happened in the dressing room rather

than being a public criticism of their performance in the Twenty20 World Cup. Kirsten's comments were part of a debriefing session, as reported by Geo TV, after the Babar Azam side beat Ireland at Fort Lauderdale, Florida, on Sunday and was subsequently misconstrued on social media.

Apart from many other things, Kirsten is understood to have used some strong words stating that they didn't play as one unit. After this a few players are believed to have leaked this dressing room talk to the media. "They presented this comment as per their liking/ disliking for players/ officials etc. Gary definitely didn't say what

for a beating in his next as Nicholas Pooran catted him around in a 36-run over that included three sixes, three fours, five wides and a dismissal that didn't count because it came on a free-hit ball. Thanks to this manic over, West Indies went well past 50 in just the fourth. Pooran and Johnson Charles just kept hitting through the line in pristine batting conditions. Naveen Ul Haq bowled the quietest over of the PowerPlay in the sixth, giving away 7 runs off it. WI still ended with the highest PowerPlay score in T20 World Cups, beating the previous best of 91/1 by Netherlands against Ireland in Sylhet in 2014. Naveen brought some more respite for Afghanistan as he ended Charles's assault in the eighth over with a slower one. The opener was early on his shot and ended up chipping the ball towards Gulbadin Naib who completed a sharp catch at cover. Afghanistan clawed their way back after the wicket with quiet overs from Rashid Khan and Noor Ahmed, conceding just 21 in four overs after

Afghanistan then crumbled in the face of a tall chase. West Indies scored more than double of what Afghanistan got in the PowerPlay but it was the capitulation in the middle-overs that brought about the latter's downfall. Afghanistan even scored one more run than West Indies did in this period but the difference was stark in the wickets column. Nearly half the deliveries in the opening phase of this innings were hit for either a four or six as the hosts woke up and chose to go hell for leather. The onslaught began on the first ball when Brandon King flicked a full ball from Fazalhaq Farooqi through midwicket for a four. Azmatullah Omarzai cleaned him up in the second over, but was in

the PowerPlay. Rashid introduced Mohammad Nabi with a view to slow West Indies down further but Shai Hope took on his favorable match-up (off-spinner) by tonking him for two sixes over deep mid-wicket. Rashid replaced him right away with Gulbadin Naib, who started with a cutter and lured Hope into a false shot - another slog sweep that was very well caught by Najibullah Zadran at deep midwicket. Pooran was starved off the strike in the middle overs when Afghanistan fought back but the left-hander restored West Indies' strong position in the death overs. He turbocharged West Indies' essay when he went after Rashid in the 18th over, hitting him for three sixes and a four. West Indies went past the

200-run mark in the 19th over before Pooran set himself up for a three-figure score in the 20th. He saw through Naveen's change of pace to hit a six down the ground on the first ball and followed it up with another big hit over deep midwicket. An exceptional direct hit by Azmatullah Omarzai from deep cover then caught Pooran short of his ground despite putting in a dive to complete two runs, leaving him agonisingly short of a century. He walked back for a 53-ball 98 and West Indies finished with 218 for 5. Afghanistan were dented early in their big chase as their best batter Rahmanullah Gurbaz mistimed a shot straight to Andre Russell at mid-on in the first over from

Ferguson special hands PNG crushing defeat

New Delhi: Frugal spells from Lockie Ferguson (3 for 0) and Tim Southee (2 for 11) set the base as New Zealand inflicted a crushing 7-wicket defeat on PNG in their inconsequential final Group game of the 2024 T20 World Cup. Ferguson became only the second bowler in T20Is to send down 24 dot balls as he ran through the PNG batting order to help roll them out for a lowly 78. New Zealand took only 12.2 overs to wrap up the win and finish their campaign on a high.

Ferguson was only introduced in the fifth over, but he built on the tight bowling of the new-ball pair in helpful

conditions, and went on to claim three key wickets without conceding a single run. His return in the middle-overs, when PNG were looking for stability, stemmed the little progress they had managed. He took out both the set batters, triggering a fatal collapse of 8 for 37 that saw PNG shot down for a score well below par.

The pre-game rain delayed the start of proceedings but worked in New Zealand's favour. A couple of early wickets for Southee and Ferguson pushed PNG on the backfoot as they could only muster their lowest PowerPlay score ever of 16/2. Tony Ura was the

first to go, mistiming a wild swing off an outswinger and sending a leading edge to backward point. Ferguson then struck off his first ball of the game, Assad Vala paying the price for playing a drive away from his body to pop an outside edge to slips.

Following up on his wicket-maiden first over, Ferguson continued the good work but the introduction of spin brought some respite for PNG. Ish Sodhi, who came in for Jimmy Neesham, was particularly expensive. Duly, New Zealand brought back Ferguson who not only helped get rid of the two set batters,



but also rounded up his spell without conceding a single run. PNG's slow progress undone, Boult capitalised on their misery as he returned to the attack in

the 16th over and pegged back the leg-stump of Hiri Hiri a ball after the batter gave charge to pick up a much-needed boundary for his team. Playing his last World Cup game, Boult completed his spell of 2-14 with the wicket of Norman Vanua who tried to pull a well-disguised knuckle ball and ended up top-edging to midwicket instead. Sodhi, who bowled a third expensive over - worth 11 - cleaned up two tailenders in the space of four balls in the final over, keeping PNG to 78. The chase of 79 wasn't as straightforward. Finn Allen was the first casualty of PNG's spirited start with the ball, edging behind to the keeper as he saw width on offer and threw his bat at it. This was Allen's second dismissal to a left-arm pacer this World Cup and 19th overall in the format. Conway and Rachin Ravindra, meanwhile, both struggled for timing. But while Conway found a way past it - smashing Alei Nao for a six over